

Graduation Credits Term Social Studies Science Career
Technical Education Electives Requirements Granite
Technical Institute High School Junior High School Good
Attendance Progress Toward Graduation PTG Clubs Quarter
College and Career Readiness Plan CCR GTI Individualized
Education Plan Volunteer Announcements Advisors Athletics

GRANITE DISTRICT JUNIOR HIGH

Planning Guide

FIND YOUR WAY THROUGH SCHOOL - USE A GUIDE

Extra-Curricular Actives IEP Granite School District
Students Administrators Counselors Psychologists Social
Workers System of Support Teachers Lunch Service Fitness
for Life Financial Literacy Digital Literacy Health
Practice Study Family Friends Assemblies School

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front cover

Parents:

Granite School District's charge and responsibility is to prepare all students for college, career and life. Junior high school is integral to this preparation. Each of Granite School District's junior high schools offer a core program of study where students in grades 7-8 earn a minimum of 12 units of credit that prepares them for instruction in grades 9-12.

Some junior high students want to begin earning high school credit in addition to their core program of study. In the past, earning credits toward high school graduation did not officially begin until 9th grade. However, the district's high school graduation policy has been updated so that *students at any age may now earn credit toward high school graduation by completing high school credit-bearing courses (in-person or online) offered by our accredited secondary schools* (Article X.A.4 ii High School Graduation Requirements).

This change in policy means students in grades 7-8 may now earn credit for high school courses such as Secondary Math 1, world languages and courses taken through Granite Connection (online) High School. All high school credit bearing courses and grades for such courses will be permanently documented on the high school transcript upon completion of the course. For some students, the high school transcript may begin as early as 7th grade. Therefore, students and parents need to carefully choose courses and develop an academic plan in junior high that leads to high school completion and aligns with future goals and aspirations.

This change in policy has been in effect for mathematics courses and for courses completed through Connection High School since the 2014-2015 school year. In addition, world language courses taken in junior high also generate high school credit and at the same time meet the required junior high core program of study.

Benefits:

- Students can plan to take more college and career readiness courses in high school such as concurrent enrollment, advanced placement (AP) and Granite Technical Institute (GTI) courses.
- Students can more clearly define a pathway that supports college and career readiness based on individual interests and abilities.
- Students can include more specialized courses such as fine arts, world languages, career and technical education and athletics.

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PARENT CHECKLIST

Parent Checklist for all grades:

- Meet your student's school counselor.
- Talk to your child about his or her interests and help match those interests with school classes, career pathways, a college major and career.
- Help your child develop good study habits, such as **60-80 minutes** review of subjects, learning activities, and notes, **daily** before going on social media or playing computer games.
- Use the Parent Portal to keep an eye on your child's grades, and help him or her find tutoring assistance, if necessary.
- Consistent **daily attendance** is an important key to the academic success of your student.
- This [Academic Help](https://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/homework/index.html) link offers suggestions on how to empower your child to successfully complete assignments.
- This [Parent Link](https://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/adolescence/index.html) addresses issues that parents of 10- to 14-year-olds generally find most challenging.
- Browse this [Parent Help](https://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/parentpower/booklet.pdf) link for ideas to help you support your child as he or she transitions into junior high school.
- Continue saving for your child's post high school programs (Certifications, Associates Degree, Bachelor Degree or more). If you have not opened a savings account, learn about the tax advantages of saving and find a link to a clearinghouse of state college savings plans. <https://studentaid.gov/resources/tax-benefits#529-plans>

What are the grade-by-grade checklists?



These grade-by-grade checklists are designed to help you prepare for high school and college during grades 6-8.

We recommend spreading these tasks out over your junior high and high school years, but you can complete most of these tasks at any time.

KEY COMPONENTS OF COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

1

Build an academic foundation.

- Take classes to develop an understanding of different subjects and prepare you for college-level courses.
- Earn college credit in high school by taking Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or concurrent enrollment (CE) classes. Consider CE classes that apply to college general education courses, a certificate or a degree. Remember concurrent course grades become part of your college transcript.

2

Strengthen your transferable skills.

- Select challenging courses in high school to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Establish effective time management and study habits.
- Learn how to communicate effectively through writing and speaking.
- Seek opportunities to work with a team.
- Be proficient in current technology.

3

Explore college campuses and learn about the different ways to pay for your education.

- Visit at least one college campus during your junior year in high school. Take a guided tour and ask questions. Think about what type of college environment is a good fit for you (size, location, student life, academics). Research how much college costs and compare the tuition, fees, and housing expenses.
- Understand the different ways to pay for college: personal savings account, My 529 Plan, scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study. Attend a Paying for College Night at your high school.

4

Pay attention to details.

- Take a college entrance exam (ACT or SAT) during your junior year. Retake it your senior year if you want to improve your score.
- Submit college applications by the priority deadline. Participate in your high school's College Application Week events during the fall of your senior year.
- Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the priority deadline your senior year. Need help filling out the FAFSA? Attend a FAFSA Completion Open House at your high school.

5

Evaluate your progress.

- Do your best work possible. Adjust study habits and course choices to stay on track.
- Use test results, GPA and course grades to gauge how close you are to being ready for college and career. Review college entrance exams (e.g., ACT or SAT) to evaluate your college readiness based on test score evidence.
- Visit utahfutures.org for tips and resources on academic preparation needed for a career pathway of interest to you, how to prepare and pay for college, and to get information about college and career events in your area.

6TH GRADE CHECKLIST

Career Exploration

- Introduce yourself to your school counselor.
- Register for **Keys to Success** and download the app at: <https://www.ktsutah.org/> (Or use Guest Login)
- Explore CAREER CLUSTERS through **Career Cluster Inventory Jr.** and review the careers in Keys to Success.
- YouScience** - Interest Inventory (YouScience.com)
- Speak with your school counselor, librarian, teachers, relatives, neighbors and other adults who have interesting jobs. Ask them what they like about their job and what education they needed for it.

Academic Development

- Develop strong study habits that help you learn and prepare for rigorous courses. **6th grade should be doing 60 minutes daily.**
- Read at least one book every month, just for fun.
- Participate in class and school activities.
- Attend school every day** and be **on time**. Attendance is one of the most important contributors to your success in school.
- Keep a planner - write down important dates / times and schedule specific times for studying and free time. (see example)

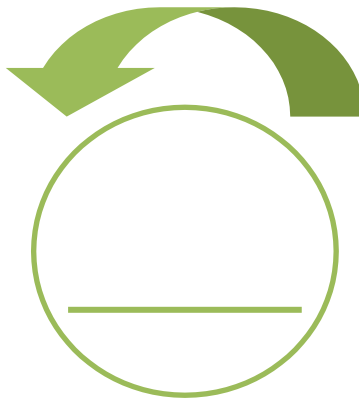
Personal/Social and Life Skills Development

- Look for ways to do service in your school and neighborhood.
- Introduce yourself to someone new, in class or at lunch.
- Assessing different feelings: Examine, Understand, Frequency, Thoughts, Response
- Developing a tolerance for differences in others and assessing influences on personal decisions.
- Identifying factors related to physical growth and development.

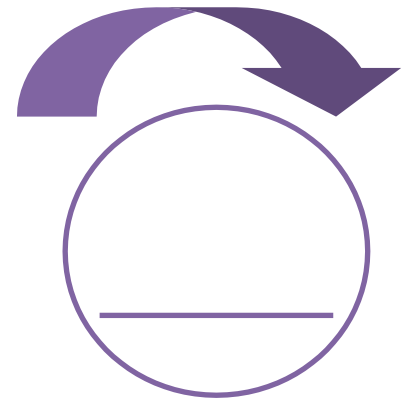
WRITE YOUR COMBINATION IN THE CIRCLES



Turn **RIGHT** several times to **CLEAR** the previous combination then **STOP** on your **FIRST NUMBER**

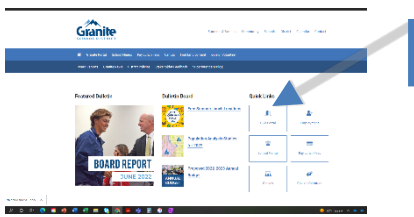


FULL turn **LEFT** once then turn **LEFT** again **STOPPING** on your **SECOND NUMBER**

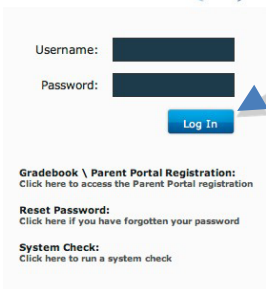


Turn **RIGHT** slowly until you find and **STOP** on your **THIRD NUMBER** then **OPEN** your locker

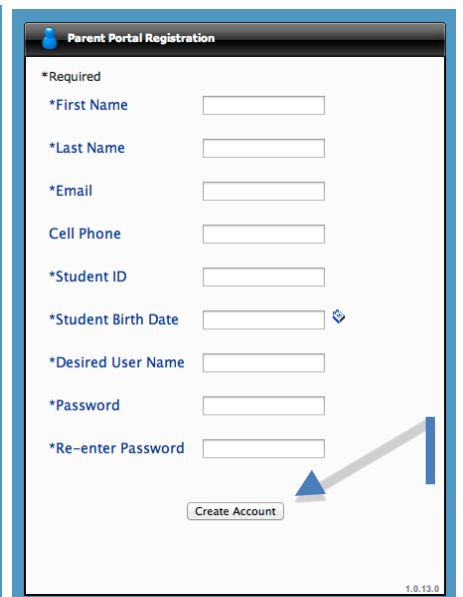
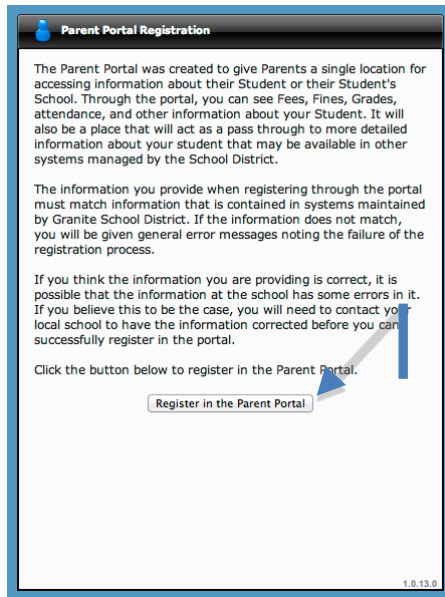
Student and Parent ACCESS TO ASSIGNMENTS, GRADES, AND ATTENDANCE - CHECK DAILY



1. Go to the Granite homepage
2. Choose the GSD PORTAL
Student & Parent login
Class access, grades,
attendance
3. (See below)



3. Parent Registration (or Login, if you have already registered)



4. Read and register
5. Fill in and create account

<http://schools.graniteschools.org>

Planner example	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 ST	MATH Learning Activity 1.2	MATH Learning Activity 1.3	MATH Learning Activity 1.4	MATH Review for Assessment	MATH Assessment
2 ND	ENGLISH Reading comprehension	ENGLISH Reading comprehension	ENGLISH Writing introduction	ENGLISH Write a summary	ENGLISH Begin project
3 RD	SCIENCE Review notes from lab	SCIENCE Science learning activity	SCIENCE Review for assessment 1	SCIENCE Review learning activity	SCIENCE Assessment 1
4 TH	SOCIAL STUDIES Study for assessment 1.2	SOCIAL STUDIES Assessment	SOCIAL STUDIES Learning Activity 1.3	SOCIAL STUDIES Learning activity 1.4	SOCIAL STUDIES Learning activity 1.5
5 TH	PE - 2 nd lunch Prepare for the mile	PE - 2 nd lunch Prepare for the mile	PE - 2 nd lunch Run the mile	PE - 2 nd lunch Intro to Pickleball	PE - 2 nd lunch Pickleball continued
6 TH	ART Finish shading assignment	ART Finish shading assignment	ART Introduction to perspective	ART Perspective continued	ART Perspective assignment continued
7 TH	MUSIC Review music notes	MUSIC Review music notes	MUSIC Music note assessment	MUSIC Review assessment results	MUSIC talk to teacher about assessment retake
Study time	3pm - 4pm Review math and English	3pm - 4pm Review Science and SS	3pm - 4pm Review math and English	3pm - 4pm Review Science and SS	3pm - 4pm Review assessments and plan for improvements
Other activities	5pm Chores then Fortnite with Cadence	5:30pm Soccer practice	5pm Chores then Fortnite with Cadence & Ray	5:30pm Soccer practice game on Sat. 11am	5pm Chores then relax
Other activities	7pm Read 30 min/write in planner	7pm Read 30 min/write in planner	7pm Read 30 min/write in planner	7pm Read 30 min/write in planner	7pm Read 30 min/write in planner

Fill in your schedule	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 ST					
2 ND					
3 RD					
4 TH					
5 TH					
6 TH					
7 TH					
Study time					
Other activities					
Other activities					

Set S M A R T Goals with College and Career in Mind

Goals make planning meaningful. It is an important skill that requires a little more thought and effort.

PERSONAL GOAL



ACADEMIC GOAL




CAREER GOAL



S = 
SPECIFIC


What goal are you trying to accomplish and why?

M = 
MEASURABLE

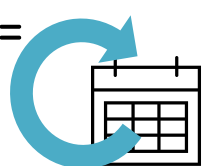
How will you know you've achieved your goal?

A = 
ATTAINABLE

What actions will you put in place to assure you achieve this goal?

R = 
RELEVANT

How does this goal align with other goals?

T = 
TIMELY

What is the timeline for achieving this goal?

How do you know what goals to set? Do some serious thinking about what you want to accomplish in the future. Dream a little. Write down your thoughts and think about **SMART goals that will help make your dreams come true**. Once you have SMART goals in mind, planning will make more sense and hold more value. It will be easier to create a 4-year plan for high school graduation and you will know what you need to do to be college and career ready.

Mid-year review of your S M A R T Goals

Goals make planning meaningful. It is an important skill that requires a little more thought and effort.

PERSONAL GOAL



ACADEMIC GOAL




CAREER GOAL



S = 
SPECIFIC


What was your goal? How was it successful? How will you adapt it?

M = 
MEASURABLE

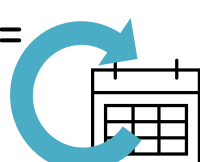
How did you achieved your goal? How will you continue?

A = 
ATTAINABLE

What actions did you do to achieve your goal? What will you change? What will you do the same?

R = 
RELEVANT

How does this goal align with other goals?

T = 
TIMELY

Was your timeline for achieving this goal effective? How will you adapt your timeline?

7TH GRADE CHECKLIST

Career Exploration

- Meet with your school counselor.
- Talk to your counselor or teachers about high school courses you can take and if there are middle school courses you can take to prepare for them.
- Register for **Keys to Success** and download the app at: <https://www.ktsutah.org/> (Or use Guest Login)
- Explore CAREER CLUSTERS through **Interest Profiler** review: **Career Cluster Inventory Jr** from 6th grade.) in Keys to Success.

Academic Development






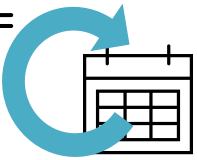
- Get involved** in school, or community-based, extracurricular activities (clubs, athletics, church groups, afterschool programs, volunteer, service).
- Begin taking advanced courses, such as honors and a beginning foreign language class. But remember, take courses that are challenging and interesting but are not over your head.
- Develop strong study habits that help you learn and prepare for rigorous courses. **7th grade should be doing 70 minutes daily.** Review your subjects each day, reread your notes, and review your learning activities.
- Keep a journal to develop good writing skills.
- Keep a planner – write down important dates and times (due dates for learning activities or assessments, study time built into your day, school activities, extra-curricular activities···)
- Attend school every day** and be **on time** to classes. Daily attendance is one of the most important keys to your success.

Personal/Social and Life Skills Development

- Recognizing how personal values influence emotions.
- Understanding the effects of physical development in self-acceptance.
- Applying communications skills with peer, adult, and family relationships.







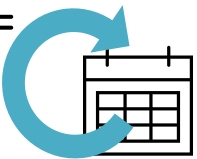
Fill in your schedule	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 ST					
2 ND					
3 RD					
4 TH					
5 TH					
6 TH					
7 TH					
Study time					
Other activities					
Other activities					

Set S M A R T Goals with College and Career in Mind

Goals make planning meaningful. It is an important skill that requires a little more thought and effort.		PERSONAL GOAL	ACADEMIC GOAL	CAREER GOAL 
<p>S = </p> <p><u>S</u>PECIFIC</p>	What goal are you trying to accomplish and why?			
<p>M = </p> <p><u>M</u>EASURABLE</p>	How will you know you've achieved your goal?			
<p>A = </p> <p><u>A</u>TTAINABLE</p>	What actions will you put in place to assure you achieve this goal?			
<p>R = </p> <p><u>R</u>ELEVANT</p>	How does this goal align with other goals?			
<p>T = </p> <p><u>T</u>IMELY</p>	What is the timeline for achieving this goal?			

How do you know what goals to set? Do some serious thinking about what you want to accomplish in the future. Dream a little. Write down your thoughts and think about **SMART goals that will help make your dreams come true**. Once you have SMART goals in mind, planning will make more sense and hold more value. It will be easier to create a 4-year plan for high school graduation and you will know what you need to do to be college and career ready.

Mid-year review of your S M A R T Goals

Goals make planning meaningful. It is an important skill that requires a little more thought and effort.		PERSONAL GOAL 	ACADEMIC GOAL	CAREER GOAL 
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M =  MEASURABLE	How did you achieved your goal? How will you continue?			
A =  ATTAINABLE	What actions did you do to achieve your goal? What will you change? What will you do the same?			
R =  RELEVANT	How does this goal align with other goals?			
T =  TIMELY	Was your timeline for achieving this goal effective? How will you adapt your timeline?			

8TH GRADE CHECKLIST

Career Exploration

- Meet with your school counselor** to develop your **four-year high school plan**. Try to fit in the recommended classes that fit your interests and graduation requirements.
- Explore **Reality Check Assessment** through the Keys to Success app to learn about your expectations for your future reality.
- YouScience - Aptitude/interest assessments**. Talk to your counselor, teachers, parents, and friends about your academic and personal strengths and interests. And what you want for your future.
- Explore the CTE Pathways and tour the Granite Technical Institute.

Academic Development






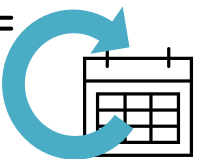
- Develop strong study habits that help you learn and prepare for rigorous courses. **8th grade should be doing 80 minutes daily**. Review your subjects each day, reread your notes, and review your learning activities.
- Keep a daily journal to develop good writing skills.
- Pass the **CIVICS TEST** in your social studies class. It is a requirement for graduation.
- Keep a planner - write down important dates and times (due dates for learning activities or assessments, study time built into your day, school activities, extra-curricular activities...)
- Attend school every day** and be **on time** to classes. Daily attendance is one of the most important keys to your success.
- Check your grades Weekly and talk to your teacher if you have questions or concerns.

Personal/Social and Life Skills Development

- Recognize how personal values influence behaviors.
- Managing physical change and accepting body image.
- Exploring the effects of personal reputation and analyzing peer influences as related to: cultural and ethnic heritages, personal attitudes and behaviors and family relationships.

Fill in your schedule	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 ST					
2 ND					
3 RD					
4 TH					
5 TH					
6 TH					
7 TH					
Study time					
Other activities					
Other activities					

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Mid-year review of your S M A R T Goals

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PERSONAL GOAL




ACADEMIC GOAL

CAREER GOAL



S = 
SPECIFIC


What was your goal? How was it successful? How will you adapt it?

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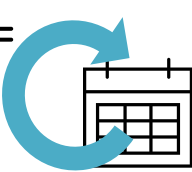
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R = 
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How does this goal align with other goals?

T = 
TIMELY

Was your timeline for achieving this goal effective? How will you adapt your timeline?

PARENTS/STUDENTS PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND

- Set up a student's personal email that is for college and/or scholarship information only** -It is good to have all college information in one place and not filling up your school/personal email. Students will need a non-school email address after graduating from high school. If you use a Gmail account, you can also use the google drive to store your scholarship essays, activity tracking sheet, and other college/scholarship work.
- Register for Keys to Success** <https://www.ktsutah.org/> (Gain points by exploring internships, applying for scholarships, recommending your friends, and more! Redeem points for the Keys to Success!) Explore career paths. If going into Applied Technology programs, most AT college programs will let high school students take classes for free. And many work based companies will hire high school students and pay for school/training/internships.
- Set up a savings account** specifically for post high school education/mission - make a goal with your student to contribute to this college/mission savings account, each month for the next 4 years. It can be a % of income or a \$ amount (it can just be \$20; it doesn't have to be huge, but it can increase as income increases). Choose a date for each month's deposit. You can make deals and match their contribution, if possible, or offer to pay for car insurance/phone bill etc. Another option - My529.org has a student investment program.
- Research one Scholarship a month** - Pick a day and time to do research with your student (Example: 1st Sunday right after dinner for 1 hour). Use Google.com - fastweb.com - Cappex.com - completescholarships.org - scholarships.com. Keep a document of scholarship information and age requirements for applying; there are scholarships available K-12. We have juniors/seniors apply to one scholarship a week for their last two years; some graduate with \$20,000-\$80,000 in scholarships, but it takes effort.
- Create a way for student to track extra-curricular, activities, service, and/or work hours** - a spreadsheet or journal could work. This will be helpful information for job, college, and scholarship applications. Have a place to document the following information as they happen:
 - The dates participated
 - Hours participated
 - Name and contact info for - advisor/coach/manager to contact for letter of recommendation or verification of hours
 - A written short review of experience/skills learned/training

Example:

08/12/2020	Service Activity	2.5 hours	Jon Doe 801-555-5555 jdoe@gmail.com	I helped people in my neighborhood weed their gardens before winter. I enjoyed talking with those we helped.	Skills: communication, landscaping maintenance
October 2020	Domino's Pizza	25.67 hours	Manager: Jane Smith 801-333-7777 jsmith@vmail.com	Cashier/pizzachef	Skills: handling money, cashier, food handler's permit, communication

- ATHLETES:** planning to play in college - NCAA has specific rules. Plan your classes with your counselor. [Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center](#)

4 – YEAR High School College and Career Readiness Plan (CCR)

Required Areas	Credits	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th grade	12 th grade
ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS	4.0	English 9 HN English 9	English 10 HN English 10	English 11 HN English 11/AP	Applied or Advanced
MATH	3.0	Secondary Math 1 HN Secondary 1	Secondary Math 2 HN Secondary 2	Secondary Math 3 <i>(Other math course only if student/parent complete opt out form)</i>	Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, Concurrent Enrollment, other
SCIENCE	3.0	Earth Systems or Biology HN Biology	Biology, Chemistry, Physics or AP Computer Science	1.0 Applied or Advanced	
SOCIAL STUDIES	3.5	Geography for Life AP Geography	World Civilizations AP World, AP Euro	United States History HN US/AP US Hist	US Govt & Citizenship AP US Gov (0.5 credit)
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)	1.0	<i>CTE courses are offered at your school and at the Granite Technical Institute (GTI) in the following areas: Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Science, Health Science and Technology, Marketing, Skilled and Technical Science, Technology and Engineering</i>			
DIGITAL STUDIES	.5	Business Office Specialist Office Specialist	HN Business Computer Science		
FINE ARTS (ART, MUSIC, DANCE, DRAMA)	1.5				
GENERAL FINANCIAL LITERACY	.5			Financial Literacy 11 th or 12 th Grade	
HEALTH	.5		Health II 10 th Grade (11 th or 12 th)		
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)	1.5	PE Fitness for Life			
ELECTIVES <small>Student choice based on interests, abilities, and talents and may include courses offered in CTE/GTI, Fine Arts, World Languages, Driver Education, Special Education, and ESL courses, Work/Service Experience, etc.</small>	8.0				
Total	27.0	8.0 Credits	8.0 Credits	8.0 Credits	8.0 Credits

As you plan, choose courses that will:

- Complete high school graduation requirements
- Connect to your goals and plans
- Prepare you for 1, 2, or 4 years of education and training after high school
- Help you meet college and university admissions requirements
- Lead to private and public scholarships

Keep in mind:

- Courses cannot be repeated for credit.

Learn THE LANGUAGE OF JUNIOR HIGH

Junior High School: for most students, junior high is made up of grades 6, 7, and/or 8. It is different from elementary school because students have different classes held with different teachers. You are in each class about 45 – 50 minutes and you will rotate from class to class during a five-minute passing time.

Quarters (grading periods): the junior high school year is divided into four quarters for grading. Each quarter lasts about 45 school days. At the end of each quarter, you will receive a report card of your proficiency (grade) for each of your classes. In the middle of each quarter, your teachers will post mid-quarter progress – a good notice of the work you are doing or a good warning of what you need to do to improve.

Terms (class scheduling): there are two terms in a year and terms are used for scheduling classes. They are often referred to as semesters. Many elective classes are only one term in length and switch mid-year (in January). PE, Health, Art, or Music are examples of classes that switch at the end of the term. Core classes are two terms or year-long classes.

GPA: Grade Point Average. Each quarter your academic grades are averaged to earn a final GPA for the grading period (quarter). You learn to average numbers in math class, by adding your academic grades together and dividing by the number of classes you have on your schedule. A 1.0 GPA means you are below proficiency and should ask for extra help, a 2.0 GPA is approaching proficiency and need some extra support, a 3.0 GPA means you are proficient and are ready to challenge yourself, and a 4.0 GPA means you are above proficiency and can continue to challenge yourself. It is important to track your proficiency, to show your progress each grading period and make goals to continually improve regardless of where you started. *In high school your proficiency grades will be represented by letter grades on your report card, but your GPA will still be numerical like it is in junior high (for example: 0.0 = F, 1.0 = D, 2.0 = C, 3.0 = B, 4.0 = A).

CPA: Citizenship Point Average. Each quarter your citizenship grades are averaged to earn a final CPA for the grading period (quarter). You learn to average numbers in math class, by adding your citizenship grades together and dividing by the number of classes you have on your schedule. You need a 2.0 CPA or higher to participate in most school activities.

Lockers: students are assigned a locker for school. You can keep your coat, backpack, books, or any other item you want to keep safe and out of the way. It is important to keep the combination for your locker in a safe place and DO NOT share it with anyone, including your best friends. If you need help with your locker or forget your combination, ask an adult for help – like a teacher, counselor or custodian. The combinations are usually kept with the secretary in the front office.

CCA: College and Career Awareness, a required full year class, usually taught in the 7th or 8th grade. It is designed to guide students in learning new skills in a fun and “hands-on” way. You will also interact with your counselors and learn about the College and Career Readiness (CCR) planning process.

School Counselor: every student is assigned a school counselor by last name or by grade level. Your school counselor is in the school to help you with:

- Creating a schedule, according to your academic goals
- Learning about your interests and abilities
- Guiding you in goal setting and working towards those goals
- Making a plan for your social/emotional, academic, future, and life success
- Involving your parents in your social/emotional, academic, future, and life success

CCR Plan: College and Career Readiness plan. This is a plan you (the student) create with your school counselor and parents every year, helping you to see that what you do now as a 6th or 7th grade student influences what you do in the 8th grade and then in high school. For example: study habits, classes you choose, friends you make, clubs you join, service you do etc. Your goals may change, so you can adjust your plan along with your goals each time you meet with your school counselor. Parents are an important part of your plan, so encourage them to attend with you each year.

School Success: all students want to be successful in junior high. School success starts with attending every class every day and doing your best. If you are struggling, it is important to talk to your parents, teachers, or counselor right away to get the extra help you need before it is overwhelming. Following the check lists each year is an overall guide, feel free to create your own goals as well.

College and Career Readiness Vocabulary

AP = Advanced Placement: Advanced Placement is a program run by the College Board (the makers of the SAT) that allows you to take special high school courses that can earn you college credit and/or qualify you for more advanced classes when you begin college. They are designed to give you the experience of an intro-level college class while you're still in high school. Plus, you can get college credit for the class if you pass the AP exam in May.

AVID: an acronym that stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. AVID is an in-school academic college prep support program for grades 4-12 that prepares students for college eligibility and success. AVID teaching methodologies are used in both the "AVID Elective" and in content-area classrooms school-wide.

Bachelor's Degree: a degree that is given to a student by a college or university usually after four years of study.

CTE: Career and Technical Education. CTE is a broad term for education that combines academic and technical skills with the knowledge and training needed to succeed in today's labor market. CTE prepares students for the world of work by introducing them to workplace competencies in a real-world, applied context.

Career Cluster: A career cluster is a group of occupations with similar features. Jobs in the same cluster require similar knowledge or skill sets. If someone enjoys a job in a particular cluster, they are more likely to enjoy related occupations in the group.

Career Pathway: A career pathway is an organized approach to career planning for anyone wanting to land a first job or to improve skills for different or better job opportunities. Creating a career pathway means plotting a course for identifying occupational interests, determining education and training needs and establishing an action plan for reaching career goals. A personal pathway may point to a certain high school curriculum, a college or vocational school education, or specialized job training.

College: an educational institution or establishment, in particular one providing higher education or specialized professional or vocational training. "University" refers to larger institutions offering both undergraduate and graduate programs. "College" refers to community colleges, technical schools, and liberal arts colleges.

Concurrent Enrollment: The concurrent enrollment (CE) program provides students with the opportunity to earn college credits while enrolled in high school.

FAFSA: Before each year of college, apply for federal grants, work-study, and loans with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form. Your college uses your FAFSA data to determine your federal aid eligibility. Many states and colleges use FAFSA data to award their own aid.

First-Generation College Student: Someone who grew up in a home where both parents did not attend a four-year college, where one parent has an AA only, or where one or both parents attempted some college but did not finish it. If your parents went to community college ONLY, or a technical school, or to a NON-four-year school in another country, you are still a first-gen. If your parent *did* go to college but they passed away and you lived without them for more than half of your life, then you are a first gen. If you were raised by someone who did graduate from a 4-year college, then you are not a first gen.

Interests Skills: Career Exploration is simply learning about various occupations and their "fit" with your unique career preferences, e.g., the skills, interests, and values you want satisfied by your career. Ideally, you engage in career exploration during or after identifying your career preferences through self-assessment.

Internship: the position of a student or trainee who works in an organization, sometimes without pay, to gain work experience or satisfy requirements for a qualification.

LIA: Latinos in Action offers an asset-based approach to bridging the graduation and opportunity gap for Latino students, working from within the educational system to create positive change. Our program operates as a year-long elective course taught by a highly qualified teacher at the middle school, junior high, and high school level. The end goal of everything we do is to empower Latino youth to lead and strengthen their communities through college and career readiness. We accomplish this by focusing on four pillars: leveraging personal and cultural assets, excelling in education, serving the community, and developing leadership skills. Because of this unique combination, the LIA model has proven effective throughout the United States. In 2015, LIA was awarded the White House Bright Spot for Hispanic Education by the White House Initiative on Excellence in Hispanic Education.

Master's Degree: a degree that is given to a student by a college or university usually after one or two years of additional study following a bachelor's degree