



Getting Ready to Be Juniors

Class of 2020

Responsibilities - Student

- Do your best in classes— GPA? Study habits?
- As you become more independent, you receive more responsibility
- You need to prioritize— academic, social, extracurricular balance. Stay healthy!
- Keep a list of your extra activities/honors
- Volunteer/Work to explore career options
- Research colleges and go on visits

Responsibilities- Parents

- Keep the lines of communication open – with your children and help them communicate with the school
- Help your child find an academic and social balance – time management
- Help them make thoughtful class choices – which courses, AP? College?, time management
- Go with your parenting instincts: they will need emotional support, parental supervision, adequate sleep, healthy eating habits, challenges, resilience, and time to plan and reflect.
- Talk with them about college – cost, distance, majors offered, time management

Timeline – Sophomores

Spring of Sophomore year

- Take the ACT if you are planning on college classes for junior year
- Choose courses wisely for junior year – talk with your teachers and look at Plans of Study
- Start talking about colleges and researching possible options
- Think about your cumulative GPA
- Get involved

Timeline- Juniors

Fall of Junior year:

- Take PSAT (October) – used for National Merit (top 1% of all students who take the PSAT)
- Visit colleges (not on Fridays or weekends; use inservice days if possible.)
- Attend college rep visits at AHS (for juniors in the spring)
- Register for ACT (December? February? April?)

Spring of Junior year:

- Visit colleges (not on Fridays or weekends; use inservice days if possible.)
- Start forming your list of colleges to apply to
- Attend college rep visits at AHS (for juniors in the spring)
- Think about letters of recommendations/resume

College Credit??

Advanced Placement- AP

- **12 subjects:** AP Language and Composition (11), AP Literature and Composition (12), AP Computer Science A (10-12), AP Physics 1, AP Physics 2, AP Physics C Electricity and Magnetism, AP Physics C Mechanics, AP Environmental Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP US History (11), AP US Government (12)
- Some AP courses will have a summer assignment
- Students enrolled in an AP can take the AP test for that course
- AP tests are taken the 1st and 2nd week in May
- Students can take tests without taking the course
- Students may gain college credit with exam scores of 3, 4, or 5

College Credit??

- **Courses taught at AHS by nonAHS teachers:** College Algebra, Applied Statistics, English Composition 1, English Composition 2, Public Speaking, General Psychology. **Calculus is the exception.
- **Must have qualifying ACT scores:** 18 in English, 15 in Reading; 21 in Math for College Algebra; 26 for Calculus
 - Or take an Accuplacer test [Study page](#)
- **Apply online to be a student at BCC:**
<http://forms.butlercc.edu/butler-application/>
- **Then come to the counseling office to fill out required paperwork.**
- **Takes up one of their 7 class periods not after school or at night**
- **Must pay BCC tuition and buy college books at bookstore**

College Credit??

College Release:

- Need qualifying scores (ACT or Accuplacer)
- Need to apply to BCC and pay tuition
- A 3 hour college course is equal to a .5 credit at high school- therefore, they receive one hour of “College Release” either 1st or 7th hour
- Taught after school, online, or at night - not necessarily at our campus

State Assessments

- Sophomores will be assessed in Math and English
- English will be assessed April 9 and 11
- Math will be assessed April 19 and 20
- Great review for April ACT in both subjects

ACT

- College entrance exam
- Junior year test
- Must take ACT to take college classes (qualifying scores) and have scores sent to BCC
- Go to www.actstudent.org
- You can register for the test, change your testing date, send your scores to colleges, see your ACT scores, practice for the test with great practice questions, and use ACT Profile to explore career options

Remember Parents....

- Don't take on commitments just because they look good on paper. Teach them about Quality versus Quantity.
- Don't let them overbook. Consider time commitments, personal strengths, their interests, and their future.
- Research colleges separately (online) and together (college visits).

College Success Factors

- High School Curriculum
- ACT/SAT Scores
- High School Grades
- Study Habits
- Motivation
- Interests
- Advanced Planning
- Commitment

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