

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting

January 26

6:30 P.M.

Calhoun Civic  
Auditorium

# Diploma Tracks

- No Diploma Tracks
- Every student is expected to earn a high school diploma.

# New Graduation Rule

<b>• Courses</b>	<b>Units req.</b>
English	4
Math	4
Science	4
Social Studies	3
CTAE/and or	3
Foreign Language	
Fine Arts	
Health and Physical Education	1
Electives	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>26 units</b>

**All Students must complete a Pathway**

# English Requirements

- 1 unit of American Literature/Composition
- 1 unit Ninth-Grade Literature/Composition
- 2 additional units (we offer English 10 and British Literature or AP English Language and AP English Literature)

# English Sequence

- English 9/Honors English 9
- English 10/Honors English 10
- American Literature/AP English Language
- British Literature/AP English Literature

# Math Requirements

- 4 Years of Math

# Mathematics Sequence

- Coordinate Algebra
- Analytic Geometry
- Advanced Algebra
- Pre-Calculus

**or**

- Accelerated Coordinate Algebra/Analytic Geometry A
- Accelerated Analytic Geometry B/Advanced Algebra
- Accelerated Pre-Calculus
- AP Calculus/AP Statistics

# Science Requirements

- 1 unit of Biology
- 1 unit of either Physical Science or Physics
- 2 additional science units
- The fourth science unit may be used to meet both the science and elective requirements. (Introduction to Healthcare Science, Application of Therapeutic Services)  
**However, colleges may not accept these courses to satisfy science credits. Any AP science course may be substituted for the appropriate course.**

# Science Sequence

- 9<sup>th</sup> – CP Biology/Honors Biology
- 10<sup>th</sup> – CP Physical Science/Honors Physical Science
- 11<sup>th</sup> – CP Chemistry/CP Environmental Science/Honors Chemistry
- 12<sup>th</sup> – CP Physics/AP Biology/AP Environmental Science/CP Anatomy
- (Most Universities require Chemistry)

# Social Studies Requirements

- 1 unit of U. S. History
- 1 unit of World History
- ½ unit of American Government
- ½ unit of Economics

# Social Studies Sequence

- 9<sup>th</sup> –AP Human Geography or Geography
- 10<sup>th</sup> – CP/AP World History
- 11<sup>th</sup> – CP/AP US History
- 12<sup>th</sup> –Economics/Government
- Other options -
  - AP Psychology
  - AP Government

# CTAE/Foreign Language/Fine Arts

- 3 units of
  - CTAE classes
  - Foreign Language\*
  - Fine Arts\*\*

\*Students planning to enter or transfer into a University or College must take 2 units of the same foreign language. Some colleges require 3 units of the same foreign language.

\*\*Some colleges and universities require 1 unit of Fine Arts

# Pathway Requirement

- All students who enter 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2012 will be required to complete a Pathway to meet graduation requirements.
- Students must complete 3 sequential courses in the pathway.
- Students must take the end of pathway test.

# Career Pathway Options

- Construction Pathway
- Administrative/Information Support Pathway
- Financial Management-Accounting Pathway
- Small Business Development Pathway
- Interactive Media Pathway
- Culinary Science Pathway
- Therapeutic Services-Nursing Pathway
- Law & Justice Pathway
- Early Childhood Education Pathway
- Teaching as a Profession Pathway
- Graphic Communications Pathway
- Graphic Design Pathway
- Broadcast/Video Production Pathway

# End of Course Test

- End of course tests were implemented in the spring of 2004. Tests are given in the following areas: Coordinate Algebra, Analytic Geometry, U. S. History, Economics, 9<sup>th</sup> grade English, American Literature, Biology, and Physical Science.
- Test scores must count 20% of total grade for the course.

# Work-Based Learning

- Senior Year
  - Students leave school early to go to workplace to receive on-the-job experience
  - Students will receive elective credit for WBL
  - Student must have completed a CTAE Pathway to be eligible for WBL
  - Student must work in area of completed pathway

# Move On When Ready

- Juniors or Seniors who spent the prior school year in attendance at a public high school in Georgia may take all of his/her courses at or through an eligible institution (college, university, or public technical college) or a virtual course approved by the State Board of Education and receive secondary credit from his/her high school with the goal of completing graduation and high school diploma requirements.
- See counselors for more information and eligibility requirements.

# Advanced Placement (AP)

Advanced Placement courses are offered in:

- Human Geography (9<sup>th</sup> grade)
- World History (10<sup>th</sup> grade)
- US History (11<sup>th</sup> grade)
- English Language (11<sup>th</sup> grade)
- English Literature (12<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Psychology (12<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Government (12<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Calculus (12<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Statistics (12<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Environmental Science (11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Biology (11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

# Advanced Placement (AP)

- Expectations for an AP class are similar to that of a college level course.
- To receive college credit for an AP class, a student must complete the class and score 3 or better on the AP exam. This varies with different colleges.
- AP Test is mandatory and the student is responsible for the cost of the exam (approx. \$87)
- Most AP and Honors courses have mandatory summer assignments.

# How do you get placed in classes?

- Teacher Recommendations
- Test Scores
- Grades
- History of classes
- Parent/student request

# Teacher Recommendations

## Possible Courses

*CP English*

*Honors English 9*

*CP Biology*

*Honors Biology*

*Algebra w/support*

*Algebra*

*Accelerated Algebra/Geometry*

*Geography*

*AP Human Geography*

# Semester/Credits

- Each class is for one semester (1/2 year or approximately 90 days) and is worth ½ unit of credit
- Possibility of earning 4 units each semester or 8 units in one year
- Semester grades are not averaged for a yearly grade
- All grades will remain on transcript FOREVER
- Freshman grades count!!!!
- When you apply to college during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of your senior year, your transcript will only show 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grades. Therefore, your freshman grades count a lot!
- Keep in mind that NCAA may not accept credit for courses done online. If you fail a class, and you want to be eligible through NCAA, you must sit back through the entire class.

# Promotion Requirements

- 9<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> Grade – 6 total units (1/2 in math and 1/2 in English)
- 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Grade – 12 total units (1 1/2 in math and 1 1/2 in English)
- 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – 20 total units (2 1/2 in math and 2 1/2 in English)
- 26 Total Units required for Graduation

# Eligibility Requirements

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year – 5 units
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Year – 11 units
- 4<sup>th</sup> Year – 17 units
  
- All students must pass 5 subjects during the previous semester to be eligible.

# Question & Answer

- **Question:** When should I take the SAT/ACT?
- **Answer:** The SAT has a lot of geometry and advanced algebra information; therefore, we suggest waiting until you have taken algebra and geometry to take the tests. However, we recommend taking it more than once. You will begin filling out college applications during the first semester of your senior year, so you need to have a score by then.
- *Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch also qualify for a fee waiver for the SAT and ACT beginning their junior year.*

# The New SAT

## Critical Reading

- Changed from Verbal
- Eliminated analogies
- Added discrete reading passages

## Math

- added content from Alg.II
- Eliminated quantitative comparisons

## Writing

- multiple choice: grammar & usage
- student written essay

**Total possible score of 2400**

# Question & Answer

- **Question:** What is the ACT?
- **Answer:** The ACT is another college entrance exam. Most colleges and universities will accept either SAT or ACT. The ACT is more aligned with the curriculum; therefore, many students score higher on it. We recommend taking both.

# ACT

- 4 Sections + Writing
  - English
  - Reading
  - Math
  - Science Reasoning
  - (Writing) – strongly recommended
- Each section is scored from 1-36
- Composite Score is an average of English, Reading, Math, and Science Reasoning. May be converted to SAT equivalent.
  - *Example: a composite score of 20 is equivalent to a SAT score of 950 (critical reading/math)*

# HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

- Graduate from high school with a 3.0 GPA as calculated by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) in core courses.
- Must maintain 3.0 in college
- HOPE Scholarship will pay a percentage amount of the standard tuition charges from the previous year.
- Must enroll in an eligible postsecondary institution.

# Zell Miller HOPE Scholarship

- Zell Miller HOPE will pay full tuition at an eligible public postsecondary institution.
- Graduate high school with a 3.7 GPA as calculated by GSFC in core courses.
- Receive a score of at least 1200 combined critical reading score and math score on a single administration of the SAT or and ACT composite scale score of at least 26.
- Must maintain a 3.3 GPA in college
- Must enroll in an eligible postsecondary institution.
- Rigor Requirement

# HOPE Rigor Requirements

Beginning with the High School Graduating Class of 2016, a student meeting the requirements to be a HOPE Scholar at the time of high school graduation must receive credit in at least 3 of the courses from the Academic Rigor Coursework list below prior to graduating from high school.

- **Advanced math**, such as Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry, Math III, or an equivalent or higher course taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution;
- **Advanced science**, such as Chemistry, Physics, Biology II, or an equivalent or higher course taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution

# HOPE Rigor continued

- **Advanced Placement** courses in core subjects;
- Courses taken at a unit of the University System of Georgia in core subjects where such courses are not remedial and developmental courses;
- **Advanced Foreign Language** courses taken at an eligible high school or taken for degree level credit at an eligible postsecondary institution.

# HOPE Scholarship & Weighted Grades

- Teachers weight grades for all honors, accelerated, and AP courses as follows:
  - Add 3 points to final average of all honors courses
  - Add 5 points to final average of all accelerated and AP courses
- HOPE GPA includes all academic classes
- HOPE GPA is calculated by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC).
- Grades will be stripped of weights by GSFC
  - 3 points for Honors classes
  - 5 points for Accelerated classes
  - 5 points for AP classes (adds back .5)
- Example:

Class	WtdGrade	4.0 scale	Strip Weight	New Grad	Grade for GSFC
Honors Eng. 9	92	4.0	-3	89	3.0
AP Eng. 11	92	4.0	-5	87	3.5

# How to succeed in High School

- Select appropriate course level (CP, Honors, AP)
- STUDY!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Use good time management skills
- Keep a positive attitude
- Seek help when needed
- Maintain good attendance
- Take advantage of school tutorials (free)
- Do your homework!!!!!!
- Take advantage of Parent Portal to know how your child is performing in each class.

# Community Service

- Very important for scholarship opportunities
- SHOC (Students Helping Our Community) – seal on diploma for 80 hours during high school
- Begin this summer
- Keep record and turn in to Ginger House, program coordinator (706-602-6651).

# Extra Curricular Activities

- Athletics:
  - Baseball, basketball, cheerleading, cross country, football, golf, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track, volleyball, wrestling
- Clubs and Organizations
  - Academic Team, Yearbook, band, chorus, dance line, debate, FBLA, FCA, National Honor Society, FCCLA, Key Club, Literary Club, One Act Play, Student Council, Thespian Society, Sigma Lambda Club, SMAD, HOSA, Ocean Bowl, Beta Club, Interact Club, Pep Club, Calhoun Service League, Creative Writing, Diamond Darlings, Young Republicans, Anime`, Skills USA

# Honor Roll and Merit List

- Honor Roll – All grades must be 90 or above
- Merit List – All grades must be 80 or above
- Academic Letter – Cumulative average of 90 or better with no failures for 1<sup>st</sup> semester

# Advisement

- Meet with 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss recommendations
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Tours of the High School on February 8-10 during Connection Classes.
- Advisement Meetings scheduled for February 15-16 at CMS with high school advisor

# How Can You Help Your Child Be Successful in High School?

- EVERYTHING is subject to change. It is very important for you to be proactive in the education of your child.
  - Creating a parent account on GaCollege411 can help you stay abreast of HOPE changes.
  - Checking parent portal regularly can provide you with updates to grades/progress.
  - Checking the school's website and attending evening meetings will provide you with information about changes and opportunities for your child.
  - Attending parent conferences bi-yearly to receive updated communications and advisement.

# Welcome

We are looking forward to your child being at the high school! If you have questions or concerns, please call us.

## Contacts:

Student Services (706-629-7400)

Kim Lamb, Counselor

Heidi Allen, Counselor

Carolyn Collins, Student Data

Nancy Ratcliffe, Academic Interventionist

Jessi Gayton, Family Involvement Coordinator

Main Office 706-629-9213