

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE: SOPHOMORE YEAR CHECKLIST

JULY-AUGUST (Summer going into Sophomore year)

- **Reflect** on your academic performance from your freshman year. Are you happy with the grades you earned? Do you need to put forth more effort during this upcoming year?
- **Assess** your course selection for 10th grade. Do you anticipate your classes being both challenging and realistic? How do they relate to your abilities and interests? Feel free to connect with Mrs. Hammerling about classes over the summer through email.
- Summer is a time to **explore** new activities and expand horizons. Consider volunteering, traveling or even finding a job. You could gain insight, discover a passion or simply have some extra cash in your pocket. Start developing a personal savings plan. Mrs. Herbig's Personal Finance course is perfect to take if you need help understanding how to do this.
- It's a good time to learn and/or test strategies for **time management**. Try to carve out a schedule that includes a balance between work, play and rest. See if you can sneak in some time to start exploring your post-high school options.
- Explore Naviance! If you haven't already, complete the Career Interest Profiler. Identify three careers that match you. Add them to your list. Naviance-Go to www.martinlutherhs.org and Naviance is under Quicklinks
- **Track** your volunteer hours, achievements, employment opportunities, and references in the resume section of Naviance. This helps prepare for applying to college your senior year.

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER

- Make sure you have a meeting with Mrs. Hammerling (she will schedule it with you) to **review classes** and academic plan through senior year. You will also discuss sophomore expectations and becoming acclimated.
- Consider **getting involved** in a school club or community group that interests you. This will lead to richer life experiences and a well-rounded college application. Be sure to keep your personal file updated with your participation and achievements in Naviance.
- Participate in ML's **Career Day**.

- Start exploring **scholarships** for colleges. www.unigo.com/scholarships
- Start understanding the **college admissions** process. www.collegeboard.com
- Check Skyward/Schoology for **grades and GPA**. Reflect whether the results are what you wanted or not.

JANUARY-MARCH

- Sign up for Junior classes.
- Attend **Post-Secondary Sophomore Planning meeting** scheduled in January- Focuses on post-secondary options.
- **Explore** career website: www.bls.gov Bureau of Labor Statistics-Occupational Outlook Handbook.
- **Naviance** (www.martinlutherhs.org then Quick links) lesson plan will be completed with Mrs. Hammerling that focuses on career exploration and development.

MAY-JUNE

- Review college application checklist (see attached)
- Consider taking the ACT. www.actstudent.org
- Start exploring colleges that fit you.
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>
 - Naviance-Go to www.martinlutherhs.org and Naviance is under Quicklinks

Student Naviance Login: It's the same as O365 student username and password.

*******All these tools can be found on Martin Luther's Website, www.martinlutherhs.org under Academics/Future Planning Section.*******