

Things to do during your Freshman Year

- Keep your grades up! Strive for perfect attendance! Freshman year DOES count!
- Think about careers and college majors. What interests you?
- Start a checklist of personal preferences you will use when selecting a college (For example: location of the campus, size of the student body, student to teacher ratio, private vs. public, diversity, etc.)
- Take the EXPLORE test. This test is designed to help 9th-graders explore a broad range of options for their future. EXPLORE prepares students not only for their high school coursework, but for their post-high school choices as well.
- Plan to take the PSAT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) for practice (October 17, 2007).
- Participate in extracurricular activities (clubs, sports, hobbies) that interest you. Watch for leadership opportunities in those activities.
- Begin recording information to use for your resume'. Start a notebook and keep a list of the following: school activities, leadership positions, awards and honors, community activities, volunteer activities, church activities, employment activities, hobbies and special interests. A sample resume' format is included in the CHS Handbook. Note: Keep a log the number of hours you complete of community and volunteer service as well as the name of the adult who was your supervisor.
- Take the most challenging schedule you can (strive for A's and B's) and maintain a strong attendance record. Should you consider taking Honors courses as a sophomore? *Colleges look for indications that each student has attempted to take the most challenging possible course of study.*
- Become familiar with your graduation requirements. At the end of the year, check your credits and courses for accuracy.
- Talk with your parents, teachers, and school counselors about your sophomore year course selections.
- Think about your talents and strengths. Which academic courses are your strongest, and which courses could use some extra preparation and work?
- READ! This has a huge effect on your vocabulary, hence your standardized test scores.
- If you plan to pursue athletics in college, visit www.naaclearinghouse.net and click on "Prospective Student-Athletes." Make yourself aware of the NCAA list of approved core courses and requirements. If you have any questions, see Mr. Page (Athletic Director) or Mrs. Wren (Counselor).
- Talk to your counselors about your academic and career goals. Get to know them as well as your teachers.
- Plan a productive summer (community service, volunteer work, summer camp, music lessons, job, etc.)