ETS/Project P.L.U.S.
Freshman Year Checklist

☐ Take challenging classes in English, Math, and Science, Social Science (History, Geography, Government, and Economics), a foreign language and the arts.

☐ Review your course selection; be sure you select the high school courses required for college admission. Colleges look for challenging coursework, strong GPA, involvement in school, community, and volunteer activities.

☐ Begin to explore your personal interests and abilities and see how they match up with various careers and educational possibilities. Consider doing job shadows; talking to adults in various professions to determine what their job is like, what they like/dislike, and what type of education is needed for that type of job.

☐ Get to know your Project PLUS Advisor, Career Counselor and Guidance Counselor and become familiar with other college resources available in your school.

☐ Begin to research colleges & possible majors. Your high school college/career center is a great place to start looking through college catalogs, publications, and guidebooks. The internet is also a good resource.

☐ Take advantage of opportunities to attend college fairs and meet with college reps that visit your school. Sign up for Project PLUS college visitations.

☐ Get involved in school and community based extracurricular activities. Start volunteering, if you’re not already. You’ll definitely need to show you are well rounded and your involvement outside of academics is needed when applying for scholarships.

☐ Begin thinking about what you’re going to do when you graduate from high school; attend college, join the military, go directly into full-time employment.

☐ Start considering how to fund your education; scholarships, financial aid, loans, etc.

☐ Create a file to begin to manage your college search, testing, scholarship and admission application information.

☐ Continue to focus on your study habits and seek out tutoring for subjects you need help in EARLY. Don’t wait to get help until it’s too late and you’ve received a poor grade. Maintain good grades in all of your classes which will help raise your cumulative GPA.