

ACADEMICS

As your son/daughter prepares for high school, it is time to begin thinking about the future. Grades nine through twelve are very important in education. This is a good time for parents to look closely at what their son/daughter are doing in school and give them extra help and guidance.

The courses taken by your son/daughter in high school will have an important effect on later career and educational opportunities. If your son/daughter decides to go on to college, these courses will determine whether or not they will gain admission to the college of their choice. Many students do not know which classes to take, or are pressured by their friends to take easy courses. As a parent, you should help your son/daughter in making the right decisions.

The suggestions below regarding courses, can help you plan the program best suited to your son's or daughter's needs. These programs will prove to be helpful no matter what college or university your son/daughter may enter. Students who take as many challenging classes as possible in high school have a wider choice of careers.

1. Four full years of English are vital. Take classes emphasizing writing, reading and speaking. You should be writing often in these courses.
2. First-year Algebra, Geometry and second-year Algebra are strongly recommended. These courses are required for admission to a number of colleges. The Advanced Math courses are essential for success in many fields, not just scientific or technical. Plan to take a mathematics course in 12th grade, so you'll be in training for college math
3. Take three and one half years of courses in Social Sciences. An understanding of U.S. History and Government is necessary for college preparation.
4. Take at least 2 years of Science classes that include laboratory work. (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
5. Most colleges require at least 2 years in the same Foreign Language for admission.
6. Courses in the Fine Arts help you develop talents and interests you may not know you have. They'll help you discover enjoyable new activities and help you become a well-rounded person.

Many universities require a year of study in the Visual and Performing Arts for admission.

7. Advanced Placement and Honors classes are preferred and recommended for those students preparing for college classes In summary, your son/daughter should take many courses beyond the minimal high school graduation requirements to prepare for success in college and in life.