



Crosby Scholars

For college. For life.

What Is My Crosby Scholars Student Portal?

The Crosby Scholars student portal provides a student and parent/guardian access to Crosby Scholars Program information, events, registration links, and requirement statuses.

For new Crosby Scholars- you should have received a confirmation at the student email address you provided on your application. In this email, you should have also received a temporary password.

Instructions on how to sign in:

- Click on the blue icon in the top right corner of our homepage:
www.crosbyscholarsiredell.org
- If you are signing on for the first time, you'll be asked to create a new permanent password (with a minimum of six characters, using at least one number and one capital letter).
- Make sure to write down or save your permanent password somewhere safe as Crosby Scholars staff will not have access to it.

It is important to sign in to the Crosby Scholars student portal regularly and keep your account and information up to date. Most colleges accept students online and provide online student accounts similar to ours. So, we are preparing you for the college admission experience right from the start!



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Do My Freshman Grades Matter?

Yes, your freshman year of high school does matter! Mostly, because you are learning material and concepts that will help you excel as your progress through high school.

Freshman grades are not the most important ones. However, if you are looking at selective schools or programs, you will need a good grade point average (GPA). It is very hard to pull up your GPA if you have a bad freshman year. Now that you know this – it should encourage you to do your best work! Choosing challenging classes like honors and AP classes are the best way to prepare yourself for college level work and get a high GPA. Choose your sophomore classes carefully! Ask your Counselor for help – this is a great way to get to know them, too.

Your specific grades in each class will not be scrutinized. However, your overall GPA will determine your **class rank**, eligibility for **National Honor Society** and **college admission!** Your GPA is calculated based on all of the classes that you have taken in high school, so your freshman classes will weigh into your GPA just as heavily as your junior year grades.

If you get a few B's or even one or two C's, it won't be the end of the world. One thing that admissions looks for is an improvement throughout your four years. Colleges like to see how you learn from your mistakes. Getting a poor grade during your freshman year will be less of an issue if you improve steadily afterwards. You may even use it as a discussion point on one of your college or scholarship essays, if you write about personal growth.

By improving your commitment to doing your best, old fashion hard work, **improved organization and time management** - you will be able to get the grades you deserve!!

Good luck! Your SENIOR self will thank you ☺!



Crosby Scholars

For college. For life. For 25 years.

Why School Counselors Matter to You!

What Services Does the Counseling Center provide?

- **Guidance:** Meet with the school counselor to talk about your strengths, weaknesses, interests, and goals.
- **Planning for College:** Make an appointment to plan classes that will prepare you for college admission and success. Your counselor will know which high school classes you need for college admissions.
- **Help:** Contact the school counselor for a parent/teacher conference.
- **Support:** Meet with your counselor to talk about social and emotional issues. Counselors are a great sounding board to help you through challenges in high school.
- **Tips:** Seek information about standardized test information.
- **Advice:** Ask the school counselor information about colleges, career, or general tips to plan for college.



How to get to know your school counselor?

- You have been assigned a counselor based on your last name. If you haven't met your counselor, set an appointment and introduce yourself.
- The more information you share about your goals, personality, and academic record, the more the counselor can support you throughout high school.

Assignment: Look up the counselor list for your school and write down the name of your counselor: _____

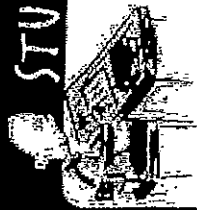


Studying Strategies Handout

Below is a list of common strategies for studying. Add any additional strategies you use that aren't on the list. Then, rank the strategies based on how effective they are for you. Number one should be the most effective strategy for you.

Strategy	Rank
Take notes on the main points in what I'm reading.	
Stay hydrated and nourished to keep up energy levels.	
Draw graphs or diagrams to summarize key points.	
Create index cards or flashcards with the important information and review until memorized.	
Check what I know by writing out as much as I can remember about the topic.	
Study with a friend.	
Study in a quiet place without distractions.	
Listen to music.	
Check for understanding of the material (self-check or ask someone to ask you questions).	
Take short breaks (exercise, eat something, nap).	
Set goals by creating checklists.	
Study over several days instead of cramming the night before.	
Review class notes.	
Stay organized by having all necessary materials in reach.	
Stay motivated by reminding myself of my goals.	
Other:	
Other:	
Other:	

STUDY SKILLS: STUDY ENVIRONMENT



ACTIVITY THREE: OBSTACLES TO CONCENTRATION

External Obstacles

External Obstacles What to do about it

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Internal Obstacles

Internal Obstacles What to do about it

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

ACTIVITY FOUR: MY STUDY PLAN

1. The place I study best is _____
 my bedroom, the public library, the kitchen table,
 the dining room, another place; _____
2. The reason I choose this place to study is _____
3. The time I study best is _____
 early in the morning, right after school, after dinner,
 another time; _____
4. The reason this time is best for me is _____
5. I study best _____
 by myself, with a parent or another adult,
 with my brother or sister, in a study group.
6. I need a study break _____
 every 15 minutes, every 30 minutes, every hour;
7. When I take a break, I _____
8. List five items you need in your study environment to be an effective learner: 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____ 5) _____

PUT STICKERS ON NOTES YOU NEED TO GO OVER

STUDY IN A WELL LIT AREA

studying tips

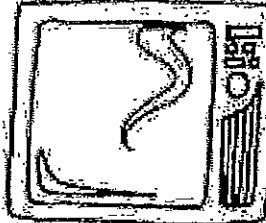
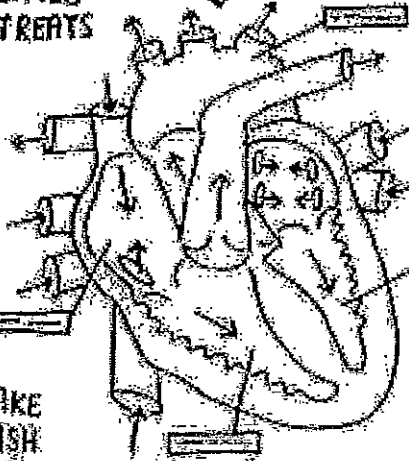
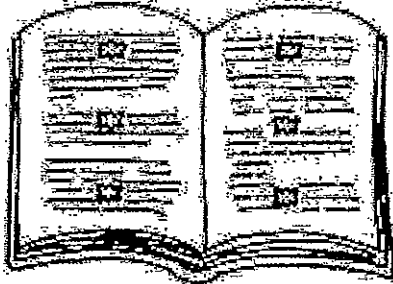
BY REVISE OR DIE (a.k.a. *Chillz*)

USE SHAPE RECOGNITION WATCH

REWARD YOURSELF FOR READING WITH LITTLE TREATS

DRAW DIAGRAMS

DOCUMENTARY ON THE TOPIC



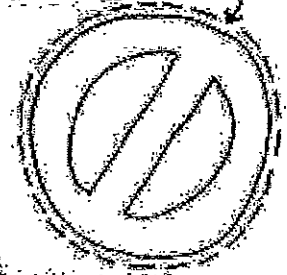
DOWNLOAD A WEBSITE BLOCKER TO STAY ON TASK

LOOK
COVER
WRITE
CHECK

MAKE FLASH CARDS

USE A VARIETY OF METHODS TO KEEP YOUR INTERESTED

MAKE MINDMAPS



MAKE A SCHEDULE

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
7-9		✓			✓	✓	✓
9-11		✓	✓				✓
11-1	✓		✓		✓		
1-3			✓	✓			
3-5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5-7	✓						

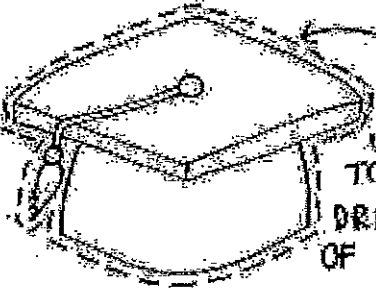
"Let us remember: one book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world"

REMEMBER WHAT MALALA SAID...

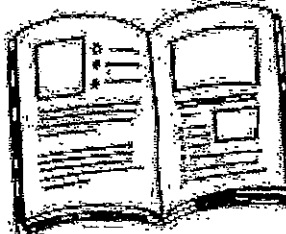


LISTS, TO-DO'S, CHECKLISTS, WHATEVER YOU CALL THEM, MAKE THEM!

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION - ASK IT!



TEACH WHAT YOU KNOW TO YOURSELF OR TO OTHERS
DRINK LOTS OF WATER



MAKE YOUR OWN TEXTBOOK
Remember YOU ARE BRILLIANT



9th Grade

FALL

WINTER

SPRING



- Create your **FREE CFNC.org** account to help plan for career and college.
- Explore careers that interest you.
- Start learning about colleges and entrance requirements.

10th Grade

- Use the **CFNC.org** College Search tool to find colleges that interest you.
- Consider signing up for the **October PSAT** good practice for the SAT. (Free SAT and ACT practice tests on **CFNC.org**.)
- Talk with friends and family about the career and education choices.



- Register for challenging courses such as **AP** and **IB** to meet graduation requirements and discover new interests and possible careers.
- Look into the possibility of dual enrollment with **College and Career Promise (CCP)** to earn college credit while in high school.

11th Grade

- Consider the college programs, activities, and locations that interest you most.
- Start narrowing your list of colleges.
- Meet SAT and ACT registration deadlines to avoid late fees.
- Attend free College Fairs and Financial Aid Workshops at your school or in your area.

- Stay involved in challenging courses to meet graduation and college admission requirements.
- Get familiar with financial aid terms, such as **FAFSA**, **FSA ID**, the **College PROFILE**, scholarships, grants, federal and private loans.

12th Grade

- Attend free College Fairs and Financial Aid Workshops.
- Check all deadlines: applications, scholarships & aid.
- Request recommendations, if needed.
- Plan and proofread carefully any college application essays.
- Use **CFNC.org** Application Hub to complete applications & send free official high school transcripts to any NC college.
- Use **NC Residency Determination Service (RDS)** to see if you're eligible for state grants and in-state tuition.
- Get your **FAFSA ID** & complete the **FAFSA** early. You may be eligible for federal and state grants for college.

- Use **CFNC.org** to find multiple ways to help pay for college.
- Talk with your counselor about local area scholarships and grants.
- Check if the colleges to which you've applied have received all your information.
- Watch for admission letters and financial aid offers.
- Keep studying. Your senior year grades are important for final acceptance!



- If you are in AP courses, do your best on final exams for possible college credit.
- Weigh financial aid offers & how cost fits the family budget.
- Make your decision! Let your first choice school know & notify rest you are not enrolling.
- If you didn't get into your preferred colleges, use the **College Redirection Tool** at **CFNC.org** (opens April 1) to find other options:
- Community college? Check with campus about placement tests.
- Celebrate your high school graduation and look forward to a bright future!

- Log into **CFNC.org** to find and take free **SAT** and **ACT** practice tests.
- Look into summer opportunities, such as camps, classes, or volunteering to help prepare for college.
- Update your **CFNC.org** profile with this year's activities and courses.

- If you've taken AP classes, register for the AP exam. May give you extra credit for college.
- Check the fall SAT and ACT dates. Register well in advance to save money.
- Look for college prep, community service, and part-time work summer opportunities.
- Continue exploring career fields that interest you.
- Plan to visit college campuses in the summer to get a sense of those that interest you.

- Look into scholarship and grant options.
- Take SAT and ACT as scheduled.
- Plan your senior year courses carefully.
- Schedule college visits and admission interviews on campuses in which you are interested.



Helping you plan, apply, and pay for college