

WELCOME CLASS OF 2028!



GO FALCONS!!

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Counselors are split by alpha using the students' last name. All counselors have 9th – 12th grade



We also have a college and career facilitator on campus, Ms. Atilano



Counselors & Secretaries left to right: Stringfellow, Valdez, Weatherford, Paez, Wiedenmannott, Naseman, Luna, O'Callaghan, Atilano, Khan

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Future Falcon Night

- January 23, 2024
- OTHS 9th grade center
- 5:30pm Organizational Fair in cafeteria & surrounding area

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Who will be at the Organizational Fair?

- Athletics
- Academic Teams & Clubs
- Social Clubs
- NJROTC
- Katy Virtual School
- Miller Career & Technology Center
- Q & A tables
- And MORE

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Course Selection Step-by-Step Guide

- View [SchoolLinks Instruction Guide](#) for directions on how to input your course selections in SchoolLinks.
- Refer to the Course Catalog in SchoolLinks for class descriptions.
- Choose your classes and enter them in Course Planner in SchoolLinks between February 5th and February 19th.

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District Timeline

February 5th – 19th:

Secondary students enter course requests and four-year plan in SchoolLinks

February 6th – March 8th:

*Counselors conference one-on-one with students about choices/options/plan

*If students have not submitted plan in SchoolLinks at the time of their meeting, the counselor is to submit the plan at the conclusion of their one-on-one meeting

*Students submit their personal graduation plan in SchoolLinks

March 18th – March 26th:

Students and parents will verify final choices in SchoolLinks

March 29 – April 3:

Secondary counselors finalize course revisions

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Student Meetings at Feeder Junior High Schools
OTHS counselors will go TO junior high campuses to answer student questions.

Woodcreek Jr. High Information
January 23, 2024

Cinco Ranch Jr. High Information
January 24, 2024

Tays Jr. High Information
January 26, 2024

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**The Foundation High School Program
+ Endorsement (FHSP+E)**

*2024-2025 Course Selection Information
for High School Students and Parents
Online Course Catalog Link*

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Foundation High School Program + Endorsement Graduation Requirements (26 credits)

English – 4 credits

- English I, II, III, and an additional/advanced English

Math – 4 credits

- Algebra I, Geometry, and 2 additional/advanced maths

Science – 4 credits

- Biology, and one course from IPC, or Chemistry, or Physics, and 2 additional/advanced sciences

Social Studies – 3 credits (suggest 4)

- US History, 0.5 credit Government, 0.5 credit Economics, and either World History or World Geography

LOTE – 2 credits

- Credits must be in the same language

Fine Arts – 1 credit

Physical Education – 1 credit

Health – 0.5 credit (KISD requirement)

Electives – 6.5 credits

- one elective must have a communication skills component

Endorsement:

- Students are expected to earn an endorsement in one of 5 areas. Each endorsement requires electives related their specific endorsement.

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Distinguished Level of Achievement (DLA)

- The Distinguished Level of Achievement (DLA) is earned through successful completion of:
- All requirements for the Foundation High School Program, *plus*
- The requirements of *at least one* endorsement, including
 - Algebra II among the four required math credits, *and*
 - A fourth science credit

A student must graduate with a Distinguished Level of Achievement (DLA) to be considered for the Top 10% and eligibility for automatic admission to a Texas public college or university.

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Basic Information

- All students must choose at least one endorsement as they complete their four-year plan before entering 9th grade.
- There are multiple pathways to complete each endorsement.
- The endorsement should be selected based on the student's individual interests and goals.
- Students may **change** and/or confirm the endorsement(s) along with their course selections **each year**.
- Do not stress about choosing an endorsement. It is to help you create a path or guide you as you go through high school.
- Counselors will ensure students are awarded every endorsement earned prior to graduation.

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The Endorsements

Please visit the course catalog for details on each endorsement

- STEM (Science – Technology – Engineering – Math)



- Business & Industry



- Public Services



- Arts & Humanities



- Multidisciplinary Studies



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Choosing Courses for Next Year

1. Choose or review your endorsement
2. Choose the core/required courses
 - English
 - Math
 - Science
 - Social Studies
3. Choose three additional courses/electives to fill all **SEVEN** class periods
4. Courses marked (*sem*) are one-semester courses. If one course marked (*sem*) is selected, a second is also required

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Choosing Courses for Next Year



- Warning! You **cannot repeat** a course for which you have already earned credit.
- Pay close attention to courses that have **prerequisites**. If you choose a course for which you have not met prerequisites, you will see a warning message.
- Counselors will meet individually with students to review course selections and answer questions.
- Make sure you have alternates in mind for various situations.

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Choosing Courses: P.E. & Fine Arts

- Student-athletes can choose only *one* athletics program in Course Planner. For students who play multiple sports, coaches will work with counselors to ensure proper scheduling. Choose the sport whose season comes first.
- Band requires special consideration:
 - If the student is in band but not in athletics, select the band option that gives fall PE credit and spring Fine Arts credit
 - If the student is in both athletics and band, select the band option for the full year Fine Arts credit .
- If the student is going to take a first-year dance course for PE credit, choose the appropriate dance course number listed under the Athletics heading.

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Schedule Changes



Schedule changes for the 2024-2025 school year **will** be allowed **only** in the following cases:

1. Error in scheduling by the school (data entry error)
2. Student has not met course prerequisites
3. Student has already earned credit for the course
4. Change in program (athletics, fine arts, etc.) with approval by coach/director
5. Student did not meet standard on STAAR/EOC exam.

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Math Information – Looking Ahead Algebra II Notice



Algebra II is not specified as a graduation requirement; however, students who do not earn Algebra II credit are not eligible for the following:

- Earning the Distinguished Level of Achievement (DLA), which requires completion of an endorsement with Algebra II among the four math credits
- Recognition as an honors or high honors graduate
- Automatic admission to a state public college or university
- Certain financial aid opportunities

Senate Bill 232

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Katy ISD Grading Scale for Class of 2023 and thereafter

Course	90-100 A	80-89 B	70-79 C	69 and Below F
Advanced	5	4	3	0
Dual Credit	4.5	3.5	2.5	0
Academic	4	3	2	0

The alphabetic identification for scores 70-79 is a C.

Students in the top 10% will be provided their numeric class rank in the spring semester of their junior year.

Transcripts will include the numeric class rank only for students in the top 10%.

Students beyond the top 10% will be provided their quartile rank in the spring semester of their junior year.

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GT Students

- Students identified as GT who self-select out of a GT course option at any time will be exited from that content area.
- Students who take World Geography KAP or World History KAP at any time, summer included, will be exited from GT identification in Social Studies.

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OFF CAMPUS PE

Instructions & Information

- Off Campus PE is allowed for one PE credit and is Pass/Fail.
- An online form/application will be available on the OTHS counselor's website beginning August 7th. It is due by August 28th.
- The Off Campus PE course will be added to the student's schedule upon completion and approval.
 - CATEGORY I: 15 hours per week; "Olympic Training" (student receives an "off" period)
 - CATEGORY II: 5 hours per week: "After School"
- Choose an alternate elective to add to your course selection and make a notation on your course selection sheet that you are planning to do off campus PE.



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KAP/AP Considerations

High school KAP classes tend to have a more demanding workload than junior high KAP classes

- If students are not successful in a KAP/AP course and petition to drop to academic in the fall, it will affect the schedule if approved
- Exit Process:
 - Students who fail for the six weeks (69 and lower), can fill out a petition to drop to the academic equivalent.
 - After the first six weeks, students are required to remain in the course until the end of the fall semester.
 - Grades earned in the advanced course will be transferred to the academic course. This average is used in computing the grading period average and the semester average of the new course.

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Reminders

- 9th Grade students are not allowed to have two study hall periods.
- One study hall is a good option for students starting high school. It gives them time to adjust to the workload.
- If there is a course that requires an audition or tryout, choose another elective. In the notes of Schoolinks, indicate that you plan to tryout for the sport/course and which course to drop if you make the team.

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Credit by Exam

- Especially useful for students who believe they can test out of a language and/or course
 - Contact your Jr. High Counselor for more info
 - Next Testing Window is during the summer
 - <https://www.katyisd.org/Page/4264>
- Sign up for the current course. After scores are received, the OTHS counselor will make an update to your requests over the summer using your alternates.

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Grade Point Average Exemptions

- ****No courses can be GPA exempted during the 9th grade year.** This is a FYI for future planning.
- AFTER taking certain courses during the 9th grade year, some can be GPA exempted during 2nd, 3rd & 4th years of participation in the same course.
- Information can be found on the OTHS Counselor's website through a link on the right side
 - <https://www.katyisd.org/domain/1893>

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Miller Career Center

- Wonderful opportunity for students to gain “real world” experience
- Students must be in the 11th or 12th grade to attend. They apply during the spring of their 10th or 11th grade year.
- Freshmen can not apply at this time.
- Some programs have prerequisites. If you think you might be interested in attending courses at Miller, you may want to look ahead to see if you can begin taking prerequisites in 9th or 10th grade..
- **Miller Career & Technology Center Preview Night**
 - **Monday, January 29th 6:00 – 7:30 PM – All 6th-8th grade students/parents**

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Katy Virtual School (KVS)

Link: <https://www.katyisd.org/KVS>

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- Online Registration begins on February 1, 2024
 - More information including a list of classes is available on the KVS website
 - Cost is \$200 per semester course
 - Note: Students who are GT will be exited from GT Social Studies if they take World Geography KAP over the summer and/or fall

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Questions

- Junior High Counselors will meet individually with current junior high students to review their courses.
- High School counselors will meet individually with current high school students to review their courses.
- Counselors in both schools work closely together to make sure we are consistent in the information delivered and questions answered. Please ask **YOUR CURRENT** counselor any questions during your course selection meeting or reach out to them afterwards.

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