

# **Things Sophomores Should Be Doing NOW to Prepare for College and Career after high school graduation**

1. Focus on achieving your best academic performance as well as involvement in school. Consider it your job! The decisions you make now will impact your future. Make decisions for which your future self will thank you. Your grades, attendance and participation all matter NOW and will continue to matter moving forward.
2. Advocate for yourself and seek assistance to support your own success in school. Ask teachers for help, utilize after-school tutoring services on and off campus, and work with your counselor to help others help you be successful.
3. Explore potential careers and degree programs to begin to shape your personal goals and objectives. The KWHS Guidance Department is here to help you in the KWHS Career Center to begin this process.
4. Take the PSAT seriously and consider the ASVAB. The PSAT is an important tool that forecasts your performance on the SAT and ACT but also assesses for potential for AP and DE courses that will prepare you for college as well as your eligibility for some scholarships and recognitions. Consider taking the ASVAB for college program and career exploration as well military entrance.
5. Visit colleges, universities and vocational schools and/or job shadow in your area of career interest. It's not too early to start! Arrange to sit in on college or vocational classes. Go to work with a parent, a family member, or another personal connection.
6. Plan next year's academic, sports and activities schedule to support your college and career goals. Meet and work with your guidance counselor and teachers as necessary. Be sure to consider academic rigor and courses applicable to your college and career goals in your academic schedule.
7. Participate in community service, extracurricular, experiential learning and enrichment activities as well as special or summer programs and internships to broaden your knowledge and expand your personal network. Ask teachers and counselors for their advice. Submit community service documentation to the CAP Office.
8. Develop an electronic personal inventory of accomplishments, experiences, awards, activities, etc., a.k.a., a resume or a brag sheet.
9. Understand the role of the College and Career Advisor. KWHS's College and Career Advisor assists all students with the college and career planning process. You may not have frequent interactions with her now, but your work with her will increase through your Junior and into your Senior years.
10. Familiarize yourself with the College and Career Planning webpage to know what to expect in the future! <http://collegeandcareerplanning.kwh.keysschools.schoolfusion.us/> (*KWHS Homepage > Academics > College and Career Planning*)

And you should already know that

**GRADES**

**GRADES**

**GRADES**

are ALWAYS important! :)