## **Applying to College**

- 1. Determine which schools you would like to apply to. I encourage you to apply to at least 3-5 schools.
  - Set a goal to apply to all of these schools by December 1st.
  - Make note of application deadlines!
- Visit the school's website and go to the Admissions page. There should be a
  pretty visible link that says "APPLY" or something similar. You are applying as a
  first-time, undergraduate student (regardless if you've completed college credit
  in high school).
  - The majority of applications are done ONLINE, not a paper application.
  - When in doubt, Google the school you are interested in and browse around their website to learn about their application process.
- 3. DO NOT rush through the application just to say it's done. Take your time and answer all of the questions to the best of your ability. Typically, you can begin working on an application, save it, and finish it at a later time when you know all of the answers.
- 4. When the application asks for your extracurricular and school involvement, don't be shy! This is the time to brag about all of the wonderful things you have done while in high school. It is acceptable to mail in a separate sheet to the Admissions Office that details your involvement rather than trying to squeeze it all in on the application.
- 5. Some colleges require an essay while others make it optional. I would encourage you to write an essay when it is optional. It gives the Admissions team additional information about you that may help them in the admission process. When writing these essays, please proofread them multiple times. Take them to a teacher or guidance counselor for proofing also.
  - If you use a similar essay for multiple applications, make sure you individualize it for that college. I've heard from many Admission counselors that a student has applied to one school but the essay says another school.

- 6. Many Ohio schools require what is called the "COMMON APP". The link on their website will send you to the Common App's site. You have to create a username and password. If this process is confusing, please see Mrs. Njoroge for assistance.
- 7. Once you have finished the application, please be sure to notify Mrs. Braun or Mrs. Njoroge so that your transcript can be sent. Use the form listed on our website or click <a href="here">here</a>!