

Here are a few things to be thinking about and preparing for your college/after high school plans.

1. September/October is the time to have your Senior Conference with your school counselor.
2. Begin to create your admissions accounts at those universities on their admissions websites and/or the Common Application.
3. The Common Application can be used for 700+ colleges and universities.
 - a. Complete the FERPA agreement in Common Application
4. Think about your ACT/SAT testing. Colleges will accept either test. Many students take both to see which format they prefer or which test is their better performance score. Colleges typically have one of the following 3 policies about using test scores. Check the admission checklists where the colleges will tell you what they require.
 - a. Colleges will take either SAT or ACT whichever is best for you.
 - b. Colleges will take either SAT (with writing) or ACT (with writing).
 - c. Colleges will take SAT if you add 2 SAT subject tests or ACT if it has the optional essay writing component
 - d. Most colleges require that you have the test scores sent directly from the testing organization. Check the college website for specific instructions and to have the scores sent. Send these ASAP as they can take weeks to be received.
5. SAT has free test prep through Khan Academy <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
6. Check the Counseling website for scholarship information.
7. Sign up for College Visits: Many colleges come to PHS specifically to meet with interested students. The meetings are in College/Career Center and students are school excused to attend.
8. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opens October 1, 2017. <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>
9. Many private colleges ask for the CSS Profile, in addition to the FAFSA, also open October 1, 2017. This application has a charge for each college you send it to so only complete it if it is required by the college.
10. Begin to think about 1-2 academic teachers, coaches, activity sponsors, community mentors etc. that could write a letter of recommendation for you. Now is a good time to start making these requests. The teachers will write one letter that will be used for all your college applications; they will not be specific to a college.
 - a. Please make the request in person first.
 - b. Once the teacher has agreed then add them to your recommenders' section in the Common Application or University Application. You will need their PSD email address and contact information.
 - c. The recommender will receive an email with a link to upload the recommendation directly to your college.
 - d. It is a courtesy to send your recommenders a thank you note when the process is complete.
11. You are invited to the following college and financial aid planning events.

Contact your counselor for your senior meeting and if you have any questions.

Jeff Schelly	A – Di	488-6213	jschelly@psdschools.org
Kathleen McCormack	Do - J	488-6062	ithacker@psdschools.org
Lauren Kiel	K-Mi	488-6101	lkiel@psdschools.org
Cassie Poncelow	Mo – Roe	488-6062	cponcelo@psdschools.org
Rochelle Lenox	Rom – Z	488-6044	rlenox@psdschools.org
Alan Flores	ELL	488-6046	aflores@psdschools.org
Greg Piccolo	IB (A-K)	488-6032	gpiccolo@psdschools.org
Kim Wilder	IB (L-Z)	488-6015	kwilder@psdschools.org

Out-of-State College Fair

Tuesday September 26, 2017 6:00-8:00pm at Poudre High School

Save time waiting in line at the college fairs & more time talking to the admissions representatives by registering for the fairs at <http://www.gotocollegefairs.com/> Print the barcode (or save it on your phone) and bring it with you to share your contact information with the colleges.

PSD Post-Secondary Planning/Financial Aid Night

Monday October 16, 2017 6:00-8:30pm at Fort Collins High School

In- State College Fair

Monday October 30, 2017 6:00-8:00pm at Rocky Mountain High School