Transition to High School
The Plan for this Session:

• The Road Up Ahead: Middle School to High School; High School’s importance in getting to College

• Challenges in Transition

• Changes that Might Be Experienced

• How to Plan for a Successful Transition
The Road Ahead!

Changes from Middle School to High School

• More subjects/periods per day

• Larger schools
  • Bigger teacher student ratio

• More responsibility placed on the student

• Every single subject matters!

• All grades will impact future!***
New Concepts/Events in High School

- **Grade Point Average (G.P.A.)**
  - Standard measurement of academic achievement.
  - Each course is given a certain number of units (Ex. 9th Grade English course carries 1 unit).
  - GPA assumes a grading point scale of A, B, C, D, E.
  - A=4 points, B=3 points, C=2 points, D=1 point, E=0 points.
  - Colleges look for a minimum of a B average: 3.0 G.P.A.
The Road Ahead!

New Concepts/Events in High School

• Grade Point Average (G.P.A.)
  • Student Example: Miguel takes 8 classes his freshman year at Tucson High and gets the following grades at the end of the semester:
    • Algebra Math = C
    • Freshman English = B
    • Gym = A
    • Computer Course = A
    • Biology = B
    • Spanish I = B
    • Photography = A
    • Homebase = Pass
  • GPA = 3.29
The Road Ahead!

New Concepts/Events in High School

Courses
- Algebra Math = C
- Freshman English = B
- Gym = A
- Computer Course = A
- Biology = B
- Spanish I = B
- Photography = A
- Homebase = Pass

Grade Points Earned
- Algebra Math = 2
- Freshman English = 3
- Gym = 4
- Computer Course = 4
- Biology = 3
- Spanish I = 3
- Photography = 4
- Homebase = Pass

- GPA = 3.29
The Road Ahead!

New Concepts/Events in High School

• National and State Exams taken during HS will play a role in scholarships and admission criteria!
  • Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test administered during 10th grade.
  • SAT: Reading, Writing and Language, Math, and Essay
  • ACT: Math, Science, English, Reading, and Writing.
The Road Ahead!

New Concepts/Events in High School

• Advance Placement (AP) courses

• Over 30 Subjects to choose from in Science, Arts, English, History & Social Science, World Languages & Cultures, and Math & Computer Science (*all depends on school and resources).

• Research shows that students who take AP are much more likely than their peers to complete a college degree on time.

• 85% of selective colleges and universities report that a student’s AP experience favorably impacts admission decisions.

• Students might be able to get credit/placement from high AP scores.
Challenges in Transition
Challenges in Transition

1. Priority Management
2. Time Management
3. Stress Management
4. Energy Management
Changes that Might be Experienced:

• Grades: new rules, new subjects, new teaching styles

• Self-confidence: no longer the top achieving student, different grading styles

• Connections: New school and responsibility adjustments or growth might impact relationships with family and friends
Some Signs of Students Experiencing Challenging Situations

- Excessive Worry
- Sadness
- Irritability
- Avoidance Behaviors
- Difficulty Sleeping
How to Overcome Challenges

• Focus on a solution and take action!

• Be Open to Plan B
  • Example: If you get a D in Algebra, make plans for summer school or look for a math tutor.

• You are surrounded by support: REACH OUT!
  • Teachers, counselors, principal, coaches, club advisors, parents, and friends.
Plan for a Successful Transition

1. Define a successful transition

2. Create a structure to support that definition

3. Create a plan that validates, educates and empowers students.
College Going Folder

- College Track: Four Year Academic Plan with focus on Sweet 16 courses.
- GPA Calculator
- Extracurricular Activities Tracker
- Test Score Tracker
- 4 Year College Planning Tips and Recommendations
Plan for a Successful Transition

• Parents: Check in through process without being overbearing or intrusive; manage your own anxieties about transition so they are not projecting their own fears and worries onto the child.

• Students: Asking for help early and often is not a sign of weakness but rather the secret to gaining a competitive advantage.
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Questions?