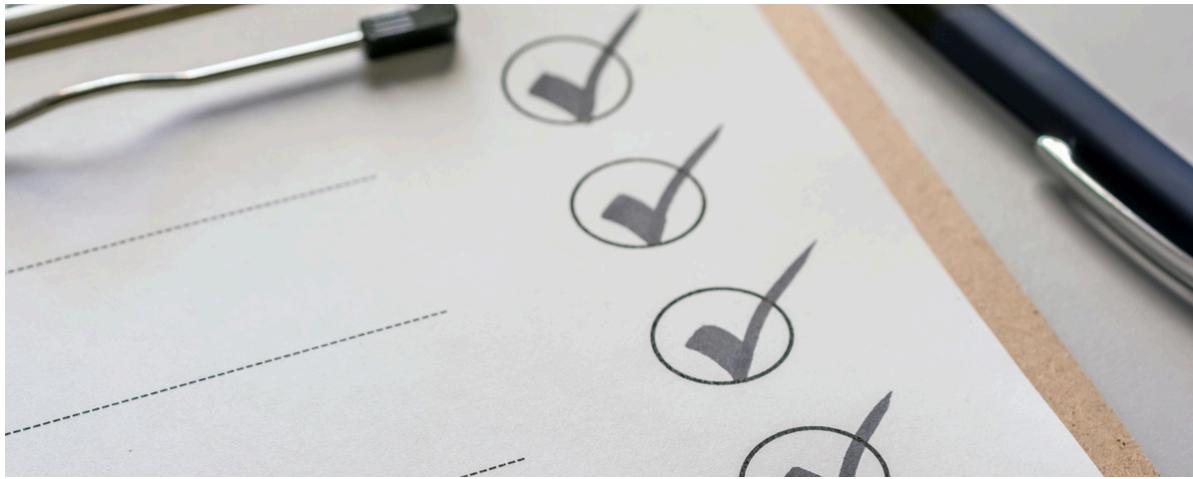


Junior Newsletter

MRS. KIMOSH
◆
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Campus Visits and Your List

Junior year is a great time to visit schools and start building your list of options.

Where to Go

How can you decide which schools to visit when you can't see them all? Start by choosing type of school (see previous newsletters) you think might work for you, and look at their Admissions or Prospective Students websites. You'll want to know what their admission requirements are and preview campus news, sports and activities, undergraduate opportunities, and current freshmen statistics. How do your GPA and test scores compare? Do they have opportunities you definitely want (both academic and fun)? If you're interested, sign up for their mailing list.

What to Do

Sign up for a campus tour in advance and plan some time to explore campus on your own before or after, too. While you're there, take notes you can refer to later as you reflect.

Have lunch in the dining hall and look at what's advertised around campus on posters and bulletin boards. Attend a class if possible. Check out housing options, recreational facilities, and the student centers for health services, career services, and tutoring/support. Notice how students on campus work and study. Is furniture and equipment comfortable and well-maintained? Can you find places to work alone or in groups? Spend time seeing if it "feels like" the right place.

Making a List

A balanced list of schools might follow these basic guidelines:
2-3 matches - your GPA is similar, up to .5 above or .5 below admitted freshmen.
1-2 reaches - your GPA is more than .5 below or it's a highly selective school.
1-2 safeties - your GPA is more than .5 above admitted freshmen.

Of those choices, try to include in-state options and options where you won't need any aid.

In this newsletter you can expect:

Campus Visits

SAT testing

Your GPA

Upcoming Events:

Junior Family Night

SAT Prep Class



SAT Testing and Preparation

All juniors will take the SAT at OCS on March 25th during the school day. There are many ways to prepare so that you can do your best. Continue doing great work in your classes at school and read challenging, thoughtful material outside school. Consider taking practice tests (Khan Academy has free SAT practice). Consider an SAT prep class - these help you review and improve your test-taking skills. See Resources below!

If you do not get a score you like the first time, you have lots of time to try again. You may even

consider trying the ACT to see if you do better with their style of testing.

When you take the test, you can ask your score report to be sent for free to a couple of colleges of your choice. This is optional, but can save you money in the future as College Board will charge \$15 to send a score report to schools after a certain deadline your senior year. Try to have some schools in mind on test day if you anticipate scoring well!



Grade Point Averages

Second semester of junior year is the last semester that will be included on your initial transcript to colleges. Keep building a profile that shows your strengths and interests, that you are able to sustain effort over time, and that you are improving in areas that might have been weaker your freshman or sophomore year. You also want to make sure you are prepared for your senior year classes.

You don't have to be perfect. Your aim as much as possible is to be consistent or improving. Stay on track!



Upcoming Events

Junior Family Night:

Monday, January 26th at 5:45, room 317
Mrs. Kimosh will share LOTS of information that will help you prepare for senior year and make post-graduation plans. Please be there!

SAT Prep class:

Eight week class, Tuesdays from 3:25 to 5:25 starting January 27th
Mrs. O'Connell and Mrs. Kimosh will lead the class and help you improve your test scores!
[CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to get signed up!