#### Important Resources

- **❖** Make sure your information is updated in School Messenger with your current school registrar
- \*Follow us on our <u>Twitter</u>:

  Cypress Ranch High School @CyRanchHS

  Cypress Ranch Counselors @cyranchcounsel
- **❖**Like our <u>Facebook</u> page: Cypress Ranch Counselors

If you do not currently get our messages, you should correct your info with our registrar ©



# COLLEGE 101: Junior Year Planning Guide



CYPRESS RANCH HS
COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

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#### 2023-2024

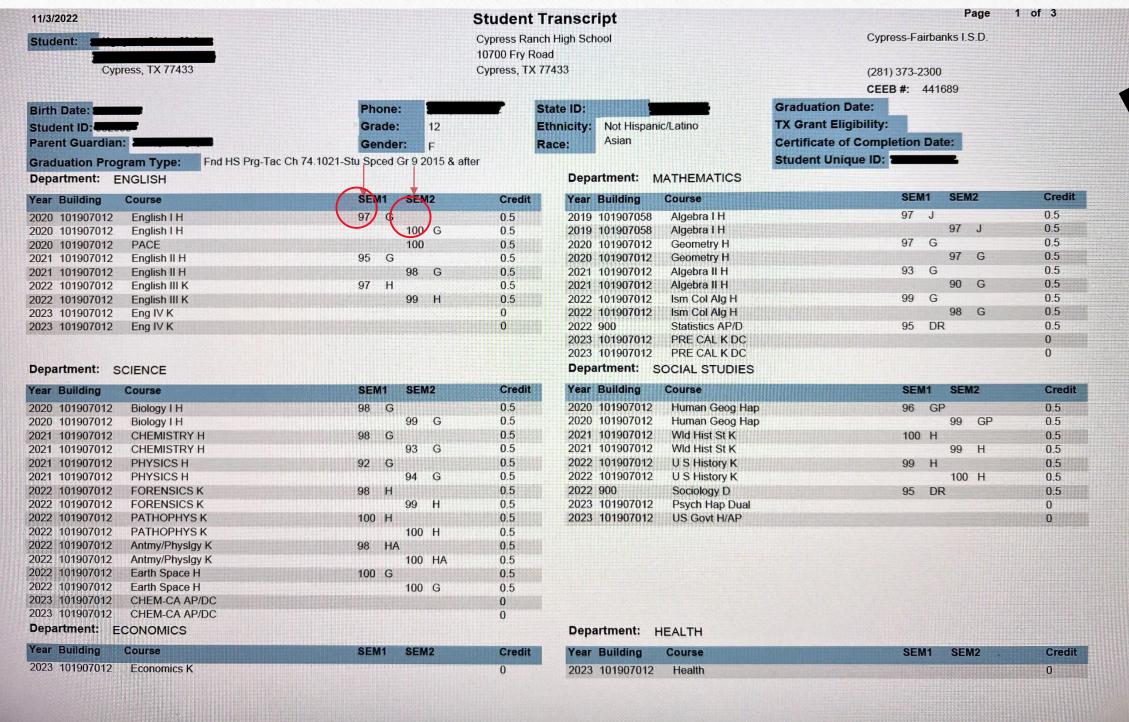
Counseling Department



#### Grade Classification Standards

Grade	Criteria for Promotion
9 <sup>th</sup>	Promotion from Middle School
10 <sup>th</sup>	1 year of attendance and 5 credits, including English I and Algebra I
11 <sup>th</sup>	2 years of attendance and 11 credits
12 <sup>th</sup>	3 years of attendance and 17 credits

#### College do not see your report card. Colleges see your transcript



#### How is a Semester Average Calculated?

- 1st Nine Weeks Grade added three times
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks Grade added three times
- Semester Exam counts as 1/7 of the semester grade
- \* Unless you are exempt from semester exams

#### 2023-24 Final Exam Exemption Policy

# 11<sup>th</sup> grade – 3 each semester 12<sup>th</sup> grade – 4 exams fall semester and 7 exams spring semester IF

	GRADE	Absences Allowed	Tardies Allowed
А	90 - 100	5	3
В	80 - 89	5	3
С	75 - 79	5	3
C-	70 - 74	No Exemption	No Exemption
F	69 and below	No Exemption	No Exemption

Minimum grade of 75 for the semester
No outstanding Fines/Fees
No suspensions

#### GRADE POINT TABLE FOR DETERMINING GPA

GRADE earned	Honors and On Level Point System	
	K, AP, DC & HORIZONS LEVELS	L-LEVEL (ON LEVEL)
A	7 grade points	6 grade points
В	6 grade points	5 grade points
C	5 grade points	4 grade points
C-	4 grade points	3 grade points
F	0 grade points	0 grade points

CFISD uses a WEIGHTED 6.0 GPA scale
Rank is EXACT

# When does CFISD calculate your GPA/rank?

#### For Juniors:

- GPA is calculated at the end of Junior year.
  - This is the GPA that you will use when applying to college!

#### For Seniors:

- GPA is calculated:
  - At the end of the Fall Semester (January)
  - At the end of the 3rd Marking Period (March)\*\*\*
  - At the end of Senior Year to send final transcript to colleges

\*\*\*\*Only used for graduation seat order\*\*\*

## Options for Earning HS Credit Original/Make Up

- Summer School
- District Credit By Exam (CBE)
- Correspondence Courses (Texas Tech)
- Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN)

Students must have counselor permission before registering for these types of courses.

#### Foundation with Endorsements

English – English I, English II, English III + 4 <sup>th</sup> English credit	4 Credits
Math – Algebra I, Geometry + 2 Advanced Math (Alg 2 required for some)	4 Credits
Science – Biology + IPC/Chem/Physics + 2 Advanced Sciences	4 Credits
Social Studies – W.Geog or W.Hist + US History + Govt & Econ	3 Credits
Health	½ Credit
PACE – 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Year	½ Credit
PE	1 Credit
Language Other Than English – LOTE 1 + LOTE 2	2 Credits
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Electives	6 Credits
TOTAL STATE CREDITS	26

<sup>\*</sup>A student who struggled in completing the first credit of LOTE and is unlikely to complete the second credit may, with approval from a committee, substitute another course from a state-mandated list.

MAY NOT be appropriate choice for university bound students.

### House Bill 5 Endorsements

- **✓**STEM
- ✓ MULTIDISIPLINARY STUDIES
- **✓**PUBLIC SERVICE
- ✓ BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
- ✓ ARTS AND HUMANITIES

#### Distinguished Level of Achievement Under Foundation with Endorsements

- To be eligible for the top 10% automatic admission and/or the Texas Grant a student must earn Distinguished Level of Achievement.
- The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires:
  - 4 credits in math including Algebra II
  - 4 credits in science
  - All Foundation High School Program requirements
  - At least one endorsement

#### Performance Acknowledgements

A student may earn a performance acknowledgment for outstanding performance in the areas of:

- Dual credit
- ➤ Bilingual / Bi-literacy
- College Board Advanced Placement (AP) exams
- >PSAT, ACT ASPIRE, SAT, or ACT performance
- Nationally or Internationally Recognized Business or Industry Certification or License.

Details are available in the HS Course Description booklet found at www.cfisd.net > Academics > Curriculum/Course Descriptions

#### Foundation High School Program

English – English I, English II, English III + 4 <sup>th</sup> English credit	4 Credits
Math – Algebra I, Geometry, + additional math credit	3 Credits
Science – Biology + IPC/Chem/Physics + additional science credit	3 Credits
Social Studies – W.Geog or W.Hist + US History, + Govt & Econ	3 Credits
Health	½ Credit
PACE – 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Year	½ Credit
PE	1 Credit
Language Other Than English – LOTE 1 + LOTE 2	2 Credits
Fine Arts (one full course)	1 Credit
Electives	4 Credits
TOTAL STATE CREDITS	22

#### Additional graduation requirements

Students are required to pass the following EOC Tests:

English I - April 9th

English II - April 11th

Biology- April 23rd

US History – April 24th

Algebra I – April 25<sup>th</sup>

## Junior Conferences

- Counselors will meet with juniors individually during spring semester to evaluate credits left for graduation.
- Students discuss which classes they are interested in taking their senior year.
- Forms will be sent or emailed home after the conference for a parent signature.
- Any requested changes MUST be made in writing with parent signature.

No course changes will be made after April 30, 2024!

# SAT Test March 6, 2024

All juniors will take the SAT Test during the school day.

No registration is required!

#### Opportunities to earn College Credit in HS Dual Credit and Advanced Placement (AP)

Dual Credit  Must meet qualifications	Advanced Placement –AP  Must meet qualifications
Enrolled in LSC & CRHS campus course. Taught by CRHS teacher who is LSC qualified	Enroll in campus AP course only
Pay tuition (\$120)	Pay for AP exam (\$102)
Grade in course = credit	Score on ONE test (3,4,5) = credit
Credit transfers to public TX Colleges/Universities and many Colleges/Universities within U.S.	College/University determines whether test score is acceptable and type/amount of credit.
You will build both a HS transcript & LSC transcript & submit with your college apps.	You will request an official score report from College Board after you enroll in your college.

#### Dual Credit PARENT Meeting

Students interested in registering for ANY DC courses for summer 2024 or the 2024-2025 school year will have a

# \*\*MANDATORY\*\* DUAL CREDIT STUDENT AND PARENT MEETING FEBRUARY 12TH AT 6PM

## AP Exams

- Registration for Fall-Only and Full-Year classes has ended (November 1st).
- Registration for Spring-Only classes will begin January 2024
- Administered May 1-12, 2024 at Cypress Ranch High School
- Reduced charge for free/reduced lunch
- Scholarship applications are available in the counseling office for free/reduced students taking more than one AP exam

#### **AP Credit Policy Search**

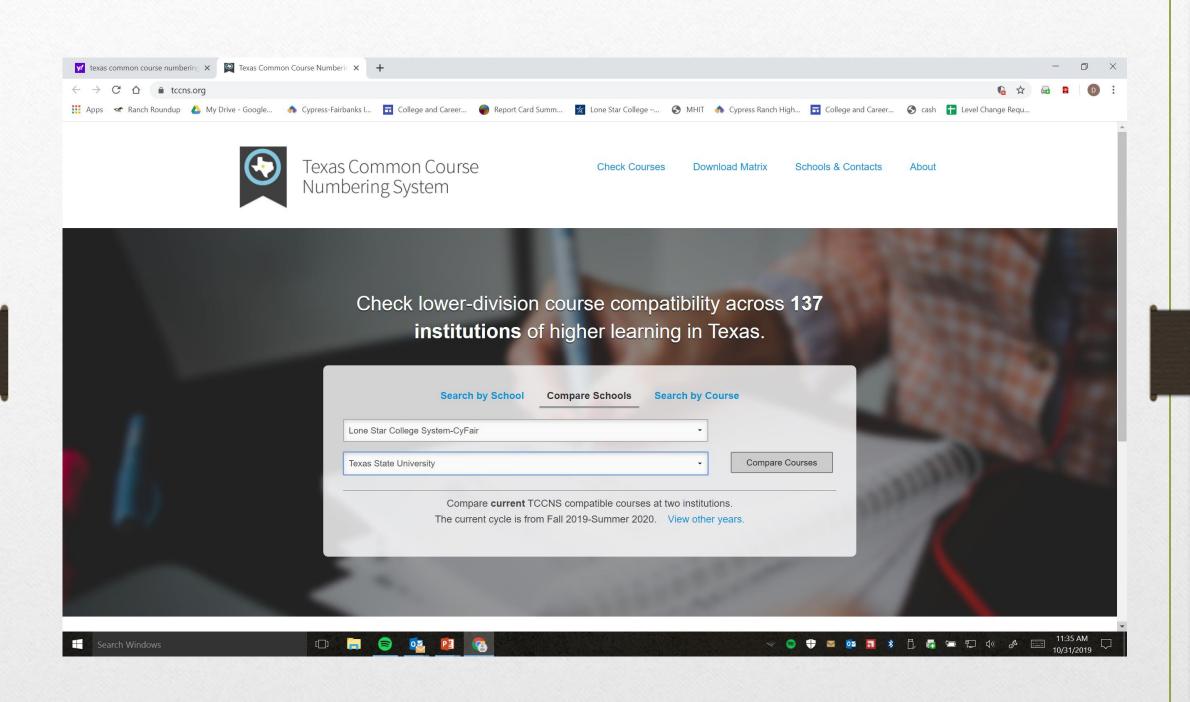
Find colleges and universities that offer credit or placement for AP scores. Begin your search by entering the name of the institution below. For the most up-to-date AP credit policy information, be sure to check the institution's website.

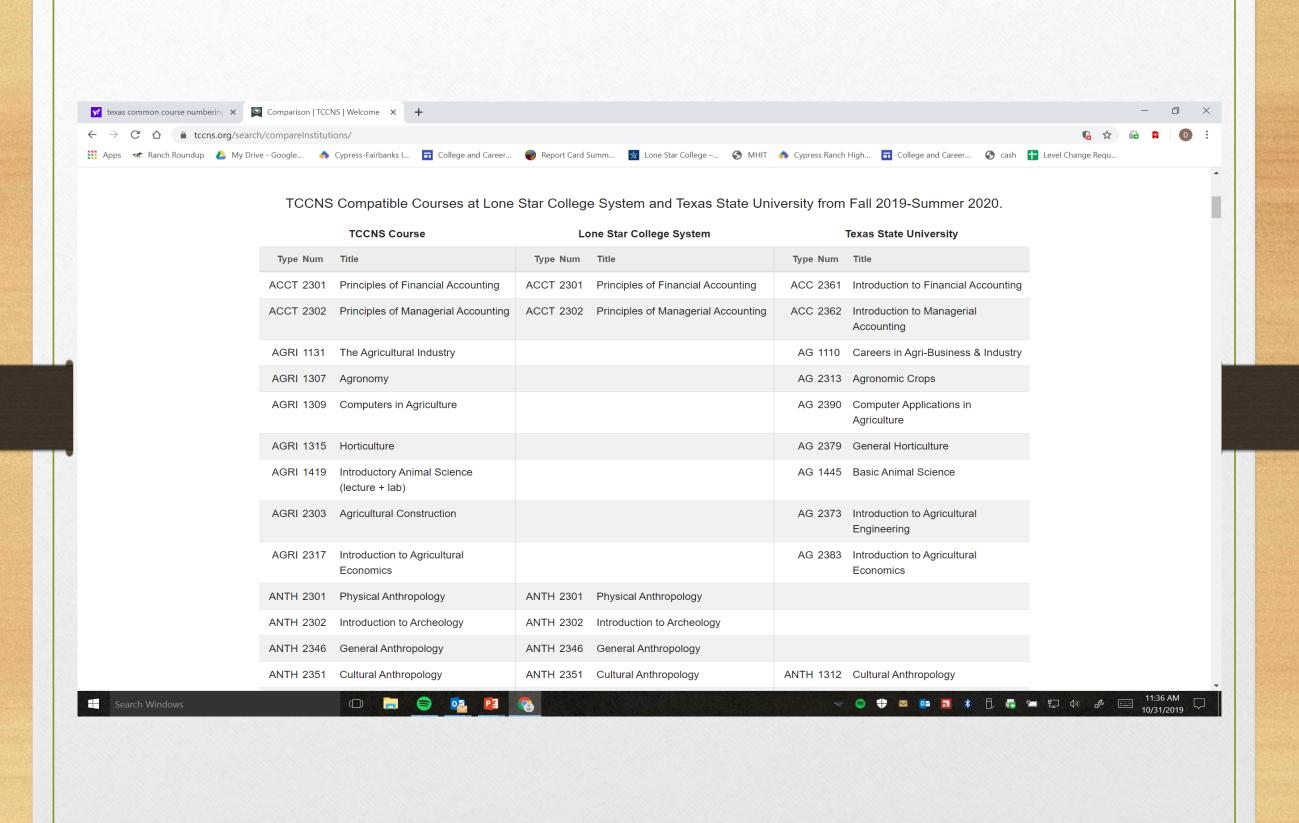
#### Find a college's credit policy

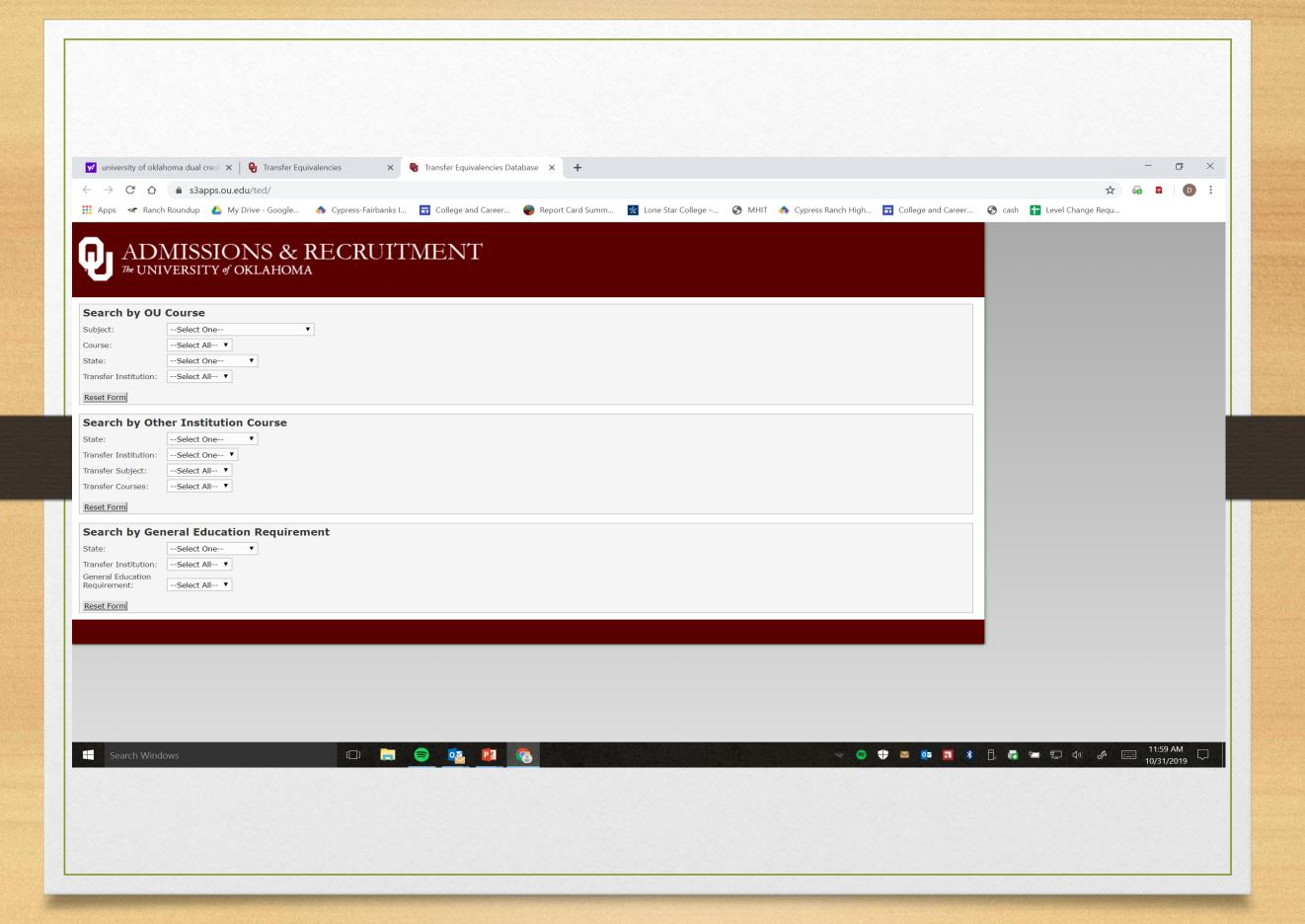
Please enter at least two characters to view a preliminary list of matches. Click Search to see a complete list of results. The number in parentheses is the school's College Board code.

**University of Chicago** 

Search







## Pass/Fail Courses

- ➤ Benefits students who earn mostly A's in K-level academic courses and have a 6.0+ GPA
- > Will not be included in GPA or class rank
- ➤ Students can only P/F the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> course taken in an approved sequence
- ➤ May earn up to 2.0 total credits P/F (Juniors/Seniors Only)
- Available for courses **beyond** 26 (Foundations + Endorsement Plan) credits required for graduation
- >Students MUST apply for pass/fail each semester
- >Students will have the opportunity to pass/fail spring 2024

#### Early Release/Late Arrival

## STUDENTS MUST SELECT 7 CLASSES AND THEN APPLY FOR EARLY RELEASE OR LATE ARRIVAL

- ✓ Option to leave school early/arrive late if: student has a job, is enrolled in a college course, or has other special circumstances
- ✓ Must pass all EOC tests
- ✓ Must be enrolled in courses which complete graduating on Foundation with Endorsement HSP
- ✓ No excessive absences
- ✓ Must be on campus 5 periods
- ✓ Forms are available during junior conferences and will be on our school website

#### ROADMAP TO COLLEGE



# COLLEGE & CAREER UPDATE www.bit.ly/crhscollege

# Fall Semester – Junior Year (a.k.a. RIGHT NOW)

- ✓ Create a College List include Match, Safety, and Reach Schools
- Research colleges and their admission requirements
  - ✓ Is the SAT or ACT test required? Is the school "test optional" for your application cycle?
  - ✓ Start a "College Applicant Tracker" www.bit.ly/crhscollege
- ✓ Consider taking the SAT and/or ACT in December for a baseline so you can prep for your school-day SAT on March 6<sup>th</sup>

#### SAT Test Dates 2023-2024

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline
* December 2, 2023	November 2, 2023
* March 9, 2024 (DIGITAL)	February 23, 2024
* May 4, 2024 (DIGITAL)	April 19, 2024
June 1, 2024 (DIGITAL)	May 17, 2024

<sup>\*</sup> Cy Ranch is a testing center option for these test dates.

www.collegeboard.org

#### ACT Test Dates 2023-2024

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline
December 9, 2023	November 3, 2023
February 10, 2024	January 5, 2024
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024

#### www.actstudent.org

#### Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

#### ❖ TSI:

- A statewide program to assess college readiness in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.
- Required by in-state, public institutions.
- Helps colleges determine what type of course or intervention will best meet your needs in each of these areas.

#### TSI Exempt if student meets college readiness benchmark:

TSI Requirement	SAT (after March 2016)	ACT (before 2/15/23)	<b>ACT</b> (on or after 2/15/23)
ELAR	480+	23+ Composite, and 19+ English	40+ on English & Reading (E+R) NO Composite score requirement
MATH	530+	23+ Composite, and 19+ Math	22+ on Math NO Composite score requirement

If a student is not TSI exempt.....A placement test will be required before enrollment. Check with your college/university for instructions on how to test & submit results.

# Fall Semester – Junior Year cont'd (a.k.a. RIGHT NOW)

- ✓ Plan college visits
  - ✓ Allowed 2 during junior year & 2 during senior year
  - ✓ Thanksgiving break can be a good time to visit
  - ✓ Schedule in-person tours and/or visits through the college's website
- ✓ Attend College Fairs & visit with College Reps
- ✓ Discuss plans for paying for college with your child
  - ✓ Are out-of-state and/or private schools an option?
- ✓ Research scholarships
  - ✓ College Board-Big Future / <u>www.FastWeb.com</u> / <u>www.cfisd.net</u> (search: scholarships)

## **College Visits**

Students are allowed 2 days during junior year & 2 days during senior year (1 of the days can be used as a travel day)

Register for a campus visit/tour on the college's website

Pick up an *Institution of Higher Education Visit Form* through the Attendance Office BEFORE the visit

A College Representative must sign and place the college seal on the college visit pass (virtual visits do not qualify)

Student must return the form to attendance within 3 school days so the absence will not count against final exam exemptions

#### Spring Semester – Junior Year

- ✓ Take the ACT and/or the SAT
  - ✓ SAT test for ALL juniors Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>
  - ✓ Take this test seriously!
- ✓ Begin your college essay (Check for 2024 prompts online around Spring Break)
- ✓ Complete Step #1 of College Board's Opportunity Scholarship <a href="https://opportunity.collegeboard.org/">https://opportunity.collegeboard.org/</a>
- ✓ Finish your academic year STRONG
- ✓ Review all SAT & ACT scores, and register if you're re-taking

#### College Essay Writing Tips

- Use the essay to tell them what your application can't.
- ❖ Write about something important to you & BE AUTHENTIC
- Focus on the unique qualities, characteristics, and/or talents that you will bring to their college community
- Include deep, personal reflections don't just retell a story
- Make sure the essay lets them learn about YOU & not a family member

#### Summer Before Senior Year

#### **✓** JUNE

- √ Finish college essay
- ✓ Review all SAT & ACT scores & if you're retaking, then:
  - ✓ Complete test prep program
  - ✓ Register for August test date

#### ✓ JULY

- ✓ July 1<sup>st</sup> or Aug 1<sup>st</sup> most college apps open
- ✓ Try to submit 1-2 college apps BEFORE school starts
  - ✓ Supplemental documents can be sent after we return to school

#### Information for College Applications

- GPA is on a 6.0 weighted scale
- High School Code: 441689
- NCAA Eligibility Center Code: 9999
- School address:
  - Cypress Ranch HS
  - 10700 Fry Rd. Cypress, TX 77433
- School phone: 281-373-2300
- Principal: Dr. Michael Maness
- Counselor contact info (see slide 2)

#### TEXAS Top 10% Admissions

- Automatic Admission to Texas Public Institutions; UT top 6%
- Must submit completed application and all required documents prior to deadline set by the university.
- Essay may be used for scholarship consideration
- \* Apply no later than 2 years after graduating from high school.
- Graduate under FHSP+E and Distinguished Level of Achievement.
- Apply early Colleges within the universities may limit the number eligible for admission due to enrollment caps.

#### Applying to College

#### Apply for admission the summer before your senior year

www.applytexas.org
All Texas public universities

www.commonapp.org

Most Texas private and out of state universities

www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org

Distinguished colleges and universities

Provide required documents by the deadline (i.e., Official HS transcripts, Official Score reports, & Application Fee)

Make sure to SUBMIT your application to each college.

A saved application is not the same as a submitted application!

## Transcripts

- Submit college or scholarship applications PRIOR to ordering official transcripts to be sent.
- Know your deadlines & plan ahead! Transcript processing takes up to 3 days.
- To order transcripts:
  - Scan this QR code:
- If you do not have a smart phone, you can use this link from your computer:
  - https://cypressfairbanksk12.scriborder.com/applicationCurrent
- Fee schedule for all other schools/transcript requests:
  - The first 5 transcripts are FREE
- Tip: If you do not have a social security number or driver's license number, you can put all zeros in for the response to those questions and it will allow you to bypass it.

## Submitting Scores

- ✓ Most colleges require official SAT or ACT score reports sent directly from the testing agency and received by their deadline!
- ✓ These score reports can take 3-4 weeks after you place your order another reason to apply early!
- ✓ SAT Scores <u>www.collegeboard.org</u>
- ✓ ACT Scores <u>www.actstudent.org</u>

## Letters of Recommendation Research, Request, Respond, Review

- \* RESEARCH each college carefully Some colleges won't consider them at all and some colleges consider them heavily.
- \* **REQUEST** letter(s) <u>at least 3 weeks in advance</u> to give the recommender time to write an effective letter. Provide recommender with instructions on how to submit their letter!
- \* **RESPOND** to your recommender's request for any additional information, such as a Student Profile.
- \* **REVIEW** your admissions checklist on each of your college portals to ensure letters are submitted before the deadline.

Letters are sent directly to each college/university by the recommender.

Letters will NEVER be given directly to a student.

## College Admissions Terminology

- Early Decision BINDING AGREEMENT
  - Only suggested for students who are VERY certain of their first-choice college, including finances.
  - If accepted, you MUST attend that college. May apply to other schools under Regular Decision option; but if accepted by the Early Decision school, applicant must withdraw other applications
- Early Action NON-BINDING
  - Allows student to apply early and learn of the admission decision before regular applicants (usually Dec or Jan). If accepted, you are NOT obligated to attend.
- Wait List Student is neither accepted nor denied yet. Mid-year senior grades are often used to determine final decision. (Admission typically depends upon the number of students that accept admission from "regular admission" offers.)
- **Test Optional** SAT/ACT scores are not required to be considered for admission

# LAST DAY FOR ANY COURSE CHANGES APRIL 30, 2024

# We want to answer your QUESTIONS



Meet Counselors on Main Street to answer your questions ©