

It's Your Future

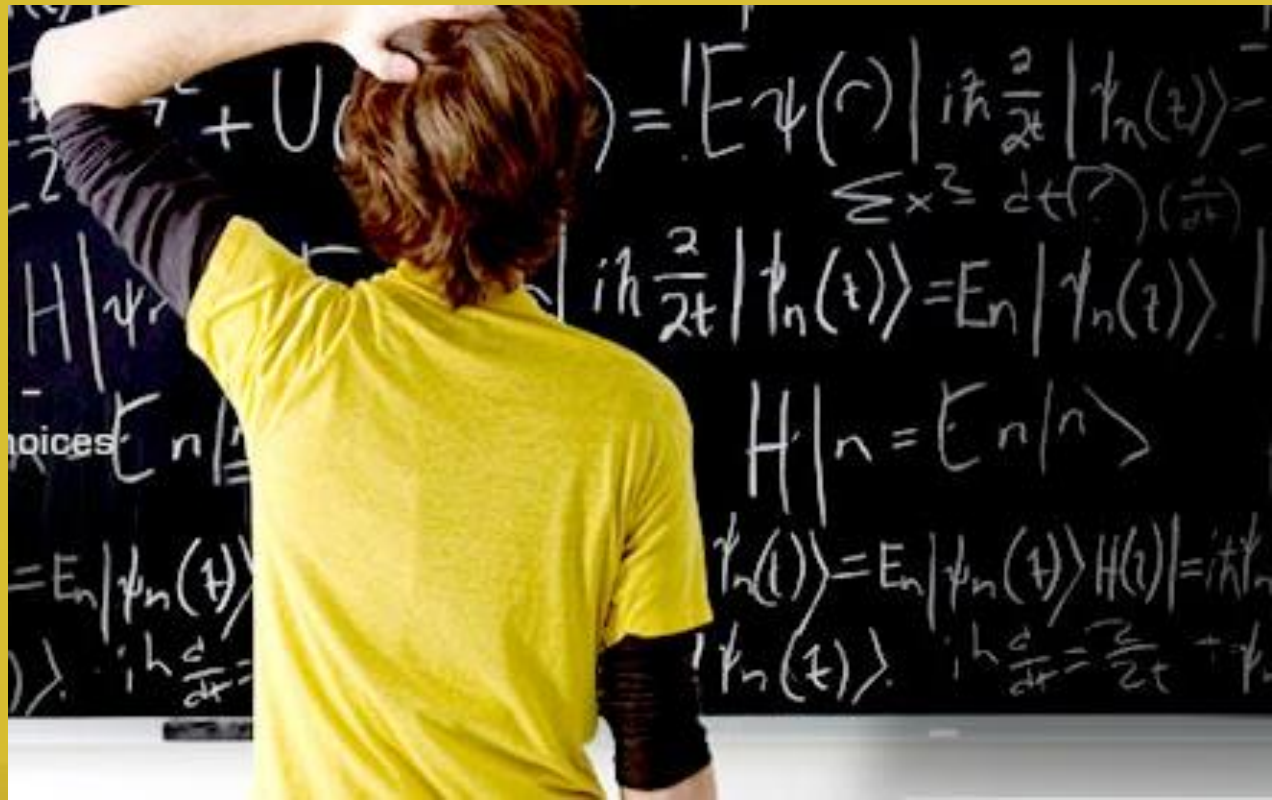
All Students College and Career Ready

Jefferson County Schools



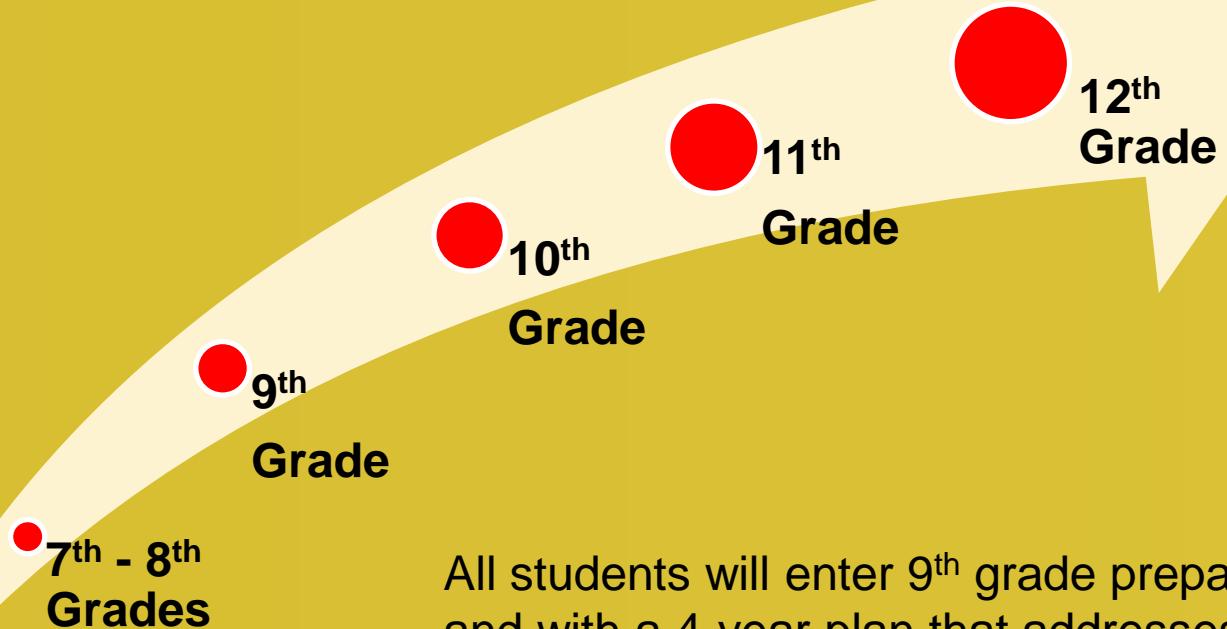
Welcome to YOUR Future

Sure, the future can seem a little overwhelming. But that's why you're here—to get the information you need to make smart choices and get excited about all the possibilities.



Preparation

Every Child a Graduate—Every Child Prepared for College/Work/Adulthood in the 21st Century



All students will enter 9th grade prepared and with a 4-year plan that addresses their individual academic and career interest needs. Your future begins NOW!!

Where do you start?



7th Grade



- Begin by building your portfolio in Career Cruising
 - What is a portfolio?
 - How do I start?
- Barsch Learning Styles Inventory
- Career Explorer
- Research 5 careers that interest you
- Get involved—look for sports, groups and clubs that match your interests and join!

*Jefferson County's approved plan for building your portfolio is **CareerCruising***

www.careercruising.com

7th Grade Continued...

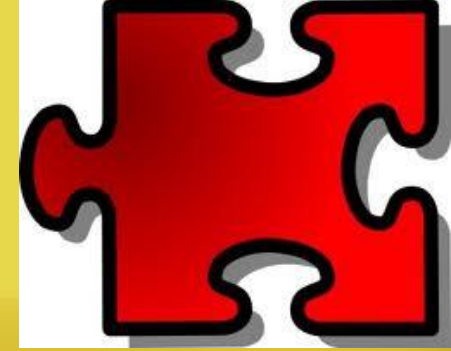


- Understand that choices you make now will determine who you become tomorrow
- Choose your friends wisely
- Understand the value of your course selection
- Attendance in school is **essential**
- **GRADES ARE IMPORTANT**





8th Grade



- **EXPLORE**

- What is it?
- What do the numbers mean?
- Learn more about EXPLORE (8th Grade) & PLAN (10th grade)
 - Your EXPLORE/PLAN scores are a predictor of your ACT performance. [Benchmarks](#)
- Visit www.act.org to learn more

- **Develop a 4-Year Education Plan**

- Course selections should be related to your career goals
- Career Matchmaker / Career Scope / Career Explorer
- Career One Stop is a website sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor. [Career One Stop](#)
- This site will help you explore career opportunities



Are you ready for High School?

- This is where the courses you take will give you a strong background for your career choice.
- Diploma types
 - What does this mean to me?
- What is the value of the courses I take?
- GPA (Grade Point Average)
 - How is this determined?
 - What does it mean to me?
- What elective opportunities are at my school that will help me with my career goals?
- When are Career Tech classes available to me?



Jefferson County Academies

- What is an Academy?
- What Academies are available at my high school?
- Can I apply to Academies at other high schools?
- How do I apply?
- When are Academies available to me?
- Can I attend the Academy Open House?
- Am I enrolled the correct courses?

9th Grade



- Update your 4-Year Education Plan
 - Plan your coursework around your career goals
- What electives are available at my school that will support my career goals?
- When are Career Tech courses available to me?
- Your community is important! How can you get involved? Service Learning / Job Shadowing
- Career Matchmaker-refine choices
- Focus on Good Grades!
 - A high GPA is necessary for scholarships and entrance to college/career training after high school

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10th Grade



- PLAN is for ALL students. It is free!!
 - PLAN is a predictor of ACT performance
 - Benchmarks
 - If you meet benchmarks, you have 50% chance of making a B or better in the matching college course/ 75% or better chance of a C or better.
- PSAT is preparation for the SAT (**S**cholastic **A**ptitude **T**est)
 - This determines Jefferson County Superintendent's Super Scholars
 - The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), gives you a chance to enter NMSC scholarship programs and gain access to college and career planning tools.
 - PSAT
- ASVAB a Career Exploration Program (free)
 - When taken in the 10th grade, cannot be used for military recruitment
 - A great indicator of how well you will do on the ACT
 - Provides scores that help narrow your search for careers



10th Grade Continued...

- Update your 4-Year Education Plan
- Career Matchmaker – refine selections
- Start Community Service Projects/ Service Learning
- Spring: review career goals and plan coursework
- End of 10th grade
 - Apply for Summer Scholars/Enrichment Programs
 - Apply for Academies

Your Grades Are Very Important

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Serious Conversations as a Sophomore

- Have you or your parent talked to your counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate?
 - Individual goal setting with your counselor will help keep you on track
- Are your course selections preparing you for your career goals?



Serious Conversations as a Sophomore Continued....

- Start a conversation with your parents about your future
 - What are your future plans?
 - Do you want to attend a 2-year school, a 4-year school, a technical school, participate in an apprenticeship program, or go into the military?
 - Are there funds set aside for educational expenses?
 - If not, this does NOT mean that college is not for you!
 - Does the school you want to attend offer your course of study?

11th Grade

- ACT (American College Test) for ALL students
 - Does your school offer valid ACT preparation courses?
 - Additional Testing dates
 - [ACT Test Dates](#)
- Start a “To Do” List (calendar; www.mycollegeoptions.org , etc)
- Update your 4-Year Education Plan
- Individual goal setting with school counselor
- Attend NACAC College Fair in September / Jefferson County College Fair in October
- Research careers and schools that offer your area of study

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CareerCruising*

www.careercruising.com



11th Grade Continued...

- Research financial aid and scholarship opportunities
 - [CSS Financial Profile](#)
 - [Help with FAFSA](#)
- Continue Community Service Projects and Participate in Activities
 - run for an office...leadership skills are important!
- Update your Resume' / Resume' Builder
 - Add Activities, Awards/Certificates
 - Explore Colleges and Universities via internet or actual visits
- Summer Internships or Work Experience are invaluable



Serious Conversations as a Junior

- Have you talked to your counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate?
- Continue to have conversations with your parents about your future
 - What are your future plans?
 - Do you want to attend a 2-year school, a 4-year school, a technical school, participate in an apprenticeship program, or go into the military?
 - Are there funds set aside for educational expenses?
 - If not, this does NOT mean that is college is not for you
 - Do the schools you are considering attending offer the major you are interested in?



Summer before Senior Year

- Visit a post-secondary school and don't forget the 2-year schools—this is a great way to get started. Many offer degree and non-degree programs
- Visit www.ALCareerInfo.org
- Attend a College Fair
 - NACAC [National Dates](#)
- Job Shadow
 - This will help you decide if what you “think” you want to do is what people in those careers actually do every day
- Mark important dates and deadlines on a calendar
- Study for the ACT if you didn't earn the score you need for entrance or scholarship opportunities
 - [ACT Practice Tests](#)

Where can I go to get scholarship information?

- www.fastweb.com
- www.mycollegeoptions.org
- www.zinch.com
- www.collegenet.com/mach25/app
- www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org

12th Grade



- ACT—retake if you need a higher score
- Apply for acceptance to the colleges of your choice
- Apply for apprenticeship programs
- Complete FAFSA forms OR research financial aid programs
 - FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- Continue community service projects and participate in activities
- Explore careers and search for jobs on www.CareerOneStop.org
- Complete your Resume' / Finish portfolio
- Prepare essays for scholarships
- Watch for DEADLINES! Most scholarships are due December 1st

**For more information
concerning this PowerPoint,
please contact your school's
guidance counselor**

