



## Our Lady of the Elms High School

# College Planning Guide

### Junior Year

[This is a BIG year for you!]

- \_\_\_\_\_ Focus on academics; keep your grades strong and your behavior admirable.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Meet with college reps who visit the Elms in the fall.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Attend college fairs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prepare for and take the PSAT, which is administered in October to all Elms students. It is the junior year PSAT score that determines possible entry into the National Merit competition and prepares students for the SAT exam.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Attend the "Beginning the College Process" evening program in October.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Attend our College Financial Aid program with a university financial aid administrator.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule your one to one college planning conference with the College Counselor and your parent(s).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete and return the Parent Brag Sheet and Personal Anecdotal Information Sheet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Research colleges on Naviance.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Begin developing a list of possible college choices.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Actively explore career interests; consider shadowing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rule in/rule out military academies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Consider playing college athletics and registering for the NCAA Clearinghouse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrange and take college visitations over Spring Break and on school holidays.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prepare for testing with a test prep individual, formal course, on-line study, or with books and other materials.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Know your high school code: 360-080.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Register and take the SAT/ACT, allowing re-take time.

\_\_\_\_\_ Think about which teacher(s) you would like to write a college letter of recommendation for you and politely let them know that you will be asking that of them.  
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\_\_\_\_\_ See your counselor.

\_\_\_\_\_ Consider attending (a) college summer program(s), volunteering in your field of interest, and/or seeking summer employment.  
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\_\_\_\_\_ Scope out your college essay(s) and begin to write in a separate document. The Common Application is a good place to begin as a rising senior.  
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\_\_\_\_\_ Take advantage of registering for summer ACT and/or SAT testing.

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete your resume.

\_\_\_\_\_ Create and organize college folders with deadline dates/contacts/special programs for each school.  
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\_\_\_\_\_ View scholarships on Naviance and Fastweb.

\_\_\_\_\_ Breathe...and remember that this is an adventure.