

9th Grade Timeline to Graduation

* Prioritize Mental & Emotional Health

Starting High School requires a lot more time and hard work than Middle School in academics and your art specialty.

Students have a tendency to spread themselves thin, stay heavily involved in activities outside of school, and/or focus on being perfect rather than learning and growing.

Please check in with yourself/child and ask, "When was the last time I laughed and had fun, or pursued my passion without being judged?"

We as humans cannot do it all and you have to learn that when you take a break, lessen your commitments outside of school, and spend quality time with loved ones not talking about school or college, you'll have a much better time coping with the difficulties of this transition.



Understand How GPA Works

A GPA is your Grade Point Average
Every semester grade is given a GPA point and averaged together to determine a GPA.

- Academic courses are on a 4.0 scale
- AP and Honors courses are on a 5.0 scale
- Each semester grade is made up of 3 cycle grades and a final

High school credit taken in middle school does not go into your GPA

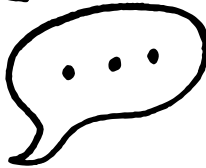


PSAT

- Typically offered on campus in October
Results come out in December through College Board
- PSAT scores are not used in the college admissions process
- Free PSAT Test Prep: www.khanacademy.org

Get Involved

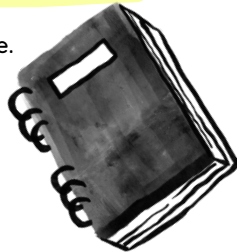
- Join a club or multiple clubs
- Attend an Fine Arts event
- Join your Class Remind Group
- Join a sport
- Seek leadership positions
- Get involved in Spirit Week



Academics are Important

Students will need to pass all required courses to graduate.
Tips for academic success

- Read your syllabus
- Write down your daily assignments from Canvas in a agenda
- Check grades on Power School weekly
- Contact teachers for work/tests if absent
- Attend tutorials as needed
- Ask questions in class
- Create study groups



Build Relationships

Taking time to create a good relationship with your teachers, classmates, and counselors can help by:

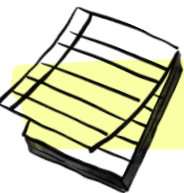
- Feeling like you are not alone
- Having someone to listen
- Help with problem solving
- Improve in academics
- Encouraging empathy and growth

Course Selection

- Every spring students will receive an updated copy of their unofficial transcript
- Students and parents will learn about the courses being offered/required for the next school year
- Counselors meet with students one on one to discuss graduation requirements and help students choose course requests

Creating Your Own Story

- Students begin learning about building their personal narrative in writing.
- Use information from personality tests and profiles on Schoolinks to explore their skills, interests, and possible career paths.
- Finding your voice, processing your journey, and preparing for your future starts as soon as you walk through the doors at BHS.
- Every day is an opportunity to gain awareness and grow.



10th Grade Timeline to Graduation

* Prioritize Mental & Emotional Health

- Remember it's healthy and ok to put up personal boundaries
- Talk to your loved ones for advice or ask them to just listen
- Get off of social media, sometimes a break is exactly what you need to refresh and feel grounded in who you are
- Turn your phone one DO NOT DISTURB at night to make sure you get enough sleep
- If there's too much drama:
 - Try turning your phone off for a few hours each day so you're more able to focus
 - Try not to talk to others about someone else's issues, it is not your story to tell
 - When working on a problem with a friend, to doing it in person and not over text.
- Make an appointment with your counselor, we love to help our students!



PSAT

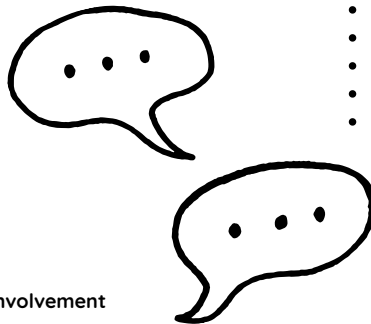
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Get Involved

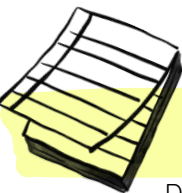
- Join a club or multiple clubs
- Attend an Fine Arts event
- Join your Class Remind Group
- Join a sport
- Seek leadership positions
- Get involved in Spirit Week

Begin a resume by writing down your involvement for the last 2 years.



Course Selection

- Every spring students will receive an updated copy of their unofficial transcript
- Students and parents will learn about the courses being offered/required for the next school year
- Counselors meet with students one on one to discuss graduation requirements and help students choose course requests



Use Your Summer Wisely

Determine how you can use your summers to grow

- Internship
- Summer Intensives
- Programs
- Job
- Researching Careers and College on Schoolinks

Understand How GPA Works

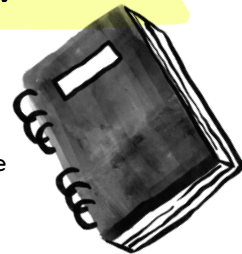
A GPA is your Grade Point Average
Every semester grade is given a GPA point and averaged together to determine a GPA.

- Academic courses are on a 4.0 scale
- AP and Honors courses are on a 5.0 scale
- Each semester grade is made up of 3 cycle grades and a final

Pay attention to the grades reported on your report card. These grades calculate into your overall GPA.

Academics are Important

- Grades and attendance still matter
- Check grades on Power School weekly
- Check Week at a Glance weekly
- Attend tutorials if needed
- Always check in teacher if you missed a class to see about any missing work or tests



Build Relationships

Get to know your teachers & counselors:

- Improve your grades
- More motivation to attend class
- Best for your mental & emotional health, and your teacher's!

When applying to college as a senior, you will need letters of recommendations from academic teachers. The better someone knows you, the more they can write about what an amazing student you are.



11th Grade Timeline to Graduation

*Prioritize Mental & Emotional Health

- It's ok to not know what you want to do with the rest of your life, this is just planning for the next step
- Try not to listen to others tell you discouraging stories about college, the truth is they don't have all the answers and/or information
- There is a college for everyone, keep yourself open to new experiences and opportunities
- If you feel confused or alone, try talking to a parent, loved one, or counselor for help or advice



*Understand How GPA Works

A GPA is your Grade Point Average. Every semester grade is given a GPA point and averaged together to determine a GPA.

- Academic courses are on a 4.0 scale
- AP and Honors courses are on a 5.0 scale
- Each semester grade is made up of 3 cycle grades and a final
- Above all else, keep those CORE classes grades up!

Pay attention to the grades reported on your report card. These grades calculate into your overall GPA.



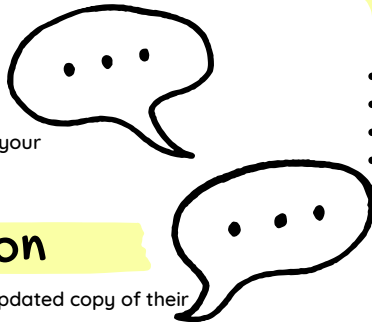
PSAT

- Typically offered on campus in October. Results come out in December through College Board
- 11th grade PSAT scores can offer certain scholarships such as National Merit
- Free PSAT Test Prep: www.khanacademy.org



Stay Involved

- Try a leadership position in a club
- Start mentoring younger students
- Stay committed
- Update your resume by writing down your involvement for the last 3 years,



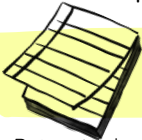
Course Selection

- Every spring students will receive an updated copy of their unofficial transcript
- Students and parents will learn about the courses being offered/required for the next school year
- Counselors meet with students one on one to discuss graduation requirements and help students choose course requests

Start a List of Schools You want to Attend

- Pay attention to what programs they offer
- Choose no less than 5 schools to apply
- Be sure to choose safe schools as well as reach schools and leave options open
- Application deadline
- Scholarship deadline
- Are essays/writing supplements required?
- Are test scores required?
- Are letters of rec required?

Make a list spreadsheet of application requirements paying attention



Use Your Summer Wisely

Determine how you can use your summers to grow

- Visit campuses
- Create a Common App Account if planning to apply to schools outside of Texas
- Create an Apply Texas Account if planning to only apply to schools in Texas
- Update your resume
- Start your essays

Academics are Important

- Grades and attendance still matter
 - Check grades on Power School weekly
 - Check Canvas DAILY!
 - Attend tutorials if needed
- Always check in teacher if you missed a class to see about any missing work or tests



Ask for Letters of Recommendation

Many colleges will require students to submit two or more letters of recommendation from teachers as part of your college application requirements.

Before you leave for the summer:

Ask two academic teachers and one elective teacher if they will commit to writing your letter of recommendation your senior year.

SAT/ACT

- All Juniors will take the SAT on campus the Spring of Junior year and do not need to register
- Students who want to take the ACT can register and sign up at ACT.org
- Students who want to take the SAT more than once can sign up at CollegeBoard.org



Need to Speak with Me? Book an appointment:
www.tinyurl.com/bhsbooking

12th Grade Timeline to Graduation

*Prioritize Mental & Emotional Health

Seniors typically have a lot of goals they want to achieve:

- Write down your goals
- Make a timelines of your goals
- Be realistic with time commitments
- Don't forget to have fun and be happy, enjoy the moments
- Carve out time for "college free" conversations with parents and loved ones
- Its ok to say "No"



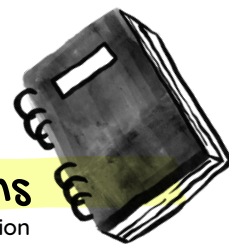
Academics and Attendance are STILL Important

- Graduation is still the #1 Priority and seniors need to pass your required courses to graduate
- Colleges require Midyear transcripts at the end of 1st semester and will review grades, attendance, and rank- this **CAN impact an admissions decision even after being admitted.**

SAT/ACT

Some students may want to take the test again before college deadlines

- Register with CollegeBoard.org and ACT.org to sign up for test dates



Begin College Applications

- Make or update a spreadsheet with application requirements for each school
- Research each school's website for specific information about the application process and deadlines
- Most schools use more than one application to choose from:

Common Application
Coalition
Apply Texas
Other

Applications are due by 11:59 PM on the deadline day, this includes all parts of the application. *

Track your Portals

Once a school receives a student's application, many schools will have them create an online portal through their website to track important documents, deadlines, and communicate admissions decisions or questions.

Enroll Deadline

- Once a student receives an admissions offer and a ward letter, they are given a deadline of when to accept and put a deposit down on the school
- May 1st is a common acceptance deadline

Complete Essays

- Common Application Essays
- Coalition Application Essays
- Apply TX Essays



Complete FAFSA/TASFA

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- Texas Application for State Financial Aid
- Texas graduation requirement
- Opens December
- January 15th priority deadline

Apply for Scholarships

- Scholarships are available through specific schools or organizations offering them. Deadlines are throughout the year. Some based on need and some based on merit
- Scholarships can be found:

Bellaire Cash 4 Cards: www.tinyurl.com/bellairecash4cards

HISD Hot Scholarships: <https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/181035>

Cappex: www.cappex.com

Unigo: www.unigo.com

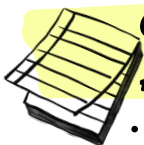
Scholar Snapp: www.scholarsnapp.org

College Board Opportunity Scholarships:
<https://opportunity.collegeboard.org>



Collect Admissions Decisions & Award Letters

- Depending on what type of deadline students use they can start hearing from schools as early as December or most typically right before or after spring break.
- Some admissions decisions letters also include award letters for financial aid but sometimes those can arrive much later



Need to Speak with Me? Book an appointment:
www.tinyurl.com/bhsbooking