



The 2021 Bellevue School District College Conference

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Students and families from all BSD high schools are welcome to join live virtual sessions

Welcome: Dr. Ivan Duran, *Superintendent*, Bellevue School District

Keynote Speaker: Paul Seegert, *Director of Admissions*, University of Washington

Sessions marked with an * are available with closed captions in the following languages:

Español, 简体中文 Simplified Chinese, 傳統漢 Traditional Chinese, हिंदी Hindi, 한국어 Korean and Việt Vietnamese.

College Application Process 101 for Parents

Incluye sesión presentada en español

Presenters: Bellevue HS, Big Picture, Interlake, International, Newport and Sammamish HS counselors will present sessions designed for parents of their school. (See individual school links to join the session)

Naviance, the college search process, your role in the process, and the timelines that are critical to ease the stress of the college application season (October-January) will be discussed. Recommended for 10th and 11th grade families.

PANEL Sessions

Public Universities in the State of Washington: Trends and Opportunities * – All Sessions

Moderator: Eric Ferguson, Director of Teaching and Learning, Bellevue School District

Presenters: Carmen Garcia, Admissions Counselor, Washington State University
Jacob Jones-Poulton, Admissions Counselor, Western Washington University
Grace Nguyen, Admissions Counselor, Central Washington University
Alishia Ruff, Admissions Counselor, University of Washington Seattle
Garick Sherburn, Admissions Counselor, UW Bothell

Public universities in Washington offer a wide variety of programs. In this session you will learn about admissions practices, profiles of the average Freshman on campus this year and the unique characteristics of each institution.

Canadian Colleges: Application Process and Opportunities in Canada – All Sessions

Moderator: Tom Duenwald, Director, Instructional Technology, Bellevue School District

Presenters: Alex Riviere, Admissions Counselor, University of Victoria
Britt Fernandes, Associate International Recruiter/Advisor International Student Initiative, University of British Columbia

Universities in Canada offer a wide variety of programs. In this session you will learn about the application process, trends in admissions practices, new program offerings and some of the characteristics of the colleges presenting.

Fine and Performing Arts Colleges/Universities– All Sessions

Moderator: Chris Lindberg, Data Research and Testing Manager, Bellevue School District

Presenters: Angela Scates, Outreach Specialist, New York Film Academy
Sharon Starling, Director of Admissions, Cornish School of the Arts
Dean Lastoria, New Students Advisor, Simon Fraser University School of the Contemporary Arts

Learn about the different types of arts programs offered in the U.S. & Canada. Understand the process for admissions, portfolios and auditions. Find out about the future outlook for careers in the arts.

Admission Process at Private Colleges/Universities * – All Sessions

Moderator: **Derrick Richardson**, Principal, Sammamish High School, Bellevue School District
Presenters: **Anna Aegerter**, Admissions Counselor, University of Redlands
Mark Howard, Admissions Counselor, University of Puget Sound
Nate Mannetter, Assistant Director of Admissions, Gonzaga University
Andrea Frangi, Admissions Counselor, George Washington University

Representatives from various selective colleges will provide an overview of how their admissions teams evaluate applications and will also take questions from students and families regarding the application review process. Recommended for 10th and 11th grade students and families.

Transfer, Tech and Two-year programs – All Sessions

Moderator: **Anecia Grigsby**, Assistant Principal, Sammamish High School, Bellevue School District
Presenters: **Ramon Concepcion**, Interim Director, Welcome Center, Bellevue College
Gina Nakamura, Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator, Seattle Community Colleges
Casey Melnrick, Assistant Director of Student Services – Outreach and Recruitment, Lake Washington Institute of Technology

Starting your college career at a community or technical college can be a great plan. Our community and technical colleges offer strong programs, several 4-year degrees and transferring to a four-year university can be done smoothly. Learn about the new 4-year bachelor's degrees they now offer!

Black Excellence- Get Your College On! – All Sessions

Moderators: **Shomari Jones, Director**, Strategic Equity and Engagement, Bellevue School District
Jocelyn Alexander, Assistant Principal, Interlake High School, Bellevue School District
Presenters: **Brandon Jones** – Interlake High School, Current Arizona State University, Senior
Shego Scego - Interlake High School, University of Washington, Graduate.
Cece Afman – Newport High School HS, University of Washington, Graduate
Rahsaan Corbin – Bellevue High School HS, Florida A&M University, Sophomore
Alyssa Watts-Williams – Sammamish High School HS, Florida A&M Graduate
Monica Anegbeode - Interlake High School, Howard University, Graduate
Nkumbu Chisebuka – International High School, Washington State University, Graduate

A panel of Black BSD Alum will share their experiences at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Predominantly White Institutions (PWIs). College Scholarship opportunities for Black students will be highlighted.

College Application Topics

Putting Yourself on Paper: Writing the College Essay * – All Sessions

Presenters: **Jennifer Townsend**, English Teacher, Bellevue High School

The college essay can be a critical part of the college application. Strategies to respond to essay prompts will be reviewed as well as ways to avoid mistakes and how to choose a topic that is appropriate for the essay. Recommended for 10th and 11th grade students.

College Entrance Exams: SAT & ACT - Why? When? Which? How Do I Prepare? * – All Sessions

Presenter: **Molly Metz**, Independent College Counselor, Prep Northwest

Both the ACT and the SAT are used in the college admissions process. You will learn about their differences, as well as which tests are required or recommended and strategies to prepare for these high-stakes exams.

College Success for Students with Learning Differences - Special Needs Admissions – All Sessions

Presenter: Amy Stay, Special Education Teacher, Bellevue High School

If your student has a 504 Plan or an IEP, then this session is a must. You will learn what support is available in college, the documentation you will need to provide, and examples of college services and programs available. Recommended for students in all grades who have special needs.

Finding the Right Fit * – All Sessions

Presenter: Claire Nold-Glaser, Independent College Counselor, College Planning Help

Strategies to find colleges that match a student's profile and interests will be discussed. Defining student priorities and interests is an essential first step in finding colleges that "fit."

Military Options in College Education: ROTC scholarships, Academy applications – All Sessions

Presenter: Troy Niehaus, Advisor, Varsity Student Institute

Learn about scholarship opportunities for college via ROTC or one of the prestigious Service Academies. Earn your college degree and be commissioned an officer in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, or Coast Guard. The information session is for high school students grades 9-11, who want to learn more about this college scholarship opportunity. The five Federal Services Academies include: US Air Force Academy; US Military Academy (West Point); US Naval Academy; US Coast Guard Academy; US Merchant Marine Academy

Navigating the NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER — College for the Athlete – All Sessions

Presenter: Larry Judd, Advisor, Varsity Student Institute

The NCAA process for student athletic eligibility will be covered. Advanced planning is essential. The speaker will also cover ACT and SAT test scores as they pertain to eligibility.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid from the College/University Perspective – FAFSA/WASFA * – All Sessions

Presenter: James Flowers, Associate Director, Financial Aid Office, University of Washington Seattle

This session will include information about financial planning for college, the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), scholarships, and grants which can also be part of a financial aid package for qualifying students. Recommended for 9th, 10th and 11th grade students and families.

Financial Aid - How it works and how to qualify – All Sessions

Presenter: David Aramaki, Financial Advisor, Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.

Learn about the financial aid process and how to apply. Session will include rules around FAFSA, CSS Profile, family assets, tax credits available when paying for college, and how they all work together.

Save Thousands on the Cost of College - All Sessions

Presenter: Peg Keough, College Financial Planning Advisor, Way to the Quad

Come hear how colleges assess your eligibility for financial aid, the aid application process, the sources of aid (e.g., scholarships and grants) and how you figure out if you are eligible for need-based aid. Colleges are discounting their cost of attendance many times by more than \$10,000 per year. Learn how you can realize these discounts and how you can create a comprehensive college funding plan to minimize your net cost of college. Recommended for parents/guardians.

Paying for College Without Going Broke – All Sessions

Presenter: Paula Bishop, Certified Public Accountant, Financial Aid for College Advisor

Typical questions that will be addressed include: How to complete the FAFSA and CSS Profile to qualify for the most aid? How can we afford private colleges? How does the financial aid system work? Do we qualify for financial aid? How to find the colleges that give the most aid? How can we get scholarships? How do 529 plans work? We haven't saved enough, what do we do?