

# Junior Planning Calendar & Guide

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2024-2025 / HHS School Counseling Department

## Important Dates & Timelines

### SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

#### SAT TEST DATE

- October 5<sup>th</sup>:** October SAT test date offered at HHS. *Deadline to register is 9/20/24* [www.collegeboard.org/sat](http://www.collegeboard.org/sat)

#### PSAT TEST DATE

- Week of October 7<sup>th</sup>:** All juniors will have the opportunity to take the PSAT offered at HHS. More information to come! Check the “Class of 2026” Schoology course for updates.

#### ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)

- October 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:45am:** Students interested in potential military enlistment as well as anyone looking for career guidance and feedback are encouraged to take the ASVAB. (There is no obligation to the military to take the test.)

#### CTC ASSEMBLY

- October 22nd (WIN):** Presentation on the CTC programs. Return permission form to Franklin Counseling Office to attend tours of CTC campuses (tours in November)

#### COLLEGE REP VISITS

- WIN periods throughout the fall: Reps from numerous schools will visit the high school throughout the year to meet with students! Posted in the “Class of 2026” Schoology course and SchoolLinks. Sign up in ***SchoolLinks***.

### NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

#### PSAT SCORE REPORT & INTERPRETATION

- PSAT/NMSQT score reports will be distributed around mid-December.

#### COUNTY COLLEGE FAIR @Conestoga Valley High School

- TBD - usually the first week of November** (one of the largest college fairs in the county!)

#### SAT TEST DATES

- November 2nd:** November SAT Test Date at other area high schools. *Deadline to register is 10/18*
- December 7th:** December SAT Test Date at other area high schools. *Deadline to register is 11/22* [www.collegeboard.org/sat](http://www.collegeboard.org/sat) to register and look up testing locations

#### CTC TOURS

- Tours will be held during the school day for all students who would like to learn more about the offerings at the CTC. *Students must sign up in advance and turn in a permission slip.*
  - November 19th (AM session):** Brownstown Campus tour
  - November 20th (PM session):** Mount Joy Campus tour
  - November 21 (AM session):** Willow Street Campus tour

### JANUARY

#### COLLEGE/POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL SEARCH PROCESS

- Now is the time to begin the college and/or post-secondary school search process. Get familiar with ***SchoolLinks***, CollegeBoard, military, trade school and college websites and other available resources. ***Make a list of about 10-20 schools/programs to research.***

## CTC APPLICATIONS

- Approximately early January:** applications will be due to the School Counseling Office. Check the “Class of 2026” Schoology course for updated information.

## WINTER KEYSTONE EXAMS

- Keystone testing takes place in January. Any students who need to retake a Keystone Exam will be contacted directly. See your counselor if you have questions.

## FEBRUARY

### COURSE PLANNING & SELECTION

- Consider (and re-consider!) your choice of senior year classes. Contact military reps, colleges, trade, and technical schools on your list to make sure you are selecting courses that are needed for acceptance. Make certain you have an appropriate and competitive schedule that will prepare you for your selected pathway after high school.

### PROSPECTIVE COLLEGE ATHLETES [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)

- All student-athletes considering playing at the college level should register (online) with the NCAA Eligibility Center website for initial academic eligibility review. You must also have SAT scores and a high school transcript sent to them at the end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

## MARCH/APRIL

### SAT TEST DATE [www.collegeboard.org/sat](http://www.collegeboard.org/sat)

- March 8<sup>th</sup>:** March SAT Test date offered at HHS. *Deadline to register is 2/21/25*

### AP EXAM REGISTRATION

- Sign up to take AP Exams (details posted in Schoology)

### COLLEGE VISITS

- Plan when you can visit college campuses. Identify specific colleges you may want to visit. Call or go to their websites to find admissions events or set up a visit. Contact admissions with colleges whose campuses you are not able to visit to show demonstrated interest.

### FUTURE PLANNING FAIR @ HHS

- April (date TBD)**
- All 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will go to the Buchanan gym to interact with and gather information from representatives from a wide variety of colleges, military branches, and other postsecondary opportunities.

## MAY/JUNE

### SAT TEST DATES [www.collegeboard.org/sat](http://www.collegeboard.org/sat)

- May 8<sup>th</sup>:** May SAT Test Date at other area high schools. *Deadline to register is 4/18/25*
- June 7<sup>th</sup>:** June SAT Test date offered at HHS. *Deadline to register is 5/22/25*

### AP EXAMS

- Early May** (based on specific exam)
- Must register on College Board & pay for exams via Total Registration (will also be posted in Schoology)

### SPRING KEYSTONE EXAMS

- Keystones take place in May. Any students who need to retake a Keystone Exam will be contacted directly.

### LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- Think of 2-3 individuals that you may want to request a letter of recommendation from to support any post-secondary plans. Think of someone who could speak about how you would make a valuable and successful addition to a college campus. If you are applying for a specific major, include a relevant academic teacher.
- Create a “brag sheet” to help teachers, coaches, counselors, or other recommenders to help them to write a more comprehensive letter of recommendation - you can create one in *SchoolLinks!*

# Junior Planning Checklist

## GOAL SETTING

- Determine what your goals are for after high school graduation
  - Career goals: Research and brainstorm possible career fields in your areas of interest or strength
  - Educational goals needed for your potential careers: 4-year college, 2-year/community college, technical/specialized school, military, work, etc.? What college major(s)?
- Update your resume (in SchooLinks) - save a copy in your personal files/google drive, so you have access to it after you graduate!
- Plan a challenging, yet manageable course load for your senior year
  - A rigorous 12<sup>th</sup> grade schedule can aid in college admissions consideration *and* will look good to potential employers
- Consider finding a job, internship, or volunteer opportunity in an area of interest

## POST-SECONDARY PLANNING

- Sign up for entrance exams (ASVAB, SAT, or ACT)
  - Develop a plan for when you will take the SAT (or ACT). If you are even considering applying to colleges, you should take the SAT or ACT *at least once* before the end of the school year!
  - Utilize your PSAT score results to determine if you plan to do any prep work. Access the Khan Academy website to access free practice tests and prep materials

## RESEARCH & PLAN AHEAD

- SchooLinks, CollegeBoard, college/program websites, and the Occupational Outlook Handbook are all great resources for investigating careers and the pathways to obtain the appropriate training
- Make a list of the schools/programs that you are interested in - save them to your favorites in Xello
- Start visiting schools
  - Attend rep visits at HHS
  - Search college/schools website for tours and open house info
  - Utilize breaks from school and other time off to schedule visits if possible
- Work on your personal statements/essays
  - Look at each college's application for their requirements/topic. Not all colleges require an essay! This information is usually made available mid- to late summer before your senior year.
- Plan to complete and submit your applications as well as request to have your high school transcripts sent in the first semester of senior year (make note of application deadlines!)
  - Many colleges have "rolling admissions" and "early action" deadlines that could give you additional scholarship or admissions consideration if you submit your applications earlier in your senior year.
- Potential College Athletes:** Register for the NCAA Clearinghouse if you are interested in playing Division I or II sports [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)
  - Request HS transcript at end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade!
- Military Academies Applicants:** If you plan to apply to any of the military academies, contact the admissions office(s) to begin the application process *by spring of 11<sup>th</sup> grade!*

## ASK QUESTIONS (THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS)

- ★ **THIS IS A LOT TO MANAGE!** See your school counselor with any other questions about the future planning, career and college/post-secondary search, application, and transcript request processes.

# Future Planning Resources

Class of 2026 Schoology Page <https://schoology.hempfieldsd.org/course/6028132172/updates>

*\*Contains all updates, forms, and information specific to the junior class*

**SchoolLinks (login is your student email + password)** *\*This program is replacing Xello*

- College searches
- Request transcripts
- Request teacher recommendations
- Update resume
- Scholarship searches
- Career Exploration and Inventories

## Additional College/Post-Secondary Searches

- [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
- [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)
- [www.collegeconfidential.com](http://www.collegeconfidential.com)

## Financial Aid and Scholarships

- [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- [www.pheaa.org](http://www.pheaa.org)
- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- [www.finaidfacts.org](http://www.finaidfacts.org)

## NCAA Clearinghouse [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org)

- *Quick Reference Guide:* [http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility\\_center/Quick\\_Reference\\_Sheet.pdf](http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Quick_Reference_Sheet.pdf)

## Standardized Testing

- *SAT/ SAT Subject Tests:* [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- *ACT:* [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

## Admissions Essays

- *BigFuture Essays (CollegeBoard):* <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays>
- *Essays that worked (Johns Hopkins University):* <http://apply.jhu.edu/apply/essays/>

## The Common Application (Common App) [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

- If you are applying to more than two schools that are Common App participants, you will want to consider applying via Common App

## Career Research/Outlook <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

- The *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)* provides information on what workers do; work environment; education, training, and other qualifications; pay; job outlook; information on state data; similar occupations; and sources of additional information, for 324 occupational profiles, covering about 4/5 jobs in the economy.

## Important Contacts for the Junior Class

- ❖ Mrs. Krantz, School Nurse: [deb\\_krantz@hempfieldsd.org](mailto:deb_krantz@hempfieldsd.org)
- ❖ Dr. DaCosta, School Counselor (last names A-Kn): [kandace\\_dacosta@hempfieldsd.org](mailto:kandace_dacosta@hempfieldsd.org)
- ❖ Mrs. Romero, School Counselor (last names Ko-Z): [kimberly\\_romero@hempfieldsd.org](mailto:kimberly_romero@hempfieldsd.org)
- ❖ Mrs. Secor, 11th Grade Principal: [amy\\_secor@hempfieldsd.org](mailto:amy_secor@hempfieldsd.org)
- ❖ Amber Wilkey, 11th Grade Attendance: [amber\\_wilkey@hempfieldsd.org](mailto:amber_wilkey@hempfieldsd.org)