



## College and Career Readiness Checklist: 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Junior year is widely said to be the most difficult year of high school. Use this checklist to help make it a breeze and set yourself up for success as a senior.

- **Make sure you are taking appropriately challenging courses**
  - Remember that schools and future employers will be looking at the courses you take as a junior to see if you challenged yourself. Meet with your counselor to make sure you're taking appropriate courses and setting yourself up for success.
- **Keep all of your grades above a C**
  - This is the last set of official grades colleges will see while you are applying. Make sure you are putting your best foot forward by keeping your grades as strong as possible – ideally nothing below a C in any course.
- **Maintain leadership roles and cultivate new ones**
  - In a year as stressful as your junior year, you should keep up with the activities that let you spend time with friends and unwind from a stressful week. Use it to also continue building your resume and make sure you're updating it in Naviance, too.
- **Complete at least one SAT by the end of your junior year**
  - Use Khan Academy to study for the SAT online and take the test at Proviso West in April. It's a free college entrance test for you **and** a graduation requirement; make sure you're there and you do the best you can.
- **Discuss continuing participation in extracurricular activities with your college counselor**
  - If you are a high school athlete and would like to continue playing in college, meet with Mrs. Murdock right away. She'll help you get registered for the NCAA or NAIA and you can discuss next steps. She can also help you find schools with clubs and activities similar to the ones you participated in at Proviso West so you can continue to pursue your hobbies while you earn your degree.
- **Go on college visits and start organizing your list of schools in reaches, targets, and likely**
  - Take advantage of the college tours offered by District 209 and the community organizations we work with. Visiting colleges will give you an idea of what kind of school you'd like to attend one day. Also speak with Mrs. Murdock to help organize the list of schools you're considering.