

# PARENT GUIDE TO

# 10th GRADE Fall Semester

## LOOKING AHEAD COLLEGE & CAREER

### SOPHOMORE TO-DO (Fall Semester)

- ☐ Continue taking appropriate courses.
- ☐ Maintain good grades.
- ☐ Continue to review career choices.
- ☐ Gather and review information about colleges.
- ☐ Investigate costs of various college programs.
- ☐ Meet with college representatives as they visit your school.
- ☐ Participate in community activities and add your hours served to your Résumé.
- ☐ Seek ways to develop your leadership skills.
- ☐ Update your Résumé: list awards, extracurricular activities, work experience.
- ☐ Study for the PSAT/NMSQT. Use Khan Academy official practice and study guide. Review additional materials at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).
- ☐ Take the PSAT for practice for the SAT. On the test form, check the box which will put you on the mailing list for college information.
- ☐ Visit "Helpful Resources" in Section 5 of the High School student handbook for more information.

## PLAN YOUR PATH HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

As part of graduation requirements, students must earn one or more endorsements by completing a series of courses grouped together by content or skill set, including four credits of math and science and two additional elective credits. Endorsements give students in-depth knowledge of a subject area and should align to career interests. The five endorsement areas are Arts & Humanities; Business & Industry; Multi-Disciplinary; Public Services; and STEM.

In tenth grade, students should be enrolled in the second course necessary to achieve the endorsement credits by graduation. Counselors can assist with verifying course planning to ensure requirements for endorsements are met. Should a student want to change the endorsement they chose, the counselor or administrator should be notified and a discussion with the student and parent should take place.

There are 16 CTE programs that meet endorsement requirements, each with a career pathway. End-of-program, industry-recognized certificates and/or licenses are available for some, and dual credit CTE courses can lead to Level 1 certifications and associate degrees.

News and Resources All Year Long



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## QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD'S COUNSELOR



- Are the classes my student is taking meeting graduation requirements?
- How can my student earn college credit now?
- What is the importance of the PSAT?
- Where can I find scholarship applications?
- What should we consider now if college is the goal or if my student has a vocational/technical interest?

## 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.



(Free Resource)



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

- Encourage your student to meet with the counselor and college advisor regularly to discuss classes, scholarships, and enrichment opportunities.
- Have them check their grades on Parent Student Connect and convey the importance of attendance.
- Have your student check their unofficial transcript, ensuring that they received credit for all courses passed.

## BEYOND ACADEMICS SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

### Cyberbullying: Tips for parents/caregivers

- Talking and texting may seem like a safe space, but make sure your student knows who they are talking to. Advise them to avoid conversations with unsolicited numbers or strangers.
- Social networking sites and apps are a common place for kids to be bullied or to bully others. Know what apps are downloaded on your student's phone and what they do.

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