



ACTION STEPS

College Planning Timeline

For Parents and Families | 9th and 10th Grade

Set the tone early.

Help your student understand the importance of balance - academics, extracurricular activities, and community involvement all play a role in shaping a meaningful high school experience.

Encourage exploration.

Support your student in trying different extracurricular activities and discuss the benefits of being actively involved in school and the community.

Talk about future plans.

Regularly discuss academic and personal goals, plan for summer activities in advance to enrich your student's resume for college.

Build time management skills.

Teach your students to use planners and calendars to stay organized with assignments, schedules, and commitments.

Stay engaged with school.

Attend open house and college events to understand expectations, and show your student that you value their education.

Build positive relationships.

Encourage your student to form strong connections with teachers, counselors, and mentors. These relationships can provide valuable support, guidance, and recommendations throughout high school and into college.

Track progress and achievements.

Help your student maintain their True North Scoir account to record activities and accomplishments. If they don't have one, encourage them to stop by the College Success Office.

Understand scholarship opportunities.

Learn the requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship and explore other platforms like RaiseMe early on.

Explore colleges together.

Attend local college fairs and schedule official tours to spark interest and begin the college exploration journey.

Aim high academically.

Encourage your student to maintain a competitive GPA by striving for As and Bs in challenging courses. One tough grade won't define their future, but consistency matters.

Develop strong study habits.

Now is the time to establish effective study routines that will carry into college and beyond.

Give back through service.

Remind your student that 100 volunteer hours are required for graduation. Hours can be logged in your student's X2Vol account. If they don't have one, encourage them to stop by the College Success Office.

Engage in extracurriculars wisely.

Clubs, sports, and honor societies enrich the high school experience—just remember that depth of involvement is more valuable than spreading yourself too thin.