

# 11th Grade: Focused

COLLEGE CHECKLIST

### **ACHIEVE**

#### **DO YOUR BEST IN SCHOOL**

Academics are the most important factor in getting into and graduating from college. Build good habits now that will help you be successful.

### **ENGAGE**

#### **GET INVOLVED**

Extracurricular activities give you the chance to explore your interests and make friends. Colleges like to see how you are involved in your school and community.

- Go to all of your classes. Attendance matters!
- Turn in all assignments, and take all your tests.
- Find a system that works for you to keep track of class materials.
- Use a paper or digital planner to keep track of assignments and deadlines.
- Ask for help from teachers, parents, counselors, and friends.
- Take the right classes! Make sure you have the classes you need to graduate from high school and apply to college.
- Take a FULL schedule of classes!
- Continue taking challenging courses, and electives.
- Explore opportunities for dual-credit or CTE courses.
- FALL: Take the PSAT/NMSQT to qualify for scholarships.
- SPRING: Take practice tests before signing up and taking the SAT or ACT if you need.

- Participate in school and community activities. Try something new!
  - Join a club, participate in sport, try an instrument, theatre, or choir!
- Volunteer for an organization or cause you care about.
- Make a plan for summer, and stay curious and mindful of your future plans!

## SURROUND YOURSELF WITH SUPPORTIVE PEOPLE

YOUR COMMUNITY MATTERS. BUILD A
NETWORK OF FRIENDS AND MENTORS WHO
INSPIRE AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO THRIVE.

- Connect with friends, organizations, and clubs who share positive goals, values, and interests.
- Seek out a mentor whether it's a teacher, counselor, coach, trusted adult, or an experienced peer. Find someone who listens and supports YOU.

#### MAKE THOUGHTFUL AND HEALTHY CHOICES

FOCUS ON HABITS THAT PROMOTE YOUR
OVERALL WELL-BEING

- Care for your body and mind. Prioritize sleep, balanced meals, and regular movement.
- Stay mindful of your digital life. Use technology and social media responsibly.
  - Google yourself. Adjust privacy settings.

Riverside High School: Home of the Raptors



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### **EXPLORE**

#### COLLEGE & CAREER OPTIONS

You can go to college. There are countless possibilities when it comes to both college and career. Keep your options open as your goals, interests, and preferences change.

## RESOURCES

#### **STAY CURIOUS**

Extracurricular activities give you the chance to explore your interests and make friends. Colleges like to see how you are involved in your school and community.

- Make a list of careers that match your interests, and the education you will need.
- Create in Naviance a list of 5-10 colleges or training options that interest you.
- Get to know your top colleges. Take a virtual tour or if possible, visit a college campus.

#### **LEARN ABOUT PAYING FOR COLLEGE**

YOU CAN AFFORD COLLEGE. LEARN ABOUT THE COSTS AND HOW TO PAY.

- Explore what college costs. Estimate what you might pay using net price calculator.
- Learn about financial aid and other ways to pay.
- Set up and regularly contribute to a dedicated college savings account.
- Research scholarships you may qualify for in the future - keep a list!

#### **GET ORGANIZED AND GET HELP**

- Use Oregon Goes To College's templates and resources to help you stay organized.
  - Create a file of important documents and a list of activities that you participate in.
    - Create a resume with this information.
- Practice writing college and scholarship essays.
- Create and use a professional e-mail.

#### NAVIANCE- School Resource

This web-based planning software provides RHS students with tools for college and career planning. Students can access their personal accounts to take self-discovery assessments, explore colleges and careers, view the College Visit schedule, sign up for visits, and access a scholarship database.

#### OREGON GOES TO COLLEGE

Oregon's go-to resource for information about getting ready for education beyond high school. Learn how to prepare, explore, apply, pay, and attend college.

#### <u>OSAC</u>

Learn about Oregon's state financial aid programs including the Oregon Opportunity Grant, Oregon Promise, and OSAC scholarships.

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