



Junior Year Timeline

Outcomes

- Students will know appropriate times to complete tasks throughout their Junior year.
- Students will know how to utilize resources provided to assist in the postsecondary planning process.
- Students will know steps needed for continuation of postsecondary planning through summer leading into Senior year.

Junior Year Timeline



Junior Counseling Curriculum

- Postsecondary Planning
- Financial Fit
- Course Planning
- Understanding Postsecondary Requirements

Junior Year Timeline



Junior Week Recap

- Students participated in Junior Week Presentations on Feb. 18 & 20 (during WIN sessions)
- Presentation including information on:
 - Various post secondary plan options
 - How to best utilize SchoolLinks
 - Next steps to help students prepare for the start of Senior Year
- [Junior Week FlowDoc](#)

Junior Year Timeline



Spring Activities

- Prepare to Take the State ACT (April 9th)
- Begin Asking Teachers for Recommendation Letters
(*check college requirements first*)
- Complete the [Recommendation/Scholarship Survey](#)
- Register of the [NCAA/NAIA Eligibility Center](#) (*if applicable*)
- Finish Junior Year Strong!

Junior Year Timeline



Summer Activities

- Continue attending college fairs & visiting campuses
- Continue Working on the Recommendation/Scholarship Survey
- Make sure your Student Profile in SchooLinks is up-to-date
- Keep tracking your experiences in SchooLinks
- Narrow down potential college application list in SchooLinks
- REST (Seriously!)

Junior Year Timeline





Supporting Your Junior

SchoolLinks Parent Observer Accounts

The screenshot shows the SchoolLinks Guardian Dashboard for a user named Maya Junior. The dashboard is titled "Guardian Dashboard" and includes a navigation sidebar on the left with categories: STUDENTS, COLLEGES, CAREERS, and FINANCES. The main content area is divided into sections: "Active Casefile Section To Dos" with a dropdown menu to "Choose a different section", and a list of categories with sub-items:

- 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

Additional information for Maya Junior includes: Last Login an hour Ago, Grade 12th Grade, and School SchoolLinks High School. The top navigation bar includes a "Join Your Alumni/Professional Network" button and icons for user profile (KN), email, notifications, help, and settings.

Supporting Your Junior



Visiting Colleges

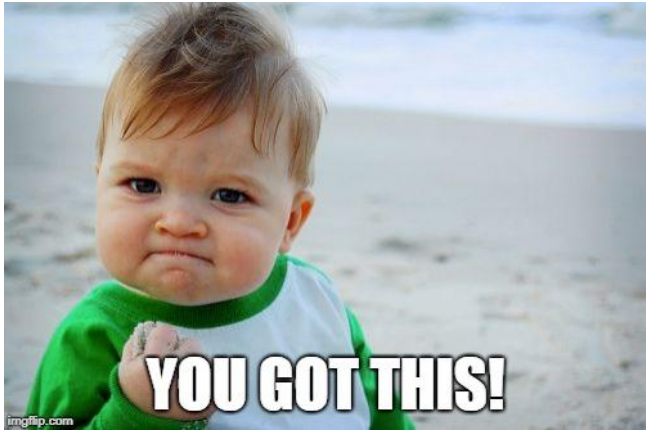


- There is great value in seeing a college in person!
- Check a school's Admissions Office website about upcoming visit opportunities.
- Make sure if you visit a campus, you make it "official"
 - Either take an official tour from Admissions, or visit the Admissions Office to let them know you are on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

Supporting Your Junior



Social / Emotional Support



- **Encourage** your student(s) during postsecondary planning and research
- **Be supportive and communicate openly** with your student(s)
- **Be patient** with your student(s) throughout this process - this takes time

Supporting Your Junior





Junior Responsibilities

Favorite Colleges in SchooLinks

The screenshot displays the SchooLinks interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search for a location, school, or program...". To the right of the search bar are buttons for "Favorites" (with a heart icon), "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 is divided into two sections. On the left is a grid of college cards, each featuring a graduation rate, a heart icon for favoriting, and the college's name and location. The cards are:

- Christian Life College (Mount Prospect, IL | Private) with a graduation rate of 73.7%.
- DePaul University (Chicago, IL | Private) with a graduation rate of 72.7%. This card has a red heart icon highlighted with a red square.
- Illinois State University (Normal, IL | Public) with a graduation rate of 72.7%.
- Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago, IL | Private) with a graduation rate of 72.0%.
- Lake Forest College (Lake Forest, IL | Private) with a graduation rate of 71.0%.
- Illinois College (Jacksonville, IL | Private) with a graduation rate of 69.7%.

On the right is a map view showing the same colleges plotted on a map of Illinois. The map includes a "Search This Area" search bar and various map controls like zoom in (+) and zoom out (-) buttons. The colleges are marked with blue location pins, some of which are numbered (e.g., 2, 3, 7).

Junior Responsibilities



- **Show off your academic progress**

Make this a strong year! Junior year is a very important year for your college applications because it's the last full year of high school that colleges see.

- **Make up for past mistakes**

Colleges like to see one of two things: Strong performance that is maintained throughout *OR* an upward trend of doing better and better each year.

- **Great grades is defined differently for all students.**

Colleges do not expect A+ on transcripts from students. Your best can be C's or B's and that is still GREAT!!

Junior Responsibilities



Clean Up Social Media



Junior Responsibilities





Additional Resources

NCcompass

- [**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.
- **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.