



# Westwood High School

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Information Night 2019



**February 6, 2019: 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.**

### Agenda:

#### **Welcome & Student Panel**

Cafeteria, 6:00 p.m. -6:30 p.m.

\*Upper classman will discuss what the transition to high school was like and give advice on what students and parents can do to make the process easier

#### **Course & Program Information Fair**

Field House, 6:30 p.m. – 8:05 p.m.

\*Open format, parents and students are able to walk around and ask questions

\*A complete list of all booths are listed below

#### **Academic Information Breakout Sessions**

Various Locations, 6:50 p.m., 7:15 p.m. & 7:40 p.m.

\*For each topic, the same material presented at all 3 sessions

\*All topics/room #'s are listed below

#### **Closing Presentation – Principal Mario Acosta**

Cafeteria, 8:10 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

<b>Course &amp; Program Information Fair Booths</b>			
Computer Science	Health Science	Biomedical Science	Animation
Engineering	PE	Jr.R.O.T.C	Video Production
Biology	Athletics	Human Services	Graphic Design/Digital Media
German	Dance	Fashion Design	Business/Marketing/Finance
Latin	Art	Math	IB Programme
French	Theater	Debate	Architecture
Chinese	Choir	Journalism	PTSA
ASL	Social Studies	Excellence Fund	Color Guard
English	IB Parent Association	Academy Information	Fish Bowl
Spanish	Band	Theater Arts Booster Club	Orchestra

<b>Academic Information Breakout Sessions</b>	
Topic	Room #
<b>English:</b> Learn about the differences between English 1, Pre-AP English 1 and TAG English 1	E1308
<b>Social Studies:</b> Learn about the difference between World Geography, Pre-AP World Geography and IB Prep World Area Studies	D2101
<b>Spanish:</b> Learn about the different levels between Spanish 2 and pre-AP/IB Spanish 2	E1113
<b>Accelerating Math:</b> Questions are answered about accelerating the math course sequence	D1323
<b>Single block VS Double block Algebra 1:</b> Learn the differences between the 2 classes	D1319
<b>Geometry:</b> Differences between double block, single block, Pre-AP and TAG Geometry	D1321
<b>Engineering:</b> Learn about the different classes in the engineering pathway!	C1305
<b>Debate:</b> Learn about the academic benefits of taking debate. Nationally ranked debate program, competitions, tournaments, and scholarships!	Lecture Hall
<b>Computer Science Course Sequence:</b> Session to find out information about the different computer science classes we offer.	E1214
<b>ACC Dual Credit Info:</b> Learn about the enrollment process, testing for college readiness, advising & registering for classes	E1111

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<b>Transfer Students Information:</b> If you are new to RRISD, then this is the session for you. Learn about graduation plans and the enrollment process timeline.	E1114
<b>Graduation plans:</b> Session covers all the classes students need to take for graduation. If you want the information but don't have time to stay for the session, a general flyer with details is attached to this handout.	E1115

**Sign up for Remind Text Message for the Class of 2023**  
Text this message @ww2023 to 81010

## ROUND ROCK ISD GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Foundation Course Requirements	Distinguished Level of Achievement (DLA) ***this is the sequence of courses we recommend***
English	Eng. I, 2, 3, 4 (4 credits)
Math	Alg. I & 2, Geom. & Adv. Math (4 credits)
Science	Bio., IPC or Adv. Sci., & 2 Adv. Sci.(4 credits)
Social Studies	W. Geog, W. Hist, U.S. Hist., Govt/Econ. (4 credits)
Languages Other Than English (LOTE)	Same language for 2years (2 credits)
Fine Arts	Fine Arts (1 credit)
Physical Education	Phys. Edu. (1 credit)
Electives	Electives (7 credits)
Endorsements <i>***these are not additional classes, these classes are usually satisfied with the core and/or elective classes</i>	>STEM >Business & Industry >Arts & Humanities >Public Service >Multidisciplinary
Cumulative Credits	27

### Sample 4yr plan

This is a sample of a basic plan. There are multiple routes to meet the requirements for graduation. You will work with your counselor at 1 on 1 conferences to select appropriate courses for your plan.

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English 1	English 2	English 3	English 4
World Geo	World Hist	U.S. Hist	Gov/Econ
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Adv Math
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Adv Sci
LOTE	LOTE	Elective	Elective
Elective/PE	Elective	Elective	Elective
Elective/FA	Elective	Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective

### Important Dates:

**February 7-8: Counselors will be at Grisham Middle School registering students**

**February 12-15: Counselors will be at Canyon Vista Middle School registering students**

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# What to Consider When Choosing Classes for Next Year?

- ◆ **Balance!** Life is more than just academics; it's about friends, family, clubs, activities, volunteer work, etc.
- ◆ If you overload yourself with too many high demanding classes, there could be negative consequences:
  - loss of sleep
  - lower grades overall, resulting in lower GPA
  - higher stress levels
  - might just have time for academics and no other extracurricular activities
  - might need to drop classes to lighten course load in the middle of semester resulting in losing credit and/or not having classes to move into
  - you will not be allowed to drop/change elective choices after this May
- ◆ Colleges are looking at more than how many advanced levels you are taking. They look at the following:

-level of difficulty of classes	-volunteer work
-grades and GPA	-demonstrated Interest
-college entrance test scores	-letters of recommendation
-extracurricular activities	-writing samples
- ◆ Remember when selecting classes that some of your electives require outside of school time. Between practices, games, and tournaments, your child could be spending a huge chunk of time on things besides school work during the average week. So keeping this in mind, there are only so many hours in the day for your students to go to school, complete homework, study, have fun, and sleep...plus, add on those extracurricular activity hours...**just make sure there is enough time to get everything done that your child commits themselves to and that they are able to complete it at the level of quality they expect from themselves (and that you as the parent expect from them)**
- ◆ GPA is based off of the average of all your semester grades...look at these 2 scenarios
  - A student takes 5 core classes, 3 at the advanced level and 2 at grade level makes all A's
  - A student takes 5 core classes, 5 at the advanced level, makes all B's
  - \* the student with the mix of advanced and grade level classes will have a higher GPA
  - \*With Westwood no longer having class rank, colleges are going to want to see the highest GPA you can get! So focus on getting the best grades possible in a balanced curriculum workload
- ◆ Remember to pick the best classes for your child! Not what worked for your other children, your neighbor, or friends....***class selection is a very individualized process***

