

Birdville Independent School District parallels its policies and procedures with the College Board's Equity Policy Statement, thus providing multiple levels of identifying indicators for potential success in advanced level courses, based on various data sets, to ensure all students have equal access.

Advanced coursework for secondary students is designed to provide academic rigor, deep and more complex content at an accelerated pace, and opportunities to work both independently and collaboratively through authentic learning. Students will be motivated to adopt scholarly "Habits of Mind" in order to establish expectations of rigor. Birdville ISD offers advanced coursework in English, math, science and social studies. These honors courses (*formerly known as Pre-AP courses*) require advanced reading, intensive writing, dedicated research, sophisticated products, and independent problem-solving. Birdville ISD encourages students to take on academically challenging coursework; however, it is often beneficial to consider factors which point toward potential success when making enrollment decisions.

The purpose of enrollment is to deepen necessary skills for mastery in future aligned honors, Advanced Placement, and/or Dual Credit coursework. Recommendations have been established, based on analysis of factors predictive of success in advanced coursework to support parents and students in making informed enrollment decisions.

Some of these indicators are the following:

- ✓ Academic Recommendation
- ✓ AP Potential
- ✓ DUKE Tip Identification
- ✓ G/T Identification
- ✓ Probability of Performance at Meets & Masters on Interim Assessments
- ✓ PSAT 8/9, SAT or ACT College Readiness Benchmarks
- ✓ Quintiles from Previous Year (Quintiles 4 & 5 Performance)

Given the impact of COVID-19, Governor Greg Abbott is using his statutory authority as the governor of Texas under Texas Government Code, §418.016 to suspend annual academic assessment requirements for the remainder of the 2019–2020 school year, *therefore state assessment data considered as an annual indicator for advanced level course recommendations is not included in the 2020-21 process.*

<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/news-and-multimedia/correspondence/taa-letters/cancellation-of-staar-testing-for-the-remainder-of-the-school-year>

Should your child's data not fall within recommended indicators for a requested course, you are encouraged to discuss enrollment options with your middle school counselor, Academic Coach, campus administrator(s) or the district Advanced Academics Coordinator for further clarification.

Sincerely,

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### Expectations of Rigor

- ✓ Demonstrate respect for peers, teacher, and learning environment
- ✓ Develop individual learning tasks
- ✓ Assess own learning
- ✓ Pursue self-discovery
- ✓ Develop rigorous questions
- ✓ Respond to peer-generated rigorous questions
- ✓ Drive discussion while adding contributory value
- ✓ Adopt content rich vocabulary
- ✓ Apply information in a cross-disciplinary manner
- ✓ Select, organize, and present content through relevant products
- ✓ Think critically about new learning
- ✓ Engage with multiple information sources
- ✓ Engage in real world problem solving
- ✓ Discover opportunities for real world applicable
- ✓ Take ownership of learning new content
- ✓ Self- monitor and adjust participation as needed
- ✓ Demonstrate mastery of content through self-reflection, goal establishment, and shared responsibility for their learning

### Habits of Mind

- Persist: stick to a task; follow through to completion
- Manage Impulsivity: consider options; think before speaking or acting
- Listen with Understanding and Empathy: do not dismiss thoughts or feelings of others; respect others' point of view
- Think flexibly: be willing to change perspective; generate and weigh options
- Metacognition: think about thinking; remain aware of thoughts, feelings, intentions, actions
- Strive for Accuracy: check errors; pursue exactness, fidelity, craftsmanship
- Question and Pose Problems: develop an attitude of inquiry; consider information, strategies and options
- Apply Past Knowledge: consider, use and apply past knowledge and experience in new situations
- Communicate with Clarity and Precision: strive to articulate clearly and with accuracy in both written and verbal situations
- Gather Data: utilize all senses to gather information
- Create, Imagine and Innovate: consider an alternative method; strive for originality
- Respond with Wonderment and Awe: regard the world's beauty and power; remain open to the unexpected
- Take Responsible Risks: consider new and different things without fear of making mistakes
- Find Humor: laugh appropriately even at one's self
- Think Interdependently: work with others and willingly welcome input and perspective
- Continue Learning: remain open to new experiences and information

### Parent & Student Resources for College Readiness

- BIG FUTURE** <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/> <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/make-a-plan#>
  - FREE Step by step grade level planning tool includes college application and admissions checklists in addition to financial resources
- KHAN ACADEMY** <https://www.khanacademy.org>
  - FREE practice and lessons in K-12 math, grammar, science, history, Advanced Placement and SAT suite
- KHAN ACADEMY** <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>
  - FREE personalized student study plan with a linked account; Support for PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10, PSAT/NMSQT and SAT
- METAMETRICS®** <https://metametricsinc.com/parents-and-students/>
  - FREE access for literacy building and math skills by grade level, complexity and interest; includes growth forecaster for college career readiness
- AP STUDENTS** <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home?navid=gh-aps>
  - FREE overview of all College Board Advanced Placement courses; resources for taking the exam and score access
- YOU CAN GO!** <http://youcango.collegeboard.org/?navid=bf-vcg>
  - FREE college campaign with reasons to attend college, student voices, college options, and college student pledge