Post-Secondary Planning

10 things to start prepping and planning for college application success.
1. Finish your junior year strong!

- Colleges make admissions decisions based on your grades in 9th-11th grade.
- Junior year grades are the final grades reported at the time of application.
- Work during your junior year for an upward trend in grades. Higher grades during your junior year can outweigh a slip up earlier in high school.
Reading Your Transcripts

Your courses: past and present

Credits: earned and those being earned

Grades by year.

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The GPA listed is your weighted GPA. Only AP courses are weighted.
Am I on track to graduate?

23 Credits are Required for Graduation from SLHS

- Students must have 11 credits by the end of their sophomore year to be on track for graduation.

What if I’m short credits?

- Credit Recovery or attending for a 5th year are possibilities.
- See your counselor for more information.
2. Choose Challenging Classes for Your Senior Year.

- Rigor of classes is one of the key things college admissions counselors consider.
- Choose a solid academic schedule: 3-4 classes in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and World Language
- Take AP (Advanced Placement) or Dual Enrollment classes if appropriate.
Senior Scheduling
Graduation Requirements:

- Senior English Choices:
  - A literature class
  - Reading, Writing for the College Bound
  - AP English Literature or AP English Language
  - Journalism
  - Writing for Publication
Senior Scheduling
Graduation Requirements:

- Senior Mathematics/Math Related Choices:
  - Any mathematics course you haven’t taken
  - Physics/AP Physics
  - AP Microeconomics/AP Macroeconomics
  - Accounting
  - OSTC 4th year math
  - Certain technology courses
Any other graduation requirement you have not yet taken.

- Your counselor will meet with you 2nd semester to conduct a graduation audit.
- Your course selections will be reviewed and updated if necessary.
3. Get to know your Counselor, Teachers, and Careers Facilitator.

- Letters of Recommendation: the better someone knows you the more personal the letter.
- Counselors are a great resource – talk to us about colleges and college admission.
- Not sure of your career path? Meet with the careers facilitator to help narrow things down.
Student Services Office

- Mrs. Wallace – Last Names A-La
- Ms. Godo – Last Names Le-Z
- Mrs. Miloch – Career Development Facilitator
- Mrs. Krueger – Front Desk
## 4. Continue Preparing for the SAT/ACT

### SAT: April 2017
- You will take the SAT plus Writing, ACT WorkKeys, and M-Step.
- No cost
- No need to register
- Valid scores on all days of testing is required for graduation

### ACT
- Not required
- Register at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
- Cost involved
- You will take at a National Test Sight
- Dates are in your packet
SAT/ACT Test Prep is Available:

- Khan Academy
- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
- Schoolcraft College
- Kaplan in Ann Arbor
- Private Tutoring
- Practice books

Interested in the Military?

- Take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)
- Offered at SLHS on November 15th at 7:30 am.
- See Mrs. Miloch in Student Services to register.
5. Get Organized

- Make sure you have an appropriate email address and check it regularly.
- Start a folder to keep items together.
  - SAT/ACT scores
  - Transcripts
  - Letters of recommendation
  - College information
  - Essays
  - Scholarships
  - Financial Aid
6. Start or Update Your Resume, Activities List, or Brag Sheet.

- Include a description and dates for all your:
  - Extracurricular Activities
  - Volunteer Work
  - Job Experience
  - Sport Involvement
  - Awards you have received
7. Attend College Nights or College Fairs This Spring

- Explore a lot of schools in one place.
- Talk to college representatives.
- Attend workshops on college admissions strategies.
- Attend workshops on financial aid.
8. Connect With Colleges

- Learn everything you can about the colleges you are considering.
- Join their mailing lists.
- Follow them on social media to learn about upcoming events.
9. Visit Colleges: Even if they aren’t your top choice.

- College visits let you experience the community.
- Register to visit online or through the Admissions Office.
- See if they have a specific Junior Visit Day.
- Visit during the school year if possible so you can see campus with students on it.
10. Start Planning Summer Activities

- Summer Programs
- Internship Opportunities
- Volunteer Work
- Employment Opportunities

Activities may be the thing that sets you apart from students with similar academic profiles.
So what do the college admissions representatives have to say?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ArC4-7bThNA
QUESTIONS