

Preparing for College Information for Parents and Students

- ✚ Your child should develop and follow a plan for the college search process.
- ✚ Attend information sessions and college nights sponsored by the various schools.
- ✚ Sign up for and take PSAT in October (this qualifies you for National Merit).
- ✚ Consult with the students high school counselor for college search ideas and advice.
- ✚ Review all options, if schools seem too costly, research scholarships and other financial assistance that may be available to you.
- ✚ Support your student as he or she prepares for and takes the ACT/SAT exams.
- ✚ Find out if your student should take the Advance Placement or SAT II exams.
- ✚ Begin general visits to a variety of schools.
- ✚ Network with other parents for information and support, and consider taking turns bringing students and friends to a variety of colleges for visits.

SUMMER BEFORE SENIOR YEAR

- ✚ Help your son or daughter sort through college mail as it arrives.
- ✚ Review ACT/SAT results and discuss whether retesting should occur.
- ✚ Encourage your student to look at online applications and begin thinking about essay questions.
- ✚ Visit a wide variety of schools from small to medium to large, to public and private, review costs and location.
- ✚ Check to make sure the student is taking a senior course load that will prepare him or her for success.
- ✚ Develop a list of questions for colleges and take them on visits.