

Hamilton County High School

Student Handbook

2015-2016



Principal: Kip McLeod

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THIS STUDENT HANDBOOK BELONGS TO:

Name _____ Grade _____

This is your Hamilton County High School Student Handbook for the 2015-16 school year. After reading this handbook, you and your parents or guardians are asked to sign an acknowledgment sheet and return it to your first period teacher by August 21, 2015.

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

On behalf of our faculty, staff, and administration, I welcome you to Hamilton County High School. Your enrollment as a Trojan has established you as a part of a very special tradition of excellence. As a student at HCHS you will be faced with many opportunities. I challenge you to devote your best effort toward gaining a quality education, and I encourage you to get involved in some of our extra-curricular activities.

This handbook is designed to help establish a positive learning environment and to help acquaint you with our school. This information has been carefully prepared to help you adjust to our school and become an integral part of HCHS. Read it carefully and retain it for future reference, as you will be responsible for its contents.

I hope your career at HCHS will be a productive and memorable one.

A MESSAGE TO PARENTS

Thank you for allowing our faculty, staff, and administration the opportunity to work with your child. The faculty and staff are charged with the responsibility of assisting students in reaching the highest possible educational goals. It is a privilege that we do not take lightly.

If a problem develops regarding your child and Hamilton County High School, please do not hesitate to call your child's teachers, guidance counselor, assistant principal, or me. It is better to solve a potential problem in its early stages than to wait until later in the semester. Please participate in parent-teacher conferences, booster clubs, and other constructive roles as we work together to provide the best educational opportunities for all of our students.

Self-discipline is a prerequisite of order that is necessary for learning; therefore, students are expected to behave at school. **Regular school attendance is a must** in order to achieve consistent, uninterrupted learning. You are encouraged to make certain your child is in school on a regular basis, on time and prepared to learn. Homework is regularly assigned, and students are expected to complete their work in a timely fashion. All assignments should reflect the student's best effort. Finally, appropriate behavior facilitates success.

Finally, if a topic of importance is NOT found in this document, please refer to the Hamilton County Schools website (www.hamiltonfl.com) for the Pupil Progression Plan or the Hamilton County Schools Code of Conduct.

We look forward to working with you to help prepare your child for a successful, positive, and memorable career at HCHS.

Mr. Kip McLeod
Principal, Hamilton County High School

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The ultimate responsibility for a student's behavior rests with the student and his/her parents. Students are to respect authority, which includes compliance with school rules and regulations. The school staff anticipates that parents will be cooperative and supportive in dealing with any behavioral problems which may arise and expects that this cooperation will be conveyed to the students. One of the most significant objectives of discipline is to develop within the individual students the desire to exercise his/her rights judicially and exercise self-control.

More than ever before, a great responsibility is placed upon the student and parent to select wisely the courses of study which are important to both present and future educational objectives. All students are urged to confer with their teachers, counselor, administrator, and parent before selecting subjects. Please call the guidance office to schedule a parent-teacher conference and work with your student to ensure a successful experience at HCHS.

MISSION STATEMENT

Hamilton County High School's mission is to provide all students with a quality, well-rounded education that will enable them to become productive citizens in an ever - changing global society. We will also team with parents, community, and local businesses to challenge our students to be creative and to foster a respectful attitude for themselves and for others and to experience a joy of life and of learning.

VISION

Hamilton County High School will produce, through a rigorous curriculum, prepared young adults that are creative, individual learners, and productive citizens of society. Each individual will be prepared to enter a college, trade/vocational school, or work force with the tools needed to be successful which will leave no child behind.

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Hamilton County School District 2015-2016 Calendar

August

13th: Meet-the-Teacher High School – Open House 6:00 - 7:30 P.M.
17th: Students return to school

September

7th: Labor Day Holiday (school system closed)

October

23rd: Homecoming / Early dismissal

November

TBA: Student Holiday
23rd - 27th: Student Thanksgiving Holiday (school system closed)

December

18th: Early Dismissal (semester ends)
21st-31st: Christmas break (school system closed)

January

5th: Students return to school
18th: MLK Holiday (school system closed)

February

12th: Student Holiday
15th: Presidents' Day Holiday (school system closed)

March

21st-24th: Spring Break
25th: Good Friday Holiday (school system closed)

April

May

20th: Last day for seniors
26th: Last day for students, Early Dismissal, Baccalaureate
27th: Graduation

HAMILTON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULE 2015 – 2016

Middle Grades Bell A Planning 7:30 – 8:00		High School Bell B Planning 7:30 – 8:00		High School Bell C Planning 7:30 – 8:00	
Report to Class @ 8:00		Report to Class @ 8:00		Report to Class @ 8:00	
1st	8:05 – 8:57	1st	8:05 – 8:57	1st	8:05 – 8:57
2nd	9:01 – 9:53	2nd	9:01 – 9:53	2nd	9:01 – 9:53
3rd	9:57 – 10:49	3rd	9:57 – 10:49	3rd	9:57 – 10:49
Lunch	10:49 – 11:15	4th	10:53 – 11:45	4th	10:53 – 11:45
4th	11:19 – 12:11	Lunch	11:45 – 12:11	5th	11:49 – 12:41
5th	12:15 – 1:07	5th	12:15 – 1:07	Lunch	12:41 – 1:07
6th	1:11 – 2:03	6th	1:11 – 2:03	6th	1:11 – 2:03
7th	2:07 – 2:59	7th	2:07 – 2:59	7th	2:07 – 2:59
End of Work Day @ 3:00		End of Work Day @ 3:00		End of Work Day @ 3:00	

EARLY DISMISSAL BELL SCHEDULE

Middle School		High School	
First Bell 8:00	Report to 1st period	First Bell 8:00	Report to 1st period
Breakfast 8:05-8:15		Breakfast 8:05-8:15	
1st Period 8:15-9:00		1st Period 8:15-9:00	
2nd Period 9:04-9:49		5th Period 9:04-9:49	
3rd Period 9:53-10:38		6th Period 9:53-10:38	
4th Period 10:42-12:00		7th Period 10:42-12:00	
Middle School Lunch 10:45		Middle School Lunch 10:45	
HS1 Lunch 11:00		HS1 Lunch 11:00	
HS2 Lunch 11:15		HS2 Lunch 11:15	
Get lunch and return to same class		Get lunch and return to same class	

General Information

High School Graduation Information and Requirements

For Students who enter 9th grade the 2012-2013 School Year:

4 Credits English Language Arts

4 Credits Mathematics

- One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry
- Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry.)

3 Credits Science

- One of which must be Biology 1, two of which must have a laboratory component
- An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)
- An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one credit (except for Biology 1)

3 Credits Social Studies

- 1 credit in World History
- 1 credit in U.S. History
- .5 credit in U.S. Government
- .5 credit in Economics

1 credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts

1 credit Physical Education: to include the integration of Health

8 Elective Credits

1 Online Course

(Students must earn a minimum G.P.A of 2.0 on a 4.0 grade scale)

Pass all state required assessments

For Students who enter 9th grade the 2013-2014 School Year:

4 Credits English Language Arts (English I, English II, English III, and English IV)

4 Credits Mathematics

- One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry
- Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry.)

3 Credits Science

- One of which must be Biology 1, two of which must have a laboratory component
- Two of the three required courses must have a laboratory component
- An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)
- An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one credit (except for Biology 1)

3 Credits Social Studies

- 1 credit in World History
- 1 credit in U.S. History
- .5 credit in U.S. Government
- .5 credit in Economics

1 credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts

1 credit Physical Education: to include the integration of Health

8 Elective Credits

1 Online Course

(Students must earn a minimum G.P.A. of 2.0 on a 4.0 grade scale)

Pass all state required assessments

For Students who enter 9th grade the 2014-2015 School Year:

4 Credits English Language Arts (English I, English II, English III, and English IV)

4 Credits Mathematics

- One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry
- Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry.)

3 Credits Science

- One of which must be Biology 1, two of which must have a laboratory component
- Two of the three required courses must have a laboratory component
- An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)
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8 Elective Credits

1 Online Course

(Students must earn a minimum G.P.A. of 2.0 on a 4.0 grade scale)

Pass all state required assessments

Middle School Promotion Requirements Grade 6 -8

Students must have a passing grade of "60" or above in all of the following courses:

- Three years math
- Three years English Language Arts
- Three years science
- Three years social studies
- Career and education requirement (included in 8th grade social studies)

Grade scale: The Board recognizes the importance of a student grading system which is clearly identified and meaningful to students, parents, and school personnel. Grades shall be assigned as follows:

Grade Definition

Scale Grade Point Value

A - Outstanding Progress	90-100	4.0
B - Above Average Progress	80-89	3.0
C - Average Progress	70-79	2.0
D - Lowest Acceptable Progress	60-69	1.0
F - Failure	59 and below	0.0

A-B Honor Roll: “A” Honor roll is for having grades of “A’s” in all classes. “A-B” Honor Roll is for having grade of “A’s” and “B’s” in all classes.

Honors Graduates and Top Ten: What does it mean to graduate with honors? Academic honors involve these Latin terms:

- **Cum Laude:** “Cum Laude” means the student is graduating with a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.7.
- **Magna Cum Laude:** “Magna Cum Laude” means the student is graduating with a grade point average between 3.8 and 3.9.
- **Summa Cum Laude:** “Summa Cum Laude” means the student is graduating with a grade point average between 3.9 and 4.0.

Progress Reports

Progress reports will be issued to students to be taken home at the mid-point of each grading period. It is the student’s responsibility to bring the progress report home; they will **not** be mailed.

Transcripts

Students have the opportunity to send free of charge, two transcripts, to a post-secondary institution of the student’s choice or scholarship granting agencies. If the receiving college or university is using the FASTER system, any transcript sent is free of charge. A request for a hard copy of a transcript should be made to the records clerk, located behind Guidance at a cost of \$1.00.

School Breakfast and Lunch:

All students are served free breakfast and lunch. Breakfast is served in the students’ first period class room immediately before first period begins. Lunch is served in the school cafeteria, so **no food from outside vendors allowed**. Additional lunch items are also available for purchase by students or visitors at the prices for breakfast – lunch are below:

Breakfast		Lunch
Adult -	\$2.00	\$3.25
Child visitor -	\$1.25	\$1.75

Drinks and Snacks

Vending machines with drinks and snacks are located at a variety of places throughout the campus. Students are allowed to have drinks and snacks in the classroom **only if the teachers allows them**. Vending machines are provided as a privilege, and if students misuse them or cause litter, they will be closed at the principal's discretion.

Transportation

Bus Riders: Hamilton County Schools provides bus transportation for all its students. For information not provided here, please contact the transportation department at 792-7900.

- **Change in location or address for pick-up/drop-off:**
To ensure that all students receive bus service at the appropriate pick-up/drop-off locations, parents are asked to update any changes in address by contacting the front office at HCHS or the transportation department at the number listed above.
- **Procedure for riding a different bus from the one assigned:**
 - Students turn in a note from the parent/guardian to the front office designating the route the student should take
 - The front office will call the parent/guardian to verify the request
 - The front office will return the parent note to the student at the end of the school day
- **Campus location for bus drop-off and pick-up**
All students, middle school and high school, are dropped off and picked up at the same location at the northern side of campus by the middle school wing.

Car riders:

All car riders are dropped off and picked up at the front entrance to the school.

Student Parking Lot:

Students are allowed to drive to and park on the HCHS campus, provided they follow the guidelines set forth. All students are to park in designated spots on the west side of the campus. During school hours, students are not allowed in the student parking lot without administrative approval. There is to be no loitering in the student parking lot. Upon arriving, students are to enter the school building. Students who violate this rule are subject to school discipline. Parking on the school campus is a privilege extended to HCHS students; however, HCHS reserves the right to prohibit a student from bringing a vehicle on campus. A \$10.00 annual parking permit fee and a completed application must be submitted to the Dean before a parking permit can be issued. Parking permits must be properly displayed in the vehicle windshield while on the campus.

- The student parking lot is off-limits until the end of school each day unless the student is leaving school or has an off-campus class. Students needing to go to their vehicle during the school day should obtain written permission from an administrator. Student-drivers who leave campus early before school dismissal must stop at the security gate before leaving.

OTHER OFF-LIMIT AREAS

Students should be in their assigned areas at all times. The following areas are considered off-limits for students at all times:

- Faculty lounges/work rooms
- Faculty parking lot
- Utility rooms/closets
- Areas under construction/renovation

The following areas are off-limits during lunch:

- The gymnasium (unless assigned to a class)
- Halls/wings where classes are in session
- The students parking lot
- Any area designated as off limits

Field Trips:

The student code of conduct is applicable and enforceable on all field trips. Students cannot attend field trips unless they score a level three or higher on state-wide tests. Most field trips occur after testing. Permission slips to attend must be signed by parents before departure.

Assemblies

Assemblies and pep rallies are held for several purposes: to teach, to entertain, to honor, to promote school spirit, to celebrate, etc. Depending upon the purpose of the assembly, there is a specific type of behavior expected of the audience. The members of the audience should respect the rights of the performer or speaker and be courteous at all times. Students are expected to follow assembly instructions as given to them by a teacher or administrator; honor and respect the dignity of the program; and avoid talking, yelling, clapping or indicating your approval/disapproval when such is not appropriate. Even at pep rallies there is a time to cheer and a time to listen. Know when those times are and respect them.

Policies and Procedures

Cell phones and personal electronics:

If the display or use of electronic devices or cellular telephones on school property or at a school sponsored activity causes a disruption it may be grounds for discipline.

The school will not be responsible for the loss or theft of items as a result of a student's violation of this policy.

Tardies:

A student is tardy when the student arrives after the beginning of the school day or when he/she is not in his/her assigned class when the tardy bell rings. A student has the responsibility to be in class on time. A student's excessive unexcused tardiness shall be considered willful disobedience, and the student shall be subject to disciplinary action. Consequences for tardiness are listed in the Student Code of Conduct posted online.

Excused/Unexcused Tardies: Students who are tardy to school must be signed-in at the main office. Reasons for an excused tardy include: • illness; • medical or dental appointments (doctor's statement may be required); • automobile accident; • deaths or funerals; • emergency situations; • required court appearance (subpoena required); • established religion observance; • severe weather; • breakdown of school bus. Unexcused sign-ins include the following: • car problems (ex: flat tire, no gas, car won't start, student getting a parking decal); • heavy traffic; • overslept; • returned home for forgotten items; • non-educational appointments.

In School Suspension (ISS):

In School Suspension (ISS) will be assigned by the school administration or Dean. ISS will be under the supervision of Hamilton County certified staff. The main purpose of ISS is to keep students at school and to obtain guidance/behavior counseling as well as to complete class assignments.

Excessive Discipline Referrals:

Once a student approaches ten (10) discipline referrals, a letter will be sent to the parent. At ten referrals, the student may be referred to the superintendent for a discipline review. The superintendent may refer the student to a board of education hearing for: long term suspension, alternative education placement, or expulsion.

Alternative School:

Alternative school is a long-term placement assigned by the Hamilton County Board of Education where a student will attend for an extended period of time. This placement usually, but not always, happens when the student's conduct or behavioral mindset is such that the student is unwilling to follow certain school rules, or is a habitual offender, or can no longer function in the school environment. Additionally, in rare cases, students may be assigned to the alternative school for course/credit recovery in an attempt to rejoin his/her age appropriate grade co

Hallways:

To keep halls open to traffic students should walk to the right and not block traffic by standing in groups. Students should be considerate of others in the halls and classrooms by moving through the halls quickly and quietly. Students should use a conversational tone of voice and not make excessive noise or engage in horse play during class changes. Students should keep their hands to themselves, walk directly to their class in an orderly manner, and enter their classroom upon arrival.

Hall Passes:

Students should remain in class for the total class period. Students should not be allowed to leave class except in an emergency. The teacher has the authority to determine if an emergency exists. When an emergency arises, the student will be issued a hall pass. In all cases when a student is in the hall during class, he/she must have a hall pass. Students without hall passes are to be sent to an administrator.

Checking In and Out:

If a student reports to school after 8:05 a.m., he/she must report to main office, sign in and receive an admittance slip either excused or unexcused before being admitted to class. The student will report directly to his/her next class. Before a student may check out of school due to an emergency, illness or injury, the parents/guardians must be contacted by telephone by the front office attendance secretary. When a student knows in advance he/she must check out, such as a doctor's appointment he/she should bring a note from his/her guardian. This note should be presented to the front office secretary before school. When approved for release, the student will sign his/her name on the check-out roster in the main office.

Parents who come to school to check out their student should do so in the main office. Parents will sign their student out on the check-out roster. Florida Law permits school authorities to release students only to their parents, legal guardians or to persons properly identified by parents/guardians to school authorities in writing. Parents/guardians can list name(s) and phone numbers of such authorized person(s) with the front office secretary. Notes will be accepted from a parent/guardian when returning to school. Telephone calls will not be accepted in lieu of a note

Student ID Badges

Hamilton County High School's (HCHS) students will be provided one free Identification (ID) card for the 2015-16 school year. Once the system is fully operational, these ID cards will be used for tracking bus riders, taking classroom attendance, library check outs and more. STUDENTS MUST HAVE THE ID CARDS IN THEIR POSSESSION AT ALL TIMES. If a student misplaces the card, replacement cards are \$5 each. (For replacement cards see the Media Specialist) ID cards are color coded for each class based on the year of graduation (example; All 7th graders will have red cards each year until graduation at HCHS). If a student is retained or promoted during the year, a new ID card with appropriate color will be issued to the student free of charge. The ID card has the following information: full name, year of graduation, student ID number, a bar code for library use, school name and a current photo of the student.

Behavior Guidelines

Cafeteria

- Line up in a single line to receive lunch.
- Students are expected to throw their trash away after eating.

Student Discipline

Please visit the Hamilton County Schools website for a complete copy of the Code of Student Conduct.

Start On Time

- **ID should be available upon request.**
- Do not linger in hallways; keep moving.
- Refrain from horseplay and loudness.
- Be inside the classroom when the bell rings.

School Arrival/Departure Time

HCHS employees are not responsible for supervising students who arrive on school property 30 or more minutes before school or a school-sponsored activity is scheduled to begin. Further, HCHS employees are not responsible for supervising students who remain on school property 30 or more minutes after school ends, or 30 or more minutes after a school-sponsored activity ends. **Please be reminded, students need to exit the building immediately after school unless participating in a school sponsored event.**

Hallway

- **ID's must be on the student's at all times.**
- Refrain from horseplay, excessive public displays of affection and running.
- Stay to the right and move constantly.
- In the event of a disruption, continue moving to class. Students who are watching the disruption are subject to discipline.
- Hall passes are not allowed, except for extreme emergencies. Security will be called to escort students.

Restrooms

- Use restroom during lunch or between classes.
- Classroom restroom breaks are for emergencies only.
- Special medical passes must come from the administrator with a doctor's note and displayed on the front of the identification badge.

Hall Passes – Students should never be in the hall during class times without a hall pass.

Visitors:

Florida Law prohibits visitors on a public school campus for social or nonessential reasons. Students may not bring visitors to school or meet visitors anywhere on the campus during

school hours. Violations of this rule could result in the arrest of visitors and serious disciplinary action taken with students. Visitors with specific purposes are welcome and should check in with the main office and receive a visitor's pass.

Missing Assignments:

When students must make up any work for a class (this includes anything that is graded by the teacher), it is the responsibility of the student and/or parent to request the work from the teacher. Any and all late or missing assignments must be completed and turned in to the teacher by the last day of the 4 ½ week grading period and cannot be submitted after that grading period ends.

Attendance:

School attendance is critical to a student's success in school; therefore, students are required to attend school regularly. Attendance is required until a student's sixteenth birthday. A student over the age of 16 is subject to compulsory attendance **unless** the student completes a formal declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment with the school district. The declaration must be signed by the student and the parent. The guidance counselor or other school personnel must conduct an exit interview and survey with the student to determine the reasons for their decision to terminate school enrollment. **A student who attains the age of 18 years during the school year is not subject to the legal sanctions for compulsory school attendance.** (F.S. 1003.21 (2) (c))

When a student in grades 7-12 accumulates over 10 unexcused absences in a course within a semester, credit shall be withheld (SPP, page 52). When credit is withheld, students may request to appeal the withholding of credit by submitting an attendance appeal form. The form is available in student services (guidance) and includes instructions for completing and submitting the form for review. The student and parent will be notified of the date and time of appearance before the appeals committee.

Schedules :

All students who do not have a full schedule will be assigned a non-credit study hall in the periods they have no class scheduled. They are to report to the teacher/class assigned.

Schedule Change Requests 7-12:

1. Students requesting a schedule change after the registration process must:
 - a. Request that the teacher complete the change of course form,
 - b. Have the form signed by the registrar,
 - c. Have the appropriate school administration sign off on the request,
 - d. Have the principal approve the change.
2. Schedule change requests will be reviewed under the following circumstances:
 - a. Original schedule has an inappropriate class placement
 - b. Class size was insufficient to offer a course section
 - c. To correct original scheduling omissions or errors

- d. To fulfill Florida Graduation requirements
- e. To adjust due to summer school earned credits
- 3. Schedule change requests will not be reviewed under the following circumstances:
 - a. Teacher preference
 - b. Personal student convenience, such as:
 - i. To have a class with a friend
 - ii. To have lunch with a friend.
 - iii. Not to have class certain students
- 4. Students can initiate the schedule change process in the first full week of school only. A schedule change request after the first week must be approved by the principal.
- 5. Upon approval of a team that consists of parents, teachers, and administration, a student's request for an online class will be reviewed for appropriateness. Students placed in online classes will be removed if they do not meet course completion progress rates.

Where to Go for Help

School Clinic and Nurse

HCHS has a school clinic that provides services to ALL Hamilton County students in grades pre-K through 12 as well as younger siblings of currently enrolled students. The clinic is located on the HCHS campus. Hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM. The School Health Staff consists of an RN, an LPN, a School Social Worker, a Clerk, and an ARNP. Services provided are: school entry physicals; sports physicals; sick visits; counseling; screening for hearing, vision, scoliosis, and BWI (Body Weight Index); pregnancy testing; medication administration; and first aid.

To use the clinic, students must present a clinic-generated pass from the teacher. Students will receive services if they have a notarized permission form on file with the clinic/school nurse. Clinic permission forms are sent home at the beginning of each school year and are in effect until the student graduates.

Guidance and Counseling

Guidance and Counseling is located in the Administration Building (100). To visit the guidance department, students are to obtain a pass from their teacher first. If you need help with your schedule, academic situation, or even personal problems, we are here to help!

Listed below are just some of the issues or information we can help you with:

Guidance

Credit Hours

Grade point average

Counseling

Abuse

Addiction

Scheduling changes
NCAA eligibility
Parent-teacher conferences
Scholarships
Post-secondary options
Career planning

Substance abuse
Depression
Bullying issues

Parent-teacher Conferences:

Students or teachers may initiate a parent-teacher conference. Guidance counselors will arrange the conference by contacting the parent, or the parent may contact the guidance department. Parents are encouraged to meet with all of their students' teachers periodically. Counselors will attempt to arrange conferences within 48 hours of the parents' request.

Testing

For information regarding testing, contact the Testing Coordinator.

School Activities

Grad Bash/8th Grade Trip:

These trips are an opportunity for students to visit Universal Studios in their senior year or eighth grade year of school. Fees and deadlines will be announced during the school. Grades and conduct are factors in eligibility to participate. All fees are non-refundable.

Prom:

Prom is a dance held in the spring of every year. Tickets are available for purchase by juniors and seniors only, but their dates may be in ninth grade at the youngest and twenty-years old at the oldest. Only two tickets are sold per student, and fees are non-refundable.

Dances:

HCHS dances are held as fundraising activities, and those who attend must abide by the dance dress code.

Band/Color Guard:

The academic requirement to participate in extra-curricular band is a GPA of 2.0. All members of the marching band must attend after school rehearsals and play at ball games and other band events.

Blood Drives:

Blood drives are held throughout the school year, and students who meet the following requirements may donate:

- hold a valid student I.D.
- be 16 years old and have parents' permission or 17 years old without parents' permission
- meet the minimum weight requirement of 110 pounds
- and meet general health requirements

Miss HCHS / Miss Jr. HCHS:

The Miss HCHS and Miss Jr. HCHS pageants are held once a year for young ladies who meet the academic and discipline requirements for them to be model representatives of the school.

Principal's Honor Roll Event:

Every spring the principal hosts an event for all students who were on honor roll two of the three nine weeks.

Grad Walk:

At the end of their senior year and as part of the required commencement activities, graduating seniors are honored by dressing in their cap and gowns and marching through the halls of HCHS and the other district schools.

The Holly Ball:

This is a formal Christmas dance held by various clubs as a fundraiser.

Clubs & Sponsors

Hamilton County High School offers students a variety of ways to participate in club activity in service clubs, academic honors societies, or hobbies and interests clubs. Information about these clubs follows below:

Senior Beta Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell

Purpose: to promote scholarship, leadership and good citizenship through service to school and community

Standards of Membership: Beta Club is a nationally sponsored club open to student in grades 9-12 who have a minimum cumulative un-weighted GPA of 3.5 or, if no GPA is available, to students who have been on the "A" or "A"/"B" Honor Roll for the entire previous academic year. Other specifics criteria can be found in the chapter rules. See the sponsor for details.

Junior Beta Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Renee Daigle

Purpose: to serve our community and to promote scholarship

Standards of Membership: Junior Beta Club is open to students in grades 7-8 who have grades of all "A's" and "B's" and no discipline referrals. Membership requires students complete a minimum of 10 community service hours by the end of the school year. Dues are \$5.00.

Guitar Club

Sponsor: Mr. Chris Combass

Purpose: to promote and encourage student collaboration through the use of music as it relates to the guitar.

Standards of Membership: This club is for high school students who play or who have a serious interest in learning how to play the guitar. Our goal is to increase student appreciation of music and to conduct community service projects. Students must be in grades 9-12, or exhibit exemplary musical talent, and club membership is limited to 30 students per club meeting.

Sigma Delta Drama Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Anita Beck

Purpose: to promote student involvement in all aspects of drama production: acting, costume design, costume management, directing, lighting design, makeup artistry, producing, set design, set building, sound management, and stage management

Standards of Membership: Sigma Delta is open to students who are interested in all the different aspects of play production and who are willing to work hard and have fun with drama at the same time. Yearly dues are \$20.00.

Vocal Ensemble

Sponsor: Mrs. Renee Daigle

Purpose: to perform music in our schools and community

Standards of Membership: Students must have a love of singing, the willingness to practice and perform, have a minimum GPA of 2.5, and audition for selection. Dues are \$5.00 annually.

TCG (Trojan Card Games)

Sponsor: Mr. Ken Tober

Purpose: to get together to play card games including traditional card games as well as collectable card games.

Standards of Membership: TCG is open to all students, grades 7-12. Students must be interested in playing card games and willing to share new games they know with other students. Dues are \$1.00 annually.

Man To Man (Basketball-loving Fellas Learning to be Gentlemen)

Sponsor: Mr. Patrick Murphy

Purpose: to learn the game of basketball along with the characteristics of being a gentleman

Standards of Membership: Man To Man is open to boys in grades 7-12 who have a love for the game of basketball but are NOT required to be on the school basketball team. Members must also be interested in becoming a gentleman. There are no dues.

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)

Sponsor: Mr. Johnny Brown, Mr. Tommy Smith, Coach Patrick Murphy

Purpose: to grow in our relationship with Christ and to play our sport to His honor

Standards of Membership: FCA is open to students in grades 7-12 who sincerely want to represent Christ in their actions on and off campus. There are no dues, and this club meets before school.

Art Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Rachel Budwick

Purpose: to enrich the campus and community by sharing the visual arts

Standards of Membership: Art Club is for high school students in grades 9-12 who are enthusiastic about art or exhibit exemplary artistic ability and are prepared to create art and volunteer their time to the club. Dues are \$8.00 annually.

Soccer Club: Middle and High School

Club Sponsor: Mr. Horacio Perez

Purpose: to promote fellowship, to instill good sportsmanship among peers, and to play a beautiful game of soccer

Standards of Membership: Middle School Soccer Club is open to boys and girls in grades 7-8. High School Soccer Club is open to boys and girls in grades 9-12. No previous soccer experience is required. Dues are \$3.00 annually.

Culinary Competition

Sponsor: Mrs. Geniane Bell

Purpose: to enhance culinary and to participate in culinary competitions!

Standards of Membership: To participate in Culinary Competition, students must be in grades 10-12 and be Servsafe certified or working towards certification. Dues are \$10.00 annually.

FBLA-PBL/ML

Sponsor: Mrs. Cathy Bradshaw and Mr. Louis Daniels

Standards of Membership: This club is open to business-Microsoft Pathway students

FFA (Future Farmers of America)

Sponsor: Mr. Doug Clayton

Standards of Membership: Students must adhere to state guideline. See Mr. Clayton for information.

A.C.G. (Anonymous Care-Givers)

Sponsor: TBA

Purpose: to serve people in BIG and small ways without recognition

Standards of Membership: TBA

SGA (Student Government Association)

Sponsor: TBA

Purpose: to make decisions in our school; to improve leadership in the school, to have a voice, and to make a difference

Standards of Membership: This club is comprised of students elected from grade 9-12 to represent their classes.

Trojan Fishing Club

Sponsor: Mr. Sean Laughlin

Purpose: to educate the students about the rules and regulations set forth by the state of Florida; to practice correct catch and release methods to insure the quantity and quality of the Florida fisheries; and to work to ensure the survival of the Florida ecosystem

Standards of Membership: Annual dues of \$5.00

Photography Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Christina Mosteller

Purpose: to take pictures of school and club activities

Standards of Membership: Membership is open to middle school students in grades 7-8, and dues are \$10.00 annually.

Trojan Golf Club

Sponsor: Mr. Ryan Lamont

Purpose: to learn and discuss the sport of Golf

Standards of Membership: Membership is open to students in grades 7-12, and dues are \$5.00 annually.

Athletics

Athletics are an important part of every middle school and high school, and HCHS offers many opportunities for students to be active in this part of their school experience. The athletics available to students in the fall are football and girls volleyball. Winter sports are basketball, soccer and weight lifting. Spring sports available are baseball, girl's softball and track. Cheerleading is offered for football and basketball.

Our coaches observe the rules and requirements set forth by the Florida High School Athletic Association and want all students to know they are welcome to try-out to participate, but that it is a privilege to play, not a right. **Students must be in attendance a minimum of ½ day of school the day of the activity in order to participate that day.** Mrs. Karen Bristol, the athletic secretary (administrative building), can assist all students with the required paperwork and forms for participation.

Athletics Eligibility:

Hamilton County High School adheres to the guidelines for athletic eligibility set forth by the Florida High School Athletic Association.

Academic Programs

The Academic courses at HCHS for grade 9-12 reflect purposeful scheduling to help each student reach his or her highest potential. Detailed course descriptions are available www.CPALMS.org

The academic courses available at HCHS are:

English:

English I, English II, English III (American Literature), English IV (British Literature), English IV College Prep, and English Honors I, II, III

Mathematics:

Algebra I & II, Intensive Math-Algebra I, Algebra Honors, Geometry, Math for College Readiness, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, and Liberal Arts Math

Reading:

Intensive Reading and Intervention

Science:

Biology, Biology Honors Environmental Science, Earth Space Science, Chemistry I & II, Honors Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology

Social Science:

Civics, U.S. History, World History, American Government, Economics, AP Psychology

Academic opportunities

In addition to the core academic and elective courses offered at HCHS, students also have the opportunity to enroll in the following programs:

AP Psychology:

This Advanced Placement (AP) course is offered to students in grades 10-12 who want an opportunity to receive both high school and college credit for this social studies elective. Eligibility for the course is based on the students' prior academic performance, reading scores, and teacher recommendation.

Dual Enrolment:

Eligible students who are college degree-seeking may participate in the dual enrollment program with North Florida Community College.

- Students must have a 3.0 un-weighted GPA
- Students must have the minimum required scores on one of the standardized tests listed below:
ACT: Reading 19, English 17, Math 19 for intermediate Algebra
SAT: Verbal 440 for any class other than math, Math 500 for College Algebra

English Honors:

The high school English department offers honors level courses for English I, II, III, and IV. Recommendations to participate are as follows: students must have a minimum reading level 3 score and the recommendation of the previous English teacher.

Online courses:

Students have the opportunity to take online courses and receive full credit for those classes not offered on campus at HCHS through Edgenuity and Florida Virtual School (FLVS). Students interested in taking online courses may enroll through the help of guidance and the registrar.

Electives

The elective courses offered at HCHS are listed below:

Aerospace Science

HCHS is investigating offering courses through partnership with Embry Riddle Aeronautics University.

Agriculture Science Courses

The courses offered are as follows: Foundations I, Environmental Resources III, Agriculture Biotechnology I, II, and Directed Study;

Allied Health Science / CNA

Certified Nursing Assistant program. The CNA classes provide classroom lectures, Audio/Video and Practical demonstrations. Certificate is available upon completion of program.

BAND:

Fulfills Fine Arts requirement for graduation. Band courses include Performing Group and Marching Band. After school rehearsals are sometimes required for band.

CHORUS:

Fulfills Fine Arts requirement for graduation. The chorus group performs outside of school at various events and may participate in competitions.

CULINARY:

This course satisfies the CTE requirement for graduation: 1st year: Safety and sanitation, classroom activities, basic kitchen skills/experience limited labs; 2nd and 3rd year: advanced hands-on skills and certification exam.

MUSICAL THEATRE:

Fulfills Fine Arts requirement for graduation. Singing, Dancing, Acting, Set Production, and all aspects of theatre production will be included in this course.

NAIL TECH:

Students learn to perform basic manicures and pedicures. Certificate is available upon completion of the course.

Physical Education:

1 credit required for graduation; ½ year of Personal Fitness and ½ year of either individual, dual or team sports.

ROTC:

AFJROTC offers 6 courses which include Physical Training, Leadership, Aerospace Science, Drill and Ceremony. Students enrolled in the program must be in grades 9-12. Full participation in ROTC will result in the student receiving a 3-year completion certificate. This certificate benefits those entering the military by providing the possibility for early promotion.

SPANISH 1 & 2:

These 2 courses satisfy the World Languages Requirement for a College-Ready Diploma. Students enrolled in this course must be in grades 9-12.

Technology Classes

These classes include: Digital Design I, II, and III, Computing for College and Careers;

TV PRODUCTION:

This class is offered to students in grades 9-12. Students will produce and air a news cast on Channel 8 each morning during breakfast. Teachers may also have announcements read during the broadcast.

VISUAL ARTS AND CERAMICS:

Fulfills Fine Arts requirement for graduation. These classes use clay and other related materials to develop students' own individual artistic styles.

YEARBOOK:

Yearbook is an elective class whose purpose is to create and fund the school yearbook. During the year, students take pictures, write copy, travel to local businesses to sell ads, and take field trips to WFSU and WCTV in Tallahassee! Anyone interested in purchasing a yearbook should see C. Williams in the Media Center.

The criteria for selections

Three teachers' recommendations, with one being the previous English teacher

- Clean discipline history
- Academic transcript

The selection process is as follows:

- Students register for the course during spring registration
- Students submit teacher recommendation forms to the registrar
- Registrar prints all related documents for administration
- The faculty advisors previews the list and submits recommendations
- The administration makes the final selection

Interested students who meet the above requirements must notify the registrar. The registrar will send the list to Ms. Williams and the principal will then email the list of students with her recommendations to the administration for final approval.

Summer Camps / Programs

Aerospace Summer Camp (ASC):

ASC is a college-level introductory course offered to students in grades 9th through 12th. The ASC program includes topics such as: aerospace operations, space history, orbits, and future space programs. ASC runs Monday through Thursday in the classroom, with Fridays reserved for off-campus

field trips (Kennedy Space Center, Challenger Learning Center, etc.). Upon successful completion of the course objectives, students will receive a college transcript from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Breakfast, lunch, and transportation, are supplied at no cost to the student. Potential ASC students should contact the guidance counselor for more information.

Agriculture

The Ag. Dept. will offer agricultural opportunities for students to work during the summer. See the agriculture teacher for more details.

Art Camp:

Art is primarily focused on students in grades seven through twelve. Emphasis is placed on painting. Art Camp is offered in late July and is open to interested students. Contact the art teacher for more information.

Band / Color Guard Camp:

Band camp is scheduled each summer for band students, color guard members, and majorettes to rehearse and practice their field show for the fall semester to be performed at the football games. All students enrolled in band class are expected to participate in marching band. Those students who do not have the option to take a band class may join marching band and attend rehearsals after school each day. Band camp is a requirement in order to march in the band.

Cheer Camp:

Cheer camp is held in late July for young women who have made any of the three cheerleading squads. A registration fee for this camp is necessary. Transportation is provided by the activity bus. Contact the athletic office for more information.

Credit Recovery program:

Credit Recovery is offered during the summer. Students will use the Edgenuity format to complete assignments. This course typically runs for four weeks. See the guidance department for details.

Driver's Education:

Drivers Ed. is available to students who are or will be 15 years of age before July 30. This opportunity consists of one week of in-class instruction along with scheduled hands-on driving appointments. Contact Louis Daniels for an application.

EOC Boot Camp:

Boot camps are offered to prepare students for specific various EOC re-takes. Contact the guidance department for more details.

ROTC Summer Camps:

ROTC offers several camps for cadets in the summer. Applicants are selected based on leadership abilities, grades, and community involvement. Interested students should contact the ROTC commander for more information.

Summer Bridge:

Summer Bridge is available to incoming 7th graders. Summer Bridge is a camp a three day camp and orientation about campus life at HCHS. This camp is held a few weeks before school starts. Contact the middle school counselor for more details.

Class of 2016 Bright Futures Scholarship Program

	Florida Academic Scholars Award (FAS)	Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS)												
<p>Award Amount</p> <p>A student may receive funding for only one award. The highest award earned by the student will be selected.</p>	<p>All students will receive the specified award amounts established by the Florida Legislature in the General Appropriations Act. Award amounts for the 2016-17 academic year will be available on the Bright Futures website in summer 2016, after the legislative session.</p> <p>*For current year award amounts visit: www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/awardamt.htm</p>	<p>All students will receive the specified award amounts established by the Florida Legislature in the General Appropriations Act. Award amounts for the 2016-17 academic year will be available on the Bright Futures website in summer 2016, after the legislative session.</p> <p>*For current year award amounts visit: www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/awardamt.htm</p>												
<p>Grade Point Average (GPA)</p>	<p>3.5 weighted GPA using only credits listed below (GPAs are not rounded)</p> <p>Weighting for more challenging, higher level courses is prescribed by law as .50 per course per year.</p> <p>Example:</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Credit</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Weighting</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1.00</td> <td style="text-align: center;">.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">.50</td> <td style="text-align: center;">.25</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	1.00	.50	.50	.25	<p>3.0 weighted GPA using only credits listed below (GPAs are not rounded)</p> <p>Weighting for more challenging, higher level courses is prescribed by law as .50 per course per year.</p> <p>Example:</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Credit</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Weighting</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1.00</td> <td style="text-align: center;">.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">.50</td> <td style="text-align: center;">.25</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	1.00	.50	.50	.25
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<p>Required Credits</p>	<p>16 credits of college preparatory academic courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 English (3 with substantial writing) 4 Mathematics (Algebra I and above) 3 Science (2 with substantial lab) <u>2 Foreign Language (same language)</u> <p>16 Credits</p> <p>May use up to 2 additional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above and/or fine arts AP, IB, or AICE courses to raise the GPA.</p>	<p>16 credits of college preparatory academic courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 English (3 with substantial writing) 4 Mathematics (Algebra I and above) 3 Science (2 with substantial lab) <u>2 Foreign Language (same language)</u> <p>16 Credits</p> <p>May use up to 2 additional credits from courses in the academic areas listed above and/or fine arts AP, IB, or AICE courses to raise the GPA.</p>												
<p>Community Service</p>	<p>100 hours, as approved by the school</p>	<p>75 hours as approved by the school</p>												
<p>Test Scores</p>	<p>Best composite score of 1290 SAT Reasoning Test (based on combined Critical Reading and Math sections only) or 29 ACT (excluding the writing section).</p> <p>NOTE: The writing sections for both the SAT and ACT will not be used in the composite.</p> <p>SAT Subject Tests are not used for Bright Futures eligibility.</p> <p>(ACT scores are rounded up for scores with .5 and higher; SAT scores do not require rounding.)</p>	<p>Best composite score of 1170 SAT Reasoning Test (based on combined Critical Reading and Math sections only) or 26 ACT (excluding the writing section).</p> <p>NOTE: The writing sections for both the SAT and ACT will not be used in the composite.</p> <p>SAT Subject Tests are not used for Bright Futures eligibility.</p> <p>(ACT scores are rounded up for scores with .5 and higher; SAT scores do not require rounding.)</p>												

Visit <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf/> for more information