

## Senior Year Checklist

### Summer Before 12<sup>th</sup> grade

- Set up your FSA ID.** You should set up your username and password (FSA ID) before you fill out the FAFSA in October of your senior year. Get a head-start by setting this up in the summer at: <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>
- Refine your college list. Narrow down your list to a **maximum of 10 colleges.**
- Visit the schools** you have on your college list. If you can't visit a school, do virtual tours on YouTube, and research the school on Naviance.
- Go to college fairs. Speak with admissions professionals.
- Draft your **resume**. Make sure you begin making a resumé of your awards and achievements, activities, and work/volunteer experiences so far. Many colleges request this as part of their application. You can create a resume on Naviance.
- Set up your **Application Accounts**. Wouldn't it be easier to do ONE application for many schools rather than individual applications on many different websites? Set up accounts on **CommonApp, Common Black App, and Coalition**. Look into these three websites and see which ones have the majority of your colleges and apply that way. It's **WAY** easier. This also means writing ONE essay for many schools instead of ten.
- Draft Your Essays:** Write first drafts of all of the essays required for the schools you are applying to (including the CommonApp essay). Once you have your drafts, it is a good idea to reach out to a teacher (or teachers) to get feedback on the flow and content of your writing.

### September

- Take Dual Enrollment courses.** This is your last chance to take a course that will go onto your High School Transcript.
- Recommendation Requests:** As soon as you get back to school, go back to your teachers and ask them again to be your recommendation writers. If they say YES, **add them to Naviance** as a recommender for ALL schools.
- Narrow your college list to 5-10 colleges.** **Add these colleges to your Naviance account** by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of 12<sup>th</sup> grade.