

Sophomore Year

What Can I Be Doing Now to Reach My Goals?

You've got your feet wet here at Liberty and are starting your second year of high school! It's time to take a closer look at the choices you are making and how it will affect your future. What class are you taking this year? What does your GPA look like after your first year? How can you fix some things that might not have gone so well freshman year? Here are some ways to keep doing well this year:

- ✓ For practice, take the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) in the fall. It is offered only in October, so mark your calendar and be sure to sign up in the Counseling Center. This will help you better understand what a standardized test is like and how to prepare yourself for the SAT and ACT in coming years.
- ✓ Stay (or get) involved in school or community sports, clubs, activities, or volunteer opportunities that you enjoy. These are great additions to a resume or application and help you explore what interests you may have.
- ✓ Challenge yourself to be the best student you can be! Start by pushing yourself to take more difficult courses, communicating with your teachers, checking on your grades and GPA, and making it to class on time every day. Find out about AP, Honors and Accelerated classes.
- ✓ Begin researching post-secondary options.
- ✓ Review and continue to explore career paths that interest you. Consider doing a job shadow or internship. Make an appointment with Mr. Lopez in the Career Center if you have questions or need to know where to start.
- ✓ Use your summer to volunteer, work or recover credits.
- ✓ Enter into a focused program of study. While this is not required for graduation it is a great way to explore a group of elective courses to see if may be of interest for you for a future career option. It is also a place for you to complete your senior project! Here is a list of our Focused Programs:

- ❖ Arts & Communication
(Performance Arts, Fine Arts)
- ❖ Band/Choir
- ❖ Child Services
- ❖ Creative Writing
- ❖ Culinary Arts
- ❖ Digital Design
- ❖ Fire Science

- ❖ Health Services
- ❖ Industrial Engineering
- ❖ Marketing Management
- ❖ Media Communication
- ❖ Leadership
- ❖ Science
- ❖ Theater

When you forecast for next year take more challenging courses to improve your skills and get ready for higher education or a career. For example, better English skills will help you when communicating with coworkers or writing that college essay. Or if you're particularly talented in science, take a third year of science or an accelerated or AP level class.

Check in on your transcript with your counselor- what does it look like after freshman year? Does your GPA need improvement? Did you fail any classes? Do you have any D's in core classes that may prevent colleges from accepting you?