

# PARENT GUIDE TO

# 9th GRADE Spring Semester

## LOOKING AHEAD COLLEGE & CAREER

### FRESHMAN TO-DO (Spring Semester)

- ☐ Check your 1st semester cumulative GPA.
- ☐ Plan your high school program of studies with your parents.
- ☐ Maintain Good Grades.
- ☐ Maintain good study habits.
- ☐ Begin researching your career choices and the educational requirements of each.
- ☐ Plan your high school program of studies with your parents.
- ☐ Participate in a variety of extracurricular activities.
- ☐ Learn about opportunities to earn college or advanced placement credit (College Board Advanced Placement Testing).
- ☐ Attend a College Fair.
- ☐ Visit "Helpful Resources" in Section 5 of the High School student handbook for more information.
- ☐ Meet with your student's counselor regarding next years class schedule.
- ☐ Choose your 10th grade year courses wisely!

### FRESHMAN TO-DO (Summer)

- ☐ Ensure your students is involved in volunteer and enrichment activities.
- ☐ Begin studying for SAT.

## PLAN YOUR PATH HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Students are completing their first course toward achieving their endorsement credits by graduation. The five endorsement areas are Arts & Humanities; Business & Industry; Multi-Disciplinary; Public Services, and STEM.

Students should verify endorsement choice and select appropriate course for 10th grade to continue earning credits toward an endorsement. Additionally, determine any dual credit opportunities in either academic subject or CTE classes to earn college credit.

News and Resources All Year Long



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## QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD'S COUNSELOR

- How can I help my student find summer enrichment programs?
- How can I help my student find volunteer opportunities?
- How can I build a college-going culture in my home?
- How can I find additional scholarships to which my student can apply?
- How can I better plan for college affordability?

## HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD ADVOCATE FOR THEIR OWN SUCCESS

- Discuss advanced class options and what the requirements are for your student to take them.
- Establish conflict-resolution strategies. Start preparing your student to be their own advocate and seek help in a timely manner (e.g., if they are having trouble with a subject, a teacher, or their peers). Identify what the different steps will look like.
- Check Skyward for grades and attendance. Ensure that your student is maintaining high grades and does not miss school.

## DIGITAL TOOLS FOR SUCCESS FOR HOME & SCHOOL



**ClassLink**

The below tools are accessible through DISD's [ClassLink Portal](#). Click the ClassLink Icon to the left and login with Student ID and Password.



## BEYOND ACADEMICS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

### Tips for making it through

- Teens still need on average 8-9 hours of sleep a night. Set a bedtime, and stick to it.
- Choose your arguments. Ask yourself, "Is it worth the argument?" Learn to compromise on small "asks," such as dyeing their hair blue or wearing something different, and be firm when it comes to more serious issues, such as possible alcohol and drug use or significant changes in grades.
- Don't take it personally. The transition to adulthood is a process, and at the end of the day it's not about you.

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