

Goal for 10th grade

More foundation, Start Building

Sit the PLAN (pre-ACT test) in Oct and depending on your score consider either taking the ACT or an ACT prep class

Find your fit

Try a few new extracurriculars or commit to the ones you like and grow your position

Determine if you are round or pointy

Specialized in one thing or well-rounded

Good Habits

Get good grades, strive for straight A's if possible while classes are lower-stakes

SUMMER—Balance your time between relaxation and future planning

A-Consider either taking a PSAT/NMSQT prep class or get a book and teach yourself. Unlike the SAT, the PSAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT) only happens once (October Junior year). A National Merit Scholarship is worth a full ride or generous merit scholarships to many top-tier colleges/ universities, so doing very well on this exam could have a \$40,000-\$210,000 reward.

B-Relax, explore and work with purpose: for example, take a math or foreign language class to get ahead a year, go to camp or spend time deepening a passion (swimming, reading, quilting etc). If you have a job, find ways to learn as much as possible and expand your skillset (can you take on leadership roles?) All the while be sure to update your reflections on all your activities so you can remember what you did and what you learned.