

# TALKING POINTS ON COLLEGE PREPARATION

Use the following list of talking points as a reference when talking to students about college preparation.

1. Prioritize your education. Attend school daily and on-time in order to get the most out of it.
2. Strive for top marks in all of your classes. Your GPA will factor heavily in college admissions.
3. Speak with family, friends, teachers, mentors, and guidance counselors about the college application process and how to pay for college. Consider everyone you know as a resource.
4. Meet with your designated guidance counselor regularly to assess progress on high school graduation requirements.
5. Develop and maintain a good work ethic. Incorporate effective study habits into your own learning process.
6. Take advantage of all free resources available at school (i.e. counseling, tutoring).
7. Stay out of trouble. A disciplinary record tarnishes your college application.
8. Seek help when necessary. Don't ignore issues that are affecting you negatively.
9. Prepare for the SAT/ACT whenever possible. Find out when to take it. Research study materials.
10. Get active! Supplement your educational experience with volunteering and active involvement in other extracurricular activities. Colleges like to see that you did things other than studying.
11. Take on leadership opportunities. Rally people around an issue or cause that you support.
12. READ! A LOT! Read books, journals, and magazines on a diverse amount of subjects.
13. Find a mentor who deeply cares about you and is willing to commit heavily to preparing you for high school graduation and college.
14. See yourself as being successful in college and beyond. Don't let a few obstacles or calamities discourage you.