

# SENIOR TIMELINE

2008

## September

- Meet with your counselor to discuss colleges / other postsecondary plans.
- Review your high school transcript and check graduation needs.
- Identify a list of about 5 –6 colleges you are considering.
- Request applications from colleges or better yet, apply online. Be careful of deadlines!
- Set up a file system to keep track of your applications (*keep copies of everything*).
- Ask teachers for letters of recommendation at the beginning of the school year to allow for plenty of time. **Always give the teacher a stamped, addressed envelope to send your recommendation directly to the school.**
- Register for the SAT Reasoning test or SAT subject tests online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) or by mail.
- **Register for the November 1 SAT no later than September 26<sup>th</sup>**
- **Late Registration for the November SAT is October 10th**
- Register for the ACT at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) or by mail.
- **Register for the October ACT no later than September 19<sup>th</sup>**
- **Late Registration for the October ACT is October 3rd**
- **Remind your parents: Watkins Mill's Senior Information Night is September 24th at 7 pm in the Auditorium**
- Attend college visits in the Career Center. Bring your Agenda book to the Career Center for a pass the day before the scheduled visit.
- Log on to the Career Center website [www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/watkinsmillhs/](http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/watkinsmillhs/) for upcoming deadlines, events, college visits, scholarships, monthly newsletter, etc.

## October

- Complete college applications (online applications are preferred).
- Follow steps listed in **College Application Procedures** for requesting official transcripts and counselor recommendations. *Remember there is a 15-day turn-around time to process requests.*
- **Sign up to attend the College Expo fair field trip on October 7<sup>th</sup> or attend from 6:30-8:30 pm (Discovery Sports Center, Gaithersburg, [www.collegeexpos.com](http://www.collegeexpos.com))**
- Attend college visits in the Career Center. *Request a pass the day before the scheduled visit.*

## November

- Complete college applications so that they arrive before December 1<sup>st</sup>
- **Allow 15 school days to process** your official transcript and counselor or teacher recommendation requests.
- Consider attending the **Hispanic College Fair** field trip, **November 5<sup>th</sup>**

- Don't miss **Watkins Mill's Financial Aid Workshop on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**
- Attend college visits in the Career Center. *Request a pass in advance from Mrs. Prochnow*

### December/January

- Complete college applications!
- Attend the Class of 2008 **Alumni Day, Dec 23**, 4<sup>th</sup> period, (amphitheatre)
- **Register for your FAFSA PIN (Personal Identification Number) so that you will be prepared to fill out the form in January. You MUST have a PIN prior to filling out the form. Go to [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)**
- Complete the **FAFSA** online ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) and submit it **after January 1<sup>st</sup>**. To qualify for Maryland scholarships/ grants, the **FAFSA must be filed before March 1<sup>st</sup>**.

### Spring

- As offers of admission come in, narrow down your choice to the best match for you. Make final decisions after you see the financial aid/scholarship offers.
- Keep your grades up! A final transcript will be sent to the college of your choice.
- Search for summer jobs and submit applications.
- Visit colleges again (if necessary) for the final decision.
- Send required notification/payment to the college of your choice. May 1 is usually the last date.
- Let the registrar know of your final decision and if that college requires a final transcript.
- Enjoy graduation. Congratulations!