



## **Freshman Year Checklist**

- Discuss College plans with your student
- Take challenging courses and keep grades up
- Volunteer at Church and School to build Portfolio
- Learn about college costs and financial aid
- Take advantage of the summers to visit college interests
- Meet with Mrs. McLaughlin about college planning



### **Sophomore Year Checklist:**

- Take PSAT in October
- Start a planning Calendar with goals and deadlines
- Volunteer at Church or School
- Attend College Fair/Events on campuses
- Take ACT
- Explore careers and job opportunities in interested careers. Consider "job shadow"
- Start creating a resume and keep it updated
- Meet with Mrs. McLaughlin about goals, career aspirations, and schools you are considering



### **Junior Year Checklist:**

#### Fall

- Take PSAT (This one is for NMSQT)
- Research College Programs
- Attend ACT/SAT Tutoring if desired
- Build relationships with teachers for recommendations
- Continue building your resume with co-curricular activities and volunteer activities

#### Spring

- Take ACT or SAT
- Research admission criteria for top schools
- Create “brag/cheat sheet” for recommenders
- Look at summer programs at colleges of interest
- Update resume
- Schedule one or two College visit days
- Have a short list of three colleges
- Explore career options and job opportunities in those careers



## Senior Year Checklist:

### Summer

- Take ACT/SAT in June and/or July
- Find out what standardized tests that may be required by the college. SAT Subject tests?
- Write and/or edit college essays. Have someone review your essays
- Attend college fairs
- Update resume
- Request letters of recommendation

### Fall

- Apply early for admission.
- Request transcripts from counselor
- Request test scores from ACT and/or SAT websites
- Complete scholarship application
- Explore careers
- Complete FAFSA – most scholarship programs require this to be completed before awarding scholarships – Opens October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Go on college visits

### Spring

- Continue applying for scholarships

- Review scholarship offers with counselor
  - Make a decision before May 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Submit deposits (tuition and housing) to your college
  - Submit housing application
  - Inform other colleges of your decision
  - Get familiar with college attending
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- Know your scholarship application deadlines – many are in January of your Senior year