Four-Year Timeline

**Freshman Year: Plan for the Future**
- Register for courses in academic areas (English, math, science, etc.).
- Do well academically! Every year counts and this year sets the tone.
- Explore extracurricular activities such as clubs, sports, community service.
- Meet with your counselor to talk about options after high school.
- Do well on your CSAP tests!
- Keep a record/resume of everything you do (classes, clubs, sports, etc.).

**Sophomore Year: Begin to Broaden Your Experiences**
- Keep up the good grades and ask for help if you are struggling.
- Stay involved and deepen your involvement with extracurricular activities.
- Meet with your counselor to stay on track of your grades and classes
- Register and take practice college entry exams (PLAN and PSAT).
- Do well on your CSAP tests!
- Identify your interest, hobbies and career goals.
- Visit a local college.
- Update your resume.

**Junior Year: Test & Inquire**
- Study hard and get good grades!
- Take on leadership roles in extracurricular activities and community service.
- Create a tentative list of colleges you are interested in attending.
- Attend college fairs and workshops.
- Take ACT/SAT. Remember that you can take these more than once.
- Build relationships with your teachers, coaches, counselors and administrator.
  - You will need letters of recommendation from them.
- Visit college campuses and take campus tours during the summer.
- Consider a summer job, internships, or a volunteer opportunity.
- Update your resume.

**Senior Year: Apply, Visit & Confirm**
- Study hard and get good grades! Colleges will see this year, too.
- Continue involvement in extracurricular activities and community service.
- Take/retake ACT/SAT if you would like to improve your score.
- Narrow down your list of schools. Be sure to include at least one safety, one target and one reach school).
- Send for admissions applications or download the necessary forms online, apply for admission and establish relationships with admissions counselors at the schools to which you apply. During the application process:
  - Prepare a personal essay.
  - Contact teachers/counselors about writing letters of recommendation.
  - Fill out FASFA form (January).
  - Apply for scholarships (each has its own deadline).
  - Consider admission offers and confirm your intent to enroll.
  - Take Advance Placements Test.
  - Request that a final transcript be mailed to your college of choice.