

Cornerstone Charter Academy- High School

2022/2023 HIGH SCHOOL
REGISTRATION MEETING
BY LEIGH BELL, ACADEMIC
COUNSELOR

CCA meaningful statistics

- **Class of 2021 Statistics:** **78%** of our 2021 graduates reported they were moving on to post-secondary education at public institutions, private institutions, community colleges, junior colleges, or trade schools. *Our college going percentage decreased this past year due to the uncertainty of in person college courses on campuses for 2021/2022. Our percentage of college bound students normally is around 85-90%.
- The remaining graduates reported they were moving on to the military, part-time or full-time employment, taking a GAP year, or traveling abroad for mission work.
- Our graduates have invested over **5,000 hours** in volunteer service in and around the Triad community. **41%** of our 2021 graduates earned more than 100 community service hours while in high school. Of that 41%, more than half of those graduates earned well over 250 hours of community service throughout high school.
- The Class of 2021 amassed over **\$3 million dollars** in scholarship and grant earnings to 2-year and 4-year colleges and universities!
- CCA had its first National Merit Scholarship Finalist in the Class of 2021!

DAILY HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

- Start at 8:15 with 1st period (No homeroom)
- 7 periods total
- 53 minutes in each course
- Electives & Academic core courses spread throughout the school day
- 30 minute LUNCH from 11:59-12:29 pm; after 4th period
- 4 minute class change between periods
- Lockers available to store materials
- Tutoring available with teachers before & after school
- Dismissal at 3:20 pm

Cornerstone Charter Graduation Requirements

- English: 4 credits
 - Math: 4 credits
 - Science: 4 credits
 - History: 4 credits
 - Foreign Language: 3 credits; at least 2 of the same (ex. French I, French II, Spanish I)
 - PE I/Health (9th): 1 credit
 - Foundations of Leadership (9th): 1 credit
 - Leadership Theory & Application (12th): 1 credit
- Electives: 2+ credits
 - **TOTAL: 24 credits**

COURSES (min. grad. Requirements)	9th	10th	11th	12th
English (4 units)				
Mathematics (4 units)				
Science (4 units)				
History (4 units)				
Foreign Language (3 units)-2 units must be Level 1 & 2 of same language				
Leadership (2 units)				
Physical Education (1 unit)				
Elective (if applicable)				
Elective (if applicable)				
Elective (if applicable)				
Elective (if applicable)				
Elective (if applicable)				
TOTAL UNITS				

HS credits earned at MS level

- Rising 9th graders and any current HS students who have taken and passed these HS courses in middle school: Math I, Math II, Spanish I, or French I have already earned HS credits towards NC high school graduation requirements.
- These grades will be posted on the HS transcript, however, the grade does not impact the student's HS GPA because at the time of completion, the student was still a MS student.
- Final grades at the end of 9th grade will start calculating into the HS GPA.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

- It's a common misconception that we REQUIRE volunteer hours for graduation from Cornerstone.
- While we do not require students to complete volunteer hours, we encourage students (as part of our Character Education pillar) to volunteer and serve in their communities.
- At the Senior Awards ceremony, seniors who have earned between 75-199 documented volunteer hours will receive the honor of a **Volunteer Certificate**
- At graduation, seniors who have earned 200+ volunteer hours will receive the honor of a **Volunteer Cord** to wear with their cap & gown. ***UPDATE**
- Last year, our class of 2021 earned over 5,000 volunteer hours.

SOCIAL STUDIES FOR C/O 2024 & beyond

- Beginning with the Class of 2024 and beyond, North Carolina graduation requirements for Social Studies are:
 - Economics & Personal Finance (EPF) (9th)
 - World History (offering an AP option for this course) (10th)
 - American History (also offering an AP U.S. History option) (11th)
 - Civic Literacy (AP Government & Politics meets this graduation requirement as well) (12th)

Promotion Standards

- To be promoted from **9th to 10th grade**, students must have earned **6 high school credits including English I.**
- **Example:** A student passes 6 credits, but fails English I. That student is retained to 9th grade. He/She will take mostly 10th grade level classes in all other core academic subjects, except, they will take English I again.

Promotion Standards continued...

- To be promoted from **10th to 11th grade**, students must have earned **12 high school credits including English I and English II.** **Example:** A student passes 12+ credits, but fails English II. He/She is retained to 10th grade. They will take mostly 11th grade level classes in all other core academic subjects, except, they will take English II again.
- To be promoted from **11th to 12th grade**, students must have earned **18 high school credits including English I, English II, and English III.**

Potential parent/student ?'s about current grades in relation to promotion

- There will be **no summer school** offered through CCA. Students who have failed a core course needed for graduation will re-take the course in 2022/2023. Once the student passes that course, the original final grade of F will be suppressed from the HS transcript and replaced with the new passing final grade in June 2023.
- The most important focus for all students right now is attending school and getting the most they can out of their classes.
- I will register students for courses based on their next scheduled sequence of courses.

Registration...Plan...Be Prepared

- **All students will register for 7 credited courses**
 - 4 core academic classes (rising 12th may have fewer core classes depending on their earned credits)
 - 1 Foreign Language course (typical for rising 10th & rising 11th graders)
 - Elective courses & Ranked alternates
- **Electives of student's choosing; Pick & rank Alternate Electives 1-3.**
- **Select **WISELY!****

Example of a typical 9th grade schedule

- 8th grade core academic teachers are making course recommendations for next school year and we will share those recommendations with students:
- 1. English I (Standard or Honors)
- 2. Math (Math I, Math II Stand. or Honors, Math III Stand. or Honors)
- 3. Science (Env. Science or Biology Honors)
- 4. Economics & Personal Finance (Stand. or Honors)
- 5. PE I/Health *
- 6. Foundations of Leadership*
- 7. An elective of the student's choosing (students will select from their course recommendations sheet) Examples: Spanish I, French I, Spanish II, French II, Chorus, Band, Theater, and Visual Arts.

Example of a typical 10th grade schedule

- 9th grade core academic teachers are making course recommendations for next school year and can tell you what they recommend
- 1. English II (Standard or Honors)
- 2. Math (Math II, Math III, Pre-Calculus Honors)
- 3. Science (Biology, Earth/Env. Science, AP Env. Science, Chemistry Honors)
- 4. World History (Standard, Honors, or AP)*
- 5. Foreign Language Level I, II, or III Honors
- 6. Elective of the student's choosing (students will select from their course recommendations sheet) Example: Advanced PE
- 7. Elective of the student's choosing (students will select from their course recommendations sheet) Examples: Theater Arts, Visual Arts, AP History elective

Example of a typical 11th grade schedule

- 10th grade core academic teachers are making course recommendations for next school year and can tell you what they recommend
- 1. English III (Standard or Honors) or AP English Language & Composition
- 2. Math (Math III or Math 4, Pre-Calc. Hon., AP Stats, AP Calculus AB or BC)
- 3. Science (Physical Science, Chemistry Hon., Genetics Honors, AP Env. Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry)
- 4. American History (Standard or Honors) or AP U.S. History
- 5. Foreign Language Level I, II, III Honors, or AP
- 6. Elective of the student's choosing: Students will select from their course recommendations sheet
- 7. Elective of the student's choosing: Students can take CCP courses as electives.

Example of a typical 12th grade schedule

- 11th grade core academic teachers have made course recommendations for next school year and can tell you what they recommend
- 1. English IV (Standard or Honors) or AP English Literature & Composition
- 2. Math (Math 4, Pre-Calc. Hon., AP Stats, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC)
- 3. Science (Astronomy/Ecology, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, Genetics Honors, Forensics Honors)
- 4. Civics/Economics: Standard, Honors, or AP Govt. & Politics which now counts towards this graduation requirement.
- 5. Foreign Language Level I, II, III Hon. or AP (if applicable)
- 6. Leadership Theory & Application
- 7. Elective of the student's choosing: Students can take CCP courses as electives.

College Admissions officials' advice

- Students need to start **assuming more academic and personal responsibility** as they continue to mature during high school so that they will be better able to function **independently** once they graduate and go to work and/or college.
- Admissions officials want to see students moving on an **upward trend** meaning that they want to see student's grades *improving* as they progress through high school. * **UPDATE**
- Students need to select a curriculum that is **appropriately rigorous for their ability and work ethic**. Taking a full load of Honors and/or Advanced Placement (AP) classes but doing poorly in the majority of them (all C's and D's) is not going to help the student in the college admissions process.

Student Course Selections

- Students need to select a curriculum that is right for the child's **ability** and **work ethic**
- Students will need some challenge to their schedule if they are 4 year college/university bound but there is a balance needed as well.
- Teachers have made course recommendations to help students make appropriate course selections for 2022/2023.
- If you and/or your guardian want a **higher course(s)** than your teacher recommendation(s), make sure to complete a **Course Override Form** available from Mrs. Bell, counselor- VIA GOOGLE FORM LINK

New courses for 2022/2023!

- **Technical Theater-** Work behind the scenes of a production with lighting, sound, and props. Grades 9-12; Elective credit
- **Honors Genetics:** can count as a 4th science credit towards graduation. Must have completed Biology credit first. Study the fundamentals of Genetics and their application to contemporary issues. Grades 10-12
- **Bible History** (not on course registration sheet, so ask Mrs. Bell at advisement): For mature students; general survey of the Bible with emphasis given to its historical, geographic, and literary aspects. Recommended for grades 11-12; Elective credit

Academic Course Levels & Quality Points given

- **Standard** - 4.0 quality pts. A= 4.0
- **Honors** – 4.5 quality pts. A=4.5
- **Advanced Placement (AP)** – 5.0 quality pts.(beginning in 10th grade) A= 5.0; some CCP classes as well.
- **Cumulative GPA:** Total quality points from all final grades divided by total number of courses taken.
- A passing grade is F1 of 60 or higher.

High School- When final grades & attendance really matter!

- Each school year, students will have the opportunity to earn 7 high school credits. Each of these final grades earned each June will impact a student's cumulative **GPA** (Grade Point Average).
- The academic components of student's record that scholarship programs and colleges will typically look at include: student's cumulative GPA, course selection, grades in those courses, and standardized test scores as part of the admissions process (if required).
- Your attendance to high school is crucial to your academic success here and beyond! * **UPDATE**

How to progress through academic levels

- Standard →→ Honors →→ AP
- Students **cannot** jump from a Standard class directly to an AP course the following school year. Students must first take an Honors class before taking an AP course in that subject in high school. Ex. Pre-Calculus Honors is a pre-requisite to AP Calculus AB.
- Students don't have to take all Honors and AP classes in high school to get into a good college. Continuing to improve student grades each school year is a way of showing **upward trend**.

Minimum Course Requirements for Undergraduate Admissions to UNC System Schools

Requirements	16 UNC System Schools	
• 4 – English	ASU	UNC-A
• 2 – Foreign Language	ECU	UNC-CH
• 4 – Math	ECSU	UNCC
• 3 – Science	FSU	UNCG
• 2 – Social Studies	NC A&T	UNCSA
2.5 cumulative GPA & 1010	NCCU	UNC-W
on SAT or 19 ACT composite	NCSU	WSSU
*Test scores waived 2021/2022	WCU	UNC-P

Rigorous 4-year College Admissions

- By taking Honors and/or AP courses, students are showing their work ethic and willingness to take the most rigorous courses available in Cornerstone's curriculum.
- This can make them more competitive for colleges and scholarships.
- Admissions looks at which Honors & AP courses CCA offers and then looks at how many of these courses each student takes in their HS career.

Planning for the future: My advice

- Students can use a variety of online resources to start planning for their future careers
 - [*https://www.cfnc.org/plan-your-future/plan-for-a-career/](https://www.cfnc.org/plan-your-future/plan-for-a-career/)
 - [*https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/)
 - **Class of 2023 only: CFNC's Next Step program for Juniors:**
<https://www.cfnc.org/next-step-program>

FOR STUDENTS PLANNING 2-YEAR OR 4-YEAR EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL:

- *<https://collegesearch.collegeboard.org/home>
- *<https://www2.cfnc.org/programsMajors/>

*MOST REPUTABLE SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH ENGINES:

<https://www.bankrate.com/loans/student-loans/scholarship-search-engines/>

Gain Skills for future AP courses beginning in 10th grade

- By taking a challenging high school curriculum to include some Honors courses, students are better prepared to handle more Honors courses and/or an AP course beginning in 10th grade. 1-2 AP courses max is recommended.
- Honors courses will further improve student's writing and problem solving skills.

AP courses

- An Advanced Placement course, or AP course, is a college level course taught at the high school level by a trained high school instructor. They are rigorous, faster paced, and require outside work, even some summer prep.
- AP courses can earn a student (who passes the final AP exam) some college credit hours which translate into college savings and potentially less time spent in college.
- For admission to some of the more competitive & rigorous institutions in North Carolina such as Duke University, Wake Forest, Davidson, UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State, students can demonstrate course rigor with a selection of AP courses with numerical grades of A or high B's.

AP courses to choose from next year- Teacher Recommendations required

- AP English Lang. & Comp.; AP English Lit. & Comp.
- AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB, AB Calculus BC
- AP Environmental Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry
- AP World History, AP U.S. History, AP Gov. & Politics, AP Human Geography
- AP Psychology
- AP Spanish Lang. & Culture, AP French Lang. & Culture
- AP Studio Art: 2-D Design, AP Drawing
- 17 AP COURSES ARE AVAILABLE FOR GRADES 10, 11, AND 12

Career & College Promise courses- Juniors & Seniors

- Juniors and seniors w/2.8 unweighted GPA are eligible to take Career and College Promise (CCP) courses through the local community college that count as both high school and college credit. Tuition free, but students typically must pay for textbook(s) and other GTCC fees issued by the community college.
- The **College Transfer** classes are transferrable to all 16 UNC system colleges and universities.
- You must be approved by CCA to take a CCP course. During the advisement period, let Mrs. Bell know if you are interested in a Dual Enrollment course.
- **Buyer Beware:** These courses will count on your high school transcript and on your college transcript.

Courses that require an application or Teacher Recommendation...

- **Some CCA electives require students to complete an application or obtain a teacher recommendation for entry to the course:**
- *Film Study & Analysis Honors* (requires one teacher recommendation using Google Form link)
- *Teacher Cadet I* (requires student application via Google Form link)
- *Creative Writing* (requires student application and teacher recommendation via Google Form link)
- *Mass Media* (requires student application, cover letter, & teacher recommendation)
- Mrs. Bell will share these application/teacher rec. links to students via their CCA email. It is the student's responsibility to get these applications completed in order to initiate the approval process for any of the above named courses next school year.

Drop Policy for CCA courses

- The Drop period will be the first 10 school days. Schedule changes can be made based on space availability.

Next steps for all students....

- Mrs. Bell will make a registration presentation to all students during their English class as well answer questions about the registration process.
- Hard copy registration materials with teacher recommendations will be distributed no later than the week of March 14 followed by the start of Advisement appointments with Mrs. Bell. More details to come via CCA student email and parent/guardian email.
- If a student is recommended for multiple Honors and/or AP course(s), this does not mean that they must register for all of these courses.
- Choose a balanced course load where the student is challenged, but not “in over their head.”

Continued next steps for all students....

- Registration Advisement Appointments: Students will meet with Mrs. Bell about registration during 1) their English class period OR 2) through Sunday evening Google Meet Advisement appointments.
- In the meantime, look over your course registration forms & other registration materials for next school year to start developing a plan/questions. X's next to courses are your teacher recommended courses for next school year.
- All course requests will be reviewed for accuracy by Mrs. Bell.

Questions about Course selections???

- Parents can email Leigh Bell (Counselor)
lbell@cornerstonek12.org
- You can also email questions to Matt Pugh (Principal) at
mpugh@cornerstonek12.org