

SOPHOMORE POST-SECONDARY PLANNING TIMELINE

WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING DURING 10TH GRADE TO HELP MYSELF PREPARE FOR AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

❑ START THINKING ABOUT LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

- ❑ Consider your options for after high school and be thinking about what might be a good fit for you. Work? Apprenticeship? Military? Technical college? Community college? 4-year college? If you haven't already, start really thinking about what might be the best fit path for you.

❑ EXPLORE POTENTIAL CAREERS

- ❑ Continue to use the Minnesota Career Information System (MCIS) to explore career and college options. Exploration activities will take place throughout the year.
- ❑ Consider taking the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Test (ASVAB) at Simley in the fall or spring. The test is required for any student planning to enlist in any branch of the military but there is also a great Career Exploration Program that is connected with the exam.

❑ ATTEND THE COLLEGE FAIR

- ❑ Simley holds a college fair every fall that includes over 50 schools- 2-year, 4-year, technical, public, private, etc. Take advantage of the opportunity to talk to representatives and gather information!

❑ GET INVOLVED AND TRY NEW THINGS!

- ❑ What were you involved in last year? Continue your extracurricular activities and add another one to the mix this year. Remember, everything you are involved in can go on your college application and resume!

❑ DO WELL IN YOUR COURSES

- ❑ Continue working hard and doing well in your classes as you build your transcript. Ask for help if you get stuck and be active and engaged in each of your courses. Remember, your transcript is the most important factor colleges look at for admissions- the strength of your course load and how well you do in your classes.

❑ MEET YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR

- ❑ If you haven't met your counselor yet, make it a priority this year! In addition to your assigned alphabet counselor, Simley also has a College and Career Counselor, Ms. Kimble, for all students to access for anything related to post-secondary planning. Stop by and say hi in the Career Center.

❑ MAKE A 4-YEAR PLAN

- ❑ Review your 4-year plan and adjust accordingly based on your strengths, interests, and plans.

❑ TALK ABOUT PAYING FOR COLLEGE

- ❑ If your plans include any type of college, talk to your family about how you will pay for it. Discuss savings, scholarships, and financial aid options.

❑ MAKE SUMMER COUNT

- ❑ Explore summer opportunities and take advantage of the time! Volunteer, shadow someone in an area of interest, take classes, or get a job. Attend the Summer College Road Trip (for free!) to get a jump-start on visiting college campuses and finding out what type of school might be the best fit for you.

