

COUNSELORS' CORNER

October 2025

Quarter 1 Review

Individual Senior Conferences

Club Fair

Quarter 2 Happenings

Grade-Level Classroom Presentations (Grades 9-11) in October

Bright Futures Early Evaluation Transcripts for Seniors

PSAT – October 22

SJR Dual Enrollment Spring 26 Registration is OPEN

School Counselors

Courtney Derisse

Last Names: A-Eo

Kimberly Grillo

Last Names: Ep-Le

Karin Ngai-Crim

Last Names: Li-Ri

Jordan DaSilva

Last Names: Ro-Z



Freshmen

Transitioning to 9th grade can be hard. The school counseling team will meet with our 9th graders to provide them with tips on how to be successful in high school and prepare for the future. It is very important to start strong. Here are some important tips that lay the groundwork for a successful year:

- Get Organized (Develop good study habits)
- Set Goals
- Stay Focused (create a four-year plan)
- Take care of your emotional and mental health
- Seek Assistance (Teachers, Counselors)
- Get Involved (Join clubs and Activities)
- Be an Advocate (Speak up and out)
- Begin Community Service
- What's your GPA?

Sophomores

Sophomore year is when students are settling into high school academically, figuring out their interests, and starting to make decisions about the level of rigor they wish to take on in future coursework. Students should focus on academic consistency and growth this year as they work toward post-graduation plans. 10th grade presentations included:

- Graduation Requirements
- GPA
- Leveling up in course rigor
- Organization and Self-Advocacy Skills
- Post graduation research and planning
- Bright Futures scholarship and eligibility
- Community Service
- Campus Supports

PSAT is scheduled on campus for all sophomores on October 22

Juniors

11th grade is when students take multiple, rigorous classes while starting to plan for life after high school. The presentation will provide an overview on what they should focus on this year and where to seek support when faced with challenges. Topics covered will include:

- Staying on track in classes
- Getting organized
- Updating/creating a resume
- Attending local information sessions from visiting college representatives
- Planning an ACT/SAT/CLT exam for spring of junior year if college bound to get baseline scores
- Submitting hours for Bright Futures eligibility
- College Exploration – Build a list of top 5 colleges
- Career Exploration with Xello

Seniors

During Quarter 1, seniors have been meeting one-on-one with their Counselors to review needed graduation requirements, discuss plans for after graduation, and provide support for Common App and Xello. Seniors are responsible for making this appointment with their respective counselor.

It's important for all seniors to check the Senior Schoology page on a weekly basis as all timely information from Guidance is routinely posted on that page. All seniors have access.

The Bright Futures portal has opened. It is strongly advised that all seniors apply now whether they have finished all their requirements and even if they are applying to out-of-state colleges. Here is the link: <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>.

Students must 1) create a student account AND 2) complete the FFAA (the link is at the bottom of the webpage). You must complete both steps for scholarship eligibility.