

# Sophomore Checklist

## Fall Semester

- Meet your counselor and discuss the course schedule.
- Meet Mrs. Nix and discuss college plans.
- Review your schedule to make sure you are enrolled in classes that are rigorous and challenging for YOU. A wide variety of advanced courses are available to you including AP, Dual Credit, Dual Enrollment, etc. Most colleges prefer three years of foreign language and four years (not credits) of core courses.
- Get more involved in extracurricular activities
- Create a resume of your extracurricular activities and honors. This will be of great use to you when you apply to colleges, but also when you apply for jobs.
- Attend college fairs. Ask questions about majors, financial aid, supports available, etc.
- Do well on semester exams

## Take the PSAT

- Take the PSAT and do your best. The PSAT is administered here on our campus.
- When you take the PSAT, check "yes" for Student Search Services so that you get information about scholarships and colleges.

## Spring Semester

### Prepare for tests

- Use the access code from your PSAT/NMSQT score report to customize an SAT study plan. This helps you explore interests and colleges, majors and careers.
- Based on your PSAT performance, you are able to customize a study plan and get personalized practice in the areas you need to improve upon.
  - satpractice.org and Khan Academy are paired. They have a free, personalized study program.
- Do your best on End-of-Course exams (EOCs).
- Prepare for your semester exams and FINISH STRONG!

### Signing up for courses for next fall

- Talk to your counselor and teachers about taking AP, Dual Credit, or Dual Enrollment courses. This way, you can maximize earning college credit while in high school.
- Check your progress towards earning graduation credits and maintaining a strong grade point average.
- Revise and update your four year plan in TEAMS and make sure you are completing needed classes.

### Learn about colleges

- Visit colleges online, take virtual tours, visit nearby campuses
- Niche, College Board Big Future, and Own Your Own Future are great college search engines in addition to using Naviance College SuperMatch within the AISD portal.

- Tour schools during Spring Break, days off in the school year or in the summer

**Stay focused**

- Sign up for rigorous courses; AP, articulated, Dual Credit, Dual Enrollment courses for your junior year.
- Make sure to do your best in all of your classes.
- Your weighted GPA is used when you apply to college. It is calculated for ALL coursework taken from 9th through 11th grade.

**Explore summer opportunities**

- Look for valuable summer opportunities (internships, job, or classes)
- Keep track of your volunteer activities and enrichment programs
- Start a summer reading list
- Visit college campuses if you can and/or attend special events on college campuses