

## Sophomore Guidance Presentation

September 11 & 13, 2019 in World History classes

Speakers- Kaye Allen, Christina Valderas, and Jennifer Thomas

Slide 1- Intro of Guidance Dept. – Counselors- Kaye Allen 10-12<sup>th</sup> A-F, Jennifer Thomas 10-12<sup>th</sup> G-M, and Christina Valderas 10-12<sup>th</sup> N-Z, Test Coordinator- Kimberly Svatek, College/Career/Scholarship Coordinator- Melissa Fisher, and Registrar Araceli Ruiz for records and transcripts.

Slide 2- Ellis County College Fair is Sept 18 from 6 to 8PM at Waxahachie Civic Center- attendance is encouraged because around 100 of the most popular public and private colleges and technical schools from Texas and out of state will have representatives there to talk with students and tell you all about their schools.

Slide 3- Please pre-register for the college fair following the instructions provided and bring your barcode on paper or as a screenshot on your phone for the college representatives to scan so they will be able to connect with you and send you needed information. Students who don't pre-register will have to wait for a computer and register at the college fair.

Slide 4- Graduation Requirements- required credits, Endorsements, and 5 STAAR End of Course tests required to graduate.

Slide 5- 5 STAAR EOC courses needed for graduation are English 1 & 2, Algebra 1, Biology, & US History. Retests are always in the summer and December.

Slide 6- In high school you must pass your courses and meet attendance requirements in order to receive credit for courses. In order to be promoted, you need 6 credits for 10<sup>th</sup> grade status, 12 credits for 11<sup>th</sup> grade status, and 18 credits for 12<sup>th</sup> grade status, and 26 credits to graduate.

Slide 7- Skyward Graduation Requirements- this is a tab on the Skyward website (not available in the app). This tab lists classes required, credits you have completed, and credits in progress. Check out this tab and make sure you have the credits that you need to graduate.

Slide 8- DLA- To receive the Foundation Graduation Plan with Endorsements and the Distinguished Level of Achievement (DLA), one of your 4 math credits has to be Algebra 2. Check with your college to see if they require the DLA with Algebra 2 for admission. Also, you have to be on the DLA to be eligible for the Top 10% Automatic Admissions to Texas public colleges and universities (UT Austin is top 6%). You still have to meet all other admission requirements and take the SAT or ACT, but there is no minimum SAT/ACT score needed if you fall under the Top 10% Automatic Admissions policy.

Slide 9- Performance Acknowledgements are extra awards for outstanding performance that are denoted on your transcript to show colleges that you excelled in certain areas, which include- college courses, Bilingualism, AP test scores, PSAT, SAT or ACT test scores, or earning a certification or license.

Slide 10- GPA calculation chart explained- level 1, 2, and 3 courses, and is located in the course description guide on the ROISD website. The weighted GPA is what is used for ranking purposes.

Slide 11- Pass/Fail forms- Submit during 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade years only for courses that are not needed for a graduation requirement or for your Endorsement. Form is available in the Counseling Office and is due within the 1<sup>st</sup> 6 weeks of the semester. This allows students to take courses they are interested in without that course affecting their weighted GPA.

Slide 12- College admission testing- SAT and ACT- are usually taken in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade year, but can be taken earlier if the student wants to. Go to [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) and/or [act.org](http://act.org) to register for national test days, view and send scores, learn about tests, and for test prep. Colleges only accept official test scores sent by you through the testing companies- either College Board or ACT.

Slide 13- SAT and ACT prep- data shows that preparation will improve test scores. There are many good and free resources like Khan Academy, which is a personalized study plan based on your PSAT scores. Some of the many resources are listed on the ROHS Counselor website.

Slide 14- Enrollment testing- Students must be college ready in order to enroll in college classes in the state of Texas. This is done with the TSI test- a basic test in reading, writing, and math. ROHS gives TSI on Saturdays once a month throughout the school year. We plan to have 1 school day TSI for sophomores who need it during the spring semester. Always check with your college admissions office or in your college portal (once you are accepted) and make sure you are TSI complete in reading, writing, and math.

Slide 15- Do your college research- use websites like ROHS' new Naviance program, your colleges' websites, and other websites like [collegeforalltexas.com](http://collegeforalltexas.com) to learn about college opportunities and to narrow your colleges down by factors such as location, cost, and available majors.

Slide 16- Naviance is a very powerful tool to help research colleges, careers, scholarships, and take interest inventories. Starting in the 2019-2020 school year, every ROHS student has a Naviance account, and you login with your ID# at [student.naviance.com/redoakhs](http://student.naviance.com/redoakhs).

Slide 17- Make sure you understand college admissions requirements- go to your college's website and research freshman college admissions requirements to determine the SAT/ACT score required according to your GPA/rank/quartile. Also determine if you need Algebra 2 and any additional courses.

Slide 18- ROHS Advanced Academic Programs include PreAP, AP and Dual Credit. Recommendations for success include success in pre-requisite courses and on STAAR tests. We suggest you take these advanced courses in the areas you are strongest in, don't take too many at a time, and consider your other obligations- extracurricular, etc.

Slide 19- The College Board's AP program are college level courses taught by College Board trained teachers. If you take the AP test at the end of an AP course and make a 3 or higher, you could be awarded college credit for that course. There are no fees for AP courses, but AP tests cost around \$100 each.

Slide 20- 2 Dual Credit Tracks- 1- Academic Dual credit- college courses in which you receive college and high school credit (see slide #22). ROHS partners with Navarro College for Academic Dual Credit courses, and these courses are taught by professors certified by Navarro College. 2- Dual Career and Technical- certificate programs with TSTC for the following programs- welding, auto tech, graphics and design, and computer IT. ROHS also offers dual credit criminal justice with Navarro College.

Slide 21- Go to [www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org) to submit applications for admissions to Texas colleges.

Slide 22- Academic Dual Credit courses are college courses with college level workload and expectations. The decision to begin college classes is a major decision because courses and grades will be recorded on your college transcript. TSI must be complete in the area that you want to take dual credit courses in; for example, you must be TSI complete in reading and writing in order to take a dual credit course that is reading/writing based like US History. Students are responsible for tuition, fees, books, and supplies each semester. Check with your college and make sure they will accept the dual credit courses you want to take and will be able to apply those credits to your degree.

Slide 23- Visit the ROHS College and Career Headquarters on the ROHS website for important information about admission testing and prep, colleges, opportunities, financial aid and scholarships.

Slide 24- Follow the ROHS Counseling Department on Facebook and Twitter @rohscounselors for important updates and scholarship information.