

SOPHOMORE & JUNIOR PARENT NIGHT



Class of 2028 & 2029
OCTOBER 20, 2026
6:30 PM

HAVE QUESTIONS?

*Enter your questions in the
Teams chat!*



**We will do our best to answer
questions throughout the evening
and at the end
of the presentation.**

Meet your School Counseling Team



Chyna Washington
A – C



Kristy Royer
D – I



Berenice Flores
J – N



Reggie Hurns
O – S



Melissa Lynch
T – Z



Cami Joubert
Graduation Coach

School Counseling Support Staff



Dennise Voyles
Registrar Clerk



Toni Daniels
Registrar



Tasha Johnson
Counseling Clerk



Dr. Lynet Mortensen
School Social Worker



Zoe Capozzi
CIS Site Coordinator

Stay Connected!



CTLS Learn – Class of 2028 Classroom
CTLS Learn – Class of 2029 Classroom



www.meacherncounseling.com



@meacherncounseling

Tonight's Topics

- H.S. Graduation Requirements
- Promotion Requirements
- Dual Enrollment
- Post-Secondary Options
- PSAT, SAT/ACT, Accuplacer, ASVAB
- GA Futures
- HOPE Programs, Financial Aid, & Georgia MATCH
- SchooLinks

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Subject Area	Required Credits
English/Language Arts	4 credits (Lit I, Lit II, 3rd & 4th ELA)
Mathematics	4 credits (Algebra, Geometry, Adv. Algebra, and 4 th math)
Science	4 credits (Biology, Physics/Physical Science, Chem/Earth Sci/Env Sci, 4 th science)
Social Studies	3 credits (World History, U.S. History, Gov/Econ)
World Language/CTAE/ Fine Art	3 credits
Personal Fitness	0.5 credit
Health	0.5 credit
General Electives	4 credits
TOTAL CREDITS:	23

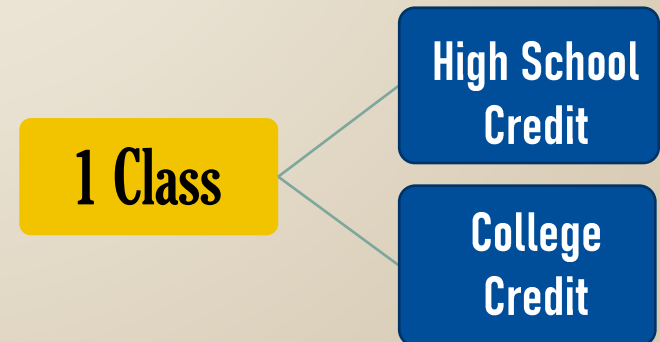
Students planning to meet the requirements of a four-year college/university must complete a minimum of 2 units of the same World Language and complete at least 1 math credit above Advanced Algebra/Algebra II (Found. of Algebra does not meet that requirement)

PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

Grade Level	Required Credits
10th	5 credits (1 credit each in core English, Math and Science)
11th	10 credits (2 credits each in core English, Math, and Science)
12th	16 credits (on track for graduation)

Dual Enrollment Overview

- State-funded program for 11th and 12th graders to take college courses while earning a HS diploma - earn high school and college credit at the same time.
- **Costs Covered:** 100% tuition, mandatory fees, and required textbooks up to a maximum cap of 30 credit hours
- DE students can take approved courses in **English, math, science, social studies, world language, and/or CTAE** classes.
- Student is responsible for transportation to and from the college.
- College grades do impact the HOPE GPA.
- **Must be prepared** to do college-level work and to be held to college-level standards and expectations.



Dual Enrollment Process

- Parent & Student must attend a mandatory DE Information Session with Mr. Hurns – held every other Thursday
- If required, register to take the SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER – student must check college websites for testing requirements.
- Follow the application process.
- Submit test scores directly to the college.
- Complete the online DE application found on the college's website. In addition, complete the DE Advisement Plan, CCSD Local School Agreement, and online Funding Application on GA Futures.
- Student makes an appt with their counselor if they need assistance choosing DE classes, and to get his/her signature on their DE Advisement Plan before the college DE application deadline.
- **CCSD APPLICATION DEADLINES:**
 - **November 1** – deadline to apply for Spring Semester start
 - **Mach 1** – deadline to apply for Summer Semester start
 - **May 1** – deadline to apply for Fall semester start

Key Questions to Guide Your Way

- What path is the best fit for me after graduation?
- What steps or requirements do I need to reach that goal?
- Which tests or assessments should I prepare to take?
- How will I pay for my education or training?

Post-Secondary Options

- Apprenticeships & on-the-job training
- Military
- Specialty Schools
- 2-year and/or Technical College
- 4-year College and University
- Workforce



Why Consider Attending a Technical College?

1. Learn a trade (HVAC, cosmetology, plumbing, etc).
2. LOW High School GPA = Fresh start in college.
3. Save Money \$\$\$ with lower tuition costs.
4. Transfer to a 4-year college after 30 semester hours in TAG (Transfer Admission Guaranteed) courses - these will transfer to schools that are part of the University System of Georgia.
5. Take advantage of the HOPE Grant and HOPE Career Grant to get 100% of tuition covered in one of 17 high-demand careers in Georgia!



TRADES & APPRENTICESHIPS

- Occupations such as skilled construction work are considered trades or crafts.
- The completion of an apprenticeship is generally associated with skilled labor.
- Training lasts 1-5 years and provide on-the-job training, often paid.
- These programs can lead to secure and well-paying jobs.
- Additional education and training can provide high levels of advancement and increased salaries.



Trade Examples

Electrician

Contractor/Construction Manager

Plumber

**Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
Technician**

Certified Cook

Firefighter

Automotive/Aviation Technician

Licensed Practical Nurse

Garden and Landscape Designer/Agriculture

Welder

Legal Assistant



APPRENTICESHIPS & WORKFORCE

- On-the-job training
- Provided directly by employers
- Related to skilled labor and training for actual jobs
- Can lead to strong, high-paying jobs



Work-Based Learning (WBL)

- Rising Juniors and Seniors are eligible to register for WBL
- **Requirements:**
 1. **Must have a job**
 2. 8 hrs/week for 1 block of WBL, 15 hrs/week for 2 blocks of WBL
 3. Must have reliable transportation off campus
 4. **ALL students must provide PHOTO identification as part of state-mandated requirements**
 5. Completed WBL application must be turned into Dr. Dietzel prior to the start of the semester
 6. Must have 4th block available
- Potential for 3rd and/or 4th block placement, depending on student's work & school schedule
- Grading is based on employer evaluations, self-paced assignments, and proof of work hours
- Applications are available in Dr. Dietzel's room (BT 108)
- Contact: **Katherine.Dietzel@cobbk12.org**



The HOPE Grant Program

- Be a U.S. citizen or meet non-citizen requirements
- Be a Georgia resident for at least one year
- No GPA requirement
- No test score requirement
- Eligible for students working towards a certificate or diploma at any Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG)
- Covers a **portion** of tuition!



State Workforce Development Initiatives

HOPE Career Grant

- Helps students start a well-paying career with little to no debt while also building a skilled workforce for Georgia employers.
- Be a Georgia resident
- Must be a recipient of the HOPE or Zell Miller Grant
- Eligible for students working towards a certificate or diploma at a technical college in programs that are considered high-demand career fields
- To learn more about the workforce development initiatives in Georgia, visit the Linktree (or scan the QR code) below:
 - <https://linktr.ee/GAWorkForceDevInitiatives>
 - <https://tcsg.edu/free-tuition/>



To learn more, visit [GAfutures: HOPE Career Grant](#)

HOPE GRANT + HOPE CAREER GRANT = FREE TUITION!

These programs are in High Demand and can be studied at a Technical College Tuition Free.
There is no GPA requirement to earn the HOPE Grant and HOPE Career Grant out of high school!



Automotive Technology



Aviation Technology



Certified Engineer Assistant



Commercial Truck Driving



Computer Programming



Computer Technology



Construction Technology



Diesel Equipment Technology



Early Childhood Care and Education



Electrical Lineman Technology



Health Science



Industrial Maintenance



Logistics/Transportation Technology



Movie Production Set Design



Practical Nursing



Precision Manufacturing



Welding and Joining Technology

Learn more at <https://tcsgeu/free-tuition>

HOPE
CAREER
GRANT



Joining the Military

- Research the different branches
- Talk to a recruiter: at their office/recruiting station, or set-up a virtual visit.
- Talk as a family about your student's desire/decision to join the military.
- Take the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) in 11th or 12th grade — a great tool to learn more about their career interests



MILITARY AND MILITARY ACADEMIES

Military Branch	Websites	Military Academy
Army	www.army.mil and www.goarmy.com	US Military Academy (West Point) www.westpoint.edu
Navy	www.navy.mil and www.navy.com	US Naval Academy www.usna.edu
Air Force	www.af.mil and www.airforce.com	Air Force Academy www.usafa.af.mil
Marines	www.marines.mil and www.marines.com	Future Marines attend the US Naval Academy
Coast Guard	www.uscg.mil and www.gocoastguard.com	US Coast Guard Academy www.uscga.edu

- Speak with a recruiter to learn about opportunities available in the military
- Excellent scholarships are available for students who pursue ROTC in college
- Take the ASVAB for career placement and branch eligibility
- Military academy appointments are highly competitive, and accepted students attend completely FREE

EXIT & ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

(they are not the same!)

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION



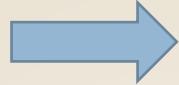
COLLEGE ADMISSION

- Determined by GA Department of Ed (DOE)
 - **Tracked by you**, your teachers, and your school counselor
 - Are needed before you earn a diploma – you graduate if you earn the minimum
 - Includes **23** required credits in specific areas
- Determined by the individual college
 - **Tracked by you** – it is your responsibility to find out what the school wants
 - Are needed before you can be accepted – **you may not be accepted with just the minimum**
 - Includes SAT, ACT, Accuplacer

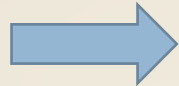
What Does “College” Mean?

Finding Your Realistic College Options

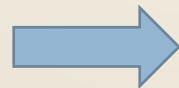
There are several types of schools someone with a high school diploma can attend to earn an undergraduate degree, diploma, or certificate.



- **Specialty School** (certificate or diploma)



- **2-year and/or Technical College** (certificate, diploma or Associate's degree)



- **4-year college/university** (Bachelor's degree)

REMEMBER!

1. College admissions requirements are often GREATER than Georgia high school graduation requirements!
2. Meeting minimum admissions criteria does NOT guarantee admission!

Where Does My Student Start?



Research & Explore

- Research colleges and universities
- Attend college fairs and information sessions
- Schedule virtual and in-person college visits
- Explore majors and careers using SchooLinks

Build Your College List

- Add colleges to your favorites list in SchooLinks
- Consider location, size, cost, majors, and campus life
- Keep track of requirements and application deadlines



Understand the Requirements

- Review Freshman Profile for GPA and test score averages
- Learn about application types (e.g., Common App, Coalition, direct from college's website)
- Review essay and letters of recommendation requirements early

SAT VS. ACT

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

*If you receive
free/reduced lunch,
you are eligible for
testing fee waivers*

<u>www.sat.org</u>	<u>www.actstudent.org</u>
Aptitude (ability)	Achievement (knowledge)
Perfect Score: 1600 Scored 200-800 points, added together	Perfect Score: 36 Scored 1-36 points, averaged together
2 sections: Reading, Math	4 sections: English, Math, Reading, Science (and optional Writing)
No penalty for guessing	No penalty for guessing
Free online practice: Khan Academy	Free online practice: ACT Academy

Test registration is through the SAT and ACT websites; not the high school or college. Most colleges will accept either test. Writing requirement varies by college. These tests are sometimes required for admissions to 4-year colleges and universities. Students can take BOTH. Students who receive Free or Reduced Lunch qualify for fee waivers. Please contact your school counselor if you think you qualify for a waiver.

Additional Tests To Consider

Accuplacer

Placement exam for 2-year and technical colleges. Schedule to take this test at the college.

ASVAB

Aptitude/career exam required for entrance into the military that determines your eligibility for military jobs

Students are responsible for reviewing the admission requirements for each college or university they plan to apply to.

The Ins & Outs of Financial Aid



- HOPE Rigor
- HOPE & Zell Miller Scholarships
- Grants & Scholarships
- Loans
- Work-Study Programs



GEORGIA MATCH

High School Seniors – Your GEORGIA MATCH letter will be on your GAfutures student account dashboard on October 15 and also in the mail!

[Learn more](#)

GA FUTURES: ALL THINGS HOPE, DE, AND MORE

Trending

Shortcuts

Top State for Talent

GEORGIA MATCH

GSFAPP

10/15/27 Award Amount

Promise Scholarship

Your HOPE GPA

**GEORGIA
MATCH**[Learn more about direct admission into](#)**College Search**[Search Colleges and Universities in the](#)**Scholarship Search**[Use this tool to find eligible](#)**Need to
Chat?****Complete your GSFAPP**[Complete the GSFAPP in 3-5 minutes to apply](#)

Create a GA Futures Account

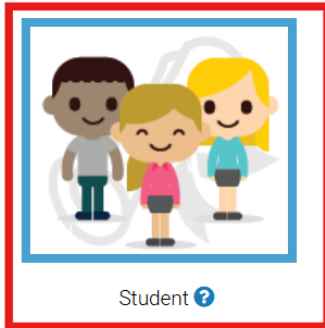
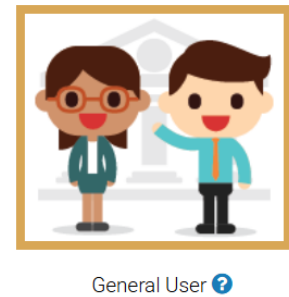
Step 1 – Go to GAfutures.org

Step 2 – Click Create an Account at the top

Step 3 – Select the “Student Account” option

CREATE YOUR GAFUTURES ACCOUNT

Click on the group that best describes you



Create a GA Futures Account

Step 4 – Enter student information

- This information must be as it is listed on your official school records
- Only sections with a red star★ are required

The screenshot shows a four-step progress bar at the top. Step 1 is highlighted with a blue circle and the number 1. Step 2 has a grey circle with the number 2. Step 3 has a grey circle with the number 3. The 'Complete' step has a grey circle with a white checkmark. Below the progress bar, the text 'Fields marked with * are required.' is displayed. The form is divided into two columns. The left column contains: 'First Name *' with a text input field containing 'Enter First Name'; 'Email * ?' with a text input field containing 'PRIMARY.EMAIL@EXAMPLE.COM'; 'Alternate Email' with a text input field containing 'ALTERNATE.EMAIL@EXAMPLE.COM'; and a 'Next' button. The right column contains: 'Middle Initial' with a text input field containing 'Middle Initial'; 'Last Name *' with a text input field containing 'Enter Last Name'; 'Date of Birth *' with a text input field containing 'mm/dd/yyyy' and a calendar icon; 'Reenter Email *' with a text input field containing 'PRIMARY.EMAIL@EXAMPLE.COM'; 'Reenter Alternate Email' with a text input field containing 'ALTERNATE.EMAIL@EXAMPLE.COM'; and a 'Previous' button.

1
Step 1

2
Step 2

3
Step 3

Complete

Fields marked with * are required.

First Name *

Enter First Name

Middle Initial

Middle Initial

Last Name *

Enter Last Name

Date of Birth *

mm/dd/yyyy

Email * ?

PRIMARY.EMAIL@EXAMPLE.COM

Reenter Email *

PRIMARY.EMAIL@EXAMPLE.COM

Alternate Email

ALTERNATE.EMAIL@EXAMPLE.COM

Reenter Alternate Email

ALTERNATE.EMAIL@EXAMPLE.COM

Previous Next

Step 5 – Select your *High School type* (GA public high school), and make sure you select security questions and answers accurately.

The HOPE Scholarship Program

- Zell Miller Scholarship

- 3.7 HOPE GPA upon graduation
- 1200 SAT or 25 ACT (single administration)
- HOPE Rigor Requirement met
- 100% tuition coverage (public, 4-year only)

- HOPE Scholarship

- 3.0 HOPE GPA
- HOPE Rigor Requirement met
- Partial tuition coverage (public, 4-year only)



Understanding Your HOPE GPA

HOPE includes your core academic courses—not every elective.

All classes that begin with the following count:

23.xx English

27.xx Math

26.xx Science

40.xx Science

45.xx Social Studies

60.xx - 64.xx World Language

Additional electives listed in GAFutures (courses approved for 4th year of science, advanced fine arts courses, etc.)

HOPE Reminders

- HOPE GPA calculates all courses that are HOPE eligible
- Review your HOPE GPA and rigor courses at GAfutures.org
- Check your HOPE GPA each year

To view your HOPE GPA, your school must have your Social Security number on file.

HOPE Rigor Requirements

In order to be HOPE eligible, students must earn at least 4 credits total in courses from the following categories:



Advanced Math

- Advanced Algebra
- Pre-Calculus
- Statistics

Advanced Science

- Physics
- Chemistry

Advanced Placement

- in core subjects

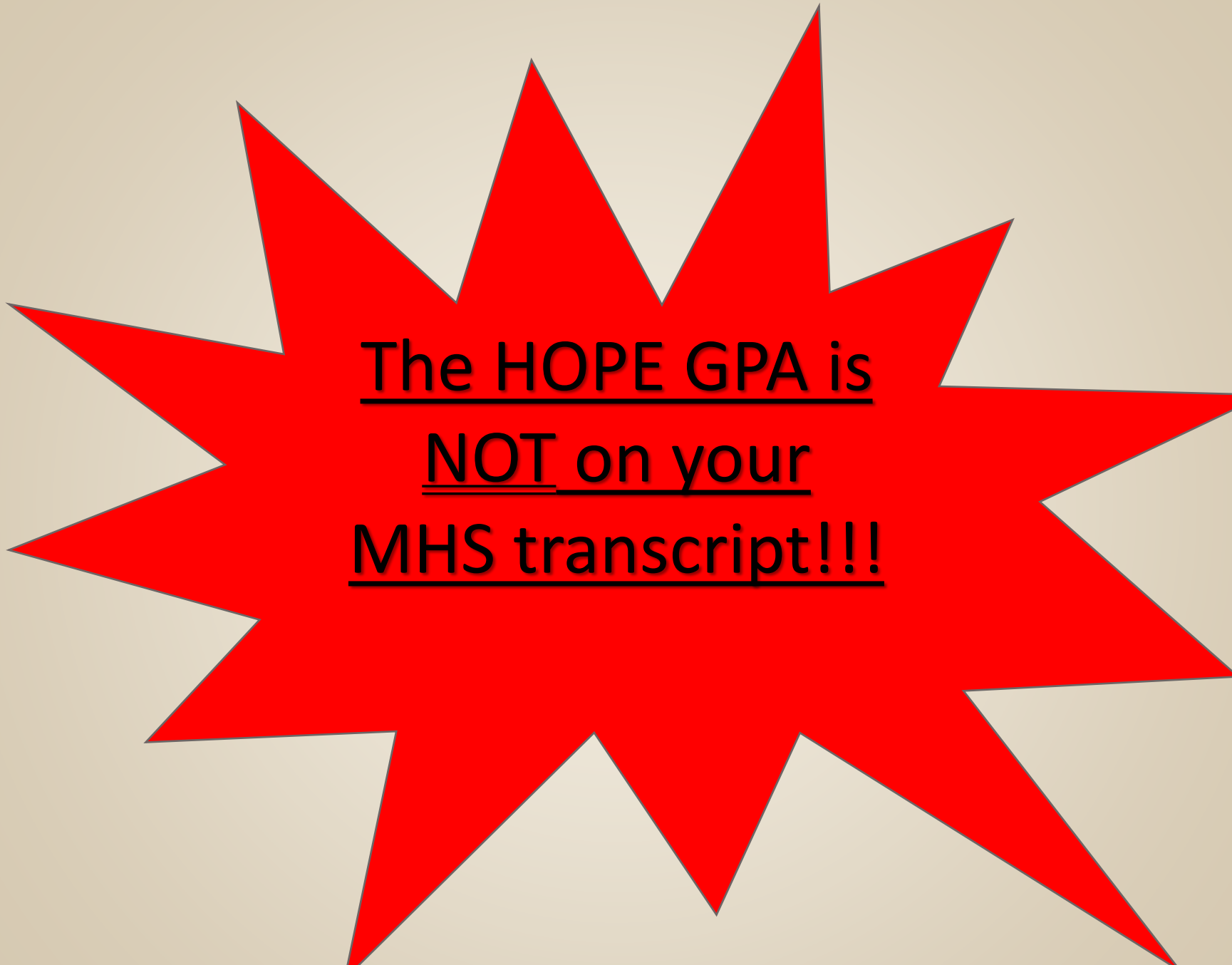
University System of Georgia

- Dual Enrollment courses in core areas

Advanced Foreign/Mod. Language

- Level 2 and higher

Review HOPE *rigor* requirements at www.gafutures.org



The HOPE GPA is
NOT on your
MHS transcript!!!

LOOK OUT FOR GEORGIA MATCH (FALL OF SENIOR YEAR)

GEORGIA MATCH is a state-wide initiative that gives Georgia HS seniors a personalized list of colleges and universities at which they meet initial academic eligibility.

- It uses the HOPE GPA after junior year to show a personalized list of colleges and technical schools across Georgia in which the student may be accepted.
- Students will receive a letter and can access the information through the Student Dashboard on their GAfutures account. **Students must have a GAfutures account to view this information.**
- Students may request more information about “matched” colleges through their student account in GAfutures.
- Some colleges may offer fee waivers when applying through Georgia MATCH.



How Do Students Get the Money?

- Apply early and often — scholarships have firm deadlines.
- **SEARCH** for scholarships everywhere (i.e. SchoolLinks, college websites, current employer or parents' employer, community organizations, etc.)
- Create a resumé and prepare a personal statement so you will be ready to apply.
- Write a strong scholarship essay and then modify as needed.
- **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after October 1st of your student's senior year.** Student grants, loans, and work-study are awarded through the FAFSA.



SchoolLinks

SchoolLinks is an electronic delivery system and college/career readiness platform that helps students explore their interests, discover career pathways, and plan for life after high school.

We will use it to communicate with you and to coordinate various activities throughout the year.

10th & 11th graders will use SchoolLinks for:

1. College & Career Planning
2. Scholarship Search
3. Email & Counselor Communication



Logging in to SchooLinks

SchooLinks at School

- Log into the school computer or device
- Navigate to Clever
- From your Clever home page, select the bright yellow “SchooLinks” app – it is usually on the 3rd or 4th row of apps
- You will be taken to your SchooLinks student home page automatically



SchooLinks at Home

- Open Google Chrome (this is the preferred browser for SchooLinks)
- Go to www.cobbk12.org
- Select “Parents & Students” from the Menu – select Sign-In
- Navigate to Clever
- Students log in using their Office 365 username and password



THANK YOU FOR COMING TONIGHT!!

Please stay in touch and email your student's assigned counselor with any additional questions!

Counselor	Student Last Names	Email Address
Mrs. Chyna Washington	A – C	Chyna.Washington@cobbk12.org
Mrs. Kristy Royer	D – I	Kristy.royer@cobbk12.org
Mrs. Berenice Flores	J – N	Berenice.flores@cobbk12.org
Mr. Reginald Hurns	O – S	Reginald.hurns@cobbk12.org
Mrs. Melissa Lynch	T – Z	Melissa.alexander@cobbk12.org
Mrs. Cami Joubert	Graduation Coach	Jacqueline.Joubert@cobbk12.org