

Cambridge High School 9th/10th Grade Information Session

Presented by:
Cambridge High School
Counseling Department



Cambridge Administration Team

- Principal: Ashley Agans
- Students A-D: Cindy Weatherford, Assistant Principal
- Students E-K: Becca Meyers, Assistant Principal
- Students L-Q: Olga Glymph, Assistant Principal
- Students R-Z: Jeff Harrell, Assistant Principal
- Assistant Admin: Jon Karschnik

Cambridge Counseling Team

- Students A-Cr: Amey Rishel, Counselor
- Students Cu-Hi: Victoria Klingel, Counselor
- Students Ho-Me: Jennifer Evans, Counselor
- Students Mi-Sa: Fran Meredith, Counselor
- Students Sc-Z: Sam Garcia, Counselor Department Chair

Counseling Department Student Support Staff

- Counseling Assistant: Karen Thimsen
- Social Worker: Kaitlyn Lynch
- 504 Coordinator: Anne von Bereghy
- Registrar: Beth Puckett
- Records Coordinator: Benicia Ammons
- School Psychologist: Mia Morrissey
- Bilingual Community Liaisons: Lorena De Alba/Emilia Perdomo
- Data Clerk: Jessamy Russell



Cambridge Counseling Services

- **Guidance:** Course placement advisement
- **Academic Planning:** College/Career planning, goal setting, problem solving, graduation status tracking, college application support, letters of recommendation
- **Individual and Small Group Counseling:** Crisis intervention, parent/teacher/staff consolation and collaboration, outside agency referrals
- **Other:** New student enrollments, scheduling, special programs (Parent Info Nights, Financial Aid sessions, College Fair, etc.)

Counseling Appointment Requests

Students

- Scan QR codes located around building
- Counselor on lunch duty in cafeteria daily
- Stop in Bridge West
- Email (general questions)
 - Mrs. Rishel, rishel@fultonschools.org
 - Mrs. Klingel, klingelv@fultonschools.org
 - Ms. Evans, evansjl@fultonschools.org
 - Mrs. Meredith, meredithf@fultonschools.org
 - Mrs. Garcia, garcias@fultonschools.org

Parents

- Email or phone
 - Mrs. Rishel, rishel@fultonschools.org, 470-254-2509
 - Mrs. Klingel, klingelv@fultonschools.org, 470-254-2507
 - Ms. Evans, evansjl@fultonschools.org, 470-254-2512
 - Mrs. Meredith, meredithf@fultonschools.org, 470-254-2513
 - Mrs. Garcia, garcias@fultonschools.org, 470-254-2510

Graduation Credit Requirements= 23

Subject Area	Minimum Credits Needs
English	4
Math	4
Social Studies	3
Science	4
Health/Personal Fitness	1
World Lang/Fine Arts/Career Tech	3
Electives	4

Students planning to attend a 4-year college/university must take a minimum of 2 credits of the same World Language for college admissions.

Sample 4-Year Course Plan

	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
English	9 th Lit/Comp	10 th Lit/Comp	11 th Lit/Comp: American Lit	12 th Lit/Comp
Math	GSE Algebra I	GSE Geometry	GSE Algebra II	GSE Pre-Calculus
Social Studies	American Government (semester/0.5 credits)	World History	US History	Economics (semester/0.5 credits)
Science	Biology	Physical Science	Chemistry	Environmental Science
Health/Personal Fitness	Health (semester/0.5 credits)			Personal Fitness (semester/0.5 credits)
WL/FA/CTAE	French 2	French 3 Honors	French 4 Honors	AP French
Elective	Orchestra	Orchestra	Orchestra	Orchestra

Earning Credits

- Each semester, students earn 0.5 credits for a final grade of 70% or higher.
 - Example:
 - Semester 1 of Biology= 0.5 credit
 - Semester 2 of Biology= 0.5 credit
 - Total Biology credit earned by end of year= 1.0 credits
 - Semester classes, like American Gov, earn 0.5 credits total.
- Semester grades are not averaged.
 - If a student fails a semester of any class, the failing grade will appear on the transcript even after the credit has been made up.

Grade Promotion Policy

- 5+ credits= 10th Grade promotion
 - 11+ credits= 11th Grade promotion
 - 17+ credits= 12th Grade promotion
 - 23+ credits= GRADUATION
-
- All students are considered 9th graders during their first year of high school.
 - Students are promoted to the next grade at the end of the school year.



No Pass, No Play

- To participate in high school sports, students must pass at least 5 of their 6 classes from the previous semester (earn at least 2.5 credits)
- Students must also be on track for graduation (not retained in a lower grade level)



Credit Recovery

Failed classes can be recovered by...

- Retaking course as part of regular class schedule
- Completing a credit recovery course, if available
- Retaking course online through available options as part of regular class schedule or during summer (*if approved)
- Attend Face to Face Summer School, if course available

Please note that NCAA may not approve courses retaken through a non-traditional format such as credit recovery. It is the student's responsibility to research credit concerns with NCAA.

Cumulative Numeric Average vs. Grade Point Average (GPA)

Cumulative Numeric Average

- Fulton County calculates numeric averages by adding up grades in all classes on high school transcript and dividing by the total number of classes taken. The numeric average is on a 100-point scale. Example: 87 out of 100
- Transcripts are weighted: Includes 7 honors points added to final grade for Honors, Advanced Placement (AP) and Dual Enrollment (DE) courses
- All grades are included in numeric calculation- failed grades, summer grades, grades for high school classes taken in middle school, Dual Enrollment grades, and online grades.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

- High School GPA is calculated by the college/university
- Fulton Schools **does not** calculate GPA
- Students can see HOPE Scholarship GPA at www.gafutures.org
 - HOPE GPA is unweighted/core and can be used as estimation of college calculated GPA

Honors Points

- An additional 7 points is added to the final grade in any Honors, Advanced Placement, and Dual Enrollment course.
- Students must pass the course with a semester grade of at least 70% to earn honors points.

Example:

Class Name	Grade	Honors Points	Transcript Grade
10 th Lit/Comp Honors	90	7	97
AP Biology	68	0	68

State Required Testing

- Georgia End of Course (EOC) Tests

English	Math	Science	Social Studies
Lit/Comp II	Algebra I	Biology	US History

- EOC counts 20% of second semester final average

Academic Success and Support

- Self-advocate
 - Ask teacher for help
 - Attend help sessions
 - Talk with counselor or administrator
- Check Infinite Campus regularly
 - Monitor grades and attendance
 - Parents can set Infinite Campus alerts
- Use some type of planner
 - Paper calendar or app on phone
 - Track homework, long-term assignments, upcoming assessments, club meetings, sports practices, appointments, etc.
- Develop individualized study and organizational habits
 - Ask teacher for help
 - Try different things
 - Talk with counselor or administrator

Georgia HOPE Program

- HOPE- *Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally*
 - Scholarship and grant program that rewards students with financial assistance in degree, diploma, and certification programs at eligible GA public and private colleges, universities, and technical colleges
 - www.gafutures.org



GAfutures
Explore. Plan. Succeed.

HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships

- HOPE

- Partial college tuition payment
- Be a US citizen and legal GA resident
- Graduate high school with minimum 3.0 HOPE GPA
- Pass minimum of 4 state rigor classes
- Be registered with Selective Service if male
- Details at www.gafutures.org

- Zell Miller

- Full college tuition at GA public college/university
- Be a US citizen and legal GA resident
- Graduate high school with minimum 3.7 HOPE GPA
- Pass minimum of 4 state rigor classes
- Minimum 1200 combined reading and math score on single SAT administration or 26 composite score on single ACT administration
- Be registered with Selective Service if male
- Details at www.gafutures.org

HOPE Rigor Classes

- All Advanced Placement (AP) classes
- Dual Enrollment courses taken in core subjects
- Math: Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, Advanced Math Decision Making
- Science: Human Anatomy, Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy
- World Language: level 2 and higher
- For a full list of rigor courses, visit [GA Futures 2025 Rigor List](#)

HOPE GPA Calculation

- HOPE- 3.0 GPA by averaging core coursework, including failing grades, on a 4.0 scale
- Zell- 3.7 GPA (same as above)
- Core Courses: English, math, science, social studies, World Language, specific CTAE classes

• Conversion:

A	90-100	4.0 points
B	80-89	3.0 points
C	70-79	2.0 points
F	0-69	0 points

- Honors pts are removed, and a 0.5 weight is added back in for AP/DE classes only, not to exceed 4.0
- Middle school credit is not used
- GPA does not round up, i.e. 2.99 doesn't qualify for HOPE, 3.69 doesn't qualify for Zell
- All calculations done by GA Student Finance Commission- School counselors cannot calculate potential HOPE GPA

Create Student Gafutures Account

- Visit www.gafutures.org
- Select “Create an Account” option at top of homepage
- Complete the form- information marked with red asterisk is required
- After completing the *Account Creation Form*, make sure you check the box acknowledging acceptance of the *Terms of Use and Privacy Policy*.
- Select “Create Account”.
- **Required for all 9th grade and 10th grade students. Please use the student's personal email to create an account by the end of this year so they can access their HOPE portal. This will need to be done at home as it asks for the SSN.**

Schoolinks

Students access Schoolinks through ClassLink to automatically log in

Schoolinks offers assessments that help students discover careers and colleges that may be the best fit

- Self-Discovery tab
- Career tab
- Colleges tab

The Schoolinks logo is displayed on a solid yellow rectangular background. The word "schoolinks" is written in a bold, black, lowercase sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a black icon consisting of two interlocking loops, resembling a stylized "S" or a chain link.

schoolinks 

PSAT

- Practice for the SAT
- Assesses reading, math, writing and English language
- Connects students to scholarships and personalized online study tools
- Given to all 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students each Fall

<https://www.collegeboard.org/>

DUAL ENROLLMENT

A state-funded program that provides high school students the opportunity to earn high school credit and college credit at a participating eligibility postsecondary college in Georgia.

Students can experience college courses and begin their college academic career while still in high school.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Students can take approved CTAE and Core (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, World Language) courses.

The program covers standard tuition, mandatory fees, and required books, for up to **30 semester hours. Max of 15 semester hours/term.**

DUAL ENROLLMENT: WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

10th Graders (Limited Enrollment)

May enroll in approved Career,
Technical and Agriculture
Education(CTAE) courses at certain
institutions.

Requires a minimum SAT score of
1200 or minimum ACT score of 26 in a
single test administration (no super
score). Student will submit scores to the
DE system.

11th & 12th Graders

May enroll in any approved DE course.

FYI

Dual Enrollment Information Night will
be January 29th at 6pm.

9th/10th Grade Student To Do List

- Create a 4-year high school plan
 - What do you want to accomplish?
 - Make sure you know what courses are required by your colleges of interest and that you take these classes
 - Use Schoollinks to investigate college/career ideas
 - Think about balance!
- Start thinking about life after high school
 - What types of jobs interest you?
 - What do you need to do to get those jobs?
 - Use Schoollinks to investigate college/career ideas
- Identify your interests
 - What classes do you like and dislike?
 - What activities do you enjoy?
 - This information will help you focus your goals
- Participate in extracurricular activities
 - Great way to explore interests and build leadership experience
- Explore summer opportunities
 - Look for a job or internship
 - Volunteer

Course Verification - Process

- **Teacher Recommendation Phase Jan. 26th – 28th, 2026** –Teachers begin academic placement of students. Students can also speak with their teachers about academic placements for the 2026–2027 school year.
- **First Course Verification January 27-30:** Students will be given their First Course Request Verification Form which includes their proposed teacher recommendations for the 2026-27 school year. On this form, students will also rank 6 elective choices. If there are any teacher recommendation issues, the students will utilize the First Course Request Verification Form to detail course request corrections. Counselors will make changes as needed. All students must return this verification form to Bridge West by 4pm on January 30.
- **Counselor Clean Up Feb. 2nd – Feb. 16:** Counselors will enter courses in Infinite Campus and clean up proposed student classes.

Course Verification – Process

- **Final Course Verification February 18th – 20th:** Students will receive their Final Course Request Verification form during B2. This is the second and final verification phase. If there are any issues, students will submit the changes on the Final Course Request Verification Form and submit the form to Bridge West by 4pm on February 20. If there are no changes to be made, students do NOT need to submit their Final Course Request Verification form. Counselors will make changes as needed. This is the FINAL opportunity to adjust all classes including electives. Now is also the FINAL time to speak with current teachers and counselors regarding scheduling concerns. NO requested elective changes or leveling up will happen after February 20 , 2026.

Course Verification – Student Course Selection Help Sessions

Counselors will host open help sessions for all CHS students. These sessions are a great opportunity to ask questions about:

- 2026-2027 CHS course selections
- Online classes
- Dual Enrollment options
- **Dates:**
 - Friday, January 30th
 - Monday, February 2nd
 - Tuesday, February 3rd
- **Location:**
 - Outside the CHS Cafeteria during both lunch periods

26-27 Curriculum Guide

- The 2026-2027 Curriculum Guide is now active on the Cambridge Website. Check out what classes will be offered next year by clicking the link or scanning the QR Code.
- [26-27 Cambridge Curriculum Guide](#)



Course Verification – Board Policies

Important Policy Reminders (Fulton County School Board):

- Students are expected to complete yearlong courses in which they are enrolled.
- After February 20 and throughout the 2026–2027 school year, the following requests will not be accepted:
 - Elective changes
 - Leveling up courses
 - Teacher changes
 - Lunch changes
 - New online/virtual course requests
- **Level Down:** If a level down change is still necessitated after February 20, according to Cambridge's scheduling guidelines, the parent/guardian may fill out the level down form found on the Cambridge website and submit it to Bridge West in the first 10 school days only. All leveling down course changes must meet the following criteria: course is available for the student, space is available in an already scheduled course, the student's graduation requirements can be met within four years and be approved by the teacher and school counselor.

CTAE Pathways

CTAE Pathway Completers: Ready for the Future!

A CTAE Pathway Completer is a student who successfully completes three courses in one Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) pathway. These students are eligible to earn a Career Ready Diploma Seal, signaling to employers that they are prepared to participate in the workforce.

Students may earn each of the three seals for their accomplishments. Foil seals will be affixed to their diplomas awarded at graduation. In addition, students earning the Pathway Skills Seal receive a maroon braided graduation cord.



Employability/Soft
Skills Seal



Leadership
Skills Seal



Pathway
Skills Seal

Why It Matters: Benefits for Students

Career Ready Diploma Seals are awarded to graduating seniors who demonstrate career readiness through coursework, experiences, and achievements. These seals are recognized by Georgia employers and industry partners as a mark of professionalism and preparedness.

Benefits:

- Recognition on diploma and transcripts
- Boosts college and career applications
- Connects students with real-world experiences
- Demonstrates leadership, professionalism, and technical skills

Counseling Communication



- Instagram
 - @cambridgeschoolcounseling
 - [Cambridge School Counseling Instagram](#)
- Website
 - [Cambridge School Counseling](#)
- Headlines
 - [Student News and Headlines](#)

Thank you for attending!

