

Dear Fellow Parent,

When my husband and I hired Judy Zodda to coach us through the college process with our son, we were hoping to take the stress out of the process that we had experienced with our daughter two years before. We knew that it was a complex endeavor having just gone through a year of filtering through uncertain school recommendations from a guidance counselor who had hundreds of students to advise. We spent what should have been a special senior year, her last year living at home; nagging her about what deadlines she might have been missing and guessing what the college visitation schedule should be. To add to the challenge, we knew our son was undecided about whether he should pursue a major in art or music technology. After one meeting with Judy, we knew we made the right choice!

Judy quickly established a strong rapport with my son and earned both his and our respect because of her desire to learn about what his individual goals were and what he was passionate about. She provided a structure for the process for everything from how to create a list of schools, do the research, how to approach a college visit, and all the important steps along the way. The systems she recommended made it clear to see what action steps needed to be taken each month and the deadlines she set forth were aggressive yet manageable. Her explanation of why the steps were necessary made it easier to stay on course.

As my son started his senior year, he was a completely different student from the year before when we started working with Judy. His confidence developed in large part because of the exposure to a critically important process that he has very effectively taken ownership of. We credit Judy's expertise in helping direct his focus on the important aspects of the college search, and we are thrilled knowing our son has received such a strong foundation to make one of the most important decisions of his life.

I learned that there was so much more than matching a school's curriculum and my son's aptitude. Judy was able to research which colleges were most apt to find my son's unique talents appealing to them, and which ones might offer the most merit money. Because of his health situation (he has a chronic illness), it was also important to consider medical facilities nearby.

At the end of the process, Daniel had great choices. He had been accepted to 9 of the 11 colleges he had applied to, and three of the schools had programs that selected only between 8 and 28 students. And even though we were not strong financial aid candidates, all but one school offered him merit scholarships totaling over \$120,000!

I highly recommend Judy Zodda as someone who has the experience, skills and passion to help students and their parents with this challenging and rewarding process.

Sincerely,

*Dan + Kathy*  
Dan and Kathy Crowley