

## **10th Grade**

### **Important Things for Sophomores to Know:**

Stay focused on your grades and be sure you know your GPA (grade point average). Remember that each high school course you take will be listed on your transcript along with the grade you receive in each course. Your transcript is one of four primary sources of data that colleges will use to determine your eligibility for admission. Colleges want to see that you chose to take rigorous courses and that you earned good grades in those courses. The other three important sources of data college will look for are your SAT or ACT score, your extracurricular activities, and your personal statement.

Make up lost credit now if necessary. If you have lost credit in one or more courses, you should speak to your counselor as soon as possible about when/how to make up that credit. Once a student loses more than two credits, he/she is considered to NOT be on track for graduation. SJHS offers several ways to recover lost credit. See your counselor soon to get yourself back on track to graduate with your class.

Get involved! It is important to get involved with at least one or two clubs or activities either in school or in the community. You will have fun connecting with others who have similar interests. You may also have an opportunity to take a leadership role within those organizations, which would look good on your resume.

Choose 11th grade courses carefully. Remember that rigor is important. You also want to choose courses that are related to your future career goals if possible.

Start researching careers and colleges online. An excellent resource, visit XELLO.

Start visiting colleges! It is never too early to start visiting college campuses. Be sure to call the admissions office of the college prior to your visit, as there may be a special event or group tour taking place around the time you plan to be there. You will probably also learn more about the college if you have the opportunity to meet with someone from the admissions office. Even if you think you know where you want to attend college, it is still a good idea to explore all of your options by visiting schools with small, medium and large student populations.

### **Career and College Readiness**

Choosing and planning for a career is one of the most important things Redwings can do during their time in high school. Below are several links to help students and their families plan.

EDP (Educational Development Plans): XELLO

All Redwings in grades 6-12 have a student XELLO account that houses their EDPs. Students use this account to :

- Conduct learning styles, interests, and skills assessments
- Explore and save favorite career options
- Explore and save post-secondary training plans
- Explore the annual college planning timeline
- Build resume/portfolio content by documenting their hobbies, interest, skills, abilities, volunteer work, extracurricular activities, and awards
- Schedule SJHS courses