

THE BANFF SCHOOL

College Planning Checklist: Junior Year

- ✓ Take dual credit and Advanced Placement classes if you can, but don't overload your schedule. Assess with school staff and your parents/guardians what class selections are best for you and your goals. Monitor your progress towards graduation requirements for your chosen degree plan.
- ✓ Study, study, study!!! Your junior year grades are the last set that some colleges will see when you apply in the fall of your senior year!!!
- ✓ Narrow down the colleges you may be interested in and understand their entrance requirements. Assess your chances of admission and what you can do to better those chances.
- ✓ Take some college days for official visits. Continue to attend college fairs and college days; attend events on college campuses.
- ✓ Register with College Board (www.collegeboard.org).
- ✓ Take the PSAT at Banff in October. Though it is still a practice test for you, your score may qualify you for scholarships!
- ✓ Check the schedule and target taking the SAT and ACT exams by early spring.
- ✓ Maintain participation in extracurricular activities. Show leadership, have fun, and keep track of your hours!
- ✓ Don't forget community service activities! The award at the end of the year will be overshadowed by how good community service makes you feel!
- ✓ Maintain your activities spreadsheet/ résumé to record all activities and the time you spend on them. This is a vital part of your college application; it will be hard to create accurately from scratch if you wait until you actually apply to colleges!
- ✓ Continue research on college scholarships and financial aid. Some scholarships are limited to juniors! This is part of your job!
- ✓ Make your summer activities count! Educational programs and jobs reflect a better work ethic than sunbathing and playing video games!
- ✓ Begin writing your college essays. Start with the prompts required by the schools in which you have the most interest. Ascertain which application each school uses and which prompts they use.
- ✓ You are in control of your destiny. Make good choices now so that you will have great opportunities later!