

A Planning Calendar for Juniors

August - Review your high school course work and activity plans to make sure they reflect the impression you want to make on college admission officers.

September - Make a list of colleges that interest you. Look through college catalogs. Request colleges to send you their catalogs and an application. You can do this on line. It is important to check the college admission requirements before you register for your senior year classes. Some colleges require four years of math and science. Other colleges may require the *SAT II* subject tests in addition to the *SAT*. It is important to start researching all of this information now.

October - Take the *PSAT*. Do not forget your calculator and social security number. You will also need your school code Beacon is 330-360.

November - You can review the *FAFSA* form. Do not file it. You cannot file it until after January 1 of your senior year. Start investigating eligibility requirements for different government and private loans. Start calculating college cost. If you plan to go away for the holidays, think about scheduling a college visit.

December - If you took the *PSAT* in October, you will get your score report. Use the score guide to help you interpret your results.

January - Begin scheduling college visits, especially during spring break. Most colleges are in session when high school have their spring break.

February - Continue searching through college catalogs. Keep an index card on each one and keep note of admission requirements, cost etc. Make sure the ones you are researching or considering has your interest of study or major available.

March - Check registration deadlines to take the May *SAT*. Request an appointment with your counselor for your Junior conference. We usually start the junior conferences after we complete registration for the next school year.

April - Plan to visit with colleges. Call ahead of time for permission to take a tour and meet with an admission counselor. If you plan to live on campus, request permission to spend the night in a dorm. This way you get the real experience of college life. Keep an index card and record notes on each college. Likes, dislikes, college rep name, contact info, e mail address. Most of the representatives have business cards. Do not forget to follow up the visit with a thank you card. Junior conferences are usually scheduled in April at the student's request.

May - Take the *SAT*

June - August - Continue researching and visiting colleges. Start putting together a resume to send in with your college application. Colleges like to see a well rounded student who can earn good grades, while working, participating in community service and if possible a sport. Colleges do not like to see a senior with few classes. Make sure you take more than what you are required to graduate with. Colleges like to see a competitive course of study on your transcript.