

Advising students ages 11-18 from across the United States and around the world who are exploring boarding schools, in the current year or in the future, and ensuring that your child presents as the best applicant at the right school.



**PATRICIA L. GIMBEL**

STRATEGIC EDUCATIONAL CONSULTING

## **WHO GETS ADMITTED, AND WHY?**

My seventeen years as Dean of Admission and Financial Aid at Deerfield Academy give me a unique perspective and the experience to guide you through the entire admission process. My focus is on the whole candidate, not just the application, and the preparation that goes into a successful application.

### **We are able to provide answers and insights on important topics such as:**

- How an Admission Committee evaluates your application and how it compares to other applicants'.
- How do you set yourself apart as an applicant?
- Extra-curriculars – what matters and what doesn't.
- Why authenticity counts - seeing through parent written applications.
- How to deal with low grades and/or standardized test scores.
- How an Admission Committee interprets standardized test scores (SSAT, ERB, ISEE, TOEFL) and how they impact an application.
- What does the waitlist really mean, and can you get off it?
- Will money get you in?
- The effect of alumni connections.
- Sports – which ones can help, and at what level?
- Financial Aid- does applying for Aid count against you? What does “need blind” really mean?
- How an Admission Committee interprets teacher comments.
- How to select the right teacher to write for you.
- Outside recommendation letters – from whom, and what should they write that will matter most?
- Interview questions – what to ask, and what not to say.
- Does it matter who interviews you?
- How each school's unique admission process can impact your application.

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## **OUR COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES AND PROCESS:**

First-hand knowledge of boarding schools, both in the United States and abroad, allows me to identify the schools at which your child will flourish. Whether your family has just begun discussing schools, or you are already beginning the application process, I will help you understand how applications are critiqued and evaluated by an admission committee, and what choices you can make now to ensure your child is the best candidate he or she can be.

### **Choosing the right school for your child:**

- Initial comprehensive student and parent interviews to develop a strong understanding of the family's educational values and goals.
- In-depth analysis of the student's academic profile, strengths and primary interests with recommendations for enhancement.
- Critique of a student's co-curricular involvement with suggested strategies for enhancing talents and interests.
- Development of a recommended list of appropriate schools.

### **Presenting the best application:**

- Assistance with all elements required in the admission process.
- Campus visits and interview preparation.
- Standardized testing recommendations.
- Critique of applications including comprehensive essay review.
- Continued consultations for assistance with final decisions including waitlists and revisits.



## CONTRACT FEE STRUCTURE:

**Strategic Educational Planning designed for students in 6th and 7th grade:**

\$2,500 per year

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**Junior Boarding School Applicants:**

\$5,000 per year

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**Boarding School Applicants:**

\$7,500 per year

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**International Applicants:**

\$10,000 per year



**We look forward to hearing from you.**

**Patricia L. Gimbel**

Strategic Educational Consulting

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