



# Columbia-Brazoria

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 158, West Columbia, TX 77486 ★ 979-345-5147 ★ fax 979-345-4890 ★ [www.cbisd.com](http://www.cbisd.com)

August 14, 2018

Dear Senior Parent or Guardian:

Graduation for the class of 2019 is near! This letter is designed to review a few of the items that you should consider to ensure a smooth transition to graduation.

A minimum of 26 credits in required state courses and successful completion on the five STAAR End of Course exams is needed to graduate from Columbia High School. Ask your senior for his/her progress report and nine week report card each nine weeks. If your senior is failing any course, contact the teacher to find out the problem. The CHS phone number is (979) 345-5147; the senior counselor's extension is 2016. Do not wait until progress reports in December to find out what your senior needs to do.

It is imperative that all students take the TSI or an equivalent exam for entrance into any Texas college. Your senior needs to see Mrs. Lancaster on a Tuesday or Thursday at the CHS counseling center to enroll. Some students who meet certain criteria may be exempt so have your senior see Mrs. Lancaster or Mrs. Westbrook soon!

Your senior must take the SAT, ACT, or both depending on the college he/she wishes to attend. Online registration is now available at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for the SAT and [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) for the ACT. You can access a free ACT/SAT online prep at both above websites. These are self-paced online tutorials that the students can access from any computer. I hope they will take advantage of this awesome opportunity. In addition to testing information, college and career information is available in the Counseling center.

In addition to checking on grades and then paying and registering for tests, seniors have more! College applications need to be completed. Students should not wait until the last minute to apply because earlier acceptance eases stress and allows for better planning for dorm rooms. Many times it means better financial aid package offers. Once your senior has a focus on just a few colleges, the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) needs to be completed online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). The application may be submitted October 1, 2018, for the 2019-2020 school year. For more information on financial aid in the state of Texas, go to [www.collegeforalltexans.com](http://www.collegeforalltexans.com).

The scholarship newsletter is now available online at [www.cbisd.com/](http://www.cbisd.com/) under academics, guidance and counseling. The information for the entire year is available and I update deadlines and new information as it becomes available. Also available on the website are ACT and SAT test dates, links to all colleges in the United States, and other helpful websites. I will have a parent financial aid presentation in the evening in October to cover additional FAFSA and financial aid questions.

Also, please check all graduation requirements and your senior's second semester schedule to make sure all is in line for graduation. I will check and double check, but please call me if you have any questions. I will return your calls promptly.

What an exciting time! Good planning and cooperation always makes a memorable, relaxing graduation. Enjoy this wonderful time in your senior's life!

Bobbi Westbrook, CHS Senior Counselor

**Catch the Challenge !      Learn for Life !      Come  
Grow With Us !**

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