

# RADE COLLEGE

#### **NOVEMBER** Becoming a Well-Rounded Student

- ⇒ Join a community service project and use the opportunity to explore possible careers, build your resume and make new friends.
- ⇒ Find ways to show (and grow) your leadership skills. leadership skills.

#### **DECEMBER** -

**Maximizing Your Break** 

- ★ Talk to older friends or siblings who are already in college about their experiences.
- ★ Talk to family members, relatives and trusted adults about their career paths.
- Participate in a school or community service project over the holidays.
- → Study college websites and take virtual tours—add info to your portfolio.

#### **SUMMER** Focusing on Fall

- Attend summer activities offered at your school or a college.
- → Volunteer for a local community project.
- → Learn to budget your money.
- Attend 8th-grade orientation.

#### OCTOBER Building a **College Foundation**

- ⇒ Develop plans for long-term projects that let you practice your research, time-management and communication skills.
- → Learn about advanced courses that prepare you for high school and college.
- → Take courses that help you learn Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) skills.

#### **FEBRUAR**

Taking Ownership of Your Future

- → Start researching information that may help you transition from middle to high school.
- ★ Inquire about ways to earn high school credit beginning in 8th grade.
- ★ Take stock of your attitudes and behaviors. Are you making good decisions about your future?

### **JANUARY**

Learning About Finances

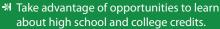
- → Learn the basics about financial aid for college.
- → Work with your parents to learn about financial literacy and how this can help with future plans (saving, planning, needs vs. wants).
- Attend college and career fairs.



**Coping With** Change

#### **MARCH**

**Understanding Academics** & Course Planning



- → Develop a six-year graduation plan, if possible.
- → Decide to make every year count when it comes to class rank, GPA (grade point average) and course selections.
- Plan your electives carefully.



## summer (if offered).

★ Locate a community project

→ Update your college portfolio

→ Register for summer programs

at school or local colleges.

→ Take advanced courses in the

with information collected this



**APRIL** 

**Investigating Required Tests** 





SEPTEMBER

**Planning Your Future** 

your plans together.

year and beyond.

portfolio.

→ Start creating your college

★ Tell your parents that you want

to go to college and talk about

→ Set goals and make plans for this

#### **AUGUST Learning About** Yourself

- → Take an interest inventory.
- → Write an essay about your plans after high school.
- → Talk with friends and family about your career interests.
- ★ List the clubs, organizations and service projects you might like to join.



- ★ Strive to do your best on benchmark and STAAR tests.
- ⇒ Find out what is offered now that can help with college admissions tests later.
- ★ Take advantage of mentors, tutors and extra study sessions.

