

South Eugene High School

PLANNING CALENDAR for Juniors → Rising Seniors

NOW [April-June]

- Complete your **Junior Project** in the College and Career Center. This is a graduation requirement. Also, you cannot complete your Senior Project with an incomplete Junior Project.
- Complete your **Junior Conference/Interview** with your counselor to make sure you're on track to graduate. Sign up today so you're prepared for the forecasting week activities. Counselors get very busy in May and June.
 - Are you on schedule to earn enough credits in every subject area and for post high school plans.
 - Do you have any *Incompletes* or need a grade change?
 - There are options for credit recovery if you have fallen behind.
- Complete any spring preparations for your **Senior Project, IHS Extended Essay, or CAM/CTE Project**. Plan for any work that is required during the summer.
- Take the **ACT** or **SAT**. Take **Subject Tests** if any of your college applications require them. We have fee waivers for those that qualify for free or reduced price lunch.

SUMMER

- **Visit colleges** whenever your family is traveling. Even if you don't plan to apply to those colleges, this helps you learn about your preferences.
- Continue **researching your educational and scholarship options** that you started in your Junior Project, using Naviance and college links. Once you pick colleges you will apply to, add them to "**Colleges I'm applying to**" list.
- **Get organized: develop a timeline with dates of tests, application deadlines, etc.**
- **Explore your post-high-school choices** using Naviance, CIS, and education/career websites and guidebooks.. Make sure your contact information (cell phone and email) are up-to-date.
- If interested in a **GAP year**, research the possibilities out there. Check out the study abroad website for summer and year long experiences. <http://sehs.4j.lane.edu/career-center/study-abroad/>
- **Complete summer requirements** such as the 15 to 20 hour mentorship for the Senior Project (as approved by the school), ongoing CAS hours for IHS, IHS Extended Essay research, and ongoing contact with your IHS Extended Essay technical adviser.

FALL

- **Complete your Senior Conference/Interview** with your counselor before Winter Term ends. Verify you have classes you need to graduate and to talk about applications and scholarships.
- **Take advantage** of your last year in high school to master skills you want to improve and make a positive impact on South and our community. You're a Senior and people look up to you.
- **Fill out your FAFSA** as soon as possible after October 1. Earlier is better because some FAFSA-based financial aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **Attend Financial Aid Night** in October in South's cafeteria to help you and your parents understand how to pay for college.
- **Take** or retake the **SAT** and/or **ACT**. Register online, and be aware of registration deadlines. Ask for help/info in the College and Career Center.
- **Attend college-representative visits** in the College and Career Center. Check the posted visit schedule (on bulletin boards, the white board outside the College and Career Center, and the website. It changes frequently.
- **Attend the Mid-Willamette College Fair**, usually in October. You'll be able to talk with reps from many colleges. Another option: the **Portland National College Fair** @ the Portland Convention Center in the Fall.
- Create a computer folder containing **information necessary for college and scholarship applications** including a resume and/or list of all high-school extracurricular activities, volunteer experiences, leadership positions, paid work positions, and awards and honors. Don't be humble. If in doubt, list it.
- **Begin applications**; watch Counseling Office deadlines for recommendations, transcript requests, etc. They often are set 2+ weeks before your application is due.

- Keep your college information current in **Naviance Family Connection**.
- **Attend Junior/Senior Night, Financial Aid Night and FAFSA workshop @ SEHS** during the fall for valuable information.
- **Check scholarship postings** on the SEHS website (College and Career Center tab-College Planning-Current Scholarships), in the College and Career Center and on their bulletin boards. Do online scholarship searches. Utilize help and computers in the College and Career Center.
- Complete the **CSS PROFILE** if required by a school you're applying to.

College Application Process

Four Year College Admissions

- **Start early**; it relieves the stress of waiting until deadlines are close.
- Almost all applications are completed online. Many colleges use the Common Application, to which Naviance is linked.
- Counselors send transcripts and Secondary School Reports electronically (except when a college only accepts paper copies).
- You will complete a **Counselor/College Recommendation packet** (from Melinda in the Counseling Office). It has important instructions and key dates, so pay attention to them.
- Complete Naviance tasks such as the "Counselor Recommendation Form" and "Teacher Recommendation Info." Counselors use the "Counselor Recommendation Form" when writing letters of recommendation for students. Transfer or enter "colleges I'm thinking about" colleges into the "colleges I'm applying to" section.
- You will order transcripts by filling out a **Transcript Request** form, paying \$2 for each transcript, and turning in your form (with colleges listed on the back) to Melinda in the Counseling Office.

TEST SCORES

- You must request that College Board (SAT) and/or ACT send your test scores to colleges. Score requests may take up to six weeks unless you requested them when registering for the test. You can check online.

Letters of Recommendations

- Recommendations may be required for scholarships and employment as well as college applications.
- Colleges may require teacher recommendations from varied disciplines, i.e. Math/Science and Liberal Arts.
- You may ask up to **TWO** teachers for letters of recommendation. Give them at least **3 weeks** lead-time. Teachers are limited in the number of student letters they have time to write and often set a limit.
- Ask for recommendations from those who know you well and from teachers in whose classes you were successful. You also may ask someone outside of school such as a coach, employer, or supervisor.
- Complete the **Teacher Recommendation** Form in Naviance. This provides information about you that helps them write a quality recommendation. Some teachers also like a face-to-face discussion as well.
- Most teachers submit recommendations electronically through Naviance. If your teacher does not, then provide a stamped, addressed envelope for each school requesting a recommendation.
- **NOTE:** Not all colleges require recommendations, particularly public universities. (Honors Colleges within public universities are often the exception). Many colleges require a **"Secondary School Report"** which is really a **letter of recommendation from your counselor**.

Lane Community College Steps to Admission

- Step 1: Complete the online admissions form as a *First Time in College* student, different than College Now.
- Step 2: Apply for Financial Aid by completing FAFSA and Oregon Promise, if applicable.
- Step 3: Complete Placement Testing at LCC or here at SEHS. Sign up in the college and career center.
- Step 4: Initiate your myLane account and complete the New Student Information Session.
- Step 5: Schedule a *New Student Academic Advising Session*. This is also required.
- Step 6: Register for classes in myLane.
- Step 7: Enjoy a higher education experience. =-)