

2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Family Resources

The resources below will help connect you and your child with important learning for this school year.

We are committed to a bright future for your child!



FEDERAL WAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FW School District #210
33330 8th Avenue South
Federal Way, WA 98003

NONDISCRIMINATION and EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT
Federal Way Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin or ethnicity, religion, creed, sex or gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, age, marital or family status, veteran or military status; disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. The district provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. For more information: www.fwps.org

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Learning Partnership Guide

2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Digital Communications Tools in Federal Way Public Schools



Canvas

Canvas is a Learning Management System (LMS) that provides students and parents access to digital learning, classroom(s) weekly schedules, and more. To access Canvas, go to FWPS' Launchpad to Learning at <http://learn.fwps.org>. Your child's username is their Student ID, and their password is the same one used to log in to computers at school.



Phone Calls

Teachers may contact you using a calling system (i.e. Remind). You may notice the number may appear from a different area code than our geographical area.



Texting

Staff texting to parents and students

Remind is a communication tool that is used by staff such as teachers to communicate with parents via email, texting and voice and students via email. Texting is available for students ages 13 & over. Students and parents are automatically opted in. For more information about Remind or how to opt out, visit www.fwps.org/remind.

School and district-wide texting to parents

Texting is also available from your child's school and the school district. More information can be found here: www.fwps.org/Page/2139.



Zoom Meetings

For some families, video conferences will be the best way to connect with your child's teacher. Your child's teacher may send you an invitation to participate in a Zoom video conference. To access this meeting on a computer, click on the link provided in the invitation. To access this meeting over the phone, you can call the number provided or download the Zoom mobile app at <https://www.zoom.us/download>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

How-to videos and resources can be found on our website at www.fwps.org/parentportal

Did you know our website is translatable in over 100 languages?

To change the language on the FWPS website:

- Go to www.fwps.org
- Click on the 'Translate Language' at the top right of the webpage
- Select your preferred language from the drop-down menu

Does your child(ren) need access to a computer to access their learning at home?

Please indicate technology access needs for your child during the online registration process. If you have questions or need assistance, contact your child's school.

ParentVUE

ParentVUE is your way to check your child's grades, attendance and communicate with your child's teacher. To access ParentVUE, visit <https://grades.fwps.org/>.

Parents and guardians, make sure your contact information is up to date!

In order to receive communications from the district, school and school staff, it's important that your contact information in your ParentVUE account is current.

You can update your account by visiting <https://grades.fwps.org/>.

If you have not activated your ParentVUE account, please contact your child's school. To receive voice messages, ensure you have entered a mobile or home phone, and selected the corresponding type.

ParentVUE allows for two-way communication between teachers and parents in multiple languages. To receive messages in a language other than English, please set your preferred language on the login page of ParentVUE or on the mobile app.

When your child's teacher sends a message through ParentVUE, you will receive an email containing the message. To respond to this message, you must login to your ParentVUE account. (Do not respond to the noreply@fwps.org email notification.)

If you need assistance with ParentVUE, visit <https://www.fwps.org/ParentPortal> or email grades@fwps.org.

Parent Portal

The Parent Portal is the place where you will find all needs related to your child's learning! Visit www.fwps.org/parentportal to find frequently asked questions, links to common resources, "How to" videos related to digital resources, and more.

Launchpad to Learning

Launchpad to Learning is a one-stop online location that provides access to all school applications and educational resources.

Check it out at: <http://learn.fwps.org>.



The information contained in this guide was current at the time of printing. Federal, state and local laws may influence updates to district policies and procedures, and the most current version can be found at www.fwps.org.

JULY 2021

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

1 THE EARLY YEARS:
Building the foundation

2 WHOLE CHILD:
Thriving, confident,
responsible individuals

3 ACTIVE LEARNERS:
Engaged, empowered
critical thinkers

4 CONTENT-AREA
COMPETENCE:
Mastery of all subjects

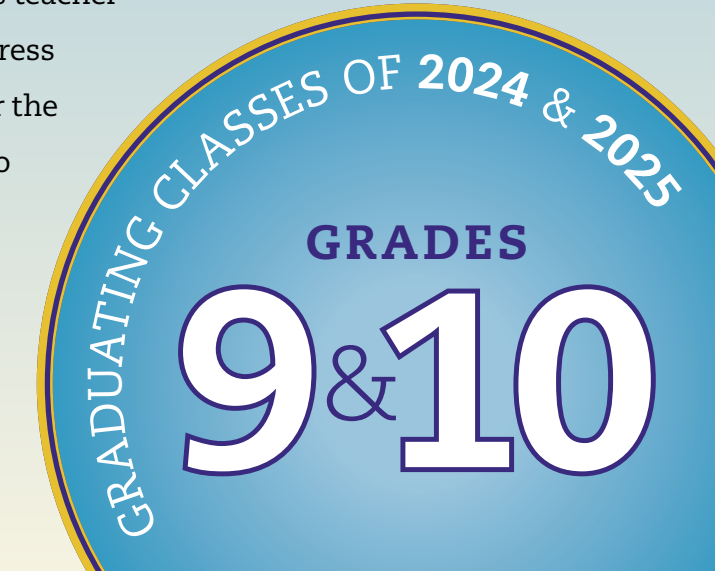
5 PERSISTENCE
TO GRADUATION:
High school graduation
through successful
transitions



Welcome!

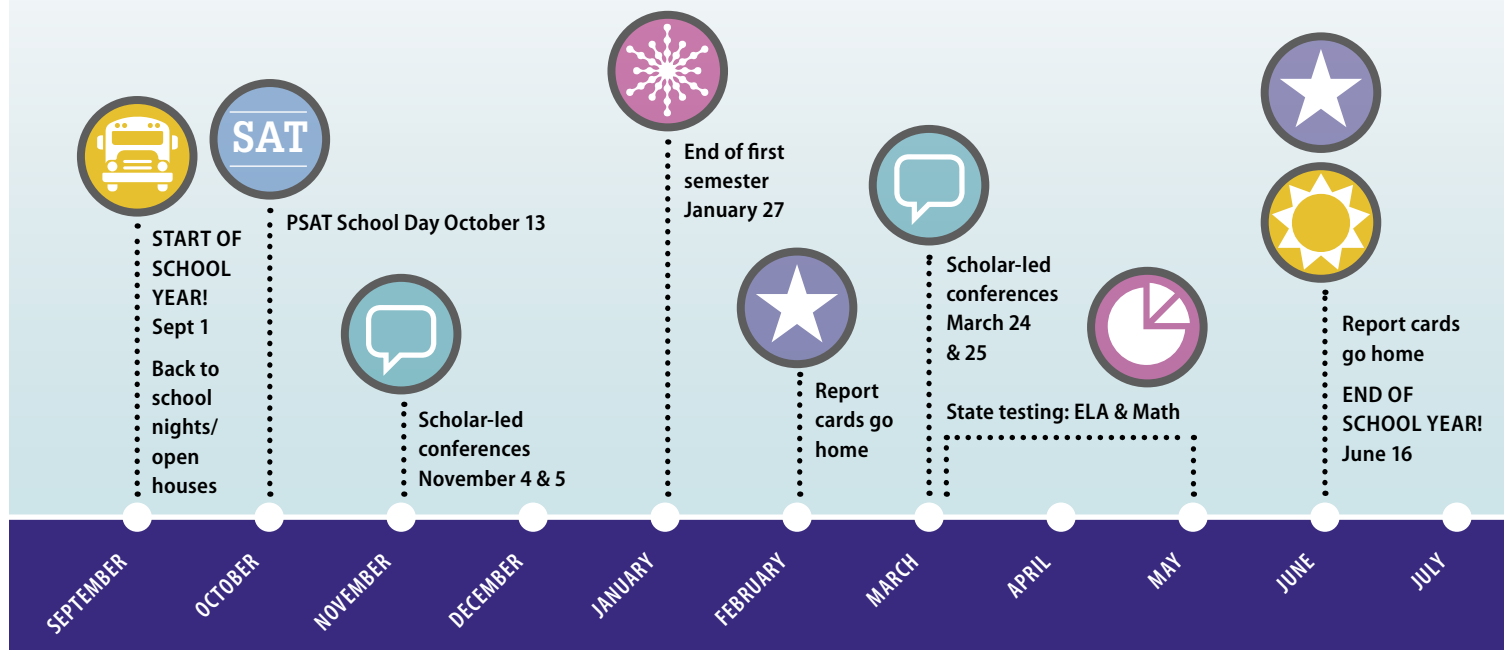
9th and 10th grades are a time of great transitions.

Your scholar is entering high school and exploring ideas about their future. This guide provides an overview of the academic standards and social emotional milestones that your child will experience this year. Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all scholars are prepared for success. This guide provides ideas of supporting your child as they begin to make plans for their future. Use this guide to help you speak with your child's teacher about their progress and growth over the year as well as to begin planning for your child's post-secondary experience.



timeline 2021–22 SCHOOL YEAR

For the district calendar go to www.fwps.org/schoolcalendar



GRADES 9 & 10 A GUIDE TO your scholar's success

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & HISTORY

English and Social Studies/History classes in 9th and 10th grade focus on reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language standards. Scholars focus on reading and rereading complex fiction and nonfiction materials. They become skilled at gathering information, evaluating sources, and citing material accurately. Scholars make and defend claims/arguments to show what they understand about what they have read and researched. Scholars focus on speaking clearly and listening attentively. They express their own ideas and build on the ideas of others. Scholars will focus on world history in grades 9 and 10.

MATH

The high school math standards are organized around five conceptual categories: number and quantity, algebra, functions, geometry, and statistics and probability. These standards allow scholars to practice applying mathematical ways of thinking to real world issues and challenges; preparing scholars to think and reason mathematically. In addition, high school standards set a rigorous definition of college and career readiness, by demanding scholars to develop a depth of understanding and an ability to apply mathematics to novel situations, as college students and employees regularly do.

SCIENCE

During grades 9–12, your child will begin to form deeper connections between concepts and skills previously learned in grades 6–8, such as applying statistics to scientific questions, evaluating limitations of models and creating algorithms to solve problems. The four major strands of science are: physical sciences, life sciences, earth and space sciences, and engineering design.

TECH SKILLS

- Revise work using feedback provided by multiple, online audiences.
- Independently design and publish multimedia content.
- Select technology to fit personal needs and style.



Ways to talk with your child's teacher

- Ask to see a sample of your child's work.
- Ask the teacher questions such as: Is this piece of work satisfactory? How could it be better? Is my child on track?
- How can I help my child improve or excel in this area?
- If my child needs extra support or wants to learn more about a subject, are there resources to help their learning outside the classroom?



Ways to talk with your child's teacher

- Where is my child excelling? How can I support this success?
- What do you think is giving my child the most trouble? How can I help my child improve in this area?
- Are there options provided by the school for enrichment experiences in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM areas) or for scholars having difficulty in mathematics?

high school & beyond

You can take steps as an 9th and 10th grader to make sure you're ready for post-secondary success. This list includes but is not limited to:

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Get into good habits. This is the time to start off on the right foot, doing well in classes, earning good grades, get to know requirements for high school graduation, and to start and maintain good habits, such as organization, time management, studying, and putting forth best efforts. Grades are posted on the transcript this year, which is an official, permanent record of classes and grades.

AUGUST: ATTEND FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

- Freshmen Orientation and other back to school events are a great way to get to know your new high school.

SEPTEMBER: ALL ABOUT HIGH SCHOOL

- Update your High School & Beyond Plan in MaiaLearning.
- Learn about what you need to do to graduate and how to be successful in high school.
- Participate in extracurricular activities.

OCTOBER: EXPLORE POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS

- Take the PSAT on October 13.
- Attend college and career fairs with parents/guardians including the Life After High School District College and Career Fair.

NOVEMBER: TYPES OF POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS

- Discover the different types of colleges and training options there are to choose from, and send letters introducing yourself to explain your interest in their post-secondary institution and ask about ways that you can begin preparing for your future at that campus.

DECEMBER: BUILDING YOUR COLLEGE AND CAREER PROFILE

- Focus on doing well in high school, staying organized and getting involved in activities. This is a great time to start building your community service hours.

JANUARY: COLLEGE AND CAREER CONNECTIONS

- Review your PSAT results and consider areas of strength, growth, and possible career pathways.

FEBRUARY: ALL ABOUT COLLEGE BOUND / THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP PLEDGE

- If you signed up, learn about the College Bound Scholarship and the Pledge.

MARCH: PICKING THE RIGHT HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

- Get to know the levels of courses offered by your school and select the courses that align with your current post-secondary plans.
- Take a stretch class because post-secondary institutions prefer rigor in your course selection.
- Enroll in Career & Technical Education classes that fit your career interests. This will allow you to learn more about this career pathway through the course content and projects along with business and industry speakers and tours.
- If you are interested in playing sports in college, research the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) eligibility requirements to select correct courses at ncaaclearinghouse.net.

APRIL: WAYS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

- Learn about different types of money that can help you pay for your post-secondary credential.

MAY / JUNE: SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

- Explore summer programs and other leadership opportunities.
- Save for college and look for a job, internship, or a volunteer position to learn about a field of interest.

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Explore interests by joining clubs, volunteering and doing community service. This will look great on post-secondary applications, and can help you decide where your passions are. Continue good work habits to keep your transcript looking great.

SEPTEMBER: ALL ABOUT HIGH SCHOOL

- Participate in extra-curricular activities to explore your interests in a sport, school club, music or drama group, or community volunteer activity.
- Update your High School & Beyond Plan in MaiaLearning.

OCTOBER: BENEFITS OF GOING TO A TECHNICAL, TWO OR FOUR YEAR COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, MILITARY OR OTHER POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION

- Tour post-secondary campuses, and attend college and career fairs with parents/guardians including the Life After High School District College and Career Fair where over 80 college and post-secondary programs present information about their schools.
- Take the PSAT on October 13.

NOVEMBER: TYPES OF POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS

- Discover the different types of colleges and training options there are to choose from, and send letters introducing yourself to explain your interest in their post-secondary institution and ask about ways that you can begin preparing for your future at that campus.

DECEMBER: BUILDING YOUR COLLEGE AND CAREER PROFILE

- Focus on doing well in high school, staying organized and getting involved in activities. This is a great time to start building your community service hours.
- Keep a list of colleges, careers, and majors that might interest you.

JANUARY: COLLEGE AND CAREER CONNECTIONS

- If you are interested in attending a U.S. Military Academy, request a pre-candidate questionnaire.

FEBRUARY: ALL ABOUT COLLEGE BOUND / THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP PLEDGE

- If you signed up, review the College Bound Scholarship and the Pledge.

MARCH: PICKING THE RIGHT HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

- Get to know the levels of courses offered by your school and select the courses that align with your current post-secondary plans.
- Enroll in Career & Technical Education classes that fit your career interests. This will allow you to learn more about this career pathway through the course content and projects along with business and industry speakers and tours.
- As a junior you can take Running Start, PSSC, Career Start, and advanced coursework. Gather information on various program options and what would be the best fit.
- Take a stretch class, because post-secondary institutions prefer rigor in your course selection, and check into prerequisites for advanced-level junior- and senior-year courses.

APRIL: WAYS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

- Learn about different types of money that can help you pay for your post-secondary credential.
- Attend a financial aid workshop at your school.

MAY / JUNE: SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

- Explore summer programs and other leadership opportunities.
- Save for college and look for a job, internship or a volunteer position to learn about a field of interest.

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL grades 9 & 10 milestones

- Crave adult connection even while fighting for their own identity; need adults to listen and negotiate rules and requirements
- Often embarrassed to be seen with parents; can be critical of parents' dress, habits, friends, and ideas
- Social circle is large and varied; includes a diverse group of friends
- Very anxious to be liked
- Exploring own sexual identity
- Adult personality continues to develop
- Typically, loud and rambunctious
- Like to be busy and involved in many extracurricular activities
- Safe, positive rites of passage can be important to emerging sense of self
- Can be a pain at home and a star at school
- May give in to peer pressure to see doing well in school as "nerdy" or "uncool"
- Service projects, student government, class dances, sporting events, and other group undertakings often lead to a first career interest
- Begin to develop distinctive sense of humor; can be extremely funny and creative
- Generally happy and easy-going
- Recognize own strengths and weaknesses

OUR COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARS AND FAMILIES

All scholars learn best when they experience physical and emotional safety in classrooms and schools. Scholars and families should expect to see the following adult actions:

- Provide a welcoming environment to support building trusting, encouraging relationships with all families.
- Prioritize scholar voice and participation in shaping the learning and classroom culture.
- Teach for understanding to assure scholars have high expectations and academic supports to grow intellectually.
- Focus on scholar cooperation to encourage scholars to learn from and help others.
- Implement school-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports so that all scholars and adults live out their shared beliefs and actions that make school a safe and fun place to learn.

QUESTION & ANSWER

Q: Who do I contact if I have a concern about my child?

A: First, always contact your scholar's teacher/s and discuss your concern. If your concern has not been fully addressed, you can contact the school counselor or principal.

Q: How do I stay informed about my child's progress in every class they take?

A: ParentVUE allows you to see all of your child's courses, assignments, and current grades. If you have concern about your child's grade, first, ask your child to speak with their teacher in that class. Your child should ask what they can do to improve the grade and make a plan to do so. If you are still concerned, contact your child's teacher directly to see how you can support your child's success in that class.

PSAT & SAT school day

OCTOBER 13

10th graders take the PSAT/NMSQT

The PSAT experience provides valuable feedback through the Student Score Report. You can then work on any of your academic weaknesses while there is still plenty of time to make improvements.

GETTING READY FOR college & career

ATTENDANCE

Scholars who maintain good attendance through all years of school:

- Achieve grade level standard at a higher rate
- Graduate from high school at a higher rate
- Develop good habits that contribute to success in school and in future careers

For each day a scholar is absent it takes an average of three days to catch up.

BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

The purpose behind Culturally-Responsive Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (CR-PBIS) is to make schools more effective, efficient, and equitable learning environments for all scholars. By teaching scholars expectations and acknowledging positive behavior, adults increase the predictability, consistency, positive climate, and safety of all at school. Social emotional learning skills are embedded throughout the school year. To learn more about CR-PBIS and social emotional learning at your school, contact your scholar's teacher or principal.

HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND PLAN

Scholars should continue to map out and finalize their High School & Beyond Plans and find out about what courses to take that will lead to specific post-secondary education, training and college plans. Grade level specific High School & Beyond Checklists can be found at www.fwps.org/CCR. Scholars can also use their www.MaiaLearning.com account to plan and discover more using interest surveys, academic planning tools and scholarship, college and career searches. Go to MaiaLearning.com, select "Sign In with Google" and use your P12 Gmail account and password.

COURSE PERFORMANCE



GRADES 10–12 ▶ Passing an advanced course (AP, IB, CAMBRIDGE)

GRADE 9 ▶ Passing grade 9 courses earning 6 credits

GRADES 8–9 ▶ Passing Algebra 1

GRADES 6–7 ▶ Passing ELA and Math courses

GRADE 3 ▶ Reading on grade level

GRADES K–2 ▶ Learning how to read

