



Welcome to a place where students are spiritually, intellectually, and physically equipped to fulfill their uniquely God-given mission. You will find strong values, love for God and others, academic excellence and practical life skills define our everyday learning experience. Our mission is to provide a Christ-centered education in a nurturing environment that equips your child to excel in life and service to Jesus Christ. For every interest, talent or career choice, VCS prepares your child for what's next.

www.go-vcs.com

Questions?
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Vacaville Christian Schools

High School
College & Career Plan



Jeremiah 29:11

**Dream BIG! You are
starting the next
exciting adventure-
High School!**

9TH GRADE PLANNING

As a freshman, you will meet with the college and career counselor to create a four-year study plan that includes required courses.

Choose Courses Carefully

College & Career planning for high school students should begin with knowing which classes to take. Your planning checklist should include:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Social Studies
- 3 years of Mathematics
- 3 years of Lab Sciences
- 2-3 years of a Foreign Language

Building your Post-High School Resume

- Take 2nd round of PSATs (1st round taken in 8th grade)
- SAT and Math Prep Embedded in VCHS curriculum
- College Counseling Appointment - Work with your counselor to create your 4 year plan
- Begin Service/Volunteer Projects - Be focused in how you're are serving. Colleges prefer consistency
- Begin entries for your post HS resume (activities, awards, school leadership, community service, music, athletics, work experience, research experience)
- Explore College & Career options and average rate of pay for chosen career (4yr. University, 2yr junior college, trade school, military)
- Consider applying to special summer programs in your field of interest

10TH GRADE PLANNING

Students should take formal steps toward applying for and attending college. If you participated in any practice tests this year (i.e. practice ACT or PSAT), now is the time to correct your errors. Review your results with your school counselor and seek assistance from your high school English, science and math teachers to correct mistakes as well.

Building your Post-High School Resume

- Take 3rd round of PSATs
- SAT and Math Prep embedded in VCHS curriculum
- Meet with college counselor - Set goals and ensure you are on track for graduation
- Concentrate on academic and extracurricular activities
- Continue with service/volunteering
- Begin creation of your master list of university/specialty training schools
- Attend college related events and begin visiting college campuses or specialty training programs
- Consider taking college level courses (AP courses offered at VCHS or community college courses)

Planning Tip:

We recommend that your student start compiling an itemized list of activities to include in their post-high school resume, as early as 9th grade. When writing college essays during senior year, he/she can pull ideas from this list for talking points.

11TH GRADE PLANNING

Students should take formal steps toward applying for and attending college. Keep in mind that high SAT scores may qualify students for National Merit Scholarships or other financial aid awards.

Building your Post-High School Resume

- Take 4th round of PSATs
- SAT and Math Prep embedded in VCHS curriculum
- Students taking Pre-Calculus in their junior year may opt to take 1st round of SATs in the fall. Students enrolled in Algebra 2 should plan to take SATs beginning during the spring semester of junior year.
- Meet with college counselor - Verify goals are being met and ensure you are on track for the program(s) you are interested in
- Continue with Service/Volunteering
- Continue involvement in extracurricular activities
- Condense your master list of schools/programs you will apply to
- Complete college campus visits between spring of junior year and winter of senior year
- Continue taking college level courses

Planning Tip:

Discuss college finances with your family. Attending free seminars for financial planning and financial aid seminars will help you learn the basics of what each school offers for financial aid.

12TH GRADE PLANNING

During your senior year, you will finalize your college choice. This year is filled with admission applications, scholarship essays, financial aid information and the need to meet deadlines. Throughout your senior year, continue to build your resume by achieving academic success, as well as participating in extracurricular activities. Colleges are very interested in well-rounded students.

The college preparation that takes place during your senior year is filled with a lot of details and paperwork. It is very important that you involve your parents with this process.

Final Steps

- Final opportunity to take SAT and ACT in December of your senior year
- SAT and Math Prep embedded in VCHS curriculum
- Meet with college counselor to begin application process:
 1. Begin UC, state university, specialty training programs, military enlistment and private school applications. Be aware of the varying application deadlines for each.
 2. If applying to private universities, link your Naviance profile to your common application.
 3. Add a request in Naviance to submit your transcript.
 4. Make sure your financial (FAFSA) and GPA verification forms are completed and submitted by March 2 of your senior year
 5. Submit SAT and ACT scores to schools you are applying to by your "Decision Day" deadline

Planning Tip:

Remember to begin collecting letters of recommendation from your teachers at the beginning of your senior year to include with your applications.

