

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## WWHS Graduating Class of 2018 College Preparation Checklist

**College matters—for life** A college education is a gateway to success in today’s knowledge-based, global economy. College graduates earn an average of \$22,000 more per year than high school graduates. College is more than a classroom. It’s an important opportunity to learn and grow as a person, gaining independence, confidence and life skills.

**Create a college email** (include name, simple) \_\_\_\_\_

**Collegeboard username:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Password:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date: Best SAT Scores: CR** \_\_\_\_\_ **Math** \_\_\_\_\_ **Writing** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date: Best SAT Scores: CR** \_\_\_\_\_ **Math** \_\_\_\_\_ **Writing** \_\_\_\_\_

**SAT Subject Test Scores:** (if required by selective college) \_\_\_\_\_

**ACT Username:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Password:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date: Best ACT Sum Score:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attend College Fairs** (NACAC, DISD, other school districts, [www.collegefairsonline.com](http://www.collegefairsonline.com) or [collegeweeklive.com](http://collegeweeklive.com) ) **Did: Yes No Will: Yes No**

**Visit Colleges** (2 Junior and 2 Senior year) not counted towards compulsory attendance. You must bring official documentation from the college to get an “S” code .

**Research Colleges:** List all colleges you are considering: Narrow to 10 or less, Put them as an Active college in Naviance to help see how documents are transferred ) Application type --Ex. ApplyTexas, common app, University’s own application, DCCCD

**School Name**

**State**

**Application Type**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

**Get familiar with each college’s admissions/scholarship application deadlines.** They are all different and many times confusing. Find out **how they want the transcript sent and follow up to make sure it is done.** Woodrow does not send transcripts by TRES to colleges though some will tell you to do that. Many use online programs like SENDedu and the Common App and some still use paper! The counseling office does not send transcripts or recommendations by paper for you.

**Talk about finances with your family,** sign up for scholarship searches on FastWeb and other search engines on Key College Resource sheet. Go to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and input

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your tax information to get an estimate of Your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) before you are eligible for government aid. 91% of all student aid is from federal and college-provided funds. Fill out the FAFSA in October of senior year.

- Make sure you filled out paperwork for Free & Reduced lunch eligibility for fee waivers
- Participate** in summer internships, college prep programs, community service, SAT/ACT Prep and other activities in the world around you!
- Start rough drafts of college essays.** The #1 piece of advice from admissions officers is **“Be yourself and Start early!”** It takes much time and thought to write a good essay that enhances your college admissions or scholarship application.

### ApplyTexas essays for 2017-18 will be

Essay A: What was the environment in which you were raised? Describe your family, home, neighborhood, or **community**, and explain how it has shaped you as a person.

Essay B: Most students have an identity, an interest, or a talent that defines them in an essential way. Tell us about yourself.

Essay C: You’ve got a ticket in your hand – Where will you go? What will you do? What will happen when you get there?

- Choose teachers/community members to give you a recommendation letter.** Several core class Teachers, an elective teacher and/or a teacher from an activity you have been involved in for several years are best. Choose teachers who know you well and like you. Sophomore and Junior year teachers are good choices. List the teachers that you want to ask below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

- List the 4- year colleges you are applying for that require a **Secondary Report** or **counselor Recommendation**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

- Complete the Counselor packet for Recommendation letters if your college or scholarship requires it. Copies are available in the Counseling office and online at [www.woodrowwildcats.org](http://www.woodrowwildcats.org) under “Academics”, “Guidance”, “Recommendation letters”. Also give counselor a resume, copies of essays you’ve written and Parent rec information.

- Have parent complete the Parent Recommendation on the website above.

- I understand that I must give teachers and counselor all information needed for a recommendation letter 2 weeks in advance of date needed.**

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_