

Choosing a Topic

Challenge, passion, interest, and adventure . . . the topic of your Senior Project should be one that engages and excites you. This is an opportunity for you to explore something entirely new or push your skills even further in an area where you already excel.

You have to consider many factors before you make your final decision.

First, your Senior Project must be **a learning stretch** for you. A learning stretch expands your knowledge and skills in your topic area. It asks you to challenge yourself. Just like stretching any muscle, your new knowledge should extend well beyond your current level of expertise, but still be within your reach. If you choose something that is beyond your grasp or is too challenging, you may not be able to accomplish the goals of your Senior Project. If you do not stretch far enough, your project topic will not be approved, and you will have to start the process over. The good news is that we will help you determine if you have selected a topic that is a learning stretch for you.

Second, select someone who has the necessary expertise to mentor you in your topic area. **Don't reverse the process by choosing a mentor first and then a topic.** You should choose your topic based on your interest because you will be spending your senior year immersed in your choice.

Third, your parents or guardians must approve your project and mentor. Including your family in your decision making process is a good idea. Often your family and friends have great ideas and are aware of a variety of community resources.

Remember, nothing unethical, immoral, or illegal is allowed. **Choose wisely!**