

**WELCOME TO**  
**8TH GRADE PARENT/GUARDIAN**  
**HIGH SCHOOL INFO NIGHT**  
**2021-2022**



# AGENDA ITEMS



- ❖ Introductions–REMIND APP (Mr. Morgan)
- ❖ Communication via HSI–Sugar Land College & Career Website
- ❖ Why a focus on transition to ninth grade? (Ms. Richardson)
- ❖ High School Expectations (Mrs. Kose)
- ❖ Endorsements (Pathways) (Mrs. Kose)
- ❖ Why Us? (Ms. Dok)
- ❖ AP/Dual Credit/PLTW Courses (Ms. Dok)
- ❖ College Counseling Services (Ms. Richardson)
- ❖ Let`s Review 9th Grade Core Classes (Mrs. Shay)
- ❖ Course Selection Process (Mrs. Shay)
- ❖ Career Planning Support (Mr. Fatih)
- ❖ Extracurricular Activities (Mr. Kucuk)
- ❖ Q & A Session



8TH GRADE TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL



# HELLO!

## We are a College Counseling Team at HSI-Sugar Land

Mr. Morgan [wmorgan@harmonytx.org](mailto:wmorgan@harmonytx.org)

Dean of College & Career

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Starting with Pj-Z (By Last Names)



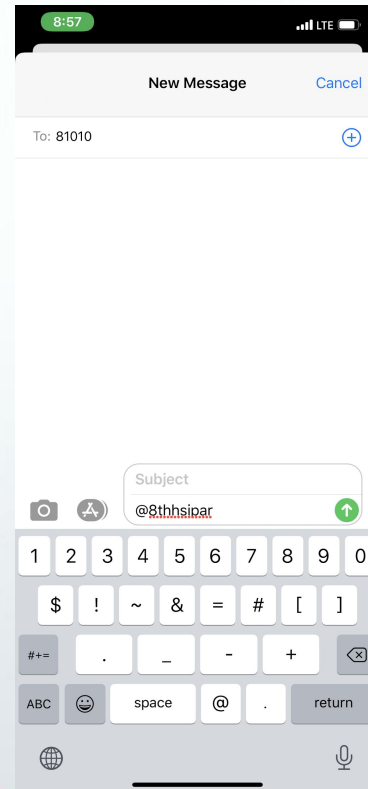
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# REMIND APP

Remind is a **communication platform** that helps every student succeed. Whether you're in the classroom, at home, or anywhere in between, Remind makes it easy to **stay connected** to your school community.



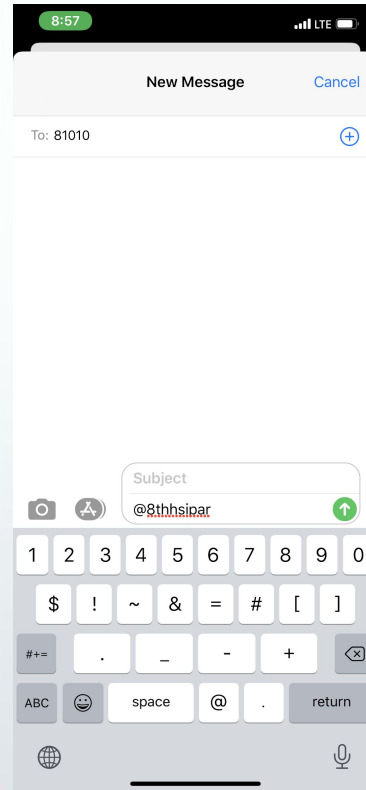
- + Communicate in real time—on any device.
- + Keep personal contact information private.



# REMIND APP

To: **81010**

Subject: **@8thhsipar**



# WHY A FOCUS ON TRANSITION TO NINTH GRADE?

Compared to other high school grades, ninth grade students nationally have

- + Lowest grade point average
- + Most missed classes
- + Most failing grades
- + Most misbehavior referrals
- + Highest enrollment because 22% are repeating the grade

Success in ninth grade is critical to on-time graduation from high school.



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# HIGH SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

- + Monitor Academic Progress (check Report cards, use of Skyward, schedule a meeting with teachers/counselors)
- + Encourage your child to become involved in a variety of activities
- + Review course selection process with your student in the spring of each school year
- + Counselor Information on summer programs are available in counselors offices

- ❖ **WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO CHOOSE RIGHT CLASSES IN HIGH SCHOOL?**
- ❖ **WHAT CAN HELP YOU TO CHOOSE RIGHT CLASSES?**
- ❖ **HOW CAN ENDORSEMENTS HELP YOU IN CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATH?**



# HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

TEXAS & HARMONY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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# HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- + HPS High School Credit Requirement (4x4)
- + Passing Score on Texas State Assessments (STAAR)
  - + **Algebra I, Biology, English I-II, and US History**
- + Admission by a **4-Year** College
- + Minimum **100** Community Service Hours
  - + Community service requirement is 25 hours per year.

# COMPLETING REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS

## New Graduation Requirement

	English	Math	Science	Social St.	LOTE	FA	PE	Electives
Foundation Plan (22 credits)	4	3	3	3	2	1	1	5
Endorsements (26 credits)	4	4	4	3	2	1	1	7
Distinguished Level of Achievement(26 credits)	4	4 Alg2	4	3	2	1	1	7

# FIVE ENDORSEMENT OPTIONS



## ENDORSEMENTS

STEM

BUSINESS  
& INDUSTRY

PUBLIC  
SERVICE

ARTS &  
HUMANITIES

MULTI-  
DISCIPLINARY  
STUDIES



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# DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

- + The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires more math and more science than the Foundation High School Program. The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires:

- **4 Credits in Math, including Algebra II**
- **4 Credits in Science**
- **Successful completion of an endorsement**

### **Why it matters — *Benefits***

The Distinguished Level of Achievement opens a world of educational and employment opportunities for you beyond high school. The Distinguished Level of Achievement:

- **Allows you to compete for Top 10% automatic admissions eligibility at any Texas public university;**
- **Positions you among those first in line for a TEXAS Grant\* to help pay for university tuition and fees; and other financial aid options**
- **Ensures you are a more competitive applicant at the most selective colleges and universities.**
- **Prepares you for college-level coursework at community/technical colleges and universities**
- **Provides opportunity for immediate enrollment in classes related to your chosen field of study; and**
- **Lays a strong foundation to successfully complete an industry workforce credential or college degree.**

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## Foundation High School Program: The Sundae Paradigm



**Start Here...**

### Cherry on Top – Performance Acknowledgements

- Dual Credit Courses
- Bilingualism & Biliteracy
- AP and IB exams
- PSAT, ACT-PLAN, SAT, ACT
- Earning a business or industry certifications or license

### Whipped Cream– Distinguished Achievement

To earn distinguished achievement students must complete:

- 4 credits in math (must include Alg II)
- 4 credits in science
- Curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement

### Toppings—Endorsements

Every student must choose at least one.

- Arts & Humanities
- Business & Industry
  - STEM
  - Public Services
- Multidisciplinary

Students must earn at least 4 additional credits to earn an endorsement:

- 1 additional math
  - 1 additional science
  - 2 additional electives
- Foundation + Endorsement = **26 credits**

\* Credits must meet curriculum requirements for specific endorsements.

### Ice Cream - Foundation

- 4 credits of English (ELA I, II, III & 1 Adv. English)
- 3 credits Math (Alg I, Geometry & 1 Adv. Math)
- 3 Credits Social Studies
- 3 Credits Science (Biology, 1 lab-based science, and 1 Adv. Science)
- 2 Credits of Languages Other Than English
- 1 Credit Fine Art
- 1 Credit of Physical Ed
- 5 Elective Credits = **22 credits**

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## WHY US?



**#158 in the US**

Overall ranking by US News



**# 31 in the state**

High School Ranking



**#8th H School & #16**

With Highest SAT In Houston Area



**# Top 10 in the state**

According to Children at Risk



**# 3 Standout HS in Houston Area**

According to Niche



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## WHY US? (CONT..)

- + School Environment—cultural diversity, small safety school, faculty quality, close relations between faculty and students
- + College Readiness—approximately 85%–90%
- + Graduation rates— approximately 99%
- + State Distinguished Award— all seven possible distinctions for academic progress

## WHY US? (CONT...)

- + Counseling Services–1-1 meeting, counselor student ratio is 1/200 compare to 1/450 at public schools, curriculum
- + Academically challenged curriculum
- + Free SAT Classes within curriculum and free SAT test during Junior years
- + Academic competitions–Robotics, H-SEF, VEX, etc.
- + College Acceptances–Brown, Cornell, Harvard, NYU, Notre Dame, Emory, Stanford, USC, Yale, etc...
- + Extracurricular Activities–more than 55 clubs



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# HONOR COURSES

The Pre-AP Program serves as a stepping stone for students in preparation for rigorous AP courses. Participation provides students with a powerful opportunity to acquire the knowledge, concepts, and skills needed to engage in a higher level of learning.

## Benefits:

- Rigorous course level
- 4.5 GPA calculation.



# ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

- + Advanced Placement (AP) courses are designed to help high achieving students earn *college credits* while in high school.
- + In order for students to earn college credits through AP courses, students must take and pass *the AP exam* at the end of the school year
- + Students who earns a *3 or higher* on the AP exam will earn college credit
- + If a student is unsuccessful on an AP exam, the AP exam grade will not appear on the student's *college transcript*
- + All AP courses carry a *5.0 weight*

# DUAL CREDIT

- + Dual Credit courses are designed to help student earn **college credits** while in high school
- + Students must take and pass the **TSI exam** in order to take a Dual Credit course
- + Students who enroll in Dual Credit courses will earn college credit **at the end of the semester**
- + Unlike AP, students in Dual Credit do not have to take an exam in order to earn college credit
- + Unlike AP, if a student is unsuccessful in Dual Credit, the grade will appear on the student's college transcript
- + All Dual Credit course carry an **5.0 weight**

# PROJECT LEAD THE WAY (PLTW)

- + PLTW courses give students the opportunity to learn how to solve real-world problems while collaborating with classmates
- + We offer courses in Computer Science, Biomedical Science and Engineering
- + The PLTW pathway provides students with an opportunity to earn **college credit**
- + All PLTW courses carry a **5.0 weight**

# COLLEGE COUNSELING SERVICES



## Individual counseling

- + Individual Counseling
- + Academic Advising
- + Career Exploration
- + Post-Secondary Education Planning

## + Parental counseling and support - Parent Nights, Workshops

## + Academic support

- + College list recommendations
- + Step-by-step application assistance; hands-on application workshops
- + Brag sheet/resume development
- + Essay workshops-organizing, brainstorming, development, revision, and improvement
- + College visit recommendations and preparation
- + Financial Aid preparation and workshops for parents
- + Assistance with final college decision



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# 9TH GRADE COURSES

## Math

Algebra I **OR**  
Honors Algebra I **OR**  
Geometry Honors\*  
Algebra II

## Social Studies

Geography World **OR**  
Geography AP Human

## Science

Biology **OR**  
Biology Honors  
Chemistry **OR**  
Chemistry-D **OR**  
Chemistry Honors

## Electives/Endorsements

STEM (IED, CS)  
Public Service (PBS)  
Art & Humanities (Art)  
Business & IT (PIT, Networking)

## English

English I **OR**  
English I Honors  
English II **OR**  
English II Honors

## Fine Arts/PE

Art I **OR**  
Music  
  
PE

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# COURSE SELECTION PROCESS & TIMELINE

- + [HSI-Sugar Land College & Career Counseling Website](#)
- + Steps on the Course Selection
  - + Step 1: Review the Course Offerings with Your Teachers
  - + [Step 2: Schedule a meeting with the student's counselor.](#)
    - + **DEADLINE:** January 23, 2021 - February 5, 2021
  - + Step 3: During the Meeting;
    - + Select your courses and Do **NOT** forget to sign and copy of the following documents below for your records
      - + Personal Graduation Plan (PGP for Newcomers & 8th Grade Students)
      - + Course Selection Form-Finalized

+

# COURSE SELECTION PROCESS & TIMELINE

- + **Step 4:** [Appeal Honors/AP/Dual Credit Courses if needed](#)
  - + If you need to appeal any Honors/AP/Dual Credit courses, please talk to your counselor and fill out the “[AP/Dual Credit/Honors Course \(s\) Appeal Form](#)” by **Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 4:00 pm.**
  - + *No submissions will be accepted after the deadline.*
- + **Step 5:** Submit the “Schedule Request Change Form” by Friday, May 7th, 2021 at 4:00 pm if the student needs to change their schedule.

*Please note that anything submitted after the deadline will **NOT** be considered.*
- + **Step 6:** Contact your assigned counselor if you ever need help.

# CAREER PLANNING SUPPORT

- ❑ Mission:
  - ❑ To engage and support Harmony students
  - ❑ Collaborate w/ alumni to increase their skills
  - ❑ Build strong and sustainable college-going atmosphere in our schools
- ❑ Vision:
  - ❑ To raise responsible, caring and productive HARMONIANS
- ❑ Goals:
  - ❑ Build sustainable college-bound school culture btw HPS -HS students and alumni
  - ❑ Create smooth college transition for HPS HS seniors by engaging them w/ alumni
  - ❑ Help and support HPS alumni to increase HPS postsecondary enrollment, persistence and graduation rate

# CAREER PLANNING SUPPORT

- ❑ Helping students learn their own potential
- ❑ Exposing students to options and pathways they might not have known about or explored before
- ❑ Guiding students with knowledge and resources to reach opportunities

# CAREER PLANNING SUPPORT

## □ Schoolinks

- is a modern, AI-powered platform that supercharges counseling departments while delivering a fun and personalized experience to students and families.
- post-secondary planning activities from career interest inventory all the way to post-secondary outcome tracking

## □ Career Fairs

- Planned twice a Semester
- Bridgeyear – Career hands on test drive, on campus

## □ Career Talk Series

- Working with Junior Achievement

### Find Your Path

Get suggested careers and college majors based on your personality.  
Use this info to jumpstart your college and career exploration process!

[Start Assessment >](#)



### Would You Rather

Choose your favorite activities to get career suggestions.  
Use this info to see which of your favorite careers match your hobbies!

● Never Taken!

[Start Assessment >](#)



### Figure Out Your Skills

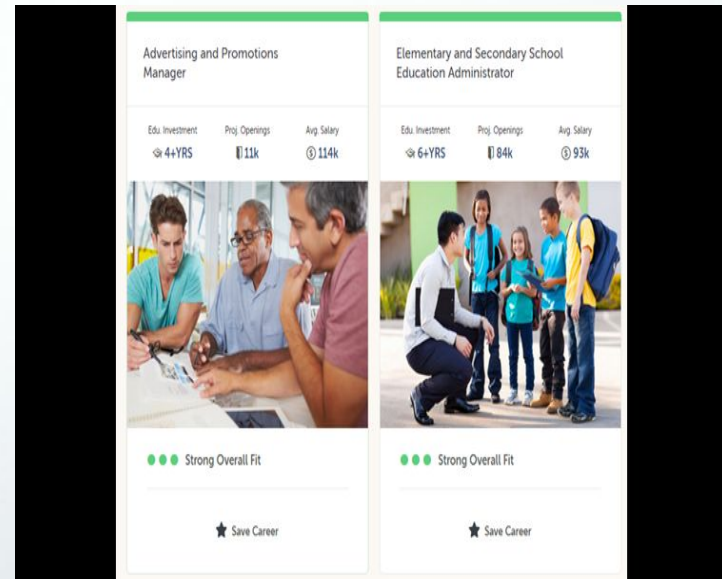


### Thinking About College



# CAREER PLANNING SUPPORT

- ❑ Career Tests, YouScience Assessment
  - ❑ [Frequently asked Questions](#)
  - ❑ [Highschool Parents](#)
- ❑ Career Talks and Fairs
  - ❑ Planned twice a Semester
  - ❑ Bridgeyear – Career hands on test drive, on campus
- ❑ Career Talk Series
  - ❑ Working with Junior Achievement
  - ❑ [Internship/Job Shadows](#)



# EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- + Student Clubs
  - + NHS, Key Club, eSports, Robotics, Student Council, etc..
- + Academic Competitions
- + After School Activities
- + Athletics (not during the pandemic)
- + Volunteer Activities, Home Visits
- + Camps



SCAN ME



Setup YOUR MEETING





# QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION



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