VETERANS HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2026

EIGHTH GRADE TRANSITION PRESENTATION

Dr. Amy Barbour, Principal
Mrs. Ashley Brock, Assistant Principal for Instruction
Mr. Mark Antley, Assistant Principal
Dr. Sherry Johnson, Assistant Principal/CTAE Supervisor
Mr. Chad Simmons, Assistant Principal
Counseling Staff

- Mrs. Lisa Stewart – Last name A-E
- Dr. Shirley Harmon – Last name F-K
- Mrs. Kadie Griger – Last name L-R
- Mrs. Pam White – Last name S-Z
Important Keys to Success

Attendance

Grades

- Check grades regularly; communicate with teachers often.
- Infinite Campus

Involvement

- Athletics
- Fine Arts
- CTAE
- Honor/Service organizations
Graduation Requirements

In high school, each semester course is worth .5 units of credit.

You may earn up to 3.5 units each semester, or 7 units each year.

- 4 units of English
  (must include 9th grade Literature and American Literature)
- 4 units of Mathematics
- 4 units of Science (must include Biology, Physical Science or Physics, Chemistry or Environmental Science) and one additional science course
- 3 units of Social Studies (World History, US History, Civics, Economics)
- 1 unit of Health and Personal Fitness (or 3 units of ROTC)
Graduation Requirements

- 3 units of CTAE and/or World Language and/or Fine Arts
  - These may be taken in any combination.
  - Most four year and some two year colleges require at least 2 years of the same world language.
  - Students are encouraged to complete a career pathway in a CTAE area and take the end of pathway assessment. Students can complete an academic or fine arts pathway, as well.

-- 5 additional elective units
-- 24 Total units required for graduation
Typical Freshman Schedule

1. Ninth Grade Literature/Composition *
2. Algebra or Honors Geometry*
3. Biology *
4. American Government/Civics and US/World Affairs*
5. Health and Personal Fitness
6. Elective or World Language (must have a 90% in 8th English and/or teacher recommendation)
7. Elective

*Honors courses are available in these areas.
Local Middle School/High School Credits

- Algebra 1 - 1 of the 4 Math credits per graduation requirements
- World Geography - History Elective Credit
- Physical Science - 1 of the 4 Science credits per graduation requirements

*Not calculated as part of the High School GPA
*Intent of these Middle School courses is to progress into upper level High School courses.
Gifted Program

- Students must take one honors and/or AP course each year to remain eligible for gifted classification. Honors courses are available in all four academic content areas.
- AP courses are available from 10th-12th grade years through an application process.
GPA/HOPE Requirements

- A student’s Grade Point Average (GPA), used for college admissions, scholarships, and HOPE eligibility, begins in the ninth grade and is cumulative.

- Students must take 4 “rigorous” courses in order to be eligible for the HOPE scholarship.

Please refer to the VHS website under the Academics-Advisement-Parent Information Book 2021 for a list of all rigor courses offered at VHS. The HOPE GPA can be found in students www.gafutures.org account.
Teachers As Advisors/ Academic Opportunities (AO)

- Advisement structures
  - Tutoring/remediation
  - Class assemblies
  - Georgia Student Finance Commission
  - Bridge Bill activities
  - S.O.A.R.- Seeking Opportunities for Advancement & Reinforcement

- Night Advisement
  - Graduation progress
  - Class/course selection
  - Advisor feedback and guidance
Testing Requirements

- **Georgia Milestones=EOC**
  - Select courses in each academic area have end-of-course assessments aligned to the course.
  - Students must take the end-of-course assessment for each course.
  - Freshmen may take 2 EOC assessments: Algebra 1 and Biology.

- **MAP Growth Testing**
  - Students in grades 9-10 take MAP Growth Mathematics 6+ and Reading 6+.
  - MAP Testing is completed 3 times a year: Fall-August, Winter-December, & Spring-March.
  - MAP Growth is adaptive—the tests adjust based on student responses to most accurately find the student’s zone of proximal development (ZPD).
  - RIT is an equal-interval scale score ranging from 100-300. RIT scale makes it possible to follow a student’s educational growth from year to year. RIT is often referred to as “Ready for Instruction Today” because the RIT score correlates with standards and learning topics that is within the students ZPD.

- **CTAE End of Pathway Assessment (EOPA)**
  - Student must take a selected national industry recognized credential assessment at the end of the 3rd pre-determined CTAE course in a specific pathway.
Pathways

• Are identified as a sequenced of three pre-determined courses.

• Types of Pathways:
  ○ Academic - complete required courses in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies, with at least 1 AP or dual course, and at least 2 sequential World Language courses.
  ○ CTAE - complete a series of 3 sequential courses
  ○ Fine Arts – complete a series of 3 courses in one area: Art, Band, Drama, or Chorus
• **The Myth**
  - CTAE is only for students who plan to attend a technical college
  - CTAE is really just “job training”
  - CTAE is only valuable if you know which career you want to be trained in

• **The Reality**
  - CTAE benefits students planning to enroll in technical colleges, attend four-year universities, serve in the military, or begin a career or registered apprenticeship
  - CTAE equips students with valuable soft skills and gives them a chance to apply what they are learning in the classroom
  - CTAE helps students explore the career options available to them
Freshmen Courses:

- **Agriculture**
  - Basic Ag Science & Tech
- **Business**
  - Intro to Business & Technology
  - Intro to Digital Technology
- **Family and Consumer Science**
  - Food, Nutrition, & Wellness
  - Early Childhood Education
- **Graphics**
  - Intro to Graphics and Design
- **Marketing**
  - Marketing Principles
- **Air Force JROTC**
  - AFJROTC Aviation History
Fine Arts: Drama

- Class Sequence: Drama Fundamentals, Acting 1, Acting 2, Musical Theater

- Two Mainstage productions during the year are One-Act and Spring Musical.

- Several in-class productions each year, including seasonal shows.
Fine Arts: Chorus

- Everyone is welcome, no matter the ability level!

- Minimal out-of-school commitment

- 5 choirs with a place for everyone
Fine Arts: Visual Art

- Art Comprehension
  - 9th grade year long class
  - Covers a wide variety of styles and media, with emphasis on building skills and creativity
  - Pre-requisite to upper-level art classes
Fine Arts: Band

- **Three Concert Bands:**
  - Wind Ensemble
  - Wind Symphony
  - Concert Band (Woodwinds, Percussion, & Brass)

- **Three Extracurricular ensembles:**
  - The Warhawk Squadron Marching Band
  - Basketball Pep Band
  - Jazz Band (Spring)

*Please visit the VHS website under the Campus Life-Fine Arts tab for more details*
VHS Athletic Program

- Mark Antley
  Athletic Director

- Fall: Cheerleading (Competition & Football), Cross Country, E-Sports, Flag Football, Football, Softball, Volleyball

- Winter: Basketball, Cheerleading (Basketball), Swim, Wrestling

- Spring: Baseball, Golf, Tennis, Track, E-Sports, Soccer
Physicals

- Please visit the VHS Website under the Athletics tab to review the following information:
  - Athletic Forms
  - Athletic Handbook
  - Dragonfly
  - Teams & Schedules

- All students must have a current physical on file for participation in any conditioning, tryouts, or athletic activity. Upload Sports Physicals to Dragonfly.

- Physicals offered on site – April 7, 2022 – information available from your middle school.
Welcome to the Warhawk family!