



Transition to High School

Thank you so much for allowing us to share some important information with you as you make the move from Swope Panthers to Reno High Huskies!

This time can be both exciting and stressful, so we hope to help you become familiar with what to expect when you walk in the building as a Freshman in the Fall!

Objectives

- Academic Expectations & Building Skills
- Credits, Diploma Types, Transcripts & Grad Plans
- Social & Personal Responsibility
- Getting Involved



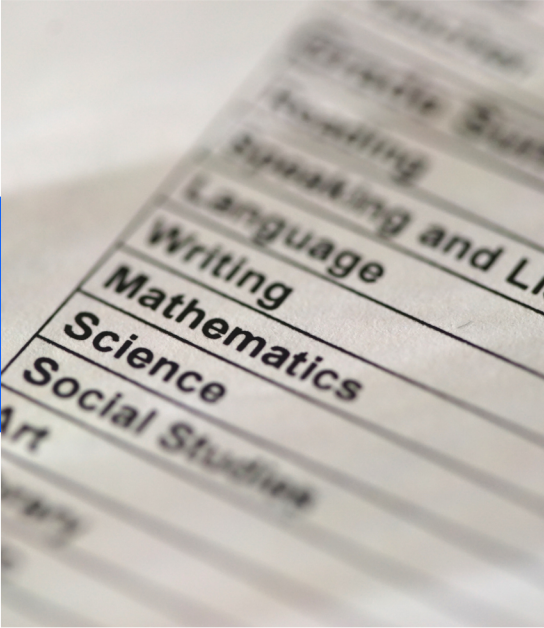
Here are the objectives for today.

First, let's talk about academic expectations and building skills. High school marks a new chapter where you'll be expected to manage your own learning. This means keeping track of assignments, understanding credit requirements, and working towards your graduation plan. Remember, building effective study habits and organizational skills will be crucial for your success here.

Next, understanding credits, diploma types, transcripts, and graduation plans is essential. Each course you take contributes to your credits, which are key to graduating. Make sure you're aware of the types of diplomas available and the requirements for each, as well as how your transcript reflects your academic journey.

Finally, let's discuss social and personal responsibility, and the importance of getting involved. High school is not just about academics—it's also a time to grow personally and socially. Engage in clubs, sports, or other extracurricular activities. This will help you meet new people, discover new interests, and develop a well-rounded high school experience.

By focusing on these objectives, you'll set a strong foundation for a successful high school experience.



Academic Expectations

- Grades in classes and GPA
 - A- 4.0
 - B- 3.0
 - C- 2.0
 - D- 1.0
 - F- 0.0 (no credit earned)
- Homework is managed by YOU
- Study habits MATTER
- Opportunities for different academic levels

Today, let's dive into what academic expectations look like in high school. This is an important part of your journey, so let's break it down.

First, we have the grading system, which is key to understanding how you'll be evaluated. An "A" earns you a 4.0, a "B" gives you a 3.0, and so on, down to an "F," which unfortunately means no credit earned. Your GPA, or Grade Point Average, reflects these grades and is crucial for your academic record.

Next, remember that homework is your responsibility. Developing strong study habits can make a big difference in your success. It's not just about completing assignments, but also about understanding the material.

Finally, there are opportunities to challenge yourself with different academic levels. Whether it's honors classes or advanced placement courses, you have the chance to tailor your learning experience to your abilities and interests. This can be a great way to prepare for your future, so consider what will best suit your goals.

These expectations set the stage for your high school experience. Embrace them as part of your growth and learning.

Building Your Skills



Time Management

Balance school, activities, and rest



Organization

Keep track of assignments and deadlines



Self-Advocacy

Ask teachers for help when needed



Responsibility

Complete tasks and submit work

Balancing academics with extracurricular activities and personal time is crucial for your success and well-being.

First, let's talk about the importance of time management. Creating a schedule can help you ensure that you're not only completing your schoolwork but also making room for activities and rest. Use planners or digital tools to keep track of assignments and deadlines. This approach helps prevent last-minute stress and allows you to allocate time effectively.

Next, don't hesitate to reach out to your teachers if you need support. Asking for help is a strength, not a weakness. It shows that you are taking charge of your learning and willing to advocate for yourself—an essential life skill.

Lastly, let's discuss organization and responsibility. Keeping your work organized, whether it's in folders or digital files, ensures you can quickly find what you need when you need it. Completing tasks and submitting work on time reflects your responsibility and commitment to your education.



Credits

- A high school credit is a way to measure successfully completing a high school class, required for graduation and earning a diploma.
- A full-year course equals [1.0 credit](#)
- A semester-long course equals [0.5 credits](#)

Understanding credits is essential for planning your high school journey, as they directly relate to graduation and earning your diploma.

Let's break down how credits work:

First, a high school credit measures the completion of a course. It's not just about attending classes; it's about successfully finishing the assignments and tests.

Passing a full-year course earns you 1.0 credit, while a semester-long course is worth 0.5 credit. This means you need to plan your schedule carefully to meet graduation requirements.

Remember, every credit counts towards the goal of graduating and moving on to your next big steps, whether that's college, a career, or another path.

Diploma Types

- Honors
- College & Career Ready
- Advanced
- Standard

WCS D Graduation Requirements

WCS D Graduation Guide

The credit requirements for each diploma type are listed below:

Note: Standard Diploma requirements subject to change pending State Board of Education approval.

Course Title	WCS D Standard (2025-2028)	WCS D Standard (2019-beyond)	Alternative (2023-2028) ^	Alternative (2019-beyond) ^	State Advanced	College and Career Ready with Endorsement	WCS D Honors	WCS D Honors/ College & Career Ready
English	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Math (Must include Algebra 1, Geometry & Algebra 2 or equivalent)	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0 ^Δ	4.0 ^Δ
Science	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0 [†]	3.0 [†]
American Government	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Economics and Personal Finance	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
U.S. History	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
World History/World Geography	1.0	1.0	-0-	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
PE	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Arts/Humanities/CTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Computer Literacy	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Health	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
World Language	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	2.0*	2.0*
Electives	6.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	4.0	4.0
Flex Credit	1.0**	2.0**	2.0**	1.0**	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
# of Honors Credits							8	8
Required Cumulative GPA					3.25 on a 4.0 scale (no rounding)	3.25 on a 4.0 scale (no rounding)	3.40 on a 4.0 scale (no rounding)	3.40 on a 4.0 scale (no rounding)

^Δ Algebra 1; Geometry; Algebra 2 (or their equivalents); plus 1 or more math classes beyond Algebra 2

[†] Two credits must be in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Human Anatomy & Physiology, AP Environmental Science, Zoology, Microbiology, CTE Animal Sci (H) or CTE Plant Sci (H).

^{*} Two credits in the same world language

^{**} Flex credit must be one full credit of the same course of any one of the following: Level II or above CTE course in one program of study provided the prerequisite course was passed, a 4th year of mathematics Algebra 2 or higher, a 3rd year of science or a 4th year of social studies

⁺ This diploma also requires additional coursework and either a college or career endorsement to earn the diploma (see page 2).

[^] Student must have taken the NSA assessment to be eligible for the alternative diploma.

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Today, we want to touch on the graduation requirements for WCS D, which are crucial for students to understand as they plan their high school journey.

First, let's talk about the various diploma types offered. These include the Honors, College & Career Ready, Advanced, and Standard diplomas. Each one has unique requirements and benefits, and understanding the differences can help students align their high school experience with their future goals.

The Honors diploma is designed for students who excel academically and seek additional challenges. The College & Career Ready diploma emphasizes skills and courses that prepare students for both college and the workforce. The Advanced diploma requires a rigorous course load, while the Standard diploma covers the essential requirements for graduation.

It's important for students to consider their personal interests, strengths, and future plans when choosing which diploma to pursue. This decision can shape their entire high school experience and set the stage for their next steps after graduation.

Honors



Required Courses	Units
English	4
Math	4
(must include Algebra 1, Geometry & Algebra 2 plus 1 or more math classes beyond Algebra 2)	
Science	3
(must be in Biology, Chemistry, Physics)	
PE	2
World Language	2
(must be in the same language)	
Arts/Humanities/CTE	1
World History/World Geography	1
U.S. History	1
American Government	.5
Economics	.5
Health	.5
Computer Education and Technology	.5
Electives	4
Total	24

Required Cumulative GPA: 3.40 or higher

Eight credits must be designated with a GPA bump.

No course failures in the last two years.

To graduate from a Nevada high school with a Standard, Advanced, College & Career, Honors, or Honors College & Career diploma a student must participate in the Nevada State high school assessments prescribed by law in addition to the requirements listed above.

Meet the Honors Diploma: The Ultimate Challenge in WCSD!

Ready to take the road less traveled? Here's the scoop on what you'll need to snag this prestigious diploma:

- Rack up a whopping 24 credits
- Crunch numbers with 4 credits in Math
- Channel your inner scientist with 3 credits in Science
- Master a World Language with 2 credits in the same one
- Aim for the stars with a GPA of 3.4 or higher
- Earn 8 of those 24 credits through honors, AP, or dual credit courses
- Keep those grades sparkling, with no course failures in your last two years of high school

Are you up for the challenge?

Advanced



Required Courses	Units
English	4
Math (must include Algebra 1, Geometry & Algebra 2 plus 1 or more math classes beyond Algebra 2)	4
Science	3
PE	2
Arts/Humanities/CTE	1
World History/World Geography	1
U.S. History	1
American Government	.5
Economics	.5
Health	.5
Computer Education and Technology	.5
Electives	6
Total	24

Required Cumulative GPA: 3.25 or higher

To graduate from a Nevada high school with a Standard, Advanced, College & Career, Honors, or Honors College & Career diploma a student must participate in the Nevada State high school assessments prescribed by law in addition to the requirements listed above.

The Advanced Diploma: A Worthwhile Goal

The Advanced Diploma is the next step on your academic journey. Striving to achieve this diploma is an excellent objective and is certainly achievable for many students.

To earn the Advanced Diploma, you will need to fulfill the following requirements:

- A total of 24 credits
- 4 credits in Mathematics
- 3 credits in Science
- A GPA of 3.25 or higher

College & Career Ready



Required Courses	Units
English	4
Math	4
(must include Algebra 1, Geometry & Algebra 2 plus 1 or more math classes beyond Algebra 2)	
Science	3
PE	2
Arts/Humanities/CTE	1
World History/World Geography	1
U.S. History	1
American Government	5
Economics	5
Health	5
Computer Education and Technology	5
Electives	6
Total	24

Required Cumulative GPA - 3.25 or higher

Students must complete the 24 credit requirements above and demonstrate the following:

1. Proficiency in speaking not less than 2 languages (Seal of Bilingualism) or have earned not less than 2 credits in any combination of the following:

- Advanced Placement courses; or
- International Baccalaureate courses; or
- Dual credit courses or courses completed through dual enrollment; or
- Career and technical education courses; or
- Work-based learning (Internships); or
- A world language course

2. Earn one or both Endorsements.

• **College Ready Endorsement:**

English: 18 ACT English or SAT Reading 480; and

Math: 22 ACT Math or SAT Math 530.

• **Career Ready Endorsement:**

Score of 50+ or higher on the ASVAB; or

Score of **Silver** or higher on the **NCRC**; or

Be a completer of a **CTE** program of study **and** earn the Nevada Skills Certificate; or

Obtain an industry recognized credential on **OWINN** list (Nevada Industry-Recognized Credential).

To graduate from a Nevada high school with a Standard, Advanced, College & Career, Honors, or Honors College & Career diploma a student must participate in the Nevada State high school assessments prescribed by law in addition to the requirements listed above.

The College & Career Ready Diploma: A Valuable Option

The College & Career Ready Diploma is an excellent choice for students who wish to highlight their skills while taking courses that effectively prepare them for both college and the workforce.

An endorsement from the Nevada Department of Education indicating either College Readiness, Career Readiness, or both can significantly distinguish you from other college applicants and prospective employees in various fields.

Similar to the Advanced Diploma, students must complete a total of 24 credits, which includes:

- 4 credits in Math
- 3 credits in Science
- A minimum GPA of 3.25

In addition to these criteria, students pursuing endorsements must meet the following requirements:

College Ready Endorsement:

- English: Achieve an ACT English section score of 18 or an SAT Reading section score of 480

AND

- Math: Achieve an ACT Math section score of 22 or an SAT Math section score of 530

For the Career Ready Endorsement students must:

- Attain an ASVAB score of 50 or higher
- OR achieve a NCRC score of Silver or above
- OR complete a CTE program and earn the Nevada Skills certificate
- OR obtain an industry-recognized credential

Standard



Required Courses	Units
English	4
Math (must include Alg 1, Geometry & Alg 2 or higher)	3
Science	2
PE	2
Flex Credit	1
Arts/Humanities/CTE	1
World History/World Geography	1
U.S. History	1
American Government	.5
Economics	.5
Health	.5
Computer Education and Technology	.5
Electives	6
Total	23

Flex Credit:

1. Level II or III CTE course in one program of study, or
2. Fourth year of math (Alg 2 or higher), or
3. Third year of science, or
4. Fourth year of social studies.

To graduate from a Nevada high school with a Standard, Advanced, College & Career, Honors, or Honors College & Career diploma a student must participate in the Nevada State high school assessments prescribed by law in addition to the requirements listed above.

The Standard diploma serves as the pathway for students meeting the minimum graduation requirements. A total of 23 credits is necessary to obtain this diploma.

What sets the Standard diploma apart is the Flex credit, which allows students to select an area of study that aligns with their interests or future goals. The Flex credit can be fulfilled by choosing one of the following courses:

- A 4th year of Math
- A 4th year of Social Studies
- A 3rd year of Science
- A Level II or III Career & Technical Education course in a designated program of study

It is really important to remember that, regardless of the diploma type, all students must complete the Nevada State High School Assessments, including the ACT and the Civics exam, alongside their course requirements to graduate from a Nevada high school.



Transcripts & Grad Plans

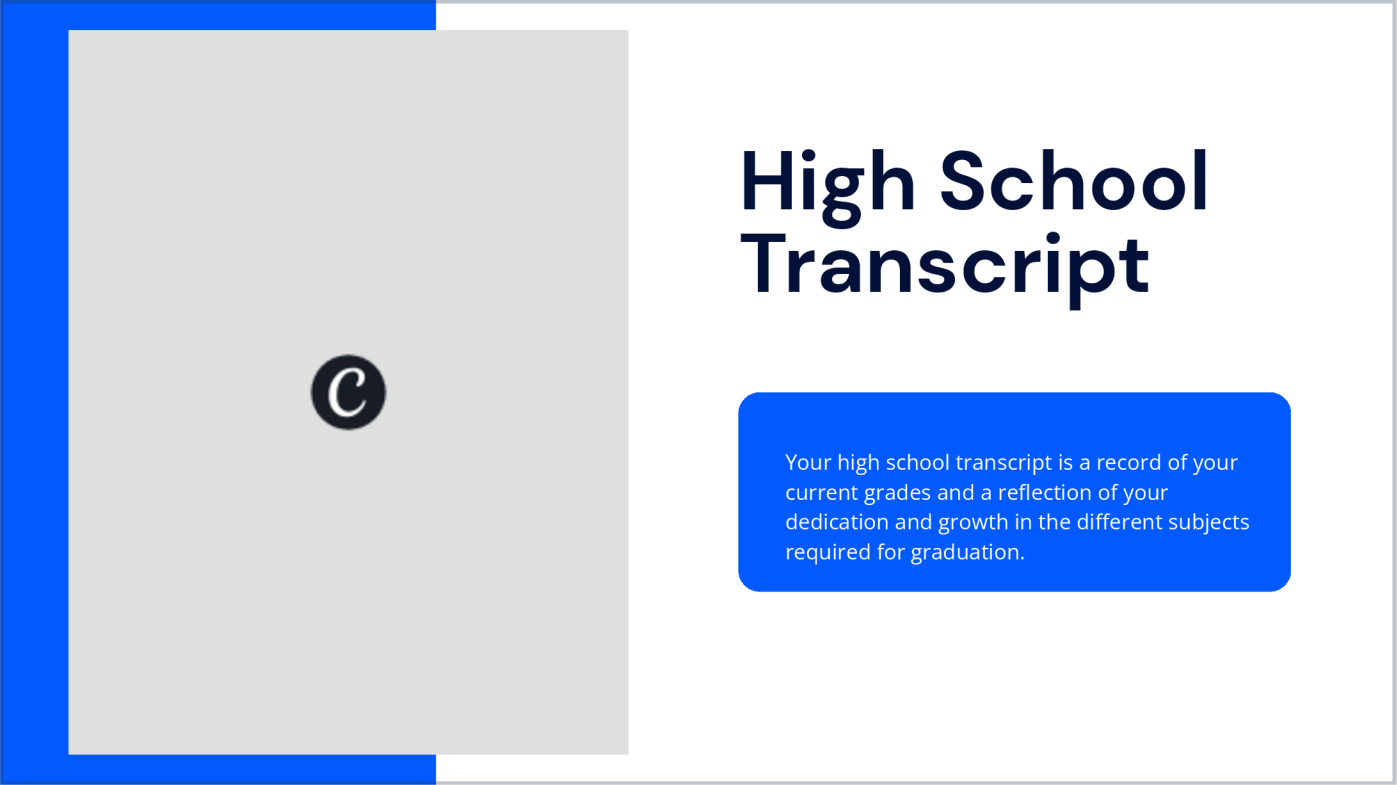
These important documents help keep track of all of the classes you take and the grades you receive towards graduation!

Transcripts and graduation plans are foundational components of your academic journey. They serve as a roadmap, helping you to track all the courses you take and the grades you earn along the path to graduation.

First, let's consider the transcript. It's more than just a record of your grades—it's a reflection of your commitment and progress. Keeping an eye on your transcript helps you ensure you're meeting all the necessary requirements for graduation.

Graduation plans, on the other hand, are like a personalized guide. They help you stay focused and ensure that you're taking the right classes to meet your future goals. Remember, these documents are key to navigating your high school career successfully.

By actively managing your transcripts and graduation plans, you're setting yourself up for a smoother, more informed path towards graduation and beyond.



High School Transcript

Your high school transcript is a record of your current grades and a reflection of your dedication and growth in the different subjects required for graduation.

Let's delve into the details of your transcript. It's not just a compilation of your grades; it symbolizes your commitment and progress. Keeping an eye on your transcript is crucial to ensure you meet all the graduation requirements.

Unlike middle school, all high school grades are documented at the end of each semester. Referring to the uploaded transcript from a student's junior year, you can see:

- The school year and grade level for each semester's grades
- The name of the class
- The grade received by the student
- The credit value for each course
- Any bonus points awarded for honors, AP, or dual credit options

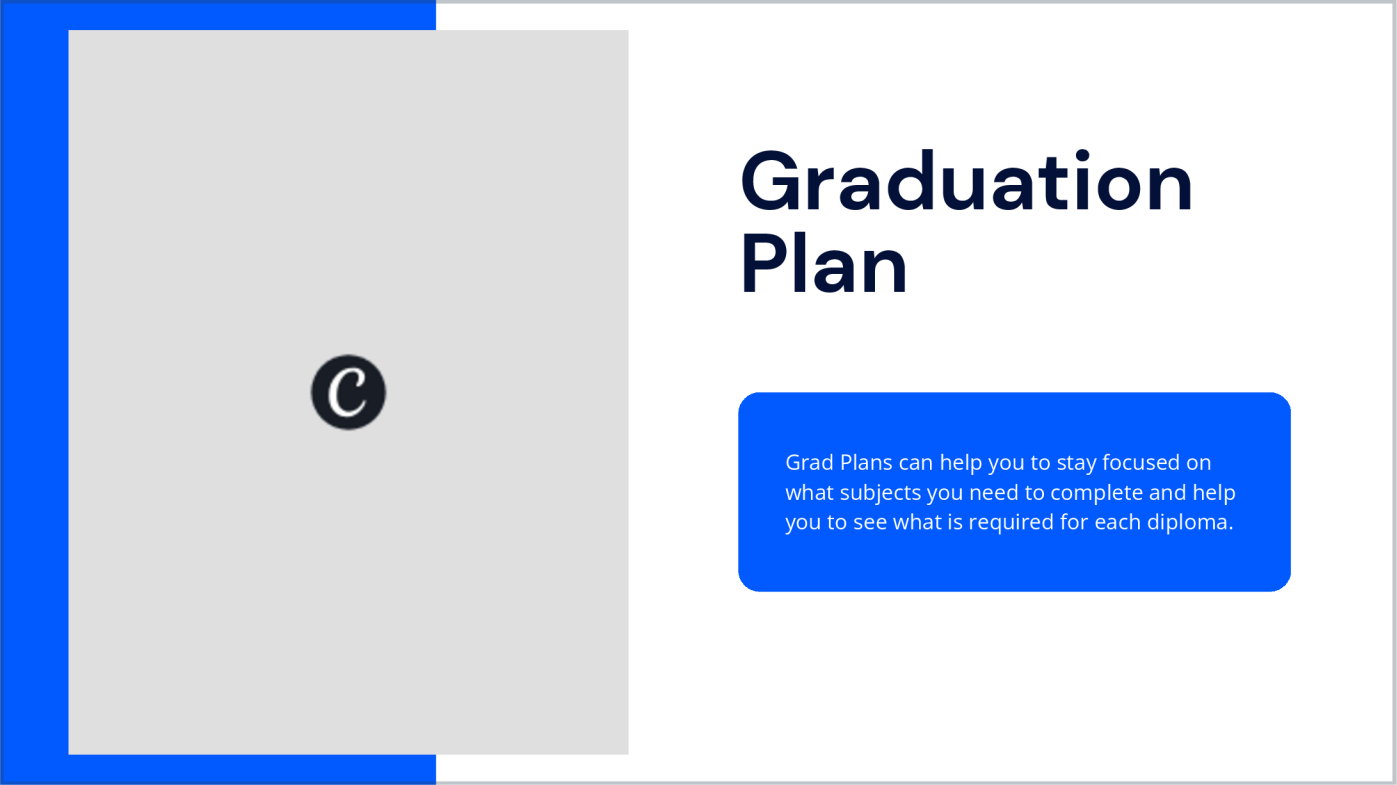
In the 10th grade, the student received an "RP" as a grade. This stands for "repeated," indicating that the student initially did not pass the class but improved the grade by retaking it in their junior year. Replacing a failed grade removes the "F" from the transcript and boosts the overall GPA.

On the right side of the transcript, you'll find a section displaying the GPA and weighted GPA, which includes any honors, AP, or dual credit classes, providing an additional advantage.

The Credit Summary section outlines the required subjects and the number of credits needed. It indicates whether classes were attempted, passed, and what credits are left to be completed.

Below this section, you will find information regarding the High School Graduation Assessments and whether the student has completed the exam.

And, finally, the Work in Progress section lists the classes the student is currently enrolled in for the semester.



Graduation Plan

Grad Plans can help you to stay focused on what subjects you need to complete and help you to see what is required for each diploma.

Your graduation plan is your personalized roadmap.

Graduation plans act as a customized guide, helping you stay focused and ensuring you enroll in the right courses to meet your future goals. Remember, these documents are crucial for successfully navigating your high school experience.

As illustrated in this example, the graduation plan features a box for each semester, organized by required subject areas. Depending on the type of diploma you aim for, the number of boxes will vary to align with the specific requirements. For instance, the Honors diploma includes extra boxes for World Language, which are not present in the Advanced diploma graduation plan.

Monitoring your completed classes, GPA, Nevada High School Assessments, as well as seals and endorsements, is vital. This information will guide you through each year of high school and help you strategize to fulfill all necessary tasks for graduation.

Personal Responsibility

Be There!

Come to school everyday, on time, ready to learn.

Explore Your Interests!

- Sports
- Arts/ Clubs
- Career & Tech Ed

Be Independent!

You'll have more freedom, but also more consequences.

Social Life!

- Friend groups may change
- Peer Pressure
- Posts stick around, impact future.
- Reputation builds quickly

Common Mistakes:

- Waiting to ask for help
- Class choices based on friends' classes
- Ignoring small assignments
- Overloading schedule

What Helps Most:

- Stay consistent (not perfect)
- Try new activities
- Small, supportive friend group
- Talk to teachers/counselor early

Personal responsibility is a vital component of your educational experience. Let's explore what it involves and how accepting it can lead to your success.

First, "Be There!" This means attending school every day, arriving on time, and coming prepared to learn. Consistency in these habits lays a solid foundation for both your academic and personal development.

Next, let's explore your interests. Engaging in sports, arts, clubs, or career and technical education allows you to take charge of your personal growth. These activities not only develop your skills but also enrich your overall school experience.

Now, let's discuss independence. With increased freedom comes greater responsibility. You'll face situations such as changing friend groups, peer pressure, and the lasting consequences of your online presence. Keep in mind that your reputation can be built quickly, so choose your actions, both online and offline, wisely.

Be cautious and avoid common pitfalls like waiting to ask for help, selecting classes based on what your friends may be taking, overlooking minor assignments, or overloading your schedule. Instead, prioritize what is most beneficial: stay consistent, explore new activities, cultivate a close-knit, supportive friend group, and communicate early with teachers or counselors.

Taking personal responsibility empowers you to navigate school life effectively and prepares you for future challenges with confidence.



Thank You

Make an appointment to see your counselor for additional support!

Thank You for Your Attention

We truly appreciate the time you spent with us discussing these significant topics related to the transition to high school.

Given the large amount of information we've shared in such a brief period, we encourage you to engage in conversations at home about high school expectations, and additionally, please feel free to visit us in the counseling office if you have any questions or need further support.

As you prepare to embark on your journey at Reno High School, we wish you all the best and eagerly anticipate hearing about the amazing accomplishments you will achieve in the years ahead!

We are proud of you and we know you'll be great!