



WELCOME TO HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2021

THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL

Middle

- Grades do not count as credits
- You go to the same classes every day

High

- Grades become credits that are required for graduation
- You will follow a modified block schedule

HOW DO I EARN A CREDIT???

A student earns a credit when he or she successfully completes a course by earning a minimum grade of a 70 and being in attendance 90% of the time.

Students earn a half credit for each successfully completed semester class.

Students must earn a particular number of credits to be promoted from one grade to the next and to graduate.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The class of 2021 will complete the Foundation plus Endorsements Graduation Plan and pass 5 End of Course (EOC) Exams to graduate.

STAAR EOC REQUIREMENTS

Freshman Year

- English 1
- Algebra 1
- Biology

Sophomore Year

- English 2

Junior Year

- US History

CORE FOUNDATION REQUIREMENTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 4 CREDITS	MATHEMATICS 4 CREDITS	SCIENCE 4 CREDITS	SOCIAL STUDIES 4 CREDITS
English 1	Algebra 1	Biology	World Geography or AP Human Geography
English 2	Geometry	Chemistry	World History
English 3	Algebra 2 or Math Models	Physics	US History
English 4	Algebra 2 or Advanced Math	Advanced Science	Government/Economics

*All courses have a PreAP, AP or IB option.

CORE FOUNDATION CONTINUED:

WORLD LANGUAGE 2 CREDITS	SPEECH ½ CREDIT	HS 101 ½ CREDIT	FINE ARTS 1 CREDIT	PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1 CREDIT
Spanish French German Latin Mandarin Chinese (DHS only) American Sign Language*	Professional Communications	High School 101	Art Band Dance Choir Orchestra Theater Arts	P.E. or Partner P.E. Athletics ROTC Dance Marching Band (fall only) Cheerleading (fall only) Drill Team (fall only)
* Not all colleges and universities recognize this course as a world language				

ELECTIVE COURSES

In addition to core courses, students will select additional electives to bring their credit total to 26.

- The calculation of your GPA begins the first day of high school
- All core classes (English, Math, Science and Social Studies) plus world language will be calculated into your GPA
- High school course credits earned in middle school do not calculate into the GPA

Unweighted Courses	Weighted Courses (PreAP, AP, IB)
90 – 100 = 4	90 – 100 = 5
80 – 89 = 3	80 – 89 = 4
70 – 79 = 2	70 – 79 = 3
69 or below = 0	69 or below = 0

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

[Course Planning Guide](#)

ENDORSEMENTS

Every student will select an Endorsement under which he or she will graduate:

- Multidisciplinary
- STEM
- Business and Industry
- Public Service
- Arts and Humanities

Students in Denton ISD who meet the before described graduation requirements will graduate with at least the *Multidisciplinary Endorsement*.

WHY CHOOSE AN ENDORSEMENT?

Allows the student to apply core curriculum in a practical way

Helps the student build skills toward college and/or career choices

Allows the student to earn licensures and certifications while in high school



ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY COMPLEX

LaGrone ATC

A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by successfully completing the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement, including four credits in science, and four credits in mathematics, to include Algebra II. The distinguished level of achievement must be earned for students to be admitted to public universities under the top 10 percent automatic admission law.

**DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF
ACHIEVEMENT** |

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Dual Credit
- Bilingualism and Biliteracy
- AP/IB Exams
- National Merit Scholarship Finalist
- Particular score on PSAT, SAT or ACT
- Business/Industry Certification

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

What can I do now to work toward earning a performance acknowledgement?

- Take rigorous courses your freshman year and throughout high school.
- Keep your grades up. They can affect future opportunities.
- Request tutoring if you need it.
- Make school attendance a priority.

- Students who take PreAP/AP coursework are better prepared for college curriculum
- Students who take PreAP/AP coursework are better prepared for SAT/ACT college admissions exams
- If a student scores 3 or higher on an AP exam, it might count as college credit
- PreAP and AP courses are weighted more heavily in the GPA
- Not taking the first years of PreAP courses may hurt your chances of success in AP courses later
- PreAP and AP courses can require a larger time commitment – assume each class will require 30 – 45 minutes of study/homework time per night

TO PRE-AP OR NOT TO PRE-AP

That is the question!

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

Middle Years Programme (MYP) 9th & 10th Grade

- ❑ **ALL** 9th graders will take MYP Design (HS 101/Professional Comm.)
- ❑ Begin or continue 4 years of a World Language
- ❑ Individual learning through Problem-Based Units and Personal Project
- ❑ Gain technology and practical skills that will produce success in the DP
- ❑ All 9th & 10th graders are MYP students

Diploma Programme (DP) 11th & 12th Grade

- ❑ Students receive a rigorous, college prep program valued throughout the world
- ❑ Multiple assessments are used to achieve scores reported to colleges
- ❑ TX HB 111 provides a minimum of 24 college credit hours at TX public universities for diploma earners
- ❑ DP is a choice program for 11th and 12th graders but is required for all IB transfer students

PERSONAL GRADUATION PLANS

a.k.a. 4 – year plans

ENDORSEMENTS

Science,
Engineering,
Technology &
Math

Arts & Humanities

Business &
Industry

Public Service

Multidisciplinary

PGP CARD

Denton Independent School District 2016-2017
Course Selection Request Card/ Personal Graduation Plan

Student ID# _____ **Name:** _____ **Campus:** _____

Career Goal: _____ **Endorsement:** _____ **Career Pathway:** _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION:
Parent Name: _____ **Parent Cell:** _____ **Parent Email:** _____
Student Email: _____ **Student Cell:** _____

	English	Math	Science	Social Studies				
9	English 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP English 1	Algebra 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP Alg 1 OR _____	Biology OR Pre-AP/IBDP Biology	W. Geography OR Pre-AP/IBDP W. Geog. Or AP Human Geography	World Language	High School 101 AND Professional Communications	P.E. OR Elective: _____	Fine Arts OR Elective: _____
10	English 2 OR Pre-AP/IBDP English 2	Geometry OR Pre-AP/IBDP Geom OR _____	Chemistry OR Pre-AP/IBDP Chemistry	W. History OR AP W. History	World Language			
11	English 3 OR AP English 3 OR IB English 3	Algebra 2 OR Pre-AP Alg 2 OR _____	Physics OR AP Physics 1	US History OR AP US History OR IB History				
12	English 4 OR AP English 4 OR IB English 4	4 th Math (naviance has options)	4 th Science (naviance has options)	Economics /Gov't OR AP Econ/AP Gov't OR IB History Year 2				

List Four Alternate Course Choices for Grade 9:
 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

COURSE REQUEST/SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY
 The signature of student and parent constitutes a mutual agreement that the above selected ninth grade courses are being requested. Every attempt will be made to give the student the requested classes. Staffing and instructional materials needed are based on student enrollment; therefore, schedule changes will not occur after April 27, 2017.
I understand that my child has chosen the endorsement listed above. I realize that under Texas Law, an endorsement must be chosen as a freshman. I understand that this endorsement will determine the types of courses my child will take during their high school education. I also understand that my child will be given an opportunity to make changes to their endorsement each year when course selection takes place. They have my approval to pursue the endorsement listed above.

 Student Signature Parent Signature and Date

COURSE SELECTION

- ❑ Counselors will work with students to make sure they are selecting the correct courses for 9th grade.
- ❑ The 9th grade courses will be written in on the students Personal Graduation Plan or PGP. Only the courses being input for 9th grade on the PGP will be for actual course selection.
- ❑ Students may not take a course in high school that they have already taken in middle school for HS credit. (Example – Algebra and/or Spanish)

Student ID# _____ Name: _____ Campus: _____

Career Goal: _____ Endorsement: _____ Career Pathway: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION:

Parent Name: _____ Parent Cell: _____ Parent Email: _____

Student Email: _____ Student Cell: _____

	English	Math	Science	Social Studies				
	English 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP English 1	Algebra 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP Alg 1 OR _____	Biology OR Pre-AP/IBDP Biology	W. Geography OR Pre-AP/IBDP W. Geog. Or AP Human Geography	World Language	High School 101 AND Professional Communications	P.E. OR Elective: _____	Fine Arts OR Elective: _____
	_____ OR _____	Geometry OR Pre-AP/IBDP Geom OR _____	Chemistry OR Pre-AP/IBDP Chemistry	W. History OR AP W. History	World Language			
	_____	Algebra 2 OR Pre-AP Alg 2 OR _____	Physics OR AP Physics 1	US History OR AP US History OR IB History				
12	_____ OR AP English 4 OR IB English 4	4 th Math (naviance has options)	4 th Science (naviance has options)	Economics /Gov't OR AP Econ/AP Gov't OR IB History Year 2				

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Student Signature

Parent Signature and Date

Students will write in their endorsement and Career Pathway. These can be changed!

Course Selection Request Card/ Personal Graduation Plan

Student ID# _____ Name: _____ Campus: _____

Career Goal: _____ Endorsement: _____ Career Pathway: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION:

Parent Name: _____ Parent Cell: _____ Parent Email: _____
 Student Email: _____ Student Cell: _____

	English	Math	Science	Social Studies				
9	English 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP English 1	Algebra 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP Alg 1 OR	Biology OR Pre-AP/IBDP Biology	W. Geography OR Pre-AP/IBDP W. Geog. Or AP Human Geography	World Language	High School 101 AND Professional Communications	P.E. OR Elective: _____	Fine Arts OR Elective: _____
10	English 2 OR Pre-AP/IBDP English 2	Geometry OR Pre-AP/IBDP Geom OR	Chemistry OR Pre-AP/IBDP Chemistry	W. History OR AP W. History	World Language			
11	English 3 OR AP English 3 OR IB English 3	Algebra 2 OR Pre-AP Alg 2 OR _____	Physics OR AP Physics 1	US History OR AP US History OR IB History				
12	English 4 OR AP English 4 OR IB English 4	4 th Math (naviance has options)	4 th Science (naviance has options)	Economics /Gov't OR AP Econ/AP Gov't OR IB History Year 2				

With the assistance of the counselors, students will select the courses they will be taking as 9th graders.

List Four Alternate Course Choices for Grade 9:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

COURSE REQUEST/SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY

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I understand that my child has chosen the endorsement listed above. I realize that under Texas Law, an endorsement must be chosen as a freshman. I understand that this endorsement will determine the types of courses my child will take during their high school education. I also understand that my child will be given an opportunity to make changes to their endorsement each year when course selection takes place. They have my approval to pursue the endorsement listed above.

Student Signature

Parent Signature and Date

Course Selection Request Card/ Personal Graduation Plan

Student ID# _____ Name: _____ Campus: _____

Career Goal: _____ Endorsement: _____ Career Pathway: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION:

Parent Name: _____ Parent Cell: _____ Parent Email: _____
 Student Email: _____ Student Cell: _____

	English	Math	Science	Social Studies				
9	English 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP English 1	Algebra 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP Alg 1 OR _____	Biology OR Pre-AP/IBDP Biology	W. Geography OR Pre-AP/IBDP W. Geog. Or AP Human Geography	World Language	High School 101 AND Professional Communications	P.E. OR Elective: _____	Fine Arts OR Elective: _____
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English 1	OR	Algebra 1
Pre-AP/IBDP English 1		Pre-AP/IBDP Algebra 1
English 2	OR	Geometry

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1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

COURSE REQUEST/SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY

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Student Signature

Parent Signature and Date

Student ID#: _____ Name: _____

Career Goal: _____ Endorsement: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION:
 Parent Name: _____ Parent Cell: _____
 Student Email: _____ Student: _____

With the assistance of the counselors, students will develop the remainder of their Personal Graduation Plans. This will be revisited each year of high school.

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9	English 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP English 1	Algebra 1 OR Pre-AP/IBDP Alg 1 OR	Biology OR Pre-AP/IBDP Biology	W. Geography OR Pre-AP/IBDP W. Geog. Or AP Human Geography	World Language	High AND Professional Communications	_____	_____
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Parent Name: _____ Parent Cell: _____ Parent Email: _____
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The student and parent should sign the PGP acknowledging the endorsement choice and schedule change policy.

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1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

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Student Signature

Parent Signature and Date

Don't
forget!

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Due date

A VERIFICATION LETTER WILL BE MAILED
HOME IN EARLY APRIL FOR STUDENTS
AND PARENTS TO REVIEW.

April 27 will be the last date to make any changes to the 9th grade
selected courses.

VERIFICATION LETTER |



GOT QUESTIONS????

Please reach out to the school
counselor

View this power point on the
DENTON ISD counseling website
or the high school websites.

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS???

Planning is brining the future into
the present so that you can do
something about it now.

– Alan Lakein