

You Are More Than A Wait-List Number by Sandy Eiges

Description



Sandy Eiges of [L.A. School Scout](#) and a friend of [Beyond The Brochure](#), writes about the angst that comes with waiting for secondary school admissions letters. A lot of this advice is relevant for elementary school admissions too. And then, thereâ€™s the letters themselves. Read on! Good luck to everyone! Christina

With many of you [waiting to hear](#) about high school acceptances on Friday, and boarding school acceptances on Saturday, anxiety is running high. And thatâ€™s just the parents!

Yes, many of you seem to have forgotten that the results coming out this weekend arenâ€™t actually about you. Your children are the ones affected, and the focus really should be on them. There are several possible scenarios that come to mind:

Scenario #1: S/he got in everywhere! Congratulations, thatâ€™s a terrific result. So, are you going with the â€œnameâ€• school, or are you going with the school thatâ€™s really the perfect fit? Who makes this decision? This is the time for a great parenting moment. But hey, in this competitive climate, congratulations! Really terrific outcome. And really, really rare.

Scenario #2: S/he got in to one school, not your top choice â€œ or his! This is still an occasion for celebration. The question is, are you going to wait for the school that waitlisted you, or are you going to love the school that loves you? Always a hard choice. Here it is worth remembering that there is an acceptance on the table. If you applied there, it must have been a school you were considering, right?

Scenario #3: S/he got in to a couple of schools, but not to the school she had her heart set on. Not even a waitlist there, just a flat-out no. Is there any hope that she could still get in there? No, and please donâ€™t hold any hope out to your beleaguered child. Just because their best friend got in doesnâ€™t mean itâ€™s the right school for her. This is the time to realize that with two school acceptances, thereâ€™s a choice! Thatâ€™s a time to celebrate â€œ many scenarios do not include a choice at all. And by embracing reality, you are modeling the kind of decision-making that your child will be able to use when itâ€™s time for them to apply to college.

Scenario #4: Your son did not get into his top choice school and was waitlisted at the other school. Wait – did you just say, “the other school”? You just let him apply to two schools? And he’s not what anyone would call an A student? You didn’t heed my advice to apply to at least FOUR schools? This is not an ideal situation. If your tendency is to get combative when it seems that no one appreciates your child, you have my sympathy. But railing at the world “in front of your child” is not a good parenting moment. And while you can wait to move up that waitlist, this might be the time to get proactive and see if he can still apply anywhere else.

Scenario #5: Your child did not get in anywhere. No yeses, no waitlists. Just plain no. This is the toughest scenario of all. What happened here? It seems like something went terribly wrong. Did you apply to schools that were realistic for your student? This might be the time to get real. Talk to their school and see if they can shed any light on the situation. As with scenario #4, this is not the time to yell and scream, this is the time to get out there and see what is possible and give your child the love they deserve. This is much harder on them than it is on you.

If you are not already one of my families, and you need to discuss your child’s high school acceptance outcome, I am offering one-time meetings next week. Please contact me at sandy@LASchoolscout.com.

L.A. School Scout is now scheduling consultations for school placement in 2019, be it preschool, Kindergarten or middle school, high school or even boarding school. For more information about our services please contact sandy@LASchoolscout.com.

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