Seattle Christian SCHOOL

SUMMER BEFORE SENIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

COLLEGE

- ☐ **Build** a list of colleges you are considering. Utilize the following websites for help:
  - **Xello** – accessed through your grade level Canvas page
  - **Niche** - https://www.niche.com/
  - **College Board** - https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search/filters
- ☐ **Begin** inputting information into the Common App, if you will be applying to schools that utilize this application. The process can take time, so we recommend getting your demographic information in before school starts in September.
- ☐ **Ask for letters of recommendation from teachers.** If you plan to apply for scholarships over the summer, you will need to ask teachers prior to the end of the school year. Give them plenty of time before the deadline. Remember that teachers will not be available during the summer, so request letters early.
- ☐ Add activities to your profile in **Xello** from the past year, this information can be exported and used for Activity resumes for college applications and scholarships, or job resumes.
- ☐ **Study for** the **SAT**. If you are interested, consider registering for and taking the **ACT**.
  - All Seniors are required to **retake the SAT in October** at SCS during the half day before conferences.
  - Utilize **KhanAcademy.org** or other study platforms to increase your score.

CAREER

- ☐ **Explore careers** and note what degrees and/or majors align with those careers.
- ☐ **Make connections** with technical programs, military recruiters or research apprenticeship opportunities if that aligns with your post-secondary plan.
- ☐ **Get job skills** in high school by considering internships, job shadowing and other community service or volunteer work, especially over the summer.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- ☐ Utilize **scholarship search engines** to find scholarships that match your skills and experiences, like:
  - thewashboard.org
  - bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search
  - unigo.com
  - scholarships.com
  - scholarships360.org
  - fastweb.com

PARENTS

- ☐ **Talk** to your student about their college & career plans.
- ☐ **Encourage** increasing independence.
- ☐ **Attend** college fairs and/or visit colleges with your student, either during the summer or during their Senior year.
- ☐ **Review** your financial situation and research options to pay for college.
  - Make sure your student knows what their financial responsibility will be.