

A stylized, layered landscape illustration. The foreground features rolling green hills in various shades of green, with a dark brown path or streambed winding through them. On the left, there are stylized trees and bushes: a green tree, a purple bush, and an orange bush. A small red bird is flying in the upper left. The background consists of light blue and white wavy bands representing a sky or distant hills.

Mapping your road
ahead

Senior Year – *Class of*
2024!

Student Services is Here to Support You

- Monitoring Academic Progress toward Graduation
- Supporting and Assisting with your Post-Secondary Plans
- Managing Stress & Well-being
- Just to Listen...

How to Access Counselors

- Send us an email in Schoology by clicking [here](#).
- Send us an email by accessing Edison's Student Services Page, click [here](#).
- Stop by Student Services and sign up on the clipboard or E-Hallpass
- Schedule a time for a one to one meeting



Let's explore some options

What is the best path for you right now?



2-YEAR COLLEGE

- Lower tuition while earning general education credits
- Ability to live at home
- You can earn an Associate's Degree after 2 years which can help with employability and earning potential before a bachelor's degree is received
- Guaranteed Admissions Program (offered at NOVA) or similar program in other states
- NOVA Workforce offers Certificate programs-then offers job placement help
- If you transfer to a 4-year college, your diploma will read the name of that college
- No SAT, ACT, Essay or Recommendation letters needed

WORK

While you work, you are:

- Earning money and learning how to manage that money as a young adult
- Gaining real-world experience
- Hopefully, getting hands-on experience in a field that you would like to pursue as a college major and/or career
- Building trades (plumbing, HVAC and electrical) offer many opportunities to get started in a career path that will reward you financially while enjoying the hands on work of these professions.
- You can use Naviance Student to build a resume or reach out to Ms. Cottingham for a template and for revisions. You can also use Canva to create a brilliant resume!
- How to find a job: Online, Job board, Word of Mouth, Career Center and Naviance to search careers that match your interest

VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL TRAINING

- Most programs offered at Technical schools are completed in approximately 2 years
- These programs provide hands-on training and certifications in many different areas
- The certifications earned help a student increase their earning potential and employability
- NOVA and ACE provide certifications through various trades
 - Electricity, Plumbing, HVAC, Painting, Auto Mechanic, etc.
 - Apprenticeships can be obtained through local unions and area businesses.

4-YEAR COLLEGE

- Supermatch in Naviance Student is a research tool
- Visit the schools that you are interested in –virtual visits or in-person!
 - Check out each school's website! Explore it for hidden gems
- View and document the admission requirements and due dates for those schools (create spreadsheet)

MILITARY TRAINING

- Visit the College and Career Center for information on recruiters
- ASVAB – check your email for registration info
- Consider ROTC programs at your college of choice
- Consider applying to a military academy



GAP YEAR

- Students defer college for a year
- Gives students an opportunity to gain work experience in their field of interest
- Some gap year programs are paid some are not
- Enhances resume
- Learn more:
 - usagapyearfairs.org
 - vertoeducation.org
 - Cityyear.org
 - Americangap.org
 - HelpX.net
 - Workaway.info



College and Career Center

Ms. Cottingham

**Find Information and Resources for 2 or 4 year College,
Employment, Military, Apprenticeship, and Gap Year!**

Make sure to read all emails Ms. Cottingham sends out!

- **Apply for the Scholarships advertised in Ms. Cottingham's emails**
- **Participate in after-school or evening learning opportunities**
- **Email Ms. Cottingham questions - mlcottingham@fcps.edu**
- **Follow the College and Career Center in Schoology-**



Financial Aid

- The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid-this is the starting point for financial support for your education after high school.
- The CSS Profile is an additional financial aid application required by some colleges (check the college website).
- FCPS has resources to help you and your family complete the FAFSA Application for College. Message Ms. Cottingham
- College Access Fairfax is hosting a virtual information session entitled, "Paying for College", you can access that resource by clicking [here](#).

TBD: Edison FAFSA workshop (free!!) will take place later this year. More info soon!

College Application Options

- **Early Action** – apply early and find out acceptance or not earlier; common deadlines November 1 and 15; have until May 1st to respond; could be deferred to regular deadline
- **Early Decision** – student commits to a 1st choice school where if admitted will enroll and withdraw all other applications; binding; can't compare financial aid awards
- **Regular Decision** – General admission deadline
- **Rolling Admissions** –no deadline– will accept students as there are spaces available

***Don't miss your deadlines!**



College Application Process Tips

- Do your research! Know how to apply: Common app, Coalition, Directly via college website...
- Organize yourself – make spreadsheets or checklists
- Know your college/universities requirements
 - SATs/ACTs (contact your counselor if you qualify for a fee waiver)
 - Use this [form](#) to register for Edison's SAT on 10/11. This form must be completed by 9/6!
 - Letters of Recommendation
 - Fees
 - Deadlines
- Ask your teachers for Letters of Recommendation early
- Give your Senior Packet to your counselor



SENIOR PACKET

How to find the Senior Packet:

- Click [here](#) for the Senior Packet. It can be found on the Edison Webpage under Student Services.
- Schoology – Student Services Page–click [here](#).
- If you need a hard copy, stop by Student Services

Student Self-Assessment

- Helps your counselor gather information to write a holistic Letter of Recommendation for you
- Include a Resume
- Details are the best!

Parent Information Form (Optional)

- Helps counselors gather information we may not know about students.
- Parents cannot write letters of recommendation; this is to help counselors.

Teacher Feedback Form (Optional)

- Counselors don't always know how you are in class; we love teacher input!
- Use teachers with whom you've had positive experiences – perhaps in a subject area of interest to you as a potential or related college major
- **NOTE**–This effort is not your teacher's recommendation letter. This is information so your counselor can write a more thorough recommendation letter. Some teachers will only do this or the recommendation letter. Think about what you want and who is willing to give what!
- Pick up a hard copy today from us!

Transcript Request Form

- Forms are online or in Student Services
- Make sure to fill out all areas!
- If all colleges don't fit on the form, submit another one. There is no limit!

Consent to Release Information Form

- **NOTHING** can be sent if this form is not submitted.
- Parent signature is needed, unless student is 18 and can sign for themselves.
- Waiving rights may be a requirement of your college.

enter the SSN on the student's behalf.

☐ Yes, I waive my right to review or have copies of any letters of recommendation written by FCPS employees.

☐ No, I do not waive my right to review or have copies of any letters of recommendation written by FCPS employees.