**2016-2017**

**PLANNING YOUR FUTURE**

Here are some suggestions to help you prepare for the future and especially for your education beyond high school. DISCUSS YOUR PLANS AND PROBLEMS WITH YOUR PARENTS, COUNSELOR, AND TEACHERS.

 1. Know yourself. - Achievement, abilities, interests, and ambitions are important factors to be evaluated in setting your goals. Initiative, responsibility and personality will determine your degree of success. (Discuss this with your counselor.)

 2. The world of work. - Explore the many occupational fields prior to entering high school. Evaluate this information as it relates to your self-evaluation. Don't select an occupational field or goal just because "Uncle Charlie" is successful or thinks it is for you.

3. Plan for your vocation as early as possible. - Start planning your future upon entering high school. Get some experiences in the various occupations which interest you. Find out all you can about these occupations. Talk to people actually doing the work in which you are interested. For instance, talk to your teachers about contacting people in careers that appeal to you.

4. Select your college or vocational school. - Investigate the schools which offer training in the field of your choice. Talk to people who have attended these institutions if possible. If you don't know such a person, ask the Education and Scholarship Chairman of your local American Legion Post or Auxiliary Unit and they will arrange for you to meet some following the career in which you are interested. Find out the cost of your proposed course of study and what scholarships the school you selected offers. Learn about projected demands for the field of employment you select.

5. Plan your high school program. - Certain courses are required for entrance to college. The catalog of your chosen school will tell you what courses you should take. Your counselor will help you.

 6. Learn to study. - Your teachers can help you learn good study habits for various subjects. Work hard to constantly improve your study habits. You'll be glad you did.

7. Make good grades. - Grades of "B" or better are called "recommended" grades. You must have recommended grades to be eligible for most scholarships. Good grades are important. If you are not getting recommended grades, talk to your teacher about your difficulty.

 8. Become a well-rounded individual. - Develop hobbies and participate in school, community, and church activities. Broaden your fields of interest through reading and contacts with people.

 9. Planning finances. - Parents and students should consider the combination of savings, scholarships, loans, and part-time student jobs when planning the financing for higher education. (Do not secure your information from old publications. Contact your guidance counselor.)

10. Learn about college acceptance. - Most degree granting institutions require applicants to take admission examinations of some kind.

11. Prepare for scholarship and application early. - Get references, transcripts, and other material in order long before the deadline. Obtain scholarship application blanks by December 1 of the year before you expect to start college.

This article has been recopied from the booklet, "Need a Lift?" produced by the American Legion.

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**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

LANGUAGE ARTS - 40 CREDITS

 Required courses: English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12.

 Electives: Creative Writing, Independent Literature, English Composition (Dual credit with NECC).

SOCIAL STUDIES - 30 CREDITS

 Required courses: American History, American Government, World Geography or World History.

 Electives: Psychology, and Sociology (Offered through NECC).

SCIENCE - 30 CREDITS

 Required courses: Physical Science and Biology I.

 The final 10 credits may come from the following electives: Biology II, Chemistry, Physics, Human Anatomy and Physiology, Introduction to Health Careers and Medical Terminology, and Independent Science Research. (Biology II can also be taken for college credit with college tuition fee).

MATHEMATICS - 30 CREDITS

 Required courses: Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry.

 Electives: Trigonometry. Calculus and Statistics (Offered through NECC).

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION - 30 CREDITS

 Required courses: 9th Grade Explore.

 The final 20 credits may be earned from the following electives: Any Business or Agriculture classes, STEM, Human Development, Yearbook II, III, or IV.

VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS - 10 CREDITS

 The 10 credits may be earned from any of the following electives: Vocal, Instrumental Music, Show Choir, Art, or Yearbook I.

PERSONAL HEALTH/FITNESS - 10 CREDITS

 Required course: PE/Health 9.

 Electives: Lifetime Sports and Strength and Conditioning.

 Have accumulated at least 220 credit hours in high school (Grades 9-12) instruction or have completed an I.E.P. at the high school level. College courses may be taken for college credit only or some may be available for dual credit.

UN-L ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS:

 1. 4 years of English, that include intensive reading and writing experiences.

 2. 4 years; Algebra I and II, Geometry, and an additional year that builds on the knowledge of Algebra.

 3. 3 years; at least two of the years must be chosen from history, American Government, and geography.

 4. 3 years; one of which must include laboratory instruction; at least two of the years must be selected from: biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science.

 5. At least 2 years of foreign language (same language), with additional years recommended.

 6. 1 year from the visual or performing arts, language arts, or another academic discipline that will help prepare the student for the college experience.

**COURSE OFFERINGS**

1a

R=REQUIRED \*=RECOMMENDED FOR COLLEGE PREP

E=ELECTIVE +=CAN BE TAKEN FOR COLLEGE CREDIT

BUSINESS EDUCATION MATHEMATICS – 30 CREDITS

 R - Introduction to Business/Explore R - Algebra I

 E - Accounting I R - Algebra II

 +E - Accounting II R - Geometry

 E - Business Management and Leadership +\*E - Trigonometry

 E - Computer Applications +E - Calculus

 E - Economics +E - Statistics

 E - Entrepreneurship

 \*E - Personal Finance SCIENCE – 30 CREDITS

 R - Physical Science

ENGLISH – 40 CREDITS R - Biology I

 R - English 9 +\*E - Biology II

 R - English 10 \*E - Chemistry

 R - English 11 \*E - Physics

 R - English 12 E - Human Anatomy and Physiology

 E – Creative Writing E - Independent Science Research

 E – Independent Literature E - Introduction to Health Careers

 +E - Medical Terminology

 SOCIAL STUDIES – 30 CREDITS +E - Basic Nurse Aide (CNA)

 R - American History E - Summer Biology Field Research

 R - American Government

 E –World History FOREIGN LANGUAGE

 E –World Geography \*E – Spanish I

 \*E – Spanish II

 AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

 R - Agriculture Explore FINE ARTS – 10 CREDITS

 E - Advanced Project Construction E - Art I E –Band

 E - Agri-Business Management/Employment/Greenhouse E - Art II E - Chorus

 E - Agriculture Leadership E - Art III E – Show Choir

 E - Ag Mechanics (Weld, Wire, Sm Eng, Msnry, Plumb) E –Art IV E – Yearbook I

 E - Animal Science

 E - Companion Animals PHYSICAL EDUCATION – 10 CREDITS

 E - Plant Science R –PE/Health 9

 E – Lifetime Sports

 OTHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES E – Strength and Conditioning

 E – Driver’s Education

 E – Human Development (Lifespan Development)

 E – Yearbook II

 E – Work Study

Thirty credits must be earned from some combination of Business, Vocational Education and Agriculture Education. Class sizes may be limited due to space and equipment. Preference will be given to students taking a required class the first time when needed and then to Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores, then Freshmen during pre-registration. Limited classes include but are not limited to Art, Biology II, Human Development, and Yearbook.

**FOUR-YEAR PLANNING**

2a

R-REQUIRED +=PLAN TO TAKE X=HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY

**COURSES OPEN TO FRESHMEN**

**ENGLISH**

R \_\_\_\_\_ English 9

**MATH**

R \_\_\_\_\_ Algebra I

**SCIENCE**

R \_\_\_\_\_ Physical Science

\_\_\_\_\_ Independent Science Research

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

R \_\_\_\_\_ PE/Health 9

**BUSINESS EDUCATION**

R \_\_\_\_\_ Intro to Business/Explore

\_\_\_\_\_ Business Management & Leadership (5cr)

\_\_\_\_\_ Computer Applications

\_\_\_\_\_ Economics (5cr)

\_\_\_\_\_ Entrepreneurship (5 cr)

\_\_\_\_\_ Personal Finance

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Human Development

**SOCIAL STUDIES** (Only need one)

R \_\_\_\_\_ World History

R \_\_\_\_\_ World Geography

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

\_\_\_\_\_ Spanish I

\_\_\_\_\_ Spanish II *(Spanish 1)*

**AGRICULTURE EDUCATION**

R \_\_\_\_\_ Agriculture Explore

\_\_\_\_\_ Agri-Bus Mgt/Employment/Greenhouse

\_\_\_\_\_ Ag Mechanics/Welding

\_\_\_\_\_ Animal Science (5cr)

\_\_\_\_\_ Companion Animals (5cr)

\_\_\_\_\_ Plant Science (5cr)

**VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS**

\_\_\_\_\_ Art I

\_\_\_\_\_ Band (5cr)

\_\_\_\_\_ Chorus (5cr)

\_\_\_\_\_ Show Choir (5cr)

*(Parenthesis) indicated prerequisite classes*

3a

**COURSES OPEN TO SOPHOMORES**

Plus all the classes that are offered to Freshmen

R-REQUIRED +=PLAN TO TAKE X=HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY

**ENGLISH**

R \_\_\_\_\_ English 10 *(English 9)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Creative Writing *(English 9)*

**MATH**

R \_\_\_\_\_ Geometry *(Algebra I)*

R \_\_\_\_\_Algebra II *(Algebra I)*

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Independent Literature I (5cr)

**SCIENCE**

R \_\_\_\_\_ Biology I

\_\_\_\_\_ CNA (if 16 years old by Dec.)

\_\_\_\_\_Human Anatomy & Physiology *(Biology 1)*

\_\_\_\_\_Intro. to Health Careers/Med. Terms

 *(Biology 1)*

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Sports *(PE 9)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Strength and Conditioning *(PE 9)*

**BUSINESS EDUCATION**

\_\_\_\_\_Accounting I *(Sophomore or above)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Accounting II *(Accounting I)*

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

See courses available to freshmen

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

See courses available to freshmen

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

See courses available to freshmen

**AGRICULTURE EDUCATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Ag Leadership (5cr)

**VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS**

\_\_\_\_\_ Art II *(Art 1)*

\_\_\_\_\_Yearbook I

 *(Parenthesis) indicated prerequisite classes*

4a

**COURSES OPEN TO JUNIORS**

Plus all classes that are offered to Freshmen and Sophomores

R-REQUIRED +=PLAN TO TAKE X=HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY

**ENGLISH**

R \_\_\_\_\_ English 11

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Independent Literature II (5cr)

**MATH**

\_\_\_\_\_ Trigonometry *(Algebra 1 + 2, Geometry) (Can take through NECC for Dual Credit)*

 \_\_\_\_\_ Calculus *(Take through NECC. Dual Credit)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Statistics *(Take through NECC. Dual Credit)*

**SCIENCE**

 \_\_\_\_\_ Chemistry *(Physical Sci. and Algebra or permission of instructor)*

 \_\_\_\_\_ Physics *(Physical Sci. and Algebra 1 and 2 or permission of instructor)*

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Biology II *(Biology I) (Dual Credit available through NECC)*

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

See courses available to freshmen+sophomores

**BUSINESS EDUCATION**

See courses available to freshmen+sophomores

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

R \_\_\_\_\_ American History

\_\_\_\_\_ Psychology *(Take through NECC. Dual Credit)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Sociology *(Take through NECC. Dual* *Credit)*

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

See courses available to freshmen+sophomores

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yearbook II

**AGRICULTURE EDUCATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Ag Project Construction *(Ag Mechanics/Welding)*

**VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS**

 \_\_\_\_\_ Art III *(Art 2)*

*(Parenthesis) indicated prerequisite classes*

**COURSES OPEN TO SENIORS**

5a

All classes offered

R-REQUIRED +=PLAN TO TAKE X=HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY

**ENGLISH**

R \_\_\_\_\_ English 12

**BUSINESS EDUCATION**

See all courses offered to 9-11

**MATH**

See all courses offered to 9-11

**SCIENCE**

See all courses offered to 9-11

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

See all courses offered to 9-11

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

R \_\_\_\_\_ American Government *(American History)*

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

See all courses offered to 9-11

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yearbook III

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Work Study

**AGRICULTURE EDUCATION**

See all courses offered to 9-11

**VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS**

See all courses offered to 9-11

 *(Parenthesis) indicated prerequisite classes*

6a

**. . A POST GRAD PLANNING CHECKLIST FOR . .**

***SOPHOMORES***

**GOALS AND PLANS**

1. Assess your strengths and weaknesses.

 2. Examine your interests, aptitudes, and activities -

 Some commonly used tools are: Nebraska Career Connections (www.nebraska careers connections.org). Your counselor can also help you evaluate how well your abilities and achievements will match your goals.

3. Use the results from your CAPS, COPS, COPES vocational assessment taken as an 8th grader.

**COURSE SELECTION**

 Choose the best possible schedule for yourself.

 1. If you plan a vocational/trade/technical career, consider vocational courses. Some are two-year courses beginning in your junior year. These courses can make you more employable following graduation.

 2. If you plan on college, consider taking a minimum of four academic courses each year. High grades and a challenging course load will give you more choices.

**TESTS**

 Register for the PSAT test in April. MAPS testing will take place in the fall and the spring for third grade through juniors.

**EXPLORATION**

1. Start exploring your options - occupations, training, schools, etc.

7a

**. . A POST GRAD PLANNING CHECKLIST FOR . .**

***JUNIORS***

The junior year is a time for gathering information and making tentative decisions. The following timetable is advised:

**FALL**

1. Take the PSAT - offered in October – you registered as a sophomore in May.

2. Attend College Day and Night programs - October and November.

3. Visit with college representatives that come to our high school - check the bulletin board and student announcements for dates and times.

4. Meet with your counselor.

5. Continue to explore your options and start seriously researching schools.

 a. VCR, DVD, programs

 b. Preview college catalogs and reference books

 c. Explore colleges on computer programs

6. John Baylor Test Prep-Use the computer preparation for ACT practice. Also use workbooks.

7. Juniors have one college visitation day and one job shadowing day.

**SPRING**

1. Schedule appointment with counselor to review courses, credit, college information and senior classes - February and March.

2. Register for ACT, SAT I, and/or SAT II tests.

3. Obtain teacher permission to use their name as a reference.

4. Build a list of possible college choices.

**. . A POST GRAD PLANNING CHECKLIST FOR . .**

8a

***SENIORS***

THE FINALIZATION PROCESS

**SEPT.** 1. Check on teacher evaluations/letters of recommendation.

 2. Re-register for college admission tests - if needed. Registration materials and sample tests are available in the Guidance Office. Be sure to have test scores sent directly to the colleges of your choice.

 3. Send for college applications.

 a. All in-state applications are available in the Guidance Office or online.

 b. Write for out-of-state applications or access online.

 4. Start applying to colleges - check applications for deadlines - be sure you have all necessary materials into colleges at least two weeks before deadlines.

 a. All applications should be turned in to the Guidance Office so that transcripts, test scores and evaluations can be attached. Colleges prefer to have all parts of the application, fee, transcript, and evaluations mailed by the high school directly to the college.

 b. Applications to highly selective colleges and programs (January 1st deadline) should be in by Thanksgiving.

 5. Meet with the Counselor for an individual conference.

**OCT.** 1. Attend Northeast Nebraska College Fair at NECC-Norfolk or Nebraska College Fair at Central Community College-Columbus.

 2. Visit with college representatives that come to our high school.

 3. Finalize college choices.

 4. Check college costs.

 5. Continue college applications.

 6. Visit college campus - 2 visits allowed with prior approval.

**NOV.** 1. Start exploring possibilities of financial aid and scholarships, if interested. There is a list of scholarships available in the Guidance Office. Use the online search services.

 2. Attend Financial Aid Workshop.

 3. Continue college applications.

 4. Get P.I.N. numbers for FAFSA at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) for parent and student.

**DEC.** 1. Check application deadlines - be sure to allow two weeks for processing.

 2. See Counselor for final check of courses and credits.

 3. Parents Financial Aid meeting at the high school.

**JAN. &** 1. Submit Financial Aid forms - available online. Know what forms and procedures are

**FEB.** required by the colleges to which you are applying.

2. Check on housing arrangements at the colleges to which you have applied.

**MARCH,** 1. Make final choice of school from those where you were accepted. (Most colleges notify

**APRIL,** student of acceptance by mid-April and require student confirmation by mid-May.)

**& MAY** 2. When you check out of school, have the School Office submit final transcript to the school

 you plan to attend.

9a