Welcome to
9th Grade
WEST HIGH SCHOOL
“Home of the Eagles”
1700 Hillcrest Drive
Anchorage, AK 99517
Phone: 742-2500 Fax: 742-2525

Principal: Rick Stone
Assistant Principals: Vernon Lindo, Brian Hosken, Jennifer Ehrheart, Lakhita Hodge
Counselors: Chris Brehmer, April Christianson, Miriam Dean, Judy Friar, Johanna Utterback,
Tawana Wilson, Michelle Yoon, Svetlana Thompson (CITC)
Starting High School.....

With new friends, tougher academic requirements, and exposure to greater social opportunities, it is no wonder that kids and parents feel hesitant and excited at the same time about the transition to high school. In the section below, you will find a few ideas to consider as we make the move into the high school environment. Together, we can help to make the transition a rewarding one and pave the way for social and academic success!

**High School Offers.....**

More course offerings to choose from
The chance to participate in extra-curricular activities and sports
More independence and responsibility
The chance to start planning for college and/or a career
The chance to meet new friends
The chance to meet new teachers

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**Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Attainment</th>
<th>Median usual weekly earnings</th>
<th>Unemployment rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral degree</td>
<td>$1,623</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional degree</td>
<td>$1,730</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's degree</td>
<td>$1,341</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree</td>
<td>$1,137</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate's degree</td>
<td>$798</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>$738</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma</td>
<td>$678</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>$493</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All workers: $860

All workers: 4.3%

Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

In this packet you will find information about WHS, courses for freshmen, and lots more. If you have any questions about the freshmen year, please call your child's ninth grade counselor.
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete 22.5 credits to receive a high school diploma.

1. **English Language Arts (ELA)** ......................................................... 4 credits
   Four years of ELA are required: English I and II, and English III and IV or their equivalents. See grid below for details.

2. **Social Studies** ................................................................. 4 credits
   World History, U.S. History, one semester of Alaska Studies, one semester of Economics, one semester of United States Government, one semester of a Social Studies elective. Students may waive the .5 credit social studies requirement by completion of Level III of a world language (ASL, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Latin, Russian, or Spanish); immersion students may waive the .5 social studies requirement by completion of Japanese for Fluent Speakers I, Vistas Juveniles del Mundo Hispano, or Russian Immersion Youth and Culture.

3. **Mathematics** ................................................................. 3 credits
   Six semesters of Mathematics electives. In order to satisfy the algebra requirements, students must complete one of the following options: Algebra I, semester 1 and 2; or Algebra B, semester 1 and 2; or Algebra Survey, semester 1 and 2; or Credit-by-Choice Challenge by Examination.

4. **Sciences** ................................................................. 3 credits
   Three years (six semesters) of science credit are required. Two semesters must be life science. Two semesters must be physical science.

5. **Physical Education/Health Education** ............................................. 1.5 credits
   Three semesters of physical education graduation requirements can be fulfilled by passing the required Lifetime Personal Fitness course plus .5 credit from the lifetime activity courses (noted as such in course listings) plus .5 additional credit from any physical education class. A) Students may obtain a waiver of .25 of the physical education graduation requirement for each full season of ASAA-sanctioned sports participation within the Anchorage School District. Elective credit must be earned to replace the Physical Education/Health Education requirement that is waived. A waiver of the physical education requirement under this section does not affect the overall minimum requirements of 22.5 credits.
   
   A) Lifetime Personal Fitness can be waived by:
      1. successful completion of a fitness and written test administered by Health and Physical Education Department; or
      2. participation in two seasons of ASAA-sanctioned extracurricular sports within the Anchorage School District and successful completion of the computerized knowledge test administered by the designated high school building personnel.

   B) Students may also waive physical education requirements (except Lifetime Personal Fitness) through Credit By Choice, correspondence, college coursework, or field study programs.

   C) A maximum of 1.0 waiver of the physical education requirement is available upon successful completion of 2 years (four semesters) of JROTC.

   D) Healthy Life Skills and First Aid are not repeatable upon receiving a passing grade in a previous semester.

6. **Electives** ................................................................. 7 credits
   Fifteen semester courses have not been specified so as to provide students an opportunity to pursue individual educational goals. Electives may include additional courses in Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Fine Arts, World Languages, Physical Education and Career Technology.

   **Total 22.5 credits**

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**Timeline for high school Language Arts/Social Studies realignment for Common Core State Standards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2013-14</th>
<th>2014-15</th>
<th>2015-16</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>English I*</td>
<td>English I*</td>
<td>English I*</td>
<td>English I*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>English 10*</td>
<td>English II*</td>
<td>English II*</td>
<td>English II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>English 11 or AP</td>
<td>English 11 or AP</td>
<td>English III or AP</td>
<td>English III or AP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English Elect or AP or English IV</td>
<td>English Elect or AP or English IV</td>
<td>English Elect or AP or English IV</td>
<td>English Elect or AP or English IV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Indicates Regular and Honors
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education/Health</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL OF 22.5 CREDITS

What Courses are 9th Graders Required to Take?

1 credit of **English 9**

1 credit of **Math**

1 credit of **Science**

1 credit of **Social Studies**

2 credits of **Electives** from any of the following areas:

- Fine Arts
- P.E./Health
- JROTC
- Career and Technical Education
- Foreign Language

Grand Total of 6 Credits = 2 Semesters = 1 Year
What is a Transcript?

- A transcript is a record of the high school classes you have taken and the grades you have earned.
- A transcript also shows your GPA and RANK.
- Grades are assigned point values
  
  **Regular GPA:**
  - A = 4
  - B = 3
  - C = 2
  - D = 1
  - F = 0

- **GPA** = Grade Point Average
- All colleges and universities and many trade schools require an official signed and sealed copy of your transcript.
- Your GPA has a lot to do with where you will get into college...
Freshmen Electives  
West High School 2017-2018

Certain courses have a pre-requisite or need instructor’s permission to take.

**Semester classes

**WORLD LANGUAGES**
- H4421 French I
- H4431 French II
- H4221 German I
- H4231 German II
- H4654 Russian Immersion Youth & Culture
- H4021 Spanish I
- H4031 Spanish II
- H4094 Vistas Juveniles del Mundo Hispano

**ART**
- H9610 Acting I
- H9630 **Play Production**
- H5070 **Drawing and Design**
- H5140 **Painting (Semester 2)**
- H5630 **Printmaking (Semester 2)**
- H5120 **Art Studio**
- H5155 **Pottery**
- H5455 **Multimedia Design**

**MUSIC**
- H5631 Band II, Symphonic
- H5641 Band III, Wind Ensemble (Audition only)
- H5651 Jazz Band (Audition only, 0 hour)
- H5508 Mixed Choir
- H5531 Concert Choir (Audition only)
- H5514 Treble Choir (women, Audition only)
- H5683 Orchestra II, Concert
- H5691 Orchestra III, Symphonic String (Audition only)
- H5504 **Beginning Ukulele**

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
- H6380 **Lifetime Personal Fitness (Only Semester 2)**
- H6760 **Cross Training**
- H6650 **Dance, Introductory**
- H6625 **Intermediate Dance (Audition only)**
- H6651 **Temporary Dance (Audition only)**
- H6649 Dance Production (Period 7)
- H6309 **Basketball**
- H6360 **Flag Football**
- H6389 **Soccer**
- H6440 **Volleyball**
- H6734 **Racquet Sports**
- H6450 **Wt Training Basic**
- H6451 **Wt Training Advanced (Semester 2)**
- H6007 **First Aid**

**CAREER TECHNOLOGY**
- Medical Academy
  - H8113 **Health Occupation Essentials**
  - H2302 **Physiology of Wellness**
  - H8949 **Emergency Trauma Technology**
- Anchor Media Production
  - H0801 **Broadcast Journalism I**
  - H8515 **Media & Broadcasting Foundations**
  - H8161 **Production Technologies I (Semester 2)**
- Engineering
  - H8504 **Robotics Engineering I**
  - H8110 **Intro to Engineering Design**

**AFJROTC**
- H9752 **AFJROTC I**

**MISCELLANEOUS**
- H8370 **Child Development/Parenting**
- H9701 **School Government (Interview required)**
- H9671 **Yearbook (Interview required)**

To request your classes, please go online to westromigliibrary.org. Select Student Resources – Future Course Selection. Complete the online form and submit.

This process is mainly to identify elective choices. Your core classes are based on your middle school teachers’ recommendation.

If computer access is unavailable, please have your student contact their counselor.

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Programs at West High

- Spanish Immersion
- Russian Immersion
- Medical Academy
- IB
- Operator Academy-Process Tech
- AMP-Anchor Media Productions
- Project Lead the Way-Engineering Academy
- Highly Gifted
- ROTC
- CITC
- Student Government
EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/CLUBS:

Amnesty International
Anime Club
Art Club
Battle of the Books
Big Beat Collective
Blaise Club
Cheese Club
Chess Club
Eagle's Quill
French Club
Gay/Straight Alliance
German Club
Hearts of Oceania
Improv Club
Interact Club
International Club/Young Bridge Builders
Laughter Club
Math Club
Mock Trial
Model United Nations
National Honor Society
NYO
Partners' Club
Photography Club
Robotics
Russian Study & Travel
Spanish Club
Spoken Word
Thespian Society
Women of West
YANA
Yoga Club

The answer to the eagle's question is: Many of these clubs/activities will advertise for members to join at the beginning of the school year via the daily announcements. Check out the WHS WebPage for more information. Be a part of the WHS community by joining a club, activity, or sport!

WHIS SPORTS:

Baseball
Basketball
Bowling
Cheerleading
Cross Country Running and Skiing
Football
Gymnastics
Girls Flag Football
Hockey
Riflery
Soccer
Softball
Swimming and Diving
Tennis
Track
Volleyball
Wrestling

Get all the info at http://www.asdk12.org/activities/hs/participation/
West Anchorage High School

You are invited to a

Freshmen Fair

Tuesday, April 25, 2017 6:00 – 7:30 pm

In the Gymnasium

Guided school tours will be offered.

Learn about academic programs, sports, and clubs at West High. All future freshmen and their families are invited!

If you would like to speak to a counselor at West High, please contact:
Chris Brehmer
brehmer_chris@asdk12.org