

# The View from 10,000 Feet

Wendie, The College Lady

*Updated for 4/26/2020)*





All signs  
point to yes,  
or maybe no

# Information for Seniors

## Changes to anticipate or pay attention to (hope for decisions by May/June)

- Everyone wants to avoid online classes for fall and retain students (fewer deferrals)
  - Delayed starts
  - Change to block schedule or mini-mesters (Beloit and others)
  - Discounts in fall tuition or free tuition (also expect financial offers from schools you turned down)
- Issues that need to be worked out
  - Housing, dining halls (low residency approaches)
  - Increased focus on health care
- Increased use of waiting list because of gap year, and other melt
- Many schools confirming that they will accept 2020 AP scores



# Information for Juniors

## Changes to anticipate

- Testing: Could be online, or could be in large auditoriums, 6 feet apart
- Increased competition due to 2020 deferrals by both US and international students
  - Could be moderated by desire of many to stay close to home
- Increase in reaching out to students
  - Important for students to respond or initiate contact in lieu of visiting
- Emphasis on time management skills, taking advantage of virtual opportunities and time for exploration
- Focus on demonstration of Character, Resilience, Grit, Quality over Quantity in the extracurriculars on the application.



# Info for Juniors pt. 2

## Pay attention to:

- Delayed deadlines (FSU)
- Self-reported scores (this is a trend that will be accelerating)
  - Some schools accepting APs in lieu of testing—(NYU and others)
  - More and more schools going test optional
- Self-reported transcripts
- Changes in requirements
- Coronavirus-specific essays

# Information for underclassmen (9th & 10th)

## Residual effects

- Likely to be asked about how they nurtured their intellectual curiosity during shutdown
- Economic effects on campuses... some colleges will be merging or closing doors, particularly small LACs
- Important to maintain academic focus and enthusiasm, despite online classes.
- What are you inspired by? Find your passion to learn. Embrace the freedom you have. This is an opportunity to show what you care about. Take ownership of your education



# Testing

## A. APs

- Please study hard and use the resource (<https://www.youtube.com/user/advancedplacement>)
- Strong security is going to be in place and cheating will be reported to colleges.

## B. ACT/SAT

- SAT canceled for June, will hear from ACT shortly
- Likely that tests will go online in fall or be administered in large auditoriums with seats between

## C. SAT 2 Subject tests

- Don't stress about these, unless you want engineering

## D. Test Optional Admissions

- Read Jon Boeckenstedt's blog in the resources at <https://thecollegelady.com/covid-19/>
- Don't plan on it unless you absolutely cannot test or your scores much lower than grades



# Summer Plans

## A. Focus on Intellectual Curiosity

- Coursera (<https://www.coursera.org/>)

## B. Focus on Community Service

- Brainstorm creative ideas that can help others

## C. College search:

- Virtual tours, Virtual info sessions and Drive throughs
- Register on each college website to receive more information
- Connect with admissions officers





# What does this mean for me (or my student)?

## A. Balancing the list

- Adding breadth, and making sure that targets are acceptable choices

## B. Common App/Coalition, etc

## C. Resumes

## D. Essays

- Waiting to start until after APs, focus on resilience, being thoughtful and reflective.



# Admissions for 2021

## A. Fall Term

- Not sure yet if schools/colleges will be open or if semester starts will be delayed

## B. Gap years and deferrals for 2020 and 2021...

- Contact me for resources if you want them.

## C. Institutional instability

- Some smaller/less resourced colleges might shut down or merge

## D. Changing deadlines for ED and EA to accommodate testing and other changes

- These could change without notice this fall.

