# Liberty High School 2023-2024 Frequently Asked Questions

## When will I get my schedule?

Students will be able to view their schedules on HAC around August 8, 2023.

## Why can't I change my schedule once school has started?

The deadline to make changes to course requests was on April 15, 2023. At that time, we hire teachers and begin planning the master schedule. If we allowed schedule changes after our deadline, we wouldn't have the correct number of teachers or course sections! We try to honor requests, but classes are formed and teachers are hired based on the courses selected on the registration sheet. Students are expected to take the classes they select. Counselors will only change schedules that have computer errors or conflicts. Also, keep in mind that sometimes a student's schedule will need to be changed for various reasons and since not all classes are offered every period of the day, your student may have to make another class choice based on what is offered during that certain period. We do not honor requests for specific teachers, class periods, or lunches. The course guide is posted on the FISD website

What classes will fulfill my speech, health, technology and fine art requirements towards graduation? Here is a <u>link</u> with the options for each category.

# Do you have a freshmen orientation?

Yes, we call it Flight School. We will send emails home regarding all of the specifics in late July or early August.

**How does the A/B block work?** We have a total of 8 classes. Four classes meet each day for an hour and a half each; the next day, four different classes meet. The first four classes are 'A' day, the second four classes are 'B' day, and they alternate all year long. You can view the District A/B Calendar from this link.

#### What is the bell schedule?

Period	Start	End
1st	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
2nd	10:35 AM	12:10 PM
Advisory	12:15 PM	12:45 PM
3rd		
A Lunch	12:50 PM	1:20 AM
B Lunch	1:20 AM	1:50 AM
C Lunch	1:50 AM	2:20 AM
D Lunch	2:20 AM	2:50 AM
4th	2:55 AM	4:25 AM

#### Will I need to purchase specific school supplies?

Students may be asked to purchase specific types of materials by individual teachers. Students involved in photojournalism, health science technology, fashion design, band, choir, dance and art classes (check

the course catalog for an exhaustive list) may be required to purchase some supplies. There is not a school-wide supply list.

**Should I take Advanced/AP classes?** Obviously, this is a very individual decision, and there are many factors to take into consideration: areas of strengths, previous grades, other commitments, teacher recommendations, etc. Your current teacher knows your skill set the best and will be the best judge of your academic readiness. Taking Advanced/AP in all areas is very challenging and time consuming, especially for those who have extracurricular commitments. Please know very few students can juggle this load well. We encourage you to balance your life and your school load. Students who decide to take Advanced/AP classes are required to complete 6 weeks of the class before a move to regular level would be considered.

What classes at the middle school level in FISD count as high school credit for graduation? Spanish 1, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra II, and Health. Courses taken in middle school for high school credit receive GPA points.

**Can I play multiple sports at LHS?** Yes, however, only the sport that occurs first will appear on your schedule. It is important to discuss your plans with your coaches because some sports' seasons overlap quite a bit, making it very difficult to participate in both.

**Can I be in the band and also in athletics?** Yes, but you will need to consult with both the band director and the coach of the sport you wish to play. It is very time consuming to do both of these activities. While it might be allowed, it will be a challenge. Also, it may not be possible to take both activities all 4 years of high school due to additional credit requirements for graduation.

Who is eligible for Late Arrival/Early Release? Juniors and seniors who are on track with their credits, have passed EOCs, have parent permission and who have transportation at the appropriate times may request late arrival (arrive at 10:30 am) or early release (leave at 2:50 pm). Students should be aware that this may impact the other courses available to them and that highly selective colleges do not look favorably upon this option.

**Can I take classes at the CTE Center?** There are a few classes open to 9th graders at the CTE Center. Transportation is provided. Many CTE classes have prerequisites, so be sure to check the course catalog to see if you are eligible. The <u>course catalog</u> is posted on the Frisco ISD website. Any class that has (CTEC) listed under the course title is taught at the CTE Center.

#### How can I find my GPA?

Currently, weighted GPAs are calculated twice per year after semester grades are finalized; they are posted to HAC (Home Access Center). Occasionally, seniors will need to know their unweighted GPA for a scholarship or college application. Please contact your counselor for this information. Both types of GPA appear on the transcripts we send to colleges.

#### What is the difference between weighted and unweighted GPA?

The weighted GPA gives extra point value for the Advanced, AP, and dual credit classes, and some specialty programs. This is how we determine the top 10%, Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and honor grads. Please see the District Academic Guide for detailed information. Unweighted GPA is on a college 4.0 system, and sometimes out of state colleges ask that your GPA be converted to the 4.0 system.

#### When am I eligible for National Honor Society (NHS)?

In the spring of 10th or 11th grade, students with a cumulative weighted GPA of 4.0 or higher will be invited to apply for NHS. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates will be selected based on their service, leadership, and character.

## How do I place into a higher level of language?

Students can take a placement exam for Chinese, French or Spanish. The purpose of the World Language Placement Exam for Acceleration is for students to progress to courses that challenge them without having to take prerequisites that cover information they already know. If a student takes a World Language Placement Exam and scores an 80 or higher, the student will be enrolled in a higher level of the language. If the student gains credit in that higher level, credit will be granted for the lower level(s) automatically. Please see your current home campus counselor for more details.

#### Can I take classes in the summer?

Yes, any student can take Health, Communication Applications (Speech), Health, Foundations of Personal Fitness, Individual/Team Sports (PE) and Business Information Management (Office Word, Excel, PowerPoint). Other courses are offered for specific rising grades only, early graduates and transfer students. Summer school information, including dates, course offerings and location, will be available online in the spring (see link below). All other classes taught in summer school are only open to students who need to repeat the class due to failure. Here is the <u>link</u> to the FISD Summer School website.

## Do I need community service hours, and when can I start counting them?

Community service is not required but looks great on college applications. If you earn 100 hours by April 1st of your senior year, you will be given a special cord to wear at graduation. You may start keeping up with these hours the summer after 8th grade. Please visit the <a href="LHS Counselor's website">LHS Counselor's website</a> for community service information. Hours must be logged using an online program called Xello (which can be found on the student portal).

#### How do I find out more information about clubs at LHS?

Every Fall students get the opportunity to create clubs for the new school year. We will email out information as we get closer to that date. To see our current clubs, visit the <u>Liberty website</u> and look on the "activites" menu option.

Where do I find bussing and other important FISD information? Go to <a href="www.friscoisd.org">www.friscoisd.org</a>, select the parent tab, and scroll down to view the popular links. You can find your student's bus stop and time using the link provided there.

