

LYONS HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORE CHECKLIST 2016-2017

- ___ Get good grades! **Grades matter!** Colleges want to see your class rank, GPA, & test scores. If you have good grades, you will have more options after graduation.
*Be aware that earning a D may not constitute completion at some colleges/ universities.
If you earn a D or F you may need to repeat a class or take it in summer school in order to meet High Sch. Grad requirements &/or College entrance requirements.
- ___ Use www.collegeincolorado.org to **learn more about interests, skill, career and college options.**
You will update your 4 year plan in social studies class in February, near course registration time.
- ___ Be aware of **graduation requirements** (you received a copy of your credit review during registration last year) & start researching **college admission requirements** / majors for schools you are interested in by checking out their websites. Remember that you must have 3 years of Math (Algebra I or higher) & 3 years of Science for HS graduation. (Make sure to check college admission requirements as they may require additional expectations sometimes 4 years).
- ___ Think about **career/major choices.** If you would like to do a free Personality/Career profile online, go to www.collegeincolorado.org
- ___ **Attend college fairs** with your parents/ visit college admission representatives at these fairs:
Denver National College Fair: Sunday, 9/25, 1:00-4:00 Denver Mart, Denver
Out of State College Nights: Wed, 9/28 ,6:00-8:00 Monarch HS Thur, 9/29, 6:30-8:00 Lakewood HS
Saturday College Fair & Workshops: Sat., 10/1 , 10:00-12:00 Mountain Vista HS, Highlands Ranch
St. Vrain Valley District College Fair: Wednesday., 11/2, 6:00-7:30 @ Silver Creek HS, Longmont
- ___ ALL 10th Graders in the State of Colorado will take the **PSAT in April.** This is paid for by the Colorado Department of Education and is a preliminary SAT test. Great opportunity to prepare for next year. See Lyons Home Page, Tab Counseling, Testing Icon for more test prep opportunities.
- ___ Be involved in an **extra-curricular activity or volunteerism.** Document your hours and keep a log. You will need this for building a resume Jr. year and scholarship applications when you are a Sr.
- ___ Develop **solid study habits** and time management skills. Visit www.how-to-study.com for some great study and test taking ideas!!!
- ___ Read a lot! Keep **writing**, too! Work on your **math** skills.
- ___ Get a **summer job** to gain experience and help pay for college.
- ___ **Visit colleges** you might be interested in attending. Plan your vision for life after Lyons High School!!

Great Websites to Help Prepare and Plan for College/Career

***<http://lms.hs.svvsd.org/> Counseling Tab for a variety of resources/ links

Test Prep/ Test Registration/ College/Scholarship/Career Search

www.collegeincolorado.org

www.actstudent.org ACT to register for Saturday National Testing Dates & access tools

www.collegeboard.com PSAT info., AP info, SAT info & to register for SAT...Saturday National Testing Dates & access tools

www.schoolsoup.com

www.number2.com

<http://www.shmoop.com/signup/stvrain-students> Magic word ELUCIDATE (all caps) PSAT, SAT, AP, ACT test prep opportunities free for SVVSD students.

College Search - find the right college to fit you

www.collegeincolorado.org

***www.collegescorecard.ed.gov

www.gotocollegefairs.org Check out additional college fairs 80+ throughout the state of Colorado

www.wiche.edu Western Undergraduate Exchange Program- out of state reduced tuition rates

www.anycollege.com college: search, videos, scholarship

www.cappex.com college: recruit, scholarship, chances of admission

www.mycollegeoptions.org college: search, scholarships, advice, researching majors/careers

www.campustours.com & www.Ecampustours.com virtual tours, interactive campus maps

www.mymajors.com college: major/career quiz, information, planning

www.commonapp.org single point application process for participating colleges

Financial Aid/Scholarship -to help pay for college

www.fafsa.ed.gov Free Application for Fed. Student Financial Aid- apply after Oct.1st use this exact address as there are other scam sites out there!

www.collegeincolorado.org A Colorado User's Guide to Financial Aid, College Opportunity Fund

www.collegeabacus.org (see how college costs stack up between your favorite schools)

www.collegeinvest.org (Student loans, savings plans, and scholarships for Colorado students)

www.finaid.org (estimated family contribution, loans, scholarships, savings, military aid)

www.studentaid.ed.gov - (Gov't website for Federal Aid, walks you through the process).

www.SavingForCollege.com (529 savings plans and more)

www.fastweb.com (also job search and military options)

www.tuitionfundingsources.com

www.qmsp.org (Gates Millennium Scholars)

*** www.myscholly.com (Download App cost \$.99-2.99 itunes/googleplay/appstore/computer, enter demogr info, narrows based on personal information alerts you re: scholarships you may qualify for with links to access them)

Student Athletes - NCAA Clearinghouse

www.eligibilitycenter.org (for student athletes attending a Division 1 or Division 2 college)