



## Upcoming Events

### September 6

Labor Day, No school!

### September 8

Progress Reports

### October 15

Report Cards

### November 11

Veterans Day, No school!

### November 12

Progress Reports

### November 22-26

Thanksgiving Break



# Northside High School

Counseling News That You Can Use!

## Welcome Back

We could not be more excited to be welcoming you all back to school!

## Who is my Counselor?

**Mrs. Dean**- Lead Counselor, A-Go

**Mrs. Randolph**- Gr-O

**Mrs. Redondo**- Dual Enrollment Coordinator

**Mrs. Rolison**- P-Z

## Parent Teacher Conferences

All parent teacher conferences are facilitated through the counseling department, and held in the mornings before school. NHS School Counselor's focus is to continue supporting students' academic success, career development, and social-emotional growth.

## Drivers Forms

You can request your ADAP certificate and Certificate of Enrollment by clicking [here](#). If you complete the form between **8:00 a.m. Friday and 1:00 p.m. Thursday**, your form/certificate will be available **on Friday between 11:30 a.m.-3:25 p.m.** in the counseling office. Any requests completed after 1:00 PM Thursday will be available the following week.

## Attendance

When students are absent they should turn in an excuse for the absence to their 1<sup>st</sup> period teacher on the day they return to school. When a student turns in an excuse they will be given all assignments that were missed during their absence. Students will have 3 days to complete and submit any missing assignments to their instructor. **Course work will not be provided to students that do not provide an acceptable excused absence note within 3 days of their return.**

As in the past, all doctor's notes will be considered an excused absence. However, only 3 parent notes will be accepted as excused absences per 9 weeks. **This includes check-outs.** When a student checks out of school, for any portion of the day, it will be considered a parent note unless the student turns in a doctor excuse the following day to his/her 1<sup>st</sup> period teacher. Any additional parent notes will be considered as an unexcused absence.

**\*More than 15 absences, excused or unexcused, will result in loss of credit in a course.**

Tardy Policy:

1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> tardies to class – warning

3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> tardies to class – central detention is assigned per tardy

6<sup>th</sup> or more tardies – In School Suspension (1 day)

**\* All tardies are counted except when a Doctor's note is provided at the time of check in.**

## Promotion and Graduation Requirements

To be a \_\_\_\_\_, you must earn \_\_\_\_\_ credits:

- Sophomore- 5 credits
- Junior- 11
- Senior-16

To graduate, a student must meet the following requirements:

- 4 years of English
- 3.5 years of History
- 4 years of Science
- 4 years of Math
- 2 years of a foreign language (to be considered eligible to apply for a 4 year institution)
- 1 year of PE/Health

## HOPE Rigor Courses

Students **MUST** take and pass four (4) classes that meet the rigor requirement for HOPE and Zell Miller

AP Language / AP Literature / Dual Enrollment English

Acc Geometry/ Algebra II

GSE Algebra II / GSE Pre Calculus / AP Calculus / AP Statistics

College Math Readiness / Dual Enrollment Math

AP US History / AP World History / AP Macroeconomics

Dual Enrollment History

H Chemistry / AP Chemistry / H Physics / AP Biology

AP Environmental / Human Anatomy

Dual Enrollment Science

Spanish II / Spanish III / Spanish IV / AP Spanish

\*Not all classes listed are offered each school year.

Visit <https://www.gafutures.org> for HOPE and Zell Miller info

## Grade Distribution

Grade	Gen. Ed	Honors	Advanced Placement
90-100	4.0	4.5	5.0
80-89	3.0	3.5	4.0
70-79	2.0	2.5	3.0
0-69 (FAILING)	0.0	0.0	0.0

## Your Roadmap to Success

Goal-setting, mindset, perspective, and priorities are all critical to the success for high school students, college students, young professionals, adults in the workforce and even retirees.

While the things you'll see listed below are great suggestions, we also know that success for high school students is not a "one-size-fits-all" situation. Check out the roadmap below and then make it yours as you walk your own journey!

### Freshman & Sophomores

#### Academic Focus:

Focus on aiming for high grades and boosting them with extra credit. As these are some of your easier classes throughout high school, use this year to really boost your GPA.

#### Testing:

Prepare for and take the PSAT

#### Involvement:

This applies to school activities as well as community ones. Look for volunteer or community service opportunities. Find a club or sport to join.

#### Experience/Personal Goal:

This is your first year of high school, so jump in with both feet and get involved at school. This will go a long way into finding success both in high school and afterward.

#### College:

Develop a relationship with your school's professional counselor. This is a crucial relationship for the future, so don't wait until your senior year to begin to develop it. Sophomores, attend a college. Get your feet wet seeing what's out there and what school's you might be interested in. Then, you can plan a college visit and request information about the school. Again, this is a "get your feet wet" time. You're just exploring and feeling out what kind of college you might like.

## Juniors & Seniors

### Academic Focus:

**Juniors**, with a solid foundation under you, keep your grades high the finish line is closer than you think!

**Seniors**, you've worked really hard the past three years – don't let it go to waste! Finish strong with high grades, including 2nd Semester!

### Testing:

**Juniors**, towards the end of your junior year, it's time to take the real ACT or SAT. **Seniors**, prepare and focus on **ACT OR SAT** and work towards getting your best score yet.

Both ACT and SAT scores are used for **college admissions decisions and awarding merit-based scholarships**. Most colleges do not prefer one test over the other. Neither the SAT or ACT is harder than the other. However, different students tend to do better on one test over the other. The ACT test measures what a student already knows. It covers material that the student should have learned during high school. The SAT test is used more as a predictor of what a student is capable of learning. It deals with material that the student may NOT have learned in high school.

### Involvement:

**Juniors**, seek a leadership role. You've found a space you like being involved in by now, so take on a little more responsibility and begin to work on your leadership skills.

**Seniors**, continue to seek opportunities for leadership or mentoring as you sharpen your leadership skills.

### Experience/Personal Goal:

**Juniors**, this summer will be all about learning and taking on more responsibility. Get a summer job, complete a job shadow, or even do an internship.

**Seniors**, it's time to choose your college. By now you've visited and explored a lot of options and it's time to choose where you want to spend your next four years.

### College:

**Juniors**, this is an important time to narrow your career focus and create a college list. You'll also want to plan out more serious college visits.

**Seniors**, finish and turn in your college applications — before deadlines as well as completing your Financial Aid applications as soon as possible.

## ACT & SAT Info!

Please check the SAT and ACT websites for detailed information related to COVID and testing dates/locations

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

[ACT Test Dates and Deadlines](#)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[SAT Test Dates and Deadlines](#)

**The NHS school code is 110838**

\* Fee waivers are available for students on free or reduced lunch. See Mrs. Rolison in the counseling office.

## HOPE & Zell Miller

<https://www.gafutures.org> for HOPE and Zell Miller info

## College Planning Information

[Applying to College Information by Khan Academy](#)

[GAfutures](#)

FAFSA (Seniors Only)

## Requesting Transcripts

There are **two ways** that you can request transcript to be sent to a college, scholarship, or other programs.

**Option 1:** For Georgia colleges, you can submit an electronic request through [www.gafutures.org](http://www.gafutures.org)

**Option 2:** -For ALL out of state colleges and other requests you can submit your request through <https://muscogeega.scribborder.com>

## Requesting Letters of Recommendation

Actually ask.

Don't just add your teacher's name to your Common App. We highly recommend asking for your recommendation face to face. Depending on your teacher's/ counselor's schedule and school culture, it may be appropriate to email them to set up an appointment or meeting. Asking for a letter of recommendation solely over email could be interpreted as impersonal, distant, and less mature, an impression you don't want to make in the mind of a recommender.

An email ask should be a last resort. Be bold, young grasshopper! If you or they have moved, and asking in person isn't possible, opt for the phone call first, email second, text never.

I also wouldn't recommend asking during class time, but instead **find time during a free period, after school, or whenever the teacher has free time to meet**. The request may be short, but you still want to create space in case your recommender has additional questions.

Ask in advance.

I mean way in advance—like 3-4 weeks before the application deadline should be your minimum, and even that's pushing it. The more time you give your teachers, the more they will love you and the better your letter will turn out.

Know your teachers and school counselors may have their own process—and follow it.

For example, they may request a resume or have their own questionnaire for you to fill. Whatever it is, follow through and respect their timeline.

Information to Give Your Teacher(s)

First off, your teachers need to know the logistics. When are your college deadlines? How do they submit the letter of rec? In most cases, your early decision deadlines will be in October and your regular decision deadlines will be in early January.

Success for high school students and beyond may seem complicated, but sometimes, you just need a map to get you there. There are a lot of winding roads, turns, and challenges, but with the right tools, you'll excel into the future! We hope this resource was helpful to you.