

# Junior Year Checklist

**Check your email and Naviance account daily.**

Important information regarding deadlines, events, scholarships, and more is sent out through your school email and Naviance. Be sure to check these accounts regularly.

**Schedule a meeting with your counselor.**

Stop in and schedule a meeting with your counselor to talk about your future plans, whether they be career or college. Your counselor is essential and the greatest resource during your senior year process, so it is important to create a "game plan".

**Register for tests.**

Register for the ACT, SAT, or both, depending on what the schools you are interested in require. Determine whether or not certain schools will want you to take a SAT Subject Test. The Avon High School Code is 070008.

**Create your resume.**

Create a strong resume that showcases your strengths and what makes you stand out. Consider adding future plans such as your Senior Capstone, internships, or other accomplishments slated for the upcoming year.

**Develop a list of colleges.**

Use databases like CollegeBoard.com to create a concrete list of schools you are interested in attending or applying to. Start making a list and be mindful of when their deadlines fall to submit your application next year.

**Arrange campus visits.**

If you know you are definitely interested in a list of schools, spring break of your junior year and weekends are the perfect time to visit some campuses. Look into Open House dates, as many schools have spring dates. Schedule tours of specific departments if you know what you are interested in. Consider scheduling an interview now, especially if a school is going to require it for your application next year.

**Think about letters of recommendation.**

Check into what each school requires. Some require letters from specific people, others consider them optional. Think about who you want to ask; teachers you have a strong relationship with or have had a lot of classroom time are good choices. *You can begin asking teachers for letters of recommendation starting May 1.*

**Begin planning your college essay.**

A good starting point for your college essay is to research the prompts that the schools on your list use. Many students at Avon utilize the Common Application. You can see the Common App prompts by visiting their website at <https://www.commonapp.org/>. You will also find great tips on writing the essay in this article Kelly Mae Ross, staff writer at U.S. News &

World Report:

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/how-to-write-a-college-essay>.

□ **Review the Capstone Handbook.**

Start thinking about your topic, who you will ask to be your mentor, and the timeline. The Capstone Handbook is available on the Avon High School website:

<https://sites.google.com/avon.k12.ct.us/capstoneprojectwebsite/handbook?authuser=0>