<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Counselor</th>
<th>Prefix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Pantano</td>
<td>A - Coo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Chupela</td>
<td>Cop - Go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Gallo</td>
<td>Gr - Lam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Hanna</td>
<td>Lan - Ng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Matta</td>
<td>Ni - Ri and TCHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Warren</td>
<td>Ro - Sm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Hewitt</td>
<td>Sn - Z</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Keys to Senior Year

- Grades and Courses
- Testing
- College Visits
- Letters of Recommendation
- Transcripts
- NCAA (student athletes)
# Graduation Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core</th>
<th>Total 16 Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must include Algebra 1 &amp; Geometry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Language</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Math, Science, or Language</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Encore &amp; Elective Credits</th>
<th>Total 7.66 Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshman Wellness &amp; Fitness (9th grade)</td>
<td>.5 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health (10th grade)</td>
<td>.5 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE (2 more years)</td>
<td>.66 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>6 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Graduation Project – 40 hours</td>
<td>Total .34 credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GPA and Grades

- Many colleges use Senior grades in their admissions decisions.
  - Colleges may ask to see your first semester grades.
  - Colleges consider grades from all four years of high school.
  - Stay focused on finishing out the year strong and keep your grades up; final grades could impact scholarship opportunities and admissions.

- GPA by year - transcript will show individual GPAs from each year
  - Admissions looks for trends, such as steady achievement or improvement over time

- Cumulative GPA - average of each year combined, which includes dividing the number of quality points earned in all courses attempted by the total degree-credit hours in all attempted courses.
Course Selection

Rigor of Senior year schedule

“More and more, colleges are placing an emphasis on course rigor because they want to ensure that students are prepared to handle a college course load. If a student takes a low number of credits or markedly easier classes, it is likely that the admissions officer reviewing that applicant will wonder if that student is prepared or motivated enough to handle the academic rigors of that particular institution.”

- Ivywise
College Admissions Tests

The ACT

- September 14th: Deadline has passed
- October 26th
- December 14th

SAT

- October 5th: Register by September 6th
- November 2nd
- December 7th
Score Reports

• Students are responsible to send score reports directly from the testing agency to each college, scholarship program and to the NCAA
  • Test scores are NOT listed on transcripts
  • Collegeboard.org; ACT.org

• 4 score reports are included at no charge with each exam when selected during the exam registration

• NEW: ~130 colleges allow self-reported test scores (Bucknell, Case Western, NC State)
SAT Subject Tests

- Be sure to consult college admissions sites directly. These are only required or recommended by the most competitive colleges and can vary by major.

- By sending Subject Test scores to colleges, you can showcase your strengths.

- Taken in addition to SAT Reasoning or ACT exams.

- Many schools will accept the ACT with Writing in place of both the SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject Tests.

Selecting Colleges To Apply To

• Compare your grades and test scores with college data
  – Reach - schools above your academic qualifications
  – Target - schools where you meet admissions standards
  – Likely - schools where you are above admissions standards

• Visit a variety of schools to determine your best fit; be sure to sign up for official visits on the school’s website; consider:
  - setting
  - size
  - your major
  - extracurriculars
  - cost

• Sign up for college representative visits to the Career Center through Naviance
Setting Up Naviance for the Application Process

- Log on to your Naviance account
  - Username: Student ID; Password: Birthday (xx/xx/xxxx)

- Select the Colleges Tab at the top; Select “Colleges I am Applying to”

- Select “Add to this List”
  - Find and select your colleges
  - Every college you apply to must be on this list or materials cannot be successfully sent

- You’ll be prompted to Match Naviance to your Common Application Account; must have a college in your Common App list and have signed your FERPA waiver in the Common App in order to match

- Link to Naviance Tutorial:
  https://www.dasd.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=5530&dataid=3170&FileName=Navigating%20Naviance%20Workshop%202016.pptx
Request Letters of Recommendation

- Check to see if colleges that you will be applying to accept letters; make special note of the maximum amount they allow.

- Ask a primary and secondary teacher who know you well and can speak to your strengths as a student; teacher letters and counselor recommendations are NOT the same thing.

- Provide teachers and counselor with an activities resume; it is suggested you use the resume feature in Naviance.

- Pros and Cons of Waiving your FERPA rights

- Make sure to follow up with your recommender and thank him/her for writing on your behalf.
All Letters and Transcripts are sent through Naviance

- Verify with teachers that they will be writing on your behalf
- At the top, select “Apply to College”
- Select ‘Letters of Recommendation’
- Select ‘Add Requests’
- Select the teacher and add a message if you would like
- Select ‘All current and future colleges…’
- Press ‘Submit Requests’

When completing the Common Application, NEVER put in a teacher as an outside recommender!
What is SRAR?

- SRAR stands for Self Reported Academic Record
- Student enters their entire high school transcript with grades and credits
- Honor system
- Most times it replaces the high school from sending a transcript
- If you are admitted and accept to attend, we will send an official final transcript which the college will check against what you self reported
  - If there are discrepancies, your admissions offer may be rescinded.
- Some colleges that accept SRAR include Pitt, Penn State, South Carolina, VA Tech, UC schools *must complete on college portal
  - SRAR is incorporated into the Common App called, *Courses & Grades*, but it is only required for a few schools.
Types of Applications

- **Common Application (CA)**
  - Approx. 800 colleges including international
  - 65 colleges in PA - Ex. Temple, UPenn, Lehigh, Bucknell, Drexel, Gettysburg
  - [http://www.commonapp.org/](http://www.commonapp.org/)

- **Non-Common Application (eDocs)**
  - Apply either directly on the college’s website or through the Coalition Application
  - The Coalition usually overlaps with Common App meaning the college will accept either type
    - If both CO and CA are offered, we prefer CA!
  - Exceptions: CO Exclusive colleges: University of Maryland, Virginia Tech, University of Washington
  - [http://mycoalition.org](http://mycoalition.org)
Application Types (cont.):

- College’s Website Application
  - Some colleges will *allow* you to apply directly on their website
    - Often times you have more than one way to apply to each college. Make sure you indicate your application type on Naviance any time you see a question mark
  - Some will *require* it as the only way to apply - Georgetown, DCCC, UC system
Requesting Transcripts

Be sure to allow at least ten days of processing for Downingtown East and additional time for college processing.

Select ‘Colleges I’m Applying To’ from your Favorites.

On top right, select ‘+ Request Transcripts’.

Select ‘Initial’ for Transcript Type.

Click the drop down arrow under ‘Where are you sending the transcript/s?’, check the box or boxes next to the schools you would like to request.

Click ‘Request and Finish’ at the bottom.

* Counselor cannot send transcripts if you don’t request it first on Naviance.

We will begin sending transcripts September 16th.

**Colleges cannot require your transcript before 10/15!**
Once Transcripts are Requested on Naviance:

- Stop into the Counseling Office to drop off your Authorization for Release of Transcripts and Letters and Transcript Request form to Mrs. Yost

- Must include name and address of college, date due, parent signature if you’re under 18, and a one time $2.00 fee.
Any students planning to participate in Division I or II college athletics should verify that they meet NCAA requirements using the NCAA Eligibility Center; questions can be directed towards Mr. Matta.

www.eligibilitycenter.org

Transcripts must be sent to NCAA and can be sent through Naviance. Please see Mrs. Yost in the Counseling office to make these arrangements.
Are you considering....?

- **Trade or Technical School**
  - Many can be found on Naviance
  - Offer specific vocational training for a wide variety of skilled careers; millions of people work in skilled labor jobs and are paid well; can enter the work force sooner; no sitting in a cubicle!

- **Military**
  - ASVAB required March 11, 2020 @ West
  - Serve and protect your country; full-time employment and job security; good pay, benefits, and retirement; full medical coverage for you and your family; receive skills and training; leadership opportunities; travel opportunities; educational opportunities

- **Work Force**
  - Interest inventories and resume builder on Naviance
  - Ms. Wick - Career Center
  - Dr. Podell - Coordinator of Career Readiness
Are you considering....?

**Community College**
- Direct Admit (2+2) Transfer Path
  - Pathway to a 4-year college
  - HS will not factor into transfer admission
  - Saves money, complete general education requirements
- Transfer sooner than 2 years
  - 4-year college will consider HS grades and transcript, test scores, community college performance
- Testing requirements
- Financial aid and scholarships apply

**Gap Year**
- Volunteer
  - AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, travel, apprenticeships
Scholarships & Financial Aid

- Most scholarship money comes directly from colleges
  - Financial Aid Office
    - FAFSA Application opens October 1st
    - CSS Profile – only required by some colleges
      - Part of College Board
    - Department Scholarships
- Check Naviance and the DE website for national scholarships
- Local scholarships information will be distributed in March and available on Naviance
- Many scholarship search websites and apps are available to students: Zinch.com, Fastweb.com, collegeboard scholarship search, Scholly
Helpful Resources

Downingtown East Guidance
www.dasd-dehs.org

Naviance
http://connection.naviance.com/downingtownhse

NCAA
www.eligibilitycenter.org

Financial Aid
www.finaid.org

FAFSA
www.fafsa.gov

Colleges without Test Requirements
www.fairtest.org
Helpful Resources Continued

SAT
www.collegeboard.com

ACT
www.actstudent.org

Practice Tests and Information
www.petersons.com
www.princetonreview.com
www.ivybound.net

Test Requirements for Selective Colleges