

Supporting your Students

a timeline for parents

Junior Year



January

Discuss the dates for the upcoming SAT or ACT tests and make sure your child registers for one of the tests. Consider if they need to do any test prep and research options for this if so. Talk to your child about the type of school they want and what your parameters are as far as distance and cost.

February

Start a list of colleges that you want to take your child to visit over the upcoming breaks. Even colleges in the area will give both you and your child an idea of what types of schools they like and are comfortable at.

March

Solidify some plans to go visit some schools. Make the appointments so that you get a personal tour or sign up for Campus Visit days. Talk about the classes your child is taking senior year and make sure they line up with the expectations of the colleges they want to apply to.

April

Visit some schools. Make sure to look over the Campus Visit checklist before going. Have your child start to create a resume of all the activities they have been involved in since freshman year. They will need to submit this to their counselor in the Fall.

May

Attend Financial Aid Night at FLHS on Wednesday, May 27th to get information about how and where to obtain loans, scholarships, grants, etc. Discuss signing up to take the SAT or ACT for a 2nd time to try and improve scores if necessary. Attend college fairs to learn about colleges you're not able to visit.

Summer

Start to solidify the list of colleges that your child will apply to. Have them make a list of the schools with the deadline so that they know when everything has to be sent in by. Talk with your child about what TWO teachers they are going to ask for letters of recommendation when they return in the Fall. Do NOT apply to any schools!!

Senior Year

September

Finalize the list of schools that your child will be applying to. Keep in mind that application fees and the cost of sending test scores will add up so shoot to have no more than 8-10 schools max. Attend Senior Parents Night to learn about the application process.

October

Fill out the FAFSA. Support your child in filling out applications and keeping track of admissions deadlines. Offer to proofread their essay. Fill out the Parent Brag sheet that is a part of their Counselor Packet and BRAG about your child!

November- December

Make sure your child is meeting their application deadlines and getting everything into their counselor AT LEAST two weeks prior to their first deadline. Help them to keep everything organized and in order of date.



Once all applications are submitted

Sit back and wait for the decision letters to roll in! Resist the urge to open a letter that is addressed to your child. Review financial aid packages with them and make decisions on what works best for your family. Encourage your child to schedule a meeting with their guidance counselor if they aren't sure where they want to attend. Once they have made a definite decision, make sure to send in the deposit to hold their spot. Encourage your child to write thank you cards for the teachers who wrote their letter of recommendations, and to notify the schools they will not be attending so they can release the spot for another student.