

## SUMMER BEFORE SENIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

### COLLEGE

- Narrow** the list of colleges you are considering. If you can, **schedule visits** to help you decide which schools to apply to in the fall.
- Ask for letters of recommendation from teachers.** If you plan to apply for scholarships over the summer, you will need to ask teachers prior to the end of the school year. Give them plenty of time before the deadline. Remember that teachers will not be available during the summer, so request letters early.
- Add activities to your profile in **Xello** from the past year, this information can be exported and used for Activity resumes for college applications and scholarships, or job resumes.
- Study for the SAT.** If you are interested, consider registering for and taking the **ACT**.
  - All Seniors will **retake the SAT on October 16<sup>th</sup>** at SCS during the school day.
  - Utilize **KhanAcademy.org** or other study platforms to increase your score.

### CAREER

- Explore careers** and note what degrees and/or majors align with those careers.
- Make connections** with technical programs, military recruiters or research apprenticeship opportunities if that aligns with your post-secondary plan.
- Get job skills** in high school by considering internships, job shadowing and other community service or volunteer work, especially over the summer.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

- Utilize **scholarship search engines** to find scholarships that match your skills and experiences, like:
  - [thewashboard.org](http://thewashboard.org)
  - [bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search)
  - [goingmerry.com](http://goingmerry.com)
  - [scholarshipjunkies.org](http://scholarshipjunkies.org)
  - more resources can be found in the SCS College & Career Resources page

### STAY SHARP

- Look for **summer academic programs** that might align with your career interests (such as PSSC summer courses or college summer programs for high schoolers).
- Participate in **enrichment and leadership opportunities.**
- You can **prevent summer learning loss** by reading books, reviewing classroom material from the school year and planning for your upcoming classes.

### PARENTS

- Talk** to your student about their college & career plans.
- Encourage** increasing independence.
- Attend** college fairs or visit colleges with your student.
- Review** your financial situation and research options to pay for college.