10th Grade Information

Graduation Requirements

English 4 credits PE ½ credit
Math 4 credits Health ½ credit

Science 3 credits Pathway Completion

Social Studies 3 credits Electives 7 credits

Humanities (1 credit) OR Fine Arts (1 Credit)

TOTAL: 22 CREDITS

Grades

In order to receive credit for a course, students must make at least a 60 (D). Grade placement is based on the number of credits you earn. In order to be a sophomore, you must have 6 credits including English I **AND** 1 credit of math. It is very important to study hard and make good grades. If you are having trouble in a class, see your teacher to schedule attending intervention during Zero Period every Wednesday. Please keep up with student/parent portal to ensure you are staying on top of grades. DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR HELP!

Tutoring

After school intervention (ASI) in Math, Science, English, and Social Studies is available every Monday and Wednesday from 2:30-3:30 in room 116. All you have to do is show up and sign in—no sign-ups required! Transportation will NOT be provided.

Make-up Policy

When you are absent from school it is very important to make-up all missed work. It is your responsibility to see each of your teachers to get the missed assignments as soon as possible. Do not wait until the end of the nine weeks to find out what work is missing.

Class Rank

Class rank is calculated at the end of the school year. Students will be given this information at the beginning of next school year. Anytime a transcript is generated for ninth graders, class rank will be listed but not correct. The reason for this is that class rank is based on **completed** courses only. English, science, social studies, math and other year long courses would not be figured into this equation until the end of the school year.

Scholarships

Scholarships and financial aid for college are only offered during the junior and senior years of high school. The only thing students can do to help them qualify for scholarships this school year is to make good grades and get involved in extracurricular activities. We will host Financial Aid Night for students and parents to attend their junior and senior year.

PSAT

Please be aware that the PSAT will be given to any 10th grader who chooses to test and pays the fee. More information about the date of the test and the deadline for payment will become

available after the school year begins. The test will start at 8:00 am and hopefully end before 1st lunch. Students should bring a calculator and a number 2 pencil. Students that want to sign up should bring their money to the main office.

Parent Portal

The Parent Portal is the best way for you to keep up with your child's grades and attendance. Please contact Mr. Phill Bohannan if you need tech support or have any questions regarding parent portal password assistance and management.

Email Updates

Please be sure that we have an updated email address for you. We now have the capability to send you frequent updates as to what is happening at school.

Tips for 10th Grade Students

1. Look for Leadership Opportunities

Join a club, sports team, or other extracurricular activities the school offers, or volunteer in the community.

2. Keep Your Grades Up

If your freshman-year grades weren't as high as you would have hoped, don't worry too much; you can catch up. In fact, an <u>upward grade trend</u>—a steady rise in your GPA from one year to the next—can be beneficial to your application.

3. Challenge Yourself

You probably have more choice in courses this year. Make sure to challenge yourself with APs, IB, and honors courses, depending on what's available at your high school. You don't need to take every AP available, but if you think you can handle the course load, take the course.

4. Gear Up for and Take Standardized Tests

Many schools offer the <u>PSAT</u> to sophomores. If your school is one of them, it's a good idea to take it now and again junior year. Doing so will help you identify areas to work on for the SAT, as well as help you learn how to prepare for the SAT. It's "practice" for a reason. Taking the PSAT as a sophomore gives you a low-stakes form of practice. You'll probably take it again when you're a junior, when it also serves as the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

<u>5. Be in school, on time, everyday.</u> You cannot make improvements if you are absent. If you are struggling to get to school on time, speak with your school counselor, a teacher, or another adult so we can help you attend.

Tips for 10th Grade Parents

- 1. Be interested in what is going on at school.
- 2. Discuss daily school activities with your child.
- 3. Offer to help as needed. Allow them to make some mistakes.
- 4. Listen.

- 5. Encourage involvement in and out of class.
- 6. Monitor activities and jobs. (Especially when associated with the computer).
- 7. Be careful with unrealistic expectations.
- 8. Be aware of what is going on with your child.
- 9. Be alert for signs that "don't seem like your child is himself."
- 10. Communicate with the school to show concern and interest.
- 11. Make sure contact information is always current.
- 12. Make school aware of concerns or issues.
- 13. Emphasize the importance of education.

Quotes from recent graduates about 10th grade:

*The teachers really care and will do all they can to help you."

"After school tutoring saved me."

"Make new friends."

"I wish that I knew high school was going to require a lot of studying and taking notes. I also wish I knew that high school was going to require a lot of reading and paying attention."

"If I could go back to 10th grade and redo anything, I would have done my work when I had the chance. I had to pay money to take summer school to make up classes I failed. I had to make up credits in eSchool because I didn't do my work when I was in the classroom so I wasted a lot of time and regretted it later. My senior year was stressful because of my laziness in 10th grade."

"I wish I had known I was going to have to get in the habit of reading. Find a good author and read everyday for some time."

"I wish I had asked for help from my teachers sooner."

"Really, it's not that hard if you behave, give your best effort, and are not absent too much."

"The teachers are harder because you are almost grown women and men and you need to take charge of your life."