

Planning Checklist for Your Junior Year

September-November

___ I have prepared an area in my home to keep only college materials. (I have organized these materials into separate files: financial aid information, SAT materials, college applications, college information).

___ I have researched opportunities in my community to learn more about post-secondary education (college fairs, career counseling, etc.).

___ I have compiled a list of high school courses and activities I have completed so far. I have also included a list of my achievements, abilities and interests.

___ I have completed a list of areas where I need improvement and courses/activities I have left to take.

___ I have registered for and completed the PSAT/NMSQT. (This test is taken to prepare for the SAT and to increase eligibility for special honors and National Merit Scholarships).

December- February

___ I received my PSAT/NMSQT scores in December. I interpreted the score report and identified areas needing improvement.

___ I reviewed my lists of interests and goals. I will use my lists to identify important college traits to be used in my college search.

___ I have begun to research specific scholarship opportunities through my high school guidance counselor, public libraries, local civic organizations and the Internet scholarship search services.

___ I have asked my guidance counselor for information about Advanced Placement (AP) and College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests.

___ I have started my college search by identifying colleges which match the traits I have listed most important. I have called or written the schools to arrange visits and to receive college information and applications.

April- June

___ I have taken Advanced Placement Exams (given in May)

___ I have taken the SAT Exam (given in June).

___ I have identified and spoken to teachers, employers, and activity leaders who will write letters of recommendation to colleges for me.