

**STUDENT AND PARENT TIMELINE FOR**  
**JUNIOR Year 2020 - 2021**

**Fall**

- Work hard on your classes. We understand that Hybrid and Full Virtual are not ideal and somewhat difficult. A word of advice: log in to your classes every day at the time they are offered so you keep to your school routine and you will be part of the class. Use the recorded lectures as a study guide. Contact your teachers if you need help. Set up Zoom study sessions with your friends. You are not alone! Remember if you feel overwhelmed, chances are, so do your friends and classmates. (Even your teachers are frustrated because we miss seeing you every day!) So keep in touch with your teachers and classmates. Don't study in bed. Keep normal sleep times. Eat well and stay healthy.
- Sign up for the SAT Test or ACT exam . Plan to take at least **TWO** by August of your Senior year. **SIGN UP AT: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) <http://www.act.org>**
- Contact Mrs. Conville for an SAT fee waiver if you receive free or reduced lunch.
- What is the difference between SAT and ACT? <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/act-vs-sat-how-to-decide-which-test-to-take>
- **ASVAB Testing** - **NOVEMBER 10** (periods 1 through 4) For Students interested in the Armed Services or who would like to take an interest inventory exam. All Juniors are encouraged to take this exam to help them find careers – not only military careers – that would be good for them based on their answers. Plus it's FREE! SIGN UPS WILL BE IN HOMEROOMS AND BY EMAIL FOR FULL VIRTUAL STUDENTS. Testing will be in-person, in the Auditorium for social distancing.  
Practice for free: <https://asvabpracticetestonline.com/>
- **PHEAA Financial Aid Night Virtual Presentation** was October 13<sup>th</sup>. – Information packets are available in Guidance for parents/guardians. Please have your student stop by to pick one up or call the Guidance Office to make arrangements to stop by and pick one up @ 570-621-2965.  
\*\*The presentation and power point are posted on the Guidance website and in your Google Classroom.
- Some technical schools and specialty programs have a YEAR Waiting List. If you are thinking about one of these, then check them out now and see Mrs. Conville about applying early.
- Thinking about the Military? Take the ASVAB, call the recruiters, check out all the branches of the military before you make a commitment.
- Order your Yearbook.

**WINTER**

- Focus on maintaining a strong GPA. Junior grades say a lot about your academic performance.
- Practice for your SAT or ACT on [khanacademy.org](http://khanacademy.org)
- Volunteer any place, any time. Many scholarships and colleges will ask if you volunteer. This will help our community, make others feel good, make you feel good, and give you a boost towards that scholarship or college entrance that you hope to obtain. It's not required, so it looks GREAT!!
- Check out College websites for Open House dates and requirements.
- Compare the cost of the different colleges you are thinking about. Be a smart about your schools of choice and the possible major you are thinking about.
- College is not for everyone! There are fabulous jobs available but you have to be serious about joining the workforce and be dedicated to a career. **Visit Career Link**. They have job fairs weekly and can assist you in filling out applications. Check out various job search websites to see what skills are needed to apply for certain jobs. Visit Mrs. Conville for help with applications and resumes and to talk about the next step.
- Schedule your courses for next year. Keep in mind you should schedule what you need and what you enjoy. ALWAYS LIST ALTERNATES just in case there is a conflict.

- Check out the Guidance website for hot off the press **Career information:**  
<https://www.pottsville.k12.pa.us/Page/310>

## **SPRING**

- Work hard and don't give up!! Finish Strong!! We are here to help, just ask your Teachers, Guidance, Principal, friends, and family for help if you need it!!
- Fill out your Senior Information Sheet and return to Mrs. Conville asap. This is the time to brag about yourself, so fill it out completely!
- Take the SAT or ACT. Always PRACTICE! PRACTICE! PRACTICE!
- Don't forget, if you are planning to play a sport in college, request your transcript be sent to NCAA Clearinghouse.
- Become familiar with Common APP. This is the platform that allows you to apply to over 900 colleges and universities with one application. You can't use this application until AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup>, but check it out so you are ready.
- If you think you will need teacher recommendations, touch base now with your teachers before you leave for the year to see if they will write you a letter of recommendation.
- Do well in any AP exams you are scheduled to take this Spring or your NOCTI exam if you are an STC student.
- Narrow down your list of colleges and plan to explore them over the summer.
- Apply for summer jobs.
- 2020 Income Tax information – Put this in a safe place because if you are going to college, you and your parent/guardian can file your FAFSA on October 1, 2021. More details to follow.
- Double check with Guidance and your teachers that the courses you selected for next year are still appropriate and if you need a change, reach out to Guidance before the end of the school year.
- Take your KEYSTONE exams if you have not passed them already. Do your best!!
- If you failed a class, consider doing Summer School. We use eBridge Academy Cyber School. Cost is \$110.00 per class. Students can take 2 classes only per year. Grades are Pass/Fail. Payment is made directly to eBridge at the time of registration. Talk to Guidance for details.
- Search the internet and PAHS Guidance websites for Scholarship applications.
- Return your technology and books. Pay any fines, transcript fee, or lunch balances.
- Pick up your yearbook.

## **SUMMER**

- Visit colleges or check out Career Link for potential employment opportunities.
- Prepare a resume or activity sheet to give to your teachers when you ask them for a letter of recommendation. Brag sheet examples can be found on google.
- Do your AP Class or Honors course(s) Summer assignment(s).
- Apply to college – Usually August 1<sup>st</sup> is the opening date, but check with the colleges you are interested in to see if they have earlier opening dates.
- Job Shadow if possible. If you get the chance to shadow someone in a career that you think you would like to pursue, this could be an eye opener and it's great to write about in your future essays. If you want to do a job shadow you will need to contact the person or employer and ask if they allow shadowing and ask if you could set something up. ALWAYS follow up with a thank you note for their time if they allow you to shadow.
- Think about Apprenticeships if you are not going to college and stop in to see Mrs. Conville about these opportunities. Visit: <https://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Workforce-Development/apprenticeship/Pages/default.aspx>

- Thinking about the Military? Take the ASVAB, call the Recruiters. Check out all the branches of the military before you make a commitment.
- Search the internet and PAHS Guidance websites for Scholarship applications.
- Notify Mrs. Conville if you apply to any schools and she will send your transcript to that school for you.
- Take the SAT or ACT if you have not taken it yet.
- Check out financial aid websites to get a good idea of the cost of college.
- Make sure your Senior year schedule is correct and work with Guidance if necessary.
- Volunteer any place anytime. It will be fun to make a difference.
- Begin writing the essays that you might use for your college essays or scholarships.
- Avoid scams! If you get something in the mail telling you that you've been named to National Honor Society or any other kind of honor program and they want you to send money to get your cords for graduation NEVER do this. Throw it away or call the school to find out if it is legitimate!!
- Avoid scholarship scams too!! Any scholarship that wants you to pay a fee is a scam. Throw it away!
- If you get a call or email about your schedule from Guidance – call them back or reply. Understand that some conflicts are something they cannot prevent so be kind and have a plan B.
- Have a safe summer.

### **HELPFUL TIPS:**

- Your School Counselor is Mrs. Conville. Mrs. Schuster is the Guidance Secretary. 570-621-2964
- Your schedule has been completed with the classes you requested and/or the courses necessary for graduation.
- CHECK YOUR SCHOOL EMAIL DAILY for emails from Mrs. Hummel, your teachers, and Guidance.
- You should be researching majors that interest you and colleges that may offer them.
- You should be researching careers that interest you and the skills necessary to obtain those careers.
- Not sure about college or you know it's not in your plans? That is perfectly okay! Research the skills necessary to get a job and work on them this year. You'll need a good resume and be able to interview well. Visit Mrs. Conville for help with this.
- Visit [www.pacareerzone.org](http://www.pacareerzone.org) to do a career interest inventory.
- Practice for SAT's and/or ACT's on [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)
- Check with colleges you are interested in to see if they want or need you to take the SAT *Subject* test. You should not take these exams unless your school prefers you to.
- Learn the difference between EARLY ACTION AND EARLY DECISION:  
<https://professionals.collegeboard.org/guidance/applications/early>
- Visit Colleges Virtually or in-person if offered.
- Compare costs and think about your potential major and the potential salary. Be money smart.
- Planning to play a **sport in college**, request your final transcript be sent to NCAA Clearinghouse.
- **Need a transcript sent out?** EMAIL Mrs. Schuster or Mrs. Conville and they will send out your OFFICIAL transcript [lschuster@pottsville.k12.pa.us](mailto:lschuster@pottsville.k12.pa.us) or [mbconville@pottsville.k12.pa.us](mailto:mbconville@pottsville.k12.pa.us) !
- BE CAREFUL OF WHAT YOU POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA!! Colleges, future employers, scholarship committees, landlords, can and do research their applicants, so be very careful of what you put out there for all to see!! ([http://mashable.com/2012/09/04/students-social-media-warnings/#\\_15RzZ5Dn8qn](http://mashable.com/2012/09/04/students-social-media-warnings/#_15RzZ5Dn8qn) , <http://www.businessinsider.com/what-you-post-can-wreck-your-life-2017-8> )
- **Join** Mrs. Conville's Class of 2022 Google Classroom for valuable information and check the Guidance website: <https://classroom.google.com/c/MTQ5MzAyMzQwNjA2?cic=fi6kwxc>
- Males turning the age of 18 are required to register with the Selective Service: <https://www.sss.gov/>