

# Junior Class of 2025

Worthington Kilbourne High School



August 2022- May 2023

## Welcome to Junior Year at WKHS

Parents and students will find this junior packet helpful as it contains information needed through junior 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.wkhscounselors.com](http://www.wkhscounselors.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.

<b>Student Last Name:</b>	<b>Counselor</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Voicemail</b>
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

# 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 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

# 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) @2025Abbott  
Mrs. Schnell (Last names Cr-He) @25Schnell  
Mrs. Himmel (Last names Hi-Mi) @2025Himmel  
Mrs. Mann (Last names Mo-Se) @2025EMann  
Mrs. Lord (Last names Sg-Z) @2025Lord

## Dates to Remember:

- First day for Juniors: August 17th
- WKHS Meet the Teacher Night: August 23rd
- Junior College Information Night: October 3rd
- Columbus Suburban College Fair at Otterbein University: October 8th
- PSAT: October 10th
- PreACT: November 9th
- ACT: March 12th
- Brainstorming College Essay Topic Workshop: Spring 2024 - exact date will be announced
- Job Fair: Spring 2023 - exact date will be announced

## 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.wkhsounselors.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.

## Honors Diploma:

Students interested in pursuing an Honors Diploma will want to consider any remaining course requirements needed for this designation when making course selections. Detailed information about Honors Diploma criteria are available at: [Academic Honors Diploma | Ohio Department of Education](#)

## Plans for Senior year:

Students meet individually with their counselor in the winter of junior year. During that meeting, students and counselors will discuss senior year course recommendations and choices. As well as conversations about plans for after high school.

## Plans for After High School:

### Explore options: Employment, Military, College

Every day of high school is helping to prepare students for life after high school and junior year is the ideal time for students to critically think about what they want for their future. This may include pursuing a career in the military, enrolling in a 2 or 4 year college, or entering the workforce.

- YouScience: Completing the YouScience aptitude assessment can give students insight into career fields that may be of interest.
- ASVAB: Students interested in pursuing a career in the military will want to consider taking the ASVAB. **Worthington City Schools will offer the ASVAB this winter. See your counselor if you are interested in taking this test.**
- Resume: Working on creating a resume highlighting your areas of involvement and career related interests and skills is a valuable step for preparing for the future.
- **Worthington Schools Job Fair: Each spring Worthington Schools hosts a job fair for junior and senior students to meet with local employers for summer and post-high school job opportunities.**
- Apprenticeship programs: Exploring apprenticeship programs can be a great option for hands-on training in careers of interest. Worthington offers Pre-Apprenticeship programs during a students' senior year with the following companies: **Worthington Industries, Performance Columbus (Drive Direct), Simpson Strong Tie, and Eco-Plumbers.**

## Plans for After High School: College

Many WKHS students will continue their education after graduating from high school by attending college to earn a certificate or degree. There is a lot to consider related to college and below you will find information to help guide you in preparing for college and finding the right college for you.

### Junior Year Checklist:

#### FALL:

- ☐ Register for and take the PSAT for practice for the college entrance SAT exam and be considered for the National Merit Scholarship Competition.

- ☐ Register and take the PreACT in the fall as a practice opportunity for the ACT
- ☐ Register and prepare for SAT or ACT exams, if you are taking them this fall or winter
  - ☐ Consider preparation resources:
    - <http://wkhs counselors.com/index.php/test-preparation>
- ☐ Create and/or update 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 the list
- ☐ Meet with College Representatives in the Counseling Center
- ☐ Attend college fairs. (In particular, plan to visit the Columbus Suburban College Fair in October.) You may be able to narrow your choices or add a college to your list.

#### WINTER:

- ☐ Review your YouScience aptitude assessment results.
  - ☐ If you have not yet completed the assessment, please see your counselor for a code to take it.
- ☐ Register and prepare for SAT or ACT exams, if you are taking them this winter.
- ☐ Make a list of colleges that meet your most important criteria (size, location, distance from home, majors, academic rigor, housing, and cost). Weigh each of the factors according to their importance to you.
- ☐ When creating your senior year schedule, be sure to pick a rigorous schedule and include interesting electives.

#### SPRING:

- ☐ Register and prepare for SAT or ACT exams, if you are taking them this spring.
- ☐ Take College Visits and tour schools you're considering applying to.
- ☐ If you are interested in the military, see your counselor to be referred to a recruiter.
- ☐ Consider whom you will ask to write your recommendations should you need them. Think about asking teachers who know you well and who will write positive letters about you. Letters from a coach, activity leader, or an adult who knows you well outside of school may also be valuable if the college will accept them.
- ☐ Update your Resume/ Interests information with Junior year activities.

## Selecting Colleges: Where will I apply?

### **Know both yourself and the colleges:**

- Take an in-depth look at your goals, needs, strengths, and talents. Make an honest assessment of your academic strengths, weaknesses, and performance. Also, assess your extracurricular activities, interests, and goals.
- Research colleges in order to match your academic strengths, learning style, and extracurricular goals with the characteristics of the over 3,000 colleges in the USA. Make an informed decision about the schools you are applying to.

- Consider factors that will be ideal for you related to: size, location, available majors and classes, available extracurricular activities, distance from home, make up of the student body, housing options, and campus atmosphere.
- It is important to consider the “fit” of the college. The college fit includes being an academic fit, a financial fit, and a social fit.

[Tips on Investigating Colleges](#)

[What do you want in a college?](#)

[Self Reflection](#)

The following websites can be a good place to begin a general internet search for colleges:

[College Navigator](#)

[CollegeBoard BigFuture](#)

[Niche](#)

There are also apps that students and families can use such as:

College Interactive

College Hunch

College Search Guide

## Exploring Colleges:

**Visiting colleges** and getting a first-hand look at the people and places that make up a campus community can be a valuable learning experience for students as they try to determine where they want to attend college. Sometimes, it is easier to figure out what you DON'T like and then work backwards. The more colleges you are able to explore the easier that process can be and there are many ways you can learn about college campuses.

[Arranging College Visits](#)

[When Visiting Campus](#)

**College Fairs** provide a great opportunity to interact with a large number of college admissions representatives in one setting. There are a variety of different college fairs held both virtually and locally for students and parents to explore.

[Information about upcoming college fairs and making the most of the college fair experience](#)

**Rep Visits** to WKHS are held each year in the fall. Admissions representatives from a wide array of colleges take the time out of their schedules to come to Kilbourne and meet with interested students to share more information about their college campus community. This is a great opportunity for students to have face-to-face time with the admissions representatives who may be reading your application in the future.

[Information about rep visits at WKHS](#)

# College Entrance Exams: ACT and SAT

ACT Test Dates & Deadlines:

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>

SAT Test Dates & Deadlines:

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/dates-deadlines>

Test Prep Opportunities:

<http://wkhs counselors.com/index.php/test-preparation>

It is your responsibility to send the official ACT or SAT test scores to the college directly from the testing agency. You may select colleges to send scores to during the registration process and you can send additional scores by going to the testing agency website.

## 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 (TLC) 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 ½ credit for the semester. All Wellness for Life (physical education) 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.



## 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](http://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](http://www.wkhscounselors.com)