

Episode 40 - Benjamin Caldarelli

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SPEAKERS

Benjamin Caldarelli, Moira McCullough

M Moira McCullough 00:00

Welcome to the College Scoops podcast. I'm your host, Moira McCullough. And today we're talking with Benjamin Caldarelli about the importance of character in a college application.

B Benjamin Caldarelli 00:09

So character is things like resilience, your setbacks, having a growth mindset. I think this is one of the major character traits that really sets us up for success whether it's in college or later on in life, you know, having a sense of curiosity about the world that is probably one of the biggest character traits that colleges are really searching for having a sense of empathy and compassion and kindness, gratitude. These are the kinds of things that make a good person a good human.

M Moira McCullough 00:49

This is the College Scoops podcast and I'm your host, Moira McCullough, we focus on everything college related from the admissions process to where to eat, stay and explore on and round campuses. Our guests include founders, educators, authors and experts in the college space. Join us as these experts share their knowledge, experiences and lessons

learned to help you have stress free and formative and tasty college journeys. Whether it's your first or last child going to college, or you're just interested in going to a college town for a game or meal, we've got you covered. If you haven't already, please subscribe to the College Scoops podcast to get the inside scoop on everything college related. And leave us a review. And thanks to all of our sponsors partners and the entire College Scoops Ambassador team for helping us bring valuable content to our community. If you would like to support College Scoops as a sponsor, please head over to patreon@patreon.com/collegescoops and sign up as a sustaining listener, insider or Deluxe sponsor. We have exclusive benefits for our members free ebooks and even a College Scoops care package. A passionate educator Benjamin has helped hundreds of students navigate the transition from high school to college. With the belief that students often have more potential than they realize he views the college admissions process as a unique opportunity. by teaching students how to connect the dots between their experiences, values and goals. Benjamin helps students frame and tell their story known for challenging traditional approaches to education and college planning. He guides the Princeton college consulting team to help students authentically explore their academic and extracurricular interests, as well as develop character strengths necessary to be successful in college and beyond. Benjamin regularly writes about higher education and is a sought after speaker frequently presenting his ideas, and how students and families can navigate the admissions process with style and sanity. A former English teacher Benjamin is committed to an educational ideal of a community of citizens and scholars ready to lead a democracy. Welcome to the college whose podcast Benjamin, I'm so thrilled that you are taking time out of your day to come here today and talk with us.

B Benjamin Caldarelli 03:01
Yeah, thanks so much. I'm so glad to be here.

M Moira McCullough 03:04
Well, you and I have a whole other podcast that we're going to do about food, that's going to be a separate series,

B Benjamin Caldarelli 03:09
Absolutely I love to eat my way around the campuses all over the country.

M Moira McCullough 03:12

Exactly. That's not a bad thing I can tell you. So we invited you here today because we're going to talk about character counts, and you are involved in a character collaborative, and you do a lot of work with them. And right now more than ever, with the test optional and what's going on with the class of 2021, the essay, the application. resume and teachers recommendations really come into play. So I thought it would be a great opportunity for you to share with us some of your insights and advice. But first off, can you just tell us a little bit about yourself and how you started Princeton College Consulting?

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 03:47

Yes, absolutely. So really excited to talk about character and the character collaborative. You know, Princeton College Consulting has just started essentially, as an outgrowth of my experience. I was just really fortunate, as I was growing up to have parents my my dad was a lifelong educator, my mom was a psychotherapist. And they were just really great about encouraging me to pursue my interests and passions. And that time for me, it was a lot about politics and, and the literature that I was starting to read and love. They were just wonderful in that way of not pushing me but encouraging me and engaging me having said that, when it came time to plan a college, I don't remember getting much guidance, whether it was at home or at school. And so I knew a little bit I knew what was out there in terms of your Harvard of the world, your Stanford, and then I was from Chicago. So it was the University of Illinois, which I ended up going to and it was wonderful for me, but it would have been great to know a little bit more about my options and the process ahead of time. And so but that really is something that stayed with me and later on when I became a teacher and began helping students through their college essays. and so forth. I saw students and their families have the same sort of questions that I had long ago. And I really sort of enjoyed having that impact through the writing process, definitely, which I believe is one of the most impactful things that students can do. But the whole college admissions process, I think, is an opportunity for growth, I really decided that I was going to make the move and become a full time counselor. At that point, it was shortly later that PCC was born. I joined with my partner to this day, Peter Tilles, and it's been great.

M

Moira McCullough 05:33

So I love that when you think some parents are educators, you might get a little (you said it very nicely) encouragement in everything that you do, because sometimes you have educators, and they're so rigid, and don't have a choice. So I love the way you framed it in terms of your from a family of educators who pushed, but in an encouraging way.

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 05:50

I have to say one thing about that, which is when I asked them later, they always said we could have said more, Ben, but you wouldn't have listened to us anyway. Right? And I said, Okay, that's a fair point. And I think that's really true for a lot of teenagers, 16-17 years old, really trying to assert your independence. And this is one of the first times in life and it's a real big deal. And students and parents trying to navigate that, as I know you are right now with your own senior can be tough.

M

Moira McCullough 06:20

I find myself all of a sudden reflecting back and my husband will say every now and then what would you have said at the age of 17? So you're absolutely right. We're trying to help and encourage them. But you also mentioned your parents were not involved. I don't think many parents were that overly involved in the whole college process. In fact, I remember going to visit colleges by myself, I don't know many kids who show up at a college tour or information session alone now. So times have changed or have. So as a member of the Character Collaborative initiative, can you tell us a little bit about that organization and the purpose of it?

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 06:55

Sure. So the Character Collaborative is an amazing organization I'm really proud to be part of started in 2016, by David Holmes, who's the executive director and the mission of the organization is to raise the consciousness and elevate character attributes as part of the the holistic admissions process and making sure that students and families know that colleges are using that and having a way to do it equitable and repeatable. And so I think it's a really great organization and character is no doubt, especially at most selective colleges, but even more so I think, as you mentioned, this year in 2021, is really a watershed kind of mark. Their test scores are really not there for the majority of students. And from the college's perspective, increasing in importance anyway.

M

Moira McCullough 07:49

So when we talk about character, because as you said, it's also a partnership with colleges, so there's a student and parent aspect, and then there's also working with colleges to make sure that it's recognized. How do you measure it? How do you track it?

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 08:06

Yeah, so there's, there's a lot of colleges, organizations, and individuals who are members of the collaborative, over 30 colleges have really highly engaged in terms of what their process is at their school and how they go about measuring and evaluating, and working with the character collaborative. And another great organization, which is the Making Caring Common organization at Harvard, which also works very closely with the Character Collaborative.

M

Moira McCullough 08:35

Okay, so let's talk about character on a college application. What does that look like?

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 08:38

Yes, so character is things like resilience, your setbacks, having a growth mindset, I think this is one of the major character traits that really sets us up for success, whether it's in college or later on in life, you know, having a sense of curiosity about the world, that is probably one of the biggest character traits that colleges are really searching for having a sense of empathy, and compassion and kindness, gratitude. These are the kinds of things that make a good person, a good human, and are going to make a good world and democracy, which is what we all really want. So trying to encourage and hold colleges accountable to what their own mission statements are. And then make sure that students and families really, truly understand that and make sure that they're acting accordingly. And not getting caught up in some of the misinformation or process that is just not really healthy for the individuals or for society as a whole.

M

Moira McCullough 09:40

This takes it to where you're looking at a college application and you're taking information that's on paper. What is that person really about? How are they going to act, contribute and engage with our community both in and out of the classroom? So college is all about academics and learning in a classroom but you learn a lot outside side. And I always say you learned so much about people sometimes not in the work environment, how you meet them in a street, how you see them act in a store ordering a cup of coffee, or especially this scenario, and what we've just gone through how people act with each other, their friends, their peers, and people outside of their own community.

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 10:19

Yes, absolutely. That's really what's most important in life. So thinking about the college admissions process, and preparation for that, I think is so important to, to the health of all of us and each individual and the students who are as educators who we care about the most.

M

Moira McCullough 10:38

How do you then help a student say, Oh, yes I'm curious, I have a sense of curiosity, or sure, I'm resilient. You should see what I did on the track field for the past two years. How do you help students bring that out in an essay or an application?

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 10:51

Yes, absolutely. So the essay is very important. Letters of recommendation are very important, the activities that you do participate in, and not just the activities you participate in, but why you participate in them, I think is one of the first questions to really ask, how do you participate. So encouraging students to think about two to three activities that they can really sink their teeth into and pursue at a meaningful level of depth, they're really exploring and passionate about and being able to sustain that for over a period of time, and take on whether it's more leadership or creating more impact. Those are the things that we're really looking for. And in those activities, it's hard for a lot of students to really understand that. I think one of the things that we show them is that let's look at MIT, one of the most selective colleges in the country, and what they're doing to the opportunity to even show what activities you're involved in. They're shrinking, they're not giving you 10 spaces, they're giving you four. I think that's really, really helpful when the colleges are actually acting in, in accord with what they're saying. They're saying we want it. We care about what you do in those two to three activities that you spend the most on that you care about the most. But then there's an application with 10 spaces. And there's cognitive dissonance. What do I do? So I think that those activities and talking to students, what they do, what challenges have they faced along the way? What did they learn? What did they do? What are they going to do in the future with what they learned? Those are the kinds of things that colleges really care about. Thinking about essays, for instance, you mentioned, I think one of the great ways to start even brainstorming ideas is to think about your values and character strengths that you want to highlight and think about what stories are there in my in my life that actually reflect that or demonstrate that you start to write those down and, and flesh them out. That's one of the ways that the essay really gets to character strengths. And then letters of recommendation, having consciousness raising is very important. So we try to help students learn well, before they

come into junior year, and the teachers that they're going to ask for letters of recommendation to understand what actually goes into one. What makes one impactful and a lot of students will say, I got an A in this course, the teacher loves me, I'm going to get a great letter of recommendation. But that's not necessarily one that's going to stand out from the next person. So understanding these character traits, if it's resilience, or if it's been kind of going into the class thinking, not just do what's expected here to earn a grade, what is my real motivation? Who am I in the community of the classroom and coming into the courses with that knowledge, and having them think about it. Shift their thinking through a different lens that really strikes something for them. And they often do really well, when they know.

M

Moira McCullough 14:03

I love talking about the teacher recommendations, because I think that is an area that takes the story that the student has articulated, portrayed shared on the essay in the common application, and bring it all together. That student recommendation is so very important because that is what goes to the character building. That's showing the full picture of how that student conducts himself or herself in a classroom, and how they handled challenges. And it was interesting when both of my kids applied, they chose the teacher where they had the worst grade and I was intrigued by that. I'm asked why and it was something that they felt they had the most connection with. I've worked with that teacher a lot. And they know me, they know my strengths and where I need to develop. And I think that those can be sometimes the strongest references.

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 14:52

Totally agree. A teacher that has seen a student through not just something that was super easy for them, but something that was challenging and saw them work and how they grew. And yes, that's the makings of a good letter for sure.

M

Moira McCullough 15:07

Well, and I think you also said it, though, too. It's that sense of curiosity. It's hard because everyone's so focused now on grades, GPA and all that. But in some ways, actually, if you haven't gotten a C at some point, then you haven't tested yourself in the classroom. You haven't taken a risk, you haven't delved into a course that would raise your sense of curiosity - challenge you to dig deep. I don't know, maybe I'm the parent that's like, go get that C, because you may learn more from that, say, than you did from that A.

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 15:35

No, that's absolutely the truth. Risk taking. That's definitely a quality that colleges would like to see. By the way, deference to authority, sometimes we want to see a little less of that. So somebody who's confident and unable to challenge the status quo a little bit, we look for that. And also service and civic engagement. Those are three things that I would really highlight.

M

Moira McCullough 16:01

I totally agree. Because that goes back to who do you want to be friends with on a campus? Who do you want to hire? I mean, that goes into stage three, when you're going out looking for a job companies are looking for somebody who's not just going to be a person who can do XYZ, they're looking for a team player, somebody who's going to bring together their organization and highlight it in a way that's going to make them grow from all different aspects of the business.

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 16:25

Yes, absolutely. They're going to find out real quick that you don't work well with the team. You're not a kind and caring person. It's not going to matter where you went to college? That's not what's going to give them success, whether it's in the work world, or romantic world, or any world really. So yeah, it's things that we know. Right, and it's just making them level back to the college admissions process, which is such a formative one for our society.

M

Moira McCullough 16:55

And then that leads me to that question.

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 16:57

Yes, college is one. Have they bought into it? And in terms of how do you evaluate that, and it is tough, it's very tough. And there's potential for problematics? I think it can be done really well, there is no sort of one standard. Some schools have narrative evaluation, some schools have a rubric of things that they're looking for in the application. But I will say the National Association of College Admissions counseling, did a survey of over 450 colleges and 70% of them said that character was either moderately or significantly important in their evaluation of applicants. That's a stat that's really hard to dismiss. And I think that's only growing.

M**Moira McCullough 17:43**

Now, when you say something like that it's really nice to hear and see, because it's not something that people are just talking about and not actually acting on. And the fact that you have this character collaborative, you have Maing Caring Common. So there are organizations, institutions, and parties that are all working together to try to bring this to reality.

B**Benjamin Caldarelli 18:03**

Yes, absolutely. I think it's happening and COVID, and what we've all been going through, I think, is a tremendous accelerant. In real consciousness, the necessity. And ultimately, I think it's going to be really positive for our city, for our citizenry, for our democracy. So for me, I think it is just of the utmost importance. I think it's one of the most politically progressive sorts of things that we can be working on right now is really making sure that we we have this shift away from just grades and test scores. I think this is the key to our future.

M**Moira McCullough 18:46**

No, I couldn't agree more. And it's interesting, as I said, that I have a senior in high school who were going through the process once again, and I also said this to my other two, this is a huge investment, not only financially, but you're making a choice of where you want to call home for the next four years. You're investing in the people who hopefully you will have as lifelong friends and a network of mentors that you will have. Do you want to be in the classroom with those people? Do you want to be roommates and study with them? Do you want to go out to lunch and dinner with them? Do you want to work with them? So that's almost putting it in the family and the students perspective to say you have a choice in this. And with what happened in the Spring and COVID, I said to my kids look at social media, how are they treating the situation? And has that changed your opinion of that school? And do you want to apply there?

B**Benjamin Caldarelli 19:38**

Yes, it definitely made me think about some schools. Some of the statements and actions that were coming were highly questionable, at best, that really should factor into the evaluation of an institution.

M**Moira McCullough 19:51**

Absolutely. So if you have top tips, for seniors now and we're even looking at Juniors coming into the process. What would be some pieces of advice that you would give to them?

B**Benjamin Caldarelli 20:00**

The number one piece of advice that I really think is important is to look at the college admissions. Well, the process and the result as a byproduct, not as a goal. If the goal is to really be the best person, your best self, pursue your interest and your passions, college admissions will take care of itself. And so I think flipping that is easier said than done for people who are going through it as you are. But I think if you really view it that way, it changes everything.

M**Moira McCullough 20:33**

I think you're right. I mean, it's a whole mindset that puts you in the driver's seat. And you're going to be, as you said, more authentic with what you're choosing to do. And even just when you say about the listing of the 10 activities going down to three, I would say to my kids, honestly, do you really want to do that for volunteer work? What do you want to do? Reading to kindergarten students? Do you like doing that? Do you have to do those other five other things? Or teaching swimming to younger students? Do something that you're love because that will come through.

B**Benjamin Caldarelli 21:05**

Yes, absolutely. So I mean, you mentioned the activities - that's probably my next piece of advice. It is really we want to live a good life, a healthy life. Part of that is for students, particularly caring for themselves. And what I see is, I see a national emergency of sleep deprivation. I think it's really important that we get this message through that so many activities, so many AP courses, that I'm up until one in the morning, every night. That's not a recipe for success. It's not the character trait or living the value of the self care and health and wellness that we really care about. One thing that I think the college admissions process, the essay writing process, is really a time of self reflection, where students have to dig in and think about their experiences and values and goals and connect the dots between those and say, How am I going to live according to these values? What does that mean? That's why I think the college admissions process is just probably one of the most impactful things that we have for personal growth. Now, not everybody goes through the college admissions process. And I'm fully aware of that, for

those who do. I think it can be a really, really great time of personal growth. And so with all the problems, I'm still a big believer and optimist in it, yes.

M

Moira McCullough 22:31

You have to be well I even say though, even if you weren't planning on going to college, this is a time where you say self reflect, what do you want to do? And again, it goes back to everything that you've been saying, Who do you want to spend your time with? What do you love doing because that, in itself, you'll be successful. If you find that you're not successful, when you're doing something just because somebody else told you to, you thought it would be a good thing you're trying to get something on your bucket list that you don't really enjoy. But it was just because everyone else is doing it, you can take the same philosophy and mindset that you're describing, and do it in every aspect of life. That's kind of like what you and I are doing. It's not like this job is very easy. The college admissions process is stressful, but there are people in it who like yourself who believe that there is a better way to help students find a place where they will thrive mentally, academically, physically, socially.

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 23:25

Now, there are some things and this is a whole other show more of that we could absolutely do to make the whole world of college admissions less stressful. But let's save that for another time.

M

Moira McCullough 23:40

I agree that that will be after our food segment show.

B

Benjamin Caldarelli 23:44

Okay, sounds good. Oh, you know, I think really just want to get that message through exactly as it says, character does count. It counts a lot. And raising the consciousness about what that means, and really taking it seriously, of how am I going to design a life that lives up to the values and character of who I want to be. And those things are what's going to make you attractive to a college in the end. So I think if people, if your listeners can hear that and really digest and take it seriously. That's the best thing I want.

M**Moira McCullough 24:37**

Benjamin, can you just share your thoughts on the question that I continuously hear and I know many people are thinking with all the schools that went with test optional this year for the class of 2021. It's because many students could not take the test. I know every test my son signed up for it was canceled, and I know many other families and students have the same questions. People were trying to drive to different states and towns to take a test. Any thoughts on that particular aspect of the college admissions process to help families and students as they get ready to apply to schools?

B**Benjamin Caldarelli 25:16**

The point, the point is basically, that traveling across state lines to go take a test is not the character that we're looking for in the first place. Right? Because what would be wonderful is to show solidarity with all the people that weren't able to take it. Okay? That's, I mean, which one of them? Which one of those people do you want? The person who is using their resources and privilege and connection to go out of their way to get an advantage to go somewhere, which, by the way, isn't really true, they're hurting themselves in two ways. But the admission, this is important to note, a lot of people don't see this. They say, well, you know, the test scores, of course, people who are submitting them are better off. And it's like, not really, the admission rate is really the same, proportionally to the people who submit and don't submit scores at most of the test optional schools. So, at a school where 15% of people aren't submitting scores, typically about 15% of that class, are people that didn't submit scores. So you really have about the same thing, probability of admission, and what really, what really matters is, that's just indicative of the kind of person and so this is good. So basically what I was trying to do was, complement the validation of your son, and yourself to not say, we've got to make this happen. And we're going to move heaven and earth to do so. And we're going to elbow our way to the front of the line, because we can right? That takes a lot of courage from both the student and the parent because it's been such a hot topic about. When it first came out people questioned is it really test optional? And then, the spring through June, and then it was carried on through the summer. And I remember, my son said something and I said, say that again. Does that make sense? Why would you ever take the test now? No that's not going to happen for us. But that is I think what a lot of people are saying, you know, feeling pressured, because the colleges won't validate the application. Without it, even though they're saying test optional. So that mental dilemma, it is a dilemma. But it's, I think it's an opportunity to show what you're made of, and what you believe. If what you're saying is you want to make an impact on, you know, the greater good, and so forth. And you book, you believe that this instrument is problematic, then you don't have to go to Harvard to get somewhere to make the change. You can do it, you

can do it now. And by the way, Harvard is going to want you now because you're doing that.

M Moira McCullough 28:55

I think that's a great way to look at it. And if you as you said, if you can get more and more people to stop and gather together and do that.

B Benjamin Caldarelli 29:09

It was. It's an arms race to nowhere is what we're in. And it's no longer this confining thing, right? It's tough. It's easy for some people to say it doesn't matter where you go to school and so forth. It matters for some people. It matters less for the bottom quintile of students, it matters. It matters quite a bit as a probability of entering the middle class and so forth. So it's an interesting arena. That because sometimes I think about my own work and sometimes it seems very scary. Small. But you know, and this took some time for me is to connect it to the larger purpose and values. And once you once you do that it becomes much more motivating. I you know, I wish I learned that a lot earlier in life.

M Moira McCullough 30:28

Oh, and I and I'm going to turn around and say at least you learned it now. And there's still a lot left.

B Benjamin Caldarelli 30:34

Yeah,

M Moira McCullough 30:35

I always like asking our guests. Two questions. One is - What do you wish you knew before you attended college?

B Benjamin Caldarelli 30:44

So I wish that I knew the value of having a relationship with a mentor and a professor, that I could go to and talk to and trust and have a meaningful relationship throughout life. Having gone to the University of Illinois, and not knowing that it was really easy to not

do that. And I think when I went to graduate school, it was hard to have somebody who wrote a letter of recommendation for that. And so I would encourage students to really go into college with that was that sort of intent of knowing the value of a mentor, during the college years and beyond?

M Moira McCullough 31:40

You know, it's so funny, because I had just mentioned on another episode that I had the same issue. I didn't go in with that. I thought it was work. I thought, No, I don't need it. Because I know everything. And I knew nothing. And I didn't learn how to learn until I left college. And then I went to business school. And it was like, I woke up. And my parents always said, Why did you wake up on your dime, not our dime.

B Benjamin Caldarelli 32:04

Isn't that always the way it is?

M Moira McCullough 32:06

But I have to say, I feel like I've been able to transfer those knowledge and that advice to my kids, and they've been far more accepting of my advice. And I love it. Because I think it's your opportunity. It's a lost opportunity. If you don't take advantage of it. Those professors are there. The mentors are there. I know, when somebody comes up to me and ask for advice. I'm like, sure, what can I help you out with? So it just goes to show you. And you went to a large school and I went to a small school, and I didn't take that opportunity. So don't you worry, we're in the same same boat here. We're going to make up for it when we go back for our third or fourth degree, right?

B Benjamin Caldarelli 32:46

Yeah, it's never too late.

M Moira McCullough 32:48

Never too late. Favorite food or dessert places around campus?

B Benjamin Caldarelli 32:53

Absolutely. So being a Princeton person. Princeton, New Jersey is definitely an ice cream town. And so there are I don't know if warring is the right word. But there's a few different spots. There's Thomas Sweet, there is the Bent Spoon. And my favorite is actually called the Halo pub. And so a good a good scoop of coffee ice cream from the Halo Pub is what I like when I'm in in the mood for dessert.

M Moira McCullough 33:30

There's a halo ice cream that's extremely healthy, almost too healthy for my liking.

B Benjamin Caldarelli 33:35

No, I don't think it's the same. I think this is just a spot right there on Palmer's Square where on a summer night, you get quite a long line. But it's worth it.

M Moira McCullough 33:53

I always say you have to search the long lines, because those could be a deterrent for some. But for me, it makes me want to stand in that line even more so because I know that's where the locals are. And that's where I want to be. So if you're going to Princeton, you have your choice. But look for the long line at Halo.

B Benjamin Caldarelli 34:14

You won't be disappointed. Sounds good. I'm looking forward to the days when people are getting together more to do those kinds of things.

M Moira McCullough 34:27

I think we all are, let's do it. All right, thank you so much Benjamin, for coming on our show.

B Benjamin Caldarelli 34:32

Thank you, Moira. So fun to be here. And, you know, hopefully the message resonates with a lot of people.

M Moira McCullough 34:41

Thank you to Ben for joining us today I thoroughly enjoyed our conversation about the importance of character and not only the college application process, but in life in general. Now more than ever, everyone has an opportunity to contribute to society in ways that will help make the world a better place. Trust integrity, kindness, compassion, resilience and courage. Always students can demonstrate how they will add value both in and outside of the classroom in a college environment. Stay curious and know that organizations like the character collaborative and making care in common are working hard to educate students, families, colleges and society, but the importance of character in the college admissions process, you can find all of our show notes and links to the helpful resources mentioned throughout our conversation on our website at collegescoops.com/podcast. You can learn more about Ben and Princeton College Consulting on their website at Princeton College Consulting, on Twitter at Princeton_CC and on Facebook. Please take a couple of minutes to rate review and subscribe to College Scoops. Thank you for listening to our College Scoops podcast, our entire College Scoops team strives to make the college journey a little bit easier, less stressful, fun and tasty by sharing all the inside scoops we have curated along the way. We would love to hear from you about topics to cover and your ideas and everything college related. Reach out to us at collegescoops.com or follow us on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.