

# “If I plan to learn, I must learn to plan”



## Student’s College Planning Guide

### 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Begin thinking about the high school classes that will prepare you for college. Take the most difficult classes you can HANDLE.
- Ask your parents/guardians or teachers to help you develop good study habits.
- Practice setting and reaching goals.
- Volunteer in your community.
- Take interest and skills assessments to help you think about possible career options.
- Talk with your school counselor and parents about careers that interest you.
- Enroll in a summer enrichment program.

### 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Take interest and skills assessments to help you explore careers that interest you.
- Talk with your school counselor about college and career options and the education required for those careers.
- Talk with your family about paying for college.
- Talk with friends, teachers, counselors and your parents about college.
- Participate in extracurricular activities.
- Take the most difficult classes you can HANDLE. Stay focused on your schoolwork.
- Explore internships and apprenticeships.
- Sign up for classes that will earn you college credit during your junior year of high school.

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Attend college and financial aid fairs.
- Mentor others and have a mentor for yourself.
- Take the PSAT in the fall to prepare for the SAT, and to identify areas where you need improvement.
- Consider possible career options and investigate the education that is needed.
- Request material from schools that interest you, and visit their web sites.
- Arrange campus visits to those schools that interest you. Meet with an admissions officer, a financial aid representative, faculty members and college students.
- Participate in extracurricular activities.
- Take the ACT and/or SAT in the spring.
- Review your high school class plan. Take the most difficult classes you can HANDLE. Stay focused on your schoolwork. **Make sure you are meeting your high school graduation requirements!**