USC College Advising Corps in partnership with the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation, Presents:

THE COLLEGE PLAYBOOK

- It’s A Whole New Ball Game
College/ Career Exploration
A. Begin a resume / brag sheet
B. College exploration
   b. Career Zone - https://www.cacareerzone.org/
C. A. After you have careers in mind- research and select universities that offer majors similar to those careers. Pick 5 schools, write a business letter to the admissions office requesting more information from them; you can also visit the admissions website for the school you are interested in and request further information.

Prepping for those Schools
A. Take PSAT
   a. Check if your school offers on-campus PSAT/SAT, If not, you can select a neighboring school on collegeboard.com and the exam there
   b. Use Fee-waiver if you are qualified
B. Colleges will focus on academic 10th -11th grade GPA when reviewing applications
   a. Go over A-G’s and provide them with A-G list
C. Work hard to earn the highest grades you can
D. Attend as many college representative presentations that may visit your campus

Financial Aid
A. This year is when California Student Aid Commission (the people who give away Cal Grants) will begin to look at your GPA for financial aid purposes
B. High Profile Scholarships
   a. Questbridge Scholars program
      i. This application should be done in your Junior year and it is usually due at the end of March
   b. GATES Scholarships open in July
      i. See counselor/ English teacher to help you prep for it

Cal Grant
A. How much Cal Grant you receive is dependent upon your 10th - 11th grade GPA
   a. Make sure you are doing your very best, “It Pays to Get Good Grades!”
B. How much Cal grant you get depends on your Grades & your parent/ guardian’s Income
C. This Grant is also available for undocumented students

Pell Grant
A. Based solely on your parent/ guardians income

Institutional Aid
A. Privates give the most, then UC’s, then CSU’s
Outside Scholarships
A. Big Future
B. Local community scholarships

Involvement
A. Important to volunteer and get involved in/outside of campus to build resume and leadership skills

Spring (January-June)
- Meet with counselor for help choosing top 8 schools to apply to
- Review for SAT & use Khan Academy to help you study

Types of Colleges
A. CSU (Cal State University)
   a. Require at least a 2.0-2.99+ GPA to apply
   b. Smaller class sizes
   c. Most High School have a Cal State that they partner with (local serving institution) and it is usually the closest Cal State to your school.
      i. Applying to local serving institution increases the chances of getting accepted
   d. Essays are not required
B. UC (University of California)
   a. Require at least a 3.0-3.99+ GPA to apply
   b. Large lecture halls taught by Professors who are conducting their own research
   c. World renowned research institutions
   d. Can offer a little bit more financial aid than CSU’s
   e. Personal Insight Questions (PIQ’s) are part of the application
      i. Allows you to express yourself in other ways aside from test scores & grades
C. Privates Institutions
   a. Can generally offer the most financial aid
   b. Great option for undocumented students because they can offer bigger financial aid packages
   c. Each have their own deadlines
D. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU’s) /Out Of State Schools
   a. Smaller class sizes
   b. Supportive Atmosphere
   c. Can apply to many all at once using the
      https://commonblackcollegeapp.com/how-to-apply/

Prepare for summer
A. Look for summer internships/ college programs
   a. Find out what you are interested in and apply for a summer program that can make your college application more competitive
      i. Example: Aquarium of the Pacific, Volunteer Program

Summer (June-August)
A. College Visits
B. Attend summer internships / college programs
C. Dual enrollment/ taking college class