

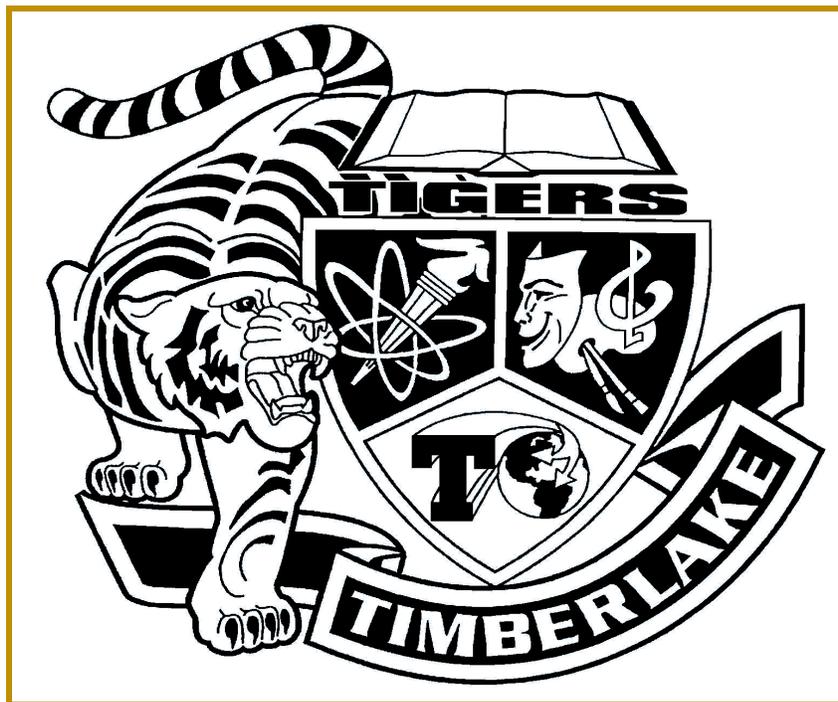


Timberlake Senior High School

Senior Project

2025-2026

Student/Parent Handbook



Committed to academic success...dedicated to student success

Senior Project Introduction Page

The Timberlake High School Senior Project is a graduation requirement for all graduating seniors.

1. The senior project is designed to allow students the opportunity to research a specific area of interest and develop a high quality research paper. Students will participate in an oral presentation by means of presenting their research paper along with their digital portfolio at the end of 1st semester.
2. Students will work on and complete their research paper in their Senior English class.
3. Students who attend NIC full time, or any student who does not attend a Senior English class at Timberlake High School will be part of a senior project google classroom that will be set up by the senior project coordinator.
4. Any senior who attends NIC full time, but plans on graduating from Timberlake High School, will be required to complete the senior project. The career focused research paper submitted may be written and graded in the student's 1st semester NIC 101 or 102 class, but must still meet the requirements of a 5 – 8 page career focused research paper. This paper must be printed out and submitted to Timberlake with a print-out from 🎯 Canvas of the score received. The student will be responsible for completing the digital portfolio on his/her own time and submitting it through Google Sites to the Google classroom, as well as preparing for the career-focused research paper presentation. Off campus students must utilize their Lakeland School District student email regularly for updates and information from staff at Timberlake High School.
5. Any senior who attends Timberlake, but takes an online English class (i.e.: IDLA) will be required to complete the senior project. The research paper submitted may be written and graded in the student's 1st semester senior-level English class, but must still meet the requirements of a 5-8 career focused page research paper. If the class does not assign this type of research paper, then the student will still be required to submit one according to the guidelines in the Senior Project Handbook. The student will be responsible for completing the portfolio on his/her own time and submitting it through Google Sites to the Google classroom, as well as preparing for the career-focused research paper presentation. Students must utilize their Lakeland School District student email regularly for updates and information from staff at Timberlake High School.
6. Students who are not taking an English 4 or NIC 101/102 class during their 1st semester of the year they graduate will still be required to complete the senior project. Students must utilize

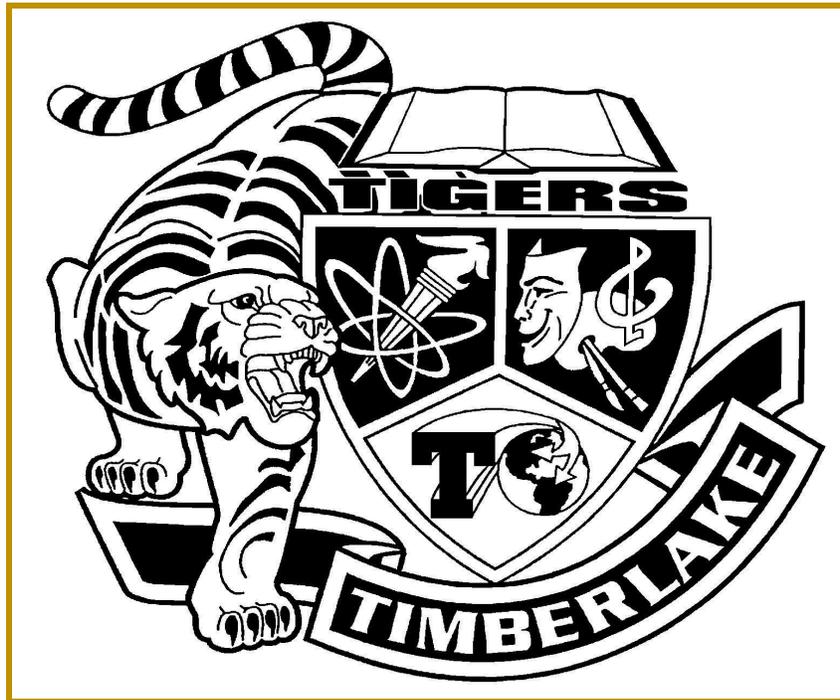
their Lakeland School District student email regularly for updates and information from staff at Timberlake High School.

Overall Grading:

Students will receive a Pass/Fail grade for their senior project. **In order to receive a passing grade, students must earn at least a 70% or proficient in *each* of the graded component areas which include the research paper, portfolio and research paper presentation.**

Timberlake Senior High School

Part 1: The Career-Focused Research Paper



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Senior Project – Career-Focused Research Paper

Students will be writing a 5-8-page informative research paper on a career of their choice. Students will be granted an outline in their English classes. The paper should cover the requirements for the career, the benefits, and a challenge in the prospective industry. It should be MLA-formatted and written in formal English.

Off-campus (NIC) students may choose to substitute a research paper from their courses, so long as it meets the length and content requirement set by Lakeland School District.

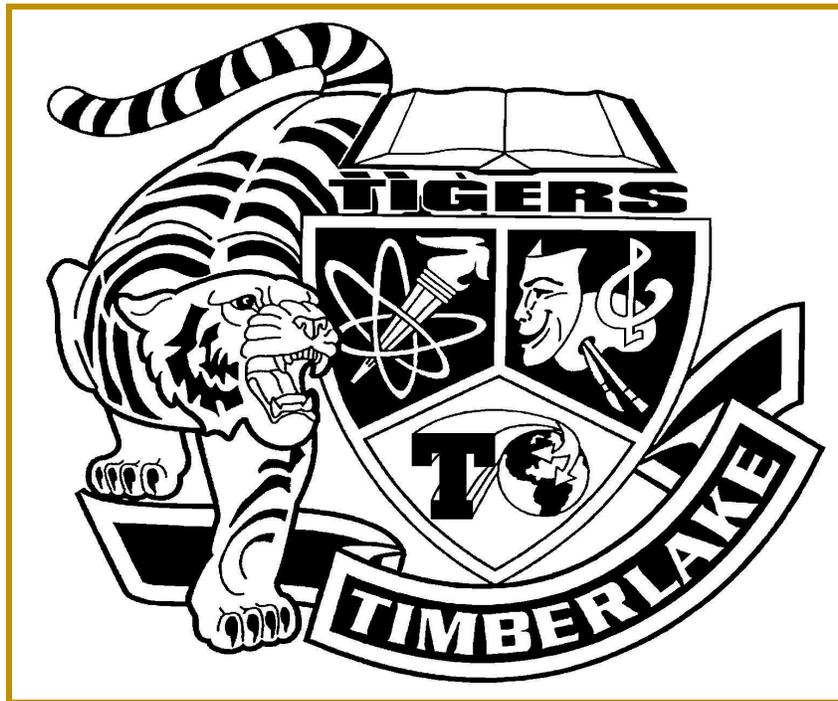
Lakeland School District - Senior Project

General Rules for the Career-Focused Research Paper

1. **Paper** – White, 8.5”X 11” paper, one-sided
2. **Length** – English IV - 5-8 pages
3. **Type** – Times New Roman, size 12 font, black ink
4. **Margins** – One inch on left, right, top, and bottom.
5. **Stapling** – Upper left corner of paper.
6. **Double Spacing** – Body should be double spaced unless you are typing one of the following:
 - a. **Lists** – Each list should be indented and single-spaced. If there is more than one list, double-space between the lists.
 - b. **Long quotations** – Quotes that are forty words or longer should be single-spaced and indented one inch from the right and left margin.
7. **MLA formatting** required – heading, page #'s, in-text citations, works cited page
8. **Point-of-View** – Except in rare cases, research papers are written in third person.

Timberlake Senior High School

Part 2: The Digital Portfolio



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Senior Project – The Digital Portfolio

The digital portfolio will be a portfolio that the senior will develop in **Google Sites** and will be **due at the end of 1st semester unless otherwise specified**. The templates are already developed for the student, and will have links to the following requirements of the digital portfolio:

- Introduction - Students will write a paragraph about themselves and provide an image of themselves or something related.
- High School Resume - Students will write about their achievements, strengths, and goals etc. during high school.
- Core Value Statement - Students will write a 300-800 word essay focusing on three personal core values. The essay will be written in the seniors' English class.
- Research Paper - The student will include their senior project research paper that was written in their senior English class.
- College or Career Goals - Students will include their future plans and goals for after high school.

The Portfolio will be due by the end of the first semester unless otherwise specified.

Off campus seniors or any senior who does not have an English class through Timberlake are required to complete a digital portfolio by the end of 1st semester unless otherwise specified.

****The senior portfolio grade is incorporated into the seniors presentation grade.***

CORE VALUES STATEMENT

Core values are traits or qualities that you consider not just worthwhile; they represent an individual's fundamental driving force. Core values are deeply held convictions and priorities that influence your attitudes and behaviors.

You will need to write a 300-800 word essay focusing on three personal core values that are important to you.

Seniors will complete the essay in their Senior English class.

Off campus seniors and seniors who take English online are responsible for writing their essay on their own time.

Examples of core values...

Compassion

Dependability

Honesty

Kindness

Loyalty

Self-respect

Faith

Cheerfulness

Charity

Encouragement

Confidence

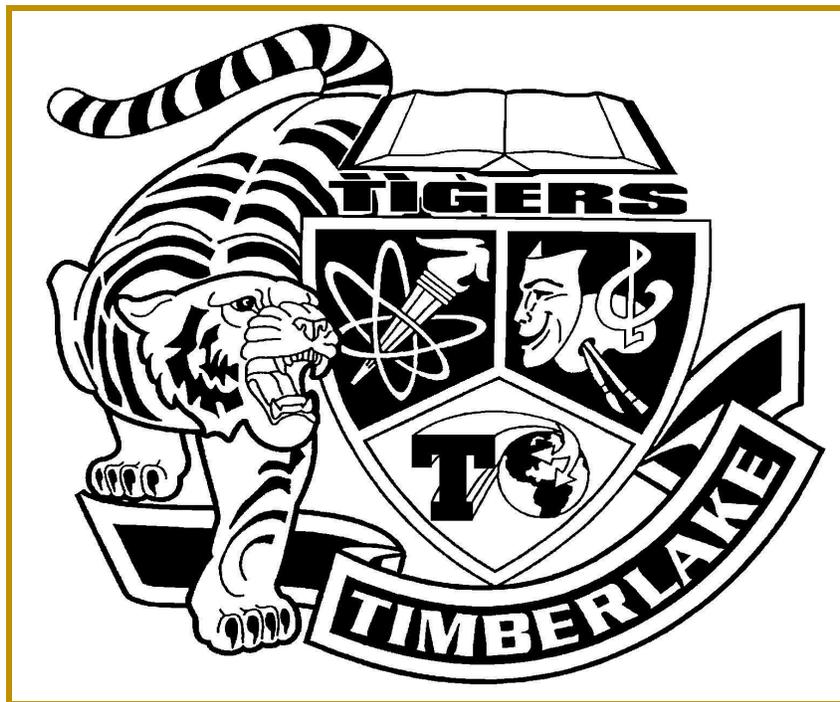
Empathy

Trust

Leadership

Timberlake Senior High School

Part 3: The Presentation



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Senior Project Presentation Requirements

What you will be doing:

Students will be completing a presentation over the topic they chose to write their Research paper on. This formal presentation will discuss a career of their choice.

Requirements:

- Slides or the Google Site must cover the following with verbal citations for research:
- A home page with a resume
- A core values page
- A career-focused research paper section with the following information
 - Introduction to your career and why you chose it
 - A background over the career
 - Describe the job/career.
 - How many people work in this position nationwide?
 - What do the daily tasks look like?
 - Where is this job available or popular?
 - Training required
 - What type of training, education, or skills are needed in this job?
 - How much does it cost to pursue a career?
 - What type of person is best suited for this career?
 - Details of the Job
 - What are opportunities for growth in this career?
 - What are the average salaries in the state you want to live in?
 - How many hours does the average worker work daily?
 - What are the benefits to this career?
 - Challenges in your industry
 - What are some major challenges facing your industry? (Explain: nursing shortages, literacy in education, lacked of skilled workers in trades)
 - What solutions are being pursued towards fixing the challenges in your preferred industry
 - Works Cited Page

- **Time Requirement**
 - **1-2 minutes going over Portfolio**
 - **Introduce your name, your three core values, and why you are interested in this career field .**
 - **6-8 minutes presenting on your chosen topic**
- **Verbal citations are required for research- at least 5 must be verbalized**
- **Information must be organized and presented in a correct order**
- **Must provide a citation slide**
- **Formal Dress on Presentation Day**
- **Slides must be clean, clear, and visually appealing.**
- **Slides must have at least 1 image related to the topic on them**

Senior Project Rubric 2025

See full Rubric on last page for reference

Presentation Dress Requirements

This is a professional interview presentation. This means that we expect our seniors to dress in a professional manner. Dress as if you are being interviewed for a job that requires you to dress professionally. Facial piercings and unnatural colored hair (blue, green, purple etc.) will be rated at the discretion of the judges. Some may find these choices of dress and appearance less appropriate than others.

LADIES

Dress or skirt, or nice slacks and sleeved top. Dress or skirt should be appropriate length. Students are required to follow the school dress code for appropriate length. Tops should cover the midriff with no part of the belly showing at all. If wearing a sleeveless dress or blouse, a cardigan or shrug should be worn.

No jeans or tennis shoes.

Makeup and hair style should be conservative, clean and brushed.

No hats allowed.

GENTS

No jeans or tennis shoes. Boys should wear nice pants with a collared shirt tucked in with a belt. Students are required to follow the school dress code.

No jeans or tennis shoes.

Hair style should be conservative, clean and brushed.

No hats allowed.

Senior Project Rubric 2025-2026

Student Name: _____

Judges Name: _____

| Category | Basic: 14 or below | Proficient: 15-17 | Superior: 18-20 |
|---|---|--|--|
| Professionalism ____/20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student is dressed unprofessionally <input type="checkbox"/> Student does not take presentation seriously <input type="checkbox"/> Students and teachers are not respected <input type="checkbox"/> Student demonstrates low effort or makes presentation into a joke <input type="checkbox"/> A basic in this category can earn an automatic fail at the discretion of the judges | <input type="checkbox"/> Student is dressed professionally, as if attending a job interview (see back side for specifics) <input type="checkbox"/> Student takes presentation seriously <input type="checkbox"/> Students and teachers are treated with respect the duration of the presentations <input type="checkbox"/> Student demonstrates effort, time, and care during every step of presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Resume is included and professionally edited | Student gives an exemplary presentation Student has exemplary dress |
| Academics, Research, and credibility ____/20 | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Students have a basic or missing introduction, core values, and/or student choice page</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Student doesn't seem to understand topic <input type="checkbox"/> Student is missing the background, job details, training requirements, and challenges of their preferred career <input type="checkbox"/> Paper is missing works cited page, examples, images and text <input type="checkbox"/> Student does not cite five sources <input type="checkbox"/> Topic isn't appropriate for an academic setting | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Students have a thoughtful introduction and core values page</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Student is thorough in their discussion of their research papers <input type="checkbox"/> Student references the background, job details, training requirements, and challenges of their preferred career <input type="checkbox"/> Research Paper section a works cited page, and appropriate images and text <input type="checkbox"/> Students reference five sources verbally <input type="checkbox"/> Topic is appropriate for an academic setting | Student's research presentation is exemplary |
| Visual Quality of Portfolio ____/20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Portfolio is unprofessional <input type="checkbox"/> Has grammatical errors <input type="checkbox"/> Capitalization errors <input type="checkbox"/> Images are missing or inappropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Portfolio is too wordy. | <input type="checkbox"/> Portfolio is professional <input type="checkbox"/> No spelling errors, commas and periods are used correctly. <input type="checkbox"/> Sentences, bullet points, and proper nouns should be capitalized <input type="checkbox"/> Images are used thoughtfully <input type="checkbox"/> Not too wordy. <input type="checkbox"/> Long Paragraphs are not used unless specified (Why I choose the topic and introduction) | Portfolio is exemplary |
| Presentation Skills ____/10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student is not loud enough <input type="checkbox"/> Student makes eye contact less than 70% of the time <input type="checkbox"/> Student speaks to wall <input type="checkbox"/> Student is reading off of the presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Student is clear in speech and loud enough to hear <input type="checkbox"/> Student makes eye contact with the audience 70% of the time (Notecards allowed) <input type="checkbox"/> Student is earnest and authentic in presentation (doing the best of their ability to present) | Presentation is exemplary |
| Interview ____/10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student doesn't answer 4 questions from audience | <input type="checkbox"/> Student answers 4 questions from audience about career path | |

| | | | |
|------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Time | Under seven minutes or over 12 minutes | Between 7-11 eleven minutes | Between 8-10 minutes |
|------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|