

FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE CHECKLIST

HIGH SCHOOL IS AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE! While senior year seems like a lifetime away, it will sneak up on you sooner than you think. Use this checklist to be sure you are staying on track during your freshman and sophomore years.

- Now is the time to start thinking about your future! Consider options like college, trades, military, and careers.
- Talk with people who know you well—parents, friends, teachers, counselor—about post-secondary options.
- Explore ways to pay for college: grants, loans, scholarships, and family funds.
- Participate! There are many extracurricular activities available to you that will enrich your high school experience, help you connect with others, and bolster your resume.
- Find out what clubs, sports, and activities are offered at your school and how to get involved.
- Review your high school class plan. Take a challenging but balanced course load. Stay focused on your schoolwork. Always advocate for yourself by talking with your teachers when you need support.
- Remember that grades during your early years of high school count toward your final grade point average (GPA) and class rank, which are important to most post-secondary options.
- Take the PSAT as a sophomore, if your school offers it.
- Consider enriching your summer with a learning experience, job, or volunteering. Colleges and employers are looking for individuals who are passionate about community and hard work.

Work hard, stand out, be kind, find your passion!