

Freshmen Class of 2027

Worthington Kilbourne High School



August 2023- May 2024

Welcome to Worthington Kilbourne High School

Parents and students will find this freshman packet helpful as it contains information needed through this year and it is to be used as a reference. It is still your responsibility to check for updates and current information. Information will always be posted on the counselor website at: www.wkhs counselors.com.

Counselor Information

If you have any concerns, please contact your designated school counselor so that we can try to help. The Counseling Center staff values the partnership of working together to help create a positive and supportive educational experience for every student. Throughout the year we will provide additional information and updates on the counselor website and in the weekly WKHS newsletters.

Please be aware that we have added a 5th counselor and the alphabet break down for counselor's has changed. Please review the counselor's assigned alphabet split below.

Student Last Name:	Counselor	Email	Voicemail
A-Co	Brianna Abbott	babbott@wscloud.org	614-450-6490
Cr-He	Sarah Schnell	sschnell@wscloud.org	614-450-6484
Hi-Mi	Lauren Himmel	lhimmel@wscloud.org	614-450-6456
Mo-Se	Erica Mann	emann@wscloud.org	614-450-6487
Sg-Z	Molly Lord	mlord@wscloud.org	614-450-6491

Students Meeting with Counselors:

Contacting Counselors

The Counselors aim to function with an open-door policy. We are here to work with you to help with anything related to your academic, college/ career, and personal/ social life. If our doors are open and we don't have another student in our office and/or are not on our phone then you are invited to come in and meet with us.

If we are not available when you stop to see us, students have a wide range of options to be able to schedule times to see their counselor.

- Fill out a request form found outside of your counselor's door
- Schedule with counselor's calendar
- Send a remind message to your counselor
- Send an email to your counselor
- Stop back again during your lunch period, prep period or before/ after school

Remind Codes for Students

Counselors will use Remind with students to facilitate appointments. As a result, we ask students to sign up for Remind so that you can send/ receive messages from your counselor about meeting appointments.

To sign up by text message, text your code to 81010

Ms. Abbott (Last names A-Co) @2027Abbott
Mrs. Schnell (Last names Cr-He) @27Schnell
Mrs. Himmel (Last names Hi-Mi) @2027Himmel
Mrs. Mann (Last names Mo-Se) @2027EMann
Mrs. Lord (Last names Sg-Z) @2027Lord

School Therapy Dog

Lexington, better known as **Lexi** to staff and students, is our school's therapy dog who attends WKHS daily. She is typically in the counseling and administrative areas and loves to visit with students, parents and staff. Lexi is a miniature goldendoodle which is a hypoallergenic dog meaning that she should not cause a problem for students with allergies. The next time you are in Kilbourne, stop by to say Hi to Lexi too.

Parent Information:

Contacting Counselors

The Counseling Center's office hours are Monday through Friday from 7:45am to 3:30pm. Every effort is made to return phone calls within 24-48 business hours. We may not always be able to do this during busy times, but we'll do our best. In particular, please be patient during the first 5 days of each semester and during registration weeks. You may also contact us using e-mail. Please remember that each counselor is responsible for approximately 325 students, so setting up appointments prior to stopping into school is helpful and strongly recommended.

Updates and Information

The Counselor website is the primary method we will use to communicate updates with parents. Please note that we will not be using Remind as a tool to pass out information to parents so you do not need to sign up for Remind. **Additional timely information will be communicated in our Counselor Connection Monthly Newsletter and Kilbourne Weekly Building Newsletters.**

Lunch and Learns

Throughout the school year we will host brief meetings over zoom to dive deeper into topics of interest for parents. These meetings will run from 12-12:30pm and the zoom link will be sent via email and will also be posted on the Counselor website on the morning of each lunch and learn session. Below are the anticipated dates and topics for this year's lunch and learn sessions.

- Friday, September 15 Study Skills
- Friday, October 13-Scholarships
- Friday, November 10-Career Fit
- January 19, 2024-Grad requirements
- March 1, 2024-Stress Management
- April 12, 2024-Understanding GPA
- May 3, 2024-Perfectionism

Dates to Remember

- First day for Freshmen: August 16th
- WKHS Meet the Teacher Night: August 23th
- Columbus Suburban College Fair at Otterbein University: October 8th
- PreACT: November 9th
- Curriculum Night: January 25th

Freshman Year Checklist

- ☐ Select a challenging curriculum. What is challenging for you may be different than what is challenging for your peers.
- ☐ Goal set for next 3 years. Use the [course planning guide](#) to support goal setting
- ☐ Get involved. Join a club or sport. Attend extra-curricular events.
- ☐ Seek help when needed and ask questions. Teachers are not the enemy.
- ☐ Meet and visit with your counselor. Counselors are good for more than schedule changes. We want to get to know you!
- ☐ Use a plan book or other organizational tool. In high school you will have lots of responsibilities. Use a plan book to organize your time, events, and workload.
- ☐ Get sleep. WKHS starts school at 8:40 AM.
- ☐ Take notes and use those notes to study for classes. Teachers expect more independent work from students in high school. Your notes will be your connection to understanding the coursework and part of your preparation for exams.
- ☐ Keep your material (notes, books, papers) organized. You will have 5-7 classes with different expectations and different information. Lost information means wrong answers on exams. Lost assignments mean zero credit for work. Lots of missed work and low exam scores equals failing a class, no credit for that class, and a repeat of the class.
- ☐ Have fun and make new friends. You are now in a building of nearly 1500 students. It is a great time to meet and develop friendships with students who have the same passion, interests, and likes as you.
- ☐ Enjoy your time at WKHS. It is a time to learn and grow and be you!
- ☐ Learn to manage your time. "If you have goals and procrastination you have nothing. If you have goals and you take action, you will have anything you want." ~Thomas J. Vilord
- ☐ Create and begin a resume of high school activities- sports, community, club, volunteer, church, scouts; list dates/years of participation, roles/leadership, average hours per week. Continue to add to it each semester.

High School Academic Reminders

Student Success

A new year provides a fresh opportunity for students and parents to focus on academic success. Suggestions to help make sure students have a successful year include:

- Check Infinite Campus on a regular basis. Parents and students keeping track of current grades in courses help to make sure that goals are being achieved in classes.
- Seek help from teachers by asking questions in class or meeting 1:1 with your teacher for extra assistance when you don't understand material being covered in class.
- Seek support from the Academic Assistants in the Teaching and Learning Center. The Teaching and Learning Center is located in Room 209 and 4 Academic Assistants (one for each core content area) are in the TLC all day to help support students in reviewing material, studying for tests, and assisting with homework questions. This is free of charge and an incredible resource for our students.
- Participate in parent/ teacher conferences. Both students and parents can attend conferences.

Student Course Load/ Co-Curricular Eligibility

The typical student course load is 5 to 7 classes per semester. 6 classes are recommended for all underclassmen and at least 5 classes are recommended for seniors, although many seniors take more in at least one semester.

Students who plan to participate in co-curricular activities (such as athletics, theater, music, Mock Trial, etc.) need to plan their course load to ensure they are earning sufficient credits each grading period to remain eligible to participate during the next grading period. This means that, among the courses they are taking, they must be passing five courses, each of which carry $\frac{1}{2}$ credit for the semester. All Wellness for Life classes do **not** count toward eligibility. Please see your counselor or the Athletic Director if you have any questions.

Pass/ Fail Courses

Students may elect to take certain courses on a pass/ fail basis. To select this grading option:

- Check the Course Planning Handbook to see if the course allows for a pass/ fail option
- Obtain the pass/ fail form from the Counseling and Career Center
- Complete the form, including parent's signature
- Return form to Counseling and Career Center within the first 6 weeks of the semester

Advanced Course Level Changes

As a reminder, all students who are enrolled in honors, AP or IB classes which require summer work must complete their assigned [summer assignments](#). These assignments are available on the counselor website as a reference. If a student decides that he/ she wants to change their level (out of an AP or Honors class and into a regular class) he/ she is still responsible for the summer assignment as the grade will carry over and be included in their regular course level's class.

Dropping a Course

To drop a course without receiving an "F" on the final transcript, all students must drop the course, through their counselor, within six weeks of the beginning of the semester. After 6 weeks, students that drop a class would have an "F" on their transcript and included in the determination of their grade point average.

Graduation requirements

The Graduation requirements for students are established by the State of Ohio and include requirements related to the classes they take and additional requirements to demonstrate competency and readiness. Detailed information about the graduation requirements is available at: <http://www.wkhscounselors.com/index.php/graduation-requirements>

Additionally, all students and parents are encouraged to review your transcript on Infinite Campus and the Graduation Summary Sheet is on the Worthington Portal in the Student Graduation Status tab which shows progress towards competency and readiness requirements.

Counselor Website

We work to provide a website with a wealth of information for WKHS students and parents related to your academic, college/ career and personal/ social needs. The website is www.wkhscounselors.com and we strongly encourage you to visit the site frequently for updates and timely information. Examples of information available on the WKHS Counselor website include upcoming dates, forms you can download related to college applications, credit flexibility resources, scholarships, and resources of support.

www.wkhscounselors.com