

given field
students should take in order to pursue a career in a
Suggests academic and career technical classes that
Pathway Planning Tool

needed for high school completion
Contains a graphic representation of all the courses
Graphic Organizer

talent, and personality assessments
Career Portfolio (online) includes interest,

INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION PLANS FOR 8TH GRADERS INCLUDE

high school experience.
serves as a guide through their
them formulate an Individual Graduation Plan that
extensive career decision making process and help
These questions guide students through an
and Troup County requirements. (See grid insert.)
These 25 credits must satisfy all State of Georgia
minimum of 25 credits in order to graduate.
Of the possible 28 credits, students must earn a
Carnegie Units or credits each school year.

Career Connections Classes in middle school:

Our children need to help fill the workplace gap
by preparing for the jobs that are in today's world.
In middle school they begin to focus on planning
for high school and beyond.

HIGH SKILLS, HIGH WAGE, HIGH DEMAND JOBS

FAR AND AWAY

THE BEST PRIZE THAT
LIFE HAS TO OFFER
IS THE CHANCE TO
WORK HARD AT
WORK WORTH DOING.

~ THEODORE ROOSEVELT

DON'T GET CAUGHT IN A TRAP!
Students who drop out of school typically
do so for one of the four F's.

- The Four F's
- FAILURE TO ATTEND
- FAILURE TO ENGAGE
- FAILURE TO PERFORM
- FAILURE TO PERSIST

In addition to earning the correct 25 Carnegie units, students must pass all 5 sections of the Georgia High School Graduation Test.
The march toward "On time" graduation begins once a student enters 9th grade. Students then have 4 years plus "on-time graduate."

Attendance is critical to student success.

Every course at high school counts! Every credit is important! Excessive absences can keep a student from earning a credit.

REMEMBER!

Middle and High School Counselors assist students and parents in planning schedules. Graduation coaches, along with many teachers and administrators on each campus, assist students in preparing for the Georgia High School Graduation Test. Social Workers are available to assist students who have attendance or other social issues.

SCHOOLS: ON TIME IN TROUP COUNTY GRADUATION

Troup County Board of Education policy requires that students be enrolled in high school for 8 semesters.

Credits, Tests, & Attendance

Students have the opportunity to earn 7 Carnegie Units or credits each school year.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

Communicate, Evaluate, and Graduate!

Attend yearly **advisement sessions** as requested by your student's counselor. Reschedule if you cannot attend.

Check Parent Portal online reports. Communicate with teachers. Ask to see your child's report card.

Stay in tune. Be There for your children! Know their friends and what is going on in their lives. Talk to them about school and the kind of work they want to do.

Track important test dates. If you are not sure how to help your child, call the counselor or graduation coach. Prepare them; don't stress them!

Should the learner in your household receive Exceptional Education or 504 services, **attend meetings** set up by the school so you can be a part of the planning process.

If you find your child taking a detour or spinning in the middle of the road, get him back on track through one of our many options for **credit recovery**. Use scheduled meetings with counselors to determine which high-stakes tests (like the SAT) will help your child reach his or her final destination.

And above all else - **GRADUATE.** Troup County School System has worked hard to assure the diploma your student earns is meaningful and is helping to prepare him for the world of work in the 21st Century. We must all work together to ensure no child is left behind.

FUNDING PROVIDED BY Georgia WorkReady



WHAT DO HIGH SCHOOL DROP OUTS COST?

A drop out earns \$1 million less over a lifetime than a high school graduate.

30% will spend time in prison before their 35th birthday. *Reconnecting Young Black Men - Urban Institute

8 - The number of times a high school dropout is more likely to be in jail or prison *The Silent Epidemic

\$2,000,000 - Lifetime cost to nation for each youth who drops out of school and moves into a life of crime

The economic impact of students who do not complete high school is \$1.1 billion to our region in west central Georgia.

The nation spends an average of \$9,800 a year to educate a student. The average cost per inmate is \$23,000.

We spend \$1 on education for every \$9 we spend on dropouts (crime, healthcare costs, welfare, other government assistance)

*The MESA Way: A Success story of Nurturing Minorities for Math/Science-Based Careers

By 2020 the nation will face a shortage of 14 million workers with post-secondary skills.

Compared with high school non-completers, high school graduates experience lower rates of teen pregnancy, lower rates of unemployment, fewer instances of compromised health, and lower mortality rates.

*Partnership for Excellence in Education

In 2009, the median weekly earnings of a high school graduate (with no additional postsecondary training) are 35% higher than those of a non-graduate. The median weekly earnings of a college graduate are 145% higher than those of a high school non-graduate.

*US Chamber of Commerce

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GUIDE MAP to Graduation



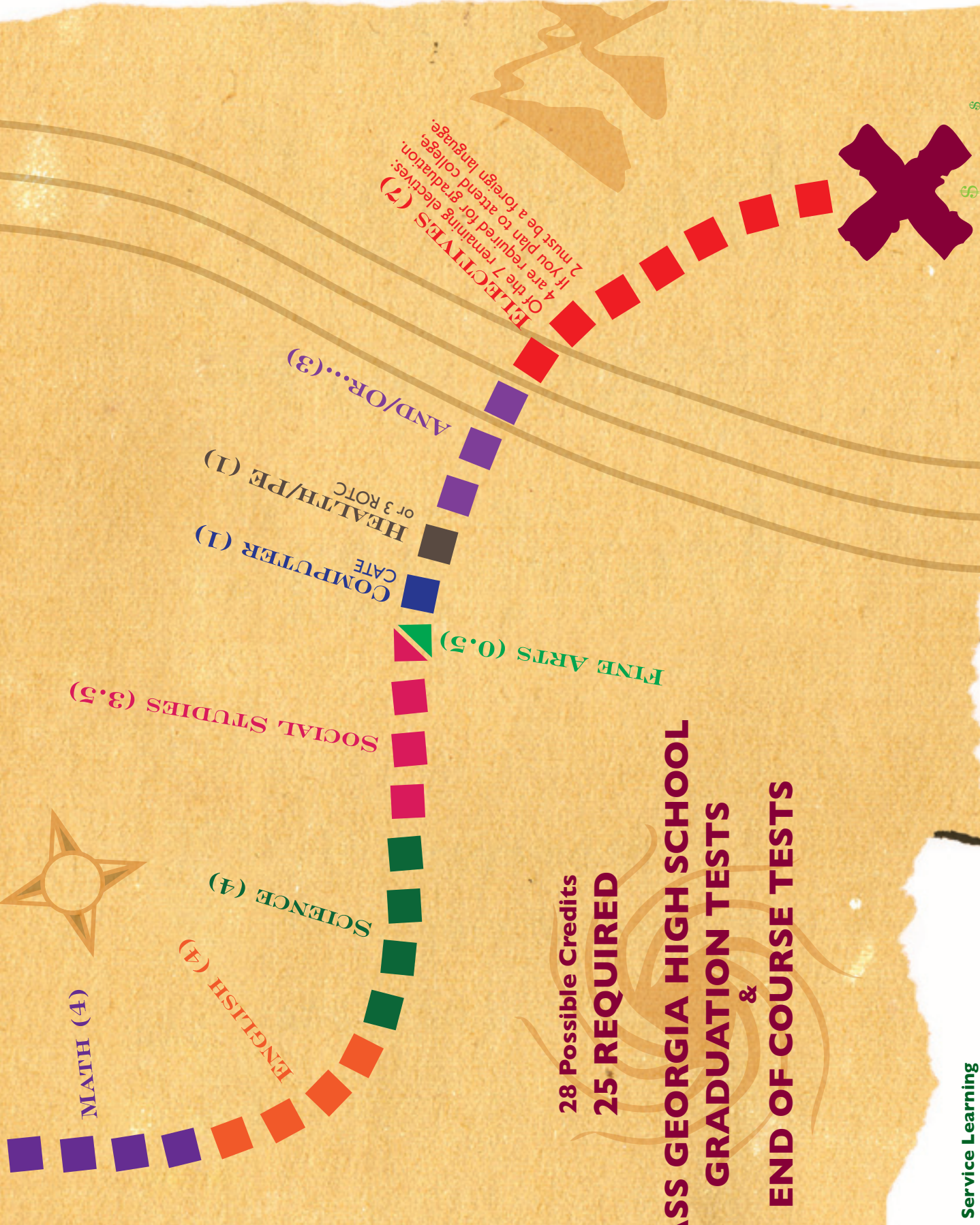
in Troup County Schools
GUIDING • GROWING • PRODUCING

STUDENTS WHO ARE WORK READY & READY TO WORK

NINTH GRADERS START HERE

Guide Map to Graduation

USE THESE TOOLS TO COMPLETE YOUR JOURNEY THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL!



OPTIONS YOU WILL WANT TO EXPLORE...

Dual Enrollment
Dual enrollment allows students to earn credit from both high school and technical college while in high school. Students must be at least 16 years old and be classified as a junior or senior to participate. Courses may be taught at the student's home high school or at a technical college. The HOPE Grant will help pay college expenses for students who qualify. Students incur some costs to attend. Move On When Ready (MOWR) is a dual enrollment option. Ask a counselor for more information.

Joint Enrollment
Joint enrollment allows high school students to earn postsecondary credits only. The course is taught by a postsecondary instructor on the college campus. The HOPE Grant will help pay for coursework for students who qualify. Students incur some costs to attend.

Articulation
Some high school courses cover the same curriculum as technical college courses. In some cases, the school district and the technical college sign an agreement that if a student passes the course with an 85 or higher, he or she may take a test at the college to determine if he is eligible to receive college credit for the course.

Advanced Placement (AP)
Are you ready for a unique learning experience that will help you succeed in college? Each year, students around the world who want to learn and achieve at the highest level become AP students. Through AP's college-level courses and exams, you can earn college credit and advanced placement in college coursework, stand out in the admissions process, and learn from some of the most skilled, dedicated, and inspiring teachers in the world.

Student Organizations
Career Technology Student Organizations (CTSOs) provide opportunities for students to participate in leadership activities and sanctioned competitive events directly related to employability skills and/or specific career skills. This experience provides opportunities to develop and build business and industry relationships.

Service Learning
High schools in Troup County provide students the opportunity to participate in service learning projects and clubs.

Job Shadowing
Job Shadowing is a structured activity that allows students to learn about a particular career by observing a person who performs the job in a community business or industry. Employers provide students with a look at the world of work and the range of career opportunities available to them.

Career Focus
Sponsored by the LaGrange Troup County Chamber of Commerce and the Troup County School System, these one day seminars introduce students to the types of jobs typically found in specific program areas. Participants hear local practitioners, visit business and industry, and network with others who are interested in similar fields.

Work Ready Assessment

The state of Georgia is facing an unprecedented economic crisis. To help our citizens identify gaps in their skills, the state has launched Georgia Work Ready - a unique program designed to help people showcase and improve their work readiness skills. Troup County seniors take part in this assessment of Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information. We want all seniors to be Work Ready!

Work-Based Learning (WBL)

Only juniors and seniors, 16 years of age or older, may participate in WBL. Students must have a defined Career Pathway. There are four ways students can participate in a work-site placement:

- **Employability Skills Development (ESD)**

ESD is designed for the student who needs to experience entry-level work. The concentration is on skill and knowledge development.

- **Internships**

An internship provides a short term experience (up to one year) to apply what has already been learned in the classroom. Placement is usually for intense observation of how a job is performed in a specific area.

- **Co-ops**

Co-ops help connect occupational instruction in Career Technical areas with paid work experiences linked to pathways. Students are released from school to work at a part-time job.

- **Youth Apprenticeship (YAP)**

YAP prepares students for a high-skill occupation. Students must meet stringent qualifications and agree to related training beyond high school. They must earn 2000 hours of on the job training.

Career Pathways

Career Pathways help blend a student's interests and talents with his or her abilities and interests. Technical skill development enhances core academic skills and increases a student's ability to solve real world problems and apply critical thinking as they work. A set of three required courses must be completed to earn a Pathway Distinction.

End of Pathway Assessment

The new federal Carl Perkins Legislation, or Perkins IV, includes definite stipulations requiring states to validate technical skill attainment for students who take Career, Technical, or Agricultural courses. Assessments vary among pathways.

CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S COUNSELOR FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EXCITING PROGRAMS.

**28 Possible Credits
25 REQUIRED
PASS GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION TESTS
&
END OF COURSE TESTS**