

FRESHMAN PLANNER

FIRST SEMESTER

- Check your high school credits to ensure that you are taking the necessary courses to meet graduation requirements and post-secondary options.
- Develop a serious attitude toward your studies. Grade point average and class rank are important considerations for your acceptance into most colleges. Your GPA counts!
- Develop good study habits. If you find yourself struggling with your studies at any point during your freshman year, first consult with your teacher, and then check with the
- Counseling Office for study skills assistance and for peer tutorial help.
- Set personal goals for academic achievement. Evaluate and re-assess your goals frequently.
- Ensure that you are actively working toward your goals.
- Plan ahead for major project deadlines and your semester exams
- Review Counseling webpages for opportunities or scholarships that are available to freshmen.
- Plan your involvement in extra-curricular, class, and community activities purposefully. Do things that interest you and GET INVOLVED!
- Your resume (which includes academic achievements, awards, honors, GPA, leadership positions and school/community activities) becomes very important as you apply for jobs, special programs, post-secondary schools and scholarships.
- Encourage your parents to attend Open House so that they will become familiar with your class schedule, teachers and the school.
- Remember— the Counseling Office is here to help you in any way they can. Contact your counselor if you have any concerns— personal, educational or career.
- High School & Beyond
- Assessment information

SECOND SEMESTER

- Familiarize yourself with the Counseling Webpages on the PHS Website. Using the post-secondary materials in the Counseling Office, make a list of post-secondary schools to which you may want to apply. Check the entrance requirements of the schools and make sure you select appropriate course work for next year.
- Visit with people employed in your occupational interest area. Ask questions about actual job tasks, training required, helpful skills, advantages and disadvantages, employment opportunities, advancement, etc.
- Begin your course selection process for next year. Review the Freshman Planner and your High School and Beyond Plan. Select courses that are compatible with your college and career goals.
- Review your academic skills with your counselor and teachers to identify any weak areas that need improvement. Consideration should be given to any deficiencies as you register for the next school year.
- Discuss your educational goals and High School and Beyond Plan with your parents.
- You will be taking standardized tests along with all other 9th through 11th graders. Do your best! The results will provide additional information regarding your academic strengths, as well as identify areas that you may want to improve upon.
- Plan ahead for major project deadlines and your semester exams.
- Read as much and as widely as you can during the summer ahead. Set aside time for reading every day. A wide variety of reading material will benefit you in your course work next year.