Preparing for Scheduling

2017-2018

Objectives for Tonight's Session

- Review Graduation Requirements
- Review Curriculum Requirements
- Review TOPS & TOPS Tech Requirements
- Things to consider for scheduling
- Scheduling Process
- Survey

Our Goal at BHS:

Our goal is that every student graduates in 4 years

…AND

is prepared to continue to post-secondary training

OR

has the skills/certifications needed to obtain a high-paying job upon graduation

What is required to graduate?

- Pass 3 EOC exams
- Complete and submit the FAFSA
- Take specific courses
- Earn specific industry certifications*

EOC (End of Course) Exams

- A student must pass 1 in each of the following categories:
  - English II or English III
  - Algebra I or Geometry
  - Biology or US History

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

- What is the FAFSA?
  - The form that families fill out to apply for their share of the billions of dollars in student financial aid available each year
  - The primary application for most federal, state, and college-provided financial aid for students, including scholarships, grants, low-interest loans, and work-study programs for college students
  - The primary application for TOPS and TOPS Tech
- When is it done?
  - Beginning in October of senior year

Two diploma options

1. Jump Start TOPS Tech Career diploma: 2 year college, technical/trade school, military, or employment
2. TOPS University diploma: 4 year college/university

- *Everyone takes similar courses in 9th and 10th grade*
- *By the end of 10th grade, students will select a diploma option which will determine 11th and 12th grade courses*

Jump Start TOPS Tech Career Diploma

- Prepares students for community college, trade/technical school, military, or employment
- Focus is on getting career ready with specific skills/training
- Requires certain electives and certification courses
- *Students WILL NOT GRADUATE without earning the REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS for the chosen career area*
- 23.0 credits: 4 English, 4 Math, 2 Science, 2 Social Studies, 2 Health/PE, & 9 career electives in a particular career area

TOPS Tech Scholarship

- Pays for 2 years of tuition for certain career and technical programs
- Curriculum requirements: aligned with the JumpStart TOPS Tech diploma curriculum
- GPA requirements: 2.50 CORE GPA
- Test score requirements: ACT composite score of 17 or higher, or a Silver level score on WorkKeys

TOPS University Diploma

- Prepares students for immediate entry into a 4 year college/university
- Focus is on completing rigorous academic courses
- 24.0 credits: 4 English, 4 Math, 4 Science, 4 Social Studies, 2 Foreign Languages, 1 Art, 2 Health/PE, and 3 electives

TOPS Opportunity Scholarship

- TOPS pays tuition for four years at Louisiana public colleges and universities
- Curriculum requirements: aligned with the TOPS University diploma curriculum
- GPA requirements: 2.50 CORE GPA
- Test score requirements: currently ACT composite score of 20 or higher (prior year state average ACT)

What should *you* consider before scheduling?

1. Diploma type: JumpStart or TOPS University?
   a. Consider career goals & post-secondary options, as well as current academic performance and history

2. Level of courses your child would benefit from most (Remedial, Standard, Honors, AP, Dual Enrollment)

3. Elective interests/career goals

Honors courses

- Honors classes move faster and go more in-depth than standard classes. A student must be ready and willing to handle the extra work and effort that will be required.

Ability + Effort = Success

- Prepare students for advanced level courses in the future, such as AP and dual enrollment
- Honors classes are on a 10 point grading scale

Advanced Placement

- Curriculum approved by the College Board
- Courses are taught at a college-level
- Exam taken at end of course offers opportunity for a student to earn college credit at no cost to the student
- AP classes are on a 10 point grading scale and a weighted GPA scale

We encourage students to take the most rigorous level course he/she can handle. Taking honors/AP classes has been linked to higher ACT scores and more success in college, regardless of the AP exam score.

Dual Enrollment

- College course taught in high school
- Students earn college credit and high school credit at the same time
- Current BHS Dual Enrollment options:
  - Psychology and Sociology – BRCC; 3 credit hours EACH
  - Precalculus (College Algebra and College Trig) – LSU; 6 credit hours for the full year course
  - Welding – BRCC

BHS Career Academies

- Our electives are grouped into 4 academies: Health & Human Services, Craft Construction Trades, Business/Information Technology, and STEM
- A student's academy interest can help guide his/her elective options
- Jump Start students must select one academy to pursue through graduation

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:

- First Responder
- Health Science I
- Nutrition & Food
- FACS (Home Ec)
- Child Development/ Parenthood

BUSINESS/ INFO TECHNOLOGY

- IBCA & BCA
- Digital Media I & II
- Speech I
- Principles of Business
- Entrepreneurship

CRAFT CONSTRUCTION

- NCCER Core (Workplace Safety)
- First Responder
- Carpentry/ Electrical/ Welding

STEM

- Intro to Engineering
- Principles of Engineering
- Engineering Design & Development
- AP Computer Science

Other things *we* consider when scheduling

To place each student in the courses we feel he/she will be most successful, we consider:

- Current grades and academic history
- Test score history
- Teacher input
- Parent/student input
  - For example, students advanced in math and science may be placed in AP Biology II instead of Biology II
  - In another example, a student needing extra support in English may be placed in a Reading elective to help strengthen their skills

2017-2018 Scheduling

- Your child will sit one-on-one with a counselor to complete the Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) and select courses for next school year
  - Juniors: March 27-28
  - Sophomores: March 30-31
  - Freshmen: April 4-5
- Your child will come home with the IGP for you to review, sign and return by the following week

When & how do parents give feedback

- Parents must sign and return the IGP even if changes are requested (signature indicates you have SEEN the IGP, not your approval)
- To request changes, attach a detailed note and return with the signed IGP. Please provide your contact information in case we have questions.

Parent Survey

- We want your input!
- Please complete the survey
- BE SURE TO WRITE YOUR CHILD'S NAME!
- Don't forget to drop it off on your way out
- Thank you for your time!

Questions?