

11th & 12th GRADE

INFORMATION FOR

BIRDVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

School number: (817) 547-8000

Contacts:	12 th Grade Assistant Principal, Jennifer Beasley	ext. 16474
	11 th Grade Assistant Principal, Alan Wallace	ext. 03435
	12 th Grade Office Secretary, Deona Basham	ext. 04946
	11 th Grade Office Secretary, Cami Ramirez	ext. 17375

Counselors are by the first letter of the student's last name:

Ann Blankenship	A – B	ext. 06817
Matthew Ellis	C – Go	ext. 19911
LaKecia Clayton	Gq – McE	ext. 19909
Stephanie Stevenson	McF – Ron	ext. 12286
Cindy Larson	Roo – Z	ext. 02179
Counselor's Secretary, Cindy Mapston		ext. 17730
Registrar, Kelley Taylor (transcripts & records)		ext. 15877

Student Assistance Counselor & Crisis Intervention Specialists

Richard Griffin (Last name alpha A – J)	ext. 01470
Sara Mellado Murdock (Last name alpha K – Z)	ext. 16470

Student Support Specialist, Jaime Goad	ext. 16492
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Counseling Office Hours: 7:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Any faculty or staff member email can be acquired through Birdville High School's website or Focus. Email addresses are firstname.lastname@birdvilleschools.net. (i.e. Jane.Doe@birdvilleschools.net).

Parents and students are encouraged to use Focus access to stay current with grades and attendance.

Password: Birdville utilizes the Classlink portal, at my.birdvilleschools.net. Students will continue to use their password from the previous year. If they need to reset their password, they can visit the librarian and she can reset it for them.

Please be advised that excessive absences (more than 8 per semester) can lead to non-crediting a class and can impact semester exam exemptions and the ability to obtain VOE forms.

Students who are sick for a couple of days should check for missed assignments on each teacher's Canvas page.

VOE Forms can be obtained from Mrs. Anna Julsaint in the front office. Please allow 24 hours. Her extension is 19682.

STAAR/EOC: There are 5 tests required for graduation. English 1 & 2, Biology, Algebra 1 and US History. Make-up tests begin December 5, and the US History test for juniors is April 18.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT TESTING dates are determined by College Board. All AP test dates fall during the first two weeks of May. Specific information for particular tests can be looked up at www.collegeboard.com.

ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is scheduled for September 12, 2023 and January 2024 in the Lecture Hall. It is offered free of charge. This is a required test for students considering the military, but it is offered to any junior or senior student wishing to discover areas in which they excel. Sign up is in the Counselor's Office. Results will be received and discussed with the students.

PSAT, October 11, 2023. (11th Grade only) PSAT stands for the Pre-Scholastic Aptitude Test, the results assist students in anticipating their performance on college entrance tests. High test scores are used to determine the National Merit Scholars for 11th grade. Birdville ISD will purchase PSAT tests for all 11th graders. All 11th graders have been provided with a test preparation booklet through English teachers. Other resources: Khan Academy www.khanacademy.org/sat; McGraw-Hill Practice Plus www.mhpracticeplus.com/act.php; and TSI Web-Based Study App www.tinyurl.com/qysmksc; <http://members.reasonprep.com/courses/category/Free>.

SAT Reasoning or ACT college entrance exams are acceptable to most colleges and may be taken more than once. Students will register on-line with a credit card at www.collegeboard.com for SAT Reasoning or at www.act.org for the ACT. Colleges require the writing portion and this is an extra charge on the ACT. The dates, times, locations, and costs are on the websites. (There are fee exemptions for these tests for students receiving free or reduced lunches. Please see your counselor.) School day testing for Seniors is October 11, 2023; school day testing for Juniors is March 6, 2024. Students are allowed one school day SAT during high school. These are offered at no cost. Watch for information on announcements to register.

SAT SUBJECT TESTS are required by some colleges, (i.e. UT Austin, Rice). These are subject tests given on specific SAT test dates. Check with the college you plan to attend to verify whether this is a requirement.

COLLEGE/CAREER NIGHT is scheduled for October 16, 2023 at the BCTAL from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Representatives from the military, career/technical schools, two and four-year colleges and universities will be present. Wear your favorite college shirt that day. Other school districts often offer College/Career Nights as well. Students will be on their own to investigate those opportunities.

DUAL CREDIT COURSES: Dual credit courses are offered at the junior level. Juniors, if you are interested in taking a dual credit course next year, a parent meeting will be held in January 2024. This meeting is only for parents and students who will be new to the dual credit program next year.

PREVIEW DAYS/COLLEGE VISITS Still trying to decide on a college? Visit! Take advantage of preview days offered by colleges and universities. Check the university websites for preview days or contact the admissions office to obtain information about a campus visit.

The Birdville High School Code is 445137

TEXAS COMMON APPLICATION (Public Universities and Colleges) is used to apply to any four-year public university in Texas. You are encouraged to apply on line at www.applytexas.org. Keep a paper copy of your application. This website is also helpful for links to all the four-year public universities in Texas. Remember all parts of the application, along with money, must be received at the college or university before your application is processed.

COMMON APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

Many private universities in Texas offer this on-line application for admissions. Keep a paper copy of your application. The website is www.commonapp.org.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS QUICK GUIDE

- Basic requirements for admission:
- Complete the application and email to your college or university and keep a copy for your records
- Application fee paid
- Official transcript sent to university
- Required test scores sent to university directly from testing company
- All deadlines met appropriately (admissions application/financial aid application/housing)

There are two ways to be admitted to most four-year universities. One is automatic admission to a Texas university because of ranking in the top 10% of your graduating class. (The requirement for The University of Texas is Top 6%.) The above information must be turned in within the university-specified deadline.

The second way to be admitted is through admissions review. This is how the majority of students are admitted. Students not ranked in the top 10% must complete all the above items as well as submit to the admissions office letters of recommendation from adults (not 18 year old friends and not family members), a resume of activities, honors, jobs, etc., and an essay that is written to convince the university that you are a worthy student capable of completing the work in a timely, successful manner leading to completion of your bachelor's degree. Include in this essay any extenuating circumstances that have caused your grades to be low.

RECOMMENDATIONS by teachers and/or counselors will be required for some colleges and scholarships. Please allow at least two weeks to write a favorable letter. The "Request for a Recommendation Letter" form is available in Counselor Connections through Canvas. Paper copies are available in the counseling office. **Plan ahead!**

Should you choose to send counselors the recommendation forms electronically, please provide resume information to your counselor and follow up with your counselor to insure the forms arrived and there are no questions that need to be answered for completion.

TRANSCRIPTS will be required for universities and scholarships. An official high school transcript is submitted directly from BHS to your college/university. To have your transcript sent to a college you must go to Parchment.com, set up an account (**using your personal email account, not your Birdville account**) and request your transcript. In addition to needing transcripts for admission, you will also need to send a final transcript at the end of the year to the college you will be attending in the fall (through Parchment). You can view your transcript on your Focus account. If you require a sealed transcript for a scholarship, please contact Kelley Taylor, Registrar.

*Please be aware that universities now require test scores for SAT/ACT to come directly from those organizations.

FINANCIAL AID QUICK GUIDE

Types of financial aid available

- Grants – Money you do not have to pay back
- Loans – Money borrowed that must be repaid (with interest)
- Work-study – Money earned from work used to help pay for school
- Scholarships – Available from many sources – check Counselor Connections, the internet, the local library and the college you plan to attend

To be eligible you must:

- Have financial need
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Be enrolled in an eligible program
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Register with Selective Service, if required
- Complete forms as required
- Make satisfactory academic progress

Financial aid eligibility is the difference between the cost of education and the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). A federal formula performs a need analysis to determine the EFC. The cost of education includes tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation and miscellaneous expenses.

How to apply for financial aid

- Parent must complete a (FAFSA Free Application for Federal Student Aid) using 2022 tax information. The form should be completed on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The updated FAFSA will be available in December 2023. It is highly recommended the application be completed on-line. TEA now requires all seniors to complete this. This form is needed every year the student attends university.
- Students will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) after the FAFSA is processed. Information is also sent to the college(s) named on the FAFSA.
- The student's selected College Financial Aid Office(s) will send an award letter to the student indicating the types of aid the student is eligible to receive. Compare and contrast Financial Aid awards using amount of loans as a determination.
- Students should check with the college(s) they expect to attend – additional applications/forms may be required.

SCHOLARSHIPS The most comprehensive scholarship search website is www.fastweb.com. Also the Canvas Page in Counselor Connections, or you can go to the BHS website under Counselors, then click Scholarships for a list of scholarships. Read carefully the eligibility requirements and whether the application must be sent for or the application must be obtained in the counseling office.

Don't get scammed! There are organizations collecting money for helping you do scholarship searches. Many even guarantee you money. YOU still have to complete the forms and qualify for the scholarship. Our belief as a counseling department is that you do not need to pay for this service.

NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE is required for student athletes wishing to play Division 1 or 2 sports in college. Students must register on-line at www.ncaa.org. Then request a transcript through Parchment.com. Recruiters for Division I and II cannot visit with students without complete clearinghouse information.

STAY CONNECTED: BHS Counselors will keep you up-to-date on current information. Check out the BHS Counseling Canvas page, Facebook, and Twitter accounts, as well as the Counseling page on the BHS website.

- Sign up for the BHS Newsletter here: <https://tinyurl.com/BvilleNewsletter>
- **BHS Counseling Canvas Page:** This is a place where all students and parents can stay connected with the counseling office and students receive messages about grade level information, scholarships, scheduling, college, career, academics, personal/social/emotional, etc. This is the best way to stay connected!
- **Facebook & Instagram:** Look for updates on the Birdville High School pages
- **Twitter:** Follow us on Twitter @Birdville_High

SELECTIVE SERVICE: If you are a male U.S. citizen, at age 18 you must register with the selective service. Their website is www.sss.gov.

Counselors will conduct individual conferences with each junior and senior to check that all classes will meet graduation requirements and to assist in planning for post-high school. These occur during September and October.

Consult the [Educational Planning for Life](#) (may be referenced as Catalog of High School Courses), available on the "For Family" page of BISD's website, for more valuable information.

Important Dates for Seniors:

November 2, 2023: District FAFSA Informational Meeting beginning at 6PM. Look for updates in Canvas, social media, and announcements.

[TCC interest cards](#) will be completed during senior conferences. TCC visits Birdville High during the fall and spring to assist students with the application process. They will only visit with students who have completed the interest card.

Students will receive information to test on their own for TSI test; they can complete online or at TCC