

Mission Possible



Graduation and Beyond!

Class of 2020

Some Important facts to review

What is a High School Diploma?

☐ **Certified Document That Student Receives Upon Graduation Based On:**

Attendance

Carnegie Units (One Carnegie Unit = 1 Credit)

State Tests (End-of-Course Assessments)

☐ **One Diploma**

One diploma option based on the America Diploma Project and the Georgia Department of Education State Board Graduation Rule for the Class of 2012 and Thereafter

Facts continued

- **What is a high school transcript?**

An official record of academic status which includes state course numbers and course titles plus grades earned. Credits are also on the transcript. For each course in which a 70 or higher was earned either a .5 or 1.0 credit is recorded. For a course in which a 69 or lower grade was earned 0 credit is recorded.

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

The total calculation of all grades received during high school is referred to as the GPA, for example, Numerical (i.e. 92.5) Currently, high school transcripts have a numerical grade point average and 4.0 GPA calculation. Class rank is based on the numerical GPA.

Facts continued

What about the HOPE Scholarship?

Please know that a HOPE GPA is calculated on a 4.0 scale. The PCSD transcript includes a 4.0 GPA scale but calculates all courses taken for high school credit.

- Only academic courses (core and elective) count for HOPE
- No high school courses taken during middle school count for HOPE
- Non-academic elective courses do not count
- Thus, an overall numeric GPA of 83.4% (numeric GPA also included on high school transcript), does not necessarily mean that the HOPE GPA will be a 3.0 or higher.
- HOPE grade point information is transmitted on a 4.0 GPA scale to the Georgia Student Finance Commission and is not a numerical GPA.

Weighted—Per local board policy extra points are added for honors and Advanced Placement courses as well as Dual Enrollment core courses.

For HOPE-AP courses are weighted for the purposes of calculating HOPE Scholarship eligibility with AP courses not weighted beyond a 4.0 GPA for HOPE.

Core Dual Enrollment courses are weighted in the HOPE scholarship calculation, but are also not weighted beyond a 4.0 GPA for HOPE.

KEEP HOPE ALIVE!

- **Both passing and failing grades are recorded on the high school transcript and the HOPE eligible transcript. The student information system (Infinite Campus) must have the correct legal name, social security number and birth date for a student to be HOPE eligible.**

Transcript is sent electronically from the Paulding County School District to Georgia Student Finance Commission via GACollege411.org. Then, GSFC determines eligibility.

After the 1st semester of 9th grade, students may view their HOPE transcript via their My411 account at: GACollege411.org



Students will have an updated HOPE GPA within 30 days of the close of each semester during high school on their My411 account.

Course grades earned in middle school are not calculated in the HOPE grade point average.

More Facts

- **What is the High School Grading Period?**

Credit may be awarded at the end of the semester for .5 credit or upon the completion of a full credit 1.0 credit may be awarded at the end of a semester.

- **What is the Grading Scale?**

90-100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

00-69 = F

Important Things to Know

- ❑ **Attendance Matters**—*Being in all classes each day is very important. Missing one block class is equivalent to missing 2 days of a traditional class.*

- ❑ **Tests and Grades Matter**

- ❑ **Courses and Career Interests Matter**

Research University 4 additional core units recommended

State/Regional University 2 additional core units recommended

Two-Year College

Technical College

The rigor of the courses taken is examined by admissions staff. Matching a career pathway/cluster with high school courses is important. The Career Cluster/Pathway choice is based on Career Interest Inventory information.

- ❑ **Activities Matter**

(Tonight we have extra-curricular representatives here to talk with you.)

Athletics

Fine and Performing Arts

Clubs/Organizations

Community Service

Athletic Eligibility, Okay to Play

- An entering ninth grade student is eligible to participate in athletic activities for the first semester;
- To be eligible after the first semester, a student must "earn 2.5 credits each semester and be on track to graduate".
- At the end of the ninth grade year, the student must be on track (5 credits earned).

TESTING

- ✓ EOC (End-of-Course) Assessments
 - ✓ Counts 20% of the final grade for the course
 - ✓ Course must be passed.

- ✓ Areas Tested in Either 8th or 9th Grade:

Ninth Literature/Composition

GSE Algebra I

GSE Geometry

Biology

These tests are taken in 10th, 11th or 12th grades toward the end of the course:

GSE Geometry (if not already taken in 9th grade)

Physical Science

United States History

American Literature/Composition

Economics

Test-Out Options for EOC Courses Only

Information provided already during previous advisement opportunities included:

1. Student is limited to 3 credits earned during high school.
2. PCSD Test-out Registration Opportunity was during January with information available prior to this registration opportunity. At this time \$50.00 must be paid for each test that student is going to take. Important: Student who scores *Distinguished* on any test taken has money reimbursed.
3. A reminder that any student cannot have started a course(s) that he/she is planning to test-out.
4. During February a grade of B or higher was validated in the subject area in which the test was taken by the student's teacher. Also, during February a teacher recommendation regarding the test-out opportunity was received.
5. EOC assessments are taken during March for all interested students, including current high school students.
6. When the district has the results and the *Distinguished* score is available, student will have transcript updated with course number, course title and the credit earned by his/her school counselor.
7. There will be an annual reminder that this opportunity is available.

BRIDGE ADVISEMENT DURING HIGH SCHOOL

- 9th Grade
 - ♥ **BRIDGE Plan Review and Update**
 - ♥ Online Registration in Infinite Campus of courses for 10th grade
 - ♥ **Career Exploration and Review**
 - ♥ **Move on When Ready/Dual Enrollment Opportunities (Two Informational Summits Offered in 2016-2017)**
- 10th Grade
 - ♥ **BRIDGE Plan Review and Update**
 - ♥ Online Registration for 11th grade courses in Infinite Campus
 - ♥ **Move on When Ready/Dual Enrollment Opportunities (Two Informational Summits Offered in 2016-2017)**
 - ♥ PSAT Test and Results
- 11th Grade
 - ♥ **BRIDGE Plan Review and Update**
 - ♥ Online Registration for 12th grade courses in Infinite Campus
 - ♥ **Move on When Ready/Dual Enrollment Opportunities (Two Informational Summits Offered in 2016-2017)**
 - ♥ **3 Postsecondary Institutions Exploration**
- Senior Year (August & September)
 - ♥ Senior Letter including Advisement and Senior Seminars
 - ♥ **Next step after high school**
 - ♥ Ongoing support regarding course selection, graduation requirements, career planning and decision-making and future decisions

What if a student wants take a course Online during high school?

- ✓ A reminder that from April 1 through mid-July 2016, there will be a PCSD online registration opportunity for Online high school courses.
- ✓ Senate Bill 289 allows districts to provide students in grades 3 through 12 the option of taking an online course should you choose that option.



More Online Course Information

- Counselors have the online course information for high school courses and offer an advisement opportunity in either July or August for students who registered for a SB289 Online course.
- The GaDOE Clearinghouse provides course and provider information for Online courses and may be accessed through the SB289 link.



Graduation Requirements

<u>Area of Study:</u>	<u>Units Required</u>
English	4
Science	4
Mathematics	4
Social Studies	3
PE/Health	1
Electives	4
CTAE/World Language/Fine Arts	3
Total Units (minimum)	23

*Students who take 3 years of JROTC Air Force do not have to take Health and PE

How Does Scheduling Work?

- ❖ Paulding County Schools use a hybrid scheduling method for High School Students. This means that students can have anywhere between 4 to 7 courses per semester.
- ❖ Students will be given the opportunity to earn 7 credits per year.

How Does Scheduling Work?

- ❖ Year-long courses (a course that starts in August and ends in May) receive .5 credit for each semester passed.
- ❖ Block courses are 100 minutes long and students earn 1 credit when they pass the course.
- ❖ Students cannot request year-long or block courses. This is determined by the master schedule.
- ❖ Course request priority does begin with our Seniors, then Juniors, Sophomores, and last freshmen.

Scheduling Conflicts

- ❖ We always stress to students and their families that they are making course requests for next year, not actually signing up for specific classes.
- ❖ When the master schedule is finalized over the summer, conflicts may develop between course requests and actual periods that certain courses will be offered, especially for those students who request band and numerous honors and AP courses. Often, these courses are only offered during certain times of the day and Counselors must schedule around these requests which makes availability for electives minimal at times.
- ❖ Because of this potential conflict, students are asked to select several alternate courses.
- ❖ If a student cannot be scheduled for their top choices, every attempt will be made to schedule them into the alternatives they indicated during registration.

Scheduling Continued

- Please review your student's course requests that you received tonight.
- Every student should have an English, Math, Science, and Social Studies class. Students should also have either Health and Personal Fitness or JROTC. (A student completing 3 years of JROTC meets the health and personal fitness requirement).
- Students should have 7 total classes between the required and requested courses. Students should also have a minimum of 2 alternates. Students who took Spanish I in middle school should have Spanish II if they plan to continue World Language.

Scheduling

- Tonight, you can visit tables and change or add electives in the main gym. Forms are at each table to turn in for changes.
- If you are missing a core academic class, you can visit the counselor table. If a core academic class is supposed to be honors or AP level, please make sure you attend the brief Honors/AP meeting in the theater after this meeting.
- Schedule requests will be sent home in early May with your students at their middle school. Final changes should be completed by June 1, 2016.
- Schedules will be available at Open House in late July.

Career Pathways

A student is a pathway completer when he/she concentrates in the CTAE, Advanced Academic (English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies), World Language and/or Fine Arts Pathway courses.

Pathway courses are meant to be **taken in order**. (Example: Intro to Culinary, Culinary I, and Culinary II).

There is a **Career Pathway Assessment** given at the end of the three (3) sequential Career Pathway courses (usually in the Jr. or Sr. year).

Students do NOT need to be a pathway completer to graduate from high school, but it's recommended that a student complete a pathway to gain real-world experiences.

Please visit the various pathway tables to learn more.

Grade Promotion

- Students in high school are promoted to the next grade level based on the number of credits they have earned.
- 9th to 10th grade requires 5 credits
- 10th to 11th grade requires 11 credits
- 11th to 12th grade requires 17 credits

Graduation and being prepared is the key to your student's future.

We are here to provide support!

