

9th Grade Student Checklist

☐ **Learn about your high school graduation requirements**

Talk to your school counselor each year to make sure you are taking the right class credits to graduate. These high school requirements will help you be college ready to help you with college admissions.

☐ **Understand your Grade Point Average (GPA)**

Your freshman GPA will impact the GPA you have when you apply to college. It is important to keep good grades all four years.

☐ **Learn about the different college pathways after high school**

Certificates (1-year), Associate degrees (2-year), and Bachelor degrees (4-years) are what students work on after high school. Community colleges will offer certificate and associate degrees, while 4-year universities and colleges offer bachelor degrees. The career you want will determine the best educational path for you, but most jobs in Colorado will require further education past a high school diploma.

☐ **Create short-term goals for high school, and long-term goals for after high school**

Think about what you want to accomplish in high school, then what you want to accomplish later in life. What goals do you have? What do you want to accomplish? Then think about what you need to do today to make sure you reach your goals. These goals are for you and can change.

☐ **Get involved in extracurricular activities that interest you**

Extracurricular activities are what students do outside of normal class activities; for example sports, clubs, jobs and volunteering. Being involved in these activities help you develop leadership skills and make you stand out when you apply to colleges and scholarships.