

Suggested Sophomore College Planning Timeline

Sophomore year is all about decisions needing to be made in high school that will affect what you do after you graduate from Westerville City Schools. Concentrate on academic preparation and continue to develop basic skills and extra-curricular interests.

August

- Take challenging courses that reflect your ability level.
- Save samples of your best academic work in case a college requests examples.
- Maintain your extracurricular involvement (or start getting involved).
- Familiarize yourself with Naviance Family Connection's Colleges and Careers tabs.
- Create academic goals for your sophomore year and work hard to achieve them.
- Take NCAA-approved courses if you want to participate in Division 1 or 2 athletics in college.
- Attend evening college exploration programs hosted by the Guidance Office throughout the year.

September

- Talk to your counselor about the PSAT (Preliminary SAT). The PSAT is a practice test to help you prepare for the SAT. You also have the opportunity to take this your junior year, and your score from your junior year could open scholarship opportunities for you.
- Attend the Suburban College Fair on Sun., September 25 from 1-3:30 p.m. at Otterbein Univ.
- If you couldn't make the Suburban College Fair, attend the Kiwanis College Fair on Mon., September 26 from 6-8 p.m. at COSI.
- If you are interested in majoring in visual or performing arts in college, attend the National Visual and Performing Arts College Fair on Mon., September 26 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Xavier University's Cintas Center (Cincinnati).

October

- Take the PSAT as a practice for the SAT and to prepare you for taking it as a junior when your score can open up scholarship opportunities for you.
- Start building a resume through Naviance Family Connection. This resume should include extra-curricular involvement, community service, volunteer work and employment.

November

- Begin having family conversations on parameters around the college search (e.g. how far away from home is the student allowed to go, how much are we willing to pay as a family, etc.?)
- Stay on top of your school work. If necessary, meet with your teachers for additional help.
- Save your best work in academic courses and the arts as potential examples for colleges. This should be done throughout the year.

December

- Review your PSAT score report. Identify your strengths and weaknesses then develop a study plan through www.khanacademy.org.

January

- Keep working hard in your classes.
- Look for volunteer activities to develop your interests.
- Start thinking about what your junior year schedule should look like. Tip: Junior year is the most important year in terms of college admissions. It is the last full year of grades colleges will see when they decide whether or not to admit you during your senior year. Consider challenging yourself by taking AP, IB, CCP or Honors courses.

February

- Meet with your counselor to discuss your course requests for junior year.
- Begin researching colleges! Talk to your counselor, explore Naviance and visit the College Resource Room in the Guidance Office.

March

- Review your progress on achieving your goals.

April

- Look into summer academic or enrichment programs, especially ones on college campuses.
- Prepare for AP exams.

May

- Create goals for the summer and a plan to achieve those goals.
- AP exams.

Summer

- Consider registering for a test preparation course for ACT/SAT or develop your own plan using free online resources like www.number2.com, www.march2success.org or www.jobseeker.k-12.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/Assessments/Home.aspx.
- Continue reading to strengthen your vocabulary.
- Relax and get ready for your junior year.