Throughout Upper School, students and parents should:

- Remember that the entire high school transcript (grades, trend in grades, rigor of courses) is the most important aspect of the college admission process
- Ask the College Counselors questions whenever they arise
- Attend programs sponsored by the College Counseling Office, including: College Night for Parents, Senior Parent College Night, Case Studies, and Financial Aid Night
- Be aware of college costs and financing
- Use summers productively
- Participate in activities outside the classroom that the student enjoys

9th Grade
Goal – Be the best Upper School student and school citizen you can be.
- Students should do their best in all courses.
- Learn how to utilize the resources at Newman.
- Talk with your advisor and the College Counselors about your courses for the rest of high school.
- Complete self-assessments and add activities/awards/experiences to your Naviance account.

10th Grade
Goal – Start to learn about colleges and yourself.
- Take the PSAT in October; this one is strictly practice.
- Take the SAT vs. ACT assessment in the spring.
- Start to research and visit colleges; take advantage of Newman breaks and vacations.
- Talk with the College Counselors about courses for 11th and 12th grades.
- Review/redo self-assessments and add activities/awards/experiences to your Naviance account.
- Consider test prep during the summer.

11th Grade
Goal – Conduct a focused college search and self-assessment; develop an application plan.
- Meet with college admission representatives at Newman, in New Orleans, and while on college visits.
- Take the PSAT in October; used for practice and National Merit Scholarship consideration.
- Take the College Prep class, which includes test prep, in first or second semester.
- Take the SAT and/or ACT “for real” in the winter or spring.
- Create initial college search/research/visit list.
- Visit colleges; take advantage of Newman breaks and vacations.
- Review/redo self-assessments and add activities/awards/experiences to your Naviance account.
- Complete the College Planning Questionnaires (one for students, one for parents) in Naviance in December.
- Schedule the first family meeting with the College Counselors after completing both questionnaires.
- Talk to College Counselors about first SAT or ACT results; plan remaining testing.
- Share feedback with College Counselors about college research and visits.
- Explore financial aid policies, requirements, and net price calculators at each college.
12th Grade

Goal – *Complete application process and choose a college to attend!*

- Meet with college admission representatives at Newman, in New Orleans, and while on college visits.
- Meet with College Counselors in the fall to assess college list and plan application strategy; college list should be finalized by October.
- Complete and submit applications October-December, with a goal of all applications completed by December 1.
- File FAFSA and CSS Profile, if applying for need-based financial aid, starting October 1.
- Work with College Counselors to assess college and aid options once decisions have been received.
- Choose and deposit at one college by May 1.