### Freshman Year
- Think about your strengths and interests; list some goals for high school and beyond
- Meet your counselor and develop a four-year framework to fulfill graduation requirements
- Explore extracurricular activities of all types
- Evaluate your academic skills and figure out how to become a more independent learner
- Read and understand your IEP or 504 Plan
- Check on your accommodations for standardized testing (AP/IB/SAT/SATII/ACT) with the coordinator at your school; determine when psycho-ed testing should be updated, if needed
- Be thoughtful about SSL hours—find relevant and personally interesting ways to volunteer
- Check out job listings or summer programs—look for opportunities that relate to your interests
- Start a resume that reflects your activities and accomplishments; begin to collect writing samples, develop an art portfolio, plan an audition
- Get to know your teachers and how to find extra help
- Select courses for sophomore year that are challenging, but not overwhelming

### Sophomore Year
- Try both a practice ACT and SAT with accommodations
- Extend or adjust your extracurricular activities to match your interests—update your resume
- Use summers to explore your areas of interest through work, internships, travel, or other options
- Consider career and tech programs at Thomas Edison High School of Technology or courses at MC
- Consult with teachers about SAT Subject tests (SAT II)
- Begin researching scholarships, financial aid
- Think about PSAT prep for fall of junior year when scores count for National Merit Scholarships (if appropriate for you)
- Select courses based on academic and career goals and interests
- Think about and explore career options—talk to people who are actually doing what you might like
- Talk to the coach if you are interested in playing college athletics; review NCAA guidelines
- Keep up your grades!

### Junior Year
- Register for the PSAT (if your school doesn’t)
- Visit your school’s website frequently; get familiar with Family Connection or other planning program
- Attend college and career visits at school; check dates for college and job fairs in the community
- Continue talking about and exploring career ideas with parents, teachers, counselors
- Monitor your SSL hours—use these to further develop and expand your interests
- If interested, collect information on apprenticeship programs, trade and technical schools, military academies
- Register early for your choice of ACT/SAT/SAT Subject Tests (SAT II), especially if you need accommodations
- Read and use your high school’s college prep packet
- Update your resume and personal information files
- Develop relationships with teachers; ask those who know you well for letters of recommendation
- Use spring break, days off, and summer vacation to research, visit, and evaluate colleges
- Keep up your grades!

### Senior Year….and more!
- Use the summer to continue to visit schools, write essays and applications, complete the Common Application, and update your resume
- Use your school’s college planning website and packet to finalize a master plan/timeline for the application process (teacher recommendations, transcript, etc.)
- Chat with admissions reps who visit your school—be prepared by knowing about the college beforehand
- Meet with your counselor to discuss post secondary plans and confirm fulfillment of all graduation requirements (including SSL hours)
- Make an appointment with the College/Career Center to discuss post high school and transition plans
- Follow directions to request transcripts in a timely fashion from the Registrar (most colleges will want to see a mid-year transcript as well; some a final one)
- If you’re unsure about college, consider a Gap Year
- Last chance for SAT/ACT/SATII tests
- Continue campus visits and interviews; if you are revisiting top choices, sit in on classes, stay overnight
- Continue researching/applying for scholarships
- Have parents fill out FAFSA, CSS profile, if needed
- Keep up your grades!