

Preparing for Your Future

Senior Year Checklist

August

- Attend your individual Senior Meeting with Mrs. Reischman
- TN PROMISE Scholarship-apply online at www.TNPromise.gov by Nov. 1 (see handout for instructions)
- If you are an 18 year old male, you must register with the Selective Service. (www.sss.gov)
- Turn in College Fair Field Trip permission form by August 25
- Attend the College Fair at Columbia State on August 29th
- If you have your college choices narrowed down at all, check their admissions requirements to see that you are registered for or have taken any entrance exams they require—ACT, SAT.
- Sign up for Class of 2018 text reminders by sending a text to 81010 that says @b94767
- Connect with me on Facebook: facebook.com/cushighschoolcounseling
- Connect with me on Twitter: @CUSSchoolCouns1

September

- Finalize your list of college choices. Include at least one “long shot”, one “target”, and one “safe” school. Each senior should include at least one “safe” choice on your list of colleges.
- Once you have narrowed your list of colleges to a recommended maximum of six, you should begin applying. Most colleges prefer students to apply online.
- Attend, with your parent or guardian, the **Senior Parent Night** at CUS **September 5th at 5:00 p.m.** in the Library
- Attend lunch visits with college representatives who visit Culleoka. Keep in mind that the representatives who visit us could likely be the ones presenting your case to the admissions team at their college: MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION!
- Consider **Dual Enrollment** at CSCC spring semester
- **ACT**- If you made below a 21 composite on your ACT, you need to consider retaking the ACT. You must register online at www.actstudent.org.
- ***ACT FREE RETAKE*** The state is giving ALL seniors that took the ACT test here in April the opportunity to retake the ACT for free on Oct. 17th here at Culleoka.
- **Register for the ACT Boot Camp to be held here at Culleoka on Sat. Oct. 14th from 9 a.m. till 1 p.m. Cost is \$35**
- Set up a calendar to track important dates and deadlines
- Plan your college visits during fall break with your parents-contact the admissions office of the college to set up an appointment
- Look for scholarships and financial aid resources-refer to scholarship section on website
- Work on your personal statement/essays/resume for college/scholarship applications
- Make sure you have completed all steps in the admission, scholarship, and athletic process for each school you are interested in attending
- Complete and turn in to your counselor the **“Culleoka Senior Brag Sheet”** or your resume before you ask her to write a recommendation.
- Use the **“Request for Letter of Recommendation”** forms when you ask teachers and counselor for recommendation letters.
- Remember that the grades you make this semester will be the last ones they see before deciding whether to admit you to their school. Your fall semester of your senior year will be an important factor in the way college admissions committees view your academic seriousness.
- Keep your commitment to take challenging courses! Your senior year matters!
- Make sure you request your transcripts be sent to the college after you apply
- Make sure your coach knows if you want to play collegiate sports *Register with NCAA (www.eligibilitycenter.org)
- Register with NAIA (www.playNAIA.org) *Be aware of admission requirements for athletes
- If you need help applying for the TN Promise Scholarship or a college or university, make an appointment with Mrs. Reischman the week of September 11th.

October

- Complete the **FAFSA** (beginning October 1, 2017) www.fafsa.ed.gov or www.collegefortn.org
- Attend the **FAFSA Help Session** at CUS Oct. 11th from 1-6 p.m. You will have the opportunity to sign up for an appointment to receive help with completing the FAFSA and TN Promise
- **ACT Boot Camp Saturday Oct. 14th from 9 a.m. till 1 p.m.**
- Take the ACT free retake on Oct. 17th at Culleoka.
- Please do not push deadlines. It is to your advantage to file your application early. Most colleges admit that early applications automatically receive more attention because they demonstrate the student's sincere interest in a school.
- Early decision deadlines and scholarship deadlines may be as early as October 15. Do not allow lack of planning on your part to create an emergency on our part. Submit your Transcript Request two weeks before the deadline.
- The college to which you are applying may require official copies of your test scores. Some schools require test scores submitted directly from ACT/SAT. Check the websites of the colleges to see what they require.
- Complete a Transcript Request form for each application you submit.
- Attend the 1st TN PROMISE meeting at Culleoka on Oct. 12th at 8:00 a.m.
- Discuss financial plans with parents
- Continue to look for scholarships and financial aid resources

November

- Use your college visiting days well.
- Teacher Recommendations – If the colleges to which you are applying require a recommendation from a teacher, choose and ask a teacher who you feel knows you the best and will represent you well. **ALLOW AT LEAST 2 WEEKS TO COMPLETE A RECOMMENDATION FORM.**

December

- All college applications and transcript requests which need to be sent out before winter break are due to Mrs. Reischman two weeks before we leave for winter break. Applications that have a February 1 deadline should also be processed in December.
- If you expect your counselor to write an effective recommendation for you, then allow sufficient time to process your recommendation.
- Don't ask to drop challenging courses. Colleges could withdraw their offer!
- Watch for responses from colleges and scholarships

January/February

- TN Promise Scholarship requirement: must file FAFSA by January 16^h
- TN Promise Scholarship-must apply to one of the approved community colleges or TCATS
- Watch for responses from colleges and scholarships & continue applying for scholarships as they become available
- If you have not visited the schools you have applied to, schedule visits soon.

March

- **TN Promise Mandatory Mentor Meeting March 20** at Columbia Central High School 5:30 p.m.
- Watch for your **Student Aid Report (SAR)** which is generated from your FAFSA
- Make sure all information on your SAR is correct
- Continue applying for scholarships as they become available

April

- By April 15, you should hear from all colleges. Use the two weeks before May 1 to make your final decision.
- Notify all colleges which have accepted you of your final decision.
- Notify colleges who have put you on their waiting list if you wish to remain on it.
- Beware of Senioritis! Your college acceptance is conditional pending your final grades submitted in June.

- Continue applying for scholarships as they become available

May

- Reply to the college you choose to attend. Do not place a deposit with more than one college. You can be dropped by both colleges if discovered.
- Fill out a **Final Transcript Request** for the college you will attend. You must make this request in writing to release your transcript.
- **Congrats to the Class of 2018!** Graduation is May 21, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the main gym.

June/July

- **HOPE scholarship** will be verified by guidance in the middle of June
- Confirm financial aid with your college
- TN Promise Scholarship must complete and report 8 hours of community service by July 1
- TN Promise Scholarship must complete financial aid verification by August 1

Websites of interest

<http://planningyourdreams.org/>

www.collegefortn.org

<https://www.careerwise.mnscu.edu/>

www.bls.gov/ooh/

www.scholarships.com

www.fastweb.com

www.studentscholarships.org

<http://culleokaschoolmauryk12.ss9.sharpschool.com/>

www.mauryk12.org

www.eligibilitycenter.org

www.playNAIA.org

www.actstudent.org

www.march2success.org

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

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Class of 2018 text reminders: text @b94767 to 81010



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