

The Inside Scoop

May 6, 2023

Dr. Rivas, Mr. Klein, Mrs. Farris, & Mrs. Johnson

First Things First

DO

- Make sure you are getting emails from Mr. Klein.
- If there are additional emails you want to add, email Mr. Klein from the address he has been using.
- Let us know of a change of address by providing updated proof of residency.
- Entrance to HSPVA is contingent on promotion to the 9th grade. Please contact me if you are assigned summer school because you will be dropped from our roster.

DON'T

- Email/call faculty or other staff directly unless they contact you.

FYI

- School Hours: 7:45 – 3:30 (bell schedule available at HSPVA.org)

*First Bell is at 7:45 AM

1 st	7:50 – 8:35	1 st
2 nd	8:40 – 10:10	6 th
3 rd	10:15 – 11:45	7 th
Lunch	11:45 – 12:20	Lunch
4 th	12:25 – 1:55	8 th
5 th	2:00 – 3:30	9 th

- School Supplies – PTO School Store – you will receive info from School Store via email about School Supplies.

Transportation

- HISD Bus
 - Schedules and Routes determined by HISD
 - You MUST request bus transportation from me. If you think you may use it, request it. A survey will go out to confirm.
- METRO - <https://www.ridemetro.org/fares/discounted-and-free-programs>
 - Sign up for a student discount cards
 - Summer - Free METRO (bus and light rail) for students.
 - School Year - Rides are 50% off
 - If this could be an option, consider practicing with your student over the summer
- Drop off and Pick up - Details at Artist Academy
- Parking Permits - Seniors Only

Laptop Info

All HISD high school students are issued a Chromebook for use during the school year. They are expected to have their fully charged Chromebook at school every day.

- There is an annual \$25 fee for insurance which covers accidental damage and loss. Any issues with the computer are handled quickly through the tech office.
- The HISD Chromebook has all the apps and programs needed for students' required schoolwork.
- HISD filters restrict inappropriate material or sites.
- Use of personal devices is highly discouraged; there is no technical support for personal devices; and, district-supplied apps may not be available for non-HISD devices. Teachers are not required and should not be expected to offer allowances for issues that arise due to use of non-HISD devices.

Note: There are no filters for time spent on a laptop or for excessive use of sites (like some games) otherwise deemed acceptable. Parents are encouraged to set limits with their students. One suggestion is to require the laptop to be plugged in overnight in the parents' room.

Counselors 101

Mrs. Christy Farris

Dance, Theatre & Visual Arts

Mrs. Becky Johnson

Creative Writing, Instrumental & Vocal

Agenda

- Texas Graduation Requirements
- Health
- Summer Courses
- Course Levels
- GPA – No Rank
- Special Education (IEP) and 504
- Course selections

Texas Graduation Requirements

- All students are on the Texas Foundation High School Plan with Distinguished level of Achievement.
- In HISD each student must earn 26 credits to graduate including the following courses:

English: 4 Credits

English 1 — 1 credit
English 2 — 1 credit
English 3 — 1 credit
English 4 — 1 credit

Math: 4 Credits

Algebra 1 — 1 credit
Geometry — 1 credit
Algebra 2 — 1 credit
4th Math — 1 credit

Social Studies: 4 Credits

World Geography — 1 credit
World History — 1 credit
US History — 1 credit
U.S. Government — .5 credit
Macro Economics — .5 credit

Science: 4 Credits

Biology — 1 credit
Chemistry — 1 credit
Physics — 1 credit
4th Science — 1 credit

- Foreign Language — 2 credits (two years of same language)
- Health — .5 credit
- PE — 1 credit
- Fine Art — 1 credit
- Electives — 5.5 credits (art area magnet courses) – This is where you get your “Fine Arts” Endorsement.

Health

- All students must complete a Health course during 9th grade using the online platform APEX.
- Health is completed online on the student's personal time with no designated class time, however, it will show on your schedule in August.
- Health has 7 units (6 with content, unit 7 is the final exam)
 - Each cycle, students will be required to finish 2 units in order
 - Cycle 1: Units 1 and 2
 - Cycle 2: Units 3 and 4
 - Cycle 3: Units 5, 6 and 7 (final)
- The entire course will be open from the beginning of the year and students are encouraged to work ahead.

Summer Courses

As mentioned in the Entrance Agreement:

- Kinder HSPVA does not allow any courses to be taken outside of school that are offered on our campus.
- Any other courses **MUST** be approved by a counselor in advance to be considered for high school credit.
- Only courses that have been previously completed or that a student was enrolled in as of January 2023 will be accepted for credit.
 - This includes Health, PE, Foreign Languages, Math, etc.

If you are required to take summer school courses for promotion to 9th grade, contact Mr. Klein ASAP.

Difference Between Level of courses: Regular, PreAP/Honors (HISDADV), and AP Classes

Students at Kinder HSPVA choose the levels of courses they want to enroll in for the upcoming school year. Most classes offer a regular level or PreAP level, while some upper grade level courses offer an AP level.

Regular level course: The courses are offered as high school credit meeting the TEKS of the class. **These courses are on a 4.0 scale.**

PreAP/Honors level course: In addition to meeting the TEKS, this class offers a more complex and deeper understanding of the curriculum. They are often taught at a faster pace and require more work to be completed in and outside of classroom. **These courses are on a 5.0 scale.**

Advanced Placement (AP) level course: These courses meet the standards and requirements of the AP curriculum set by College Board. These college level courses require a significant amount of work outside of the classroom, even on weekends. Students are automatically signed up for an AP exam at the end of the year. The grade earned on the AP exam may potentially earn them college credit. **These courses are on a 5.0 scale.**

*Please note: It is important to consider the overall requirements of Kinder HSPVA when planning course selections.

GPA

How does the GPA work at Kinder HSPVA?

- HSPVA is on a 4.0+ weighted GPA scale. A GPA is calculated using the semester grade of each course listed on the transcript by assigning points to each grade and averaging them together. See below for chart we use to award points.

For example:

Biology A: 95 → 4.0 points

Algebra 1 A: 85 → 3.0 points

World Geography PreAP A: 78 → 3.0 points

English I PreAP A: 92 → 5.0 points

Spanish 3 PreAP A: 82 → 4.0 points

Academic classes	PreAP and AP classes
90 – 100 = A = 4.0 points	90 – 100 = A = 5.0 points
80 – 89 = B = 3.0 points	80 – 89 = B = 4.0 points
75 – 79 = C = 2.0 points	75 – 79 = C = 3.0 points
70 – 77 = D = 1.0 points	70 – 74 = D = 2.0 points
Below 69 = 0 points	Below 69 = 0 points

$$4+3+3+5+4 = 19 \div 5 = \mathbf{3.8 \text{ GPA}}$$

- The GPA is updated after each semester and added to the transcript. Unofficial transcripts are available each fall with an updated GPA*.

*Please Note: Middle School/Junior High credits are NOT calculated into the GPA.

Why is my GPA Important?

- When you are applying to colleges your senior year, your transcript showing grades from 9th-11th grade, including a cumulative GPA, will be sent with your application.
- The transcript is an important tool for colleges in determining admissions decisions. When viewing a transcript, colleges look at:
 - GPA
 - Types of classes you took
 - Growth

HSPVA No Rank Policy

How does class rank work at Kinder HSPVA?

HSPVA does not rank, however during the fall of your senior year, if a senior chooses to share their rank with colleges, they have the opportunity to waive the NO RANK policy and we will share the rank.

Special Education (IEP) & 504

- Special Education

If you are currently receiving services under IEP, contact Ms. Karem Chandler – Karem.Chandler@houstonisd.org.

- 504

Students with current 504 Service Plan – submit electronically to Mr. Klein.
If needed, 504 Coordinator will reach out in August.

Course Selection

HOSPITALITY

Course Selections

Courses for incoming 9th graders are dependent on if they are currently enrolled in high school credit bearing courses in middle school.

Student will be taking courses in the following areas:

1. English
2. Math
3. Science
4. Social Studies
5. Foreign Language
 - If 2 years of the same language has been completed, students will have the option of a Study Lab.

The new 10th and 11th graders will be enrolling in the same subject areas.

Directions:

1. Please do not mark anything on the course selection sheet until we tell you to do so.
2. We will do this process together one subject area at a time.
3. After all 5 courses are selected, you will take a picture of the course selection sheet.
4. Turn in the course selection sheet exit the auditorium.
5. Take your ticket outside for a Scoop!

Please remember, these are requests. We try our best to honor all requests, but being at a Fine Art Magnet School means that our art area courses are our priority when scheduling. Classes cannot be overloaded to honor schedule requests. This means that sometimes the level of a course must be change from your original request to make your whole schedule work.

Course Selections – We will do these together! 😊

At Kinder HSPVA, you will be taking a total of nine courses per year. Five of your courses will be planned today. The four remaining courses will be determined by your Art Area Departments.

Your personalized course selection sheet is based on the report cards or grade documents that were submitted to HSPVA. When final grades or transcripts are submitted, courses requests may be updated if necessary.

- **We need final transcripts/report cards showing HIGH SCHOOL credits earned by June 15th. Mr. Klein will send follow-up information on how to provide this documentation.**

Please remember, the school year is not over, and some requests are dependent upon completing current courses with a passing semester average to earn credit.

Academic offering for 2023-2024

- If you have your email from Mr. Klein with the link to the Academic Offerings, you may want to open and view it.



English 1 PreAP

- 9th grade English: All classes will be designated as PreAP. There will not be a regular level offering.
- We want every student to experience what Pre-AP courses at PVA provided. We have a strong vertical alignment from 9th-12th (Pre-AP to AP), so students who wanted to take advanced courses later in their academic career struggled learning the missed content.
- We have systems in place to help support their learning during regular class periods as well as tutorials.
- Going into your 10th grade year, you will be given the option of continuing on the PreAP/AP track or taking traditional Academic English.

Math

If you are currently in 8th Grade Math:

- **Algebra 1** – only regular level offered at HSPVA.

If you are currently in Algebra 1:

- **Geometry or Geometry PreAP**

If you are currently in Geometry:

- **Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 PreAP**

Science

If you are currently in 8th Grade Science or IPC:

- **Biology or Biology PreAP**

If you are currently in Biology:

- **Chemistry or Chemistry PreAP**

Social Studies:

Your options will be:

- **World Geography or AP Human Geography**
 - AP Human Geography is the only college level course offered to incoming 9th grade students.

Language Other Than English:

If you are currently not enrolled in a Language other than English:

- **French 1 or Spanish 1**

Currently enrolled in French 1:

- **French 2**

If you are currently enrolled in Spanish 1:

- **Spanish 2**

If you are currently enrolled in Mandarin Chinese 1, German, or Latin:

- you may choose to continue the second year through an approved provider at your own cost by selecting **Study Lab** or select **French 1** or **Spanish 1** and start a new language.

If two years of LOTE has been completed, you can:

- Select the next appropriate level of Spanish: **Spanish 3, AP Spanish Lang 4, or AP Spanish Lit**, or;
- You can opt not to continue in a language and select a **Study Lab**
 - This is the only elective available for 9th graders if they have completed their LOTE requirements.

Course selection reminder:

Please make sure that only **5** courses are selected, one for each area:

- English
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Language Other Than English or Study Lab

Just an FYI:

- No summer reading.
- No academic summer assignments.
- Some art areas may have assignments. These will be sent by the teachers or Mr. Klein.

Notes about Course Selections

Reminder, important to note:

- We make every effort to honor all requests, but we are limited art area conflicts, class availability and other master schedule limitations.
- Art area requirements take priority over other schedule issues and classes cannot be overloaded to honor schedule requests.
- When conflicts occur, the levels of courses may need to be changed.

Students will have the first 15 class days of the semester to request schedule changes. A link to make the request will be provided in the fall.

Final notes: Culture at HSPVA

- Students: Check your HISD email regularly!! This is how you will receive important information from counselors, etc.
- Students and Parents: Check grades in HISD Connect.
- If there are questions regarding anything involving a class, your first stop is ALWAYS the teacher.
- No pass, no play. Make sure you are turning in your assignments on time!
- Deadlines are very important. Keep a planner/calendar, make sure to list due dates for academics and art area activities...this is a busy place to be!
- Cell phones are NOT required to complete work.

What's Next?

Preparing for HSPVA – Presented by Mrs. Farris

An optional session for incoming 9th graders to learn about the academic expectations and how to use campus tools and resources

Wednesday, August 9th

9 – 11 AM: Vocal & Instrumental

1 – 3 PM: Creative Writing & Visual

Thursday, August 10

9 – 11 AM: Theatre & Dance

Thursday, August 24 - Artist Academy – New Student/Parent Orientation & Registration

- Parents – 9 am – 12 pm
- Students – 9 am – 3 pm

Monday, August 28 – First Day of School

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Time	Cost
May 9 th -11 th	Theatre Lower-Level Showcase	Black Box	6:30 pm	FREE
May 12 th	Mariachi Spring Concert	Denney Theatre	6:30 pm	\$10 - \$20
May 13 th	790 Night Market celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month	Studio Theatre & Bus Ramp	5:30 pm	\$10
May 16 th	Orchestra End of Year Concert	Denney Theatre	6:30 pm	\$10 - \$20
May 19 th	Creative Writing Spring Off the Page	Studio Theatre	6:30 pm	\$12
May 19 th	Vocal Pop Show	Denney Theatre	6:30 pm	\$5 - \$10
May 20 th	Vocal Pop Show	Denney Theatre	1:00 pm	\$5 - \$10

All tickets (except 790 Night Market) available at [HSPVABoxOffice.com](https://www.HSPVABoxOffice.com)
790 Night Market tickets available at the door.

**Thank
you!**



Kinder High School for the
Performing and Visual Arts