

CLASS OF '10 COMPASS POINTS CALENDAR FOR JUNIORS & THEIR PARENTS

SPRING '09

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/gaithsbghs/
301-840-4727

- Register to take the required standardized tests such as the ACT, SAT Reasoning, SAT Subject, TOEFL by June 2009.
- Go to the **College/Career Center** to set up your Family Connection account.
- Consider college campus and /or trade/technical school visits.
- Complete a college/career search in the **College/Career Center** and explore information on colleges, scholarships, jobs, and internships. This is recommended prior to your college/career conference with your **counselor**.
- Check out career awareness programs, volunteer, leadership & job opportunities
- For eligibility guidelines related to intercollegiate sports and scholarships, visit the *NCAA* website, www.ncaa.org. Read and complete the eligibility registration form.
- Organize your college/career materials in a file or folder.
- Talk to admissions and career representatives who visit the school. If you miss their **College/Career Center** visit, check out the “*College/Career*” Binders, in the **Career Center**.
- Become familiar with college & job application process and the work permit process.
- Develop your resume or activities summary and seek personal references.
- Set up a college/career conference with your **counselor** and bring your “completed” Student Information & Compatibility Checklist to the meeting. This form can be found in your “**Compass Points Packet**”. Letters inviting your parents to a college conference will be mailed home soon. Parents should call the **counselor** at **301-840-4727** to set up the appointment.

SUMMER '09

- Research colleges via your interests, the academics, cost, and location. The **College/Career Center** has scheduled summer hours to help you with this but call first at **301-840-4723**.
- Visit campuses. Visit the **College/Career Center** or see your **counselor** for tips on visiting colleges.
- Call or email former GHS students who are attending colleges you are considering.
- Begin to narrow your list of colleges to 4-8.
 - * *One or more “stretch” both academically and financially.*
 - **Two to six “ballpark” both academically and financially.*
- Organize yourself-create a list of your college due dates using Family Connection and set up a filing system for your applications and information.
- Begin to complete your college applications. Fill out, correct, and complete the final application. Make sure you type or write neatly in black ink. Electronic submission of applications is strongly encouraged. Many colleges waive on-line application fees. Make sure you also check out the Common Application at www.commonapp.org.
- Many colleges make essay topics available online over the summer. Start working on essays and aim to complete by the end of the summer.

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