

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

1. **Activate and use your Plus Portal Account. (student & parent)**
2. **Earn good grades** in all of your classes.
3. **Use an agenda to stay on track.**
4. **Develop good study habits and** continue to improve your study skills.
5. Plan to meet and **get to know your School Guidance Counselor** to begin talking about colleges and careers.
6. Log in and use your **MASS CIS (Massachusetts Career Information System)** account to start your portfolio. **You created an account last year with Ms. Krems, your 8<sup>th</sup> grade School Guidance Counselor.** Explore interests, careers, and colleges. **ALWAYS SAVE YOUR WORK IN YOUR PORTFOLIO.**
7. Have **good attendance** and **get to school on time.**
8. **Get help if you are falling behind in your school work:**
  - a. From your teachers,
  - b. Peer tutoring – see you School Guidance Counselor,
  - c. Create study groups with peers,
  - d. Your parents/guardians, & your counselor.
9. Get involved in **after-school activities** and seek **leadership** roles when possible, and **volunteer** in your community.
10. Challenge yourself by taking **Honors** courses.
11. **Find out about college entrance requirements for the schools you're interested in. Make sure you are** enrolled in the appropriate college-preparatory courses. ***It's not too early!***
12. Start an activity sheet (a summary of awards received and of activities you have been involved in both in and out of school during grades 9-12).
13. Learn to read your **transcript** and make sure you are on track for graduation. **(minimum 155 credits starting with the class of 2016).** If you have failed a course, make sure you sign up for summer school or credit recovery.
14. **NCAA for College Bound Student Athletes.** If you want to participate in **Division I or Division II** sports in college, start the certification process now. Register at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). Check with your school guidance counselor to make sure you are taking a core curriculum that meets NCAA requirements. See your coach and the athletic director regarding game films.