



## **COUNSELING CALENDAR**

You face a challenging first year in high school. You have courses requiring your study time, you need to find your way around a new campus, you are probably wondering about all the activities ranging from sports to class activities to campus dances, and you need to realize that what you accomplish this year will influence what you do after high school graduation.

This 9th Grade Calendar should help you be aware of some activities that will help you do well in your first year in high school. The calendar does not include sporting events or extracurricular activities, for the focus is on counseling concerns, such as graduation status, progress reports, grade reports, semester exams and course planning. You are encouraged to keep this calendar in your notebook.

### **SEPTEMBER**

- Participate in school orientation. During one of your class periods you will be given information about school. Ask questions to find out about things that interest you.
- Become familiar with graduation requirements. You have chosen your 9th grade program. Find out about courses required for high school graduation.
- Courses may be added if space is available during the first ten days of school.
- Encourage your parents to attend Back-To-School Night where they will have a chance to go through your class schedule to find out the requirements in each of your classes.

### **OCTOBER**

- Progress reports will be mailed in early October from teachers who may want to let you and your parents know how you are doing. Remember that you or your parents may contact teachers about your progress at any time.
- Encourage your parents to attend College Planning Awareness Night at your high school when counselors will talk about the factors involved in college planning during your high school years.
- Visit the [College/Career Center](#) and find out about part-time jobs, tutors, college and career planning information.
- Note the class drop deadline date is the last day of the first quarter. Any course dropped after that date will be recorded as an "F" on your permanent record.

### **NOVEMBER**

- First quarter grades will be mailed home in early November.

### **DECEMBER**

- Progress reports, if any, will be mailed in early December. See the teacher if you have questions about the report.
- Talk with friends who are home from college for the holidays and ask them what advice they may give you about what to do in high school in order to prepare for the college years.

## JANUARY

- Prepare to take your first semester final examinations. These tests are two (2) hours long. Your teachers will be working with you on review and study skills.
- If you must make a program change or add a course for the second semester, this should be done by the end of the first semester, certainly no later than the first week of the second semester.

## FEBRUARY

- First semester grades will be mailed home in early February. The semester grades are the only grades recorded on your transcript. Each semester passing grade ("D" or better), earns five (5) credits.
- Begin making plans for your Sophomore year. You need to select your 10th grade courses carefully, so you will complete the high school graduation requirements and meet the requirements for admission to college. Your counselor can help you consider courses for next year
- Progress reports will be mailed in late February.

## MARCH

- Make course selections for 10th grade. Read the course material, discuss educational goals with your parents, and check your own graduation requirements. The choices you make in your course selections for next year are the basis for long-term goals.

## APRIL

- Note class drop deadline is the last day of the third quarter. Any class which is dropped after the end of the third quarter will be recorded as an "F" on your permanent record.
- Third quarter grades will be mailed in mid April. Use this grade report to help you with decisions about next year's program. Check with your teachers for recommendations for next year's courses.
- Invite your parents to attend Open House. Students and parents have a chance to see what has been accomplished during the school year. It is also a time to explore new electives, to see what students are doing in other areas.
- Find out about [Summer School](#). Are there school requirements you wish to complete there? Are there electives or interest areas you can't fit into your regular school year?
- Consider attending the [College Fair at St. Mary's College](#) where you may talk with representatives from over 180 public and independent colleges.

## MAY

- Complete any applications required for Summer School. Finalize your summer plans.
- Progress reports, if any, will be mailed in early May. You should check with your teacher if there is any question about where you stand in a class.
- Check in the College/Career Center for summer jobs. Find out about any other youth employment agencies. Are there applications to fill out?

## JUNE

- Prepare to take semester finals. The last weeks will be spent in preparation for your final examinations. Teachers can help you with a study plan as you review the semester work. **FINALS MAY NOT BE TAKEN IN ADVANCE.** Be sure to consider this fact when making vacation plans.
- Second semester grades will be mailed early in the summer.
- Consider making a summer trip to visit colleges in order to talk with admission persons and tour the campus with student guides.
- Talk with your Senior friends about what they plan to do next year and ask them how they made their choice concerning college and career.