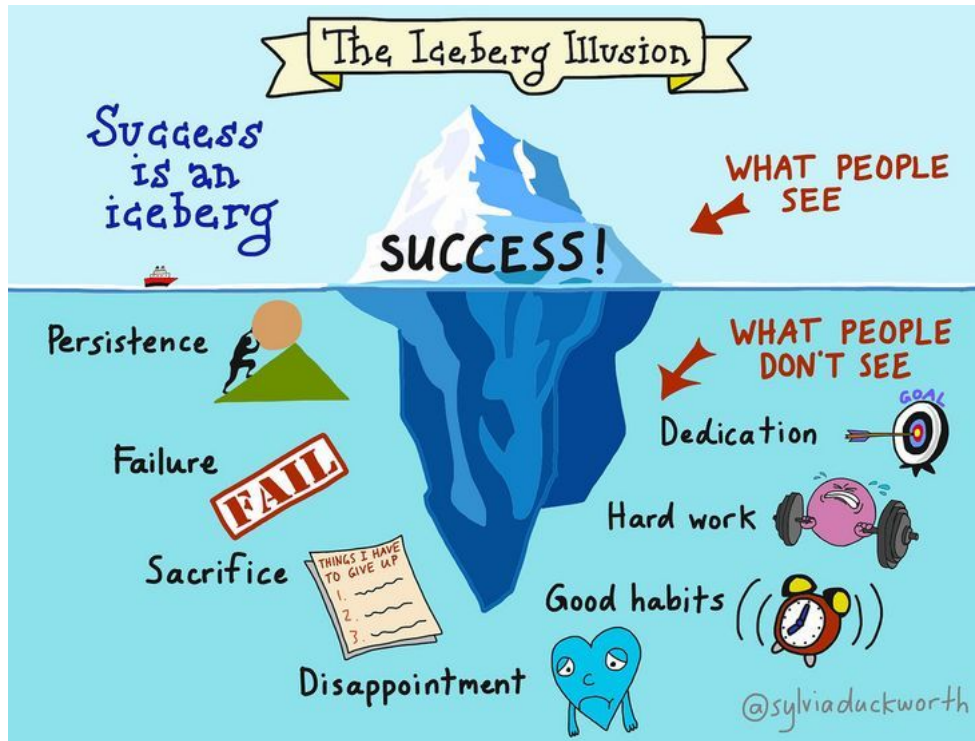


What are
colleges
looking for?

The Iceberg Illusion



Above the surface

- Grades
- Test Scores (ACT, SAT, AP, SAT Subject Tests)
- Class Rank
- Coursework
- Improvement Over Time

Below the surface

- Leadership (not always what you think!)
 - mentor to others
 - lead role in organizing an event or project
 - help to resolve an important dispute
 - help out at home or take care of family members

Below the surface (Cont.)

- Talent
 - Sports
 - Music
 - Art
 - Writing
 - Theatre
 - Magic

Below the surface (Cont.)

- Outside Educational Opportunities (How have you spent your summers?)
 - Enrichment Programs
 - Volunteer Work
 - Honors Programs
 - Travel
 - Paid Employment

Below the surface (Cont.)

- Personal characteristics
 - Maturity, intellectual curiosity, self-confidence, warmth of personality, sense of humor, energy, concern for others, and grace under pressure
 - In general, would other students want to room with you, share a meal, be in a seminar together, be teammates, or collaborate in a closely knit extracurricular group?

Below the surface (Cont.)

- Demonstrated Interest in the college
 - Request for information on websites
 - Visit the college if possible
 - Email admissions with questions
 - Email professors you are interested in studying with
 - Complete athletic interest surveys on websites

What do colleges use to see the whole student?

- Transcripts
- Test score results
- Well written thoughtful essays
- Letters of recommendation