



Crosby Scholars

hello

HIGH SCHOOL!



CLASS OF 2024

Spring, 2020



Crosby Scholars

For college. For life.

Middle School Crosby Scholars vs. High School Crosby Scholars What Are the Differences?

1. How do I become a high school Crosby Scholar?

As long as you complete the Crosby Scholars Program in eighth grade, you will be automatically enrolled in Crosby Scholars in high school. If you do not complete the Program in eighth grade, you will need to reapply to the program in high school. High school applications are available online from August 15th - October 1st for 9th and 10th grade students only!

2. What are some of the differences between the middle school program and the high school program?

At the high school level, the Program puts more emphasis on academic preparation for college. Meetings and workshops focus on areas such as course selection, PSAT/SAT, ACT, career options, and collegiate opportunities. Most of your mid-year and end-of-year programs occur after school instead of during school hours. Crosby Scholars will still need to attend ONE Crosby Scholar Academy each school year, complete community service, and not receive Out of School Suspension. Additionally, the high school Crosby Scholars should plan on:

- 1.) Signing up for the It's Our Call/It's My Call Program
- 2.) Attending Grade Advisor Meetings
- 3.) Striving to maintain a 2.0 grade point average or higher

3. Will I still have to attend Crosby Scholar Academy?

Yes, but keep in mind that Crosby Scholar Academy is held in the FALL for high school students. You will still have the chance to choose two classes that you would like to attend, but the classes will be new because they are geared towards high school students. You must attend ONE Academy each school year to remain a Crosby Scholar.

4. Will I have to do more than two hours of community service?

No, but remember you are starting to build your activities record for colleges and possible part-time job opportunities. Community service experience may provide some wonderful opportunities to explore career interests and may be helpful to include on college and scholarship applications. As a high school student, you will have a larger selection of community service opportunities. Although only 2 hours are required of high school students - we recommend that they complete 5 hours each school year. The community service deadline for high school students is usually the first week of March.

5. Will I get a scholarship for being a Crosby Scholar?

Maybe. High school Crosby Scholars who complete the program in the 12th grade may apply for a Last Dollar Grant to help pay for their college education. We do not know who will receive a Last Dollar Grant until a student completes high school and applies for financial aid. Please keep in mind that only those students who complete the Crosby Scholars Program can apply for the Crosby Scholars' scholarships.

Transition to High School

By recognizing the differences that exist between middle school and high school you will be better prepared to succeed in the new environment of high school. Here are some of the differences you can expect to see.

- Typically you will experience more challenging classes.
- You will often have classes with students from other grade levels.
- You will be the youngest students in the building, not the oldest.
- You will have more freedom to choose your classes.
- Block scheduling (You won't have the same class every day, but each class will be longer.)
- You will likely have more homework.
- You will need to be self-motivated as teachers will expect more and will give less guidance.

What Does High School Have to Offer You?

Education

- Learning how to get the most out of both exciting and not so exciting classes
- Building relationships with teachers, administrators, counselors
- Finding mentors
- Cooperating with others

Friends

- Coping with cliques and social politics
- Discovering how your friends help you know yourself
- Experiencing peer pressure
- Responding to diversity in your school and your world
- Dating

Yourself

- Keeping in shape through sports and athletics
- Joining clubs and groups that you like
- Knowing who you are
- Becoming more independent

Jumpstart Your College Planning

Have you started your college planning yet? *It's amazing, but decisions you make as early as 8th grade have a huge effect on your college career.*

1. Get Involved.

Getting ready for college isn't all work. Find something you really like doing, then dive into it. Maybe you're drawn to sports, student council, music, art, etc. You'll develop skills and show colleges your ability to make a commitment and stick with it.

2. Take Challenging Courses.

Colleges do look at your grades, but they also pay attention to how difficult your courses are. They want to see that you've challenged yourself.

3. Get Help.

Having trouble in a class? Many schools have peer tutors, older students who'll help you (for free). Talk to teachers/counselors - let them know you want extra help.

4. Read.

Read at least 30 minutes every day, beyond study and homework. People who read more know more. And when you take PSAT/NMSQT®, SAT® and ACT tests, the time you put into reading will really pay off.

5. Don't Delay.

Be sure you're taking the solid math and other courses that get you ready for the PSAT, SAT and ACT. Talk to your counselor to make sure you're on track.

6. Get the College-Bound Facts.

How can you find out about college admissions, work, and campus life? Ask someone who's done it, such as college students who went to your high school. Get to know your counselors. Ask a career planner at a local college, or a teacher. Do Web research.

7. Involve Your Family.

When parents or guardians haven't been to college themselves, they may think they can't help you. That's not true. They can talk to counselors and help you stay on track.

8. Look for a Mentor.

Look for adults who can lend their enthusiasm and help you succeed at your goals. If you're interested in a particular subject or activity talk to a teacher or leader who knows about it. Find a counselor or teacher you trust to talk about your goals.

9. Confront Personal Roadblocks.

If you have a problem that's getting in the way of schoolwork, don't ignore it. Talk to your friends, family, or another adult -- parent, coach, nurse, and counselor -- who may be able to offer advice or help.

10. Roll Up Your Sleeves.

If you expect to go to college later, expect to study now. No one can do it for you. Don't talk the college talk -- "I'll go to college to get a great career" -- without walking the walk.

Getting Involved

Many students are not aware of the fact that colleges want to see applicants who have been actively involved in high school, either through school related activities or community based commitments. It is important to realize BEFORE entering high school that each year "counts", and students should plan to get involved early in their freshman year.

Each high school is unique in the extracurricular activities that it offers, but there are several organizations that are for the most part universal throughout the school system.

Honor Societies- Students join these societies based on their academic achievement.

National Honor Society and Language Honor Societies

*** National Honor Society applications are based on your involvement during freshman and sophomore year. So, it's important to get involved early on and not wait until your junior year.*

Service Clubs- Students join these organizations to help give back to the community at large.

Special Interest Groups- Students join these organizations to meet and associate with other students that have similar interests.

Army Junior ROTC

Art Clubs

Band (various)

Cheerleading

Chorus

Distributive Education Club of America- DECA

Future Business Leaders of America - FBLA

Speech and Debate Club

Drama Club

Technology Club

Dance Team

Academic Team

Student Government- Students interested in dealing with school policies and procedures become involved in Student Government or Youth in Government.

Academic Clubs- Students with specific academic interests join these clubs to learn more about a particular subject or get help in that subject.

Math Club

History Club

Science Club

Foreign Language Club - French, Spanish, Latin

English Club

Computer Club

Art Club

Athletics- Student athletes participate in various seasonal sports.

Football

Basketball

Track (Winter and Spring)

Cross Country

Soccer

Golf

Tennis

Volleyball

Wrestling

Softball

Swimming

Lacrosse

****If you are interested in participating in a FALL high school sport - you should contact the high school this school year - as some team tryouts are conducted in the spring or summer prior to your freshman year***

What can you expect from high school guidance counselors?

Guidance offices may be called the *Guidance Office*, *Counseling Office* or even the *Office of Student Services* in high school. The purpose of the guidance office is to assist students throughout their journey to graduation. Students are encouraged to meet with their guidance counselor to discuss personal and academic concerns or problems, registration for classes, graduation requirements, college and university admissions, and career exploration.

Most students are assigned a *High School Guidance Counselor* their freshman year - based on the first letter of their last name. They will remain assigned to this guidance counselor throughout their high school career.

Guidance counselors provide college and career exploration, help with personal and social concerns and offer resources for academic or tutoring services. In rare circumstances, they provide level changes to a course. You spend 8,100 hours in a class so pick carefully. Typically, you cannot try it out and then change it.

Colleges rely on counselors to provide information about students and to write letters of recommendation. If your counselor does not know you, they may not be able to capture who you are. That means you should get to know your counselor! Don't wait until they contact you to meet with them - be proactive - stop by and introduce yourself and drop in a time or two each year.

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You Can Go to College: The world today is very different than it used to be. In today's society, you cannot afford NOT to go to college. You don't have to be rich to go to college today. There is more than \$50 billion in financial aid available in this country each year. You can go to college, even if no one in your family has gone before. But it is never too early to start saving for college. If you and your family are able to save a little something each month, look into North Carolina's National College Savings Program. Information is available at www.cfnc.org about this program.

You May Be Eligible for Financial Aid: Most financial aid is based on need, and a simple equation is used to determine the amount for which you might qualify:
Cost of education - What your family can afford = Aid eligibility
When you are a senior, you will apply for federal and state aid by filing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and can also apply for various scholarships.

Always Apply: When it comes time for you to think more concretely about financial aid, remember one important factor: you must APPLY for it. Even if you think you might not qualify, APPLY ANYWAY. Always remember that you will have nothing to lose by trying, and everything to gain.

Key Messages to Remember: While you are still in middle school, you don't have to spend lots of time on the details about financial aid. For now, you just need to remember four important things:

- It is possible for you to go to college. And it's the best investment in your future that you and your parents can make.
- Make the most of high school, take challenging classes, get involved in clubs and activities that you enjoy and that help others, and get to know your counselors and teachers. These things will help you when you apply to college.
- You can afford to go to college. There are many grants, scholarships and loans that you can apply for. If you and your family can, save money for college.