

## College and Career Planning-11<sup>th</sup> Grade

I will send this by e-mail so you can connect to the links.

### ***Eleventh-Grade Planner***

#### ***August***

- *Discuss your college plans with your school counselor, parents or another trusted adult.*
- *Review your transcript to make sure you're on track to graduate and be admitted.*
- *Check out [March 2 Success](#), a free web site that can help you in language arts, mathematics, and science.*
- *Talk about college cost, location, housing and other subjects with your parents.*
- *Stay involved in extracurricular activities and community volunteer work. Take leadership roles if possible.*

#### ***September***

- *Make a list of schools you're interested in attending.*
- *Start investigating sources of financial aid. Take note of deadlines and plan accordingly.*
- *Visit college fairs, open houses and school's web sites.*

#### ***October***

- *Take the PSAT. It's good practice for the SAT and may qualify you for a National Merit Scholarship.*
- *Consider taking ACT and SAT prep courses. Kentucky requires all juniors in public high schools to take the ACT.*

#### ***November***

- *Ask your counselor about the Governor's Scholars Program.*

#### ***December***

- *Keep checking out the colleges in which you're interested.*
- *Use *Affording Higher Education* and the [Scholarship Search](#) link on [kheaa.com](#) to search for scholarships. The sooner you start looking, the easier it will be to select some to apply to during your senior year.*
- *Check out registration dates and times for the ACT and SAT if you want to take them in the spring.*

#### ***January***

- *Meet with your counselor to set your senior schedule. Don't take easy classes.*
- *Talk with your counselor about AP, IB and dual credit courses.*
- *Talk with people who may be willing to write recommendations for scholarships and colleges. If they're willing to help, give them a brief list of your academic, extracurricular and volunteer activities for reference.*

### **February**

- *Look for a summer job, internship or co-op. Summer employment and internships look good on a college application or résumé. The money you earn can help pay application and testing fees.*
- *Plan campus visits for spring break.*

### **March/April**

- *Get ready for AP exams.*
- *Work on your college admissions résumé, which highlights your high school accomplishments. It will help when you fill out applications, meet with interviewers, ask for recommendations and apply for scholarships.*

### **May**

- *Take AP exams.*
- *The deadline to accept or decline a Governor's Scholars appointment is usually early May.*

### **June/July**

- *Talk with college students home for the summer.*
- *Check your KEES award, GPA and personal information through MyKHEEA.*

[https://www.kheaa.com/website/kheaa/plan\\_time\\_11th?main=1](https://www.kheaa.com/website/kheaa/plan_time_11th?main=1) is the source for the italicized information above.

Here are some other things to consider this year-

- The summer between the junior and senior year have a lot of great opportunities for enrichment. Review these options and it would be great to see five or more of you juniors take advantage. Deadlines are throughout the year but you need to make a decision early (before November would be my advice) and apply.
  - Boy's State <http://www.kyboysstate.org/>
  - Girl's State <http://www.kyamlegionaux.org/girls-state/>
  - Governor's Scholar Program <https://gsp.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx>
  - Governor's School for the Arts <http://www.kentuckycenter.org/education-community-arts/gsa>
  - Governor's School for Entrepreneurs <https://www.kentuckygse.com/>

- Keep a record of activities/ awards and keep it in more than one place.
- Focus on faith and family. Enjoy your summer but a little work and/or camp or class might be something to consider. Think about the programs listed above. NKU, MSU, and UK have summer camps with a variety of topics.
- Read, Read, Read, Read. Read for pleasure, read history, fiction, self-improvement books, magazines, graphic novels, comic books, and newspapers. Read a variety of things.
  - *“Reading has been shown to put our brains into a pleasurable trance-like state, similar to meditation, and it brings the same health benefits of deep relaxation and inner calm. Regular readers sleep better, have lower stress levels, higher self-esteem, and lower rates of depression than non-readers.”* <https://open.buffer.com/reading-fiction/>
  - If you are motivated by material success the one time richest man in the world (he has given a lot it away) said this about reading- *“Read 500 pages like this every day,” while reaching toward a stack of manuals and papers. “That’s how knowledge works. It builds up, like compound interest. All of you can do it, but I guarantee not many of you will do it.”* <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/03/27/warren-buffetts-key-tip-for-success-read-500-pages-a-day.html> Buffet is 87 years old and still reads four to five hours each day. He is not an exception. The one attribute “ultra-successful” people share is reading. *“Bill Gates reads about 50 books per year, which breaks down to 1 per week. Mark Cuban reads more than 3 hours every day. Elon Musk is an avid reader and when asked how he learned to build rockets, he said “I read books.” Mark Zuckerberg resolved to read a book every 2 weeks throughout 2015. Oprah Winfrey selects one of her favorite books every month for her Book Club members to read and discuss.”* [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/andrew-merle/the-reading-habits-of-ult\\_b\\_9688130.html](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/andrew-merle/the-reading-habits-of-ult_b_9688130.html)