

Keeping the Dream Alive

College and Career Readiness Event

February 1 - March 31, 2021

Santa Clara County Office of Education
Parent Engagement Program
parentengagement.sccoe.org





Passion Projects: Developing Leadership Skills through Extracurricular Activities

ILUMIN
EDUCATION

Elton Lin
CEO of ILUMIN Education

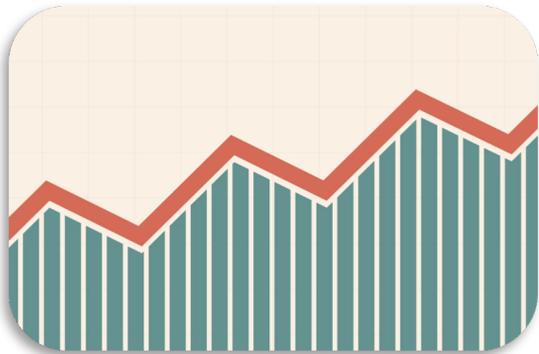
Elton Lin

- CEO/Founder of ILUMIN Education
- 10+ years in college counseling
- Students admitted to every top 50 + Ivy
- Growth in clarity and confidence



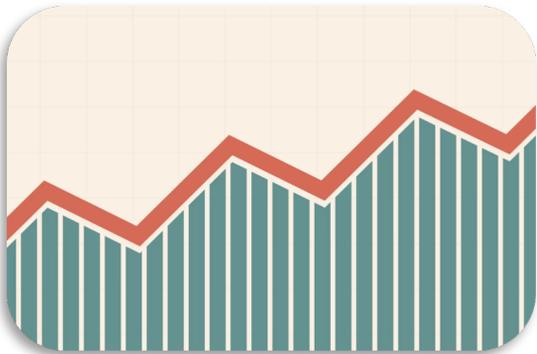
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What are some current trends in college admissions?



Trends

- Test optional
- Students staying closer to home
-  Sports recruitment
-  International students



Response to Trends

- Plan/prepare for SAT or ACT
- Focus on grades + challenging courses
- Take the **initiative** (leadership)
- Remain active in school + community



Why should students focus on extracurricular activities?



Extracurricular Activities

- Help students explore majors + careers
- Provide purpose + motivation
- Demonstrate passions + interests
- Set one student apart from another



How do students develop leadership qualities?



What is leadership?

- Students taking the **initiative**
- Students solving problems
- Students helping others



It helps students...

- Grow in confidence
- Communicate better
- Become creative problem solvers
- Show colleges they're **READY**



How...

- Become a club leader at school
- Run for student council
- Help someone in your community
- Solve a problem around you



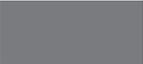
How...

- Build a database for non-profit
- English club for international students
- House numbers on street curbs



How has shelter-in-place impacted extracurricular activities?





Activities during shelter-in-place

Volunteering (local + remote)

- Food packing + delivery to seniors
- UN Volunteers
- Zooniverse
- Rock the Vote
- Smithsonian Institute

BUT... can get **creative!**



Activities during shelter-in-place

- Take an online class (CC, Coursera)
- Learn a language
- Write a book
- Start a blog, YouTube channel, TikTok
- Perform a science experiment
([Sciencebuddies.com](https://www.sciencebuddies.com))
- Create an iPhone app
- Start a garden and document it!

Activities during shelter-in-place

Creative Ideas:

- Book club for kids
- Trumpet learning + practice club
- Teen investing blog
- Online tutoring platform (Quarantutors)





Thank You!

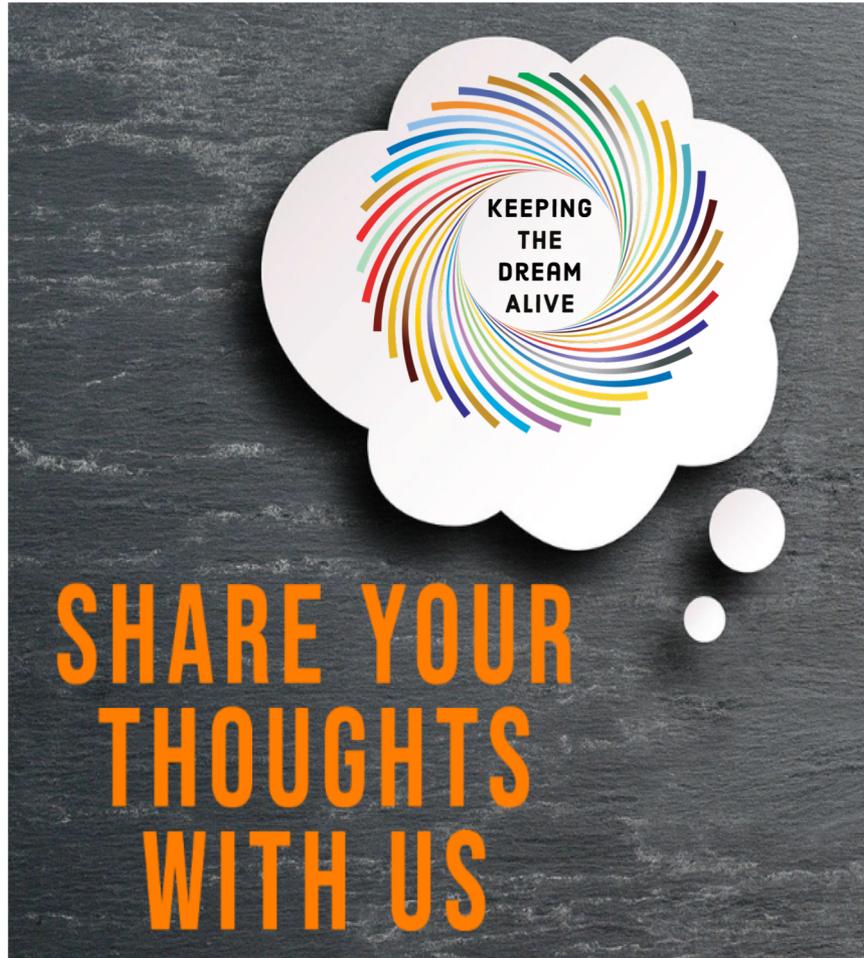
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Thank You!



Have questions or feedback?

Visit

bit.ly/KTDAFeedback

Contact Jaime Koo

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Parent Engagement website

parentengagement.sccoe.org