

MISSION 
POSSIBLE

Graduation and Beyond!

Class of 2022

Information for a Successful High School
and Career Experience



Welcome

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REFLECTING ON MS ADVISEMENT

- In 8th grade, students updated their Individual Graduation Plans in Infinite Campus. The new tool used is MYAP (Multi-Year Academic Planner) document.
- Students entered planned courses for the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade years.
- Students 9th grade planned courses become course requests for next school year. Students also entered 3 alternate courses in ninth grade.
- A declared CTAE pathway in 8th/9th grade does not guarantee that the student will have those courses in the 9th grade. Upperclassmen do receive first choice when classes are populated.
- If in 9th grade, a student does not receive all requested electives, there is still time for pathway completion throughout high school.

Plans of Study/Areas of Focus

- Pathways to College and Career Readiness: Plans of Study/Areas of Focus are recommended in CTAE, Fine Arts, or World Language.
- For students who want a Plan of Study in an Advanced Academic Pathway in English, Mathematics, Science or Social Studies, these Plans of Study are also available.

Pathways to College and Career Readiness: Program of Study			
	Area of Focus		
	*Students are strongly encouraged to complete 3 sequential units in one of the areas below:		
Content Areas	CTAE	Fine Arts	World Language/Latin
English Language Arts (ELA)	4	4	4
Mathematics	4	4	4
Science	4	4	4
Social Studies	3	3	3
Health/PE	1	1	1
Electives*	7*	7*	7*
Total Units Required	23	23	23

Graduation Requirements

- **English (4)**
 - 9th Lit.
 - American Lit. (11th)
 - **Math (4)**
 - Through Algebra II
 - **Science (4)**
 - Biology
 - Chemistry, Environmental, OR Earth Systems
 - Physics OR Physical Science
 - **Social Studies (3)**
 - World History
 - US History
 - Government/Economics
 - **Health/PE (.5/each)**
 - **CTAE, Fine Arts, OR World Language (3)**
 - **General Electives (4)**
- **World language credits are not required for graduation, however 2 consecutive credits of a language are required for admission to a 4-year college or university.**

BLOCK Courses

- A student can earn 4 credits 1st semester and 4 more during the 2nd semester and graduate with 32 credits!
- Advantages:
 - Students will have an opportunity to complete more than one pathway.
 - If a student fails a course, there more options to get caught up.
 - A student can take advantage of the Dual Enrollment program and earn college credits at least by Junior or Senior year.



Some Important facts to review

What is a High School Diploma?

- **Certified document which a student receives upon graduation based on:**
 - Attendance
 - Carnegie Units (One Carnegie Unit = 1 Credit)
 - State Tests (End-of-Course Assessments)
- Paulding County graduation requirements are based on the American 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.

More Facts

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

Credit is awarded at the close of each semester with a full credit/1.0 credit. There are very few .5 credit courses. An example of a nine-weeks .5 credit course is Health.

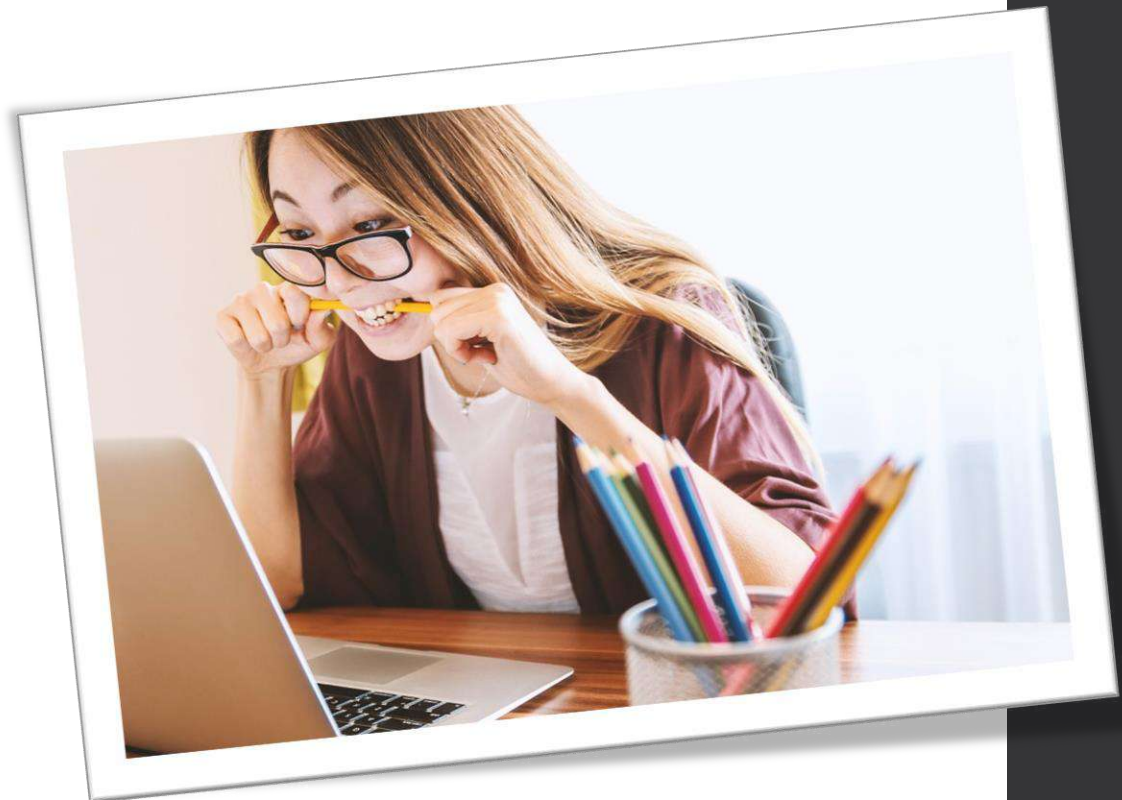
- **What is the Grading Scale?**

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.*
- **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** – join with fidelity!

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).



HOPE Scholarship Information

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.

HOPE Scholarship (4 Rigorous Courses Required)

- Currently, the HOPE scholarship is determined by the calculation of all academic core courses that the student has taken and completed (grades 9-12). No middle school core course grades count.
- Georgia Student Finance Commission Rigorous Course Chart
- https://apps.gsfc.org/main/publishing/pdf/2012/Course_List.pdf
- Both passing and failing grades in the core courses count. Thus, this is a merit based scholarship for eligible students.
- Changes in the eligibility guidelines are posted and updated on the GAfutures website (there are often annual changes in HOPE Scholarship regulations). For current HOPE tuition payments use this link:
- https://apps.gsfc.org/SecureNextGen/dsp_award_amounts.cfm



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 GAfutures.org. Then, GSFC determines eligibility.
- After the 1st semester of 9th grade, students may view their HOPE transcript via their MyGAfutures account at: Gafutures.org
- Students will have an updated HOPE GPA within 30 days of the close of each semester during high school on their My GAfutures account.

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

EOC TESTING

Either 8th or 9th Grade:

- Ninth Literature/Composition
- GSE Algebra I
- GSE Geometry
- Biology

10th, 11th or 12th grades:

- GSE Geometry (if not already taken in 9th grade)
- Physical Science
- United States History
- American Literature/Composition
- Economics

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

House Bill 400 (The Bridge Law)

- “Signed into law May of 2010 to create an atmosphere motivating middle- and high-school students to learn because they see the relevance of education to their dreams and future plans” (GA DOE).
- **Building Resourceful Individuals to Develop Georgia’s Economy**
- Mandates:
 - Each student will receive career counseling and advisement.
 - Students will choose a career area, create and Individual Graduation Plan (IGP), and graduate high school prepared to go to college or to enter the workforce.



BRIDGE ADVISEMENT DURING HIGH SCHOOL

- **9th Grade**

- **BRIDGE Plan Review and Update (Individual Graduation Plan)**
 - Use of MYAP Tool in Infinite Campus to plan and request courses for 10th grade
- **Career Exploration and Review**
- **Dual Enrollment Opportunities (Two Informational Summits Offered each school year)**

- **10th Grade**

- **BRIDGE Plan Review and Update (Individual Graduation Plan)**
 - Use of MYAP Tool in Infinite Campus to plan and request courses for 11th grade
- **Dual Enrollment Opportunities (Two Informational Summits Offered each school year)**
- PSAT Test and Results
- *Youscience* Assessment – Measures abilities and interests

- **11th Grade**

- **BRIDGE Plan Review and Update (Individual Graduation Plan)**
 - Use of MYAP Tool in Infinite Campus to plan and request courses for 12th grade
- **Dual Enrollment Opportunities (Two Informational Summits Offered each school year)**
- **3 Postsecondary Institutions Exploration**
- Use of *Youscience* Assessment results

- **Senior Year**

- 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
- Use of *Youscience* Assessment results

Online Classes During High School

- 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.
- Currently closed, but the registration period runs April – July, and this form can be found on the PCSD website.
- Reach out to your students' counselor for more information on the requirements.



What is the Paulding Virtual Academy?

- The Paulding Virtual Academy will offer students the opportunity to use teacher supported, technology-based courses to earn new high school credit, recover credit, continue coursework or accelerate their progression through high school and into college level courses.
- The application process for Fall semester begins April 1.
- Link for more information: <http://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/Page/29099>



Student Information and Access

- Student Portfolios (GCIS) supported in middle school and throughout high school.
- IGP is found in Infinite Campus (Portal)
- Career Interest Inventory and Career Portfolio Information Used for High School Advisement plus decisions regarding Programs of Study.
- Infinite Campus (Portal) = GRADES and IGP
- Canvas = Advisement information and class specific announcements.
(find a link to set up your parent/guardian access to Canvas on the HHS homepage).



CARE Project

- Collaboration of all stakeholders in the school district
- Everyone recognizes the importance of working together toward the common goal of increasing and enhancing support for students with life issues with particular emphasis on the prevention of youth suicide.
- Letting students know how much the district staff, their family members as well as peers, and community partners care about them and want to build positive relationships with them.

C

Connect and reassure that you are there for support.

A

Ask and listen about their life without judgement.

R

Reach out and develop a relationship.

E

Engage and encourage them by providing resources.

Never ignore these warning signs:

- Suicide notes.
- Threats. I want to die. Or Nobody will miss me.
- Previous attempts.
- Depression.
- "Masked" depression. Risk-taking behaviors and not caring about ones own safety.
- Final arrangements. Posts online.
- Hurting oneself.
- Inability to concentrate and think clearly.
- Dramatic changes.
- Plan and access.



What Can You Do to Help?

- Know the warning signs!
- Do not be afraid to talk as well as listen to the young person.
- Make no deals about keeping a secret regarding suicidal thoughts.
- Seek assistance for your student.
- School counselors have resource information.



Resources for a student in need:



HHS School Counselors

- School Counselors provide support within 3 domains:
 - Academic
 - Career
 - Personal/Social
- Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns!
 - [Melissa Mecadon-Mann](#) (students last name A-D)
 - [Donna Thomas](#) (students last name E-K)
 - [Terri Hrisak](#) (students last name L-Q, online, PVA)
 - [Tiffany Billingslea](#) (students last name R-Z)

