

# Understanding the Numbers: Test Scores and Grades

College Counseling Presentation for Sophomore Parents
Class of 2020

Welcome and Intros

Mock ACT Debriefing: Applerouth

Age-Appropriate Engagement for Sophomores

The Transcript as a Story

Agenda



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## College Counseling for Sophomores

- Atlanta Invitational Case Studies
- Mock ACT
- Spring college visits to HIES
- Families assigned their college counselor this week



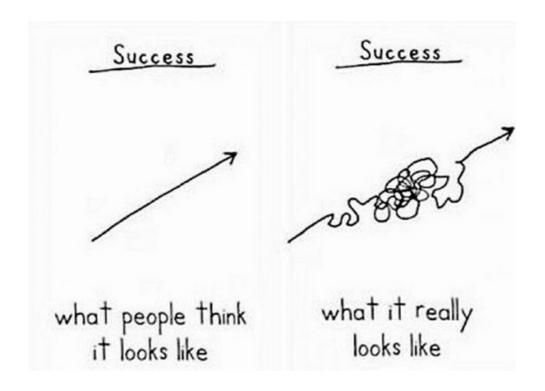
### College Conversation for Sophomores: Parents' Role

- Research widely; keep an open mind
- Visits
  - Summer is acceptable
  - Manage tone
  - Start local/familiar/convenient
  - Gut reactions: yours and theirs
    - Careful with your influence
  - Don't fall in love with your tour guide



### The Transcript as a Story

- Seeing the complete story
- What's behind the numbers?



Sample Transcript

#### 3 AP, 3 Honors Classes

3.42; 89.04 weighted GPA

Grade: 9th Gra	ade Holy Innocents' i	Holy Innocents' Episcopal School				
	Semester 1	Semester 2	Final	Credit		
English 9	86	82	84	1.00		
French II	77	81	79	1.00		
Geometry	78	80	79	1.00		
Honors Mixed Ensemble	98	92	95	1.00		
Phys Ed US	100	95	98	1.00		
Ancient History and Religion	79	75	77	1.00		
Biology	78	80	79	1.00		

Summer	Grade: 10th Grade S	Holy Innocents' Episcopal School			
		Summer Term	Credit		
New Testament		93	0.50		

Grade: 10th Grade	Holy Innocents' Episcopal School				
	Semester 1	Semester 2	Final	Credit	
English 10	76	80	78	1.00	
French III	77	75	76	1.00	
World History	83	87	85	1.00	
Algebra II	75	87	81	1.00	
Honors Mixed Ensemble	90	88	89	1.00	
Sports Ethics and Advanced Conditioning	100	95	98	1.00	
Chemistry	88	92	90	1.00	

Summer	Grade: 11th Grade S	Holy Innocents' Episcopal School	
		<b>Summer Term</b>	Credit
Ethics		95	0.50

Grade: 11th Grad	e Holy Innocents'	Holy Innocents' Episcopal School		
	Semester 1	Semester 2	Final	Credit
ENGLISH 11	83	85	84	1.00
FRENCH IV	87	86	87	1.00
US HISTORY HONORS	94	92	93	1.00
PRECALCULUS	85	92	89	1.00
OUTDOOR EDUCATION	96	84	90	1.00
ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY	88	88	88	1.00
PHYSICS HONORS	88	85	87	1.00

Su	mmer	Grade: 12th Grade S	Holy Innocents' Episcopal School			
			Summer Term	Credit		
Comparat	ive Religio	on and Film	90	0.50		

	Semester 1	Semester 2	Final	Credit
ENGLISH 12-SHAKESPEARE IN FILM/SATIRE	88	90	89	1.00
FRENCH V HONORS	95	93	94	1.00
AP GOVERNMENT	85	89	87	1.00
AP CALCULUS A/B	83	86	85	1.00
AP COMPUTER SCIENCE	91	87	89	1.00
METEOROLOGY/ASTRONOMY	90	91	91	1.00

Cumulative: 3.42 Cumulative GPA: 89.04

Impressions?
Different perception than at the start?
What didn't the rigor/GPA alone tell us?

#### Wrapping Up

SAT or ACT is one data point; not always required

Transcripts tell the story of a students' academic journey through Upper School

More than just classes and GPA

Shape that story in ways that are appropriate for the child

College counselors communicate the story and its context to colleges

100% of HIES students are admitted to fouryear universities...

#### Tips for Rising Juniors

- Grades matter
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of 10<sup>th</sup> a turning point
- Seek balance in classes, follow interests
- Dig into non-academic commitments
  - Growth/development over time
  - Intentionality
- Social connection is important
- Don't get tunnel vision



