

Scheduling Meeting for Eighth-Grade Parents • February 22, 2011

# Transitioning to High School

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# Meeting Overview

- Summary of Course Selections
- Explanation of Credits
- Graduation Requirements, Honors Diploma and Award of Merit
- Trimesters?
- Keys to Success
- Auburn Presentation

# Summary of Course Selections

## Required Courses

- English: Honors or CP
- Math: Algebra 1 (CP or Integrated) or Geometry (Honors or CP)
- Science: Lab Science 9 or Biology 1 Honors
- World History: Honors or CP
- Physical Education

## Elective Courses

- English (Broadcasting)
- Fine Arts (Band, Choir, Art)
- Business Tech (Record Keeping, Keyboarding, Microsoft Applications)
- Family and Consumer Science (Managing Personal Transactions)
- Foreign Language (French, German, Spanish)
- Industrial Tech (Exploring Tech., Wood Tech, Metal Fabrications)

# Explanation of Credits

In ninth grade, students begin accumulating credits needed for graduation. At Riverside, credit can be earned after every semester. In general, students earn .5 credits for each semester course they pass (D or higher). The exceptions to this rule are:

- Physical Education-.25 credits per semester
- Family and Consumer Science Courses:  
.66/.67 credits per semester

# Minimum Graduation Requirements (23 Total)

- English - 4 credits
- Math - 4 credits (new for class of 2014)
- Science - 3 credits
- Social Studies - 3 credits
- Economics Education for the Consumer - .5 credits
- Technology - .5 credits
- Fine Arts - 1 credit (new for class of 2014)
- Health - .5 credits
- Physical Education - .5 credits (2 semesters)
- Electives - 6 credits

# Honors Diplomas, Awards of Merit, Etc.

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- Course Catalog - Academic Information  
- [www.riversidelocalschools.com](http://www.riversidelocalschools.com)

# Trimesters

- A trimester model is currently being considered for implementation next school year.
- The goals of implementing the trimester model is to improve school climate and strengthen our academic programs.

# Trimester Highlights

- The school year would be divided into three 12-week grading periods.
- Students would take five courses per trimester (three core and two elective).
- Each trimester of a course would be worth  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit (with a few exceptions).
- Instructional time would increase to approximately 72 minutes per period.
- Total instructional time could increase by 1500 minutes per course.
- Study halls would be eliminated.



# Keys to Success

- Communication
  - Take advantage of our online resources
  - Attend scheduled parent-teacher conferences
  - Make sure you understand the teachers' expectations. Email them with any questions.
  - Sometimes email isn't sufficient. Don't hesitate to make contact via telephone or schedule a face-to-face meeting.

# Keys to Success

- Acquisition of Life Skills
  - Study skills
  - Time management
  - Organizational skill
- Structure and Consistency

# Contact Information

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