

Grosse Pointe South Timetable for Junior and Senior year College Preparation

Junior Year

Fall

- Register/log-in to Naviance Family Connection and complete a college search. Save any colleges that you are interested in to your “my colleges” list.
- Attend Junior Class college meeting.
- Set up a standard monthly or bi-monthly meeting with your parents to talk through college preparation.
- Meet with College Representatives that are visiting South – Check Naviance family connection website and/or listen to announcements for a schedule.
- Consider taking the PSAT in October to get familiar with the SAT and to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship.
- Attend College Night at South/North in October
- Explore careers through websites (like Naviance & Career Cruising), talking with friends and possibly shadowing/mentoring local resources.
- Plan a personal schedule for college admissions testing and check the registration deadlines for the ACT and/or SAT-I/II. Remember to consider other important tests like the MME/ACT in March and possibly AP tests in May.

Winter

- Review results of PSAT. Use report form, College Board website and/or counselor to interpret scores.
- Register for the ACT and/or SAT
- Consider utilizing test preparation options: Books, Classes, online resources...
- Start to focus on four or five colleges that interest you.
- Make plans to *visit* a few schools - do the official tour.
- Plan a senior year that takes advantage of South’s strong college prep curriculum.
- If you are considering participating in NCAA Division I or II sports in college sign up for the NCAA clearinghouse on the web.

Spring

- Schedule and attend your counseling Junior Meeting. Don’t forget to complete and submit your Junior Conference Information Form to your counselor
- Continue to review and revise college matching search engines in Naviance.
- Again, make plans to *visit* a few schools - do the official tour.
- Take ACT in March (with MME) and possibly again in June
- If your schools require SAT subject tests consider the June test and align with AP classes in which you will take the exam.
- Start to access college applications online. Do they require a teacher recommendation? If so identify and talk with a teacher about it.

Senior Year

Summer

- If the colleges you are considering require an essay use this summer to practice the writing process. Take time to write, review and revise.
- Take advantage of any summer opportunities that give you some school/work/life experience.
- Keep visiting schools – but know that summertime is not necessarily indicative of the authentic campus experience when school is in session.
- Discuss the many aspects of college life with your parents and college friends. Consult college reference manuals.
- Log-in to Naviance Family Connection and dig deeper into the colleges you have saved on your My Colleges lists. Review scatter-gram on admissions data to be sure you have *reach*, *on-target* and *safety* schools represented.
- Gather application materials for schools you are considering.
- Register for fall standardized tests, if necessary.

Fall

- Decide on a final list of colleges to which you will apply.
- Get those applications to rolling admissions schools **out early** (including all Michigan public schools).
- Send official ACT/SAT scores to the colleges where you are applying.
- Update Naviance Family Connection with each school you are applying
- Send Official School transcript via Naviance Family Connection
- Retake ACT if needed. Take the SAT subject tests if needed.
- Request letter of recommendation from teacher(s) if needed. Don't forget to write a handwritten *thank you* in two weeks.
- Complete FAFSA on the Web between October 1 and March 1
- Start investigating scholarships and financial aid.
- Attend Financial Aid night at North/South in November.
- If necessary, complete the CSS financial Aid PROFILE
- Use scholarship search engines in Naviance Family Connection and FastWeb to hunt down money for school.

Winter

- If necessary, complete the CSS financial Aid PROFILE
- Check the Naviance Family Connection website regularly for scholarship opportunities
- Provide your counselor with a scholarship resume if you created one.
- Review acceptances and financial aid packages. Compare and shop.

Spring

- Notify colleges by May 1 if you are going to accept or reject admission.
- Update your Naviance Family Connection where you will be attending college.
- Send final transcript via Naviance Family Connection to your college.