SENIOR YEAR has arrived with all of its glory! So much to do, so little time. Don't fear! The following steps will help keep you right on track:

**Fall / Winter**

- **Meet with your guidance counselor**
  - sit down with your counselor and make sure you are on track to graduate, make any adjustments to your classes if needed and discuss scholarship opportunities
  - it is not too late to enroll in [Advance Placement](#) courses and/or post-secondary college credit courses via the [Dual Enrollment Program](#), so you can continue to build a strong transcript for college admission

- **Don't forget you have your BIG as your support, ask your mentor to be your second pair of eyes to review your applications and essays; they have a wealth of wisdom to share, so appreciate this valuable opportunity and ask your BIG!**

- **Submit completed [FAFSA](#) preferably in October (this is **MANDATORY** in order to apply for grants and financial aid)**

- **Explore the possibility to obtain an **SAT** and/or **ACT** waiver; this can only be obtained through your school counselor**

- **If you are planning to apply to college for early admission, the latest you should take the ACT is in October and the SAT in November; for regular admission, for the SAT it should be in January and for the ACT in February (do not wait until the last minute and take the tests ASAP!!!)**

- **Attend college fairs**
  - [National College Fairs](#)
  - [Probe College Tour](#)

- **Get at least 2 letters of recommendation from teachers/counselors; give them at least a 2 week notice**

- **Finalize a list of at least 5 potential colleges and start scheduling campus tours and admissions interviews as well as exploring their websites**

- **Gather transcripts and submit college applications early to beat the deadlines**
  - [Common App](#) (complete one application and submit to multiple colleges at the same time)

- **Apply for scholarships; make sure to also research corporate and athletic scholarships as well; colleges will generally award them on a first come first serve basis so get your application in EARLY!**
  - [HOPE Grant](#)
  - [PELL Grant](#)
  - Scholarships
  - [Broke Scholar](#)
  - [CollegeBoard (Big Future)](#)
  - [Unigo](#)
  - [JLV College Counseling](#)
  - [Chegg](#)
  - [Scholly](#)
  - [NCAA](#) (for Athletes)

- **Consider other educational options like trade schools, community college or military**
  - you can save money by attending a community college for the first 2 years and then transferring to your preferred college or university for the last 2 years

- **Keep up with extracurricular activities as well as leadership roles in any organization, student government, or sports team you are a member of; this will make you a well rounded student and increase your chances for college admission**

- **Creat and update your **resume** and apply for a job**

- **REMEMBER TO ENJOY YOUR SENIOR YEAR!!! Have **FUN** and **CREATE MEMORIES**; you only get to be a senior once in your life 😊**

Created by Susan M. Stubbs, MSS
Congratulations, YOU MADE IT and have successfully crossed the line.

Make sure to attend the Big Brothers Big Sisters graduation celebration in the beginning of June. This is to celebrate all of our bigs, littles and families of the senior class for successfully completing our program and building lifetime relationships!

See you there!!!

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