Rising 9th Grade FAQ's

Is a world language required to graduate from high school?
No, a world language is not required to graduate from high school. Two consecutive years of a world language is a requirement to attend a 4-year college.

If a student takes a world language in middle school, does it count toward the 2 consecutive years of a world language required by 4-year colleges?
Yes, Spanish 1 or any world language taken in middle school for high school credit does count toward the consecutive 2-year language requirement for college in the state of Georgia. A 3rd year of a language is not required for the HOPE Scholarship. Other rigor courses are available to meet HOPE Rigor requirements.
https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/hope-zell-miller-scholarships/hope-scholarship/eligibility/

If a student is in a language in 8th grade, will they automatically be placed in the next level freshman year?
Yes, the student will automatically roll into the next level of the language.

Is computer science considered a world language?
The University System of Georgia recognizes Computer Science as a world language. Students must complete 2 courses from the Computer Science pathway. The introductory course – Introduction to Software Technology is not included in these courses. They must be upper level courses beyond the introductory level. For more information, please visit:
https://www.usg.edu/student_affairs/assets/student_affairs/documents/Staying_on_Course.pdf

Are high school credit classes taken in middle school listed on the high school transcript?
Yes, these courses are listed on the high school transcript and count toward the numerical grade average and class ranking.

Are high school credit classes taken in middle school counted toward the HOPE GPA?
No, these courses are not factored into HOPE calculations by the Georgia Student Finance Commission.

How are honors classes and AP classes factored into a high school transcript or HOPE calculations?
On the high school transcript, honors courses receive an extra 5 points averaged into the numerical grade average. These points are not added into the final grade. AP courses receive an extra 10 points averaged into the numerical grade average. These points are not added into the final grade. For purposes of HOPE calculations, honors courses do not receive any weighted points and AP courses receive a .5 weight if the student does not already have an A in the course.

What is the NGA?
GPA on a 4.0 scale is not calculated on the high school transcript. An NGA is listed on the transcript which are all grades added and averaged on the transcript on a 100-point scale. There is a weighted and unweighted NGA listed. The weighted number will be different if students have taken honors or AP courses. The weighted NGA is used for class rank. For example, if the class is honors and the student

received an 85, it would calculate as a 90 in the weighted NGA. If it was an 85 in an AP class, it would calculate as a 95 in the weighted NGA.

How does a student check their HOPE GPA?
Create an account on www.gafutures.org

What is the course registration process?
Teachers make recommendations for core courses based on current courses, grades, and data. Students choose electives and these course recommendations/requests are sent home to parents for review. Parents only need to return these course recommendations/requests if any changes are being requested. This process typically takes place in January/February.

When will my student have their schedule?
Schedules are usually viewable in StudentVue and ParentVue a few days before school starts.

Does my student have to stay in the same elective all year? Yes, with very few exceptions, once a selection is made, the student is committed for the year.

Does my student have to complete a CTAE pathway?
Completing a pathway is not a graduation requirement; however, there are opportunities for students to take end of pathway exams and earn certifications if they complete a pathway.

Are elective choices guaranteed?
No, students need to select up to 3 alternates in case their first choice is full.

What AP (advanced placement – college level) courses are available to freshmen?
AP Human Geography which is a social studies elective and AP Biology. Freshmen must receive an invite from the HS to enroll in the course based on academic requirements.

Should a student take Health/Personal Fitness over the summer?
Summer school information is not available yet. Freshmen will take English, Math, Science, Health/Personal Fitness, and 2 electives. Elective choices will determine the need to take summer school classes. An example – a freshman who would like to take band, language, and AP Human Geography. There is a cost to summer school. If a student takes 3 years of ROTC, they do not need to take health/personal fitness.

Can my student take weight training in place of personal fitness to meet graduation requirements?
No, the course must be personal fitness.

What are the graduation requirements?
4 Units of English, 4 Units of Math, 4 Units of Science, 3 Units of Social Studies (specific core classes are required in each area), 1 Unit of Health/Personal Fitness, 4 Units of Miscellaneous Electives, and 3 Years of Required Electives (CTAE, fine arts, and/or world language).