

Northview Counseling 9/10th grade Parent Night FAQ Fall 2026

1. Do your counselors help the student build a 4-year plan towards the career path and college of their choice?

Yes. School counselors work with students on long-term academic planning, including graduation requirements, course selection, postsecondary goals, and exploration of college and career interests. While a student's plans may change over time, counselors help students select courses that keep a wide range of college and career options available throughout high school. Students also have access to SchoolLinks, a college and career planning platform that helps them explore interests, career pathways, postsecondary options, and long-term goals.

2. Do your counselors have access to resources they can provide students who are undecided on majors and career paths?

Yes. Counselors can connect students with career exploration resources, such as the SchoolLinks app on classlink, that will allow students and parents access to interest inventories, career assessments, college planning tools, and career exploration tools that help students discover their interests and strengths. It is very common for 9th and 10th grade students to be undecided, and these years are intended to provide opportunities for exploration and self-discovery.

3. How can I help my student if they feel stressed because they don't know what they want to do after high school or what activities they should be involved in right now?

This is very common for 9th and 10th grade students. At this stage, students do not need to have a specific career or college major in mind. Instead, we encourage them to focus on exploring their interests, building strong study habits, staying on track academically, and getting involved in activities they enjoy. As students gain new experiences, their interests and goals often become clearer over time. Counselors can also help connect students with resources and opportunities to support this exploration.

4. Can you explain the graduation requirements?

Students in Georgia must earn a minimum of 23 credits to graduate. These credits include:

- 4 English credits
- 4 Math credits
- 4 Science credits
- 3 Social Studies credits
- 1 Health/Personal Fitness credit
- 3 CTAE, Fine Arts, or World Language credits
- 4 Elective credits

Students and families can monitor graduation progress using the Graduation Status Report (Track Sheet) available through the Counseling Department. Counselors review graduation requirements with students throughout high school to ensure they remain on track.

5. My student is interested in clubs, honor societies, and other extracurricular activities but already has a very busy schedule. Is it okay to wait to get involved?

Yes. We encourage students to pursue meaningful involvement, but they do not need to participate in every club, honor society, or activity at once. High school is about finding a healthy balance between academics, extracurriculars, family commitments, work, athletics, and personal well-being. Many organizations accept new members in later years, provided students meet the eligibility requirements at that time. Students who are unable to participate during freshman or sophomore year often find opportunities to get involved as their schedules and interests evolve. We recommend focusing on the activities that are most meaningful and manageable rather than trying to do everything. Students can explore available clubs, honor societies, athletics, and other opportunities throughout their time at Northview and should contact the faculty sponsor of any organization for specific membership requirements and timelines.

6. Does school publish ranking based on GPA? Is it based on 4.0 or 100-point scale? Does school send rankings along with transcripts to college?

Northview High School does not publish class rank. Transcripts include cumulative GPA information rather than a numerical class ranking. GPA is calculated using numerical course averages and the Fulton County grading scale. Colleges receive the student's transcript and school profile, which provide context regarding course rigor and GPA calculation.

7. If I have a rising 8th grader that's not in a public school but will be going to Northview in the fall how can I ensure he's receiving the same considerations as students coming in from their zoned schools?

Families should complete enrollment as early as possible and communicate directly with the counseling office after registration. Counselors will review the student's records, discuss course options, and ensure the student receives advising regarding graduation requirements and course placement. New students are provided access to the same academic planning information and resources available to all Northview students.

8. What is the difference between infinite campus and Canvas??

Infinite Campus

- Official student information system.
- Used for grades, attendance, schedules, report cards, transcripts, and graduation tracking.

Canvas

- Learning management system.
- Used by teachers to post assignments, instructional materials, announcements, and course content.
- Allows students and parents to monitor classroom-specific work and progress.

We recommend that families regularly monitor both systems.

9. When is unweighted GPA used? When is weighted GPA used?

Students can see both their weighted and unweighted GPA on their unofficial transcript, but only the weighted GPA appears on the official transcript. The unweighted GPA reflects grades only and is sometimes requested for scholarship applications or used by colleges that recalculate GPA using their own admissions formula. The weighted GPA reflects both grades and course rigor by including additional points for advanced courses such as AP classes. Colleges use this information to better understand the level of challenge a student has taken on throughout high school. Because colleges review both academic performance and course rigor, students should understand both GPAs, but focus most on earning strong grades in appropriately challenging courses.

10. How are student athletes supported? What resources and scholarships are available for student athletes?

Student-athletes receive support through counselors, coaches, teachers, and the athletic department. Students interested in collegiate athletics should begin conversations early with their counselor and coach(es)/Athletic Director regarding NCAA requirements, eligibility, transcripts, and recruiting timelines. Northview's athletics website provides additional information about athletic programs and opportunities.

11. Will AP tests impact student GPA?

No. A student's score on an AP exam does **not** affect their high school GPA.

The GPA is determined by the student's course grade earned during the school year. However, AP exam scores may:

- Potentially earn college credit, depending on the college's policy.
- Demonstrate mastery of college-level content.
- Strengthen a student's college application in some circumstances.

The AP course itself carries weighted GPA benefits, but the AP exam score does not change the high school GPA.