

BTHS Post-Secondary Readiness Milestones

Ninth Grade

- Maintain good grades and check HAC every week; take advantage of retaking summatives if needed.
- Utilize Xello to explore various careers and complete Matchmaker.
- Attend the NACAC College Fair at Prime Osborne in October as well as other college and career fairs in the area.
- Join a club at school. <https://www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/clubs/>
- Participate in extracurricular activities: sports, clubs, and community service (required for Bright Futures scholarships).
- Turn completed community service hour letters and Service Plan to Mrs. Richards in the Guidance office.
- Start thinking about life after high school, talk to people about careers you might find interesting.
- Look for a summer job, internship or volunteer position to help you learn about your field of interest.
- Put aside money for college or other postsecondary plans.
- Complete Summer School for grade forgiveness, if necessary.

Tenth Grade

- Utilize Xello to explore various careers, complete Matchmaker and begin to compile your College List.
- Attend the NACAC College Fair at Prime Osborne in October as well as other college and career fairs in the area.
- Students with disabilities need to apply for PSAT/ACT/SAT/AP test accommodations (specific deadlines and requirements apply) - <https://www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/testing/testing-accommodations-for-act-sat-psat-and-ap-exams/>
- Take the PSAT in October (FREE- for 10th graders). Review your PSAT score report with your parents (Dec/Jan). PSAT scores are in your CollegeBoard account.
- If you are interested in Dual Enrollment classes in your junior year look into taking the PERT, ACT, SAT and/or PSAT in the Spring.
- Visit at least 3 college or other postsecondary websites to review programs, admissions requirements, freshman profile, costs, and AP equivalents.
- Keep up participation in school activities and volunteer efforts keeping track of your progress.
- Join a club at school. <https://www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/clubs/>
- Turn completed community service hour letters and Service Plan to Mrs. Richards in the Guidance office.
- Look for a job, internship or volunteer position to help you learn about your field of interest.
- Complete Summer School for grade forgiveness, if necessary.

Junior Year

- Order a transcript after each semester from Parchment to check for errors and remaining credits needed: <https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/9276/account>
- Know your Graduation Requirements: <https://www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/graduation/>
- Utilize Xello to explore careers, complete Matchmaker and your College List.
- Attend the NACAC College Fair at Prime Osborne in October as well as other college and career fairs in the area.
- If interested, register for October PSAT at your school (cost about \$20).
- Participate in test prep for ACT/SAT. <https://www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/testing/sat-and-act-test-prep/>
- Contact your counselor about eligibility for ACT/SAT fee waivers (certain criteria required).
- Register to take the ACT, SAT or CLT in the spring www.act.org, www.collegeboard.org, <https://www.cltexam.com/> Make sure to use your school code so results come to your school! - SEND SCORES to at least one of Florida's state universities for Bright Futures.
- Participate in the ACT School Day (free ACT test).
- Attend college tours.
- If interested, speak with a recruiter and take the Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude battery (ASVAB).
- Turn completed community service hour letters and/or pay stubs to Mrs. Richards in the Guidance office along with the Service Plan.
- Attend college visits or postsecondary websites to review programs, admissions requirements, freshman profile, costs, and AP equivalents. Research post-secondary institutions to aid in senior year course selection.
- If interested in Dual Enrollment classes in your Senior year look into taking the PERT, ACT, SAT and/or PSAT in the Spring.
- Complete Summer School for grade forgiveness, if necessary.
- Complete service hours over the summer.

Senior Year

- Participate in and track extracurricular activities: sports, clubs, and community service/paid work hours (required for Bright Futures scholarships).
- Utilize Xello to explore careers, link Common App to Xello, track applications and requests for school report & teacher/counselor recommendations.
- Discuss credit check with your school counselor, through English classes.
- Complete testing requirements, if necessary.
- Complete online courses by May 1st or before winter break if concerned about Rank which is determined by the end of 7th semester. >>

- Create a resume.
- Order a transcript from Parchment after each semester; check for accuracy and remaining credits needed:
<https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/9276/account>
- Apply to universities and colleges. If **required**, request letters of recommendation in person at least 2 weeks in advance.
- Turn completed community service hour letters and/or pay stubs to Mrs. Richards in the Guidance office along with the Service Plan.
- Apply for financial aid; Federal (FAFSA) and state (Bright Futures); information given through English classes.
- Apply for scholarships. <https://www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/scholarships-by-monthly-deadlines/>
- Once you decide on a post-secondary institution, update your Bright Futures account with accurate information so your scholarship money goes to the correct institution.
- Apply to state (community) colleges. April 28th is SJRSC Free Application Day in the spring for senior students at Bartram.
- Request a final transcript be sent to your post-secondary institution through Parchment.

BTHS monthly School Counseling Newsletter: Our School Counseling Newsletter is sent via Parent Square at the beginning of each month (written by Mrs. Jordan). The monthly newsletters can also be found at: <https://www-bths.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/monthly-newsletters/>

Parchment & Ordering Transcripts

- All transcripts are loaded in Parchment EACH SEMESTER.
- Request a free PDF of the transcript to review – comes via email.
- Transcripts show the cumulative weighted and unweighted GPA, class rank, letter grades and service hours.

Grade Forgiveness

- Students can retake classes in which they earned a D or F.
- All grades appear on the transcript. Forgiven grades will still show but will not be included in the GPA.
- Juniors should complete grade forgiveness NOW, before the beginning of their senior year.
- Options for grade recovery: St. Johns Virtual School and Florida Virtual school (flvs.net) and/or the Edmentum lab at school during a class period. Edmentum is **not** an improved option for NCAA.

State Assessment Requirements - Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- FAST Grade 10 Reading test or a concordant score, AND the B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 end-of-course test or a concordant score.
- A concordant is an approved/pre-determined score on specific tests identified by the state (SAT, CLT, ACT, PSAT and Geometry EOC).

SAT, CLT and ACT – For College, Bright Futures, Concordant Scores

- Students register online for the SAT and ACT (sat.org and act.org). Registration deadlines are usually a month before the test date.
- Students can also register online (cltexam.com) for the CLT, which is taken at home with restrictions.
- SEND SCORES to at least one of Florida's state universities for Bright Futures purposes.

Financial Aid – Four Types

- State Florida Aid – Bright Futures; www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org; opens October 1st.
- Federal Aid – FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid); www.fafsa.gov; opens October 1st.
- Institutional Aid – Apply via the college/university you will attend.
- Private Aid – free money from organizations interested in helping students; scholarship opportunities are on the Guidance page of the BTHS website, check your (or your parent's) place of employment; corporations, local businesses, special interest groups, national, state and local organizations, fastweb.com, finaid.org, collegenet.com, bigfuture.collegeboard.org

Bright Futures – (State Aid)

- You must APPLY for Bright Futures by submitting the Florida Financial Aid Application.
- Applications open October 1st.
- Students will have the opportunity to complete the application in school (they will need their SSN).
- Read over the Bright Futures Student Handbook, Chapter 1.
- Know the requirements for the Florida Academic Scholar and the Florida Medallion Scholar.
- Bright Futures GPA is NOT the same as the transcript GPA. Honors, AICE, AP and Dual Enrollment classes are weighed equally with 0.5 per credit (not 1.0 for AICE, AP or DE). Two academic electives will be accepted toward the GPA if it benefits the student.

Community Service Hours

- Must be a NON-PROFIT organization and documented on letterhead with the number of hours worked, description, contact signature, parent and student signature.
- Turn completed community service hour letters to Mrs. Richards in the Guidance office along with the Service Plan.
- If submitting work hours, print copies of your pay stubs (only up to 100 hrs) and attached completed the top portion of the Service Plan.