

Sophomore Checklist



FALL

- **Take a strong course load and do your best to make good grades.**
One day a college admissions officer will actually look at your transcript (your courses and grades) and make a decision on your work ethic based on your grades, focusing initially on 9th-11th grade. (Plus, the better grades you have, the more upper level courses you will be eligible to take in the future.)
- **Review your current transcript with your academic advisor!**
Look for areas on it that need improvement and establish a plan to improve.
- **Frequently monitor the guidance page of the school website.**
This is your one stop shop for commonly requested forms and is the place to go to keep informed of an upcoming college visits and other college and career planning events.
- **Attend a Christian and Public School College Fair.**
- **Try something new – different from last year!** Try a new club, organization or sport.
Many colleges and organizations look for the well-rounded student.
- **Continue volunteering for community service hours.**
Keep in mind that in-depth involvement is best. While four or five hours here and there are better than nothing, look for volunteer activities where you may want to make a long-term commitment, preferably even gaining experience in an area you may be interested in pursuing as a career. For community service ideas, check out our guidance page or <http://www.volunteens.com/>
- **Review Your College Board <https://www.collegeboard.org/> and ACT Profile www.actprofile.org accounts.**
Review your information to ensure it is up-to-date with your latest information, goals, and interests.
- **Maintain your high school resume.**
Add any important jobs, volunteer positions or skills gained over this year. Visit www.collegeessayguy.com/blog/college-resume-templates for ideas.
- **Continue looking up scholarship opportunities.**
Scholarship opportunities change each year. Continue looking through the hundreds of fun and exciting scholarship that can help you earn money for school. Many are unique just for you! One of many invaluable sites
to check out: www.CollegeDebtFree.org
- **Prepare for the PSAT.**
Go to your College Board account to practice critical reading, math, and writing skills questions.
- **Take the PSAT in class.**

SPRING

- **Continue to work hard on your grades.**
Proactive preparation today will avoid last minute reactive panic. If you find that you are struggling in any of your classes, please ask your teacher for help. If that is not enough, see your guidance coordinator for information on tutoring.
- **Continue your activities and community service work.**
- **Take the ASVAB in class.**
The ASVAB tests are designed to measure aptitudes in four domains: Verbal, Math, Science and Technical, and Spatial.
- **Take the ASPIRE in class.**
Go to your ACT account to practice critical reading, math, and writing skills questions.
- **Choose your 11th grade courses wisely.**
Consider if Dual-Enrollment is an option for you. Meet with the academic advisor to see if you are eligible and visit www.palmbeachstate.edu to learn more. It is extremely important that you maintain a challenging schedule if you plan to attend a competitive college.
- **Pray about taking a spring break or summer college visit.**
Remember to create a list of questions to ask while visiting.