

# Class of 2022: 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Talking Points for Sophomore Year

## 1. Review Transcripts with your counselor

- a. Check for required classes failed. Make a plan!
- b. Credits earned in middle school and in high school.  
----Middle school credits do not count toward the 26 credits earned, while in high school. The course content does count, but not the credit amount.  
----The technology department is working on importing the middle school grades for world language, math plus and science plus.
- c. Grade points/rankings.

## 2. Review Graduation Requirements

- a. You must earn 19 required credits and 7 elective credits.
- b. Remember, you must pass your required classes to graduate.
- c. Three ways to make up failures of required classes:
  - ✓ Testing out
  - ✓ Repeating class

## 3. College, Work and Trade School Preparation

- a. Colleges and employers may look at your transcripts for decisions.
- b. Stay focused in current classes.
- c. Choose classes, for next year, wisely.
- d. Check the college and career web-sites for required high school classes.

## 4. Web Resources

- a. College information: [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)
- b. SAT: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).
- c. Career Cruising: Found on the Counseling home page. Use your Skyward username and your student id for your password.

## 5. Program of Studies

- a. Go to [www.portageps.org](http://www.portageps.org). Use the search window for "Program of Studies." Make sure you pick the 2019-2020 school year.
- b. Contact your counselor by e-mail for questions.

## 6. Open Electives at Portage Central High School

If there is a course code in Skyward, then you may sign up for the course. If you cannot find a course code, your counselor may add it for you. Remember, your counselor will have to add in the year- long PE courses.

## 7. Electives that take Applications (APPL)

(You must fill out an application for these classes.)

### Yearbook

- a. Pick up applications from the Counseling Office.
- b. Mrs. Honeysett may be reached by e-mail at [ehoneysett@portageps.org](mailto:ehoneysett@portageps.org).
- c. Do not count this as part of the 7.0 credits. Give your application to your counselor. Your counselor can write this request on your course request contract.

American Sign Language

- a. Sign up in the Counseling Office by Friday, March 8, 2019.
- b. Space is limited in this class. The juniors and seniors have priority.
- c. You will be told if you have been added to the class.
- d. Put this selection in the *alternate* choice on your request sheet.

**8. Yellow Course Listing Sheet**

- a. Alphabetical by department.
- b. Course descriptions are in your *Program of Studies*.
- c. Sign up by course number.
- d. Courses with an asterisk (\*) are a half credit or half a year.
- e. Courses with no asterisk are one credit or all year.
- f. Talk to your teachers for course recommendations.

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Day 2-- --Signing up for your classes**

**1. Course Request Contract Form and Skyward Account for Requests**

- a. Fill in your requests as directed.
  - ✓ Classes with course numbers are open.
  - ✓ Classes with APPL need an application.
  - ✓ Classes with TR need a teacher recommendation.
  - ✓ Classes with an asterisk (\*) are .5 credit (or half a year).
  - ✓ All other classes are 1 credit, unless marked otherwise.
- b. Your teachers and parents will also give you feedback.
  - ✓ A parent signature overrides a teacher recommendation.
  - ✓ No parent signature means that the teacher recommendation applies.
- c. Be sure to make up any failed requirements for graduation. (See your transcript.)
- d. For college bound students, be sure to include four (4.0) to five (5.0) credits of coursework in English, math, social studies, science and/or world language.
- e. There will be very few schedule changes at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year; so, please choose your courses, wisely. Keep in mind that even our seminars have become too full to add students this year.
- f. If you do not write down what you want, your courses will be completed by the computer or by the counselor.

**2. Filling out the Course Request Contract**

**Step One:** On the right hand side of the page, fill in all of your personal information.

**Step Two:** Look at the column in the middle of the sheet. That is for you to complete. Circle the course numbers and titles you plan to select. Please write neatly.

**Step Three:** If there is not a course name or course number, fill in the course number and name in the blank spaces provided on the sheet.

**Step Four:** Remember that you must sign up for 7 credits. These courses are your selections for Portage Central High School in the 2017-2018 school year. You must also select alternative courses, in case there is a conflict with times of your classes. We need flexibility. If you do not pick alternative classes, the computer or your counselor will do this for you.

**Step Five:** Follow the directions for using Skyward to pick course requests for the 2019-2020 School Year. The directions are on your course request contract sheets.

**\*\*You will be sent down to the Community Room from your English classes.**

**All of Mrs. Braford's and Mrs. LaVasseur's classes will come down on Tuesday, March 5, 2019.**

**All of Mrs. Alburtus' classes will come down on Wednesday, March 6, 2019.**

**All of Mrs. Huff's classes will come down on Thursday, March 7, 2019.**

**Be sure to fill out your form and get a parent signature. Turn in the form, to your counselor, when you are called down to the Community Room.**