

CLASS OF 2028

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
FRESHMAN YEAR!

HOW CAN MY COUNSELOR HELP ME?

- We work together with students, families, teachers and other school staff to help you achieve.

We assist with:

- Academic planning
 - Personal/social challenges
 - Planning future education and career choices
- 

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

3 basic requirements:

- Earn 24 Credits
- Earn a 2.0 GPA
- Pass 2 state assessments (tests)

ASSESSMENTS

MUST pass these two assessments to earn a High School Diploma

- Algebra I EOC (level 3 or above) or
 - ACT Math – 16 or
 - SAT Math – 420 or
 - PSAT/NMSQT Math – 430 or
 - Geometry – Level 3
- Grade 10 FAST (level 3 or above) or
 - ACT Reading and English average – 18 or
 - SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing – 480

If you earn a Certificate of Completion that means you did not graduate from high school and your post-secondary options are limited.

CREDITS

- 24 credits must be earned in all the following:
 - English 1, 2, 3, and 4
 - Algebra, Geometry, and two additional math courses
 - Biology and two additional sciences
 - World History, US History, Government, and Economics
 - Practical/performing/fine arts
 - HOPE
 - 7.5 elective credits and .5 credit in Personal Financial Literacy
 - If you're planning to attend college, you will need two credits in the SAME world language

PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

- 9th → 10th Grade = 5 credits
- 10th → 11th Grade = 11 credits
- 11th → 12th Grade = 17 credits

GPA

- Required GPA = 2.0 cumulative unweighted or higher
 - 2.0 is a “C” average
 - Check HAC regularly to keep track of grades

HOW DO WE CALCULATE GPA?

Add the “grade points” you have earned and divide by the number of grades.

$$A = 4$$

$$B = 3$$

$$C = 2$$

$$D = 1$$

$$F = 0$$

LET'S TRY AN EXAMPLE...

Joe's 1st semester grades:

What is Joe's 1st
semester GPA?

- Science: D
- Algebra: C
- English: D
- HOPE: C
- World History: B
- Digital Art: B
- Weight Training: D

LET'S TRY AN EXAMPLE...

Joe's 1st semester grades:

- Science: D
- Algebra: C
- English: D
- HOPE: C
- World History: B
- Digital Art: B
- Weight Training: D

$$1 + 2 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 3 + 1 = 13$$

$$13/7 = 1.86$$

LET'S TRY ANOTHER...

Joe's 2nd semester grades:

- Science: C
- Algebra: A
- English: C
- HOPE: B
- World History: A
- Digital Art: A
- Weight Training: B

What is Joe's 2nd
semester GPA?

LET'S TRY ANOTHER...

- Joe's 2nd semester grades:
-

- Science: C
- Algebra: A
- English: C
- HOPE: B
- World History: A
- Digital Art: A
- Weight Training: B

What is Joe's
cumulative GPA for
9th grade?

$$1 + 2 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 3 + 1 + 2 + 4 + 2 \\ + 3 + 4 + 4 + 3 = 35$$

$$35/14 = 2.5$$

WHAT ABOUT “ADVANCED” CLASSES?

For Honors classes, add .5 points.

A = 4.5, B = 3.5, C = 2.5, D = 1.5, F = 0

For AICE/AP/Dual Enrollment classes, add 1

A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, F = 0

**Now, calculate your
GPA using your Q1
grades**

IS IT WHERE YOU WANT IT TO BE?

WHY AREN'T D'S *REALLY* PASSING?

They may earn you credit for the course, but they won't get you to a 2.0 GPA!

WHAT IF I'M STRUGGLING?

- Track your assignments on HAC.
- Communicate with your teachers.
- Take advantage of retake opportunities.
- Meet with your teacher for extra help before school.
- Take advantage of your TORO time in the classes that you need help.
- Student tutors are available; ask your counselor for more information.
- Use online resources like www.khanacademy.org, Varsity Tutors, and Algebra Nation.
- Make an appointment with your counselor.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO AS A FRESHMAN?

- Realize that **every** day, **every** class matters!
- Participate in class, do your homework, try your best.
- Get organized; practice good study habits
- Don't be "too cool" to be smart.
- Get to know your teachers, counselor, and make connections.
- Start thinking about what you want to do after graduation. This will help drive your "path" through high school – which classes to take, which activities to join, etc.
- Get involved at school! Join clubs, sports, community service, social events, etc.

IT'S NOT TOO SOON TO BE THINKING ABOUT YOUR POST-SECONDARY PLANS!

- Look at the checklist of what you should be doing each year of high school to get ready for college.
- The SUS (State University System) chart shows you information for universities in Florida.

WHAT DO COLLEGES LOOK FOR?



Well rounded student



GPA (grade point average)



Test scores (ACT and SAT)



Community service hours



Rigorous courses taken
(Dual Enrollment, AICE,
AP, Honors)



Extra-curricular and
leadership activities –
Quality, not Quantity

WHAT IS BRIGHT FUTURES?

(LOOK AT CHART)

- A scholarship program that can help pay for you to go to college!
- Check out the Bright Futures chart with the criteria.
- Start working hard now for a big payoff \$\$\$.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Not needed for graduation
- Needed for Bright Futures
- Forms turned into your counselor
- Goal should be to complete 100 hours of community service and work combined
- Two forms required for all activities:
 1. Service Plan
 2. Service Log
- Signed letter on the organization's letterhead **required** for any activities **outside** of the school describing type of service, who in the community the service benefited and a description of the service event.

COMMUNITY SERVICE FORMS

PICK UP IN SCHOOL COUNSELING OFFICE

St. Johns County Student Volunteer Service Plan

All lines on this form must be completed before the service plan is submitted for hours.

Student Name: _____ Student Number: _____

Date(s) of Service Activity: _____

Social/Civic Issue/Professional Area Addressing with Service Activity: _____

Service Organization: _____

Description of Volunteer Activity: _____

Reflection on Service Activity

Attach the organization's letter on letterhead to this page. Complete the reflection below and submit to your school counselor/designee by your graduation date. *Note: Ideally, students submit hours at least after each year in high school rather than saving them all until the end of high school.*

What impact did your service have on the social/civic issue/professional area that you identified?

Identify one way the service activity could have been improved.

What was your favorite part of volunteering?

Would you recommend this activity to other students? Circle One: Yes No

I affirm that I have performed the service activity under the supervision of a non-relative, meeting all requirements outlined in St. Johns County Community Service Guidelines. I understand that if I am found to have given false testimony about these hours that the hours will be revoked and endanger my eligibility for the Bright Futures Scholarship.

St. Johns County School District Service Hours Log

Student Completes			Service Agency Completes	
Date of Activity	Volunteer Service Organization	Hours Logged	Supervisor Signature (Can draw arrow through other rows if supervised all activities)	Work Phone/Email

I affirm that I have performed the above hours under the supervision of a non-relative, meeting all requirements outlined in St. Johns County Community Service Guidelines. I understand that if I am found to have given false testimony about these hours that the hours will be revoked and endanger my eligibility for the Bright Futures Scholarship.

NEED TO SEE ME?

- Send me a message on Schoology
- <https://calendly.com/sarah-anderson-stjohns/30min?month=2024-11>

