

# FRESHMAN

## PLAN AHEAD & ALWAYS BE PREPARED!

### August to September:

Be ahead of the game! It is never too early to think about college! Prepare a 4 year high school degree plan—it should be based on your college and career plans as well as your interests. It will include the courses you need and want to take. Join clubs or participate in extracurricular activities as well as be a volunteer throughout the year for a variety of organizations. Document all of this in your Naviance account by creating a resume. **Start to study and register for the PSAT! Study hard, grades are important!**

### October:

Where do you want to go to college? Research colleges and create a list of all the colleges that interest you. Use your Naviance journal to keep notes. Begin research on scholarships. All Scholarships can be found in your Naviance Account under the Colleges Tab, Scholarships list. You can begin applying for a few scholarships your Freshman year. Also, take notes in Journal about requirements for scholarships offered during your Junior and Senior year. Take a Road Trip through your Naviance Account. **Don't forget to attend the district College Fair! Register and take the PSAT test at school.**

### November to December:

**Explore!** Visit colleges and research different career options. Complete Strengths Explore and Personality Profile in Naviance. Take the time to create a favorites list of the careers you love in Naviance. Get your questions answered and gather valuable information from the college representatives that visit our campus. You can find out what colleges will be here in the Naviance Account under Colleges Tab, College Visits. **Take advantage of the college representatives!**

### January to May:

Review your PSAT scores and assess what areas need improvement. Review your 4 year high school degree plan and prepare your class selection for next school year. Start your resume in Naviance and add extra curricular activities, awards and honors, and any volunteer work for the year. Use your Naviance Account to set goals for your Sophomore year. Take the Career Cluster Finder in your Naviance Account. **Make plans to visit a College or University during the summer!**

### Summer:

Volunteer, work a summer job, or attend a summer camp! Continue your research on colleges, careers, and scholarships. Complete your summer reading for any Pre AP courses you have selected. Also read something that interests you. Being an avid reader increases your vocabulary and SAT/ACT scores. **Explore and visit a college! Have fun and be safe!**



Twitter: @GRHSfuture

## RESOURCES

### COLLEGE READINESS

[www.bigfuture.collegeboard.com](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.com)  
[www.texascollegeandcareer.org](http://www.texascollegeandcareer.org)  
[www.collegeforalltexasans.com](http://www.collegeforalltexasans.com)  
[www.mappingyourfuture.org](http://www.mappingyourfuture.org)

### SCHOLARSHIP SEARCHES

[www.aie.org](http://www.aie.org)  
[www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com)  
[www.zinch.com](http://www.zinch.com)  
[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

### COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

PSAT/AP/SAT:

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)  
ACT: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

### VOLUNTEER WORK

[www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org)  
[www.dosomething.org](http://www.dosomething.org)  
[www.volunteerhouston.org](http://www.volunteerhouston.org)  
Enter in Naviance X2Vol

### NAVIANCE

- ◆ In your browser, type: [leisd.org](http://leisd.org)
- ◆ Select Students/Parents Tab
- ◆ In list on left, select Naviance
- ◆ Select George Ranch H.S.
- ◆ ID is student number
- ◆ Password is birthdate in this format mm/dd/yy. Ex: 01/01/00

## Terminology

**GPA** the cumulative average of all of your high school grades from every course attempted throughout high school.

**Rank** your placement among the students in your class based on your GPA.

**Pre AP** preparatory classes for future AP coursework.

**AP (Advanced Placement)** rigorous level of coursework preparing the student to take an AP exam in May in attempt to earn college credit.

**Weight of course** this refers to the extra points earned for taking a rigorous level course.

**SAT/ACT** college entrance exams

**PSAT** Preliminary SAT test

**CBE** credit by exam, speak with your counselor about taking a test to earn credit.