

# College and Career Planning



Class of 2026



# Hello!

WE WILL:

- 1.** REVIEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
- 2.** DISCUSS COLLEGE OPTIONS (2-YEAR V. 4-YEAR SCHOOLS)
- 3.** ADDRESS THE STEPS NEEDED TO APPLY TO 2-YEAR AND 4-YEAR COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES
- 4.** DISCUSS FAFSA/SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS/LOANS
- 5.** ADDRESS THE FALL COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS, SUCH AS THE USE OF COMMON APP AND OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS
- 6.** DISCUSS OTHER POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS (I.E. MILITARY, TRADE SCHOOL, ETC.) AND IMPORTANT STEPS TO ACCESS THESE OPTIONS THAT CAN BE TAKEN DURING SENIOR YEAR.



# WHO IS MY COUNSELOR?

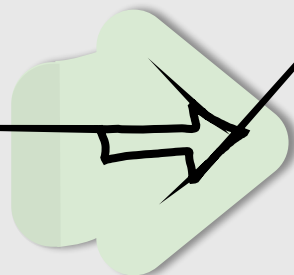
( [Click Here to Contact Your Counselor](#) )

<b><u>Students with Last Names</u></b> <b><u>starting with:</u></b>	<b><u>Counselor</u></b>
<b>A-CAME</b>	Alma Flores-Cook
<b>CAMF-FAS</b>	Danielle Fitch
<b>FAT-HERN</b>	Jana Lewis
<b>HERO-LOB</b>	Leila Johnson
<b>LOC-NGI</b>	Lani Gordon
<b>NGJ-RIT</b>	Yolanda Hamm
<b>RIU-TAY</b>	Lillian Alvarado
<b>TAZ-Z</b>	Matthew Franks
<b>AVID (A-Z)</b>	Catherine Wimbrey
<b>STEM (A-Md)</b>	Shaw Hatley-Green
<b>STEM (Me-Z)</b>	Stephanie Vreeland

# Graduation Requirements

Distinguished Level of Achievement	
26 Credits	
English (4 Credits)	English 1
	English 2
	English 3
	English 4
Math (4 Credits)	Algebra 1
	Geometry
	Algebra 2
	1 Additional Credit
Science (4 Credits)	Biology
	IPC, Chemistry, or Physics
	2 Additional Credits
Social Studies (3 Credits)*	World Geography or World History
	U.S. History
	Govt (.5)
	Economics (.5)
2 Foreign Language Credits (Must be in the same language)	
1 PE Credit	
1 Fine Arts Credit	
7 Elective Credits	

Foundation Plan	
22 Credits	
English (4 Credits)	English 1
	English 2
	English 3
	English 4
Math (3 Credits)	Algebra 1
	Geometry
	1 Additional Credit
Science (3 Credits)	Biology
	IPC, Chemistry, or Physics
	1 Additional Credit
Social Studies (3 Credits)*	World Geography or World History
	U.S. History
	Govt (.5)
	Economics (.5)
2 Foreign Language Credits (Must be in the same language)	
1 PE Credit	
1 Fine Arts Credit	
5 Elective Credits	



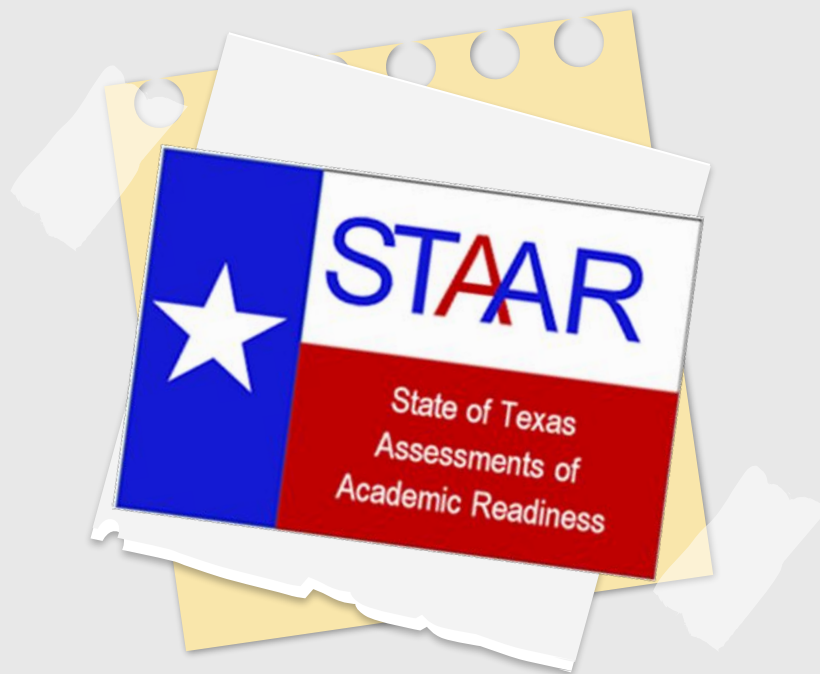
# Graduation Requirements Cont.

## Retakes

- **Dec 8th - English 1**
- **Dec 9th - Algebra 1**
- **Dec 10th - English 2**
- **Dec 11th - Biology & USH**
- **Dec 12th - All**

## Spring

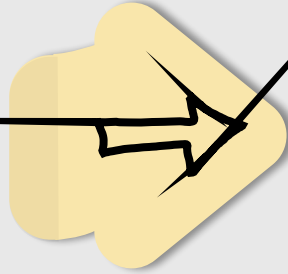
- **April 7th (A Day) - English 1**
- **April 9th (A Day) - English 2**
- **April 14th (B Day) - Biology**
- **April 15th (A Day) - US History**
- **April 23rd (A Day) - Algebra 1**



## END-OF-COURSE EXAMS

- **ALGEBRA 1**
- **BIOLOGY**
- **ENGLISH 1**
- **ENGLISH 2**
- **U.S. HISTORY**



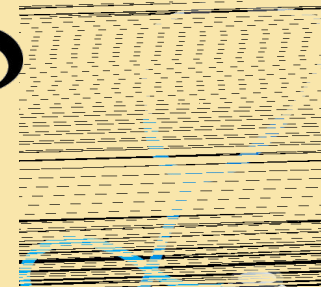


# Graduation Requirements Cont.

STUDENTS MUST EARN AT LEAST 1 ENDORSEMENT\*  
IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- 1.** ARTS & HUMANITIES
- 2.** BUSINESS & INDUSTRY
- 3.** PUBLIC SERVICE
- 4.** STEM
- 5.** MULTIDISCIPLINARY

\* If you do not know your  
endorsement, talk with your  
counselor

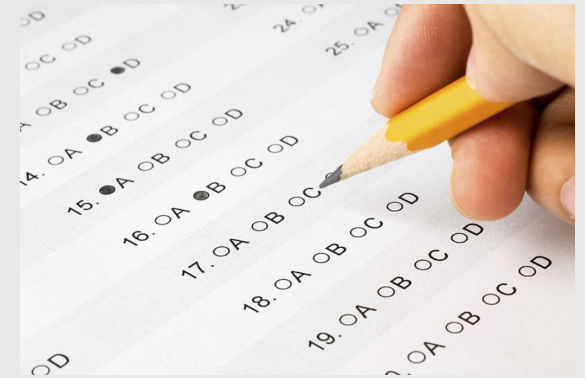




# Semester Exam Exemptions

1. Grade Average of 80 or above
2. No more than 3 excused absences
3. No unexcused absences
4. No more than 3 tardies to a class
4. No assignment to Alternate Educational Placement—OCS, Choices, etc.

\*\* A tardy of more than 15 minutes (TD15) will also cause you to lose your exemptions.\*\*





# Graduation Responsibilities

Check High School Credits

AVOID LAST MINUTE  
ISSUES- GRADES,  
ATTENDANCE, DISCIPLINE

Pass STAAR EOC tests

Know qualifications  
for NCAA to play  
sports for college.



# College Options: 2-Year vs. 4-Year.

## 2-YEAR/COMMUNITY COLLEGE/TRADE SCHOOL

- CAN EARN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IN 2 YEARS OR CERTIFICATION IN 1 YEAR OR LESS
- ABILITY TO TRANSFER TO 4-YEAR UNIVERSITIES/TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY RECEIVING UNIVERSITY

## 4-YEAR

- CAN EARN BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN 4 YEARS (WITH THE ABILITY TO EARN MASTER'S AND DOCTORATE DEGREE)

## Community/Junior College vs. Four-Year University...

### COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGE

#### Pros:

- Cheaper
- Minimum of 2 years
- Typically close to home
- You can transfer to a 4 year afterwards
- Some careers just require an associate's degree

#### Cons:

- Lack of career mobility (associate degrees tend to be specialized for a specific career)
- Lower graduation rate

### FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY

#### Pros:

- More prestigious
- Attain a higher paying job
- Career mobility (flexible with your career)
- Have more research, internship, job opportunities

#### Cons:

- More expensive

# College Applications

Apply Texas

Common App

Can start applying  
after Aug. 1st!

College  
Website



# Admissions Criteria

- DEADLINES
- SAT/ACT SCORES
- HIGH SCHOOL COURSES REQUIRED
- ESSAY
- LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
- VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE
- EXTRA-CURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT
- INTERVIEW



\* 2-YEAR/COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA WILL DIFFER FROM 4-YEAR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

# College Applications

## Automatic Admission

- Top 10% of graduating class
  - UT Austin Top 5%
- Distinguished Achievement Graduation Plan
- Must apply to be considered

## NCAA Eligibility

- Students hoping to play sports for college
- [eligibilitycenter.org](http://eligibilitycenter.org)
- [corecoursegpa.com](http://corecoursegpa.com)
- See coaches for assistance



# Transcripts

## WHAT WILL I SEE ON MY TRANSCRIPT?

- ALL COURSES ATTEMPTED
- ALL GRADES
- NUMBER OF CREDITS EARNED
- GPA
- CLASS RANK
- GRADUATION PLAN

# GPA and Class Rank

- Valedictorian = student with highest Grade Point Average
- Salutatorian = student with second highest Grade Point Average
- Summa Cum Laude (Top 2%)
- Magna Cum Laude (Top 10%)
- Cum Laude (Top 20%)
- Honor Graduates (10.0+ GPA)

Final ranking determined after  
5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup>-Weeks completed

# Transcripts Cont.

- STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ORDER THEIR OWN TRANSCRIPTS IF THEY SEND APPLICATIONS THROUGH:
  - APPLYTEXAS
  - UNIVERSITIES' WEBSITES
- COUNSELORS WILL SEND TRANSCRIPTS FOR STUDENTS IF THEY APPLY THROUGH:
  - COMMONAPP





# How to order transcripts

## Ordering a Transcript

<https://aisdtx.scriborder.com/>

This link is posted in MHS Counselor  
Canvas > Apply to College module

First ten orders are free, fee after that



**Click here to  
register for  
Greenlight**

**Explore the convenience  
of Greenlight for sending  
your transcripts to  
universities. Haven't  
registered yet? Just  
click on the link to the  
left to begin your  
Greenlight Registration.**

# SAT VS. ACT

## SAT

- READING/WRITING AND MATH SECTIONS
- DEPENDING ON THE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY, SCORES CAN BE SUPERScoreD (THE BEST MATH AND READING/WRITING SCORE FROM ANY TEST TAKEN)
- SCALED SCORE OF 400-1600
- SPRING OF 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, STUDENTS TOOK THE SAT AT MARTIN
- STUDENTS CAN SIGN UP TO RETAKE THE SAT AT ANY TIME

## ACT

- ENGLISH, MATH, READING, AND SCIENCE SECTIONS WITH AN OPTIONAL WRITING SECTION
- DEPENDING ON THE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY, SCORES CAN BE SUPERScoreD
- SCALED SCORE OF 1-36
- **OCTOBER 1ST**, SENIORS WILL TAKE THE ACT AT MARTIN FOR FREE
- STUDENTS CAN SIGN UP TO TAKE THE ACT ON THEIR OWN AT ANY TIME

# SAT AND ACT

## ONLINE REGISTRATION

SAT – [WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG](http://WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG)

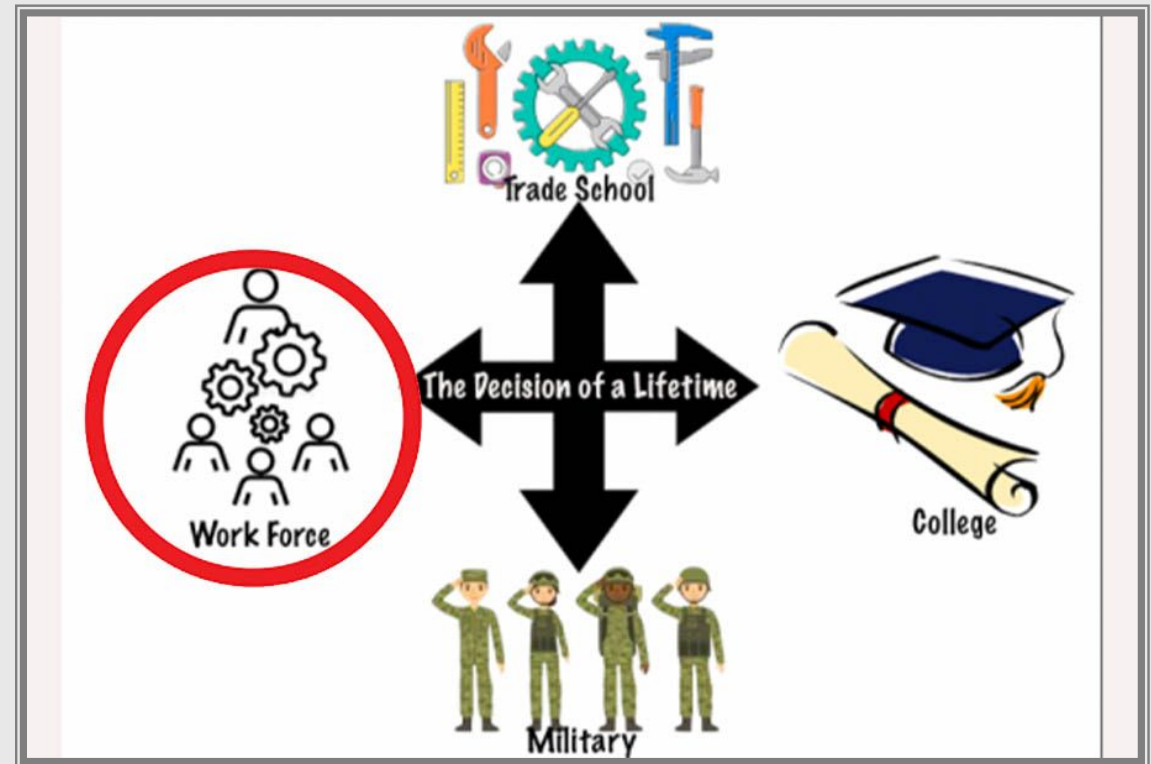
ACT – [WWW.ACT.ORG](http://WWW.ACT.ORG) Tuesday 10/1/2025

SCHOOL CODE: 440236

- USE YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL.
- WATCH DEADLINES
- SCORES MUST BE SENT DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL(S) YOU APPLY TO.
- FREE WAIVERS FOR FREE/REDUCED LUNCH

Not interested in going to college? There are other post-secondary options

- Military
- Trade School
- Apprenticeship Programs
- Direct Workforce



# Military

## INTERESTED IN JOINING THE MILITARY?

- SIGN UP TO TAKE THE ASVAB
- LEARN ABOUT THE DIFFERENT BRANCHES
  - AIR FORCE
  - ARMY
  - NAVY
  - COAST GUARD
  - MARINES

\*ALL MALES MUST REGISTER FOR SELECTIVE SERVICE UPON REACHING THE AGE OF 18.

[WWW.SSS.GOV](http://WWW.SSS.GOV)



- TALK WITH A RECRUITER (Ask your counselor or stop by the Go Center for contact information!)

# Trade School

## WHAT ARE TRADE SCHOOLS?

- TRADE SCHOOLS PROVIDE A COMBINATION OF CLASSROOM LECTURE AND HANDS-ON TRAINING IN A LAB OR WORKSHOP SETTING IN 18-24 MONTHS
- GAIN SKILLS NEEDED TO OBTAIN ENTRY-LEVEL EMPLOYMENT IN CHOSEN FIELD
- PASS ANY NECESSARY LICENSING OR CERTIFICATION EXAMS REQUIRED AT THE STATE OR LOCAL LEVEL
- EXAMPLES: HVAC, WELDING, ELECTRICIAN, TRUCK DRIVER, DENTAL ASSISTANT, MEDICAL ASSISTANT

TRADE SCHOOL VS. COLLEGE	
SIMILARITIES	DIFFERENCES
Investment of time and money	Acceptance rate
Attractiveness to employers	Curriculum
Help in landing employment	Ease of changing your educational path
Range of possibilities	Social scene
Lower cost of living than most U.S. states	Options after graduation

- DO YOUR RESEARCH!
- APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS/DEADLINES
- APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS
- LOOK INTO TRADE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS
  - ANY TESTS/ENTRANCE EXAMS REQUIRED?



# Apprenticeship Programs

What is an Apprenticeship?

A paid, work-based training program that provides on-the-job learning and classroom instruction to develop skilled workers.

**Tarrant County Central Labor Council**

**IEC Fort Worth**

**Apprenticeships at TCC**

**Texas Workforce Commission**

**Tarrant County**

# Direct Workforce

- **BENEFITS OF GOING DIRECTLY INTO THE WORKFORCE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?**

- OFFERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO EARN A STEADY INCOME,
- GAIN REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE,
- BUILD A PROFESSIONAL NETWORK,
- PROVIDE STABILITY AND STRUCTURE,
- HELP YOU DETERMINE YOUR CAREER PATH,
- SAVE MONEY ON EDUCATION,
- AND PROMOTE INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

HOWEVER, WHILE THERE ARE BENEFITS TO CONTINUING EDUCATION, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO WEIGH YOUR OPTIONS AND CHOOSE THE RIGHT PATH CAREFULLY.



A pink piggy bank is positioned at the top center of the frame, sitting on a large pile of US dollar bills. The bills are mostly \$100 bills, with some \$50 bills visible. The piggy bank is a simple, rounded shape with a coin slot on its back and two small black dots for eyes. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

# FINANCIAL AID

## ● WHAT FINANCIAL AID MIGHT I APPLY FOR/RECEIVE

○ GRANTS

○ LOANS

○ SCHOLARSHIPS

# FAFSA

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENT!**

**MUST COMPLETE FAFSA APPLICATION TO BE CONSIDERED FOR MANY  
SCHOLARSHIPS AND UNIVERSITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**CREATE ID NOW!**  
**[WWW.FSAID.ED.GOV](http://WWW.FSAID.ED.GOV)**

**APPLICATION OPENS**  
**October 1st, 2025**



# SCHOLARSHIPS



- NEED BASED SCHOLARSHIPS
- ACADEMIC BASED SCHOLARSHIPS
- ESSAY BASED SCHOLARSHIPS
- HOLISTIC SCHOLARSHIPS

## Scholarship Websites

FAFSA.ED.GOV

CSSPROFILE.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG

COLLEGEANSWER.COM

COLLEGEBOARD.ORG

EAB.COM

Martin Counselor Canvas  
Page-Lists of scholarships

MHS Scholarship Spreadsheet

# AISD COLLEGE NIGHT

PRE-REGISTER TODAY!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

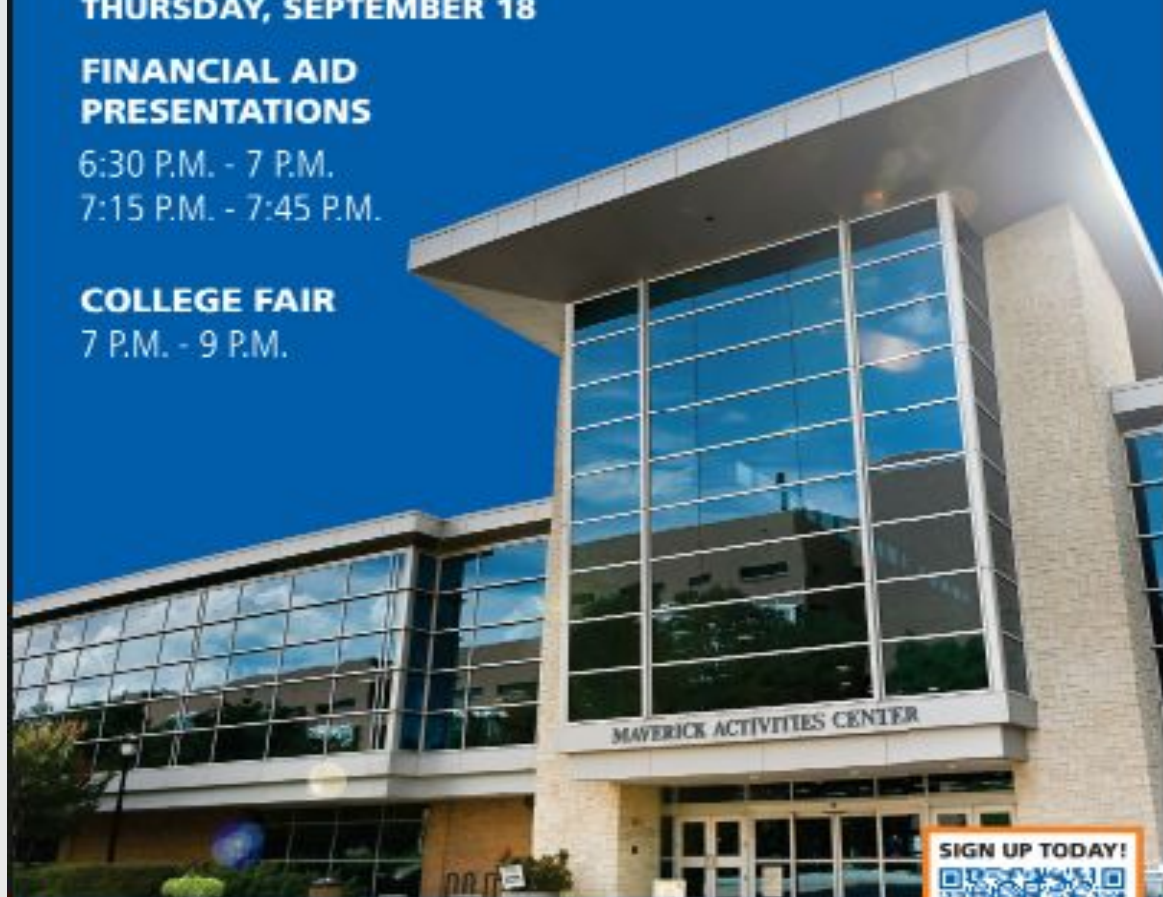
## FINANCIAL AID PRESENTATIONS

6:30 P.M. - 7 P.M.

7:15 P.M. - 7:45 P.M.

## COLLEGE FAIR

7 P.M. - 9 P.M.



SIGN UP TODAY!



The University of Texas at Arlington  
Maverick Activities Center  
500 W. Nedderman Dr.





# Senior Award Nominations

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE FACULTY ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE FOR SENIOR AWARDS DURING THE YEAR

[Click here!](#)



# Join Counselor Canvas!

Invitations were sent to all students in August.

Receive announcements from the Counseling Team.

- Scholarships
- College/Career Nights
- FAFSA Support Nights
- And More



[Click Here to Join](#)



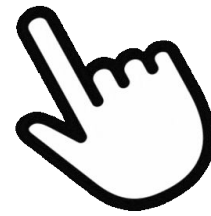
# To-do List

- ❑ Create a list of colleges/universities with their application deadlines
- ❑ Begin working on essays and application questions
- ❑ Consider who you will request to write letters of recommendation (make sure to request them at least 2 weeks prior to application deadline)
- ❑ Work on brag sheet/resume for recommendation letters (Brag Sheet on Counselor Canvas)
- ❑ Visit college/university campuses
- ❑ Study for and sign up to retake the SAT/ACT
- ❑ Study for ASVAB (if interested in the military)
- ❑ Sign up to receive announcements on counselor canvas
- ❑ Get in the habit of checking your personal and school email daily



# Senior Padlet

## Senior Year Checklist with Links



We  Our Seniors!