

HIGH SCHOOL POSTSECONDARY PLANNING ROADMAP

Grade 9: Explore & Build Your Foundation

Get to know yourself and establish strong habits.

Academics

- Earn good grades and develop strong study habits
- Attend school regularly and stay organized
- Choose courses that challenge and interest you
- Learn your graduation requirements

Interests and Goals

- Complete the interests, skills, and work values assessments in [MEFA Pathway](#) to help you discover potential careers
- Meet with your school counselor to discuss your goals

Exploration

- Explore the many pathways available after high school:
 - Two-year colleges
 - Four-year colleges and universities
 - Skilled trades and apprenticeships
 - Military service
 - Employment
 - Certificate and workforce training programs
- Attend your school's career awareness activities

Experience

- Join clubs, sports, art programs, and other extracurricular activities
- Volunteer within the community
- Start a resume to keep track of:
 - Awards and accomplishments
 - Volunteer hours
 - Leadership experiences
 - Activities and employment
 - Interests, skills, and work values assessment results and reflections

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Reflection/ Journal Questions

- What have I learned about myself this year?
- With all that I learned, how will I now make decisions about my future?
- In 9th grade, what are interests I discovered, activities I enjoyed, and academic successes and challenges I experienced?

MEFA Resources

- Curious about all things GPA? Check out MEFA's article, [Understanding the Difference Between Weighted and Unweighted GPAs](#)
- Use [MEFA Pathway](#) to start a resume, take a survey to determine your best-fit careers, and learn about different occupations
- How can you stay on top of everything? Check out MEFA's brief video, [How to Stay Organized](#), from high school student Jariel
- Have questions about your grades and your plans? Check out MEFA's quick video, [How to Work with Your School Counselor](#)
- Use [MEFA Pathway](#) to add a journal entry that answers the reflection questions above