

10th – College Prep Timeline

- Keep those grades up! You might not have a lot going on this year, but it's important to stay focused on your schoolwork.
- Sign up for a college saving account or continue to add money to an existing account. Talk to your parents about financial aid options. It's a good idea to start talking about how you're going to pay for college.
- Continue your conversations with your guidance counselors, teachers, family members or trusted adults about plans for college or other paths towards a career.
- Find out about AP and other honor-level courses for junior year.
- Update your college planning file – or start one, if you haven't already.
- Continue extracurricular activities. Remember, many admissions officers look for well-rounded students who participate in the world around them.
- Look at participating in academic enrichment programs, summer workshops and camps with specialty focuses such as music, arts, and sciences.
- Continue taking the ACT, SAT, and Compass exams for scholarship, college entrance, and concurrent credit purposes.
- Take the PSAT in the spring.
- Make a list of reasons why you like different colleges and universities – programs, location, cost, and so on.
- Start thinking about what factors are important to you in choosing a college: size, location, availability or extracurricular activities, for example.
- Keep reading! Expanding your vocabulary and learning new things will help with many things over the next years.