

SCHS RECOMMENDED COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

11TH GRADE – BRINGING YOUR PLANS INTO FOCUS

September

- This is a great time to visit colleges. Go to a college football game or sit in on a class.
- Sign-up to attend information sessions given by visiting college admissions representatives in the Career Center. Sign-up to attend the presentations through Naviance.
- Remember to stay involved (i.e. sports, clubs, and activities outside of school).
- Work hard – GRADES COUNT! If you are taking honors or AP classes, don't be surprised to find that you need to adjust your study habits and time management skills to meet the challenge.

October - November

- Take the PSAT for the final time in mid-October. Do the best you can on this test and use the results to identify areas for improvement on the SAT.
- Decide when you want to take the SAT or ACT. Most students take the SAT or ACT for the first time in the spring of 11th grade. However, if you are an advanced math student you can consider taking the test in December or January. Think about your spring commitments when planning for these tests. You can take them more than once.
- Visit colleges, and attend the College Fair at Fair Oaks Mall and the College Night program at Hayfield Secondary in mid-October. These programs are a great opportunity to get information about the process and talk to admissions counselors about colleges and universities.

December

- Register for the SAT or ACT for the spring. If you plan to apply to a college that requires SAT II Subject Tests, consider when you might register for those tests as well. See your counselor if you have questions.
- Visit the school library and check the career center website for SAT and ACT prep resources.

January - February

- Attend the evening curriculum fair. Discuss your course selection with your families. Think about whether you should take some Honors or AP courses.
- **PAY ATTENTION** at the Academic Advising Presentation in the auditorium. We will discuss classes for senior year, the process for applying to college at South County and what you need to do to get ready for senior year.
- Plan for summer: Enroll in a summer enrichment program, get a job to earn and save money for college, or explore your skills through an internship or apprenticeship.
- Continue to research colleges by visiting their websites, request information to be sent to you, and arrange campus visits to those schools that interest you. You will want to attend an admissions tour and sit in on a class.
- Meet with your counselor for individual academic advising. Come prepared to choose courses for your senior year and discuss post-secondary plans. Choose a challenging course load that plays to your strengths and interests.

March - April

- If you are considering applying to a Military Service Academy or JROTC scholarship, attend the Military Service Academy/JROTC information evening program with a parent.
- Attend the Junior Panel Presentation. This will take place during the day and there will be speakers from the Military, NVCC, Trade Schools, College Admissions, and current seniors at South County.

May - June

- Begin working on the counselor recommendation request form. This will be due in September if you are applying Early Decision or early October of your senior year.
- Attend the NCAA Information Night if you hope to play Division I, II or III athletics in college.
- Register for the SAT or ACT for the fall if needed.
- Talk to your parents about your college interests, and discuss family options for paying for college.
- Check SIS to verify your course selection. If there are mistakes, contact your school counselor **before** the end of the school year.

July - August

- If you haven't had a chance to visit colleges, plan to do so this summer or fall.
- Complete your academic resume which will be handed in along with your counselor recommendation request form next fall. Refer to the resume builder in Naviance for assistance.
- College Applications become available. You may get started, but you will need information about the process from our senior meeting that we will conduct in September, so you will not be able to complete everything. You may begin working on application essays if desired, but you will continue this work in your senior English class.