

# The College Preparation Process

**Know How to Go- 9th and 10th  
Grades**

**9th and 10th grade is not too  
early to start the college  
selection process**

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**Remember... this is a  
journey!**

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- **EXPLORE**
  - **PREPARE**
  - **PRACTICE**
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# EXPLORE

**Visits, Searches & Camps**

## **EXPLORE : VISITS**

- **Visit local colleges: Go for events such as art shows, performing art events or sporting events.**
- **Visit alumni colleges: Walk around and explore. Attend events.**
- **Visit or do a “drive through” of colleges when you are on the road or in a different place in the country.**

**MESSAGE: College is a “real” place that is interesting and purposeful**

## **EXPLORE: SEARCHES**

- **Use web based or library resources to SEARCH for colleges**
- **Use tools to find “GOOD FITS” with student’s interests, personality and aptitude**
- **Talk with your School Counselor to see how they are supporting and helping students explore their interests and talents**
- **Become aware of the general requirements for colleges of interest**
- **MESSAGE: It’s important to find a school/trade that SUITS and FITS me!**

## **EXPLORE: CAMPS**

- **Research summer or break camps that are hosted at local or other colleges that support a student's interest**
- **Try to plan on attending one between Sophomore and Junior year or Junior and Senior year**

**MESSAGE: It's important to explore my interests, getting a taste of what college can be like**



# PREPARE

**Curriculum, Activities & Record**

# PREPARE: CURRICULUM

- **Create a FOUR YEAR PLAN by the end of Freshman Year to consider classes**
- **It MATTERS! Students should take the most challenging courses they can still be successful in!**
- **Balance out courseload rigor and increase difficulty in things that a student is interested and good in**
- **Consider the value of Foreign Language if being successful**

**MESSAGE: What classes you take MATTERS to you and your future!**

## **PREPARE: ACTIVITIES**

- **Participate in extracurricular activities outside of school that you enjoy**
- **Consider sports, arts, church/faith based, clubs, scouts, volunteer, community**
- **Work is also a desirable activity**
- **Keep track of what you do**
- **Remember you don't need to do EVERYTHING! Activities should BALANCE you out not overwhelm you.**

**MESSAGE: Managing and balancing activities gives a student's profile context**

## **PREPARE: RECORD**

- **Keep track of your activities, grades, test scores**
- **Consider a folder of some sort (file folder, plastic folder, drawer )**
- **Electronic file? (Data Base, Naviance, Coalition App)**
- **Keep track of Multiple Accounts!**

**MESSAGE: Keeping track now can make things easier then!**

# PRACTICE

**SAT/ACT Preparation**

**The SAT OR ACT is  
acceptable as an entrance  
test for MOST colleges!**

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**More schools are becoming  
“TEST OPTIONAL” but it is  
still unusual.**

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**Grosse Pointe Schools will begin giving the PSAT in 7th grade. It is taken twice a year as a 9th and 10th grader.**



**The PSAT/NMSQT is the official 11th grade PSAT which is still a practice but can qualify students for scholarships (National Merit)**

**Students should consider  
using their results from  
previous tests to PRACTICE**

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# **PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES**

- \* College Board (your scores)**
- \* KHAN Academy (your scores +)**
- \* Online Prep**
- \* Prep Classes**
- \* Private Tutoring**

# PRACTICE: SAT/ACT

## SAT

- Math, Reading, Writing & Language  
Essay is optional
- 3 Hours ( essay + 50 minutes)
- 5 Reading Passages
- NO Science
- Math: Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Data Analysis  
(Cannot use calculator on all sections)
- Scoring: 800 RWL/800 Math SCORES  
ADDED
- Broken into smaller test segments

## ACT

- Reading, Math, English, Science. Essay is optional
- 2 Hours 55 Min. (essay + 40 minutes)\*
- 4 Reading Passages
- 1 Science section
- Math: Arithmetic, Algebra i & II, Geometry & Trigonometry (can use calculator on all Math sections)
- Scoring 1-36 on each section  
COMPOSITE AVERAGE
- 1 Section at a time, but less time per?

# PRACTICE: SAT/ACT

## THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- BOTH TESTS ARE ACCEPTABLE AS COLLEGE ENTRANCE TESTS \*
- STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE EACH ONE AT LEAST ONCE/AND ONE OF THEM MORE THAN ONCE
- GPPS OFFERS MOST EVERY TEST DATE (Except August and February)
- TESTS CAN BE TAKEN MULTIPLE TIMES TO IMPROVE SCORES
- STUDENTS SHOULD CONSIDER TAKING THE TESTS THROUGH THEIR JUNIOR YEAR (Plan with your counselor)

# Staying Sane

Perspective & Mental Health

Random Tips:

Keep it simple and FUN (Visits, Discussions, Planning)

Stay Positive!

Enjoy the Journey & Maintain your Relationship

...Remember it this a JOURNEY!

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**QUESTIONS?**

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