



**Cowboys
to College**

Your Four-Year Plan

- What do you need to be successful in high school and prepare for admission to colleges in which you have a strong interest?
- How many AP courses would you like to take in your junior and senior years?
- How do AP courses impact your GPA?
- What about College Credit Plus or Credit Flexibility?

Core Course Planning Guide

SELECTING THE RIGHT COURSES

	Wyoming	Minimum	Selective	Most Selective
English	4.5	4	4	4
For. Lang		2	3	4+
Math (Alg 1, Geo, Alg 2)	4	4	3 + Adv	4 +
Science + (Bio & Physical Sci.)	3	3	3 + Chem & Phys.	4
Social Studies	4	3	3	4 +
Total Core Courses Required	15.5	15	16	20

TESTING

■ Grade 9

- EOC (Alg. or Geom. and Biology)
- Advanced Placement in May

■ Grade 10

- PSAT – October (required, in school)
- EOC (Geom, Biology, Am. Gov't & English)
- Advanced Placement – May

■ Grade 11

- ACT – September (practice, in school)
- PSAT – October (optional, in school)
- ACT – February (required, in school)
- SAT/ACT – Spring testing (on own)
- EOC (US History)
- Advanced Placement - May



Test Prep

- Most students can be extremely well prepared without a test preparation class/experience.
- A disciplined schedule of at-home preparation will serve most students well. Many materials exist for such study (Khan Academy for SAT & ACT Academy for ACT).
- Many options from which to choose - we can provide a list of providers & we partner with Torchprep's ACT Boot Camp each spring.

Building Your Resume

Quality vs. Quantity

- We encourage students to follow their interests and passions.
- Colleges (and employers) would rather see a firm, on-going commitment and definite evidence of leadership in a few activities than mere membership in a long list of activities.
- 9th/10th grade IS a time of exploration
- Extracurricular involvement is not limited to WHS activities



BUILDING YOUR RESUME

Quality vs. Quantity

Student A

Activity	Position	Years
Peer Counseling	Counselor	9,10,11,12
Student Gov.	Treasurer	9
	Secretary	10
	Vice President	11
	President	12
Nursing home	Volunteer	10,11,12
Basketball	Captain	9,10,11,12

Student B

Activity	Position	Years
Spirit Club	member	9
Rock Climbing Club	member	10,11
Latin Club	member	9,12
Intramural Basketball	member	9,10,11
Photo Club	member	11
Diversity Awareness team	member	12
Meals on Wheels	volunteer	11,12
Academic Team	member	10,11
Cheerleading	member	9
History Club	member	9,11
Visual Art Club	member	12
Track & Field	member	9, 12

Career Exploration via YouScience

- Measures aptitude and connects natural talent with in-demand careers. YouScience cuts through preconceived ideas and gender biases to create more equity and access – matching users to their best-fit careers and giving them the confidence & data to make informed decisions about their futures
- Career Corrals
- Job shadowing with community members & WHS alumni
- Use your contacts

SCOIR

(will be introduced to 9th/10th grades in winter '21)

- Families are encouraged to explore SCOIR together (all students will have login information and parents will be invited to create an account as well)
- College Search Tools to help define your list
- Wyoming specific college admissions data
- Place to catalogue your college search process

Visit Colleges



- As a jr/sr attend college rep. visits @ WHS
- 6 days excused during jr/sr of HS
- Plan around family vacations
- Visit different kinds of schools
- Most visits may be set up online
- Take advantage of virtual visit opportunities



Your Application: Now and Then

- Think about what type of college you might want to attend. What are your goals?
- Think about the following components as you are now and as you want to be by your senior year:
 - GPA
 - Academic honors/awards
 - Sports
 - Work experience
 - How might your teachers describe you?

How Do Colleges Evaluate Students?

- Strength of curriculum - #1
- Grades in courses - #1 (Don't overestimate the value of weighted GPA - some colleges recalculate GPA)
- Test scores (more schools are test optional)
- Writing(s) – essays, recommendations
- Activities
- Other (legacy, athlete, first generation, low socioeconomic background)

The Student's Role

- This is a FOUR YEAR process! Be an active participant!
- Take responsibility for your academics. You don't get a chance to do 9th and 10th grade over.
- Be a good citizen...schools may ask about your disciplinary record.
- Get comfortable seeking help - the adults at WHS want you to succeed
- Develop at least one STRONG teacher relationship!

The Parent's Role

- Support your student's academics every day.
- Help students make the connection between high school success and college choices.
- Encourage your student to try new things.
- Visit some campuses whenever you travel.
- Encourage your student to take over some responsibilities to learn life skills for college.

COVID Aftershocks

- Permanently Test Optional
- Increase in waitlists
- Flexibility in delivery of curriculum
- Gap year increases



***Thank you for
attending
tonight's
program!***