

## ***Eighth Grade Checklist***

**Most students don't start thinking about college until they enter high school. If you start planning now, you'll be a step ahead of the crowd. Here are some steps to get you started.**

- ✓ Talk to your parents about your plans for the future. Do they include college, community college, college of technology, military, etc.?
- ✓ Think about what things you are interested in. Do you like working with your hands? Do you like working with people? Do you like to work outdoors? Etc.
- ✓ Check out the 16 Baker High School Pathways on the BHS website. Do any of them sound interesting to you? Notice that for each pathway, there are recommended classes to take in high school to help you prepare for working in that area.
- ✓ Log on to MCIS and look around at all of the information about occupations, careers, colleges, the military, and employment. Take the interest inventories on the website. Save your information to your MCIS portfolio.
- ✓ Study and strive for good grades. Studying hard now will prepare you for the years to come.
- ✓ Visit college websites for information on their admission and course requirements.
- ✓ Meet with your counselor or other professionals to check out possibilities on job shadowing or career exploration.
- ✓ Develop skills that are valuable in high school and essential in college: word processing, online resources, use of technology, etc.
- ✓ Do at least one hour of homework every night.
- ✓ Ask your counselor about academic enrichment programs (including summer, weekend and online programs.)