

## LYONS HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR CHECKLIST 2011-2012

\_\_\_\_Keep your grades up! Colleges place a huge emphasis on your junior year. They want to see an upward trend and that you are challenging yourself. College admissions look heavily at your Jr. year classes. Plan to take at least 4 academic classes your Jr. year & consider this for your Sr. year. Strive to achieve your academic best. Colleges will want to know your GPA and Class Rank. (Some colleges do not accept grades of D or F as having met that class requirement.) Check admission requirements for the college(s) you are interested in.

\_\_\_\_Register in the fall to practice test taking skills by taking the **PSAT/ NMSQT** (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test *for Juniors may result in scholarship opportunities*). Cost is \$15. Registration Deadline: Mon, Sept. 19, 2011 (register in the office, it is first come first serve as we have a specific # of test slots). **PSAT Test is Wed, October 12<sup>th</sup>** @ Lyons.

\_\_\_\_Visit your high school Counseling Office, get information from college websites, attend college fairs/ visit with college admission representatives when they come to Lyons HS.

**Future Fair College & Financial Aid sessions:** Wed., 9/28, 4:00-7:00 Skyline High School

**Saturday College Fair & Workshops:** Sat., 10/15, 10:00-2:00 Douglas County HS, Castle Rock

**Out of State College Nights:** Wed, 10/12 6:30-8:30 Monarch HS or Thur, 10/13, 6:30-8:30 Kennedy HS

**St. Vrain Valley School District College Fair:** Thurs, 10/27, 6:30-8:00 @ Skyline High School

\_\_\_\_Continue to update your 4-Year Academic Plan and think about career/major choices. If you would like to update your 4-Year Plan, do a free Personality/Career profile online, begin planning for college, and to learn more about the financial aid process, go to [www.collegeincolorado.org](http://www.collegeincolorado.org) and share this information with your counselor.

\_\_\_\_Build a resume. Colleges will want to see the activities you've been involved in.

\_\_\_\_Begin building a list of possible colleges; think about those values that are important to you (academic program, location, size, cost, activities, athletics, etc.) For a college comparison checklist go to <http://www.act.org/path/parent/college/collegecomparison.html> Explore scholarship and financial aid opportunities.

\_\_\_\_Meet with high school counselor to review courses, credit, college info., & senior classes.

\_\_\_\_Take College Entrance Exams. Take the ACT and/or SAT test this year. All juniors in the state of Colorado will take the ACT on **Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012**, at no cost to the student.

**To sign up for other SAT or ACT tests**, here are the test websites dates posted in the HS hall:

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) (ACT) Test Center Code: 172430 @ Longmont High School

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) (SAT) Test Center Code: 06270 @ Longmont High School

Lyons High School Code: **060955**

*\*Note: Some student choose to take the ACT on their own prior to 4/24 as a practice test, others may treat the 4/24 test as a practice and take it again in June or Sept. if needed.*

\_\_\_\_Begin visiting colleges you may be considering. Students often make their college decision by visiting to determine the best fit for them. Follow your dream!

# Great Websites to Help Prepare and Plan for College/Career

## College/Scholarship/Career Search/ Test Prep/ Financial Aid

[www.collegeincolorado.org](http://www.collegeincolorado.org)

[www.mystudentedge.com](http://www.mystudentedge.com) (Access code for Lyons High School:WYNLCXPU )

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.going2college.org](http://www.going2college.org)

[www.college.gov](http://www.college.gov)

[www.schoolsoup.com](http://www.schoolsoup.com)

[www.zinch.com](http://www.zinch.com)

[www.xap.com](http://www.xap.com)

## College Search (to find the right college to fit you)

[www.collegeincolorado.org](http://www.collegeincolorado.org)

[www.wiche.edu](http://www.wiche.edu) (Western Undergraduate Exchange Program- out of state reduced tuition rates)

[www.anycollege.com](http://www.anycollege.com) (college: search, videos, scholarship)

[www.cappex.com](http://www.cappex.com) (college: recruit, scholarship, chances of admission)

[www.mycollegeoptions.org](http://www.mycollegeoptions.org) (college: search, scholarships, advice, researching majors/careers)

[www.questbridge.org](http://www.questbridge.org) (college matching for low income high achieving students)

[www.campustours.com](http://www.campustours.com) & [www.Ecampustours.com](http://www.Ecampustours.com) (virtual tours, interactive campus maps)

[www.mymajors.com](http://www.mymajors.com) (college: major/career quiz, information, planning)

[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) (single point application process for participating colleges)

[www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com) (college: preparing, selecting, applying, paying, deciding)

## Financial Aid/Scholarship (to help pay for college)

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) (Free Application for Fed. Student Financial Aid- apply after Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>)

[www.collegeincolorado.org](http://www.collegeincolorado.org) (College Opportunity Fund)

[www.stvrain.k12.co.us](http://www.stvrain.k12.co.us) (Academics & Program tab select Counseling)

[www.collegeinvest.org](http://www.collegeinvest.org)

[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) (estimated family contribution)

[www.salliemae.com](http://www.salliemae.com) (step by step financial aid application & loans)

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) (also job search and military options)

[www.fastaid.com](http://www.fastaid.com)

[www.tuitionfundingsources.com](http://www.tuitionfundingsources.com)

[www.meritaid.com](http://www.meritaid.com) (merit based scholarships)

[www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org) (Gates Millennium Scholars)

[www.latinocollegedollars.org](http://www.latinocollegedollars.org) (scholarships for Latino students)

[www.guidetofreeeducation.com](http://www.guidetofreeeducation.com)

[http://roybal-allard.house.gov/UploadedFiles/2008\\_Scholarship\\_Guide.pdf](http://roybal-allard.house.gov/UploadedFiles/2008_Scholarship_Guide.pdf) (lots of information)

## Test Prep (free help for ACT/SAT test preparation)

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) (ACT)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) (SAT/Advanced Placement/PSAT)

[www.number2.com](http://www.number2.com)

[www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)

## Student Athletes - NCAA Clearinghouse

[www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) (for student athletes attending a Division 1 or Division 2 college)