

## **Planning for College**

Please utilize the resources in the Grade Level planning Guides that are posted on the Student Services section of the website for detailed college planning information. Listed below are just some important things to consider when planning for college.

### **Step One: Know yourself and your reasons for wanting to attend college**

- ✓ Identify your strengths and weaknesses
- ✓ Analyze your interests and values
- ✓ Analyze your reasons for attending college

### **Step Two: Consider college characteristics**

- ✓ Majors and educational programs
- ✓ Admission policy
- ✓ Location and size
- ✓ Costs and availability of financial aid
- ✓ Campus activities
- ✓ Academic reputation

### **Step Three: List, compare and visit colleges**

- ✓ Compile information from several sources
- ✓ Weigh advantages and disadvantages
- ✓ Contact the admissions office for a visit to the campus

### **Step Four: Apply for admission and observe deadlines**

- ✓ Narrow your choices to a list of four colleges (in the following fashion)
  - One college- “sure thing”- you are overqualified and will definitely be admitted
  - Two colleges- “realistic choices” or “middle of the road” – you meet the qualifications for admission
  - One college – “long shot” or “stretch” – you would really like to attend this college, but you may have a lower GPA, SAT score or class rank than is required
- ✓ Review college admission test requirements (SAT, ACT, TOEFL)
- ✓ Know application fees and deadlines
- ✓ Submit application materials
  - Completed application for admission
  - Application fee
  - High school transcript
  - Recommendations
  - Admissions test results