

December, 2016

Dear Seniors:

We wanted to share a few thoughts with you about the next step if you have been deferred from a college(s). It is important to remember that a deferral is not a rejection, the admission process enters the next phase, and your evaluation as a candidate continues. How you handle adversity and respond to this minor setback can have an impact on your chances at your Early Action/Decision colleges(s). A graceful response and thoughtful reflection on your relationship with your early school can leave a lasting impression. Many of the colleges want to see your first semester grades, gather updated information about your activities and interests, and measure your ability to handle yourself when the answer is a “maybe” instead of a “yes”.

We recommend that you consider the following approaches to your Early Action/Decision school(s):

First and foremost, your first semester grades are important. Enough said. We will be sending these grades to all the colleges when they are available in mid-February.

Second, a short but thoughtful letter to the college(s) is an important touch. This letter should be a short statement reaffirming your desire to attend your early application school, updating your file with any new information or activities, and simply thanking them for giving you an opportunity to be reviewed again in the spring pool. It is important to strike an upbeat and positive tone.

Third, if you feel that you want one last shot at improving your SAT I or SAT II scores, you have until January 10<sup>th</sup> to register for the January 21<sup>rd</sup> test date. The colleges will receive your scores before they hit their final rounds of committee or folder readings.

We realize that this is a time of mixed emotions and mixed blessings: however, we have been impressed with the way everyone has handled themselves. It is a credit to the Class of 2017, and we are grateful to be a small part of the process.

The Glen Rock High School Guidance Department