

## COLLEGE DECISION “The Right Fit”

If you wish to continue your education and athletic play beyond high school there is a place for you. The hard part is finding it. Unfortunately most schools are not going to find you! By starting early and doing your “homework” you may just find “The Right Fit”.

### **I. Getting Started:**

- Your Grade Point Average (GPA) begins with your Freshman End of Year Final Grade.
- Take the PSAT at the beginning of your Junior year. This is the SAT practice test.
- Take the SAT or ACT in your Junior year & into your Senior year if needed.
- Colleges & Universities require specific GPA & SAT scores. “Sliding Scale”
- Log onto [www.ncaaclearinghouse.com](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.com) & complete the application (fee). This is a resource to check on Eligibility & Coursework required (which is different than Graduation requirements). Applies to Division I & II schools.

### **II. List Schools you are interested in attending. Consider the following:**

1. Location & Size
  - Distance from Home?
  - School enrollment > small town atmosphere or big time football?
  - Class size > do you want to be a # or name?
  - Junior College/Division I, II, or III > be realistic
2. Program of Study
  - Career Major > what will you do when your playing days are over?
  - Graduation Rates > is the school serious about academics?
  - Would you attend the school even if you didn’t play a sport
3. Baseball Program
  - Positional needs > print roster & note players’ position & grade
  - Walk on policy > find out the procedure
  - Contact the Head Coach or Assistant Coaches > express interest
  - Attend one of their Winter or Summer Camps
4. Visit the Campus
  - Attend an Orientation session > info on college/university website
  - Print schedule of games > attend a game or two
  - Set up an appointment to meet with the Coach if possible
5. Cost
  - In State vs. Out of State
  - Academic Scholarships > check on guidance website & listen to announcements
  - Athletic Scholarships > these are limited
  - Financial Aid > all seniors should complete FASFA

### **III. Fill out the Applications**

- Apply online @ the College site at the beginning of your Senior year.
- Get these in early so you can find out if you have been accepted
- Give yourself plenty of “Choices”.
- See Mrs. Russell in Guidance to have Transcripts sent. (\$5 each/ \$10 unlimited)
- See Mrs. Rutz (Career Coach) in Guidance

Use the JWHS Guidance website & guidance counselors as a resource in helping with this process. There is a lot to consider. Weigh your options, make a decision, and give it your best shot. If you realize after the first year it’s not what you thought it would be, you can always transfer to another school! GOOD LUCK!