



## Freshman Year

Freshman courses, grades and credits all become part of the student's transcripts. In addition, freshman activities, honors and awards can all be listed on postsecondary and scholarship applications.

- Build strong academic, language, mathematics and critical thinking skills by taking challenging courses.
- Study nightly and stay focused. It is important that you establish good study habits from the beginning. Work hard to get your GPA as high as you are able.
- Establish a good attendance record.
- Take careful notes in class and consider reviewing these every night. Rewrite the notes or key them into word document on your computer, if you feel this will help you increase retention of the presented material.
- Always do your homework.

- Utilize an agenda book to help with organizational skills. Planning ahead of time to meet deadlines is key.
- Get involved! Try different activities and look forward to meeting new people through these opportunities.
- Stay balanced. Get involved in a couple of activities. Depth of involvement in any one activity (e.g., four years in band, soccer, art club) is important because it shows focus and commitment.
- Sometime during the year, make an appointment with your counselor just to meet him/her and let him/her get to know you.
- If you are struggling regarding any issue or problem, seek help!
- Start a portfolio of your high school activities, honors, awards, leadership positions, employment, volunteer work, community activities, etc. Keep a list and include everything! If you have a home computer, start an “Activities and Awards” file and update it each year.