Middle School

**Challenge Yourself**
Don't be afraid to take harder courses to prepare for your future.

**Reach Out**
Ask for advice from guidance counselors, coaches, or your favorite teachers.

**Stay Healthy & Alert**
Eat breakfast every day and set a regular bedtime. Try to get at least 9 hours of sleep.

**Develop Good Habits**
Get into a daily routine of studying. Try to always be reading a book.

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**9th Grade**

**Start Strong**
Give studying your maximum effort! No one has ever said they studied too much for a test.

**Look at Colleges**
Explore at all the options... big, small, near, and far. Attend local college fairs with your family.

**Get Involved**
Participate in a club or activity. Volunteer in your community. Make a difference!

**Maximize Your Summer**
Look into jobs/internships and explore summer programs to help you grow.

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**10th Grade**

**Stay Focused**
Don’t be distracted from your primary goal: preparing yourself for college!

**Review your Schedule**
Make sure you are still on track for high school graduation and college admission.

**Use the Web**
Look at colleges closely. Get info on admission requirements. Sign up to receive more info from your favorites.

**Take the FSAT or PLAN**
These national tests are given in the fall to help prepare you for the SAT and ACT.

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**11th Grade**

**Test and Test Again**
Take the PSAT/NMSQT in October. In the spring, register for the SAT and/or ACT. Take both to see which fits you best.

**Narrow Your Choices**
Research your favorite college's application deadlines so you're ready for early fall deadlines.

**Set Your Senior Schedule**
Meet with your guidance counselor to discuss your schedule and college plans.

**Summer Visitations**
Visit your top college choices. If you can't do it physically, look for virtual tours.

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**12th Grade**

**Make a Calendar**
Mark down all the important dates in the application process for the school to which you apply.

**Apply for Admission**
Make sure to follow directions from your choice colleges. Most colleges require online applications.

**Apply for Financial Aid**
Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) when it becomes available in October.

**Waiting is the Hard Part**
Each college will let you know when to expect a decision. Mark your calendar and try not to worry too much.