



Sophomore Year Timeline

Outcomes

- Participants will have awareness of curriculum and upcoming activities available to sophomores.
- Families will have ideas on how to best support their sophomore in the postsecondary planning process.
- Students will know how to utilize resources provided to assist in the postsecondary planning process.

Sophomore Year Timeline



Sophomore Counseling Curriculum

- Gathering Information & Comparing Postsecondary Options
- Career Pathways Research
- Course Planning
- Postsecondary Planning

Sophomore Year Timeline



Spring/Summer Activities

- Prepare to Take the P-ACT 10
- Attend college fairs & visit campuses
- Track your experiences in SchooLinks
- Make sure your Student Profile in SchooLinks is up-to-date
- Finish Sophomore Year Strong!

Looking for something to do this summer?

Consider getting a part-time job, volunteering, or attending a pre-college program.

Sophomore Year Timeline





Supporting Your Sophomore

**(Encourage, Support,
Keep an Open Mind and Lots of Patience)**

SchoolLinks Parent Observer Accounts

The screenshot shows the SchoolLinks Guardian Dashboard for a user named Maya Junior. The dashboard is organized into several sections:

- Header:** Includes a "Join Your Alumni/Professional Network" button, a "KN" logo, and icons for email, notifications, help, and settings.
- Left Sidebar:** Contains navigation icons for STUDENTS, COLLEGES, CAREERS, and FINANCES.
- Guardian Dashboard:** Displays the user's profile for Maya Junior, including her name, a "Last Login an hour Ago" status, her grade (12th Grade), and her school (SchoolLinks High School).
- Active Casefile Section To Dos:** A dropdown menu showing various task categories:
 - Planning:** Course Plans, Personalized Plans, Goals.
 - A+ Accountability & Performance:** Readiness Indicators, Test Scores.
 - Student Activities:** Assessments.
 - College:** College Lists & Favorites.
 - Career:** Certifications.
 - Finance:** College Costs.
 - Other:** Documents.
- Right Panel:** A "Choose a different section" dropdown menu.

Supporting Your Sophomore



Visiting Colleges

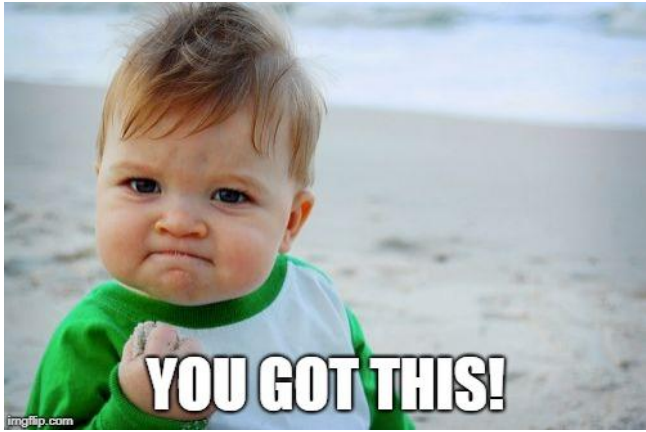


- There is great value in seeing a college in person!
- Check a school's Admissions Office website about upcoming visit opportunities.
- Make sure if you visit a campus, you make it "official"
Either take an official tour from Admissions, or visit the Admissions Office to let them know you are on campus (**Demonstrated Interest**)
- There is also great value in checking out a schools website or virtual tour.

Supporting Your Sophomore



Social / Emotional Support



- **Encourage** your student(s) to consider multiple different postsecondary options
- **Be supportive and communicate openly** with your student(s) about the options they're considering
- **Be patient** with your student(s) - they still have lots of time to figure out what their next steps will be

Supporting Your Sophomore





Sophomore Responsibilities

**(Work Hard, Explore/Research,
Ask Questions, Keep an Open Mind,
Be Contributing Members of your Community)**

Complete a Career Interest Inventory

- Typically presented in a quiz format
- Uses students likes & dislikes to find possible career matches

Free Career Interest Inventories include:

- *Find Your Path* ([SchoolLinks](#))
- *Would You Rather?* ([SchoolLinks](#))
- [O*NET Interest Profiler](#)
- [Career OneStop](#)

Sophomore Responsibilities



Favorite Colleges in SchooLinks

The screenshot displays the SchooLinks interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Search for a location, school, or program...". To the right of the search bar are buttons for "Favorites", "List", "Split", and "Map". Below the search bar, there are filter options: "Filter By School Type 2", "Campus", "Test Scores", "My Chances", "VR", "Degree Type", "Sports", and "Sort Results Graduation Rate". The "School Type" filter is expanded to show "Illinois", "Public", and "Private".

The main content area shows a grid of college cards. Each card displays the college's name, location, and graduation rate. The DePaul University card is highlighted with an orange box around its heart icon. The cards are:

- Christian Life College, Mount Prospect, IL | Private, Graduation Rate: 73.7%
- DePaul University, Chicago, IL | Private, Graduation Rate: 72.7%
- Illinois State University, Normal, IL | Public, Graduation Rate: 72.7%
- Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL | Private, Graduation Rate: 72.0%
- Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL | Private, Graduation Rate: 71.0%
- Illinois College, Jacksonville, IL | Private, Graduation Rate: 69.7%

To the right of the grid is a map of Illinois with a "Search This Area" button and several location pins. The pins are numbered 2, 3, and 7, corresponding to the colleges listed in the grid.

Sophomore Responsibilities



Clean Up Social Media



Sophomore Responsibilities





Additional Resources

NCompass

- [**NCompass**](#)
Dist. 203 Postsecondary Planning Guide
- [**In-School College Visits**](#)
Instructions on how students can attend in-school college visits
(Returning to NNHS in Fall 2025)
- [**On-Campus College Visit Tips**](#)
Tips for students planning to visit college campuses
- [**Postsecondary Planning Night Presentations**](#)
Slides & handouts from tonight's presentations will be available tomorrow
(Feb. 27) at <https://www.naperville203.org/PSPNight>



Upcoming Opportunities

- **March 12:** [Illinois Regional College Fair @ North Central College](#)
A local college fair, featuring more than 200 colleges & universities from across the country.
- **March 17:** International College Takeover @ Naperville North High School
- **April 5:** [Illinois National College Fair @ Moraine Valley Community College](#)
Another college fair opportunity, bringing in additional colleges & universities from across the country.
- **April 21:** [Service Academy Day \(Peoria, IL\)](#)
Learn more about the process for applying to the US Service Academies.



Next Sessions

Postsecondary Planning Night Schedule

Room	Session 1 (6:00 - 6:35pm)	Session 2 (6:40 - 7:15pm)	Session 3 (7:20 - 7:55pm)
Large Cafe	Junior Timeline	Sophomore Timeline	College-Bound Student Athletes
Small Cafe	Postsecondary Resources		Postsecondary Resources
Learning Commons		What's Next?	What's Next?
Rm. 184		Soph./Junior Overview in Español	

Before you leave for the evening, please complete our program's exit survey:



<https://www.naperville203.org/PSPNExit>

Junior Timeline: A general overview of Junior Year, including a timeline, student responsibilities, and how parents can support their Junior.

Sophomore Timeline: A general overview of Sophomore Year, including a timeline, student responsibilities, and how parents can support their Sophomore.

Postsecondary Resources: An overview of resources available to Dist. 203 students, and tips for planning for life after high school.

What's Next?: A discussion on the debate between a "best" college/university, and helping your student find their best fit.

College-Bound Student Athletes: An overview of the NCAA/NAIA eligibility process, and steps that students can take now to be prepared for recruitment.

Sophomore/Junior Spanish Overview: An overview of Sophomore & Junior year in Spanish, provided by our Spanish-speaking counselors.