What Will SENIOR YEAR Look Like To Be College-Ready?

Checklist for making it HAPPEN!

**September:**
- Create a Master Calendar of deadlines for the fall. This should include: college apps, test registrations, test dates, scholarship deadlines.
- Re-take the ACT if you plan to raise your score
- Start and complete college applications
- Write and RE-WRITE essays for applications
- Re-connect with guidance counselors and teachers for getting transcripts, ACT scores and letters of recommendation
- Work on scholarship search
- Talk to parents/supporters about your progress
- Set GOALS for completing applications
- Ask for help...and STUDY!
- Attend Kick-off and App Nights!

**October:**
- Complete college applications with input from mentors, teachers, etc.
- Be sure ALL loose ends are completed with college apps
- Sing up for December ACT if you plan to re-take it one more time (November 2nd is the deadline!)
- Follow-up with college applications via email or phone calls...tell them who you are!
- Apply to scholarships
- Go on college visits and meet with college reps who come to your school
- Update parents/supporters about your progress
- STUDY!...and stay focused!
- Attend App Nights, go on small group college visits, attend college fair (date TBA)

**November:**
- Follow-up with colleges where you applied regarding your application status
- Visit colleges where you have applied or been accepted
- Apply to scholarships and check deadlines!! STUDY!!
- Attend App Nights and scholarship workshop

**December:**
- Follow-up with colleges where you applied Visit colleges where you were accepted
- Re-take the ACT if necessary
- Apply for scholarships
- Update your master calendar with spring deadline dates for: financial aid, scholarships and housing fees.
- Get paperwork ready to do FAFSA in January
- Attend Financial Aid workshop

**January:**
- PARENTS...complete your tax return asap
- Parents and students...complete the FAFSA (available after January 1, 2013)
- Follow-up with schools where you were accepted to figure out what is next
- Complete additional financial aid paperwork for schools
- Rigorously complete scholarship applications to meet deadlines
- Begin to decide on where you plan to attend college! Keep parents/supporters updated, STUDY!!
- Attend FAFSA workshop (in January or February)

**February:**
- Review financial aid packages from schools
- COMPLETE local scholarship applications to meet deadlines
- Be sure ALL materials are in at the schools you are considering, and...STUDY!!
- Attend FAFSA workshop (in January or February)

**March:**
- Review financial aid packages from schools
- Be sure ALL materials are in at the schools you are considering, and...STUDY!!
- Prep for AP tests if you have AP courses
- Set up a meeting with our staff to review your financial aid packages and determine the best fit/deal

**April:**
- Make final decisions about schools...be sure to understand the financial aid package before committing
- Find out about possible scholarships you may receive
- Make final decisions based on best fit and COMPREHENSIVE financial aid packages
- Submit HOUSING fees ($100 to $500 usually)
- Share the GOOD NEWS about where you plan to attend with your parents/supporters, STUDY....don't get distracted or get SENIORITIS!!! 😐
- Get information to us about your school plans, scholarships, etc.
- Meet one-on-one with our staff to help you with your decision-making process

**May:**
- Graduate with strong grades!! (if you go to South Beloit)
- STUDY, take AP exams, stay focused!!
- Do financial planning for college...create a budget!
- Recognition at award nights, senior events and farewell! 😎

**June, July and August:**
- Graduate with strong grades!! (if you attend BMHS, Turner or other schools) Wear your TRIO cords!
- Celebrate and get excited for college!
- Have final transcripts sent to the college you are attending
- Get funds together for starting school in the fall
- Connect with your roommate
- Take part in our Summer Bridge Program if you qualify
- Get a physical, if needed, and necessary vaccination info
- Do summer orientation at your college
- Figure out what you will take with you
- Make as many connections at your college as possible
- HOORAY! YOU DID IT! Leave for college! 😎