

DEARBORN HIGH SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL 101



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

.5 credits will be awarded for each semester course passed with a letter grade of D- or above.

A total of 23 credits are required for graduation including the following: 4 credits of Language Arts, 3 credits of Social Studies, 3 credits of Science, 4 credits of Mathematics, 1 credit of Physical Education, 1 credit of Visual/Performing/Applied Art, 7 credits of Electives. See the Dearborn Public Schools website for specific courses required within each academic area. Additionally, students must take all portions of the Michigan Merit Exam before a high school diploma will be awarded.

ABSENCE PROCEDURE

Parents are expected to contact the Attendance Office in the event of a student absence. These absences are considered "excused" but are still counted towards total student absences. If a parent does not contact the Attendance Office the absence is considered "unexcused" (skipping) and disciplinary action may be taken.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students have 5 minutes passing time between classes. Students are required to be in their classroom when the tardy bell rings. Students arriving within 5 minutes of the tardy bell are considered Tardy. 4 tardies = 1 absence. Students arriving more than 5 minutes late to classes are considered Late. 2 lates = 1 absence.

Partial credit (.25 instead of .5) will be awarded when a student reaches 10 absences (excused and unexcused) in any given class.

All required academic classes must be passed with full (.5) credits awarded. If a student passes a class but receives partial credit due to excessive absences, the course must be taken again in After School Academic Program (\$150/class) or Summer School (\$275/class) to recover the partial credit previously lost.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Student cell phone use is prohibited between the hours of 7:20am and 2:15pm as well as during the after-school academic program from 2:30-4:15pm. Cell phones will be confiscated and parents must retrieve them from the main office. See the Dearborn High School website for more specific information regarding cell phone offenses. Parents - please do not attempt to contact your student during the school day and, better yet, please keep student cell phones at home.

CONTACTING TEACHERS

Parents are encouraged to frequently check the DHS website <http://dhs.dearbornschools.org> for general DHS info and the NEW **Freshman Academy page** for teacher contact information & special events.

Parent Connect is also available for parents to access their child's latest grades and attendance. Go to <http://dearbornschools.org> then click on the link provided.



GETTING THE MOST OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL

Students experience greater success when they know what to expect. High School is very different from middle school. In high school, students can expect the following:

More courses to choose from Dearborn High School offers courses in a variety of subject areas. A detailed Curriculum Guide can be found on the DHS counseling website at:
http://dhs.dearbornschools.org/Counseling/Curriculum_Guide

New teachers and classmates DHS is not only larger and has more students than most middle schools. New teachers and new classmates offer students the opportunity to start “fresh” and make a positive first impression.

More extracurricular activities DHS offers a large athletic program and lots of after-school clubs and activities. An updated list is available at the fall parent-teacher conferences. Club meetings and athletic try-outs are announced through the daily bulletin.

More independence and more responsibility High school students are expected to be mature and responsible enough to handle the additional freedoms they're given. Students are encouraged to be proactive, pursue resolutions to their problems and seek out school resources for assistance. Parent support is key to this transition of responsibility.

Greater emphasis on academic achievement Due to a rigorous Michigan Merit Curriculum, high school courses are more difficult than middle school and the grades / credit earned essential to meeting graduation requirements. In turn, high school grades and the cumulative grade point average are one of the main determining factors in college admission. The higher a student's GPA, the more college options they have.

More social events Although there are more social activities offered in high school, most students also feel that there are more social pressures. Parents need to keep communication open with their high school students and encourage discussion of any issues that might cause undue anxiety.

Consequences for failing classes Students who fail classes may not have enough credits to advance to the next grade. These students may also find that they're not able to graduate on time. Failed courses need to be retaken in either night school or summer school as soon as possible.

Greater need for time management and organization With more homework, more activities and more responsibility than they've ever had before, high school students must use effective organizational and time management techniques if they want to be successful in high school.