

COLLEGE CHECKOFF – CLASS OF 2026

➤ Creating your college list. It is recommended you have an average of six colleges on “your list”:

- two safety schools,
- two target schools,
- and two reach schools.

For more information, refer to

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/collegesearch?navid=gh-cs> and Xello

Please do your research. Look at the college’s website, and conduct an in-person or virtual tour, if possible.

➤ Send transcripts: create an account at <http://www.parchment.com>. If you do not have a Parchment account, all Parchment account information has been sent to your Gmail account. If you have any questions, please contact our Counseling Secretary, Lisa Reeves at 248-203-3501 or LReeves@birmingham.k12.mi.us.

➤ Send ACT scores, create an account at <http://www.actstudent.org>

➤ Send SAT scores <http://collegeboard.com>

NOTE: Many schools have moved to test-optional. Please refer to the school’s website for updated admission information. Additionally, The National Center for Fair & Open Testing (FairTest) is keeping a database of schools that have moved to test-optional. To learn more, visit <http://www.fairtest.org/university/optional>

➤ Make an appointment with your counselor for a senior meeting.

Sherree Wilson (alpha A-D)	<u>Schedule Senior Meeting with Mrs. Wilson</u>
Felicia Starks (alpha E-K)	<u>Schedule Senior Meeting with Mrs. Starks</u>
Lezah Phillips (alpha L-R)	<u>Schedule Senior Meeting with Mrs. Phillips</u>
Sharon Adams (alpha S-Z)	<u>Schedule Senior Meeting with Mrs. Adams</u>

➤ Applications – many colleges have multiple ways to apply. Please refer to their website. If you choose to use the Common App – create an account at <http://www.commonapp.org> In Common App, Invite the counselor by Oct. 15 AND teacher(s) by October 3rd, 2025

➤ Essays – many colleges require an essay(s)/personal statement.

➤ Secure 1 – 2 letters of recommendation. Many colleges do not require a teacher and/or counselor recommendation. Please check the school's admission requirements. Letters of recommendation are sent directly to the college. Teachers and counselors will upload their letters to the institution by the application deadline.

➤ Athletes - - If you plan to play a competitive sport at the college level, you may need to register with NCAA Clearinghouse <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/> or NAIA www.PlayNAIA.org

Counseling Department emails (different from appointments)

Christina Belsky (Dept. Lead):	CBelsky@bps-schools.com
Sharon Adams (alpha S-Z):	SAdams2@birmingham.k12.mi.us
Lezah Phillips (alpha L-R):	LPhillips@bps-schools.com
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