

# 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE ORIENTATION

WELCOME TO HIGH SCHOOL!



*Inspiring all learners to reach their highest potential as responsible,  
productive citizens.*



# Welcome Parents & Future Longhorns!

## Today's Agenda



- Principal Welcome
- Administration Introductions
- SRO Introductions
- Introduce Guidance Team
- Diploma Options
- Graduation Requirements
- Diploma Designations
- GPA Calculation
- Parent Portal Login
- Post-Secondary Plans
- Xello
- Academic Programs (AP, AVID, DE, CTE)
- 9th Grade Sample Schedule
- Athletics and Clubs
- 9th Grade Tips



# Administration Team

## Principal: Mr. Hickey

**Assistant Principal: Dr. Carroll**

**Assistant Principal: Dr. Harris**

**Assistant Principal: Mrs. Yontz**

9th Grade Dean: Mr. Glassburn

10th Grade Dean: Mrs. Valcin

11th Grade Dean: Mr. Eno

12th Grade Dean: Mrs. Reda

Athletic Director: Mr. Kerr

SRO: Deputy Chisholm

SRO: Deputy Rodriguez





# Guidance Department

The Counseling Department is broken down by the following:

GRADES 9-12:

- Alexandra Spitaliere - Lead
- Lorine Guzman - Last names: A-Eg
- Madison Yaeger - Last names: Eh-Lt
- Deana Hetherly - Last names: Lu-Roc
- Angie Carrasquillo - Last names: Rod-Z
  
- Cathy Barton- College & Career Counselor





# Diploma Options

- 24-credit option
- 18-credit (ACCEL) option
- Diploma designations
  - Scholar
  - Merit
  - Seal of biliteracy







# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- 24 Credits
- 2.0 GPA (unweighted)
- 1 online course completion (0.5 credit)
- Level 3 or higher on the 10th grade Reading FSA
- Level 3 or higher on the Algebra 1 EOC exam



Other Important Testing:

Geometry, Biology, US History EOC = 30% of overall grade!



# Credit Breakdown

## MATH (4 Credits)

- *Algebra I*
- *Geometry*
- *2 additional Math credits*

## SCIENCE (3 Credits)

- *Biology*
- *2 additional Science credits*

## SOCIAL STUDIES (3 Credits)

- *World History*
- *US History*
- *Government (0.5 credit)*
- *Econ. w/ Fin. Lit (0.5 credit)*

## ENGLISH (4 Credits)

- *4.0 English credits*

## PHYSICAL ED. (PE) (1 Credit)

- *HOPE OR*
- *Personal Fitness & 1 other PE class*

## Performing/Practical Art (1 Credit)

## ELECTIVES (8 Credits)

- *2 credits in the same world language are required for admission into state universities (Not High School Graduation)*

## ONLINE CLASS



# Diploma Designations

## Scholar

In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must do the following:

- Earn 1 credit in Algebra II;
- Pass the Geometry EOC;
- Earn 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course;
- Pass the Biology I EOC;
- Earn 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics;
- Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics;
- Pass the U.S. History EOC;
- Earn 2 credits in the same World Language; and
- Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course.





# Diploma Designations

## Merit

In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must do the following:

- attain one or more industry certifications

**A student may earn both diploma designations**



# SEAL OF BILITERACY AWARD

## HOW DO I QUALIFY?

THE SEAL OF BILITERACY AWARD SHALL BE AWARDED TO ANY GRADUATING SENIOR THAT HAS MET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AS WELL AS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

### GOLD



HAVE YOU COMPLETED 4 FOREIGN LANGUAGE CREDIT COURSES IN THE SAME LANGUAGE WITH A 3.0 CUMULATIVE GPA AND DID YOU RECEIVE A SCORE OF 4 OR HIGHER ON THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS FLORIDA STANDARDS ASSESSMENT?

OR

HAVE YOU ACHIEVED A 5 OR HIGHER ON A FOREIGN LANGUAGE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE TEST?

OR

HAVE YOU ACHIEVED A 4 OR HIGHER ON A FOREIGN LANGUAGE ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEST?



### SILVER



HAVE YOU COMPLETED 4 FOREIGN LANGUAGE CREDIT COURSES IN THE SAME LANGUAGE WITH A 3.0 CUMULATIVE GPA?

OR

HAVE YOU ACHIEVED A 4 OR HIGHER ON A FOREIGN LANGUAGE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE TEST?

OR

HAVE YOU ACHIEVED A 3 OR HIGHER ON A FOREIGN LANGUAGE ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEST?



# GPA Calculation

## Unweighted GPA Points

A=4.0 points

B= 3.0 points

C=2.0 points

D=1.0 points

F=0 points

## Weighted GPA Honors is .5 point weight

A=4.5 points

B= 3.5 points

C=2.5 points

D=1.5 points

F=0 points

## Weighted GPA AP/IB/DE is 1 point weight

A=5 points

B= 4 points

C=3 points

D=2 points

F=0 points

If you made all C's in every class you took this would give you a 2.0 Unweighted GPA which is the minimum required for graduation



# Benefits of the Parent Portal

- Attendance information
- Access to grades
- Check for any missing assignments
- Upcoming due dates for tests and assignments
- Teacher emails
- Access to Progress Reports and Report Cards





# Post-Secondary Plans

Every student should have a post-secondary plan before they graduate

- College, Technical School, Military or the Workforce

Testing offered in school:

9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade - PSAT (Practice SAT)

As needed – PERT (VC DE placement exam)

11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade - SAT/ACT (College Entrance Exam)

11<sup>th</sup> and/or 12<sup>th</sup> grade - ASVAB (Entrance Military Test)

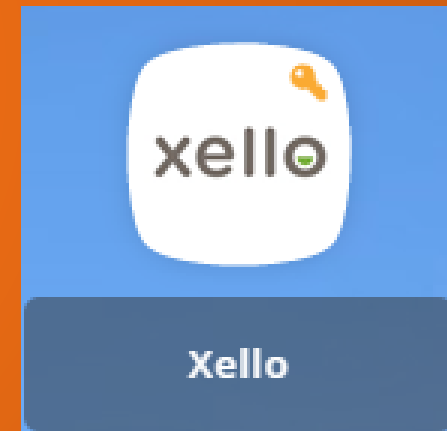






# What is Xello?

- College and Career Exploration program
- Planning for the future
- Opportunity for reflection
  - Learning Style
  - Interest Profile
  - Goal Setting
- One-stop Guidance Resource





# Exploration Activities

## Discover **Careers**

that suit your interests

### What is Matchmaker?

Matchmaker asks about your likes and dislikes and then suggests careers based on your interests. There are three phases in the quiz. Your matches will be updated as you complete each phase. Ready to see what's on your horizon?

[Launch Matchmaker!](#)



### About Me

[Matchmaker](#)

[Personality Style](#)

[Mission Complete](#)

[Learning Style](#)

[Skills Lab](#)



### Explore Options

[Careers](#)

[Schools](#)

[Majors](#)

[Saved Options](#)



### Goals & Plans

[My Plans](#)

[Course Planner](#)



# Goals and Plans

## GOALS & PLANS

Course Planner | Manage your courses here.

Get Started



HEY ALEXANDRA, READY TO PLAN YOUR FUTURE?

It's time to connect your saved careers, schools and majors!

Create Plan

## CREATE YOUR PLAN

What's your starting point for this plan?



CAREER



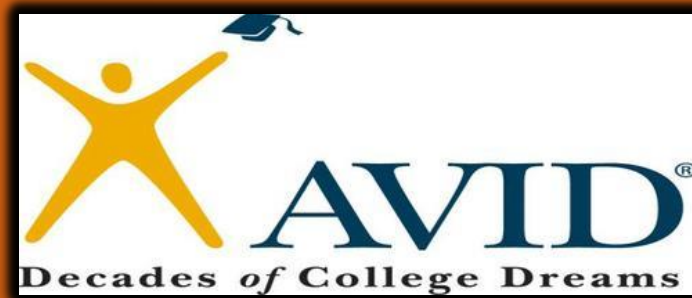
SCHOOL



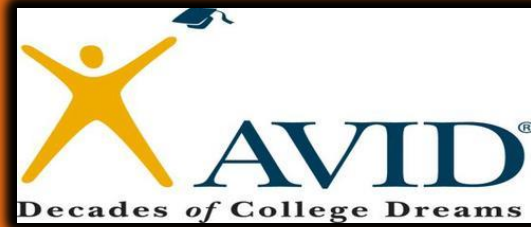
MAJOR



# Academic Pathways



# ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)



AVID is a college-readiness system designed to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges. It has a proven track record in bringing out the best in students, and in closing the achievement gap.

AVID is not just another program...  
at its heart, AVID is a philosophy.

Hold students accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support, and they will rise to the challenge.





# What is an AP Course?

AP courses are college-level courses of college level rigor offered in high school.

These courses reflect what is taught in the best introductory courses at colleges and universities.

Students take the **AP Exams** at the end of the course to measure their mastery of subject matter at the college level.

A grade of 3 or higher on an AP exam usually allows students to earn college credits and/or placement in advanced courses in college.



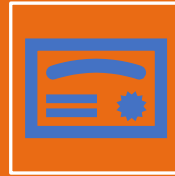
# What are the Benefits of AP?



**Prepares students for college level courses.**



**Students learn rigorous college-level skills and content**



**AP courses are interesting and rewarding academic experiences.**



**Taking AP courses and college level exams is valued in the university admission process**



**Students can earn college credits and / or skip introductory courses at the university, which saves families money and helps students graduate on time.**



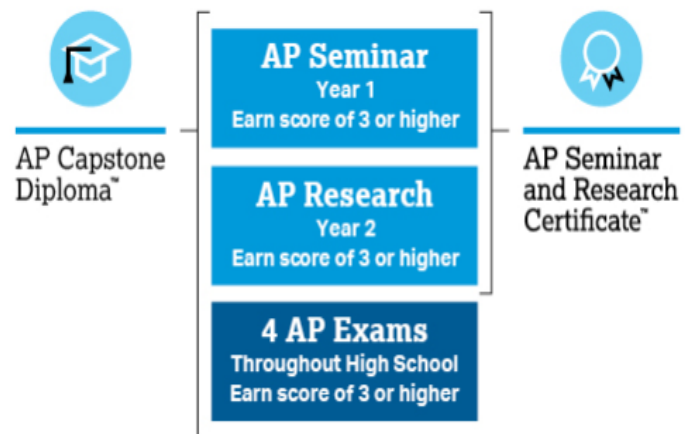
# AP Capstone Diploma

- Students can earn an AP Capstone Diploma throughout high school
- Students must take AP Seminar (11<sup>th</sup> grade) and AP Research (12<sup>th</sup> grade) and earn a 3 or higher on the AP exam.

Students can earn the AP Capstone Diploma™ or the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing receive the AP Capstone Diploma™.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™.





# The Opportunity Myth

The conversation started with a review of The Opportunity Myth research that asked a simple question and opened many doors:

How can so many students be graduating from high school unprepared to meet their goals for college and careers?





# Students Success Plan

Student Scheduling and Support - Build the master schedule to ensure all students have supports in place needed to be successful

## Pre AP English L

(Level 1 students)

Each student will be double block scheduled with reading. Teachers work collaboratively in order to target areas of need.

## Pre AP English R

(Level 2 and 3 students)

Each Students will be support through AVID or Research

## Pre AP English H

(Level 4 and 5 students)

Each student will have AP Human Geography and should have the skills developed to be successful.





# Pre-AP Keys to Success

- The right teachers in the right classes: Identify innovative teachers who can work as a team to deliver rigorous instruction
- Teacher Efficacy: Teachers share the vision and get feedback while developing the plan and believing all students can learn and be successful
- Professional Learning - Ensure all stakeholders attend CollegeBoard Pre-AP training and AVID training
- Focus on the 4 precepts of Pre AP: Close Observation and Analysis, Evidence Based Writing, Higher Order Questioning, and Academic Conversation



# “All Means All”

## 2021-22 Pre-AP English Plan

Harmony High School’s goal is to improve college readiness for all students by exposing them to rigorous, high-level classes. This opportunity will provide students with consistent standards of high-quality instruction with the appropriate level of support to develop skills needed for success in high school and beyond. We believe all students deserve engaging, relevant coursework to help them succeed throughout high school. Developing the confidence early in their high school career will give them ability to continue a rigorous path in preparation for college and/or career.





# DUAL ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES





# CTE and Industry Cert

- Engineering Technology
- Agriscience Technology
- Veterinary Assisting
- Digital Video Tech
- Health Science
- Digital Design
- Criminal Justice
- Journalism and Multimedia



# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Sample Schedule

## STANDARD 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SCHEDULE

- Pre AP English 1
- Algebra 1
- Environmental Science
- Personal Fitness/PE elective
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective
  
- Intensive Reading and/or Math may be added based on FSA test scores

## ACCELERATED 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SCHEDULE

- Pre AP English 1
- Algebra 1 Honors or Geometry Honors
- Biology Honors or Chemistry 1 Honors
- AP Human Geography
- World Language
- Personal Fitness/PE elective
- Elective



# Get Involved!

## Athletics

- Football
- Volleyball
- Softball
- Baseball
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Flag Football
- Cheerleading
- Weightlifting

## Clubs

- Best Buddies/Special Olympics
- Dance Team
- Drama Club
- Drill Team
- FCA
- FCCLA
- FFA
- GSA
- HOSA
- Key Club
- Language Clubs
- Longhorn Legion
- National Honor Society
- Student Council
- Yearbook



# Tips for Students

- Attendance is very important! Be at school **EVERYDAY!**
- Get to know your counselor
- Build relationships with your teachers (Recommendation Letters in the future may be needed)
- Find fun and interesting ways to volunteer in the community or at school
- Manage your time wisely, especially with extracurricular activities
- Figure out a plan for your high school career
- Don't cram for an exam the night before
- Stay organized, even if you're not the best at it
- Grades are important from Day 1 of school to set-up future post-secondary options. Don't slack off just because it's freshman year.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help



**Text**

**@25harmony**

**to 81010**

**9TH GRADE  
REMIND  
CODE**

**Harmony High School**

c/o 2025: @25harmony



**TEXT THE  
CODE TO  
81010 TO  
STAY IN  
THE LOOP!**



# Questions?

- Alexandra Spitaliere - Lead: [Alexandra.Spitaliere@osceolaschools.net](mailto:Alexandra.Spitaliere@osceolaschools.net)
- Lorine Guzman - Last names: A-Eg: TBA
- Madison Yaeger - Last names: Eh-Lt: TBA
- Deana Hetherly - Last names: Lu-Roc: [Deana.Hetherly@osceolaschools.net](mailto:Deana.Hetherly@osceolaschools.net)
- Angie Carrasquillo (Merced) - Last names: Rod-Z: [Angelina.Merced@osceolaschools.net](mailto:Angelina.Merced@osceolaschools.net)
  
- Cathy Barton- College & Career Counselor: [Cathy.Barton@osceolaschools.net](mailto:Cathy.Barton@osceolaschools.net)

**THANK YOU FOR LEARNING MORE ABOUT HARMONY HIGH SCHOOL!**