

## \*Juniors

- **Take a challenging course schedule, and work hard!** Aim for an upward trend in GPA from last year.
- **Focus on next level of college process.** Identify colleges you're interested in, navigate the college admissions process, and initiate a search for scholarships through Naviance.
- **Take the PSAT/NMSQT in October.** This year your results will determine your qualifications for National Merit Scholar. Use your scores to help you prepare for the SAT.
- **Create a personal resume on Naviance.** Gather information in a file including extracurricular activities, honors and awards, jobs and volunteer work, and community service. Include dates and address information for each activity.
- **Attend college fairs and presentations on financial aid and college admissions.**
- **Register to take the SAT and/or ACT.** All colleges take either exam for entrance and don't favor one over the other. You may choose to take either of these college entrance exams again to improve your score. See test times and registration dates through College Board link and/or ACT link on Naviance.
- **Athletes who plan to play collegiate sports should register with the NCAA Eligibility Center:** [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) (link is also on Naviance). Check to make sure you meet all eligibility requirements thus far.
- **Ask one or two of your teachers (depending on the requirements of the college or university to which you are applying) to write a letter of recommendation on your behalf for college applications.** They will need enough time to complete them before college app deadlines in the fall.
- **Write your college application essay.** Choose one from the Common app options, or look on individual college websites for required essay topics. You may need to write more than one depending on the colleges you're applying to.
- **Attend college admission rep visits at SBA.** If you are interested in a college, sign up to meet with the rep when the visit is scheduled at SBA. (College visit schedule is on Naviance under "colleges." You will need to check with your teachers before scheduling the visit to make sure they approve it. You are responsible for making up any work you miss.
- **Begin visiting colleges officially.** Set up a tour with your parents and get the whole experience. Juniors get one excused absence during their second semester for a college visit.
- **Explore and apply for scholarships.** There are several links on Naviance to help you with the process.
- **Meet with your counselor!**
- **AP exams are taken in May.**

Summer between junior and senior year:

- **Visit colleges.**
- **Consider a summer college program.** Information on summer programs is available through the Usummer link on Naviance.
- **Make sure resume and essays are finished for college apps**
- **Complete the Common App.** The current version is typically online on August 1.
- **Check college application deadlines for colleges you're interested in, especially if you want to apply early decision.**
- **Apply for scholarships and investigate financial aid options.** There are several links on Naviance to help you with the process.
- **Check your social media presence and clean up if necessary.** College admissions personnel often check applicants' social media sites as part of their decision-making process. Make sure they don't see anything that would negatively impact their decision!