

## Ninth Grade Tips for Having a Successful High School Career

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- Continually review your 4 year plan & know the graduation requirements.
- Write down short & long term goals & work to achieve them.
- Take the most challenging courses in which you can be successful. Many colleges & scholarship programs look for Honors & Advanced Placement courses on your transcript.
- Plan to work in other courses of interest to you.
- Learn how to calculate your GPA & remember it starts on the first day of the ninth grade.
- Sharpen your study & time-management skills.
- Ask for help immediately if you need it.
- Get involved in extra-curricular activities at school & in the community.
- Look for leadership opportunities to hone your skills & do not be afraid to step up to the plate.
- Volunteer your time & talents doing community service.
- READ! It increases your vocabulary & improves your writing & comprehension skills.
- Consider taking the PSAT in the fall as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader for practice.
- Begin family discussions about college choices & the costs.
- Whenever you are on a campus for an extra-curricular activity or you travel near a college, take time to check out the campus and begin making mental notes of what you see & what you like.