

PLANNING CHECKLIST

- 1**  **Create a MyCareerShines login, if you haven't already.**
This login will be used throughout high school, so use an email address you check and remember your password. MyCareerShines is where you take different interest and skill inventories, create a resume, and find lots of information on all kinds of jobs you may never have heard of. Start here: <https://mycareershines.kuder.com/account/login-register>.
- 2**  **Get your parent a MyCareerShines Parent Account too!**
Your parents can see a parent report of your interest and skill inventories to see what kinds of future careers you would be great at. Use the same link above to get started.
- 3**  **Learn how YOU learn best.**
Start figuring out your learning style, what type of student you are, and which study habits you can improve by taking self-assessments here: <http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/index.shtml>. Use this information to help you find the best ways for you to take notes, study, and succeed in school as you prepare for life in and after high school.
- 4**  **Explore Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes and Career Choice Academies.**
Check out the many [CTE options](#) and [Career Choice Academies](#) at your high school and also at [Marion Technical Institute \(MTI\)](#). Get a permission slip to go to the MTI Tours in the late Fall. (Busses take you from your high school to MTI and back, so you can attend.)
- 5**  **Explore academic programs.**
Each high school has different options, such as AICE, IB, and AP courses.
- 6**  **Explore the paths and careers available through the military.**
Consider JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps) as a class in high school (Two years of JROTC satisfies the HOPE credit requirement in high school.) Each high school has a JROTC branch, with information on the school's website.
- 7**  **Attend the Magnet Expo.**
You can find out which academic and career program options are at each high school and talk to people and students who know about the programs. Some programs require an application with a deadline, so be sure to ask.
- 8**  **Get involved!**
Students who are involved feel better and do better! Research shows that when you have a connection to school (e.g., sports, clubs, activities), it greatly enhances your success. Find at least one thing to take part in that you are passionate about, both in 8th grade, and in high school!