

Freshman Class Visit Agenda

1. Requirements for being a Sophomore

a. **What are the requirements for me to move on to the next grade?**

Answer: A student must earn at least 5 credits including English 1 and Algebra 1. If a student earns 5, but fails either English or Algebra, they will continue to be 9th graders the following year.

b. **What if I am failing?** Answer: Tutoring is available to all 9th graders Tues and Thursday after school in the library. Parents and students are also encouraged to schedule a conference with the teacher. Parents and students also have access to Parent Connect where they monitor students grades as well as look at missing assignments.

2. Attendance Policy Violation (APV)

a. **What does this mean?**

Answer: APV means a student has missed too many days to receive credit in a class.

b. **How do I know if I am APV?**

Answer: If you think you might have missed more than 5 days, you should check with your attendance clerk. A letter is usually sent home, but it does not hurt to check.

c. **How do I clear this up?**

Answer: You can attend Friday and/or Saturday school to make up the time you have missed.

3. Ninth grade TAKS

a. **What am I taking?**

Answer: Ninth grade students will be taking the Reading TAKS and the Math TAKS.

b. **What happens if I don't pass?**

Answer: If you do not pass the Reading TAKS, you will take a Reading course the following year.

4. 4X4

a. **What does this mean for me?**

Answer: Students who started 9th grade in the 07-08 school year and after are required to take four years of English, four years of Math, four years of Science, and four years of Social Studies as part of the graduation requirements.

b. **How many credits do I need to graduate?**

Answer: You are required to have 26 credits to graduate on the Recommended plan.

c. **Start thinking about registration**

Answer: Counselors will begin the registration process for next year in March. Start thinking now about courses you might be interested in taking next year.

5. Transcript

a. **What is a transcript?**

Answer: A transcript is a legal document that contains all the courses a student has taken and passed or failed throughout their years in high school (any courses that were taken in middle school for high school credit will also appear on a transcript). This document is requested by college, universities, and scholarships that you apply to.

b. **Who sees my transcript?**

Answer: Colleges and Universities that you apply to or express interest in. We will not release a transcript until you and your parent have signed a transcript release allowing us to do so.

c. **How do I get a copy?**

Answer: Unless a student took courses for high school credit at the middle school, a ninth grade student will not have courses on the transcript until the end of their freshman year. A transcript can be requested in the counseling office and is ready for pick up 24 to 48 hours after the request has been made.

6. GPA

a. **What is a Grade Point Average?**

Answer: The Grade Point Average is the average of all of the student's high school courses. A student's current GPA is located on their report

card in the top right hand corner. The current GPA is for the six weeks and the cumulative GPA is for the previous year.

b. **How do I make my GPA better or worse?**

Answer: You can improve your GPA by making better grades. Your GPA will go down if your grades go down or if you fail or APV a course.

7. Semester Exams

a. What are these?

Answer: These exams will be taken the second week in January. It covers all the material covered in your class up until then.

b. How do they affect my grade? Answer: A semester exam is 25% of your semester grade. The grade you make on your semester exam will be added to your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd six weeks grade and the total will be divided by 4. Example:

1 st six weeks	2 nd six weeks	3 rd six weeks	Semester Exam	Total
60	70	75	60	265/4

Your semester average would be a 66 and you will have failed 1st semester of a full year course or you will not get credit for a semester course.