COLLEGE PLANNING CALENDAR – JUNIOR YEAR

SEPTEMBER – JANUARY

* Begin to narrow career interests and begin to explore colleges. (Interest inventories & college resources available in Guidance office)
* Juniors should stop into guidance office routinely to check for scholarship opportunities.
* October PSAT’s will be given to all juniors – Practice for SAT’s I and opportunity to qualify for National Merit Scholarship
* November - Guidance will meet with junior parents to discuss college, career and senior year.
* December and January - PSAT results are returned and reviewed with students and SAT Prep courses are available at local colleges. (Abelson and Kaplan have review courses available throughout the year, but students can also use the Internet to study at collegeboard.com/satprep & act.org)

FEBRUARY – MAY

* April, May or June SAT I or II’s Exams. (Register by mail or online at http://www.collgeboard.com and take practice exams)
* Select a rigorous program for senior year. Consider courses for your intended college major, program or career.
* May - Take AP Exams
* April – June ACT Exams, Register by mail or online at http://www.act.org
* Review college websites. Access college web sites organized by states from:
* http://www.utexas.edu/world/univ/state or for New York State http://www.nymentor.com
* Create a preliminary list of colleges approximately 15 colleges. Meet with your counselor for a junior year interview to discuss post high school plans.
* Attend Local Spring College Fairs and College Nights.
* Plan and take several college tours and visits, compare colleges to get a feel for them in session and out.
* Do a Financial Aid Calculator online to determine Expected Family Contribution (EFC) at http://www.finaid.org
* Review for SAT and ACT Exams

JUNE

* List Colleges to visit.
* Obtain and review all admission materials and applications from the colleges that interest you. Use mail, Internet, pick it up when you visit or just call them for the latest info.
* Discuss financial aid and costs of college with family.
* Start working on drafts for your college essays and make sure to update or complete the extra curricular forms for Junior Year.
* Last Opportunity to take SAT or ACT’s in junior year.

JULY - AUGUST

* Tour colleges and visit with admission and financial aid offices.
* Verify admission requirements, total cost, and financial aid opportunities, investigate academic program and talk with students and faculty.
* Record application deadlines and requirements. Familiarize yourself with essays and forms.
* Review interview questions and practice your interviews.
* Do volunteer work to earn community service hours.
* Plan itinerary and interviews for Fall college visits
* Plan testing dates for senior year.
* Reduce your preliminary college list to 10.