

Junior Year Timeline

2023-24

Welcome to your junior year! This document is meant to help you stay aware of important events and steps to take as you work toward career and/or college readiness! Visit the [counseling office website](#) for helpful information including and beyond what is outlined below. Email or [schedule a visit](#) with Mr. Vander Wal if you have questions or something you'd like to discuss or need help with. Each junior will also have roughly an hour-long "Junior Conference" visit with Mr. Vander Wal in November, December, or January, and parents/guardians are invited to join. Make plans to attend or watch the recordings of at least two [career readiness opportunities](#) through the Kent Intermediate School District this year ([recorded career presentations on YouTube](#)) to further your awareness and knowledge about available careers. The Xello/Khan Academy Focus Period room is a great place/time to do this! **Career Exploration Items are in Green**

SEPTEMBER

- [Kent ISD Career Readiness Opportunities](#)
- Use [Xello](#) to explore college career options that match your goals and gifts.
- Check out [Michigan's Hot 50 Job Outlook](#) for high demand jobs.
- Check out [Roadtrip Nation](#) for career information, tools, resources, and engaging documentaries.
- [SAT registration](#) deadline for the October 7 test date is due September 7.
- Sign up for optional [PSAT/NMSQT](#) (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) in the office.
- [ACT registration](#) for the October 28 test date is September 22 (CCHS is NOT a testing site).
- College representatives visit CCHS for presentations during Focus Periods or availability at a table in the hall during lunch - see announcements for weekly list or the CCHS website for a [master list](#) and [ask good questions](#) when you visit with a rep!
- Time to be exploring colleges and setting up [visits to colleges](#). You will typically set up college visits using college websites. Be sure to complete a college visit form with Mrs. Betten if you need to miss school for a college visit.
- **HOLLAND AREA COLLEGE NIGHT:** September 27 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at Hope College. Over 50 colleges represented. More information about the event [here](#).
- Students considering playing a sport at a **NCAA Division I or II** school should go to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](#) and get registered. **MAKE SURE TO INFORM MR. VANDER WAL** for eligibility purposes. Unsure? Click on "Division III and Undecided" to create a free profile.

OCTOBER

- [Kent ISD Career Readiness Opportunities](#)
- Use [Xello](#) to explore college career options that match your goals and gifts.
- Check out [Michigan's Hot 50 Job Outlook](#) for high demand jobs.
- Check out [Roadtrip Nation](#) for career information, tools, resources, and engaging documentaries.

- SAT test date is October 7.
- [SAT registration](#) for the November 4 test date is due October 5.
- PSAT/NMSQT offered by CCHS on October 11 (watch sign-up deadline in announcements).
- ACT test is October 28.
- Look for virtual and in-person college fair opportunities.
- Meet with college reps during Focus Period (see [schedule on website](#))
- Visit colleges during PT Conferences on October 13 or Teachers' Convention, October 19 and 20.
- [ACT registration](#) for the December 9 test date is November 3.

NOVEMBER

- [KentLSD Career Readiness Opportunities](#)
- Use [Xello](#) to explore college career options that match your goals and gifts.
- Check out [Michigan's Hot 50 Job Outlook](#) for high demand jobs.
- Check out [Roadtrip Nation](#) for career information, tools, resources, and engaging documentaries.
- Junior Conferences start in November or December. These are individual meetings with Mr. Vander Wal to talk through important details for junior and senior years as well as future planning. Parents/guardians are invited to attend. Meetings are roughly an hour.
- [SAT registration](#) for the December 2 test date is due by November 2.
- [ACT registration](#) for the December 9 test date is November 3 (CCHS is a testing site).
- [SAT test](#) date is November 4.
- Continue to visit with college representatives on Mondays/Thursdays during Focus Period or at lunch.

DECEMBER

- [KentLSD Career Readiness Opportunities](#)
- Use [Xello](#) to explore college career options that match your goals and gifts.
- Check out [Michigan's Hot 50 Job Outlook](#) for high demand jobs.
- Check out [Roadtrip Nation](#) for career information, tools, resources, and engaging documentaries.
- Junior Conferences start in November or December. These are individual meetings with Mr. Vander Wal to talk through important details for junior and senior years as well as future planning. Parents/guardians are invited to attend. Meetings are roughly an hour.
- [SAT test](#) December 2.
- [ACT test](#) December 9.

JANUARY - MAY

- Practice on [Khan Academy](#) to prepare for March SAT for all Juniors at CCHS
- Use [Xello](#) to explore college career options that match your goals and gifts
- Check out [Michigan's Hot 50 Job Outlook](#) for high demand jobs.
- [KentLSD Career Readiness Opportunities](#)

When considering colleges you may want to consider:

1. Location
2. Size
3. Do I want a dorm experience?
4. Christian/Private, Public
5. Climate
6. Cost (but don't rule a college out based on "sticker price" as almost no one pays that!)
7. Can I get in?
8. Majors/flexibility to change, "feel" of the department for desired major (make sure to visit!)
9. Student life

[Helpful Tips](#)

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/plan-for-college/college-basics>