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**TO DO LIST FOR RISING 9TH AND 10TH and 11th GRADERS**

(12th graders also if looking at DIII or NAIA and not yet decided)

WITE AN ATHLETIC RESUME

* This is a work in progress, update it after every season/sport played
* Should include
  + Sports played and positions
  + Athletic accolades
  + Any athletic honors (including playing varsity, being a member or starter of a conference/state championship team)
  + Club info
  + Coach info (names, phone numbers and emails)
  + See sample resume and template attached

GET A GUIDEBOOK TO COLLEGES (purchase or look at your local library)

* Leave in the living room and look through it with your student athlete regularly
* Gain an understanding of the college landscape, academic admissions standards, and overall costs
* Recommended *The Fiske Guide to Colleges*, easy to read and has a great questionnaire for your student athlete that will help narrow your search

MAKE A LIST OF FIVE COLLEGES YOU MAY LIKE TO ATTEND

* One reach school athletically and or academically
* 2 “good fit schools” where you think your athlete could play and where they fit into the academic standard (note-you can base your SAT score if not yet taken off of the 8th grade PSAT- most students will gain within 100 points of that score, 200 if they study a lot or get a tutor
* 2 safety schools, your student athlete could probably play there now, and they fit in the mid to top tier of the academic admissions standards

START RECRUITING PROCESS

* Get a professionally made highlight video, a necessary expense, available from most tournaments
* **EMAIL COACHES** (entire coaching staff) of your target school when they are attending a tournament you athlete will be playing in, attach resume and video to every email
  + Do this one to two weeks out, and email again to send your schedule and field numbers where you are playing once receive it
* Look into doing camps at your selected colleges- these are the best ways to get in front of coaches at a particular school
* Attend showcases that fall into your athletic level, **EMAIL COACHES BEFORE YOU ATTEND**
  + DIVISION I TOP 20
  + MID LEVEL D 1 OR D II
  + DIVISION 3 HIGH ACADEMIC
  + DIVISION 3
* Things to monitor/ talk to your athlete about
  + Grades- super important, coaches will only look at kids they know will be successful and remain academically eligible to play
  + On field and sideline demeanor (this goes for parents too) coaches look for team players that have a good attitude and parents that support not yell at officials
  + Your student athlete’s social media presence- a decision of which athlete to take can come down to one inappropriate Instagram post

This is a work in progress, your list may change as you hear, or do not hear from coaches. The number one thing is to be proactive, and relentless. There is a spot for your athlete if playing in college is important for them. Keep at it, look to your resources for help, coaches, older players, anyone who has a connection to a college or a specific athletic program.