

HIGH SCHOOL MAP TO SUCCESS CHECKLIST

FRESHMAN YEAR

SOPHOMORE YEAR

JUNIOR YEAR

SENIOR YEAR

- Take challenging classes in English, mathematics, science, history, the arts and foreign language.
- Organize yourself. Goal Plan. Focus on academics. Decide to excel in ALL classes. Your overall GPA starts in your freshman year.
- Develop strong study skills.
- Get involved! Join at least one club and/or organization on campus.
- Participate in at least one extra-curricular activity. This can be focused on academics and/or athletics.
- Volunteer in your community. Make a goal to donate at least 10 hours of your time this year.
- Start researching career and college options in preparation for the future. Complete an educational planner.

- Take challenging classes in English, mathematics, science, history, the arts and foreign language.
- Focus on academics. The goal is graduation! Your "ticket to the future" is your high school diploma!
- Get serious about researching careers and colleges. Make a master list for each. The summer after your sophomore year - try to visit some of your selected schools and/or intern at a desired career choice. Careers class this year is a valuable tool.
- Begin creating a high school resumé.
- Continue to volunteer in your community. Make a goal to donate at least 12 hours of your time this year.
- Update your educational planner.
- Take the PSAT in October.
- Take the PLAN test (the practice ACT) in November.
- Stay active in school through clubs, organizations and/or sports.
- Explore MVCTC options.
- Research PSEO, attend meeting in April to decide if this option is for you.

- Take challenging classes in English, mathematics, science, history, the arts and foreign language.
- Narrow your college list and career options. Continue to research the qualifications, training, course requirements, etc. Determine whether your high school course choices meet the requirements of your goal and align with admission requirements.
- Visit some of your top college choices during the summer after your junior year. Try to narrow your choices to the "top 5".
- Begin the application process for your top choices during the summer after your junior year. Most importantly, examine the required essays and begin writing them.
- Begin looking online and visiting your high school / college center to investigate scholarship opportunities. Complete as many applications as possible before your senior year. Visit area college fairs.
- Update your high school resumé.
- Continue to volunteer in your community. Make a goal to donate at least 15 hours of your time this year.
- Focus on academics. Reassess your commitment to graduate. Are you on track or not? If not, what do you need to do about it? Consider signing up for dual credit classes to get a head start on college.
- Update your personal graduation plan.
- Stay active in school through clubs, organizations and/or sports.
- Take the PSAT in October.
- Register to take the SAT / ACT in the Spring of your junior year. If you are unhappy with the scores, retake it in your senior year.
- Research PSEO, attend meeting in April to decide if this option is for you.

- Retake ACT in the Fall if needed.
- Your senior year should be focused on your "ticket to the future!" -- your high school diploma. It is not the time to slack off on your classes. Don't forget the value of 4th year math, science and English courses! Consider dual credit and/or AP courses.
- Immediately begin the application process for your "top 5" college choices. Decide if you want to meet the early registration deadline; Usually October 1st. Many applications are due by Dec. 1st.
- Work on identifying and applying for scholarships. Select three teachers to ask for written references. Be considerate and ask them early in September to allow time for completion before the first of October.
- In December and early January, work with family members to prepare the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Aid is given on a first-come / first serve basis and you can submit beginning February 1.
- Attend the MHS Financial Aid night in December.
- Update and finalize your high school resumé. Review your personal graduation plan. How well have you done on your goals?
- Continue to be active in your school and community. Set a goal of 15 hours of community service again this year! You're a senior -- lead a project! Get involved and make a difference!
- Check online guidance newsletter for scholarship information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, VISIT THESE WEBSITES

ACT:	www.actstudent.org
SAT:	www.collegeboard.com/mysat
NCAA:	www.eligibilitycenter.org
NAIA:	www.playnaia.org
MVCTC:	www.mvctc.com
FAFSA:	www.FAFSA.ed.gov
COLLEGE SEARCH:	www.college.org

** Students who are on an IEP and are interested in receiving testing accommodations, please see your guidance counselor at least 3 months prior to testing date.