



Welcome



**to the Wildcat
Parent Meeting**

2023 ~ 2024

11TH AND 12TH GRADE



COUNSELING TEAM

A - Cam	Gabby (Joan) Delgado
Can - Fen	Felicia McKinney
Feo - Hoa	Penny Harvey
Hob - Loo	Tammi Deaton
Lob - Ngo	Heather Yates
Ngp - Roc	Cheryl Foster
Rod - Thi	Laura Cassidy
Thj - Z	Kyle Critton

Lead Counselor	Jodi Meinhardt
Secretary	Wren Hartley
Secretary	Debra Roznovsky
Social Worker	Kelley Rasmussen
College & Career Specialist	Stephanie England

HOW TO CONTACT A COUNSELOR

Students

- Counselor QR code on posters throughout the building
- Before/after school
- During lunch
- Email

Parents

- Email: `firstname.lastname@cfisd.net`
- Phone: 281-213-1800
- By appointment

CWHS Counselor Website:

<https://www.cfisd.net/domain/1120>



COUNSELING OFFICE SUPPORT

▪ Academic

- Grade level conferences**
- Course planning and scheduling assistance**
- Testing information (AP, ASVAB)**
- Scholarship and FAFSA information –
Stephanie England**
- Fee waivers for SAT/ACT and College
Applications for students on the
free/reduced lunch program**

COUNSELING OFFICE SUPPORT

- **Social/Emotional**
 - **Help with crisis/stress/anxiety**
 - **Referrals for outside counseling/therapy**
 - **“Students in Transition” liaison**
 - **Teen parenting liaison**
 - **Social worker (Community Youth Services Specialist)**
- **Confidentiality – we cannot maintain confidentiality if your student shares with us that:**
 - **They or another student are engaging in activities that could be harmful or life threatening**
 - **They want to harm themselves or another person**
 - **Another person may be in harm’s way**
 - **Someone is doing something to harm them**



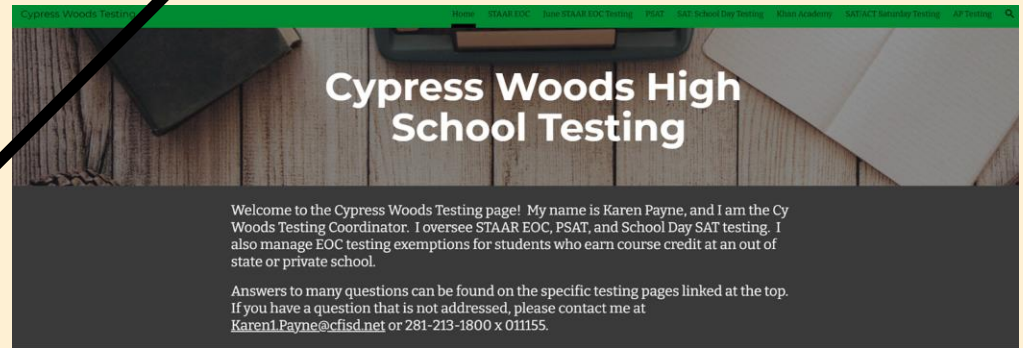
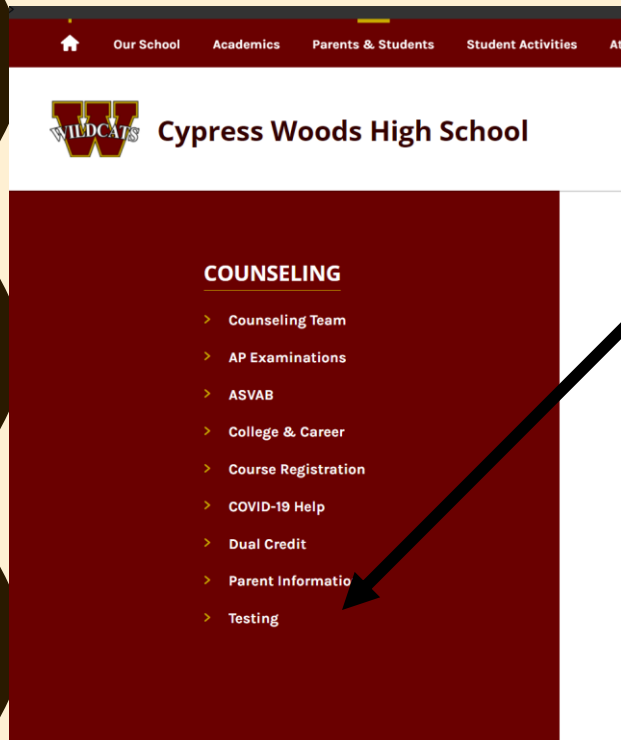
TESTING INFORMATION

CY WOODS TESTING SITE

From the Cy Woods Homepage, click on **Parents & Students** and then choose **COUNSELING**.



Click on **Testing** at the bottom of the menu to access the **Cy Woods Testing Site**.



Questions about PSAT/NMSQT, School Day SAT, and STAAR EOC should be directed to Karen Payne, Cy Woods Testing Coordinator @ karen.l.payne@cfisd.net

STAAR END-OF-COURSE (EOC) EXAM REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

- **STAAR EOC Courses: Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II, and US History**
- **Students who earn credit from a public, Texas school must pass the corresponding STAAR EOC exam for purposes of graduation.**
 - **A STAAR EOC exam does not impact course averages or course credits.**
- **STAAR EOC course credits earned at institutions away from public, Texas schools (such as private schools and out of state schools) are exempt from the STAAR EOC exam graduation requirement.**

STAAR END-OF-COURSE (EOC) EXAM REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

- **Students who earned credit for a STAAR EOC course during Spring/Summer 2020 were awarded a COVID-19 waiver for the corresponding STAAR EOC exam as state assessments were cancelled.**
- **Students typically participate in STAAR EOC exams in the spring semester as they are finishing a course.**
 - **Additional testing opportunities are available for students who are absent/unsuccessful in summer (June) and fall (December) each year. The STAAR EOC exam schedule is set by the state.**

STAAR END-OF-COURSE (EOC) EXAM MODE CHANGE

- **Beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, the STAAR testing program (including EOC exams) moved to computer-based exams.**
- **CFISD students will test using their CFISD Chromebook.**
- **Beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, the time limits on STAAR Assessments, including EOC exams, were removed.**
- **Ensure your child brings their fully charged Chromebook and charger to school each day. Getting into the habit now will mean your child has the tools needed on test days. Chromebook and charger to school each day.**

“When you’re home, charge your Chrome!”

PSAT/NMSQT

- **PSAT (and SAT) are going digital.**
 - **PSAT Fall 2023 and forward will be fully digital**
 - **SAT Spring 2024 and forward will be fully digital**
- **Students will test on their CFISD Chromebook using an app by College Board called Bluebook.**
- **Students who participate in October PSAT testing *should* receive notification of score availability via the e-mail address they provide during testing. Scores should be available by November 6th.**
- **This notification e-mail *should* provide details regarding how to set up a College Board account so that scores can be accessed. If your child already has a College Board account and provides the same e-mail address during October testing, the scores should be available in their account by November 6th.**
- **Regretfully, Cy Woods is unable to assist with College Board accounts.**

SCHOOL DAY SAT TESTING

- **Cy Woods Juniors will participate free of charge in School Day SAT testing on **March 6, 2024**.**
- **This is not a practice test or a field test. Scores from this test can be used for college admission, financial aid, and scholarship opportunities.**
- **Students who have participated in PSAT testing in the past can link their College Board account to their Khan Academy account for personalized test prep based on their PSAT scores. (Directions are posted on the Cy Woods Testing Page under Khan Academy.)**
- **While this service is available now to students who took PSAT during the Fall 2022 school year, students wishing to prepare for the School Day SAT should wait until October 2023 PSAT scores post in their College Board account for more accurate practice.**

Last SAT Paper Testing - December 2023





GRADUATION PLAN AND CREDITS

Academic Discipline	Foundation	Endorsement	Distinguished*
	Credits	Credits	Credits
English and PACE (1/2)	4 ½ credits		
Math	3	1	including Algebra II
Science	3	1	
Social Studies	3		
Foreign Language	2		
Fine Arts	1		
PE (1) + Health (1/2)	1 ½		
Electives	4	2	
Total Credits for Graduation	22	26	26
			* Eligible for top 10% admissions to Texas public 4-year institutions and TEXAS Grant eligibility

Class Rank and GPA

- **Class rank and GPA are reported on student transcripts**
- **GPA is determined by semester averages and is cumulative**
- **GPA is run one time per year at the end of the summer for grades 9, 10 and 11**
- **The GPA and rank from the end of junior year will be used when applying to colleges**
- **Senior ranking is performed at the end of the first semester and after the **third grading period** (to identify honor graduates, who will wear honor cords, and graduation walk order only)**

WHAT IS PASS/FAIL?

- **CFISD encourages students to pursue areas of special talents and aptitude, while not impacting their GPA with on-level grade points**
- **Available to juniors and seniors in areas of study that are beyond requirements for graduation (GPA must include at least 26 credits)**
- **Maximum benefit obtained by students who have more K-level than on-level courses on their final transcript, AND**
- **Earns mostly A's in all courses of study (has a GPA of 6.0 or higher)**

PASS/FAIL COURSES

- **Must meet all graduation requirements to qualify**
- **Application due within the first 8-10 days of semester**
- **3rd or 4th year course in a four-year elective program (Ex: Athletics III; Band IV)**
- **Limited to two credits total (one in 11th grade, one in 12th grade)**
- **Students receive a number grade on their report card for each grading period. This may impact honor roll**
- **Grade not calculated in GPA or class rank**
- **Transcript shows a “P” or “F”**

FINAL EXAM EXEMPTION POLICY UPDATE

- **Exam exemptions are a behavior and attendance **incentive**. To qualify, students must meet the following criteria:**
 - **five or fewer absences**
 - **three or fewer tardies**
 - **an average of 75 or higher for the semester**
 - **an E, S, or I in conduct**
 - **no OSS, ALC, or JJAEP Placement**
 - **no fees or fines**
- **The Assistant Principal's office handles exemptions.**

HOW MANY FINALS CAN I EXEMPT?

Grade Level	Fall Exemptions	Spring Exemptions
11th	3	3
12th	4	7

EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT IN HIGH SCHOOL

- **Dual Credit**

- **Through Lone Star College**
- **Must meet CFISD and Texas college qualification standards**
- **Two-part registration process will begin in March for the 24-25 school year**
- **Credit earned by successful completion of the course with a C or better**

- **AP**

- **Selected during course registration**
- **Must meet CFISD advanced course entry criteria**
- **AP exam score and college policies determine credit(s) earned**

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AP & DC

	AP	DC
Description	Students take college-level courses and the related AP exam to earn high school credit and potentially earn college credit while still in high school	Allows students to simultaneously earn high school and college credit by successfully completing (grade of C) Lone Star College classes
GPA Impact	The same grade points awarded for H/K classes are awarded to AP and DC classes (A = 7, B = 6, etc.)	
Eligibility Requirements	Same as H/K	Students must have qualifying PSAT, SAT, ACT, or STAAR EOC scores; certain courses require additional testing to determine college readiness
College Credit	Granted by individual colleges and universities based on AP exam scores	Awarded after student passes the course with at least a C
Transferability	Varies by college/university	Accepted by most universities in Texas; several additional states (search individual university websites for more information)
Registration	During course registration in February/March	Multi-part - must register at Lone Star first, get a LS student ID, then submit registration form to Woods DC team.

AP EXAMS

Two-step process for registering and paying for AP exams:

Step 1 - REGISTERING:

Create a CollegeBoard account at

<https://myap.collegeboard.org/login>. Students will then register for AP exams they plan on taking.

Step 2 - PAYING:

Create an account at www.totalregistration.net/AP/443302.

Students will then select and pay for the AP exams they plan on taking. Student should receive a confirmation page stating they have selected and paid for their AP exams.

AP EXAMS

- **Students who are not in an AP class but want to take an AP test, must stop by the Counselors' Office for information on registering as an independent for the "exam only" section.**
- **More information is available on the Counselor page on the Cy-Woods website.**

Regular Registration Deadline

Wednesday November 1st at 5:00 pm

Late Registration Deadline

Friday November 3rd at 11:59 am

Includes a \$10 late registration fee per exam

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

- **N.H.S. is an organization for students who are talented academically, portray leadership, and are actively involved in the community.**
- **Invitations to apply will be distributed to students that meet the minimum GPA requirement in October.**
- **Prerequisites:**
 - ✓ **5.8 GPA**
 - ✓ **Junior or senior status**
 - ✓ **Conduct grades of E or S for current school year**
 - ✓ **Attendance in current high school for at least one semester**
- **For more information, contact sponsors:**
 - **Mrs. Becky Rivard** (Rebecca.Rivard@cfisd.net)
 - **Mrs. Tiffany Cross** (Tiffany.Cross@cfisd.net)





YEAR TO YEAR



JUNIOR YEAR

FALL

- **Register for and take the October PSAT**
- **Explore college and/or career interests**
- **Visit colleges/universities (2 college days per year)**
- **Look at SAT and ACT testing calendar and register in advance**
- **Monitor your grades on HAC and seek help from teachers/ attend tutorials as needed**
- **Order AP EXAMS NOW**
- **Pay for AP EXAMS NOW**

SPRING

- **Consult college websites for admission requirements, degree information and housing.**
- **Update your high school resume**
- **Familiarize yourself with application openings and deadlines**
- **Take SAT and/or ACT**
- **Look for college admission essay topics and begin writing rough-drafts**
- **Visit the CFISD website for the “Finding Your Future” publication**
- **Verify senior year courses via Parent HAC, in late spring**
- **Monitor your grades on HAC and seek help from teachers/attend tutorials as needed**



SENIOR YEAR

FALL

- **Meet with college representatives**
- **Make calendar of deadlines**
- **Complete Wildcat Resume for recommendation letters, if required**
- **Work on application essays**
- **Begin college applications**
- **Take or Retake SAT and/or ACT**
- **Order AP EXAMS NOW**
- **Pay for AP EXAMS NOW**
- **Send your transcripts and test scores to colleges**
- **Continue seeking and applying for scholarships**
- **FAFSA application window opens October 1st – Graduation requirement**

SPRING

- **Update completed FAFSA**
- **Make sure mid-year transcripts are sent to colleges as required**
- **Look for Student Aid Report in the mail**
- **Choose a college and send deposit by the deadline**
- **Contact financial aid office at chosen college to make certain all information is complete**
- **Send your final transcript to chosen college**



IMPORTANT FALL DATES

October 3: College Night at Berry Center

October 4: PSAT (for paying Juniors only)

October 20: Last day of 1st grading period

October 30: College Fair during all lunches

November 3 at 11:59 A.M.: Final ordering deadline for all full-year and first-semester AP courses

November 15: ASVAB (sign up in the counseling office by 11/3)

December 21: Last day of 2nd grading period/fall semester



IMPORTANT SPRING

January: C&CS Getting Ready for College
(Junior meeting)

February: Dual credit meeting, prior to
Registration window; 11th grade conferences
with the counselors begin

March 6: School-day SAT for 11th grade (paid
for by CFISD)

March 8: Last day of 3rd grading period (*grades
will impact who wears honor cords*)

April 26: Last day to register for Dual Credit
classes for the fall of 2025

April 30: Last day to make course changes

May 30: CW Graduation

May 31: Last day of final grading
period/second semester



IMPORTANT SPRING DATES

Testing:

April 9: English I EOC

April 11: English II EOC

April 23: Biology EOC

April 24: US History EOC

April 25: Algebra I

May 6 – May 17: AP Testing



OPTIONS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Options After Graduation

4 Year College Or University

May take SAT or ACT and complete an application

Each 4-year's institution has their own entrance requirements

2 Year College

No SAT or ACT required but recommended; open admission

Transfer after meeting minimum university requirements using college GPA.

Also offer certificate/licensure programs

Career & Technical Training / Trade Schools

Specific industry (automotive, culinary, dental assistant, etc.)

Two-year colleges offer workforce programs with technical training

Military Service

Commit 4 to 6 years

New GI Bill – full college tuition and living expenses

Military Reserve Programs also assist with college cost

Enter The Workforce



COLLEGE AND CAREER RESOURCES AT WOODS

- **Stephanie England**
 - **CWHS College & Career Specialist**
 - www.tinyurl.com/cw212college
 - **Located in the library**

- **Lone Star College Connections Advisor**
 - **Available in the library**
 - **See Mrs. England for appointment**



COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

- www.goapplytexas.org
 - **Used by most Texas public and some Texas Private schools**
- www.commonapp.org
 - **Used by over 1,000 universities throughout the US and internationally**
- **Most university websites have an application link that will direct you to their application or an application website.**
- **Check the college website for additional application requirements, scholarships, and due dates!**
- **All students (including top 10%) must complete applications and send their transcripts and test scores.**

COLLEGE APPLICATION TIPS

- **Complete and submit all application requirements by the due date**
- **Create a professional-sounding email account for college application correspondence**
- **Check e-mail/portals often for notices regarding your application status**
- **Print or photocopy all information sent to a college**
- **Contact testing agency (CollegeBoard and ACT) to send test scores directly to each college**
- **Be conservative when posting on social media**

TOP 10% RULE

- **Public universities and colleges in Texas automatically admit students in the top 10% of their graduating class**
 - ***EXCEPTION:* University of Texas at Austin admits the top 6% of freshmen applicants through spring of 2024.**
- **Students are not guaranteed a specific major**
- **Check university websites for admissions policies for applicants not in the top 10% of their graduating class.**

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

ACADEMICS

- **GPA**
- **Class rank**
- **SAT/ACT Scores**
- **Rigorous course work**

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT

- **Essays**
- **Honors & achievements**
- **Extracurricular activities**
- **Work experience**
- **Community service**
- **Commitment to a program**

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- **If a letter of recommendation is **required**, complete the Wildcat Resume**
 - <https://sites.google.com/cfisd.net/stephanieengland/wildcat-resume>
- **Request letters from professionals who know you well**
 - **Teachers and coaches are the best resources, as they can speak to your academic and athletic accomplishments**
- **Allow 3 weeks for letters to be completed**
- **Letters will be mailed or uploaded directly from the school**
- **Check applications and websites for due dates**

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

- **Must be sent directly from the Registrar's Office or ordered online at:**

- <https://cypressfairbanks.k12.scriborder.com/>

- **Pricing:**

- **If sent electronically = Free**
 - **If sent by mail = \$2.00 each**
 - **Unofficial = \$1.00**
- **Order forms are available in the Registrar's Office**

SPECIAL EVENTS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

- **Many schools offer special weekend events for prospective students.**
- **Schools will keep track of students who visit their campus.**
- **Students who show an active interest in a college may receive extra consideration in the admissions process.**
- **Check websites of the universities that you are interested in for special events.**
- **Some of the larger colleges have Houston-area regional offices; check with your college of interest for more information.**

COLLEGE VISITATION DAYS

- **Two (2) days allowed during the junior and senior year**
 - **Unused days from junior year do not roll-over**
- **Days **do not** count against exemptions or attendance**



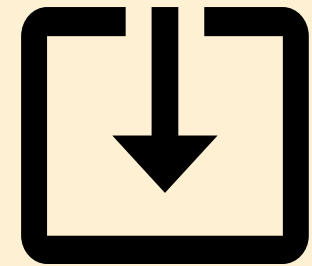
How Do I Take a College Day?



**Pick Up form
from
ATTENDANCE
OFFICE
BEFORE visit**



**Visit college
campus.
Get form
**SIGNED &
STAMPED** by
College Official**



**Return College
Visit Form to
ATTENDANCE
OFFICE AFTER
VISIT**

FINANCIAL AID FOR COLLEGE

FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- All seniors must complete the FAFSA, TASFA, or submit an opt-out form, to meet graduation requirements
- FAFSA opens on or near December 1st
- Be sure to complete the application for the year you will start college, **NOT** the current school year (2023-2024)
- Opt-out form located in the counseling office and the TEA website
- University based scholarships, work-study, parent loans, and student loans all require FAFSA results
- Apply early – first come/first served
- www.fafsa.ed.gov

SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Check the Cy Woods website, College & Career page, for scholarship information each month.**
- **Scholarship websites**
 - ✓ www.cfisd.net/Page/1813
 - ✓ www.fastweb.com
 - ✓ bigfuture.collegeboard.org
 - ✓ www.finaid.org
 - ✓ www.petersons.com
- **Pick up a scholarship bulletin in the College and Career Center or on the College and Career Google site. Bulletins are updated monthly.**
- **Listen for scholarship announcements**

HELPING YOUR WILDCAT

- **Require students to attend school regularly**
- **Let counselors know if a student is experiencing a crisis situation**
- **Frequently monitor assignments and grades on HAC**
- **Check in with your student's teachers**
- **Help students balance academic and extracurricular commitments**
- **Remind students that they need to plan study time each day**
- **Encourage students to participate in volunteer activities at school and in the community, although this is not a graduation requirement.**

The Extra Degree - Evening Study Help Sessions for Students and Parents

Session I: October 9 and January 22 @ 6:00 pm
How to Study for Science - Biology and Chemistry
Cypress Woods Teaching Theatre

Session II: October 30 and February 26 @ 6:00 pm
How to Study for History - Note Taking Skills
Cypress Woods Teaching Theatre

Session III: December 4 and March 25 @ 6:00 pm
How to Study for Math - Algebra I&II and Geometry
Cypress Woods Teaching Theatre



Cy Woods Graduation



**Thursday, May 30, 2024
4:00 P.M.**



VISIT US ON THE COWHS WEBSITE

[HTTPS://WWW.CFISD.NET/PAGE/204](https://www.cfid.net/page/204)

The screenshot shows the Cypress Woods High School website. The browser address bar displays www.cfid.net/cywoods. The navigation menu includes: Home, Our School, Academics, Parents & Students, Student Activities, Athletics, School News, and Calendar. A red arrow points to the 'Parents & Students' link. A dropdown menu is open under 'Parents & Students', listing: Resources, Back to School, Policies & Procedures, Counseling (highlighted in yellow), Transportation, and Schedules. A second red arrow points to the 'Counseling' option. The main content area features a large banner with the text 'THIS MONTH AT THE WOODS' and a sub-header 'This Month at the Woods' with the text 'October is here Wildcats! Check out what is happening THIS MONTH AT THE WOODS.' Below the banner, it says 'OCTOBER - THIS MONTH AT THE WOODS'. The website footer shows the URL <https://www.cfid.net/domain/1120> and the system time '12:49 PM 10/15/2021'.





College Academy Parent Meeting

Saturday, September 16

Grades 9&10: meet at 10AM
Grades 11&12: meet at 11:30AM

Cypress Woods High School
Teaching Theater (upstairs)

Meetings will begin immediately after
the Counselors' Parent Meetings

WILDCAT PARENTS...

*THANK YOU FOR
JOINING US!*

~ The CWHS Counseling
Team

Get in touch with us:

