## Freshmen—9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Here are some important things to consider when you enter 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Graduation will be here before you know it and being prepared is the best way to succeed and enjoy the journey!

- Meet with the administration to
  - Choose a Diploma Option (Career Path, General, Standard, or College Prep)
  - Select your classes and map out your 4-year plan)
- Take the most challenging courses you can successfully handle.
  - Colleges look at the type and level of courses you take in high school.
- Begin your Community Service as of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of your freshman year.
  - You have 4 years to earn your hours (75 or 100 depending on the diploma)
- Work hard to get good grades.
  - Your GPA is important.
  - Doing well in your 9<sup>th</sup> grade courses sets you up for success in the years to come.
  - Learn good time management and be diligent.
- Begin to explore career paths and areas of interest.
  - If possible find community service opportunities in fields you are interested in.
- Be aware of Scholarship information –especially Florida Bright Futures.
  - Scholarships are accepted at Florida state colleges and universities AS WELL AS many trade schools.
- Ask for help when you need it.

## A good place to begin your career and/or college exploration is https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search/filters