CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE
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Have confidence in yourself. Focus on what you can do something about, which is your own application and at the end of the day things will work out just fine. Be happy if people you know also are accepted to a college of your choice. You’ll already know people to embrace or avoid when you get to campus in the fall.

MAKING YOUR DECISION
Don’t torture yourself about the choice you make. Remember, you’re carefully compiled a list of schools that make sense for you. Be liberated in the idea that you can’t make a wrong decision.

If you’re already in your senior year and haven’t thought about college, that’s okay. And, of course, after you are accepted at a college you certainly have the opportunity to visit before you make your decision.

BE YOURSELF
When you’re applying to college you certainly want to put your best foot forward and present an accurate and compelling case for admission. But above all things, remember you are applying to be yourself.

Suppose, if by some miracle, you actually were able to gussy up your application and essays to come across a person or convincingly act out a role in an interview. Would the college be accepting the wrong person? More practically, it just often doesn’t work to try to be someone else. Phoniness is difficult to maintain, and in most cases it’s transparent.

This also means that the application form that you complete should be your own work. Relax; take the task seriously; do the best job you can and don’t forget; Parents, teachers, and counselors who have a stake in helping you are your allies in this process, not your adversaries.

You have interviewed with a variation of the inevitable final interview question: “Do you have any questions or comments that you’d like to ask me?”

Also, if you’re wondering about what to wear to an interview, the acceptable attire is very broad. On matters of dress, and all such questions about your application, let your own judgment be your guide.

DON’T WORRY ABOUT OTHER APPLICANTS
It is simply not the case that other people in your school or your neighborhood are competing with you for a spot that they might take away your space at a college that you want to attend.

And, finally
I’m not a professional admissions officer or an educator. I don’t know any particulars about you or your situation. I just suggest you think about the questions raised.

Don’t let hopes about college become a black cloud over the best year of high school. Oh, either white or manila envelopes are fine, but don’t forget the postage.

COMMENDING PAULA DUGGAN
Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to commend Paula Duggan who is retiring after 13 years as a senior policy analyst at the Northeast-Midwest Institute. She has been instrumental on a variety of labor market, education, and fiscal federalism issues.

Paula, for instance, was the key force behind the labor market information provisions within the Workforce Preparedness Act, and she has worked diligently to ensure that this initiative is implemented. She was one of the first analysts to make the connection between worker education and business productivity. And she has written numerous reports explaining how federal allocations are structured and how federal funds are distributed among the states.

I have benefitted from Paula’s expertise and experience in my capacities as chairman of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and as co-chair of the Northeast-Midwest Senate Coalition. Paula consistently has provided unbiased and insightful research that has advanced bipartisan efforts on behalf of this region and the nation. As she begins her well-deserved retirement, Mr. President, I again want to thank Paula Duggan for her fine work.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BOBBY BOSS
Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a great American institution and its leader. The American Legion Barrett-Davis-Watson Post