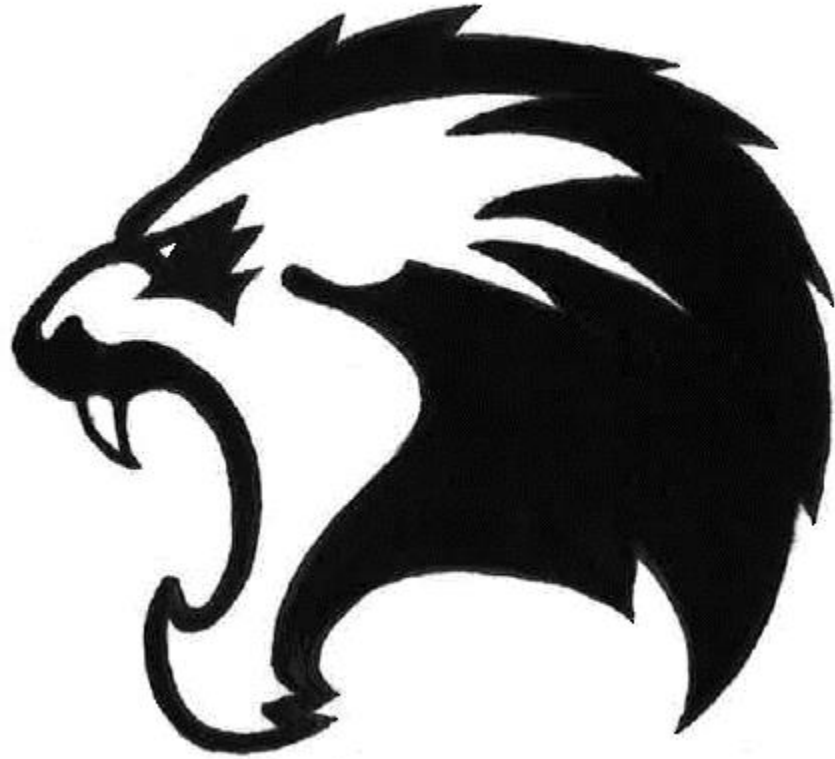


Kaufman High School



Counseling Center Guide

3205 S. Houston

Kaufman, TX 75142

972-932-2811

www.kaufmanisd.net

Who is my son's or daughter's counselor?

As your son or daughter enters Kaufman High School, they will be assigned a counselor based on their last name. The school counselor assigned to your child will be the same for all four years of their high school career. As a school counselor, it is our responsibility to help your child be the best student they can possibly be. Our mission is to get to know each one of our students to ensure we help them become successful, confident, independent, responsible members of our community.

This guide is to help you and your child with basic information needed for their high school career. For many parents and students, high school and life after high school can be an overwhelming and intimidating time. We will assist you and your child to make the transition as easy as possible.

| Last Name | Counselor | Email | Ext |
|-----------|----------------|---------------------------|------|
| A-Gon | Traci Mitchell | tmitchell@kaufman-isd.net | 6071 |
| Goo-O | Cory Smith | csmith@kaufman-isd.net | 6073 |
| P-Z | Joanna Davis | jdavis@kaufman-isd.net | 6072 |
| Registrar | Wendy Pate | wpate@kaufman-isd.net | 6070 |
| Secretary | Nicole Cordero | ncordero@kaufman-isd.net | 6069 |

[How to request a meeting?](#)

KHS School Counseling Department Confidentiality

Confidentiality is important to the counselors at KHS. We want our students to feel that our offices are a place they can be heard, feel safe, and develop a trusting relationship.

There are exceptions to confidentiality as required by law and/or ethical standards. Exceptions include the following:

- Harm to self or others – Students that express thoughts or a plan to harm themselves or others.
- Abuse or neglect – Students that speak with a counselor about abuse (physical, emotional, verbal, sexual, or other) to themselves or another minor is required by law to be reported to CPS and possibly the police immediately.
- Court or other legal proceedings – By law, if a counselor is subpoenaed, information is not guaranteed to be kept confidential.

Help your child be **SUCCESSFUL**

High school students need parents/guardians to encourage and support them.

- Make sure your child has supplies and encourage them to study and/or do homework at home.
- Help your child set goals for his or her future. Discuss the importance of getting a good education. Education options – Four-Year College, Community or Technical College, Military, Career Trade School.
- Attendance is a key factor to success – if your child must miss school please email the attendance clerk - mreynolds@kaufman-isd.net or send a note with your child the day they return to school. Please encourage your child to attend school regularly. If you see a pattern of your child wanting to miss school, please contact his/her counselor.
- Use Skyward to check your child's grades and attendance regularly (attached is grade point calculation)
- Take time to listen – try and make one-on-one time with your child. High school is a difficult time for some students and being available to talk is a great tool to stay involved and understand what your son/daughter is going through.
- Monitor social networking, apps, video games, activities outside of school (work and friends).
- Be involved - unfortunately many teenagers begin experimenting with drugs (prescription and illegal), smoking and alcohol. Stay alert to your child's behavior and circle of friends. A conversation with your child could make a difference!
- Rules are OK. Not only are they okay, teenagers need them. This is the age when they need to understand they will be held accountable for actions/behavior. **Don't challenge the rules. Challenge your child to follow the rules.**
- Lead by example – know that your child is watching and listening (even when they pretend they are not).
- Stay updated. www.kaufmanisd.net



@kisd lions



@kaufman_high

Never hesitate to ask for information or help. Anything that might affect your child emotionally or academically (death in family, divorce, grades, health problems, bullying, etc.), contact your child's teachers and/or counselor. We are here to help!

GRADE POINT CALCULATION

Class of 2018 & after

| Grade | Regular | Pre-AP/Honors | AP/Dual Credit |
|-------|---------|---------------|----------------|
| 100 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 6.0 |
| 99 | 3.9 | 4.9 | 5.9 |
| 98 | 3.8 | 4.8 | 5.8 |
| 97 | 3.7 | 4.7 | 5.7 |
| 96 | 3.6 | 4.6 | 5.6 |
| 95 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 5.5 |
| 94 | 3.4 | 4.4 | 5.4 |
| 93 | 3.3 | 4.3 | 5.3 |
| 92 | 3.2 | 4.2 | 5.2 |
| 91 | 3.1 | 4.1 | 5.1 |
| 90 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 5.0 |
| 89 | 2.9 | 3.9 | 4.9 |
| 88 | 2.8 | 3.8 | 4.8 |
| 87 | 2.7 | 3.7 | 4.7 |
| 86 | 2.6 | 3.6 | 4.6 |
| 85 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 4.5 |
| 84 | 2.4 | 3.4 | 4.4 |
| 83 | 2.3 | 3.3 | 4.3 |
| 82 | 2.2 | 3.2 | 4.2 |
| 81 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 4.1 |
| 80 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 |
| 79 | 1.9 | 2.9 | 3.9 |
| 78 | 1.8 | 2.8 | 3.8 |
| 77 | 1.7 | 2.7 | 3.7 |
| 76 | 1.6 | 2.6 | 3.6 |
| 75 | 1.5 | 2.5 | 3.5 |
| 74 | 1.4 | 2.4 | 3.4 |
| 73 | 1.3 | 2.3 | 3.3 |
| 72 | 1.2 | 2.2 | 3.2 |
| 71 | 1.1 | 2.1 | 3.1 |
| 70 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 3.0 |

Transcripts/GPA/Rank

Transcripts/GPA/Rank can all be requested online. The Counseling Center will receive a notification of your request and will fulfill it as soon as possible.

Request can be made at: <https://forms.gle/jy3NVPcfeqXgBFCFA>

Dual Credit

You must meet TSIA2 passing requirements, complete an application to TVCC @ [Apply Texas](#) and be approved by your counselor. You are eligible to take dual credit classes at KHS beginning your 11th grade year (9th-10th grade must be approved by counselors and TVCC).

TSIA2: required to take ANY college class unless exempt by ACT / SAT scores. First administration is free to KISD students and offered at KHS once a month. Testing will cost \$5 for each section after. Completion of English 2 and Algebra 2 is recommended before taking the TSI.

TSI Minimum Passing Scores

MATH --950 and above OR Below 950 & Diagnostic level 6

ELAR -- 945 & 5 on Essay OR Below 945 & 5 on Essay & Diagnostic level 5-6

TSI Assessment results are valid for five (5) years from date of testing

Dual Credit vs AP

Which is better for your student? Review the comparison and decide what classes to take.

Counselor updates and important information are shared through Remind and Emails. Please have your student to check emails regularly.

Each Class has a Remind:

Text @klion2025 to 81010 – Freshmen

@klion2024 to 81010 – Sophomores

@klion2023 to 81010 – Juniors

@klion2022 to 81010 – Seniors

Skyward Access

Get access to Skyward to review your students attendance & grades. . All parents/legal guardians needing access to Family Access must have a signed waiver on file with Kaufman ISD. For further assistance on completing Family Access Waivers, please contact Vonda Jones through email: vjones@kaufman-isd.net. Thank you for your patience.

SAT vs ACT: Which Test is Right for You?

Many students and parents begin the college prep process by comparing the ACT and SAT tests. The [SAT](#) and [ACT](#) generally cover the same topics. Both ACT and SAT scores are used for college admissions decisions and awarding merit-based scholarships. Most colleges do not prefer one test over the other.

Compare the ACT and SAT tests

- ACT includes a Science section
- SAT includes one SAT Math Section in which you may not use a calculator

[Which test is right for you?](#)

High School – What you need to know...

9th Grade –

Freshmen year is a difficult adjustment for most students. This year, students will begin to realize that everything they do matters and counts towards their completion of high school.

- Encourage your child to monitor their grades. You and your child can view grades and attendance through Skyward Family Access. High School courses are usually more difficult, but being prepared, organized and starting off strong is a great way to begin. All parents/legal guardians needing access to Family Access must have a signed waiver on file with Kaufman ISD. For further assistance on completing Family Access Waivers, please contact Vonda Jones through email: vjones@kaufman-isd.net. Thank you for your patience.
- Starting freshmen year grades, credits earned, and test scores all become a part of your child's transcript and permanent record.
- Register for Remind – KHS will send out announcements, reminders and important information through Remind.
- High School has rules and guidelines that are explained in the school's student handbook and [resource page](#) on the KISD KHS Website. Fish Camp Powerpoint

Attendance policies
Graduation requirements
Bullying
Eligibility Requirements
GPA – Class Rank

If your child has any problems adjusting to high school, contact your child's assigned school counselor.

- Encourage your child to become involved in a wide variety of activities in school and outside of school. Many college and scholarship applications ask for evidence of leadership. Involvement in school/community activities will be impressive on an application and also enhance their leadership development.
- In early spring, review your child's four-year plan to make certain they have selected the best course for their sophomore year.
- Start a [portfolio](#) – A portfolio is a collection of evidence that showcases your accomplishments in academics, extra-curricular activities, community service, and personal interests.

Items to put in your portfolio- report cards, volunteer/community hours, scores from STAAR, PSAT, SAT, ACT, etc., pictures of projects, experiments, recommendation letters, athletic/academic awards, group/club membership, work experience, etc.

10th grade –

Sophomore year (minimum of 7 credits)

- Continue to monitor grades and attendance.
- Continue to encourage your son or daughter to be involved in activities to develop leadership and social skills. (Again looks great on college applications!)
- Begin to discuss and explore post-high school options. Start gathering information on colleges that they may be interested in, make informal visits and attend college fairs if available.
- Take the PSAT – offered twice a year in October and April as a practice for the SAT
- Take the TSI, especially if your student plans on taking college classes in the summer.
- In early spring, review your son's or daughter's four-year plan to make certain they have selected the best course for their junior year.
- Continue adding to your [portfolio](#).

11th grade –

Junior year (minimum of 12 credits)

- Continue to monitor grades and attendance.
- Continue to encourage your son or daughter to be involved in activities to develop leadership and social skills. (Again, looks great on college applications!)
- Make certain your child registers for the SAT/ACT. Kaufman will be administering SAT weekday testing for Juniors in the Spring. Announcements will be made and students will register in the counseling center. Kaufman will administer Saturday testing for both SAT and ACT. All other SAT Saturday and ACT testing will need to be made online @ [College Board](#) or [ACT](#)
- Attend College Fair
- Take the PSAT – offered in October as a practice for the SAT.
- Continue to discuss post-high school options. College, military, work force, etc. Continue to gather and sort through information collected about colleges.
- Visit colleges (two college visits per year are an excused absence).
- In early spring, review your son's or daughter's four-year plan to make certain they have selected the best course for senior year. Be certain that courses and schedules meet all requirements for graduation.
- Continue adding to your [portfolio](#).



12th grade –

Senior year (minimum of 19 plus)

- Continue to monitor grades and attendance.
- Retake the SAT/ACT if necessary. Kaufman will administer the SAT weekday test in October 2019, announcements will be made and students will register in the counseling center. Kaufman will administer Saturday testing for both SAT and ACT. All other SAT Saturday and ACT testing will need to be made online @ [College Board](#) or [ACT](#)
- Attend College Fair.
- Attend Financial Aid Night hosted by School Counseling Department. Counselors will be available to assist in filling out paper work, process, and due dates. Dates will be available online in the fall and announcements will be made.
- Submit college applications to colleges!
- Student checks with counselor, internet and the catalog from the college(s) of your choice to apply for any scholarships you may qualify for.
- For information on ways to pay for college, visit the counseling center.
- Students should meet with their school counselor in early fall.
- Continue adding to your [portfolio](#).
- Order graduation products early – class ring, invitations, cap & gown, etc.
- **ENJOY GRADUATION!!**

Resources

Important dates for [KAUFMAN HIGH SCHOOL](#)

[How to handle STRESS](#)

[How to develop Study Skills](#)

[How to best manage your time](#)

[Transition – must read for parents](#)