

## **JUNIOR CAREER & COLLEGE PLANNING** **Suggested Timeline for 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of Junior Year**

### **JANUARY/FEBRUARY:**

- Take the *ASVAB* (Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery) if you're interested in the military or just want to learn more about careers that match your interests and abilities...there is no military commitment! Test offered at Pathfinder January 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Take *The Accuplacer* practice test to see if you are ready to handle college level courses. HCC offers the test at Pathfinder on February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Meet with Mr. Heim if you are interested in working on Co-Op.
- Use collegeboard.com and careercruising.com to start compiling a list of colleges you are interested in.
- Prepare for the SAT or ACT—answer lots of practice questions!
- Talk with your counselor about what courses you should consider for senior year.

### **MARCH/APRIL:**

- Arrange for college/campus visits and tours...be sure to visit schools while they are in session to get a true picture of what a typical day on the campus is like.
- Register for spring *SAT* or *ACT* (pay attention to registration deadlines: for May 7<sup>th</sup> *SAT* = April 8<sup>th</sup> deadline and for June 4<sup>th</sup> *SAT* = May 6<sup>th</sup> deadline).
- Continue studying for the *SAT* or *ACT*.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss your *ASVAB* results.
- Complete your course selection sheet for senior year.

### **MAY/JUNE:**

- Take the *SAT* or *ACT*—get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast before testing!
- Study hard and prepare for end of year exams and finals.
- Develop a resume displaying all of your honors/awards, activities, and work experience...this will come in handy in completing college and scholarship applications next year, as well as job resumes.
- Jot down some thoughts about who you are--what is unique about you, your personality, your life experiences/accomplishments and your goals. This information will be helpful when you need to write college and scholarship essays.



### **And finally...What to Expect for 1<sup>st</sup> Half of SENIOR YEAR:**

- You may want to retake the *SAT* at the beginning of senior year if you were unhappy with your scores from the spring or if you haven't taken the *SAT* at all yet. Almost all 4 year colleges require *SAT/ACT* scores. Some community college (2 yr.) programs in Engineering and Health Sciences also require *SAT* scores. If you're unsure if you need the *SAT* please check with your counselor.
- By the end of October you should be finishing up your college search process and be developing a list of colleges you plan to apply to. Keep your counselor informed of your choices and start gathering application materials and letters of recommendation from teachers, coaches, employers, etc..
- As a general rule you should plan to submit your college applications after first trimester report cards (think December) to meet most college application deadlines. Community colleges have open enrollment and do not have specific application deadlines.