

9th Grade Timeline for Students and Parents

Welcome to High School! As freshmen become more independent, your help and involvement is crucial to their high school success. Here are some key activities and events that will help you and your child navigate the first year of high school. Please utilize the counseling web page as well as Tuesday Newsday to keep apprised of upcoming activities and announcements throughout the year. As always, please call your child's counselor if you have any questions.

FALL

- School Counselor meets with all 9th graders through Freshman Seminar to talk about high school graduation requirements, regents exams, how to get the most out of high school, transcript, etc. Also, review the role of the school counselor- academic advisement, college and career readiness, emotional and social well-being.
- Attend grade 9-10 evening presentation.
- Students will be logging on to Family Connection to set goals and update their resume.
- Every student in 9th grade will set academic and social/emotional goals through Family Connection. Please review your child's goals for the school year to help them stay focused and motivated.
- Parents encouraged to register for family connection to be able to access and view their child's account. Please contact counseling office for registration code. Update your Family Connection email. Counselors communicate with parents and students regarding grade level announcements through Family Connection emails.
- Encourage students to join extra-curricular activities. Getting involved in clubs and activities helps students identify areas of interest and tend to feel more connected to school. Upperclassmen will be presenting to all freshmen about club opportunities.
- Parents are invited to attend financial aid evening presentation.
- Students should be visiting the scholarships list on Family Connection to explore scholarship opportunities throughout the year.

WINTER

- Teachers make course recommendations for 10th grade courses.
- Individual meetings with counselors take place to choose courses for 10th grade.
- Parents encouraged to discuss course selections with students and contact counselor with any questions.
- Freshmen take part in Safe Dating and Violence Abuse Workshop.
- Students should update resume on Family Connection.
- ACCES-VR presentation for all parents of students with an IEP or 504 Plan.

SPRING

- Start planning for meaningful summer activities (community service, sports, camps, work experience, etc.)
- Freshmen take part in career project carried over from careers class in 8th grade.
- Parents encouraged to discuss career project with students.
- Course recommendations posted on parent portal at the end of the 3rd marking period with report cards.
- Students should update resume on Family Connection
- If the opportunity presents itself, feel free to visit a college.

10th Grade Timeline for Students and Parents

Welcome to sophomore year! It's not too early to start exploring future career goals, colleges and possible college majors. Please utilize the counseling web page as well as Tuesday Newsday to keep apprised of upcoming activities and announcements throughout the year. As always, please call your child's counselor if you have any questions.

FALL

- Students will be logging on to Family Connection to set academic, college/career, and social/emotional goals and update their resume.
- Update your Family Connection email. Counselors communicate with parents and students regarding grade level announcements through family connection emails.
- Encourage students to join extra-curricular activities. Getting involved in clubs and activities helps students identify areas of interest and tend to feel more connected to school.
- PSAT offered in October. Counselors will hold classroom presentations to all students about PSAT's. Information about PSAT will be posted on Tuesday Newsday and counseling web page.
- Students should create a College Board account (www.collegeboard.org) in order to get help in all academic areas including test preparation.
- Attend grade 9-10 evening presentation.
- Parents are invited to attend financial aid evening presentation.
- Students should be visiting the scholarships list on Family Connection to explore scholarship opportunities throughout the year.

WINTER

- PSAT scores posted on College Board website in December. Counselors will help students interpret their scores.
- Register for 10th grade Pre-ACT exam. Counselors will present information to all 10th graders. Parents please check counselor webpage and Tuesday Newsday for information.
- Students should update resume on Family Connection
- PNW BOCES Tech Presentation for all 10th graders.
- PNW BOCES Tech Tour and parent open house for any individuals looking to attend BOCES in 11th grade.
- All 10th grade students will complete the Career Interest Profiler and Career Cluster Finder on Family Connection with counselors during Health classes.
- All 10th grade students will take part in a suicide prevention unit through health classes.
- ACCES-VR presentation for all parents of students with an IEP or 504 Plan.

SPRING

- All sophomores will attend the North Salem Career Fair in March. If you or someone you know would like to speak about a career, please call the counseling office before February 15th.
- PNW BOCES College and Career Fair field trip in April.
- Teachers make course recommendations for 11th grade courses.
- Individual meetings with counselors take place to choose courses for 11th grade.
- Course recommendations posted on parent portal at the end of the 3rd marking period with report cards.
- Students should update resume on Family Connection
- If the opportunity presents itself, feel free to visit a college.
- Start planning for meaningful summer activities (community service, sports, camps, work experience, etc.)

11th Grade Timeline for Students and Parents

Welcome to Junior Year! Post- high school planning is an essential component to junior year. Please use the following activities to help stay on the right track. Please utilize the counseling web page as well as Tuesday Newsday to keep apprised of upcoming activities and announcements throughout the year. As always, please call your child's counselor if you have any questions.

FALL

- Students will be logging on to Family Connection to set academic, college/career, and social/emotional goals and update their resume.
- Update your Family Connection email. Counselors communicate with parents and students regarding grade level announcements through family connection emails.
- PSAT offered in October. This is preliminary test that allows students to practice for the SAT and assess their academic skills. Juniors who score well on this test are eligible for scholarship opportunities. Please log on to your College Board account for more information. Counselors will hold classroom presentations for all 11th graders to disperse information about the PSAT. Information about PSAT will be posted on Tuesday Newsday and counseling web page.
- Students should be visiting the scholarships list on Family Connection to explore scholarship opportunities throughout the year.
- Encourage students to continue their participation in extracurricular activities and if the opportunity arises to take on leadership roles.
- Attend financial aid evening presentation.
- Attend regional college fairs. (Danbury Fair Mall, Yorktown High School, Westchester County Center)
- Students should sign up through Family Connection to meet with college admissions counselors visiting North Salem HS.
- Visit colleges.

WINTER

- PSAT scores posted on College Board website in December. Through classroom presentations counselors will help students interpret their scores.
- Attend junior parent night/college panel evening presentation.
- Students should sign up for Kahn Academy through College Board to access free, personalized SAT practice based on their PSAT results.
- Sign up now through www.sat.org for a Spring SAT test. Sign up for Spring ACT test through www.act.org.
- Look for an email from Catalyst Test Prep regarding SAT and ACT boot camps. These test prep sessions are held on weekends just prior to the March SAT and April ACT exams.
- Sign up for SAT subject tests if you are a student considering highly selective colleges. Subject tests are typically taken in May or June upon completion of an AP course.
- Students should update resume on Family Connection.
- ACCES-VR presentation for all parents of students with an IEP or 504 Plan.
- Schedule your junior interview. Counselors will begin meeting with all juniors and their parents to discuss post-secondary high school plans.
- Students should begin searching for colleges that meet their needs and start to create a list of colleges they would like to visit.
- Visit colleges. Sign up online through college websites for campus tours and open houses.

SPRING

- Students take SAT or ACT tests. Students sit for AP exams in May.
- PNW BOCES College and Career Fair field trip
- Attend regional college fairs.
- Teachers make course recommendations for 11th grade courses.
- Students should start to identify teachers regarding letters of recommendation.
- Individual meetings with counselors take place to choose courses for 11th grade.
- Course recommendations posted on parent portal at the end of the 3rd marking period with report cards.
- Students should update resume on Family Connection
- Start planning for meaningful summer activities (community service, sports, camps, work experience, etc.)
- Visit colleges. Sign up online through college websites for campus tours and open houses.

12th Grade Timeline for Students and Parents

Welcome to senior year! The challenge for the year is to help students balance their academics, extracurricular activities, the college application process or other post-secondary plans. Please utilize the counseling web page as well as Tuesday Newsday to keep apprised of upcoming activities and announcements throughout the year. As always, please call your child's counselor if you have any questions.

Summer before senior year

- Visit colleges. Sign up online through college websites for campus tours and open houses.
- For students that wish to retake the SAT and ACT exams in late summer or early fall, register now.
- Encourage your child to start on college applications.
- Create a common application account through www.commonapp.org.
- Start working on/revising college essay. Topic prompts can be found on the common app.
- Students should be working to finalize their college list. Help your child choose which colleges best meet his/her needs.
- Start researching college costs through the net price calculator on each colleges website.
- To apply for financial aid you will need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You will need your most recent tax return and an FSA ID to complete the FAFSA which opens October 1.

FALL

- Create a calendar with your child to include application and financial aid deadlines found on college websites.
- Students will be logging on to Family Connection to set academic, college/career, and social/emotional goals and update their resume.
- Update your Family Connection email. Counselors communicate with parents and students regarding grade level announcements through family connection emails.
- Fill out FAFSA to apply for financial aid beginning on October 1
- Complete the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, if required. Check individual college websites.
- Sign up for college interviews if applicable.
- Request letters of recommendation from teachers.
- Help your child decide if they wish to apply Early Action/ Early Decision to any colleges. Early applications are usually due in November.
- Counselors will conduct classroom presentations to review the college application process. Students will also meet individually (when ready) with their counselor to review applications.
- Seniors will submit a transcript request form (Gold Sheets) for each college to which they are applying, at least 10-15 school days prior to the application deadline.
- Students should update resume on Family Connection as well.
- SAT and ACT exams offered in the fall for seniors .
- Sign up for SAT subject tests if you are a student considering highly selective colleges.
- Students should be visiting the scholarships list on Family Connection as well as individual college websites to explore scholarship opportunities throughout the year.
- Encourage students to continue their participation in extracurricular activities and if the opportunity arises to take on leadership roles.
- Parents encouraged to utilize counselor web page as well as Tuesday Newsday to keep apprised of upcoming activities and announcements.

- Attend senior parent night/financial aid evening presentation.
- Attend regional college fairs. (Danbury Fair Mall, Yorktown High School, Westchester County Center)
- Students should sign up through Family Connection to meet with college admissions counselors visiting North Salem HS.
- Students should be finalizing the list of colleges to which they are applying.
- Visit colleges. Sign up online through college websites for campus tours and open houses.

WINTER

- ACCES-VR presentation for all parents of students with an IEP or 504 Plan.
- Students begin receiving college admissions decisions.
- Consider attending college campus accepted student events to narrow down college choices.
- Mid year grades are sent to all colleges in February.
- Students continue working on and submitting college applications if applicable.
- Review financial aid offers to determine which financial package works best.

SPRING

- Students sit for AP exams in May. Students will have the opportunity to identify the college that will receive their AP scores for potential credit.
- All students attending college must submit a deposit to one school by May 1st.
- Help your student to complete the paperwork necessary to accept a college's offer of admittance. Once your child has decided which college to attend, he or she will need to review the offer, accept the offer, and submit a tuition deposit and complete other required paperwork.
- Keep school counselors posted about college admissions decisions. Let your school counselor know which college you will be attending so that your final transcript can be sent upon graduation.