

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

The information contained in this section applies to students in all high school grade levels of Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District. All students and parents of high school students should review the entire contents of this section of the Student / Parent Handbook.

ROUTINE PROCEDURES - HIGH SCHOOL

WHAT TO DO IN CASE . . .

You are hurt or ill . . . Please contact the school nurse. All students must have passes from their teachers to see the school nurse. Emergency names and numbers other than parents should be placed on the principal's card when enrolling. On days the nurse is not on campus, see your grade level principal.

Accident Reports

- ◆ Injuries on campus must be reported to the school nurse within 24 hours. An accident report is required of all accidents that require the attention of a medical doctor. The nurse will document all injuries regardless how minor they appear to be.
- ◆ An injury that occurs in class, physical education or otherwise, should be reported to the student's instructor, and an accident report initiated by the instructor and turned in to the nurse.
- ◆ An injury in the hall, on the stairs, etc., should be reported by the nearest teacher on duty, the principal, an assistant principal, or the school nurse, and an accident report initiated and turned in to the nurse.

You have been absent . . . Bring an excuse signed by your parent/guardian to the appropriate grade level principal. The note should include date and the reason for absence(s). Notes signed by the student, even with the parents' permission, will be considered forgeries, and appropriate disciplinary action may be taken. If a student fails to bring a parent excuse, an unexcused absence will be recorded. This can be changed if a note from home is brought within three (3) days. **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING UP WITH THE ABSENCE EXCUSE. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO PRESENT THE EXCUSE TO THE TEACHER AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH PERIOD, AND IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO RETRIEVE THE EXCUSE AT THE END OF THE PERIOD. APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTION MAY BE TAKEN IF AN ABSENCE EXCUSE IS LOST.**

You arrive at school at any time after the tardy bell . . . Go to your grade level office for a permit. **If you arrive after the tardy bell, and do not report to your respective grade level office, you will be considered truant. Please refer to the bell schedule.**

You need to leave school . . . Go to your office for an early dismissal. Anyone picking up a student from school must be an approved adult by the parent or guardian. If the adult is unknown to the school staff, a picture ID will be required. FAILURE TO OBTAIN AN EARLY DISMISSAL WILL RESULT IN A TRUANCY ASSIGNMENT.

NO student is permitted to leave school during school hours without an excuse, in writing or by telephone, from the parent or guardian and approved by a school administrator or designee.

You have a lost book . . . Check the Textbook Lost and Found in the textbook office. If the book is lost, pay for the book in the Textbook Office.

You have found an article or lost one . . . Go to the Lost and Found Office.

You want to leave the classroom . . . Get a permit/hall pass completely filled out by the teacher. You must have your teacher's approval. Leaving a classroom without a written permit signed by the teacher may be considered truancy.

You want advice about college, schedules, personal problems, etc. . . . Go to the Guidance Office.

You want a transcript of your credits . . . Go to the main registrar's office. A fee of \$1.00 will be charged for each transcript; \$2.00 if mailed.

You want to withdraw from school . . . A parent/guardian must go to the grade level principal's office stating the reason for withdrawal. If a parent/guardian does not accompany you, a letter signed by the parent/guardian is required. If the student is withdrawing to attend the other District high school, proof of new residency must be provided before the student will be withdrawn.

You have an accident or a theft in the parking lot . . . Report to the security person or the designated administrator.

You change your address or home phone number . . . Report change to your grade level office. Failure to report this change may result in disciplinary action.

You need a parking permit . . . Parking permits are reserved for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Freshmen who have five or more credits may qualify for a parking permit with the approval of the principal. Parking permits may be obtained in the assistant principal's office.

You need minimum attendance verification of enrollment for driver's license (VOE) . . . Report to the Main Office and complete a request form. The form will not be available until the following school day. Students who will need forms during holidays are encouraged to request the form well in advance of the holiday.

ACADEMIC CLASS RANK

Beginning with the class of 2005, the class rank reported to colleges will be known as the Academic Class Rank (ACR). The ACR shall be determined by dividing the total number of state-approved foundation courses (English, mathematics, science, social studies), languages other than English III (Pre-AP), and AP courses attempted into the total number of grade points earned on the District's weighted scale that is printed in the District's Course Selection Guide for each graduating class. (For detailed information regarding Academic Class Rank refer to Board Policy EIC (LOCAL) and the GCCISD High School Course Description Guide.)

ANNUALS, RINGS, INVITATIONS, CAPS AND GOWNS

The following will be made available to students during the year:

- Annual – The school's annual can be ordered during the designated sales period. Late orders are available at an additional cost.
- Rings - The initial order for the official school senior ring is placed in the spring during a student's sophomore year. These rings are delivered in the fall of his/her junior year. Additional orders are accepted in the fall when rings are delivered. Prices vary depending on student desires.
- Invitations – A committee of seniors selects the invitations.
- Caps and gowns - Caps and gowns are sold to seniors and are usually delivered a week before baccalaureate. They are ordered approximately the same time as invitations but are not paid for until delivery.

CAFETERIA PROCEDURES

- Students should display good table manners and conduct.
- Serving of breakfast will end ten minutes prior to the tardy bell.
- Cutting in line is strictly prohibited; keep your place in line, but do not save places.
- Deposit all trash in proper receptacles.

- Food purchased at the snack bar must be eaten in the cafeteria.
- ID badges will be used to purchase meals in the cafeteria.
- ID badges must be presented in order to be served a free or reduced lunch.
- Failure to comply with cafeteria rules and regulations may result in disciplinary action.

Presentation of ID badges will be the responsibility of the student in order to be served. No credit will be given and no charges will be allowed.

CHEERLEADERS

Each high school has two cheerleading squads—a varsity squad and a junior varsity squad. Freshmen are eligible for the junior varsity squad only. Prospective sophomore, junior, and senior candidates for varsity squad must have successfully completed one term of service as a cheerleader in a Goose Creek CISD high school.

Cheerleaders are selected during the spring semester for the following school year. Cheerleader candidates must meet specific grade and conduct eligibility that are listed in the Goose Creek CISD Cheerleader Guidelines.

Cheerleader guidelines are updated each January. A complete brochure explaining all eligibility requirements, responsibilities and duties, tryout procedures, judging, standards for maintaining membership, competitions, and head cheerleader selection is issued to all candidates prior to the spring tryouts or can be obtained at any time from the main office. It is the responsibility of each student interested in becoming a cheerleader to obtain a copy of the cheerleader guidelines and to meet the requirements and expectations outlined in these guidelines.

CLASS TARDIES

To be counted present to class, a child must check in no later than the designated class roll check time, which is usually fifteen (15) minutes after the bell signifying the beginning of that specific class. It is important to note that a tardy is defined locally as a partial absence. Students with excessive tardies shall be referred to the campus discipline person and/or the District attendance officer.

2008-2009 CLASSIFICATION POLICY

Grade classification must be met in terms of credits earned in high school.

- **Freshman Class Prior to 2007-2008 School Year**

Grade 9	0 – 5 Credits
Grade 10	5.5 – 11 Credits
Grade 11	11.5 – 17 Credits
Grade 12	17.5 or More Credits

Midterm Move ups (Classes of 2009-2010)

Fourth-year high school students with 17.5 or more credits at midterm move up from Grade 11R to Grade 12 (predicated on 22-credit Minimum Plan and August commencement).

Three-year high school graduates (Early Graduates) with 19.5 or more credits at midterm move up from Grade 11 to Grade 12 (predicated on mandatory 24-credit Recommended Plan and August commencement).

Third-year high school students with 13 or more credits at midterm move up from Grade 10R to Grade 11 (predicated on earning 3.5/3.5 credits in the Spring semester and one (1) credit in Summer School so as to have 17.5 credits before the first day of school the following Fall, and be classified as a senior on the

first day of the following school year). This affords third-year high school students the maximum opportunity to take the Exit Level TAKS tests.

- **Beginning with freshmen entering in 2007-2008 (Class of 2011)**

Grade 9	0 – 5 Credits
Grade 10	5.5 – 12 Credits
Grade 11	12.5 – 19 Credits
Grade 12	19.5 or More Credits

Midterm Move ups for the Class of 2011 and Beyond

Fourth-year high school students with 19.5 or more credits at midterm move up from Grade 11R to Grade 12 (predicated on 24-credit Minimum Plan and August commencement).

Three-year high school graduates with 21.5 or more credits at midterm move up from Grade 11 to Grade 12 (predicated on mandatory 26-credit Recommended Plan and August commencement).

Third-year high school students with 15 or more credits at midterm move up from Grade 10R to Grade 11 (predicated on earning 3.5/3.5 credits in the Spring semester and one (1) credit in Summer School so as to have 19.5 credits before the first day of school the following Fall, and be classified as a senior on the first day of the following school year). This affords third-year high school students the maximum opportunity to take the Exit Level TAKS tests.

Summer Reclassification for the Classes of 2008-2010

Third-year high school students not moved up at midterm who have 17.5 credits at the end of the Spring semester will be reclassified from Grade 10R to Grade 11 on the day after the last day of the Spring semester—so as to be eligible for Summer Exit Level TAKS testing.

Summer Reclassification for the Class of 2011 and Beyond

Third-year high school students not moved up at midterm who have 19.5 credits at the end of the Spring semester will be reclassified from Grade 10R to Grade 12 on the day after the last day of the Spring semester—so as to be eligible for Summer Exit Level TAKS testing.

Transfer Students

A transfer student shall be assigned a grade classification, upon receipt of an official transcript from the sending school, in accordance with the policies of the Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Since the 1988-89 school year, the high school campuses have been closed. **Permission will not be given for students to leave campus during the lunch period unless it is for a doctor or dental appointment. Medical documentation will be required when the student returns to campus.** At lunch, students should remain in the cafeteria, commons, or patio. Students are not allowed in the hall, parking lots, and areas outside the building during lunch.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Students are afforded the opportunity of expressing their particular interests through membership and active participation in various clubs and organizations.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS / FUND RAISING / BLOOD DRIVES

Service clubs and other organizations on the high school campuses participate in numerous service activities throughout the school year. These activities include volunteerism, fund raising for charitable organizations, and participation in voluntary school wide blood drives. The District feels these service

activities allow students to build pride in self and community and create a life-long commitment to volunteerism.

District high schools sponsor voluntary student blood drives on campus throughout the school year in an effort to build student awareness of the critical need of maintaining a community blood supply for medical purposes and needs. These blood drives are conducted by state-certified blood centers affiliated with M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, St. Luke's Hospital, and the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center.

State law allows persons 17 years of age and older and in good health to donate blood without parental consent. State law also allows person 16 years of age and in good health to donate blood with written parental consent. GCCISD follows state law regarding student participation in voluntary blood drives.

The District encourages parents to discuss with their child(ren) early in the school year the appropriateness of student participation in the voluntary blood drives as well as other service projects sponsored by school organizations.

Dates of the student blood drives will be communicated through the District web site, the individual school web sites, and campus newsletters.

CO-OP PROGRAM

Students who are enrolled in a Co-op program must be employed by the second week of class in order to remain in the Co-op class.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

All high school students shall be eligible to take correspondence courses and earn credit toward graduation. *Prior to enrollment in correspondence courses, students shall make written request to the principal or designee for approval to enroll in the course. Students shall NOT be awarded credit toward graduation if approval was not granted prior to enrollment.* Students may be enrolled in only one correspondence course at a time.

Seniors who are enrolled in correspondence courses to earn units required for graduation shall complete the course and submit the grade for recording at least thirty days prior to the graduation date in order to be eligible for graduation at the end of the term.

Resident students may earn a maximum of two of the total units required by the state through correspondence courses.

Credit toward state graduation requirements may be granted for correspondence courses only under the following conditions:

- The institution offering the course is the University of Texas at Austin, Texas Technological University, or other public institution of higher education approved by the Commissioner of Education.
- The correspondence course includes the state-required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for such a course.

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION WITH PRIOR INSTRUCTION

Students may earn credit by examination with prior instruction in any academic course required for secondary grades. Tests shall be administered according to procedures approved by the Superintendent or designee.

To be eligible to earn credit by examination, a student shall have had prior instruction in the subject or course, as determined by the District on the basis of a review of the student's educational records. A student must have received a failing grade in the course in order to gain credit by such an examination.

On the recommendation of the attendance committee, a student who has excessive absences may be permitted to earn or regain course credit through credit by examination. (See Board Policy FDD for further information.)

To receive credit, students shall score a grade of 70% or above on the examination. Unless specifically authorized by the attendance committee, students in the junior school shall earn no more than two credits and the student in the high school shall earn no more than four credits through credit by examination.

When a student requests to take an examination, the District shall charge a fee to cover the cost of the test. When the District requests a student to take an examination, no fee shall be charged.

One Unit (1) = 2 semesters
One-half Unit (1-1/2) = 1 semester

Junior Schools: Two (2) units = two (2) years or four (4) semester units
High Schools: Four (4) units = four (4) years or eight (8) semester units

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION WITHOUT PRIOR INSTRUCTION

Goose Creek CISD will provide for grade level acceleration in Grades K-5 and course credit in Grade Level Six (6) or above for enrolled students with NO PRIOR INSTRUCTION. This program is referred to as Credit by Examination Without Prior Instruction. Legislation requires that districts will provide this service without charge for qualifying students who take the District-provided examination for acceleration.

The elementary, junior, and senior school grade levels have different specific requirements and procedures to follow. For more detailed information, registration deadlines, application forms, and questions, please contact your school's administrator or counselor. Parents may contact the office of **David Yannotta, Director of Student Information and Assessment, at 281-420-4422.**

These tests allow Goose Creek students who ALREADY HAVE the academic proficiency and understanding of the subject areas or course content to accelerate when the District's required score is attained or exceeded on the District-provided tests. The tests are not designed for the student who requires tutoring or study in order to take the test. If all conditions are met and the student's test score meets or exceeds the District passing standard, the score will be accelerated.

Elementary Grade Levels:

The passing standard for grade levels K-5 is 90% on all required tests.

Secondary Grade Levels:

Secondary students must meet or exceed a passing standard of 90%.

DROPPING A COURSE

After the fourth week of a semester, no students will be allowed to drop a high school course without

- 1) losing credit for the semester and
- 2) receiving a failing grade for each six weeks as well as the semester

This policy does not prohibit students from moving from one level of a course to another level without penalty. (Example #1: a student can move at the end of the first six-weeks from an AP (Advanced Placement) course to a regular class without penalty as long as it is the same course, but different level.) (Example #2: a student would not be allowed to move from a physics class to any other courses (office aide, electives, etc.) other than a physics class after the fourth week of the semester.)

DUAL CREDIT

Certain classes are offered for dual credit between the high schools and Lee College. Students and parents must complete a special form before enrolling in dual credit courses. Forms are available from the high school counselors. Students must also see a college counselor to determine testing status. Juniors and seniors may be exempt from admission testing based on Exit level TAKS, ACT and SAT scores.

The following table shows courses available for dual credit for the 2008-2009 school year. Students receive high school credit for these courses. However, grades in these courses are not used in calculation of a student's Grade Point Average (GPA).

High School Courses	College Courses
Social Studies	
United States Government	Government 2301 and 2302
(Both semesters of college government must be successfully completed to earn high school credit for government.)	
Economics	Economics 2301 or 2302
Psychology	Psychology 2301
Sociology	Sociology 1301
Cultural Topics	Sociology 2319
Mathematics	
Mathematics Independent Studies: (May earn up to one credit)	Math 1414 – College Algebra
	Math 2305 - Discrete Mathematics
	Math 2418 – Linear Algebra
	Math 1316 – Plane Trigonometry
	Math 1324 – Finite Math & Business Applications
Calculus – 1 st Semester	Math 2413
Calculus – 2 nd Semester	Math 2414
English	
English IV – 1 st Semester	English 2322 or English 1301
English IV – 2 nd Semester	English 2323 or English 1302
Creative Writing	English 2307
Communication Applications	Speech 1315
Journalism I	English 2311- Technical Writing
Science	
Environmental Science 1 st Semester	Envr Science 1401
Anatomy and Physiology 1 st Semester	Biology 2401
Anatomy and Physiology 2 nd Semester	Biology 2402
Biology 1 st Semester	Biology 1406
Biology 2 nd Semester	Biology 1407
Chemistry 1 st Semester	Chemistry 1411
Chemistry 2 nd Semester	Chemistry 1412
Physics 1 st Semester	Physics 1401 (Preparation for AP)
Physics 2 nd Semester	Physics 1402 (Preparation for AP)
Physics 1 st Semester	Physics 1405 (For non-science majors)
Physics 2 nd Semester	Physics 1407 (For non-science majors)
Foreign Language	
American Sign Language 1 st Semester	SGNL 1401
American Sign Language 2 nd Semester	SGNL 1402
Computer Science	
Business Micro Computer Information System I	Integrated Software Application 1309 (This course does not transfer to a university.) BCIS 1405 and ITSC 1309 (These courses does transfer to a university.)

EMERGENCY MEAL POLICY

Lunch

Students are allowed up to three outstanding emergency meals. Students with more than three outstanding charged meals will not be issued a regular meal.

The cafeteria will provide the principal with a list of students with outstanding balances and notices addressed to the students' household. Continued issues will be addressed through the assistant principal or letter(s) sent to the parent notifying them of the outstanding charges.

Breakfast

Students are not eligible for emergency breakfast.

FINAL EXAMINATION EXEMPTIONS

General Exemption Criteria

Students will be eligible for exemptions from one or more of their final exams in which they have met the required criteria. The criteria includes:

- Student must have an overall average of 85 or above in the class.
- Student must have three (3) or fewer absences in the class (regardless of reasons for absences). Official school business does not count as an absence.
- Teacher approval (includes conduct and fine clearance).
- Parental approval
- The student is responsible for picking up an "Exam Exemption" form from his/her assistant principal's office and presenting the form to the appropriate teachers of the classes from which he/she chooses to be exempt.
- The completed form must be returned to the appropriate assistant principal's office by the designated deadline.
- Classes for exemption may not be changed after the form has been returned to the assistant principal's office. No substitutions will be made.
- Students who are eligible for exemption may not be exempt from the same classes both semesters, except for graduating seniors and juniors who qualify for an extra exemption for perfect attendance.
- Students who are on campus during an exam for which they are exempt must remain in the cafeteria.
- Students who desire perfect attendance for the year must be present at the final from which they are exempt.
- Under extreme extenuating circumstances the campus attendance committee may choose to recommend a student with as many as four (4) absences for exam exemptions.

Exam Exemption Options

- Freshman, sophomore, and junior students are not exempt from final exams in the courses with state mandated tests during the fall semester. Exception: A junior who has passed an Exit Level State Mandated Test could exempt the final exam for that related course.
- Seniors cannot exempt a final exam in a core course until they have passed the state mandated exit test for that course.
- Students may be exempted from finals in core courses in the spring semester, if they have passed the mandated test for that course.
- Students may not exempt the same exam for the fall and spring semesters.

Note: The state mandated tested/core courses include: English, math, social studies, and science. (See Course Guide for a listed of specific courses)

Maximum Exam Exemption Options

CLASS	FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER
FRESHMAN	Three Exemptions	Three Exemptions
SOPHOMORES	Three Exemptions	Four Exemptions
JUNIORS	Three Exemptions	Four Exemptions
SENIORS	Three Exemptions	Four Exemptions
GRADUATING SENIORS	All tests in <u>graduating semester</u>	All tests in <u>graduating semester</u>

PERFECT ATTENDANCE BONUS: One extra exemption may be granted each semester for perfect attendance in all classes during the semester, provided the above general requirements are met.

GRADE AVERAGING

A student receives credit in any class for any semester with a 70 or above average.

In a year long course, a student receives credit for both semesters if he/she passes the second semester and the average of the two semesters equals or exceeds 70.

NOTE — The NCAA Clearinghouse does not recognize credit for any semester in which the grade is not 70 or above. Therefore, implementation of this averaging method to award credit for both semesters when one semester grade is below 70 could have a negative impact on future admission or scholarship opportunities to NCAA schools. It is recommended that students consult with their grade level counselor and/or coach to determine if it would be in their best interest to retake a semester in which the grade is less than 70 rather than average the semester grades to receive one full credit.

GRADING SYSTEM

Numeric grades will be used in recording student's grades. Grades will be reported based on a scale of 0-100. A passing grade will be 70 or above. The first six weeks average of a one-semester course cannot be lower than 50. The first six weeks average **and the fourth six weeks average of a year-long course cannot be lower than 50. All other six-weeks will show actual student averages on the grade card.**

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING

The Guidance and Counseling Department is interested in helping you during your years at high school. Your counselor will talk and plan with you several times while you are in high school.

Counselors are available to discuss any matter which concerns you. Feel free to come in as often as necessary.

You may wish to visit the Guidance and Counseling Department for many reasons. Some reasons you may see your counselor are to:

- Discuss your present or future schedule.
- Review your grades.
- Review test results.
- Seek advice or help on a personal problem.
- Look through available information on colleges and occupations.
- Request and take special aptitude tests, interest inventories, etc.
- Obtain information and applications for the College Entrance Tests.

- Discuss entrance requirements and offerings of various colleges.
- Inquire about scholarships and pick up applications.

LOSS OF CREDIT - EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

State law and Board policy provide that students' grades will be adversely affected by excessive absences, especially unexcused absences.

To obtain credit for a class, a high school student must be in attendance a minimum of 90 percent of the days the class is offered each semester. For example, if the fall semester contains ninety (90) days, a student must be present at least eighty-one (81) of those days (90%) in order to receive credit for a respective course. If a student is absent more than 10%, or nine days, then the student will not receive credit for the course.

DOCTORS' EXCUSES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE APPROPRIATE GRADE-LEVEL OFFICE WITHIN THREE DAYS OF THE VISIT TO THE DOCTOR. IF THESE EXCUSES ARE NOT SUBMITTED WITHIN THREE DAYS AFTER AN OFFICE VISIT, THEY WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED DURING THE ATTENDANCE REQUEST FOR CREDIT HEARINGS.

Any student who does not meet the minimum attendance requirement in a semester (high school) or school year (junior school and elementary) may apply for credit due to extenuating circumstances by completing a credit application form at the end of the semester / school year.

This application will be reviewed by a committee of professionals who will be responsible for deciding whether or not the absences were related to extenuating circumstances that would warrant an opportunity for a student to receive credit. The committee will review student attendance records to determine absence patterns (scattered vs. days grouped together which could indicate a serious illness); specific school days absent (Mondays and Fridays vs. other days of the week); and appropriate written documentation from doctors, attorneys, or dentists. The committee will have the following options after reviewing a student application and attendance record:

- Recommend that a student receive whatever grade he or she actually earned in a class because the absences were related to extenuating circumstances.
- Recommend that no credit be given because the committee feels that there were no mitigating extenuating circumstances that contributed to the student absences or there is not documentation that supports a student's claim of extenuating circumstances.
- Recommend that a student receive credit upon completing additional assignments, as specified by the committee or teacher.
- Recommend that a student receive credit upon satisfying time-on-task requirements before and/or after school.
- Recommend that a student receive credit upon attending tutorial sessions as scheduled.
- Recommend that a student receive credit upon attending Saturday special assignment class (SAC).
- Recommend that a student receive credit upon maintaining the attendance standards for the rest of the semester.
- Recommend that a student receive credit upon passing an examination to earn credit.
- Recommend that a student receive credit upon attending summer school.

HONORS

National Honor Society

The GPA of National Honor Society members must be 4.4 (on a 6.0 scale) or above at the end of the tenth grade year and must be maintained until graduation.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Students must be enrolled in the same high school for a minimum of three full, consecutive semesters immediately preceding graduation.

Beginning with the class of 2005, the valedictorian and the salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest ranking as determined by the Academic Class Rank (as defined by Board Policy, EIC(LOCAL), not GPA. Only students who have been enrolled in the same high school for a minimum of three full, consecutive semesters immediately preceding graduation, who have completed one of the two highest graduation plans (recommended or distinguished achievement program), and who have completed all course work and exit-level testing will be eligible to be valedictorian or salutatorian.

Cum Laude Degrees

- a. Top 2% of the class—Summa Cum Laude
- b. Next 3% of the class—Magna Cum Laude
- c. Next 5% of the class—Cum Laude

Beginning with the class of 2002, class rank and grade point average shall be computed at the end of the fifth six-week grading period of the senior year. Grade point average is determined by dividing the number of courses taken into the total grade points earned on the District's grade point scale.

Serious Misconduct (Levels III, IV, or V offenses according to the Goose Creek CISD's Student Code of Conduct) during the senior year will result in restricting a student's participation in honors recognition. Local honors recognition is a visible, verbal recognition and participation of the student. Traditional sources of local recognition of top honors for graduates are events such as the Kiwanis Luncheon, Rotary luncheon, GCCISD Board of Trustees Top Ten Recognition for the high schools, Honors Banquet, and the Baytown Sun. Top ten recognition at graduation ceremonies also includes valedictorian and salutatorian addresses.

A student must also maintain an 80 average in each class for the sixth six week grading period in order to participate in local honors recognition activities. These averages will be determined fifteen (15) days prior to graduation.

For additional information, please see Board Policy (EIC Local).

IDENTIFICATION BADGES

To improve the safety and security of all students, faculty, and staff, a security badge system has been implemented at each high school. All students, faculty, and staff are required to wear the badge. Since everyone is required to wear a badge, school personnel will be able to ensure a safe environment by recognizing and taking immediate action on anyone who is not identified as being associated with the school. The identification badge will be used for the cafeteria, library, and other security identification purposes. The following guidelines have been implemented to ensure the success of the High School Badge Program.

1. All students are required to wear an ID badge at all times during the school day on campus, on buses, and on all GCCISD property. The ID badge must be worn on the students' person at all times while on campus.
2. A student must present the badge for identification upon request by any school district employee.
3. The badge will be required for all library transactions.
4. The badge may be needed to attend extracurricular activities (football games, etc.). Failure to present this identification when requested by school officials at any extracurricular activity may result in removal from the activity.

5. The badge will be used to purchase school lunches.
6. Lost or defaced badges must be replaced at the cost of \$5 (cash or money order) per badge.
7. Students are expected to maintain the student ID badge from year to year. An initial ID badge will be issued free to students new to the campus.
8. Lost or broken neck straps will be replaced at a cost of \$3 (for the school logo).
9. ID badges must be worn appropriately with name and picture visible.
10. The loss of multiple badges or defacing a badge may result in disciplinary action (ex: scratching picture, chewing, stickers, marking, etc.). *Badge must remain clean.*
11. Failure to comply with regulations may result in disciplinary action.

INCOMPLETE GRADES (“I”)

University Interscholastic League (UIL) Guidelines state, “A student with an “Incomplete” grade is ineligible at the end of the seven day grace period unless the “Incomplete” was replaced with a passing grade prior to the end of the seven-day grace period. Students with an “Incomplete” grade either within or beyond the end of the seven day grace period may regain eligibility if the work is made up within two weeks of the end of the six weeks reporting period when the student received an “Incomplete.” However, during the final seven days of the two-week allowance for making up work, the student is still ineligible to compete in any UIL-sanctioned activity.

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parents are invited to make an appointment with the appropriate grade level counselor to discuss any matters of concern. Counselors are eager to assist in deciding upon the best possible course of study for each student.

PASSING TO CLASS

When the first bell rings, students should go directly to the class to which they are assigned. They are not to go by any other classroom or any office.

Because of congestion in our halls, students are asked not to congregate in the halls or outside of classrooms. Teachers will ask students to move on in the halls and to have a seat in the classroom.

PERMITS FOR EARLY DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL

No student is permitted to leave school during school hours without an excuse, in writing or by telephone, from the parent or guardian. Excuses must be approved by the campus administrator or designee.

PERMITS TO LEAVE CLASS

- It is the student’s responsibility to acquire a permit from the teacher to leave class. The student should be prepared to present it upon request by school personnel.
- Students are discouraged from leaving class unless it is an absolute necessity.
- When a student leaves class on a permit, he/she must return to that class before the end of that period.
- A permit must have the student’s name, time of departure, designated place, and the teacher’s signature.

- The teacher will allow only one student at a time to leave on a permit. That student must return before another may leave. This does not include permits from an office. Teachers may permit more than one student to go to the library.
- Students should not request permits to the cafeteria or student commons as teachers are asked not to allow students to these areas during any class or activity period.
- Hall passes should not be issued during the first and last 15 minutes of a class period, unless it is an emergency.
- Remember that a permit is issued for a request, not a demand. It is a privilege that the teacher may grant or deny.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be issued the week following each six weeks period and will be mailed to the permanent address of the student. The District encourages parents to schedule conferences to discuss student academic and behavioral progress.

REQUIRED CREDITS

Since there are a number of graduation programs available to students, specific details of each graduation plan are included in the Goose Creek CISD Course Description Guide, which is updated and printed every spring and distributed to parents and students to assist in registration and planning for the coming year(s). Please refer to the Course Description Guide or your counselor for specific information about graduation requirements.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Students should contact counselors early in the year concerning the many scholarships available to them.

SECURITY GUARDS

Security guards and uniformed police officers are provided by the District to assist with traffic control and campus security. An Assistant Principal issues their responsibilities in these areas. They are entitled to your cooperation and respect in fulfilling these responsibilities.

SEMESTER EXAM WEIGHT

Semester examinations count one seventh (1/7) of the final course grade. Students are allowed two (2) weeks to take semester examinations if they are absent on exam day. An excused absence will be the only legitimate excuse for missing the semester examination.

SENIOR PROM EARLY RELEASE

Only seniors will be released at the end of third period on the day of the prom to make preparation for the prom.

STATE TESTING REQUIREMENTS

The state requires non-exempt students to take certain tests. High school students will take TAKS in Grades 9, 10, & 11. At the secondary level, the specific tests are as follows:

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) in:
Grades 9: Reading and Mathematics
Grades 10 & 11: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies

The TAKS test is a criterion-referenced test over the essential skills and knowledge of the state's curriculum.

STATE TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

All students are required to take the Exit Level state exam (TAKS) and pass all sections in order to participate in commencement exercises. The Exit Level TAKS test is a criterion-referenced test over the essential skills and knowledge of the state's curriculum.

To graduate, in addition to attaining the required number of credits, a student must pass each section of the exit level examination. The test is first administered in the spring of the student's junior year. The law requires students to pass this test in order to attain a diploma. The law also provides that any student not meeting the minimum expectations on the exit level examination test "may retake those sections of the assessment instrument on which the pupil has not performed satisfactorily."

STUDENT ASSISTANTS

All student assistants will be approved by campus administration. A student may not be a student assistant if his/her conduct record is determined to be unsatisfactory. *This is a regular assigned class, and all school rules will apply regarding conduct, truancy, etc.*

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Student leadership is essential if our schools are to function well. Leadership can be expressed both on an individual level and through opportunities within student government. Each student is challenged to exhibit a pattern of behavior and involvement that will ensure a healthy social and academic climate in our school.

Standards for election and holding office in school organizations are set forth for a number of offices and leadership functions. Contact the individual school office for additional information regarding these standards. Standards for other positions of responsibility may be established within each respective organization with the approval of the principal and sponsors. Newly-formed organizations may establish standards on the same basis.

SUMMER SCHOOL

While the District is not required to offer summer school, a limited summer school curriculum for high school is usually offered for the benefit of our students. Tuition fees are charged for secondary summer school classes with the exception of TAKS remediation courses that are offered to identified students for no charge. The summer school schedule and fee scale are determined during the spring semester and made available to students and parents through the guidance office. Students are encouraged to contact their counselor for further information. No checks will be accepted for high school summer school. Parents may direct questions either to their child's grade level counselor or to the District summer school administrator's office at **(281) 420-5145**.

TESTING INFORMATION / DATES

State Testing Dates – TAKS / TAAS

TEST DATE	TAKS	TAAS
October 21, 2008	Exit Level English Language Arts (retest)	Exit Level Writing (retest)
October 22, 2008	Exit Level Mathematics (retest)	Exit Level Mathematics (retest)
October 23, 2008	Exit Level Science (retest)	Exit Level Reading (retest)
October 24, 2008	Exit Level Social Studies (retest)	
March 3, 2009	Grade 9 Reading Grade 10 English Language Arts Exit Level English Language Arts	
March 4, 2009	Exit Level Mathematics (retest)	Exit Level Mathematics (retest)
March 5, 2009	Exit Level Science (retest) Grade 10 English Language Arts (make-up)	Exit Level Reading (retest)
March 6, 2009	Exit Level Social Studies (retest)	
April 28, 2009	Grade 10 Mathematics Exit Level English Language Arts (retest)	Exit Level Writing (retest)
April 29, 2009	Exit Level Mathematics Exit Level Mathematics (retest)	Exit Level Mathematics (retest)
April 30, 2009	Grade 9 Mathematics Grade 10 Science Exit Level Science Exit Level Science (retest)	Exit Level Reading (retest)
May 1, 2009	Grade 10 Social Studies Exit Level Social Studies Exit Level Social Studies (retest)	
July 14, 2009	Exit Level English Language Arts (retest)	Exit Level Writing (retest)
July 15, 2009	Exit Level Mathematics (retest)	Exit Level Mathematics (retest)
July 16, 2009	Exit Level Science (retest)	Exit Level Reading (retest)
July 17, 2009	Exit Level Social Studies (retest)	

College Entrance Exams

NATIONAL TEST DATES	TEST	REGISTRATION DEADLINE
October 4, 2008	SAT I & Subject Tests	September 9, 2008
November 1, 2008	SAT I & Subject Tests	September 26, 2008
December 6, 2008	SAT I & Subject Tests	November 5, 2008
January 24, 2009	SAT I & Subject Tests	December 26, 2008
March 14, 2009	SAT I only	February 10, 2009
May 2, 2009	SAT I & Subject Tests	March 31, 2009
June 6, 2009	SAT I & Subject Tests	May 5, 2009
September 13, 2008	ACT	August 12, 2008
October 25, 2008	ACT	September 19, 2008
December 13, 2008	ACT	November 7, 2008
February 7, 2009	ACT	January 6, 2009
April 4, 2009	ACT	February 27, 2009
June 13, 2009	ACT	May 8, 2009

2008- 2009 Advanced Placement Exam Schedule

2009 Exam Calendar – Week 1		
	Morning (8:00 a.m.)	Afternoon (12:00 p.m.)
Monday, May 4, 2009	Government and Politics: United States	Government and Politics: Comparative** French Language**
Tuesday, May 5, 2009	Computer Science A** Computer Science AB** Spanish Language**	Statistics
Wednesday, May 6, 2009	Calculus AB Calculus BC	Chinese Language and Culture
Thursday, May 7, 2009	English Literature** German Language**	Japanese Language and Culture** French Literature**
Friday, May 8, 2009	United States History	European History Studio Art (portfolios due)

2009 Exam Calendar – Week 2			
	Morning (8:00 a.m.)	Afternoon (12:00 p.m.)	Afternoon (2:00 p.m.)
Monday, May 11, 2009	Biology** Music Theory**	Physics B** Physics C: Mechanics**	Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism***
Tuesday, May 12, 2009	Environmental Science** Chemistry**	Psychology	
Wednesday, May 13, 2009	Italian Language and Culture** English Language**	Art History	
Thursday, May 14, 2009	Macroeconomics** World History**	Microeconomics	
Friday, May 15, 2009	Human Geography** Spanish Literature**	Latin Literature** Latin: Vergil**	

Guidance Calendar/Testing

Freshman Orientation	TBA	High School Campuses
Senior Parent's Night	TBA	High School Campuses
College Night	TBA	
Financial Aid Workshop	TBA	
PSAT	October 15, 2008	

TEXAS GRANT PROGRAM

Program Purpose:

The purpose of the Toward Excellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) grant program is to provide a grant of money to enable academically-prepared, eligible students to attend public and private nonprofit institutions of higher education in Texas.

Who can compete for an award? A student who:

- Is a Texas resident;
- Graduated from a public or accredited private high school in Texas no earlier than fall 1998;
- Completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum or its equivalent* **;
- Has financial need;
- Has applied for any available financial aid or assistance;
- Enrolls at least $\frac{3}{4}$ time in an undergraduate degree or certificate program; and
- Has not been convicted of a felony or a crime involving a controlled substance.

When should students apply?

Deadlines vary by institution, but fall and spring grants are generally awarded in the spring prior to enrollment.

How much can a student receive through the program?

The award amount depends on the number of hours taken by the student and the type of institution the student attends. In general, it is an amount equal to the student's tuition and required fees. The amount is approximately \$1,200 per semester for full-time university students; \$470 per semester for full-time community college students; and \$700 per semester for full-time technical college students.

Is this a one-time award?

No. Students who continue in college and who meet program academic standards can receive awards for up to 150 semester hours or for six years, whichever occurs first. In the first year of college, the academic standards are set by the institution. In subsequent years, the requirements are completion of at least 75 percent of the hours taken in the prior semester, plus an overall grade point average in college of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

How do students apply?

Awards will be made through the financial aid office of the college. Persons interested in the program should contact the financial aid office to find out about deadlines and procedures.

* If a student's public high school did not offer all courses necessary to complete the curriculum, the District must certify to the Texas Education Agency that the high school did not offer all of the courses, and the high school counselor must certify in writing that the student completed all courses toward such a curriculum that the school had to offer.

** In addition to other eligibility requirements, the transcript for a student who graduated from an accredited private high school must include information indicating that the student has completed or is scheduled to complete the equivalent of the recommended or advanced curriculum.

TUTORIAL SERVICES

Students may be assigned to tutorials. Tutorial services in academic courses are offered to students who are having difficulties in these courses. Please contact the school to inquire about days and times that tutorial services are offered.

UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE (UIL) LITERARY

All students interested in representing the high school in UIL Literary Events should contact the sponsor of the following events (your current teacher can help determine whom to contact):

Speech	Literary Criticism	Debate	Mathematics
Computer Applications	Journalism	Calculator	One-Act Play
Number Sense	Spelling	Ready Writing	Accounting
Extemporaneous Speaking	Current Events	Computer Science	Science

UIL Literary participants can letter and qualify for letter jackets. To receive a letter jacket for UIL Literary, a student must actively participate in UIL competition and remain in good standing for the entire year. In addition, a student must fulfill one of the following requirements:

- Participate in competition within the UIL district and earn a minimum of five points that count toward the sweepstakes, or
- Participate in competition in at least four UIL training contests and earn a minimum of one point at each meet that counts toward the sweepstakes award.

WAIVERS FOR UIL PARTICIPATION

Students in advanced courses shall be ineligible from participation in extracurricular activities [FM (LOCAL)] when:

- Their average in an advanced course is lower than 60 in a six-week grading period, or
- They fail two or more advanced courses in a grading period.
- They fail two or more advanced courses in a semester.

Students who fail a Pre-AP or AP course with a grade of 60 or above may appeal to the principal to have the no-pass, no-play suspension waived. A student enrolled in an appropriate course must complete a waiver request form. This waiver form must be complete and include a recommendation from the teacher of the course that the student failed. The principal may then grant a waiver from any suspension from extracurricular activities. No waiver may be granted if the student fails more than one class during a six-week grading period, and only one waiver may be granted for an individual student during a semester. [See Board Policy FM(LOCAL) for further information.]

WEIGHTED GRADES

In order to give a more accurate reflection of a student's achievement, a student's rank in class is determined by the grade point value of a numerical grade earned in regular or advanced classes. For further information about weighted grades, please see the *Goose Creek CISD Course Description Guide*.