

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

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
Federal Way, WA
Permit No. 54



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



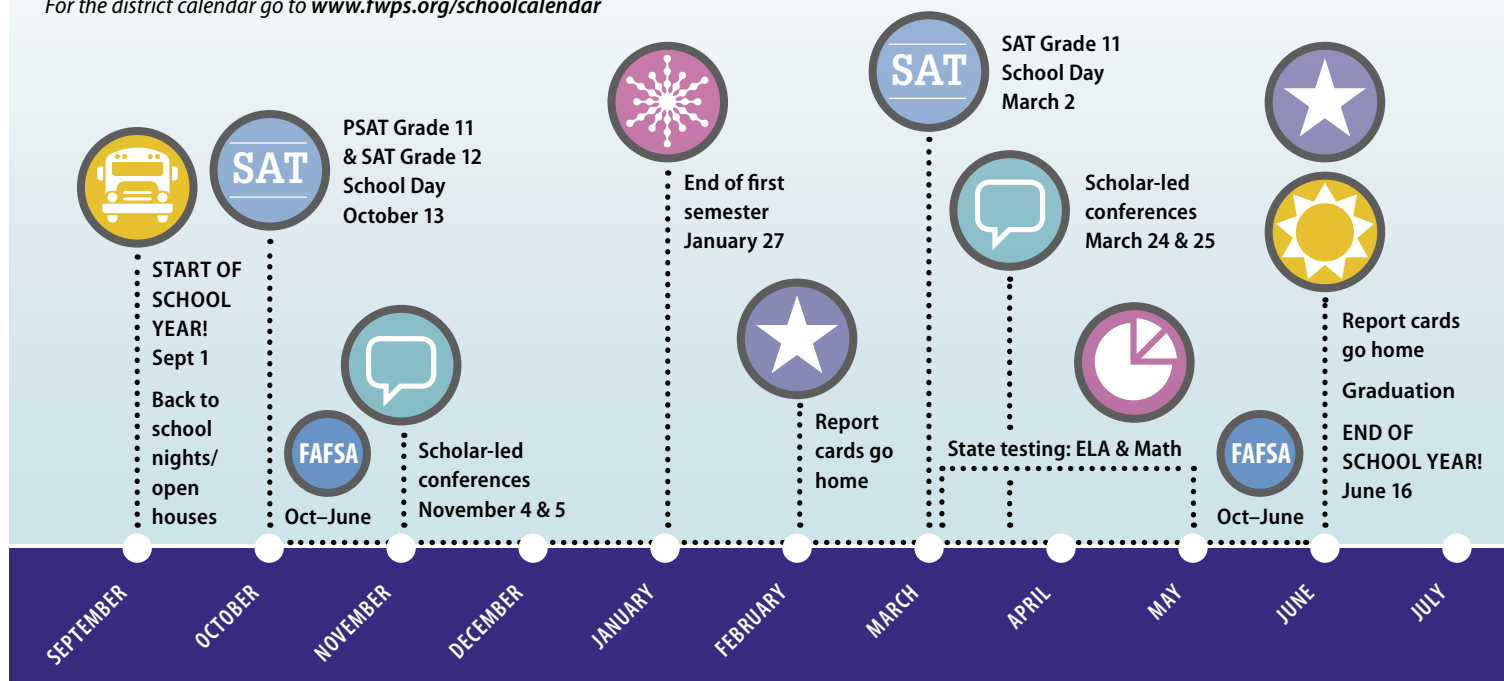
Welcome!

11th and 12th grades are important years in your scholar's life. Your scholar is completing high school and planning for 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 11 & 12 A GUIDE TO your scholar's success

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & HISTORY

English and Social Studies/History classes in 11th and 12th 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 focus on U.S. History and Civics in grades 11 and 12.

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 students to practice applying mathematical ways of thinking to real world issues and challenges, preparing students to think and reason mathematically. In addition, high school standards set a rigorous definition of college and career readiness by demanding students 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 11th and 12th grader to make sure you're ready for post-secondary success. This list will help you navigate the planning process.

11

This is the year to start narrowing down what you would like to do after high school. By the end of this year scholars should have a top ten list of post-secondary institutions that they are interested in attending after high school. Take advantage of college and career tour opportunities and meetings with college and career representatives at your school. Keep your grades up and enroll in an advanced course or stretch class.

SEPTEMBER: GET ORGANIZED

- Take the SAT in the fall.
- Verify your transcript is complete and accurate.
- Begin looking at college essay prompts and brainstorm potential answers or determine gaps in experiences that you can fill over the next two years.
- 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: TYPES OF POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS

- Take the PSAT this year, and you could potentially qualify for the National Merit Scholarship.
- 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.

NOVEMBER: RESEARCHING COLLEGES

- Make a list of post-secondary institutions you will apply to and their deadlines. You should have a list narrowed down to your top choice(s), including a reach college, and a safety college. Send a letter of introduction to your top choices, explain your interest and ask what you can be doing now to prepare for that campus.

DECEMBER: WAYS TO PAY FOR YOUR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

- Understand how to pay for your post-secondary credential using financial aid and scholarships.
- Complete the FAFSA4caster to begin financial planning for your post-secondary plans: <https://fafsa.ed.gov/FAFSA/app/f4cForm?execution=e2s1>.

JANUARY: ACCESSING THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP

- So, you have College Bound: Make sure you complete the requirements so that you can access your scholarship.

FEBRUARY: SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

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

MARCH: CHOOSING THE RIGHT CLASSES AND PARTS OF A POST-SECONDARY APPLICATION

- Enroll in an advanced course or 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.
- All colleges and certification programs have unique application requirements. Learn about the different parts and what you need to apply.
- Take the SAT/ACT, and send your test scores to potential colleges. To help prepare for the SAT, you can access free personalized SAT practice tools at satpractice.org, including thousands of interactive questions, video lessons, practice tests, and more.

APRIL: FINISH YOUR JUNIOR YEAR STRONG

- With your family, make an appointment with your counselor or career/college specialist to discuss ways to improve your college preparation and selection processes.

MAY / JUNE: PREPARING FOR YOUR SENIOR YEAR

- Check post-secondary entrance requirements and deadlines for applications. Some colleges have early applications in May–August prior to a scholar's senior year.
- Keep track of important dates for college and military applications and scholarship opportunities.
- Contact your counselor or college and career specialist before leaving school for the summer if you are considering military academies or ROTC scholarships. If you want a four-year ROTC scholarship, you should begin the application process the summer before your senior year.
- Find a full-time or part-time job or participate in a summer camp or summer college program.
- Plan college visits for the summer. When planning your campus visits, make sure to allow time to explore each college. While you're there, talk to as many people as possible. These can include college admission staff, professors, and students.

12

There are many important deadlines this year, so organization and timeliness are critical. By the end of this year, scholars should have selected their post-secondary path based on multiple applications to post-secondary institutions and finding their best match for success toward their future goals and career.

SEPTEMBER: GET ORGANIZED

- Make a list of post-secondary institutions you will apply to and their deadlines. You should have a list narrowed down to your top choice(s), including a reach college, and a safety college.
- Verify your transcript is complete and accurate.
- Begin brainstorming essay topics and complete essays for post-secondary and scholarship applications.
- Letters of recommendations should be requested at least two weeks in advance. You want to give your recommender time to write a quality letter for your acceptance. Give each teacher or counselor an outline of your academic record and your extracurricular activities. For each recommendation, provide a stamped, addressed envelope and any college forms required.
- Update your High School & Beyond Plan in MaiaLearning.

OCTOBER: FAFSA / WASFA AND TESTING

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA or WASFA): To qualify for most financial aid or college financial aid packages, you'll need to complete the FAFSA/WASFA. October 1 is the first day you can file the FAFSA/WASFA.
- Complete the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®: PROFILE is an online application used by certain colleges and scholarship programs to determine eligibility for their aid dollars.
- Take the SAT/ACT one more time: Many seniors retake the SAT in the fall. Additional course work since your last test could help you boost your performance. And, you already know what to expect on test day. Send your test to potential colleges. Ask a Career/College Specialist for a fee waiver if needed.
- 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.

NOVEMBER: SCHOLARSHIPS AND APPLICATIONS

- Research and apply for scholarships. Local scholarships can be found in the career center, state scholarships can be found at washboard.org, scholarship at post-secondary institutions can be found on their websites or by calling the financial aid office and national scholarship can be found at fastweb.com and other search engines.
- Complete at least one post-secondary application by Thanksgiving.

DECEMBER: FINISH STRONG

- Many scholarships depend on your final GPA, and admissions to post-secondary institutions are granted based on the assumption that you will pass all remaining course work and continue to challenge yourself academically.

JANUARY: FINALIZE APPLICATIONS

- Applications are typically due in January and the priority deadline for the FAFSA/WASFA is in January. Follow up with submitted applications with your college admissions representatives to ensure your application is complete.

FEBRUARY: UNDERSTANDING FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTERS

- Review your financial aid award letter to understand the aid package and determine what is best for you and your family and next steps.

MARCH: MAKING YOUR DECISION

- Now that you've received your admission letters, determine which post-secondary institution is the best choice for YOU!

APRIL: TRANSITIONING TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

- Make sure you've completed everything you need to enroll in the post-secondary institution you've selected.

MAY: WHAT TO EXPECT YOUR FIRST TERM / POST-SECONDARY RESOURCES

- Post-secondary education and training is very different from high school. Map out different resources that will help you have a successful first year.
- Take AP, IB, or Cambridge exams. There is no risk, and a successful score could earn you college credit.

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL grades 11 & 12 milestones

- Relationship with family is easy and giving
- Feel comfortable in own skin; secure sense of self
- Start to view parents as people, rather than rule-makers
- Friendships are very important; most have a diverse friend group with shared interests
- Romantic relationships can be quite intense; search for intimacy
- Ability to make commitments and follow through
- Desire for respect and want adult leadership roles
- Start to accept and enjoy their own uniqueness, but still seek approval from peer groups
- Look for confidence of others in their decisions
- Can see self from the viewpoint of others
- Begin to take fewer risks
- Able to initiate and carry out their own tasks without the supervision of others
- Begin to search for career possibilities

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 he or she takes?

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.

PREPARING FOR post-secondary success

- October 13 is PSAT & SAT School Day
- 12th graders: Complete your FAFSA application

Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Washington Application for Student Financial Aid (WASFA) is an essential step for all high school seniors who anticipate graduating in June. A completed application opens the door to scholarships and grants, with financial support available for four-year, two-year colleges and career schools where scholars can receive professional certifications. FAFSA is the document that scholars should use unless they are undocumented, then they should use the WASFA.

☀️ 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

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

