

COMPASS POINTS FOR COLLEGE COUNSELING

GAITHERSBURG HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

JUNIOR CLASS MEMBERS:

You are about to embark on the exciting and extensive process of exploring and applying to colleges/post secondary institutions. The School Counseling Department at Gaithersburg High School is well prepared to help you and your families move successfully through this process, daunting as it may sometimes seem.

RESOURCES:

First, visit the **COLLEGE/CAREER CENTER**. You will find:

- Videos, catalogs, view books, and computerized college/career scholarship search programs.
- Access to Family Connection to research colleges and to receive and request information.
- Assistance with college applications and post high school opportunities
- A meeting place for college representatives when they visit Gaithersburg High School.

Your **SCHOOL COUNSELOR** has much to offer. He/she will be your:

- Advisor for researching and investigating post-secondary education.
- Source of knowledge about potential schools that “work for you.”
- Supporter and advocate by writing the letter of recommendation and completing the secondary school report.

Your **TRANSCRIPT COORDINATOR** will help you:

- Manage the mechanics of the application process.
- Provide the official transcripts.
- Manage transcript and portage fees.
- Maintain deadlines.

RESEARCH!

- Read the GETTING READY booklet you receive from your counselor.
- Read all materials that have been carefully selected for your College Planning Folder including the MEHC publication, QUESTIONS ABOUT COLLEGE.
- Attend the MCPS College Fair.
- Prepare to take the ACT/SAT or other required tests.
- Visit college campuses during spring break or summer.