



Parent Guidebook for High School Students

The Transition to High School

High school presents students with a variety of new opportunities and challenges. High schools are usually larger in size and the courses are more difficult. For the first time, students are taking courses that earn credits towards graduation, and the grades they earn are more important. High school grades help determine the kinds of jobs students can get and the colleges they'll be able to get into.

Most students feel excited and a little apprehensive as they start high school. Students wonder if they'll fit in, if they will like their teachers, and if they'll be able to succeed in the courses they're taking. During this transition period, it's important to keep the lines of communication open. Let your child know that you are available to help make the transition to high school as smooth as possible.

Extracurricular Activities

Studies show that students who are involved in extracurricular activities enjoy school more—and do better academically. Winston Career Academy offers memberships in active national organizations such as: DECA for business students, SkillsUSA for electrical, welding, and cosmetology students, and HOSA for the health science students.

Career Technical Education Completer

Students have the opportunity to earn one CTE credit during their Sophomore year of high school. During their Junior and Senior years, they have the opportunity to earn two credits of CTE coursework at Winston Career Academy each of those years in 11th and 12th grades. The ALSDE provides Career Technical Education completer recognition for all Winston Career Academy students that graduate from Winston County Schools.

Four-Year High School Plan

A four-year high school plan is listing of the specific courses a student plans to take during his/her freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior years.

When making a four-year plan (Kuder Online Training with Career Coach, Lynne Comeens), its important to consider graduation requirements, college recommended course, and career goals.

Listen

Talk to your child about what's happening in school and be a good listener. Pay attention not only to the words your child uses, but also to your child's body language, attitude, and mood.

Help Your Child Succeed

Provide a good place to study; Help your child set academic goals; Use rewards and consequences; Insist on daily attendance; See all midterm reports and report cards; Listen; Be aware and informed (stay up-to-date with winstonk12.org)