

# College Readiness:

## *What it means for your middle school student*

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# What “College Readiness” Means...

Students will have developed the **habits of mind** and **critical thinking** skills necessary to be successful after high school in whatever post secondary path they choose:

- 4 year university
- Community College
- Military
- Vocational School
- Apprenticeship
- Full time employment

# Habits of Mind and Crucial Characteristics

- Responsibility
- Organization
- Persistence/Resilience
- Critical Thinking
- Self-Advocacy
- Problem-Solving\*



# “A-G” Subject Area Requirements for College

- A.** Social Science – 2 yrs
- B.** English – 4 yrs
- C.** Math – 3 yrs, 4 recommended
- D.** Lab Science – 2 yrs, 3 recommended
- E.** Language Other Than English – 2 yrs,  
3 rec.
- F.** Visual & Performing Arts – 1 year
- G.** College Elective – 1 year

# Math Sequencing in High School

- Algebra 1-2
- Geometry 1-2
- Algebra 3-4
- Honors Algebra 3-4
- Honors Pre Calculus
- Trig/Stats
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics
- College Algebra

\* 2 Trimesters = 1 year

\* In a trimester system, students entering in Algebra 1-2 can get to Calculus by their senior year in high school.

\* Students can take up to 3 math classes per year if they elect to.

# AP and Honors: What's the Difference?

## Honors Courses

- Faster Paced
- Rigorous curriculum
- Prepares student for AP courses
- Unweighted grade

## Advanced Placement

- Actual college course taken in high school
- Audited by College Board
- Potential to earn college credit
- Weighted Grade

**Both AP and Honors courses improve chances of college admission.**

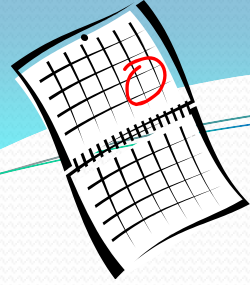
# To apply to a 4-year college students need...

- To have completed A-G Coursework
- SAT/ACT Testing

## **And sometimes...**

- Community Service
- Essays
- Letters of Recommendation

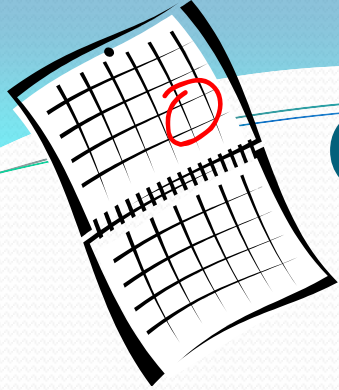




# College Preparation Timeline

<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Focus on Habits of Mind concepts (Responsibility, Problem solving, Critical Thinking)</li><li>■ Organization and Time Management</li></ul>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Begin exploring interests and related career domains.</li><li>■ Identify high school courses (A-G) and electives that lead toward college and career ideas</li><li>■ Learn differences between community colleges, private universities, CSU and UC schools</li></ul>
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Begin A-G Courses (Alg 1-2 , Spanish)</li><li>■ Review high school graduation requirements and college admissions requirements.</li><li>■ Start investigating local colleges. Consider visiting campuses – thinking about what is important to the student</li></ul>





# College Preparation Timeline

<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ A-G Courses</li><li>■ Begin investigating careers/community service</li><li>■ Extracurricular activities</li><li>■ Research colleges</li></ul>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ PSAT</li><li>■ A-G Courses</li><li>■ Begin investigating careers/community service</li><li>■ Extracurricular activities</li><li>■ Continue college research, consider visiting campuses – thinking about what is important to the student</li></ul>

# College Preparation Timeline



<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ PSAT</li><li>■ A-G Courses</li><li>■ Continue Community service (consider “focus”)</li><li>■ Extracurricular activities</li><li>■ Take SAT/ACT in Spring of 11<sup>th</sup></li><li>■ Make summer plans: volunteer work?, internship? Job?</li></ul>
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Fall = College Application Season</li><li>■ Spring = Scholarship/Financial Aid Season</li></ul>

# California Universities

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- CSU- 23 campuses in CSU System (CSU San Marcos, San Diego State, Humboldt State, CSU Long Beach, etc.)
- UC – 10 campuses in UC System (UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, UCLA, etc.)
- Private- (University of San Diego, USC, St. Mary's, Santa Clara, etc.)



# Out-of-State Opportunities

- Public Universities
  - Western Undergraduate Exchange
- Private Universities
  - Endowments
- Advantages to Out-of-State
  - Consider “Total Cost of Attendance”



# Financing College

## *It is possible!*

- Federal Student Aid
  - Grants – you don't have to pay back
  - Loans – low-interest, subsidized by US Dept of Ed.
  - Work Study - work on campus and gov't subsidizes student's wages.
  - Estimate your EFC – [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- Scholarships
  - University-based
  - Private Organizations



# Common Mistakes

- Missing Deadlines
- Not paying attention to detail
- Making college (or post-high school) decision based on what OTHERS think
- Not taking the time to research colleges/career options

# Questions?

