**General College Planning Timeline:**

**9th Grade:**
- Build a flexible schedule allowing for study time, extracurricular activities, and other interests.
- Get involved in activities in which you have a genuine interest, or try something new.
- 9th grade is the foundation for the rest of high school; begin learning how to study effectively, how to ask for help, and how to balance your time.
- Look at summer opportunities to work or volunteer.

**10th Grade:**
- Attend group college advising sessions during Spring semester to begin to look ahead to the college process and for an introduction to Naviance, our online college planning program.
- Take the PSAT at school in October.
- Evaluate your course selection and make sure you are taking a reasonably rigorous schedule.
- Continue taking part in meaningful activities outside of school.
- If you wish to pursue athletics in college, take a look at NCAA requirements.
- Consider summer opportunities for work, volunteering, or academic enrichment.

**11th Grade:**
- Take the PSAT at school in October.
- Attend small group college advising sessions throughout the year.
- Attend visits from college representatives at school to begin to learn about different schools, and go to the annual NACAC College Fair in September.
- Attend College Night at Springs in January.
- Meet with the college adviser twice during Spring semester. She’ll help you plan standardized testing and start to build a college list.
- Take one ACT and/or one SAT between December and April of 11th grade. Talk with your college adviser about your scores and for help planning future testing.
- Plan college visits over Spring Break or during the summer.
- Parents: schedule a meeting with the college adviser in May or June.
- Request teacher recommendations between February and May.
- Consider summer opportunities for work, volunteering, or academic enrichment.

**12th Grade:**
- Continue small group college advising sessions.
- Meet twice with the college adviser during Fall to finalize your college list and for help planning and completing applications.
- Continue taking the ACT or SAT as needed.
- Continue visiting colleges as needed.
- Attend optional College Application Workshops.
- Submit college applications between November and February, according to your colleges’ deadlines.
- **Parents:** complete the FAFSA (financial aid app) in October/November and the CSS Profile (if required) to apply for need-based financial aid. The Profile is usually due around the same time as a college’s deadline.
- Receive decisions and financial aid/scholarship packages from colleges between December and April.
- Choose your college and make an enrollment deposit by May 1st.