

Senior To-Do List – College Planning 2025–26

1. Submit Community Service and/or Work Hours - Organize, get approval for, and submit all current community service and/or work hours to Mr. Bergman or the Front Office (Mrs. Manders).

- Submission instructions are available on the Pine View School website.
- Hours earned over the summer should also be submitted after we return to school.

2. Finish HOPE and Other Online Coursework - Sign up for and complete all required online courses and/or HOPE coursework by the end of the summer.

- If you're an athlete using a HOPE waiver, contact your coach now and have them complete and submit the form as soon as possible. (Waiver form is on the PVS website).

College Planning Tasks

3. SchoolLinks Tasks - Complete the following required items on *SchoolLinks*. (Feel free to complete any overdue tasks!)

- **Set/Update your profile** (click Settings in the top-right corner; update your email and phone number, and invite at least one parent/guardian).
- Upload your **Resume** (Click the folder next to your name → Add File).
- Set/Update your **College Goal**.
- Complete the **College Application Process Learning Unit**.
- Explore and **Favorite Colleges** of interest.

4. Upload Requested Documents to SchoolLinks - Upload the following to *SchoolLinks* or send via email to Mr. Bergman:

- **Personal Resume:** If you have not already created and uploaded a resume, it is strongly recommended that you do so. Many universities allow an educational resume to provide detail beyond the Common App Activities section. Templates are available on request.
- **Student Questionnaire and Prompts:** Available on the PVS Counseling website.

5. Common Application 2025–26

- **Create a Common App account now** at [Commonapp.org](https://commonapp.org).
- Familiarize yourself with the format and requirements.
- Note: Beginning this year, your work—including essays—will carry over if you create an account before August 1st.

6. Common App Essay/Personal Statement – By now, your English teachers have introduced the 2025–26 essay topics and shared resources. Summer essay tasks:

- Choose your essay topic.
- Begin writing and develop a strong draft before school starts.
- Your Senior English teachers will provide feedback on your draft.

Tip: Check out college-specific supplemental essay questions in the "My Colleges" section of Common App. (Note: These may change in August, so anything entered may be overwritten.)

7. SAT and ACT Testing – Summer 2025 - Plan ahead and register if needed!

ACT (Online only, Science optional):

- **June 14** – Register by **May 9** | Photo upload deadline: **May 27**
- **July 12** – Register by **June 6** | Photo upload deadline: **June 20**

SAT/College Board

- **June 7** – Register by **May 22** | Late changes: **May 27**
- **August 23** – Register by **August 8** | Late changes: **August 12**

8. Teacher Letters of Recommendation - If your chosen colleges require recommendation letters:

- Speak in person with the teachers you'd like to ask.
- Florida public universities do not accept recommendation letters.
- **Do not request letters through Common App.** This will be done via *SchoolLinks* after school resumes in August. (Instructions to follow).

9. Finalize Your College List - Research and refine your college list:

- Keep the list **balanced** with reach, target, and likely schools.
- Focus on **fit and intention**, not just prestige or popularity.

10. What's Coming in August - A letter/email home will include:

- Instructions for syncing the Common App with *SchoolLinks*.
 - How to complete the ***Self-Reported Academic Record (SSAR)***.
 - A ***Transcript Request Form*** where you'll list the colleges you're applying to.
 - Detailed instructions for requesting teacher recommendation letters.
 - Class meetings in August and September to guide you through the process and answer any remaining questions.
-

11. Appointments with Mr. Bergman - If we haven't met and you or your parents would like to:

- Initial appointments will resume in early August and continue through November.
 - My youcanbook me calendar opens on August 1 - <https://lancebergman.youcanbook.me>
 - Follow-up appointments (20 minutes) will also be available.
 - For now, please direct any questions to lance.bergman@sarasotacountyschools.net.
-

A Final Note:

Yes, this is a lot—but organizing and planning over the summer will make your Senior year (and the college application process) far less stressful. Take time to rest and recharge, and I look forward to working with you in the fall.

Have a great summer!

Sincerely,
Mr. Bergman