

## 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Counseling Calendar

This is the most important year to enhance your college applications so be sure to meet with your Counselor.

### August –September

1. Use Naviance to research admissions qualifications and acceptance history for the colleges of your choice. Review your academic record and get suggestions on how to strengthen your candidacy for the schools you are considering. Add to the *Colleges I'm Thinking About* list under the colleges tab in Naviance.
2. Maintain or improve your grades. Colleges look closely at your 11<sup>th</sup> grade year!
3. Register for the PSAT exam offered in October. The 11<sup>th</sup> grade PSAT score counts for National Merit Scholarship Program and is good practice for the SAT.
4. Review the test dates listed on the Counseling website for the SAT, SAT Subject Test, ACT with writing, and AP exams.
  - Be sure to fill out the Free & Reduced lunch form as this qualifies you for free test waivers & college apps.
5. Participate in extracurricular activities that you enjoy. College admission officers seek candidates that have been involved in the “total” school program.

### October – December

6. Attend college programs in the College/Career Center. Notices are posted in Naviance, the Counseling Newsletter, on the website, and in the College/Career Center.
7. Attend the Career Fair

### January – February

8. Scores from the October administration of the PSAT will be returned. Attend the Counselors PSAT score review meeting. Review your results to identify your strengths and areas that you need to improve. Depending on your results, you may want to consider further preparation before taking the SAT. The College Board offers free test preparation on their website, as does the Kahn Academy and Match 2 Success.
9. Prepare and register for ACT w/writing and/or SAT Reasoning and/or Subject tests in October, November, and/or December. Send 4 free scores at registration and send scores to ALL colleges to which you will apply. The SHS CEEB Code is 052585. For the California State Universities, use SAT code 3594 to send scores to all CSU's or send official ACT to one CSU and use CSU Mentor Application Manager to share with other CSU's. For University of California campuses, if you send official SAT or ACT scores to one UC campus, it will share with other UC campuses to which you apply.
10. Make a list of your 4 top college choices (if any of them are California State University campuses – enter 3594 as the code), this code covers all 23 CSU campuses.
11. If required or recommended, take the SAT Subject Test.
12. Update your resume, game plan and the personality type survey in Naviance under the ***about me*** section.
13. Use Naviance and the Counseling Newsletter to look for scholarship opportunities.
14. Discuss with your parents and choose your courses for your senior year.

15. Consider going on campus tours at your colleges of interest. You and your parents may want to visit colleges during breaks and summer vacation so you don't miss school (your 11<sup>th</sup> grade grades are very important).

## **March - June**

16. Use the college search tools under the colleges tab in Naviance. This is a great way to search for colleges that fit the criteria you are looking for (location, size, cost, majors, admissions rates, etc.).
17. Take and pass the Advanced Placement exams so you can earn college credit for classes you have taken.
18. Take the SAT Subject test in June.

## **Summer before Senior Year**

19. Continue to look for scholarship opportunities and create an account at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
20. If you are able, go on campus tours at colleges of interest, if you can't go in person, then go on-line and take virtual tours.
21. Start rough drafts of your personal essay and short answer portions of college applications, update your resume with extracurricular activities and accomplishments.
22. Determine if you are going to apply **for early decision** to any college (talk with your Counselor about this). Application deadlines are sometime between October and December of your 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. Only apply early to the college/university that is your **absolute first choice**. Your chances will be greater if you exceed the college's admission profile.
23. If you are able, seek employment or an internship. Both of these will enhance your application.