

# Senior Year Survival

To the Class of 2018, everyone will tell you that this year is going to fly by! That this year is going to be so fun and memorable and before you know it, you're saying goodbye to all your friends and family before you're finally shipped off to college. And guess what? It's completely true. So here's advice from a pre-frosh college student, and some SBHS recent grads, reminiscing on the last year of high school while packing up for college.

## **1. Try to stay on top of your homework - even though you are a senior, you are still in school.**

The *senior slide* might have kicked in already the fall of your senior year. This is not the time to slack and your grades still count as part of your GPA and this may give you many benefits such as lower car insurance, better college eligibility, higher career opportunities, etc. You will less likely to be on academic probation in college if you get higher grades senior year. Senioritis is real- Don't let it overpower you!

## **2. Your parents may drive you nuts. (And you them!)**

**But they love you. And don't forget to tell them how much you love them.**

With the stress of college applications, of course there's going to be an outburst here and there in your family. Know that when parents are breathing down your neck about your essays, deadlines and fees, they're only doing it because they care. When they tell you that you can't leave the house until your applications are done, they're doing you a huge favor. Seniors, your parents love you. No matter how much they drive us completely insane, tell them you love them. This is your last year at home. Appreciate every moment that you have left before you go off on your own.

## **3. Not getting into your first choice school is not the end of the world.**

One SB grad remembers: "For most of my life, I had my entire future planned out. My heart set on one school and only one school. I can honestly tell you that getting rejected from my first choice school was the best thing that could've ever happened to me. Not only have I fallen in love with my future home for the next four years, I've been presented with many opportunities that I didn't have available at my first choice. Things work out how they're supposed to, even if it doesn't seem like it at the time. You'll see, trust me."

#### **4. If you have the slightest interest in applying to a school, just do it.**

“Agreed, it'll be more essays to tackle, more money in the long run. But having options is important. And honestly, you might be surprised. A school you never even considered going to might just be the right one for you (this is literally what happened in my case).”

#### **5. Don't compare yourself to anyone else.**

“It's going to be hard once you start hearing all the application results. Just because your best friend gets in and you don't, doesn't mean you're any less qualified. Everyone is different and everyone brings something different to the table. Just worry about yourself. It may be hard when everyone is pressing you about your results and those of your friends, but you can do it. There is a college for everyone; you just need to find the right fit.”

#### **6. Stop worrying about what you look like/what you wear.**

Enjoy your last year; don't waste it trying to impress other people by how you look or by how you dress. Keep to the school dress code and keep things simple. If you're happy and confident, that's all that matters.

#### **7. Talk to as many people as you can**

Don't be afraid to branch out from your friend group. You only have one year left with your class. You never know who you've been missing out on the past three years. Take the time to get to know someone new as well; transfer students, International students.

#### **8. Have fun, but not too much fun.**

Go out, go to a party, have a great time with your friends and family. But remember to be careful. You don't want to have to be that kid that has to notify your college that you've been suspended from school or had to deal with the police because you thought senior year was going to be the time of your life. Leave your mark, not a bad memory at your Alma Mater.