

College Planning Checklist for Parents

9th and 10th Grades

FALL

o **Use Naviance as a resource to help your student plan for high school, college, and career.**

- o If you have never logged in to Naviance, contact Ms. Snape for help.
- o Discuss postsecondary options for careers of interest.

o **Learn about resources available to parents.**

- o Attend class meetings and other events of interest at the school.

o **Check in regularly about school.**

- o Help your student transition to high school by checking in about assignments and extracurricular activities.
- o Encourage your student to meet with a counselor to determine which classes to take to prepare for college.

WINTER

- o **Check in regarding your student's schedule for next year.**

Students should take challenging classes in high school to prepare for college.

- o **Start thinking about financial aid and paying for college.**

- o Have a discussion with your student about what you can afford.

- o Start saving for college. Even if you can only save a few dollars each month, every little bit helps.

SPRING

- o **Help your student plan summer activities.**

- o Consider part-time jobs, summer enrichment programs, or volunteer opportunities in your community.

- o **Encourage your 10th grade student to take a practice PSAT.** While sophomore scores aren't used for college scholarship awards, taking the test early can help students be better prepared for the PSAT junior year and the SAT.

SUMMER

- o **Visit colleges.** If possible tour a local school. If planning a family vacation, try to stop by a campus near your destination or on the way.

- **Encourage your student to complete SSL requirements.**
- **If your 10th grade student is interested in attending a United States military service academy, encourage your student to request a pre-candidate questionnaire.**