Junior/Senior To-Do List

**May & June of Junior Year:**
- Create a list of 4-8 colleges that you would like to attend.
- Create a master list or calendar with application fees and deadlines, test dates, and your school’s application processing deadlines.
- Plan to visit these colleges, or at least some of them.
- Talk to your counselor to see if you are eligible to receive fee waivers for applications and tests.
- Register for a college entrance exam: SAT or ACT (Last one is June 6 - register by May 8)
- Search the Mead HS scholarship website (under student services → college and career readiness) to see which scholarship could apply to you. Check with parents to see if they have work or organization/club scholarships you could apply for.

**August of Junior Year:**
- Find Common App essay available August 1st.
- Research other schools who don’t use the Common App to see what their essay questions are and start formulating your response to these.

**September of Senior Year:**
- Finalize your short list (the schools to which you will apply) - utilize WOIS to narrow your options.
- Download college applications - Common App, Send EDU, etc.
- Register for a college entrance exam to improve your scores if necessary in October, November, December, or January.
- Maintain a rigorous academic schedule and involvement your senior year.

**October of Senior Year:**
- Attend to “early action” or “early decision” deadlines. *Many are due in November*
- Arrange for on and off campus interviews if necessary.
- Arrange for teachers/counselors to write recommendations if needed. Give at least two weeks notice to the people you’re asking. Send thank you notes for those recommendations.
- Prepare required essays if you are applying to selective schools. Proofread!
- Attend College Fair at the Spokane Convention Center in early November.
November of Senior Year:

- Begin submitting college applications. If the application requires a counselor component, provide this to your counselor with advanced notice.

December of Senior Year:

- Go to www.pin.ed.gov and get PINs for the FAFSA for both yourself and your parents.
- Withdraw other application if you receive binding Early Decision acceptance.
- Apply for housing where specified.

January and February of Senior Year:

- Submit your FAFSA directly to Federal Student Aid Programs as soon after January 1 as possible, to be received no later than June 30. (Many colleges set earlier deadlines).
- Encourage your parents or guardians to file income tax returns early. Some colleges want copies of your family’s returns before finalizing financial aid offers.
- Meet January, February, and March application deadlines.
- Maintain a rigorous academic schedule and involvement in your 8th semester. If you are wait-listed, the college will want to know what you have accomplished since you applied.
- Investigate thoroughly your choices by carefully considering costs, major, living arrangements, etc.

March and April of Senior Year:

- Expect to receive acceptance letters and financial aid offers by mid-April. See your counselor or the college and career coordinator to analyze the options.
- If you haven’t visited the college you’ve decided to attend, do so before accepting.
- Prepare for any AP exams you plan to take.

May or Senior Year:

- Inform all colleges which accept you, whether you plan to attend or cancel; final date to reply is the National Candidate Reply Date, May 1.
- Take AP exams; have scores sent to the college you have selected.
- Tell Renee Anderson in the counseling office where you want your final transcript sent.