



ZCHS School Counseling Department

Sophomore Preparation Timeline

August

- Schedule review: make sure your classes fulfill Core 40 (college prep), Technical Honors, or Academic Honors requirements. Ensure you are taking an increasingly rigorous course load each year.

September

- Keep track of your academic progress and ability to think critically. Remember how important your first three years of high school are in computing your cumulative GPA.
- Complete the *Cluster Finder* survey in Naviance to jump start your career exploration.
- Talk to visiting college admissions representatives about admission requirements.

October/November

- Take the PSAT again. This is excellent practice for college admission tests. PSAT scores are a valuable resource for assessing your academic skills (critical reading, math, and writing) and your AP potential.

December

- PSAT results are returned available in December or early January. Use your results for future planning on exams and scheduling of AP coursework.
- Career assignment during English 10 classes. Use this to complement your planning process.
- Update your *Game Plan* survey in Naviance Family Connection.

January/February/March

- Scheduling for Junior year begins: school counselors will meet with sophomores in their classes to begin the course selection process for the following academic year.
- Visit colleges over spring break and/or during the spring semester. Visiting colleges during your sophomore year will help you identify personal and academic preferences.

May

- Arrange to shadow a professional in the field of study/vocation you are considering.
- Schedule Review: Make all schedule changes by the end of May. If receiving a D or lower in a class, consider retaking the course during the summer or the following year.

Summer

- Spend the summer months continuing your exploration of college and career resources online, visiting colleges, and fine-tuning your long-term academic and career plan.
- Visit, email or call colleges to continue your college exploration.