

## HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK: ACTIVITY 1

To follow reading  
and discussion of  
**What I Wish I'd  
Done Differently  
in High School**

on page 10.

### What I Wish I'd Done Differently in High School

**HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK**

### What I Wish I'd Done Differently in High School

New school year, new you!

I wish I'd have taken more time to prepare for my first day of school. It's a chance to meet new people and make new friends, and get a better grip on your future. To help you make the most of this school year, we asked 25 Florida high school seniors to tell you what they wish they had done differently in high school. Here are their biggest regrets.

I wish I'd earned my AA degree in high school. I already completed my first year of college and be working on my second. I wish I had been more involved in my clubs and activities.

I feel like I held myself back. I wasn't ready for the college I wanted to attend, but there's still time. Failure isn't a "try," it's a learning opportunity.

Kaitie Sore-Louis  
23 senior at Newberry

Mike Tamayo  
16 Freshman

Meagan Fletcher  
22 senior at The College of Saint Elizabeth

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# What I Wish I'd Done Differently in High School

## INSTRUCTIONS

**Teacher says:** *It is time to assess your high school years. After reading the article on page 10, think about your accomplishments since freshman year. Think about what you would do differently if given the chance and those things you can still change at this point.*

- Hand out Individual Survey.
- Students will work individually on answering these questions.
- Students will share their answers (if comfortable) with the class.

**Teacher says:** *What can the district/school/teacher/student government or club do to work on some of these issues starting in 9th grade?*

- Students write a short letter to a 9th grader (anonymous) with advice.
- Have the students print the letters without a signature. Teacher will give these to a guidance counselor or freshman teacher to distribute to students. A suggested theme of the letter could be "If I knew then what I know now ...."

## TAKE IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL ...

The responses and questions from the freshman class can be a source of further discussion with the junior/senior class.

## Teacher Needs

Class copies of the Individual Survey (next page)

## Student Needs

Individual Survey

Pen/pencil

Laptop/desktop  
(with MS Word)

Printer access

## Florida State Standards

LAFS.1112.R1.3.7

Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.

LAFS.1112.L.3.6

Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

LAFS.1112.W.2.4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

# What I Wish I'd Done Differently in High School

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Read each of the items below. Answer each one as it pertains to your individual experience in high school.

**1)** What is your current GPA? Could this have been higher with more effort?

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**2)** What has prepared you the best to take the SAT and the ACT?

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**3)** What clubs/organizations have you taken part in since 9th grade?

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**4)** Have you played a sport or been involved in any athletic program in high school? If so for how many years?

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**5)** How would you evaluate your time management skills, i.e. getting school work completed, extracurricular activities, employment, etc. Circle One:

- Top Notch - I get it all done and have success at each!
- Time Waster - I cannot fit it all in, and something always suffers along the way.
- NOT - I cannot manage my time effectively to fit anything in except school work or employment.

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**6)** Have you taken any Dual Enrolled classes? If so how many credits have you accumulated?

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**7)** How would you evaluate your study habits? Circle One:

- Study alone is best for me!
- Studying in small groups would have helped me increase my success.
- Individualized tutoring would be a great help but I did not where to get the information.

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**8)** Do you know the State of Florida requirements for achieving a high school diploma?

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**9)** Up to this point in your high school career, do you have all the necessary requirements successfully completed?

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**10)** Do you know who your school guidance counselor is and how often have you seen him/her since your 9th grade year?

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**11)** Have you asked your guidance counselor to review your high school progress up to this point to figure out if you are on track for graduation?

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**12)** List the community or volunteer programs you have taken part in during your high school career. How many volunteer hours do you have logged monthly?

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\*Share the answers in a class discussion if you are comfortable doing so.