

# 2026 Parent Curriculum Night

9TH -11TH CURRICULUM INFORMATION  
SESSION 1: 6:05-6:45  
SESSION 2: 6:50-7:30



# 9th-11th Curriculum



## TONIGHT'S AGENDA

- 4-year Plan
- GPAs
- Promotion Requirements
- HOPE Scholarship
- Canvas
- PSAT/SAT
- Dual Enrollment
- Course Request
- CCSD Late Policy
- CTAE Pathways
- Fine Arts Diploma Seal

## ADMINISTRATOR & COUNSELOR DIRECTORY

| Student Last Name | Administrator    | School Counselor |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| A-E               | Pamela Costa     | Cathleen Gay     |
| F-Le              | Brandon Boehman  | Briawanna Brown  |
| Li-Rey            | Justin West      | Kati Kong        |
| Rez-Z             | Stephanie Barber | Seana Ficklin    |

# 4-Year Plan



| Areas of Study:                                                                              | Credits   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| English/Language Arts                                                                        | 4         |
| Math                                                                                         | 4         |
| Science                                                                                      | 4         |
| Social Studies                                                                               | 3         |
| Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE), and/or World Language, and/or Fine Arts | 3         |
| Health & Physical Education or three years of JROTC                                          | 1         |
| Electives                                                                                    | 4         |
| <b>TOTAL UNITS</b>                                                                           | <b>23</b> |

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

# GPA: Grade Point Average



## What is a GPA?

- A number representing a student's academic achievement, calculated by averaging the numerical value of their grades in all courses taken

## Weighted GPA vs. Unweighted GPA

- CCSD honors courses receive an additional .5 bonus to the GPA and five (5) point bonus to the NGA
- CCSD AP courses receive an additional 1.0 bonus to the GPA and a ten (10) point bonus to the NGA

## Where can I find my GPA?

- HOPE GPA found on your student's GA Futures account.



# Promotion Requirements



- 5+ credits = 10th Grade promotion
- 11+ credits = 11th Grade promotion
- 17+ credits = 12th Grade promotion
- 23+ credits = GRADUATION

## Grade Level Progression

| To be in...            | Minimum core credit requirement | Minimum # total credits |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 10 <sup>th</sup> grade | 1 ELA, 1 Math, 1 Sci            | 5                       |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> grade | 2 ELA, 2 Math, 1 Sci            | 11                      |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> grade | 3 ELA, 3 Math, 2 Sci, 1 SS      | 17                      |

## 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)

# HOPE Scholarship



\*High schools must provide transcript data to GSFC in order for a student's HOPE GPA to be available through their GAfutures account.

GSFC | Georgia Student Finance Commission

Welcome Student  
Sample High School

Sign Out Help

GAfutures  
Explore. Plan. Succeed.

HOPE & State Aid Programs Federal Aid & Scholarships College Planning Career Exploration Resources About Us My GAfutures

GAfutures.org / My GAfutures /

Messages

21 hours ago - My High School HOPE GPA & My College HOPE Profile Now Available

Keep track of your academic eligibility for the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarship and Grant through high school and college.

Profile Messages My High School HOPE GPA My High School Transcript My College HOPE Profile

High School Students

College students receiving HOPE/Zell Miller Funds

GSFC Welcome to My GAfutures - Students

**Q: Can high school students check their high school HOPE GPA?**

- **A:** Yes, students enrolled at an eligible high school, located in Georgia, may check their high school HOPE GPA, by selecting the *My High School HOPE GPA* tab through their GAfutures account. **Social Security numbers are required to be in Synergy for a student to be HOPE eligible.**

**Q: When will my final HOPE GPA post?**

- **A:** Eligible public and private high schools, located in Georgia, must transmit enrolled student's final transcript data to GSFC no later than June 30th each year.

**Q: Does GSFC need my ACT/SAT test scores?**

- **A:** Yes, if you have a 3.7 or higher HOPE GPA, you may meet the academic eligibility requirements for the Zell Miller Scholarship. GSFC must have your official ACT or SAT score report before a final determination can be made. It is the student's responsibility to submit scores to GSFC.

❖ Your RRHS Cumulative GPA is different than your HOPE GPA.

# HOPE RIGOR



## Examples of Courses RRHS offers that meet HOPE Rigor Requirements

| AP COURSES       | MATH COURSES                                                                        | SCIENCE COURSES                                         | WORLD LANGUAGE COURSES                                 | DUAL ENROLLMENT  |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| In core subjects | Advanced Algebra<br>Pre-Calculus<br>Adv. Financial Algebra<br>Statistical Reasoning | Anatomy<br>Chemistry<br>Physics<br>Zoology<br>Astronomy | French 2, 3, & 4<br>Spanish 2, 3, & 4<br>ASL 2, 3, & 4 | In core subjects |

YOU MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF 4 HOPE RIGOR COURSES PRIOR TO GRADUATION TO MEET REQUIREMENTS

# HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarship



## HOPE Scholarship:

- 3.0 academic GPA

## Zell Miller Scholarship:

- 3.7 academic GPA—covers 100% of tuition
- ACT composite score of 25 or SAT total test score of 1200
- single administration
- ACT composite can change each year

Your Georgia high school HOPE GPA starts calculating as soon as you begin 9th grade.

HOPE GPA is calculated using academic core courses only. Math, science, literature, social studies, and foreign language.

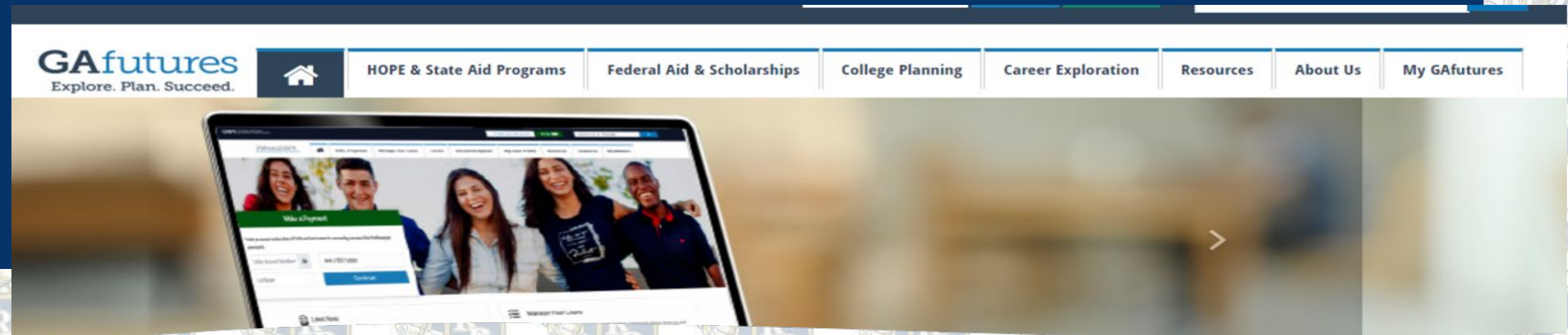
GPA's are NOT rounded up for HOPE eligibility!

# WWW.GAFUTURES.ORG



Georgia Futures serves as a central hub for Georgia students to explore their post-secondary options, navigate the application process, and access financial aid resources, empowering them to make informed decisions about their educational and professional futures:

- Scholarship Search Engine
- College Searches
- Complete College Applications
- Financial Aid Information
- Career Search
- Senior Timeline
- And more!!!



# River Ridge Counselor Canvas Page



## Weekly Announcements

- Scholarships
- Leadership/Mentor/Internship Opportunities
- ACT/SAT Information
- College Visits
- Parent Events

Georgia Tech College Visit-September 2nd

Columbia University College Visit-September 8th

# ACT/SAT



- Can be taken multiple times
- Usually required to apply to colleges and universities
- not required for technical colleges
- Many colleges calculate a “super score” from multiple test dates. You cannot “super score” for Zell.
- SAT vs. ACT: both are recognized at MOST colleges and universities
  - SAT is Verbal, Math and optional Writing
  - ACT is Verbal, Math, Writing, and Science
- For copies of your SAT and ACT scores, you may request copies through [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) or [www.ACT.org](http://www.ACT.org).

**RRHS DOES NOT RECEIVE SCORE REPORTS**

# School Day PSAT and SAT at RRHS



| 9 <sup>th</sup><br>PSAT<br>Date: 10-28-26                                                                                                                                                         | 10 <sup>th</sup><br>PSAT/NMSQT<br>DATE: 10-28-26                                         | 11 <sup>th</sup><br>PSAT/NMSQT<br>Date:10-28-26                                                                     | 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup><br>SAT<br>Date:10-28-26          | <b>Deadline to register:<br/>September 18, 2026</b><br><br>Wednesday, October 28, 2026, will be a remote learning day for any students not testing (students do not report to campus). |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| \$14 test fee<br><br>See RRHS website for the link to register.                                                                                                                                   | No cost<br>Funded by the state of GA<br><br>All 10th grade are automatically registered. | \$18 test fee<br><br>See RRHS website for the link to register.                                                     | \$60 test fee<br><br>See RRHS website for the link to register.        |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <i>Scores on PSAT/NMSQT are used by teachers for admittance into RRHS AP courses by identifying AP Potential and potential identification for college scholarships for 10<sup>th</sup> grade.</i> |                                                                                          | 11 <sup>th</sup> grade students who wish to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship can register to participate. | *For any 11th grade student <b>not</b> participating in the PSAT/NMSQT |                                                                                                                                                                                        |

# ACT/SAT at RRHS

# SAT



## ACT

[HTTP://MY.ACT.ORG](http://my.act.org)

**TEST DATES**

**October 17**



**REGISTER BY**

**September 11**

**December 12**



**November 6**

**February 27**



**January 22**

## COLLEGEBOARD. ORG/

**TEST DATES**

**September 12**



**REGISTER BY**

**August 28**

**December 5**



**November 20**

**May 1**



**April 16**

# Dual Enrollment



## What is Dual Enrollment?

- High school students take college courses
- Earn both college & high school course credit
- State pays for up to 30 credit hours
- Courses offered in person and online

Visit [GAfutures.org](https://GAfutures.org) and the RRHS website for details.

**\*PARENT NIGHT\***-TBD

CCSD Deadline: March 26, 2027 students must have applied for college and completed proper paperwork with their counselor.

Visit  
[GA Futures  
Website](#)

Visit  
[River Ridge  
Website](#)

RRHS  
[Dual Enrollment  
Checklist](#)

# College and Technical School Fairs



## River Ridge High School College Fair

- October 1st -River Ridge's Media Center
- During all lunch periods

Agnes Scott   Air Force   Army National Guard   Chattahoochee Technical   Dalton State   Georgia Gwinnett  
Georgia College & State University   Georgia Highlands   Georgia Southern   Georgia Southwestern State  
Georgia State   Kennesaw State   LaGrange College   Marienes   Mercer   Oglethorpe   Piedmont   Reinhardt  
Shorter   Universal Technical Institute   University of North Georgia   Valdosta State

# Career Discovery Opportunities



## River Ridge Career Fair- November 4

- During all lunch periods

## ASVAB Test- October 22 at RRHS

- Military test that determine skills and aptitude
- Sign up today with your counselor-must be 10th-12th grade to sign up

## YouScience- Canvas access

- Career discovery test and related college search
- 9th grade students complete during health/PE

# Course Request



- Teachers will make recommendations in January
- Students will meet with school counselors in March/April
- Parents will sign off on course placements in May, finalizing course selections.

# CTAE Pathways

Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE)



## River Ridge High School Pathways

Audio/Video Technology & Film

Computer Science

Diagnostics/Clinical Lab

Engineering & Technology

JROTC – Air Force

Law Enforcement Services/Forensic Science

Nutrition & Food Science

Sports Marketing & Entertainment

Teaching as a Profession

Web Development



Work Base Learning

[Click Here to  
Explore CTAE  
Pathway](#)

# Fine Arts Diploma Seal



- Completed **3 Fine Arts courses in one subject + 1 additional Fine Arts course from the same/different subject OR approved CTAE course**
  - Example: 3 band courses + 1 art course, or 3 chorus courses + 1 approved CTAE course, etc.
- Participated in **2 or more arts-related extracurricular activities** throughout high school
  - Examples: musical, concert, art exhibition, etc.
- Completed **20 hours of arts-related community service** throughout high school
- Completed a **capstone project/presentation**
  - Examples: Senior showcase, online portfolio of work, presentation of experiences, solo exhibition, etc.

# Fine Arts Diploma Seal Pt. 2



***Seniors are responsible for applying for the seal by submitting supporting documentation to their Fine Arts teacher.***



**Credits-** submit unofficial transcript and highlight seal courses

**2+ art extracurriculars-** program from show, photos, etc. to prove participation

**20 hours arts-related service-** service log with signatures and contact information

**Capstone project/presentation-** talk with Fine Arts teacher for approval on project and arrangements for completion

# Canvas



- Weekly Planners help students stay on track with week ahead.
- Grades updated weekly
- Reach out to your child's teacher with questions.

# Attendance Reminder



- 3 unexcused absences: counselor will send an email
- 5 unexcused absences: notification from the school district, counselor contact, and social work referral
- 7 unexcused absences: social worker updated
- 10 total absences (excused or unexcused: notification from the school district, mandatory attendance meeting, social worker updated)
- Can affect parking and credit recovery options

# CCSD Late Work Policy

## Missing/Late Work

In alignment with Policy JBD, when a student is absent for excused reasons, they should have the same number of days for which they missed to complete any make up assignments for full credit.

**A grade may be deducted for being late after the allowed time window, for a maximum deduction of 25% of the grade awarded.**

10% - 20% - 25%

**If a student is present but fails to complete and turn in an assignment on time, points may be deducted but may not exceed 25% of the grade awarded.**

All assignments must be submitted before the completion of a unit of study, marked by a final summative assessment/grade for a unit

# Questions?



Please reach out to your child's administrator or school counselor.

| Student Last Name | Administrator                                       | School Counselor                                  |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| A - E             | Pam Costa<br>pamela.costa@cherokee12.net            | Cathleen Gay<br>cathleen.gay@cherokee12.net       |
| F - Le            | Brandon Boehman<br>Brandon.Boehman@cherokee12.net   | Briawanna Brown<br>briawanna.brown@cherokee12.net |
| Li-Rey            | Justin West<br>justin.west@cherokee12.net           | Kati Kong<br>kati.kong@cherokee12.net             |
| Rez-Z             | Stephanie Barber<br>stephanie.barber@cherokee12.net | Seana Ficklin<br>seana.ficklin@cherokee12.net     |