**MIDDLE SCHOOL “TO-DO” LIST**

**A COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHECKLIST**

**CORE ACADEMIC SUBJECTS (MINIMUM A-G REQUIREMENTS)**

- **A. English (4yrs)**
- **B. History/Social Science (2yrs)**
- **C. Mathematics (3yrs) (Inc. Algebra 1, Geometry & Algebra 2)**
- **D. Laboratory Science (2yrs)**
- **E. Language Other Than English (2yrs)**
- **F. Visual & Performing Arts (1yr)**
- **G. College Prep Elective (1yr)**

**TERMS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- **A-G Requirements** – the 15 core subjects that CSU and UC require to be considered for admissions to their school
- **IAP** – Individual Academic Plan—your schedule of classes in the A-G subjects taken in high school (9th-12th) so that you keep track of how well you are progressing in completing all required ‘a-g’ courses with at least a “C” grade.
- **Smarter Balanced Tests (California)** – exams taken each year that you are enrolled in school that measures proficiency levels in English and math.
- **Honors** – these are advanced set of core subjects that prepare you for Advanced Placement classes
- **Advanced Placement(AP)** – advanced set of core subjects that make you a stronger applicant when applying to the universities
- **PSAT** – The PSAT is the Preliminary or Practice SAT test that helps you strengthen your math and English skills for the SAT. (The SAT is the actual test that colleges and universities may require for admission)
- **Financial Aid** – money awarded to students for being academically competitive or in need of aid to help them go to college such as grants, scholarships, loans and work-study
- **MAJOR** – a field of study that students choose to receive their four-year degree from a college or university
- **MINOR** – a field of study that students choose to complement their MAJOR
- **AA/AS** – Associate of Arts or Science degree/diplomas offered by two-year community colleges
- **BA/BS** – Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science degrees offered by four year colleges and universities in the arts, sciences and other fields
- **EAOP** – an academic preparation program of the University of California (UC) that help students and families prepare for college
- **Extracurricular Activities** – set of sports, talents, community service and volunteer opportunities that students take in high school to make them stand out in the application process

**7TH GRADE**

- Understand and do well in core academic subjects
- Read many types of books so you can increase your vocabulary and reading comprehension.
- Get to know your counselor and EAOP Advisor
- Create a four-year academic plan with your EAOP Advisor
- Join and/or create clubs/extra-curricular activities that are of interest to you

**8TH GRADE**

- Do well in core academic subjects
- Read many types of books so you can learn new words and increase your vocabulary and reading comprehension.
- Meet with your school counselor to discuss colleges and requirements
- Create/Update your four-year academic plan with your EAOP Advisor
- Maintain high grades in your core subjects so that you can be placed in honors classes in 8th-12th grade year.
- Visit local colleges and universities with family and friends. Attend a variety of college fairs
- Maintain active membership in extra-curricular activities and seek opportunities for leadership
- Take the Smarter Balanced Test – Have your teacher explain your score and proficiency level with you and your parent
- Continue participation in academic enrichment programs such as EAOP
- Learn to use your free time wisely: read, take classes to get ahead, participate and volunteer in community service projects where you can

**PARENTS**

- Get to know your child’s teachers, counselors and administrators to help your child succeed and let them know you
- Meet with your child’s counselor at least twice each year from 6th-8th to make sure your child is on track to graduate & fulfill college admission requirements
- Register your child to take the PSAT in 7th and 8th grade if the school offers the PSAT during these two years—offered only in October. Your child should take/re-take college entrance exams each year. Obtain fee waiver information as needed. Remember: You must register in advance of the exam date
- Attend college fairs at your child’s school as well as allow your child to attend field trips to colleges
- Make sure that your child has room to study and has all required materials such as textbooks, paper, etc.
- Talk to your child about college and where he/she wants to go to college. Visit when it is possible
- Keep copies of all your child’s awards

**IMPORTANT WEBSITES**

- **California Community Colleges** – [www.cccco.edu](http://www.cccco.edu)
- **California State University** – [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)
- **Private College and Universities in CA** – [https://www.aiccu.org/](https://www.aiccu.org/)
- **University of California** – [www.ucop.edu](http://www.ucop.edu)
- **UCLA EAOP** – [www.eaop.ucla.edu](http://www.eaop.ucla.edu)
- **Scholarships** – [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)
- **Scholarships** – [https://www.nitrocollege.com/scholarships/undocumented-students](https://www.nitrocollege.com/scholarships/undocumented-students)