



Skyline High School

Early College

Issue No. 11 | September, 2023



Skyline ECHS students in Tuesday Professional dress!

Welcome to Fall 2023!

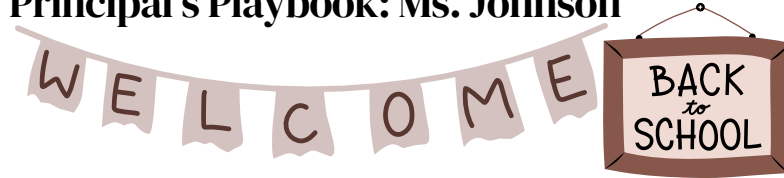
Students in an early college program face a unique set of challenges and opportunities that differ from those encountered by traditional high school or college students. Early college programs allow high school students to earn college credits while still in high school. Please see in the next pages some of the challenges students in early college programs may encounter...



1. **Academic Rigor:** Early college programs often offer college-level courses, which can be more challenging than typical high school classes. Students need to adapt to a higher level of academic rigor and may need to develop strong time management and study skills.
2. **Balancing High School and College:** Early college students need to balance their high school coursework with their college-level classes. Managing a heavier academic workload can be challenging and may require effective time management.
3. **Maturity and Responsibility:** Students in early college programs are expected to act more independently and take responsibility for their own education. This includes keeping track of assignments, deadlines, and college applications.
4. **Social Adjustment:** Early college students may find it challenging to fit in socially since they are often younger than their college peers. Building relationships and finding a sense of belonging can be a struggle.
5. **Time Management:** Managing time effectively becomes crucial. Early college students often need to commute to college campuses or take online classes, which can require additional time and planning.
6. **Financial Considerations:** Depending on the program, students may be required to pay for some of their college credits, Professional dress attire or daily uniform. Understanding the financial implications of early college and planning accordingly can be a challenge.
7. **Support System:** Early college students may need to seek out mentors or advisors within the ECHS and college campus to help navigate their academic path.
8. **Stress and Burnout:** The combination of high school and college coursework can lead to stress and burnout if not managed properly. It's essential for students to practice self-care and seek help when needed.
9. **College Admissions:** While early college can enhance college admissions prospects, students may also feel additional pressure to maintain high grades and extracurricular involvement to secure admission to their desired colleges.
10. **Limited Extracurricular Activities:** Early college students may have limited opportunities to participate in traditional high school extracurricular activities due to their college commitments.
11. **Transition to Full-Time College:** After completing their early college program, students may face a transition period when they enter full-time college. They may need to adapt to the college lifestyle, including living on campus and managing a more extensive course load.

To succeed in an early college program, students should seek support from teachers, parents, and mentors, develop strong time management skills, and maintain a growth mindset to overcome challenges and take advantage of the opportunities early college programs offer.

Principal's Playbook: Ms. Johnson



Welcome Back to the 23-24 School Year! I am super excited about what's to come. Our scholars worked hard over the Summer and Spring and the results are in the making! We had 91% of our scholars to pass courses last Spring and we are looking forward to increasing those numbers this year. Shout out to our scholars and parental supports!

College Facilitating

Progress monitoring has began for this school year, Please check with your scholars to see who their assigned advisor is and talk with them weekly on what's due and how they are progressing in classes.

Classroom Expectations

Consistency across each classroom, Students engaged from bell to bell. Students having productive struggles is ok because they are learning. Print Rich Room and a Welcoming Environment.

Aggressive monitoring

Give immediate feedback to scholars as you Aggressively Monitor with a designated pathway and feedback includes praise and or constructive feedback. Chart your data as you go to monitor progress.

Safety tips

Please check the following daily:

Every student should have ID badge visible.

Every ECHS should have a collegiate shirt on and be in dress code.



Self care tips

- Stay Hydrated
- SMILE it's Contagious!
- Take time to do something you love.

ECHS the loop...

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 9/23/23 TSIA Boot Camp 9-12 pm (ECHS Wing)
- 9/29/23 TSIA Testing
- 10/6/23 Last day of grading period for HS classes.
- 10/9-11/23 ECHS Spirit Week
- 10/11/23 Parent University
- 10/12-13/23 Fall Break/Fair Day

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

Students attempting TSIA for ELAR or MATH may schedule testing at a Dallas Colleges Testing Centers. Login to econnect.dcccd.edu or go to <https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/tsi/pages/faq-tsi-assessment.aspx> for FAQ's about TSIA test taking at the Dallas College Campuses.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TSIA testing at Skyline is ongoing the Fall semester and Spring semester.

Please sign up for a Saturday Boot Camp. Look for postings in the ECHS office and classrooms.

Ms. Sims COUNSELOR'S CORNER...

MENTAL HEALTH CHECKLIST:

Everyday:

- move my body
- take a break from screens
- say 3 things I am grateful for
- eat healthy
- sleep for 7-9 hours

Once a week:

- connect with a friend/family member
- plan an outdoor activity
- set a new goal (school, home, or activity)
- claim and celebrate a win

Once a month:

- try a creative activity or new hobby
- finish a book
- take a 1 day break from social media
- help someone

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

Reading is a fundamental and indispensable activity in college courses for several reasons:

- **Knowledge Acquisition:** Reading is the primary means through which students acquire knowledge. In college, you'll encounter a wide range of academic texts, including textbooks, research papers, articles, and literature. Reading allows you to access and absorb this information.
 - **Critical Thinking:** Reading encourages critical thinking and analysis. When you read, you engage with the author's arguments, ideas, and evidence. Evaluating the quality and validity of these sources is essential for academic success.
 - **Course Materials:** Reading is often assigned as part of the course curriculum. Professors expect students to complete assigned readings to facilitate class discussions, assignments, and exams. It's a fundamental aspect of staying on track with coursework.
 - **Research Skills:** Reading is a key component of research. College courses frequently involve conducting research, and reading scholarly articles, books, and other sources is vital for gathering information and supporting your own research.
 - **Language Skills:** Reading improves your language skills, including vocabulary, grammar, and comprehension. Strong reading skills enhance your ability to communicate effectively, both in writing and verbally.
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- **Critical Reading:** Learning to read critically means questioning the text, identifying biases, recognizing rhetorical strategies, and understanding the context in which a text was written. These skills are essential for interpreting and assessing sources.
- **Studying for Exams:** Reading is a foundational activity when preparing for exams. It allows you to review and reinforce what you've learned in class. Summarizing and taking notes on readings can aid in exam preparation.
- **Broadening Perspectives:** Reading exposes you to different perspectives, cultures, and ideas. College is a time for intellectual growth and exploration, and reading helps you broaden your horizons and develop a deeper understanding of various subjects.
- **Critical Writing:** Effective writing often begins with effective reading. When you read extensively, you are exposed to various writing styles and techniques, which can inspire and inform your own writing.
- **Lifelong Learning:** College is not just about earning a degree; it's about developing a lifelong love of learning. Reading is a skill that will serve you well beyond college and into your career and personal life.
- **In summary,** reading is a cornerstone of college education. It is essential for acquiring knowledge, developing critical thinking skills, succeeding in coursework, conducting research, and becoming a well-rounded, informed individual. Students who prioritize and excel in reading are better prepared for the challenges and opportunities that college courses present.



Mr. MEJIA COORDINATOR'S CORNER...

HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

Focus on studying skills:

Remember that effective study skills take time to develop and refine.

Experiment with different strategies and techniques to discover what works best for you, and don't get discouraged if you face challenges along the way.

1. **Set Clear Goals:** Define what you want to achieve with your study session. Having clear objectives will help you stay focused.
2. **Create a Study Schedule:** Establish a regular study routine to build consistency. Allocate specific time slots for studying.
3. **Organize Your Space:** Choose a quiet, clutter-free, and comfortable place to study. Ensure you have all necessary materials nearby.
4. **Take Breaks:** Don't cram for hours on end. Take short, frequent breaks to recharge your mind and maintain concentration.
5. **Use Active Learning:** Engage with the material actively. Take notes, ask questions, and discuss topics to deepen your understanding.
6. **Prioritize Tasks:** Identify the most important and challenging tasks, and tackle them first when your energy and focus are at their peak.
7. **Stay Organized:** Use tools like planners, calendars, or digital apps to keep track of assignments, deadlines, and study plans.

8. **Practice Time Management:** Estimate how much time you need for each task and stick to your schedule. Avoid procrastination.

9. **Review Regularly:** Periodically review your notes and materials to reinforce your memory and understanding.

10. **Stay Healthy:** Get enough sleep, eat well, and exercise regularly. A healthy body supports a healthy mind.

11. **Minimize Distractions:** Turn off notifications on your devices, and use website blockers if necessary to limit distractions.

12. **Seek Help:** Don't hesitate to ask for help from teachers, tutors, or classmates if you're struggling with a particular topic.

13. **Test Yourself:** Use practice quizzes or self-assessment to gauge your understanding and identify areas that need more attention.

14. **Stay Positive:** Maintain a positive attitude towards your studies. Believing in your ability to learn and improve is essential.

15. **Adapt and Adjust:** Be willing to adapt your study techniques if something isn't working. Everyone learns differently, so find what works best for you.

Parent Portal



Parent University -

Academic GPA (Grade Point Average) is a numerical representation of a student's overall academic performance. It is commonly used in educational institutions to assess a student's level of achievement and to determine eligibility for various academic honors, scholarships, and admission to higher education programs. Here are some key points to help you understand academic GPA:

- Grading Scale: GPA is typically calculated on a scale of 0 to 4.0, although some institutions may use a different scale. The specific values assigned to letter grades may vary, but a common scale is as follows:
 - A: 4.0 (Excellent)
 - B: 3.0 (Good)
 - C: 2.0 (Average)
 - D: 1.0 (Below Average)
 - F: 0.0 (Fail)
- Some institutions may also use "+" and "-" modifiers (e.g., A+, B-) that slightly adjust the numerical values.
- Course Credits: Each course you take is typically assigned a specific credit value that represents the amount of instructional time or workload associated with the course. A standard course may be worth 3 credits, but it can vary depending on the institution and the level of the course.
- Grade Calculation: To calculate your GPA, each course grade is multiplied by the number of credits for that course. The resulting value, called the grade points, is then added together for all courses taken in a specific period (e.g., semester or academic year). Finally, the total grade points are divided by the total number of credits taken to obtain the GPA.



- **Weighted and Unweighted GPA:** In some educational systems, a weighted GPA is used to account for the difficulty level of certain courses. Weighted GPAs assign higher values to grades earned in advanced or honors courses, reflecting the additional challenge and rigor. Unweighted GPAs, on the other hand, treat all courses equally.
- **Cumulative GPA:** A cumulative GPA represents the overall average of all courses taken throughout a student's academic career or a specific period, such as a semester, year, or entire program. It provides a comprehensive evaluation of academic performance.
- **GPA Scale Interpretation:** GPA scales provide a standardized way to interpret academic performance. Generally, higher GPAs indicate better performance and academic excellence, while lower GPAs may indicate room for improvement or challenges in certain subjects.
- **Importance and Use:** Academic GPA is used by educational institutions to evaluate student performance, determine class rankings, make decisions about academic honors and awards, assess eligibility for scholarships or grants, and in some cases, for admission to higher education programs.
- **Transcripts:** GPA is often reported on academic transcripts, which provide a comprehensive record of a student's grades and courses taken during their academic journey. Transcripts are frequently requested by colleges, universities, employers, and other institutions as part of the application or evaluation process.

Remember that GPA is just one measure of academic achievement, and it is important to consider other factors like extracurricular activities, personal achievements, and personal growth when evaluating an individual's overall capabilities and potential.

We Love Learning

by ECHS Teachers

TUTORING HOURS

ENGLISH:

Mr. Stewart
Tue 8:30 - 9 and 5-5:45 pm

Mr. Strickland
Wed 6-7 pm
Thur 8-8:45 am
by appointment

Mr. Phillips
Tue/Wed 4:30-5:30 pm
Thursday by appt only

MATH:

Mr. Nguyen
Mon/Wed 4:30-5:30
Fri 8-8:45 am

Ms. Anthony
Mon/Wed 4:30-5:30 pm
Fri 8:00-8:45

SCIENCE:

Ms. Donkor
Mon 8-8:45 am
Tue 4:30-5:30 pm 8-8:45 am

Dr Tirrey
Mon/Wed 8.00-8:30am
Other by appointment

SOCIAL STUDIES:

Mr. Coleman
Tue 8-8:30
Thu 4:45-5:45
Other by appointment

COLLEGE COURSES / TSIA EXAMS:

Student taking courses at Eastfield campus have tutoring available during business hours by checking in specific rooms for Reading/Writing and Math. Other Instructors offer tutoring information available in their respective syllabus

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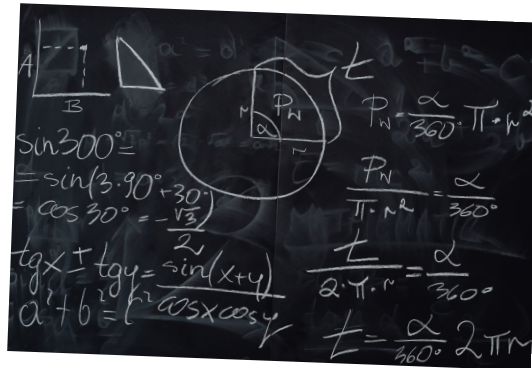
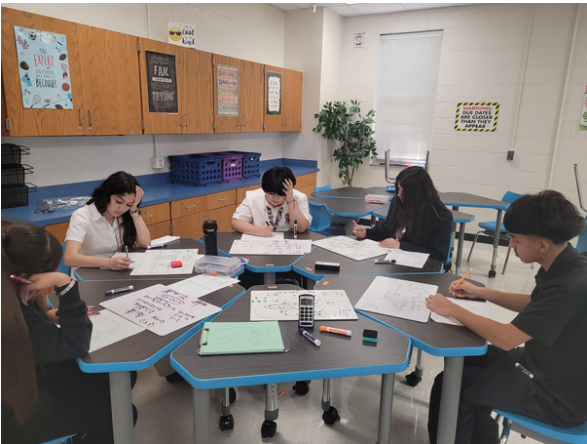
MATHEMATICS

Algebra I Honors- Dr. George Neal

Scholars will develop graphs, examine numeric sequencing, study functions, and formulate formulas. These practices will provide our scholars with a deeper understanding of mathematics.

Algebra II Honors - Ms. Anthony

Scholars will discover Parent Functions transformation. They will use interval notations and inequalities to write domain and range, as well as, parts of the function which increases and/or decreases.



MATH-1332 college course Contemporary Mathematics (Quantitative Reasoning)

This is a Texas Common Course Number. This is a Dallas College Core Curriculum course.

Prerequisite Required: TSIA Math College level ready in Mathematics at the non-algebra or algebra levels.

Course Description: Intended for Non STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) majors. Topics include introductory treatments of sets and logic, financial mathematics, probability and statistics with appropriate applications. Number sense, proportional reasoning, estimation, technology, and communication should be embedded throughout the course. Additional topics may be covered. (3 Lec.)

Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 2701015119

We Love Learning

by ECHS Teachers



English I - Mr. Stewart

We are wrapping a full month of learning. Our scholars have engaged in every level of literacy. They have been working very hard as we have introduced different methods and approaches to reading, writing, and grammar. For the next two weeks we are focusing on the fiction with text "The Bet."

English II - Mr. Strickland

English IV - Mr. Phillips

ENGL-1301 Composition I

This month we wrap up our Narrative unit with our first extended paper before moving into our Descriptive Writing unit. Students have been crushing it with their narratives so far and we hope to see the same effort put into their work when we kick up the difficulty.

AP English IV

This month AP is working through our Great Expectations book study, along with continuing to weave in aspects of Unit 1 (Short Story) and Unit 2 (Poetry). We will be starting our unit checkpoints as well to start checking our progress towards the infamous AP test in the spring. Let's keep up the hard work!



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SCIENCE

Chemistry - Dr. Tirrey

Matter and its changes

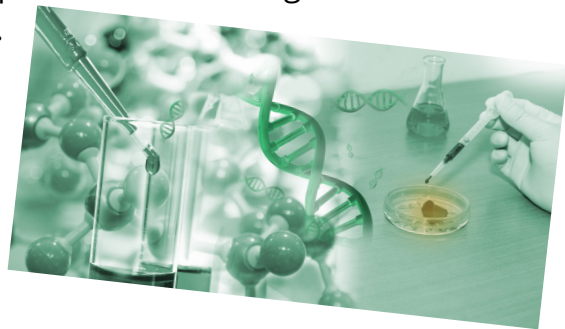
Students are learning about:

- 1.States of Matter
- 2.Physical and Chemical Changes
- 3.Extensive and Intensive Properties
- 4.Kinetic Molecular Theory
- 5.Phase Changes



Biology - Ms. Donkor

In the amazing world of biology students are currently learning how cell travel and transport material through the human body.



Physics - Mr. Kotapati

RAIDERS IN ACTION

Scholars experiment with velocity.



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SOCIAL STUDIES / MAPS / COLLEGE TRANSITION



Mr. Coleman

AP Human Geography- We're off to a flying start in **AP HuG**, with the majority of our scholars creating AP Classroom accounts and getting their exams ordered. Our first unit test will be next week. Make sure you study!

HIST 1301-Make sure you are checking Brightspace everyday for updates, due dates, etc. Exam #1 will be happening soon, over Chapters 1-5. Also, begin reading your book ASAP so you can start on the topic paper (due 9/24)

HIST 1302- Make sure you are checking Brightspace everyday for updates, due dates, etc. Also, begin reading your book ASAP so you can start on the topic paper (due 9/24)

EDUC-1300 - Dr. Owens Seaverson-

Skyline freshmen have been adjusting to their new environment well and now better understand the definition of "College Transition." Students are experts at logging on to Bright Space and accessing their learning platform called Mindtap.

Students have been discovering their resources, setting goals, and creating academic and career plans. They understand the value of Cornell notes, using a calendar to write their assignments down, and getting on course to their success.

