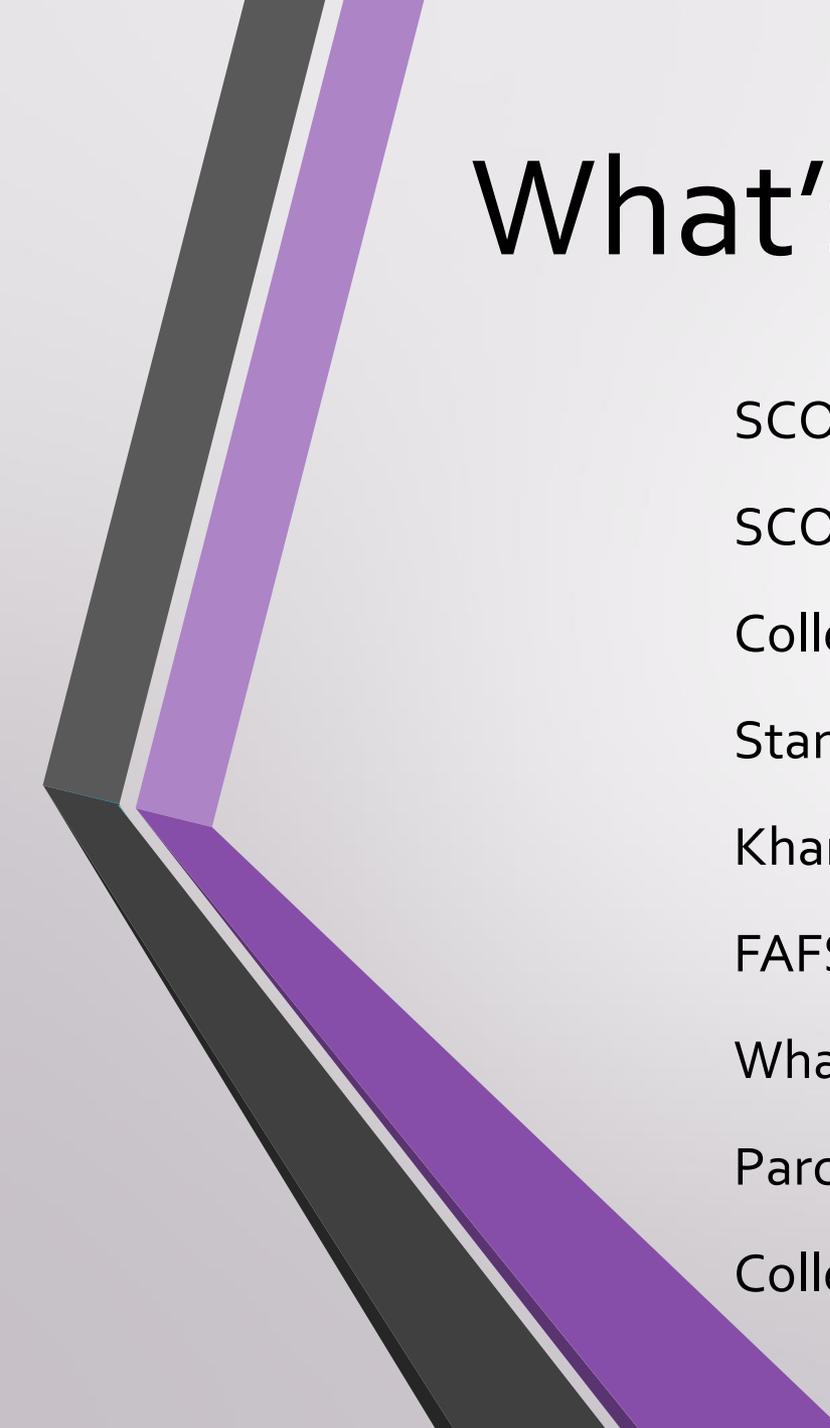


# Let's Talk College

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Claudia Sitto



# 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

A thumbnail image of a transcript document, showing a table with columns for course information and grades.

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

The screenshot displays the SCOIR website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the SCOIR logo, links for "College Search", "My Colleges", and "My Profile", and utility icons for home, chat, notifications, search, user profile, and a menu. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search for a College", which is circled in black. To the right of the search bar are links for "Surprise Me!" and "Advanced Search". A quote by John Maxwell is displayed: "Successful and unsuccessful people do not vary greatly in their abilities. They vary in their desires to reach their potential." - JOHN MAXWELL.

Below the search bar, a "Welcome to Your Scoir Account" section provides a link to learn more about the college search process. Three main action cards are featured:

- Your Next Step!** "First Generation Student?" with a question mark icon. Text: "First generation student means neither parent or guardian has received a 4 year college degree. Are you a first generation student?" Radio buttons for "Yes" and "No".
- Discover Your College Matches** Text: "We see you haven't entered your college must-haves yet. Enter some of your preferences to find colleges that match with your interests." Button: "Add your college preferences".
- Build Your List, Follow Colleges** Text: "Get your list started by adding colleges you're interested in. Adding a college to your My Colleges list allows the college to send you messages and updates."

At the bottom, a section titled "Colleges near St. Catherine of Siena Academy" includes a "Remove" button and a list of colleges with their logos and names: Schoolcraft College, Madonna University, Oakland Community, Lawrence Technological, Concordia University, Washtenaw Community, and Eastern Michigan University. On the right, a "Visits & Deadlines" section shows "No Upcoming Events" and a "HELP" button with a notification badge.

# 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

IR College Search My Colleges **My Profile**

college

Surprise Me! Advanced Search

“Follow your passion, stay true to you you’re lost and you see a path then b  
- ELLEN DEGENERES

### Welcome to Your Scoir Account

Offer you, and learn how to get started no matter where you are in your college search process.

**Next Step!** First Generation Student? ⓘ

First generation student means neither parent or guardian has received a 4 year college degree. Are you a first generation student?

Yes  No

Discover Your College Matches

We see you haven't entered your college must-haves yet. Enter some of your preferences to find colleges that match with your interests.

Add your college preferences

### Colleges near **St. Catherine of Siena Academy**

St. Catherine of Siena College Madonna University Oakland Community Lawrence Technological Concordia University Washtenaw Community College



r sitto

Personal Details

Academic Overview

Personal Bio

Activities & Achievements

College Preferences

Career Profile

My Drive

### Personal Details

Export Résumé ↓

r sitto

- Location: -
- Phone: -
- Mobile: -
- Birthdate: 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

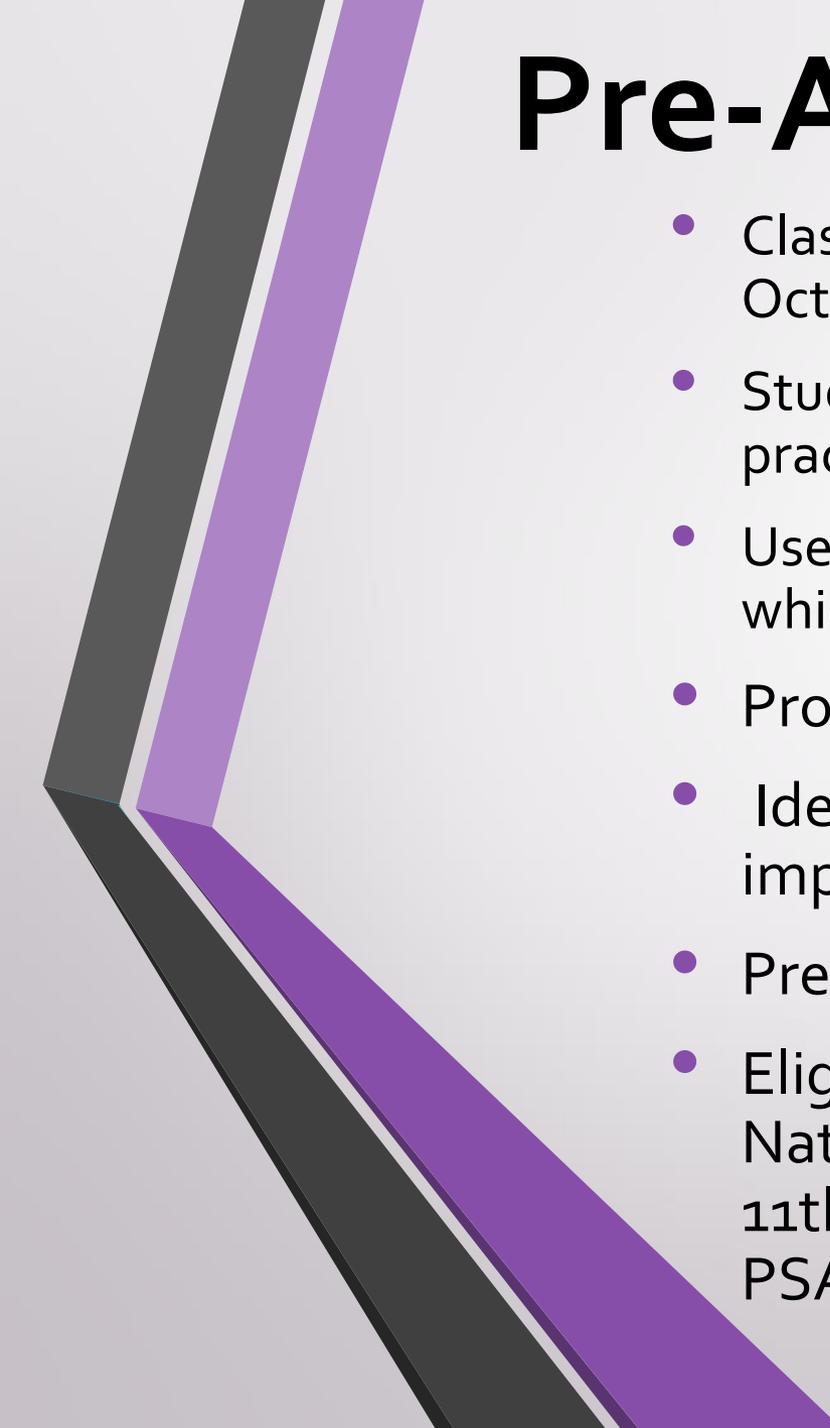
#### High School

St. Catherine of Siena Academy Active  
Wixom, MI  
Class of 2022

#### Test Scores

+ Add Test





# 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 <a href="https://collegeboard.org">collegeboard.org</a>	ACT <a href="https://act.org">act.org</a>
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](https://www.khanacademy.org/sat)

# FAFSA and Paying for College

- FAFSA opens October 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://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.

# 2021-22 Common 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