Let's Talk College

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What's ahead today?

SCOIR: College Research

SCOIR: Career Aptitude

College Search & Application Process

Standardized Tests

Khan Academy

FAFSA

What are colleges looking for?

Parchment

College Visits at SCA

How can I access/see/send/print/use my **transcript**?

PARCHMENT.COM

To activate your parchment account, go into your SCA email, search parchment and click register. It take two easy steps!

Still need help? See your counselor

Your Schools / Organizations:

St Catherine of Siena Academy

Wixom, MI

Enrollment Info

You can now get your credentials! Here is what is waiting for you at this organization.

Your Transcript

Order | Track

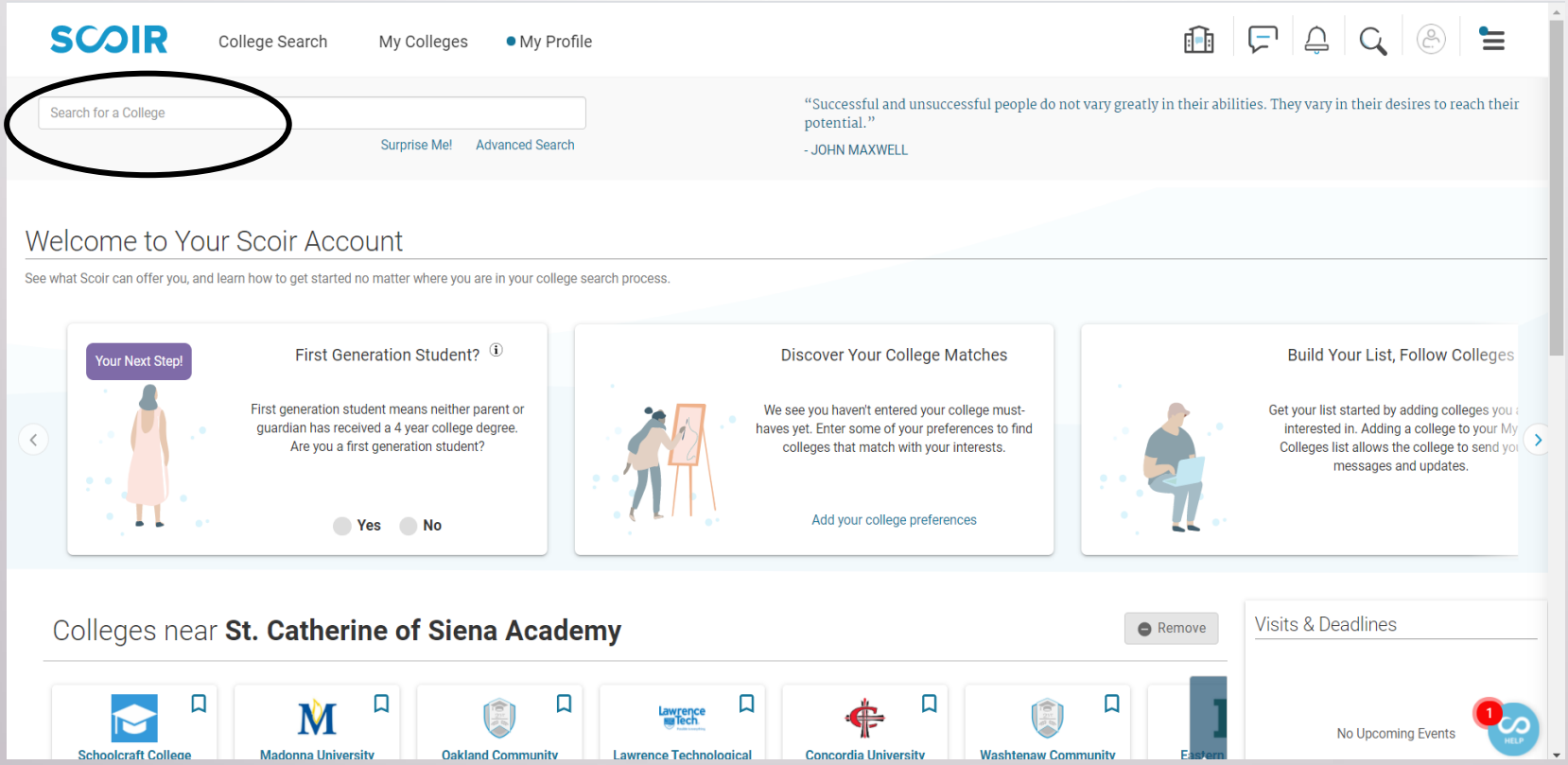
Add Another School or Organization You Attended

College List

Add a college to your list

Think about colleges .....

Add & Save college search through SCOIR



SCOIR

Download SCOIR App now!
Hit "Forgot Password" if you forgot

Under Colleges: Click College Preferences and take the aptitude quiz

College Sessions: These are virtual sessions hosted by colleges on SCOIR

What to consider when researching colleges:

- Academics
- Graduation Rate
- Majors
- Location
- Size
- Academic Resources
- Campus Life and Services
- Tuition

  * Create a balanced college list

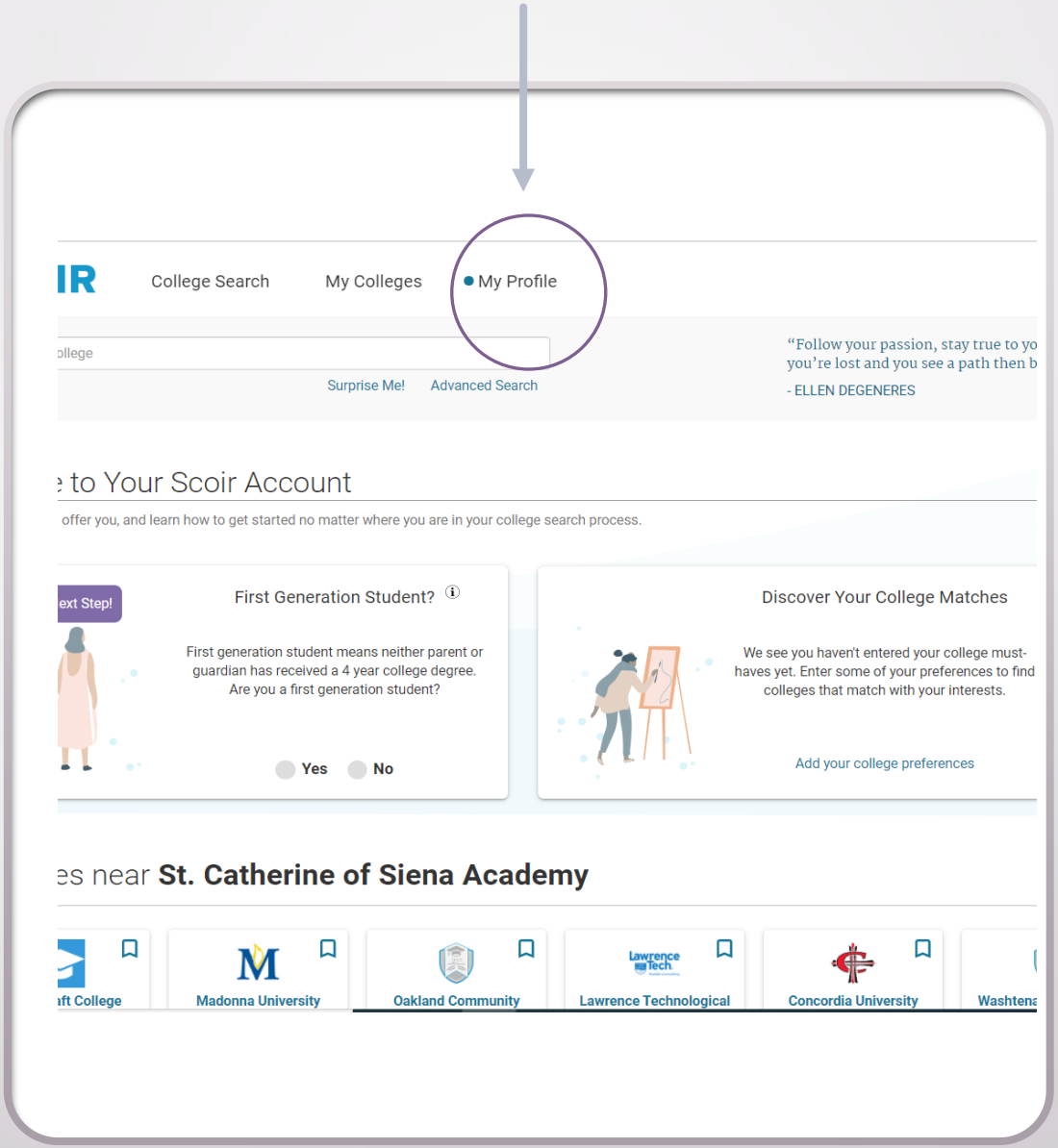
College Visits at SCA

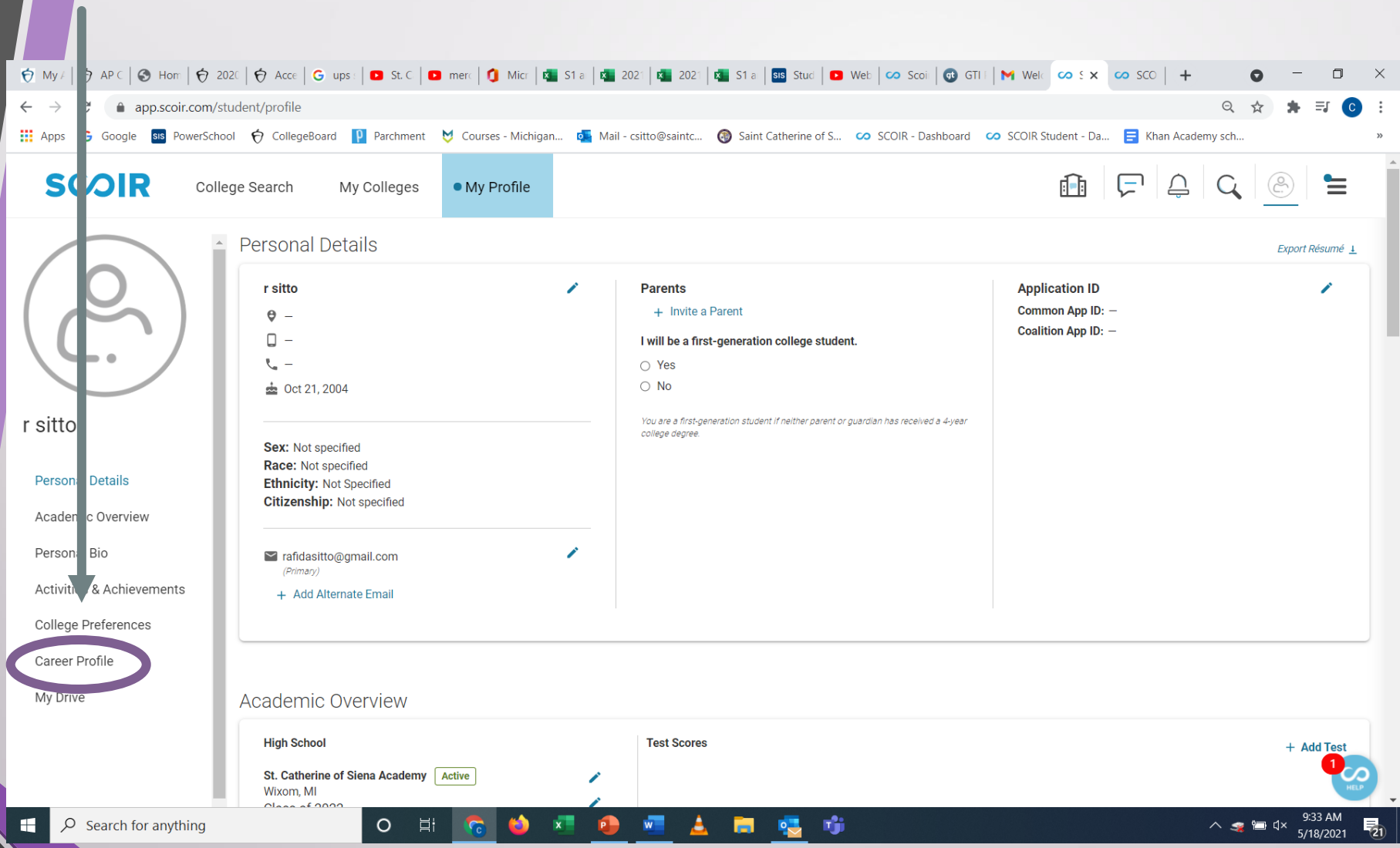
College Representatives visit SCA in the fall (Sept. & Oct.)

- Juniors and seniors must sign-up on SCOIR to attend college visits (you must sign up prior to the date of the visit)
- Sign up early (seats are limited to 20 students)
- College visit days and times are posted on SCA's website, outside the counseling office and announced daily
- Topics covered:
  - GPA and ACT/SAT requirements,
  - Scholarship opportunities & Tuition,
  - programs of study, housing, sports,
  - programs for undecided students,
  - Application process & more

Think about Fields of Study

- Aptitude assessments completed during school.
- Complete if you have not.
- Review the results with your family through the student account
- This portion is NOT accessible through the App




app.scoir.com/student/profile
Apps
Google
PowerSchool
CollegeBoard
Parchment
Courses - Michigan...
Mail - csitto@saintc...
Saint Catherine of S...
SCOIR - Dashboard
SCOIR Student - Da...
Khan Academy sch...
SCOIR
College Search
My Colleges
My Profile
r sitto
Personal Details
Academic Overview
Personal Bio
Activities & Achievements
College Preferences
Career Profile
My Drive
Personal Details
Export Résumé
r sitto
–
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–
Oct 21, 2004
Sex: Not specified
Race: Not specified
Ethnicity: Not Specified
Citizenship: Not specified
rafidasitto@gmail.com
(Primary)
Add Alternate Email
Parents
Invite a Parent
I will be a first-generation college student.
Yes
No
You are a first-generation student if neither parent or guardian has received a 4-year college degree.
Application ID
Common App ID: –
Coalition App ID: –
Academic Overview
High School
St. Catherine of Siena Academy
Active
Wixom, MI
Test Scores
Add Test
Search for anything
9:33 AM
5/18/2021

Pre-ACT & PSAT

- Class of 2023 also took the PSAT & Pre-ACT in October.
- Students have received their scores for both practice tests
- Use the PSAT & Pre-ACT data to determine which test to take
- Provides great practice
- Identification of potential areas of improvement
- Preparation for the ACT and SAT
- Eligibility for scholarships awarded by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation for 11th graders who score very high on the PSAT/NMSQT.

ACT and SAT

Should You Still Take the ACT/SAT?

For the past few years, universities have become “test optional” in their admissions policy. It is still recommended to take at least one standardized test your junior year.

Some college scholarship programs, and honors colleges may still use test scores to determine award money or admittance to certain special programs.

Future SAT and ACT Dates	
SAT **collegeboard.org**	**ACT** **act.org**
March 12, 2022 May 7, 2022 June 4, 2022	February 12, 2022 April 2, 2022 June 11, 2022 July 16, 2022

Improve your SAT score for free through Khan Academy

- A tool on CollegeBoard
- Personalized based on PSAT results
- Four official SAT practice tests FREE
- Practice on Khan Academy at www.khanacademy.org/sat

FAFSA and Paying for College

- FAFSA opens October 1st of senior year
- Everyone should apply for FAFSA but it is necessary if you are applying for federal and state grants or loans.

Look for emails about SCA's Financial Planning Night in Fall of 2022!

Topics Covered:

The Financial Aid process

- The importance and advantages of filing for FAFSA
- What documents are needed to file for FAFSA
- How financial need is determined and what assistance is available from the government

What Do Colleges Look For?

- **Academic Record**
  - Breadth & Depth of courses – How many, how challenging
  - Course rigor & pattern in course selection (recommend 4 core classes senior year)
- **Grades**
  - Consistency or improvement (trend in grades)
- **Standardized Test Scores**
  - SAT / ACT scores
- **Out-of-Class Activities**
  - Depth of involvement – variety and how long
  - Initiative – leadership
  - Creativity, service or work
- **Essays**
  - Essay should reflect your daughters voice & personality.
- **Recommendations**
  - Recommended to have two letters of recommendation

Yes, All Your Classes Count!

- All the grades your student earns will appear on her TRANSCRIPT.
- All course grades a student earns are used to determine her grade point average (GPA).
- Transcripts with GPA's are reported to colleges and employers.
- Transcripts can be accessed through Parchment!
  - Your STAR knows all about Parchment and can request copies of her transcript for self-view and to be sent anywhere.

Now and the Start of Senior Year Tasks

- Reach out to a teacher for a letter of recommendation (one or two)
  - Be sure you use the recommendation assistant to help your teacher know even more about you
- Make a list of Colleges to apply to (through SCOIR)
  - Be sure to include a reach and a safe schools
  - Look at the requirements for each of the colleges
  - Make a list of the application, testing and financial aid requirements for each college.
  - Schedule a campus tour
  - Is the application process through the Common App.?
- Visit Colleges (virtually or in person and research through SCOIR)
  - Schedule a campus visit (if possible)

The Common Application

Fill in the data portion as early as June

- www.commonapp.org
- **The Common App: Dates & Deadlines**
  - Common App goes live : **August** 1.
  - Early Decision Deadline: Typically**, November** 1.
  - Regular Decision Deadline: Typically**, January** 1

Common Application Early Decision vs. Early Action

*Early decision plans are binding — a student who is accepted as an ED applicant must attend the college.

*Early action plans are nonbinding — students receive an early response to their application but do not have to commit to the college until the normal reply date of May 1.

2021-22Common Application Essay Prompt

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?

3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?

4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?

5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.

6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?

7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Q & A