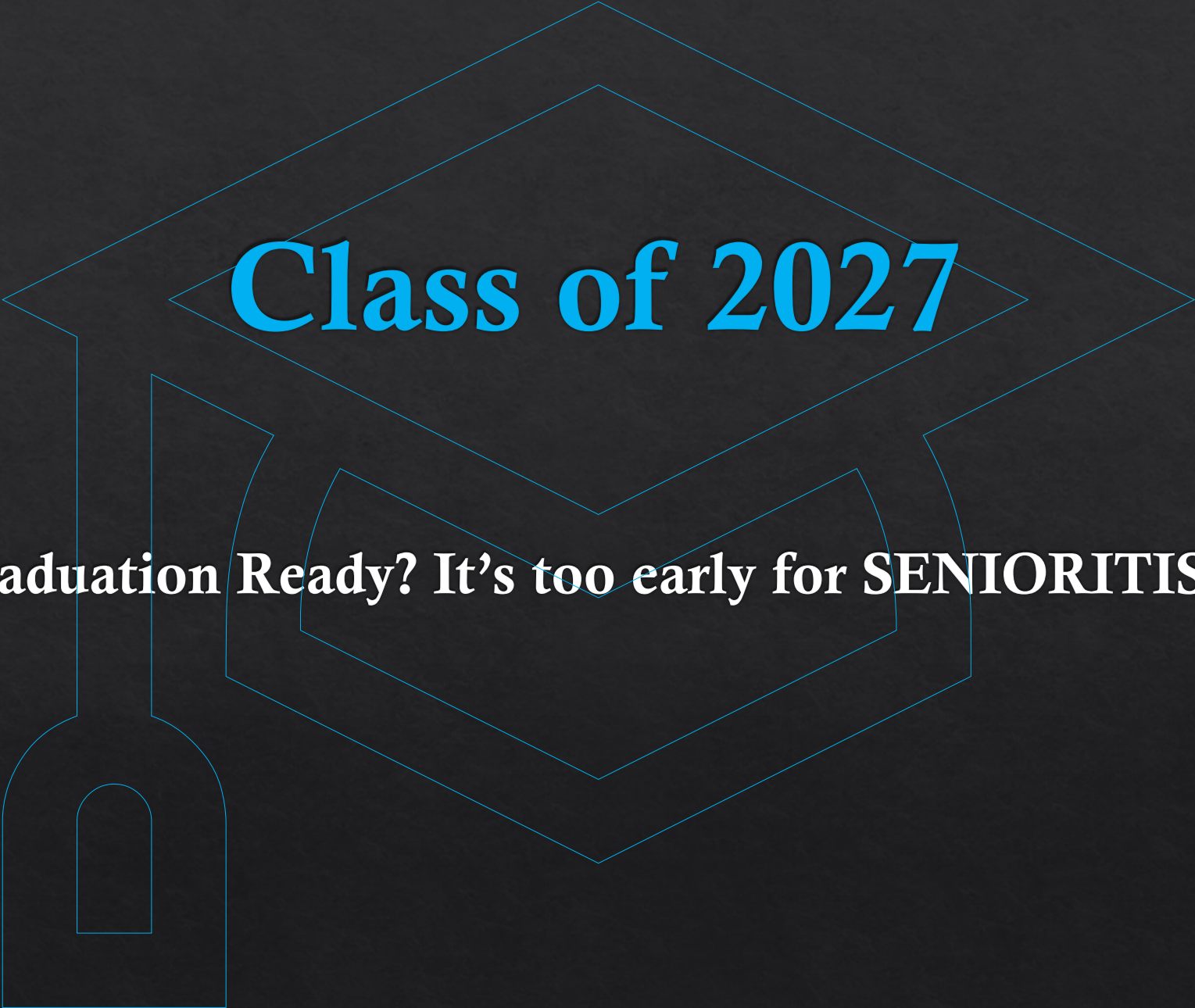




# ***Class of 2027***

**Graduation Ready? It's too early for SENIORITIS.**

# Graduation Requirements



English

4 credits



Math

4 credits

1 - Algebra 1

1 - Geometry



Science

3 credits

1 - Biology



Social Studies

3.5 credits

1 - World History

1 - US History

.5 - Economics

.5 - American Gov't

.5 - Per Fin & Money Mgmt

Florida students must earn a minimum of 24 credits to graduate and have a minimum 2.0 cumulative unweighted GPA.

# Graduation Requirements



HOPE  
1 credit



Performing/Practical Art  
1 credit



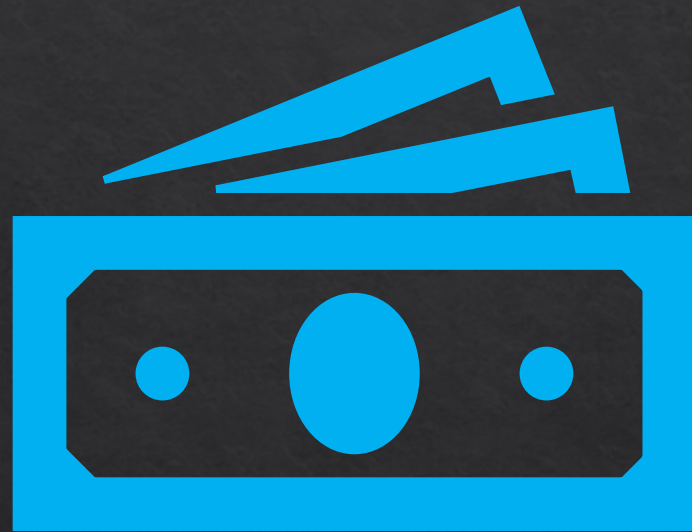
Electives  
7.5 credits



Testing  
Must Pass  
Algebra 1 EOC  
FAST 10 ELA  
Must take EOCs for  
Biology, Geometry,  
US History

If you are planning on attending college or applying for Bright Futures, you must have two sequential credits in the same foreign language.





# Financial Literacy Requirement

If you have not completed this  
yet, register for **Personal  
Finance and Money  
Management** on SJVS NOW!!





**Taking a Virtual Course?**

**Deadline to Complete:**

**April 23, 2027**

# Fall Checklist

- ◆ Check requirements and deadlines for the colleges of your choice. Be sure to submit your application and materials on time!
- ◆ Update your resume. Include summer work and new or continued club/team activities.
- ◆ Finalize your college essays.
- ◆ Ask for letters of recommendation from your teachers.
- ◆ Take the SAT and/or ACT. Remember, you can take the tests more than once.
- ◆ Ensure your transcripts and records are up to date.
- ◆ Apply for financial aid. Submit FAFSA and other financial aid forms required by the college. FAFSA opens October 1st.
- ◆ Florida Students: Complete your Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA). The application opens October 1st.
- ◆ Verify that colleges received your application, letters of recommendations, and test scores.



# Common App

<https://www.commonapp.org/apply/first-year-students>

## How it works

1

### Create your profile

Your Common App profile is your chance to shine. It's everything you want a college or university to know about you – from your academic coursework to your extracurricular activities.

2

### Add colleges to your list

Now you get to decide what's most important to you in a college or university. Search through the characteristics and add colleges that align with them.

3

### Gather requirements

Once you've decided where you want to apply, make a checklist of everything required. Each college and university is different, so make sure you stay on top of their application requirements.

4

### Submit applications

Be sure to take a moment to celebrate this huge accomplishment! And remember to finish the academic year on a high note, apply for financial aid and prepare for the future.



# Common App Required **TASKS**

- ◆ **COMPLETE YOUR FERPA.** School counselors cannot upload any documents to your Common App if you do not sign off on FERPA.
- ◆ **INVITE YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR.** This will allow us to prepare and upload needed admissions documents such as your transcript, school report, etc. You will need their name and email address. **MAKE SURE YOU ARE INVITING THE CORRECT COUNSELOR.**
  - ◆ Courtney Derisse (A-Ep)      courtney.derisse@stjohns.k12.fl.us
  - ◆ Kimberly Grillo (Eo-Le)      kimberly.grillo@stjohns.k12.fl.us
  - ◆ Karin Ngai-Crim (Li-Ri)      karin.ngai-crim@stjohns.k12.fl.us
  - ◆ Monica Ferguson (Ro-Z)      monica.ferguson@stjohns.k12.fl.us
- ◆ **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION.** If needed, invite teachers who have agreed to write a letter of recommendation for you through your Common App.



## Counselor Letter of Recommendation

- ◆ Check to confirm that a counselor LOR is **REQUIRED** by your college. You will need to visit their website and confirm this.
- ◆ To request a Counselor letter, please follow these steps:
  - ◆ Complete the Senior Questionnaire found in the *RESOURCES* folder of your class Schoology page.
  - ◆ Answer all questions *FULLY* and make sure that they are *TYPED* not handwritten.
  - ◆ Once your Questionnaire is completed, attach your resume and submit them to your School Counselor.
  - ◆ Make an appointment to meet with your Counselor one week from the date you turned in your Questionnaire.
- ◆ After your meeting with your Counselor, allow 3-4 weeks for your letter to be submitted.



# After the Application. What's next?

- ◇ Check for next steps and check your emails regularly. Colleges will email with your application portal information.
- ◇ STARS – self-reported academic record must be completed for most Florida state colleges and universities.
- ◇ SPARK – self-reported academic record for UCF applicants.

**You are responsible for checking your eligibility through the NCAA Portal.**

**Athletes**



# Bright Futures Scholarship

| Type       | 16 High School Course Credits <sup>1</sup>                                                                                                                                                            | High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA | College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT <sup>®</sup> /CLT <sup>®</sup> /SAT <sup>®</sup> ) | Volunteer Service Only | Paid Work Hours Only | Combination of Volunteer/Paid Hours |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>FAS</b> | 4 - English<br><i>(three must include substantial writing)</i><br>4 - Mathematics<br><i>(at or above the Algebra I level)</i><br>3 - Natural Science<br><i>(two must have substantial laboratory)</i> | 3.50                                    | 2026-27 Graduates <sup>2</sup> :<br>29/95/1330<br>2027-28 Graduates <sup>3</sup> :<br>29/96/1350              | 100 hours              | 100 hours            | 100 hours                           |
| <b>FMS</b> | 3 - Social Science<br>2 - Foreign/World Language<br><i>(sequential, in same language)</i>                                                                                                             | 3.00                                    | 2026-27 Graduates <sup>2</sup> :<br>24/82/1190<br>2027-28 Graduates <sup>3</sup> :<br>25/83/1200              | 75 hours               | 100 hours            | 100 hours                           |

<sup>1</sup> The required coursework aligns with the State University System admission requirements found in Florida Board of Governor's Regulation 6.002. Additional information regarding high school coursework can be found within the [Florida Counseling for Future Education Handbook](#).

<sup>2</sup> Students seeking postsecondary funding for the 2027-28 academic year.

<sup>3</sup> Students seeking postsecondary funding for the 2028-29 academic year.

# 4-year College is NOT the only Path

## 2-YEAR COLLEGE

- ◇ Programs can lead to an AA/AS degree, certificate, career, or transfer to a 4-year university.
- ◇ Decide: AA → transfer OR AS/certificate → career.
- ◇ Research Florida colleges + programs that fit your goal.
- ◇ APPLY! Each college sets its own application, financial-aid, orientation, and registration deadlines.
- ◇ Complete FAFSA/scholarships; send required records; meet with an advisor; register for classes
- ◇ Transfer Option: Earn your AA degree at a Florida public college, then transfer to a Florida public university to work toward your bachelor's degree.
- ◇ **Benefits:** Affordable tuition, smaller classes, career training, and transfer opportunities.

## TRADE / TECHNICAL SCHOOL

- ◇ Hands-on training for skilled careers such as HVAC, welding, automotive, cosmetology, health care, construction, and more.
- ◇ Choose a career and check required license/certification.
- ◇ Compare technical colleges, career centers, and apprenticeships. Ask: How long? How much? What credential will I earn? Is job placement offered?
- ◇ Apply to the program and complete financial-aid steps if eligible.
- ◇ **Benefits:** Get career-focused training in less time and enter an in-demand skilled profession



# 4-year College is NOT the only Path

## MILITARY

- ♦ Serve in the U.S. Armed Forces while receiving career training, pay/benefits, and possible education benefits.
- ♦ Compare branches, military careers, Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard options.
- ♦ Talk with recruiters, ask about jobs, contracts, service commitment, training, and benefits.
- ♦ Prepare for and take the ASVAB; scores help determine job eligibility.
- ♦ Complete eligibility/MEPS steps and READ your enlistment agreement before signing.
- ♦ **Benefits:** Receive paid training and benefits, with opportunities for education, assistance and career development.

## WORKFORCE

- ♦ Start a paid job after graduation and build experience, skills, certifications, and career opportunities while working.
- ♦ Explore careers that match your interests, strengths, and salary goals.
- ♦ Create a résumé and professional email; ask adults/teachers for references.
- ♦ Practice interviews and appropriate workplace communication.
- ♦ Search and apply for entry-level jobs, internships, apprenticeships, and employer training. Use [CareerSource Northeast Florida](#) to explore local job and career opportunities in St. Johns, Duval, and surrounding counties.
- ♦ **Benefits:** Start earning money right away, gain real-world work experience.

# **Your Next Move. Make a Plan!**

**1**

**Choose your top  
pathway**

**2**

**Have a backup**

**3**

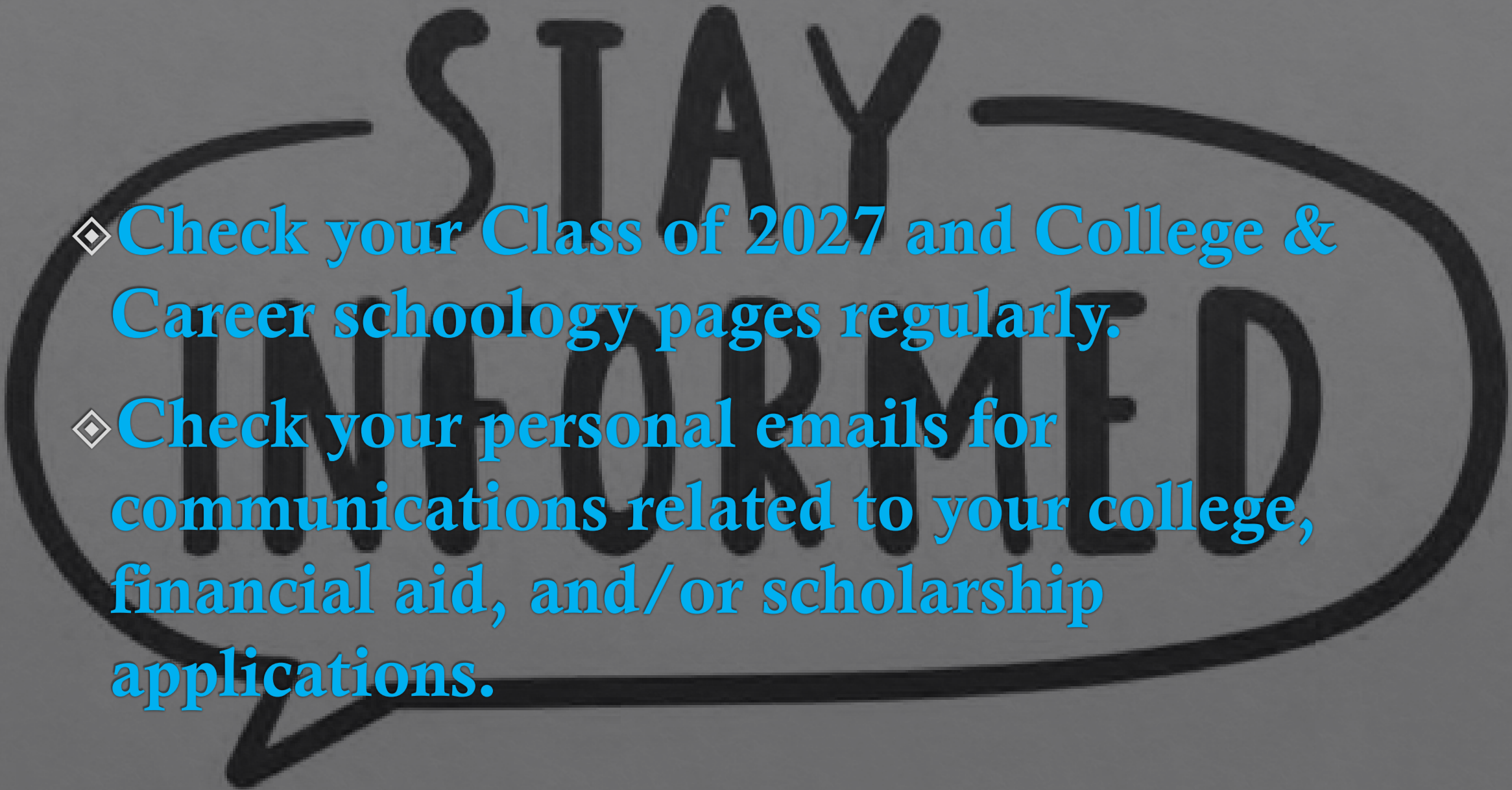
**Questions? Meet  
with your School  
Counselor or the  
College and  
Career Advisor**



# College & Career Center



- ◆ Ms. Cruess, College & Career Advisor
- ◆ The **College & Career Center (Room 565)** is a space to support you with things like college applications, Common App, scholarships and financial aid, college and technical school options, career exploration, college admissions visits, application workshops, and any questions that come up along the way!

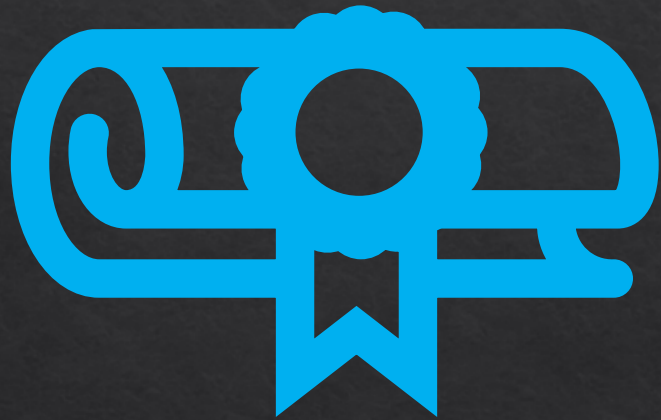
- 
- ◆ Check your Class of 2027 and College & Career schoology pages regularly.
  - ◆ Check your personal emails for communications related to your college, financial aid, and/or scholarship applications.



Keep a calendar of your  
**DUE DATES**

**Do NOT Procrastinate**

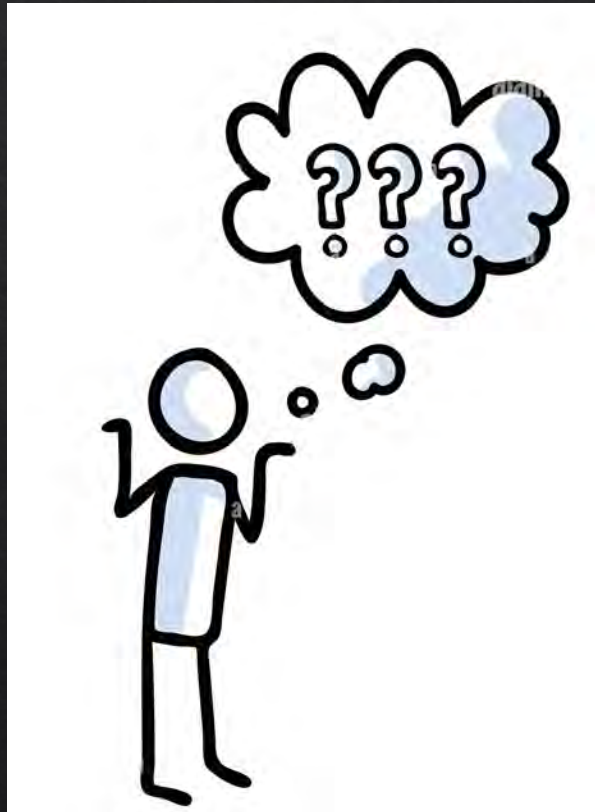




Maintain your grades  
and beware of  
“**Senioritis.**” Mid-  
year transcripts for  
1<sup>st</sup> semester grades  
are sent to colleges.



Do you want a senior conference? Have other questions? Schedule a meeting with your school counselor.



| <u>School Counselor</u> | <u>Last Names</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Derisse                 | A - EO            |
| Grillo                  | EP - LE           |
| Ngai-Crim               | LI - RI           |
| Ferguson                | RO - Z            |