

Manlius Pebble Hill School

COLLEGE PLANNING GUIDE FOR RISING SOPHOMORES MANLIUS PEBBLE HILL SCHOOL

General Advice to Students:

- Concentrate on academic preparation.
 - Be "on top" of your academics. Meet with teachers for additional help.
 - If you have a documented learning differences, contact the director of academic support
- Continue to develop academic skills through reading, writing, and improving study habits.
- Sign up for co-curricular activities that interest you.
 - Level of involvement/accomplishment is most important, not the number.
 - Keep a record of your involvement, volunteer work, and employment.
- Save your best work in academic courses and the arts for your academic portfolio.

Fall Semester:

- **In October**, MPH offers the PSAT to Sophomores. Although typically 90-95 percent of the sophomore class takes the test, it is not mandatory. The PSAT is a preliminary test that prepares you for the SAT. Scores are not reported to colleges.
- If you do not want to take the PSAT, simply inform the college counseling office.
- When you receive your PSAT results, use the on-line report to explore ways to improve on future standardized tests. Free online test prep is offered through SAT partner Khan Academy.

Spring Semester:

- **In March**, review the four-year curricular plan, talk with teachers, make adjustments, and sign up for appropriately challenging junior year courses.
- **In April**, all sophomores will take the pre-ACT test. When you receive your pre-ACT results, use the on-line resources to explore ways to improve on future standardized tests. Free online test prep is offered through ACT partner Kaplan.
- Plan for wise use of the summer.
 - Enroll in a summer course or special program of interest to you. Expand on service learning and volunteer opportunities.
 - Continue with co-curricular passions.
 - Seek summer employment.