



It's summer before **Sophomore Year** – Here is what you can be working on!

- ❑ **College Email:** If you have not already, create an email you will specifically use for college applications. Use this email to sign up for college newsletters, register for college tours, or to add your name to college websites as a prospective student.
- ❑ **Naviance:** Log into Naviance and start exploring. If you have not logged into Naviance, email Ms. Porras ASAP!
- ❑ **Plan a Visit:** Start visiting colleges! We suggest starting with the in-state schools. If available, plan to take an official tour, plan a meeting with a department you are interested in, attend information sessions and ask lots of questions! If you can't visit, take a virtual tour.
- ❑ **Resume Organization:** Start a document where you can keep tabs of any awards you receive and activities you participate in. Continue updating it throughout high school and you'll be well-prepared for the college application process.
- ❑ **Testing:** Your class will be taking the PSAT and Pre-ACT next year. Summer is a great time to begin preparing for these tests. There are free test prep resources on Collegeboard.org and ACT.org. If you prefer in-person test prep, please reach out to Ms. Porras for recommendations.
- ❑ **PARENTS** – This summer, you can begin a few key tasks to help support your student's plans after graduation.
 - **College Financing** – Start planning your college budget. This is a crucial step in building a balanced college list that considers both merit-based aid and financial need. Reach out to Ms. Porras if you would like recommendations for college financial planners.
 - **College Preferences** – Reflect on what matters most for your child and your family, such as distance from home, campus culture, and overall cost. Begin having honest conversations about potential colleges, using these priorities to help narrow the search.

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