

CLASS OF 2013

2010-2011 Sophomore Year Checklist

Throughout Your Sophomore Year:

___ Continue to take *challenging, rigorous courses* with a focus on your post-secondary plans (university, community college, vocational program, military, work force). Universities are looking for students with high honor point averages, high SAT and/or ACT test scores *AND* a bare minimum of 18 academic credits. Academic credits are in English, Math, Science, Social Studies and Foreign Language.

"Rigorous curriculum is a greater factor in determining college graduation rates than class standing, standardized test scores or grade point average." Clifford Adelman, Senior Research Analyst, US Dept of Education

___ Earn good grades. Your GPA and HPA are important for promotion to the next grade level, graduation, athletic/activity eligibility, awards, scholarships, college entrance, vocational school entrance, military recruiting, etc.

___ You will take the PSAT test to be given on October 13, 2010. You are taking this as a sophomore and it is strongly recommended that you take it again as a junior next year. National Merit Scholarships based on PSAT scores can only be earned when the test is taken as a junior. You will receive your scores 6-8 weeks after taking the test. The results will be correlated to the score you would most likely receive on the SAT. If you would like to practice the types of questions that you will see on the test go to www.collegeboard.com. *Sign up for the SAT Question Of The Day and have it emailed to you daily!*

___ Check the website www.facts.org for COLLEGE INFO and see your own transcript evaluation and your BRIGHT FUTURES GPA! Create your own log in ID and password. This is also an excellent resource for researching Florida colleges and career and interest exploration.

___ Start researching college choices based on location, price, majors offered, etc. This can be done on the internet, by phone, or in person. Park Vista schedules presentations by several colleges each fall. Listen to the announcements or come to the Guidance Department for a schedule of colleges and times. Also, plan visits to perspective colleges.

___ Start (or continue) performing community service hours to apply towards the *20 hour requirement for high school graduation* and certain scholarships. The documentation form and suggested places to perform volunteer hours can be found on our website at www.pvchs.com under the GUIDANCE heading or in the Guidance Department.

___ Begin building a résumé of school/community activities, awards, honors, and work experience.

___ Explore the Florida Department of Education's financial aid website, run through the Office of Student Financial Assistance. This site will give students a preview of state grants, scholarships, and loans (including the Bright Futures Scholarship Program) available for post-secondary education. The website address is www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org. Research now, but apply after December 1 of SENIOR year.

___ Consider dual enrollment opportunities available at PBCC or FAU to students with a 3.0 GPA. See your counselor in November, March, or May for enrollment information for spring, summer or fall semester.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2013

BELOW ARE THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS NEEDED FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION. STATE OF FLORIDA UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS HAVE ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING A MINIMUM OF 18 ACADEMIC CREDITS TO INCLUDE AT LEAST 4 CREDITS IN MATH AT OR ABOVE THE ALG I LEVEL IN ADDITION TO TWO YEARS OF THE SAME FOREIGN LANGUAGE.

2008-2009 INCOMING FRESHMEN MUST IDENTIFY AND BE ENROLLED IN COURSES THAT ARE PART OF A MAJOR AREA OF INTEREST

I. A total of 24 credits are needed for graduation. These credits must include:

ENGLISH: 4 CREDITS
 MATHEMATICS: 4 CREDITS (must include 1 full Algebra credit)
 SCIENCE: 3 CREDITS (must include 1 Biology and 1 Physical Science credit)
 SOCIAL STUDIES: 3 CREDITS (must include 1 World History, 1 American History, ½ American Government, ½ Economics credit)
 PHYSICAL EDUCATION: 1 CREDIT (H.O.P.E. *or* Personal Fitness and any PE course)
 PERFORMING/FINE ART: 1 CREDIT
 ELECTIVES: 8 CREDITS
24 CREDITS TOTAL

II. A cumulative grade point average of 2.0 is needed in ALL high school credit courses.

III. A passing score is needed on the 10th grade FCAT Reading and Math.

IV. 20 hours of community service/volunteer hours completed in high school are required before graduation.

NEW!!!! Test Score Requirements for Florida Academic Scholars and Florida Medallion Scholars (2010-11 high school graduates and later)

High School Graduation Year	SAT	ACT
Florida Academic Scholars		
2010-11	1270	28
2011-12	1270	28
2012-13	1280	28
2013-14 and thereafter	1290	29
Florida Medallion Scholars		
2010-11	970	20
2011-12	980	21
2012-13	1020	22
2013-14 and thereafter	1050	23