



Dear Grade 8 Parents and Guardians,

Over the next several weeks, your child will be making important decisions regarding their high school enrollment. We wanted to provide you information to help you and your family in the pre-enrollment process.

Timeline

Several resources will be sent throughout pre-enrollment. This information is designed to provide families information that will be helpful in selecting courses and understanding the high school plan of study.

Date	Event	Time/Location	Audience
Jan 13	Pre-enrollment Planning Letter (this letter)	Email	All Grade 8 students and parents
Jan 19-23	Pre-enrollment Screencast	Pathways Class	All Grade 8 students
Jan 22	Summer Health Sign Up Begins (Sign up by April 1)	Online	All Grade 8 students
Jan 27-WRNMS Jan 30-WRMS	Taking Challenging Courses in High School Handouts: WRHS Honors Highlights	MS during Advisory	Students interested in Honors, AP, and IB
Feb 4	Honors, AP, and IB Information Meeting Handouts: WRHS Honors Highlights (Park in lot off of Wanamaker)	WRHS Design Think Area 6pm	Students and parents interested in Honors, AP and the IB program
Feb 23	Pre-enrollment Form Due to Pathways for Success teachers	Pathways Class	All Grade 8 students*
Feb 24	Grade 8 Parent Information Evening 6pm: Elective area info available 6:30pm: Counselor presentation	WRHS 6pm	All Grade 8 students and parents
Feb 25 and 26	WRHS Counselors Visit middle schools To help students input courses into Naviance	Pathways Class	All Grade 8 students*
April 7-9	Strength Tryouts	WRHS	All Grade 8 students
May 6	Athletic Evening Information about WRHS athletics	WRHS, 6pm	All Grade 8 students interested in high school athletics

*Special education students enroll with their case manager.

General Pre-Enrollment Information

Pre-Enrollment Process

Students will receive a [WRHS enrollment form](#) through their Skills for Pathways class. The [Course Planning Guide](#) provides information on graduation requirements, descriptions of courses, post-secondary planning, and more. On February 25 and 26, the [WRHS counselors](#) will visit the middle schools to help students input their course selections on Naviance.

Selecting Courses

We encourage families to review the [course planning guide](#) and consider making a tentative 4 year plan based on the student's current academic and career goals. These plans will evolve throughout high school, however, planning ahead ensures that students meet the prerequisites for some courses and/or colleges.

For some subject areas, students will have the option to select honors, accelerated, or regular classes. Honors and accelerated classes move at a faster pace than non-honors and are for students who enjoy an extra challenge.

Please note that there are no entry requirements for honors or accelerated courses. Each family must decide

the best combination of courses and this varies widely. During the first six weeks of a semester, if a student feels they are misplaced in a course, they are allowed to change their schedule. Our main goal is to find the right placement where students can be challenged and successful.

Importance of Rigor

WRHS prides itself on providing high expectations and rigorous courses for all students. We are proud that WRHS has one of the highest postsecondary success rates in Shawnee County according to the Kansas State Department of Education. Research indicates that students who challenge themselves in high school courses are more likely to graduate college. Ways to pursue rigor include taking more than the minimum required courses (eg. 3 science credits are required for graduation, but many students take 4 credits), taking courses at the honors, accelerated, AP, IB, or dual credit level, completing a [CTE Pathway](#), and/or enrolling in Washburn Tech programs.

2030 Graduation Requirements

The Kansas State Department of Education has changed graduation requirements starting with the Class of 2028. The requirements are detailed in the [Course Planning Guide](#) and will be reviewed regularly with students throughout high school. **Students will have the option to take the required semester of comprehensive health during the summer.** Information and sign up can be found [HERE](#).

High School Classes Taken at WRMS and WRNMS

WRMS and WRNMS offer several high school courses to Grade 8 students. If a student passes all quarters of the middle school course, they will be given credit as a P (Pass) in high school once they successfully pass the next level of course. Eligible courses include Math 1, Math 2, Design, Business Essentials, Intro to FACS, Intro to Computer Coding, Intro to Skilled Trades, French 8, and Spanish 8. Refer to [THIS DOCUMENT](#) to review which courses lead to earning credit. Only courses taken in Grade 8 are eligible.

Program-Specific Information

Washburn Technical Program

During the junior and senior year, students have the opportunity to attend Washburn Institute of Technology for four periods a day. Students who are interested should strive to complete graduation requirements such as speech, social studies elective, English elective and fine arts during the freshman and sophomore year in order to have space available in the schedule. Program information can be found at <http://www.washburntech.edu/>.

Washburn University Dual Credit

Currently, WRHS offers nine courses for dual credit through [Washburn University](#), most at the junior and senior level. Dual credit means that students take the course at WRHS and earn college credit. Families are encouraged to review the Course Planning Guide in order to meet the prerequisites for these courses.

Advanced Placement

[Advanced Placement](#) classes are rigorous, college preparation courses that are developed by the College Board. At the end of the course, students have the option to sit an exam that can result in college credit at some universities. WRHS offers many [AP courses](#), most at the junior and senior level. The majority of these courses have prerequisites that must be met before enrolling in the course. Please refer to the Course Planning Guide in order to be prepared and eligible for AP courses. In Kansas, a score of [3 out of 5](#) awards college credit in most subjects.

International Baccalaureate

WRHS is proud to be one of eight districts in Kansas approved to offer the [International Baccalaureate Diploma](#). IB is a comprehensive college preparation program based on international standards that is offered the junior and senior year. Students who plan to pursue IB enter as pre-IB students freshman year. The [IB Diploma Program at WRHS video](#) and [IB four year plan](#) are useful resources. In Kansas, a score of [4 out of 7](#) awards college credit.

WRHS Counselors

The WRHS counselors work with families and students to create an appropriate plan of study. If you have questions about enrollment, please contact your school counselor.

- Emma Chavez, Alternative School/B3/Reach
- Marie Coates, Special Education
- Leslie Fischer, A-D
- Keith Wetzel, E-J
- Emilio Chavez, K-O
- Michelle Pegram, P-T
- Marcie Frederickson, U-Z, Gifted and IB

We are looking forward to welcoming the Class of 2030 to WRHS!

Sincerely,

[WRHS Counselors](#)