

# Freshman Meeting Notes

## September 2021

### Meet Your Student Services Department:

- **School Counselors:**
  - Mrs. Benningfield - [amy.benningfield@polk-fl.net](mailto:amy.benningfield@polk-fl.net) (Chorus, Guitar, Jazz, Orchestra, Piano, Visual Arts)
  - Mrs. Poitier – [dione.faceypoitier@polk-fl.net](mailto:dione.faceypoitier@polk-fl.net) (Creative Writing, Dance, Motion Picture Arts, Musical Theatre, Theatre, Technical Theatre)
- **Attendance Manager:** Mrs. Leland – [lisa.leland@polk-fl.net](mailto:lisa.leland@polk-fl.net)
- **Community Service Manager:** Mr. Renz – [daniel.renz@polk-fl.net](mailto:daniel.renz@polk-fl.net)
- **Transcript Manager:** Mrs. Punausuia – [kimberly.punausuia@polk-fl.net](mailto:kimberly.punausuia@polk-fl.net)

### P.E. Requirement

**P.E. (one year of HOPE or ½ year of Personal Fitness and ½ year of Other P.E.) is required for graduation with the following exceptions:**

- **Dance Waiver** – Dance class may waive one semester of “Other P.E.” Must complete Personal Fitness virtually (1 semester)
- **ROTC Waiver** – 2 years of ROTC = 1 year of HOPE
- **Interscholastic Waiver** – 2 seasons of a team sport at LHS will waive the full P.E. requirement. Signed form required.

### Online Course

- Required for graduation. Register at [www.flvs.net](http://www.flvs.net).
- PVS = Polk Virtual School – follows PCPS calendar
- FLVS = Florida Virtual School – places student throughout the year.

### EOC = End of Course Exams

- Must pass Grade 10 Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA) exam to graduate.
- Must pass the Algebra 1 EOC to graduate or
  - pass Geometry EOC with 499 or higher
  - pass PSAT Math (10<sup>th</sup> grade) with a 430 or higher
- EOC Exams count for 30% of final course grades for the following courses:
  - Algebra 1,
  - Geometry,
  - Biology,
  - U.S. History

### GPA Calculation:

GRADE	REGULAR	HONORS	AP/DUAL ENROLLMENT
A	4.0	4.5	5.0
B	3.0	3.5	4.0
C	2.0	2.5	3.0
D	1.0	1.5	2.0
F	0.0	0.0	0.0

GPA changes as credits are earned each semester

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{\text{Total Points Earned}}{\text{Total Classes Taken}}$$

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### Grade Promotion Requirements

- To move from 9<sup>th</sup> grade to 10<sup>th</sup> grade – complete 5 credits and one year of high school
- To move from 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade – complete 11 credits and two years of high school
- To move from 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade – complete 17 credits and three years of high school
- To graduate from Harrison with a Harrison diploma – earn 28 credits, 7 credits each year for 4 years. Must pass ALL Harrison department courses

### Report Cards

- **Interims** – distributed half-way through the nine weeks grading period (quarter)
- **Report Cards** – show your grades for the 9-week period (quarter). There are four 9-week periods (quarters) each school year.
- **Semester Grades** –
  - semester 1 grade is average of your first and second 9-week grade (quarters 1 & 2)
  - semester 2 grade is average of your third and fourth 9-week grade (quarters 3 & 4)
  - Semester grades post to your transcript and are calculated into your GPA.
  - Your GPA will change each **semester**.

### Additional Harrison Requirements:

- Maintain a 2.3 GPA. Students with GPAs below a 2.3 GPA are placed on academic probation.
- Must complete 10 arts-based credits in your department to graduate with the Harrison diploma.
- Recommend taking appropriate but rigorous courses for university admission
- Strongly recommend taking at least 2 years of world language which is required for university admission and Bright Futures Scholarship

### Dual Enrollment

- Must have 6 core credits to be approved
- Must have 3.0 UNWEIGHTED GPA
- Recommend completing English 2, Algebra 2, Biology and Chemistry before pursuing dual enrollment English, Math or Science Courses.
- Take up to three dual enrollment classes per semester in addition to Harrison and LHS classes
- Full-time early admission is not available for Harrison students

### Bright Futures

- Florida Academic Scholar (FAS): GPA 3.5, ACT 29 OR SAT 1330, 100 Community Service Hours
- Florida Medallion Scholar (FMS): GPA 3.0, ACT 25 OR SAT 1210, 75 Community Service Hours

### Study Skills and Organization

- **Study Skills** – Write down your assignments and take notes in class. Summarize what you have learned in class each day. Talk out loud about what you have learned. Think about what you have learned and try to apply it to prior learning and life experiences. Review the notes you took daily. Make flash cards to help recall lessons learned.
- **Organization** – Study for test first and then tackle most challenging homework. Use agenda and binders. Do all assignments! Don't wait until the last minute. Check over your work. Pay very careful attention to directions.

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### Tips for Freshmen

- Attend classes! If you must miss, email or speak with your teacher about the make-up work and get it turned in in a timely manner.
- Complete all assignments! One zero will bring your grade down a LOT!
- Check your student portal at least weekly (most check daily).
- Ask your teacher for help when needed.
- Get involved in at least one extra-curricular activity.
- Seek community service opportunities to make a difference
- Remember that in four short years, you will be applying to college, and those colleges will see your current grades. Start strong!

### Resources:

- **Harrison Website** – [www.harrisonarts.com](http://www.harrisonarts.com) (sign up for emails, view calendars and updates, document community service)
- **Lakeland High School Website** – [www.lakelandhighschool.com](http://www.lakelandhighschool.com) (event calendar, clubs, link teacher pages, AP Summer Homework)
- **Big Future Website** – begin your college planning – [www.bigfuture.org](http://www.bigfuture.org)
- **Remind** – text service for class of 2025; text @hsa2025p (Poitier) or hsa2025b (Benningfield) to 81010
- **Student and Parent Portal** – check at least weekly

### Community Service

- Log your hours and view opportunities at [www.harrisonarts.com](http://www.harrisonarts.com). Looking at the “Links” list, click on Community Service.
- Email Mr. Renz with questions at [daniel.renz@polk-fl.net](mailto:daniel.renz@polk-fl.net).
- Not a graduation requirement, but needed for National Honor Society, Scholarships and College Admissions
- Community Service recognition at awards ceremonies; 250 hours/1,000 hours
- Hours for the 2021-2022 School Year are due March 30, 2022