



Welcome Families of the Class of 2027 & Class of 2028

Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy
MS/HS 141

Meet your Support Team

Administration:

Ms. O'Mara- Principal

Ms. Lustig- HS Assistant Principal

Deans:

Ms. McCloggan : 9th Grade & 10th Grade

Mr. DiCanio 11th Grade & 12th Grade

High School Counselors:

Ms. Byrd- 9th - 12th Grades Last Names A-Gn

Ms. Payne- 9th -12th Grades Last Names Go-Pa

Ms. Lockhart-Lee 9th -12th Grade Last Names Pb-Z

Support Services:

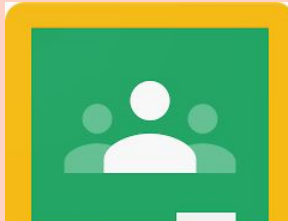
Ms. Benitez- Related Services

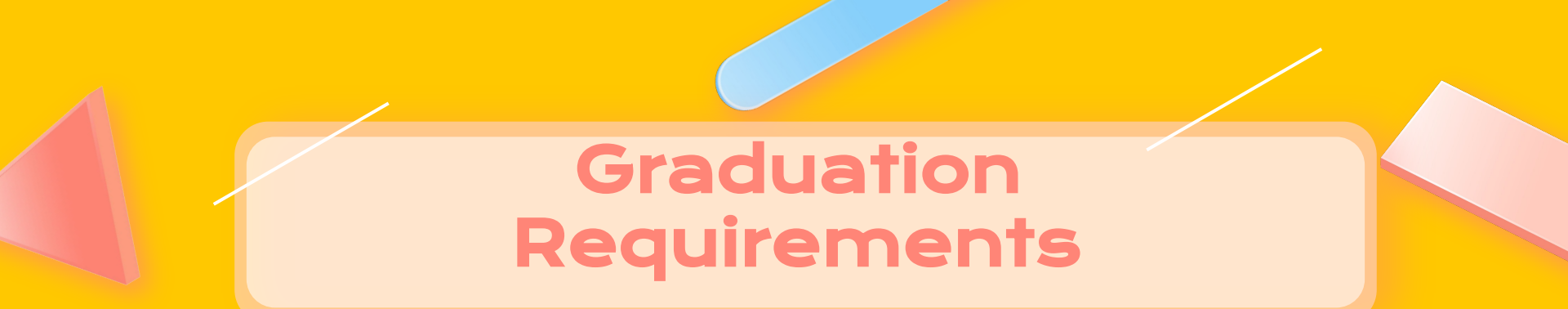
Mr. Oguagha-Related Services

Ms. Riverapen & Ms. Gordian- Counseling in Schools

Ways to Communicate

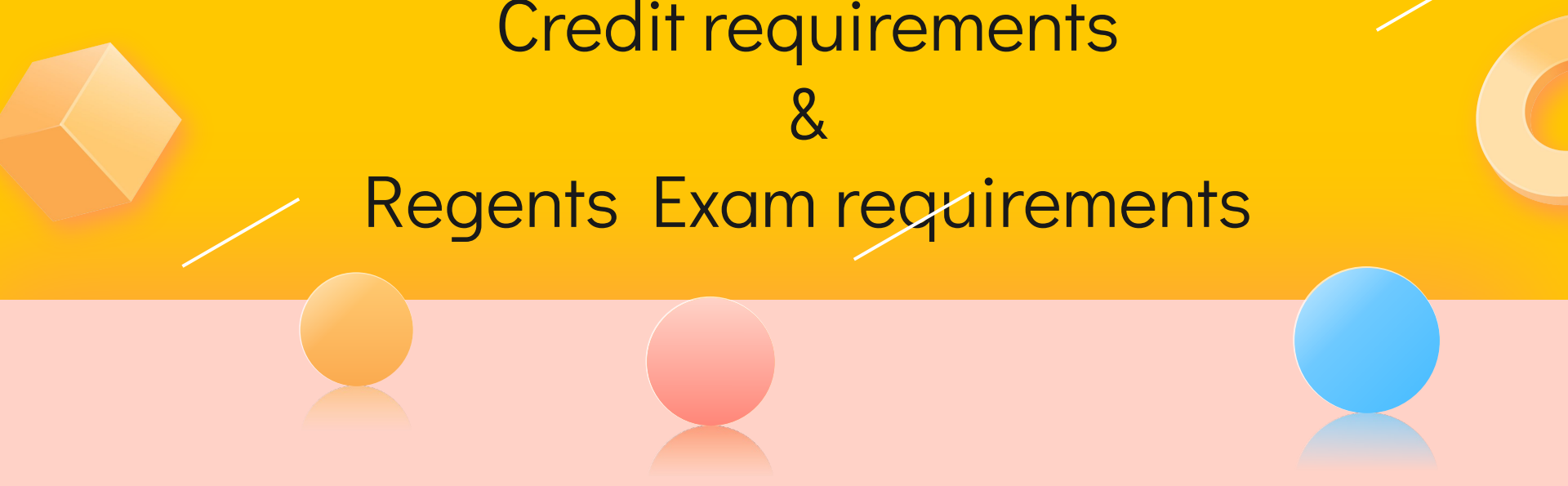
- It is important to utilize different avenues of communication with the school.
- The school counselors will communicate with you via email. It is important and your responsibility to read and respond (when necessary).
- Grade Level Google classroom will be used to post information about upcoming events and other important items.
- Listen to announcements
- Communicate with your teachers often. **DO NOT** wait until the last minute.
- To make an appointment with your school counselor, you must use the link in the email your school counselor sent on **9/12/25** or in your **grade level google classroom**





Graduation Requirements

Credit requirements
&
Regents Exam requirements



HS Promotional Standards

-8 Credits:

- Promotion from 9th to 10th Grade

-20 Credits:

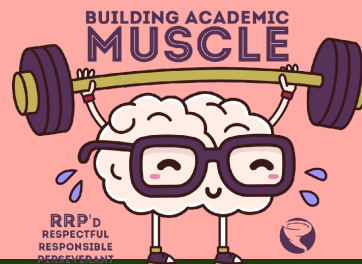
- Promotion from 10th to 11th Grade but **MUST** earn min. (4 credits in English and 4 credits in Social Studies)

-30 Credits:

- Promotion from 11th to 12th Grade

-44 Credits Plus NYS Regents exam requirements

- Graduate from High School (DIPLOMA)



Graduation Requirements

Earning a Diploma in NYC

In New York City public schools, students can earn three types of diplomas: a local diploma, a Regents diploma, or an advanced Regents diploma. Each is a valid high school diploma and can be used to demonstrate graduation or enroll in programs after high school, like college and the military. To earn a diploma, students must earn specific course credits (see table to the right) and pass specific Regents exams (see table on the reserve side).

Minimum Credit Requirements

All students must earn **44 total credits** across **specific subject areas** in order to graduate. Subject-area requirements vary by the type of diploma and may also vary if a student earns an endorsement. Ask your school counselor for more information about credit requirements.

Diploma Endorsements

Students may also earn endorsements to their diplomas. Endorsements recognize the successful completion of additional courses and exams in particular subject areas. Ask your school about the requirements for the following endorsements: Arts, Seal of Biliteracy, Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS), Career and Technical Education (CTE), Honors Designation, Mastery in Math, Mastery in Science, and the Service Seal.

Commencement Credentials

Students can earn two types of commencement credentials: the CDOS commencement credential and the Skills and Achievement commencement credential. These credentials recognize specific achievements, but they are not diplomas. Students who receive commencement credentials may continue to attend school until they earn a high school diploma or until the end of the school year in which they turn 21 (whichever occurs first). Due to COVID-19, students who turned 21 within the 2020-21 school year may remain enrolled for 2021-22 in pursuit of a high school diploma, credential, or endorsement. Ask your school counselor for more information about commencement credentials.

Career Development & Occupational Studies (CDOS) Credential	Skills & Achievement Commencement Credential
This credential recognizes students' preparation for entry-level work aligned to the CDOS learning standards. Students complete a career plan, employability profile, and 216 hours of career preparation experiences, including at least 54 hours of work-based learning. The CDOS may be awarded as a sole exiting credential, an endorsement to a diploma, or used to fulfill an exam requirement.	This credential recognizes students' skills and achievements in academic, career development, and other foundations needed for post-school living, learning, and working. This credential may only be awarded to students with severe cognitive disabilities who participate in the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA).

Subject Area	Minimum Credit Requirements
English Language Arts (ELA)	8
Social Studies	
Global History	4
U.S. History	2
Participation in Government	1
Economics	1
Math	
Including at least 2 credits of math aligned to standards above Algebra I, such as Geometry or Algebra II	6
Science (including labs)	
Life Science	2
Physical Science	2
Additional Life or Physical Science	2
World Languages (formerly LOTE) ¹	2 for local and Regents diplomas 6 for advanced Regents diploma ²
Visual Art, Music, Dance, and/or Theater	2
Physical Education	
Consistently throughout high school	4
Health	1
Electives	7 for local and Regents diplomas 3 for advanced Regents diploma
Total Credits	44

¹ Students with disabilities exempted from the world languages requirement must still earn 44 course credits required for a diploma through elective credits earned in other subject areas.

² Students completing an Arts or CTE endorsement with the advanced Regents diploma are required to complete only 2 credits of World Languages.

REGENTS REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Exam Requirements

All students must pass at least **five Regents exams** or State-approved alternatives to Regents exams in order to graduate. Subject-area requirements for exams vary by diploma type and endorsement as described to the right. All students can earn a Regents or advanced Regents diploma. Some students, including students with disabilities, can graduate with a local diploma by earning different exam scores. Contact your school counselor to learn more about Regents exams, State-approved alternatives, and these other exam flexibilities for students who meet specific eligibility requirements:

- Appeals to graduate with low scores on Regents exams
- Safety Net flexibilities for students with disabilities
- Exam waivers for transfer students
- Performance-Based Assessment Tasks (PBATs) for students at State-approved schools

Regents Waivers

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) cancelled multiple Regents administrations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, students in grades who intended to take Regents exams during these administration periods and met NYSED's eligibility criteria, waived that assessment requirement for the associated diploma, endorsement, or credential. A waived Regents exam counts as a score of 65 toward exam requirements.

Toward College & Career Readiness

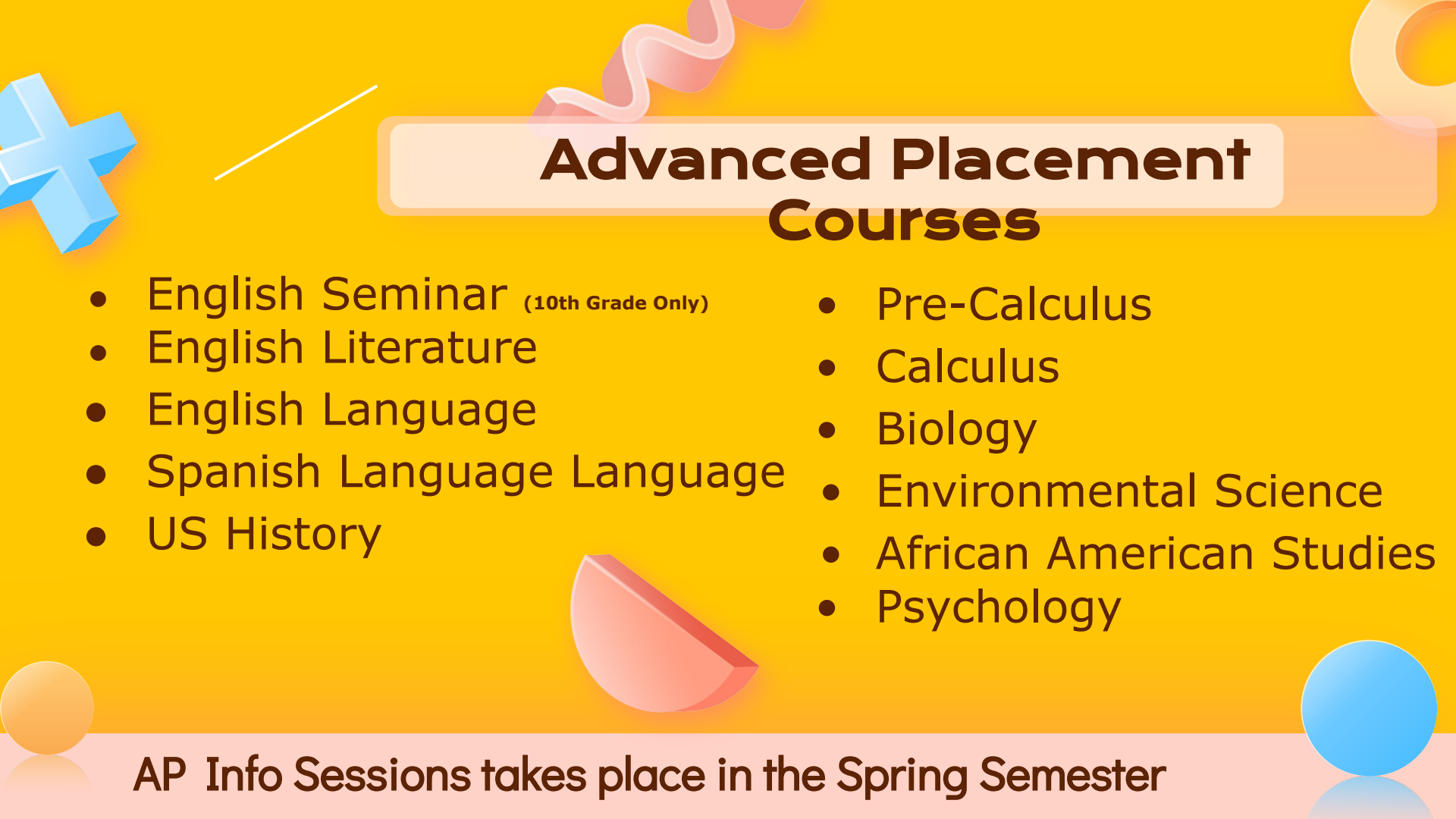
Coursework, exam scores, and activities outside the classroom can support students in working towards their goals for after high school.

Coursework: Students can prepare for college-level work by taking higher-level courses in high school. These courses may include:

- 8-credit course sequence in math, including Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II
- 8-credit course sequence in science, including Living Environment, Chemistry, and Physics
- Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Honors courses
- Courses for college credit, such as College Now or CUNY Early College

Exams: High exam scores can help students avoid taking remedial classes in college. For CUNY, students may meet the college readiness requirement based on certain test scores. See the CUNY Testing FAQs (<http://bit.ly/CUNYReady>) to learn more.

Regents Exam	Local diploma (eligible students only)	Regents diploma	Advanced Regents diploma
English Language Arts (ELA)	55+	65+	65+
Social Studies • U.S. History • Global History & Geography	55+ on one social studies exam	65+ on one social studies exam	65+ on one social studies exam
Math • Algebra I • Geometry • Algebra II	55+ on one math exam	65+ on one math exam	65+ on all three math exams
Science • Living Environment • Earth Science • Chemistry • Physics	55+ on one science exam	65+ on one science exam	65+ on Living Environment and one other science exam
World Languages (formerly LOTE)	<i>Not Required</i>	<i>Not Required</i>	65+ on one World Languages exam ³
+1 option • Any additional Regents exam • State-approved +1 option	<i>Requirements vary</i>	<i>Requirements vary</i>	<i>Requirements vary</i>
Total Exams	5	5	9



Advanced Placement Courses

- English Seminar (10th Grade Only)
- English Literature
- English Language
- Spanish Language Language
- US History
- Pre-Calculus
- Calculus
- Biology
- Environmental Science
- African American Studies
- Psychology

AP Info Sessions takes place in the Spring Semester



Academic Planning

- In-Class visits
- Individual Progress Review Meetings
 - Transcript Review
- Course Guide & Course selection- Spring
- Advanced class Information Sessions- Spring



Preparing for life after high school

- Pathways Days “Planning, Preparing and Paying”
- Summer Opportunities Fair
- College Visits
- College Fair
- College Rep visits RKA
- Career Exploration Surveys



HOW SHOULD MY CHILD PREPARE FOR THEIR POST-SECONDARY GOALS?

THEY SHOULD...

- Create a professional email for college related information ONLY
- Set goals for the school year. Working toward specific goals helps students stay motivated and focused. This can include solid study skills, note taking skills, time management and organization skills.
- Explore career options to have an idea of what they may want to study in college.
- Make a list of interests, talents and favorite activities and match them with occupations.
- Pass all classes. Colleges look at student's grades from 9th–11th grade.
- Make a plan to check in regularly about schoolwork. They should check grades on a weekly basis and use resources like google classroom, and communicate with their teachers to stay on track!
- Join a school club (this would look great on their college application)
- Attend virtual (or in person) college fairs and/or virtual tours.
- Attend RKA Individual College Visits (*priority to 12th grade, then open to 11th*):
 - Brown University: 09/18
 - Columbia University: 10/01
 - University of Delaware: 10/07

PSAT AND SAT INFORMATION:



As 10th graders you will be taking the PSAT (Practice SAT) FREE at RKA in the Spring.

- This is an opportunity to see how you will do and prepare you to take the actual SAT in 11th grade.

As 11th graders you will be taking the SAT FREE at RKA in the Spring.

- It is encouraged to take the SAT more than once to be able to SuperScore your results.
- SuperScore is a combination of your HIGHEST scores from the Math, Reading and Writing sections on the SAT exams you have taken.

All students will be registered through RKA for FREE, no further steps required.

If students decide to take the SAT outside of RKA, they are responsible for the fees involved.
Reach out to your School Counselor for fee waiver eligibility (*determined by Income Verification Form*).

Recommended College Timeline from College Board

CollegeBoard

Access



9th Grade
10th Grade

College Planning: 9th/10th Grade

There are some steps you can take as a ninth- and a 10th-grader to make sure you're on the right track for college. This list will help you navigate the college planning process.

9TH GRADE

- ☐ **Create a four-year high school plan.** Think about what you'd like to accomplish in the next four years.
 - Make sure you know which high school courses are required by colleges, and that you're taking the right classes as early as the ninth grade. You can ask your counselor about what those "right" classes are.
 - Get to know the levels of courses offered by your school.
- ☐ **Start thinking about your life after school,** including the types of jobs that might interest you. Of course, these will change — often — but it's good to start thinking about the possibilities.
 - Identify your interests — likes and dislikes — not just in classes but also in every area. This will help you focus on your goals.
 - Talk to other people, such as your school counselor, teachers, recent college graduates who are working, professionals in the community, etc., about careers you might find interesting.
- ☐ **Meet with your high school counselor.** Your counselor knows how to help you get the most out of high school. Be sure to take some time during the school year to discuss post-high-school plans with him or her.

- ☐ **Participate in extracurricular activities.** Academics aren't everything. Explore your interest in a sport, school club, music or drama group, or community volunteer activity.
 - Remember that colleges would rather see real involvement in one activity instead of a loose connection to several.
 - If you're interested in playing sports in college, research the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) eligibility requirements. The NCAA requires completion of certain core courses; you can find the specifics at ncaaclearinghouse.net.
- ☐ **Save for college.** It's not too late to put money aside for college. Every little bit helps! Learning about financial aid early on can also help you down the road.
- ☐ **Explore summer opportunities.** Look for a job, internship, or volunteer position that will help you learn about a field of interest.
- ☐ **Get familiar with the PSAT-related assessments and SAT.** Most four-year colleges consider applicants' scores on college admission test. Download the free Daily Practice for the New SAT app to get a feel for the kinds of questions you might face on test day.
- ☐ **Take the PSAT™ 8/9.** If your school offers it, sign up to take the first of the College Board assessments to set a baseline. This test will help you build up your skills to take the SAT in 11th or 12th grade.

10TH GRADE

- ☐ **Meet with your high school counselor — again.**

Be sure to meet with your school counselor to ensure that your course schedule is challenging enough to prepare you for college.

 - Check into any prerequisites for advanced-level junior- and senior-year courses.
- ☐ **Take the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT™ 10.** Depending on your school, you might have the opportunity to take the PSAT/NMSQT in October or the PSAT 10 in February or March. It provides valuable feedback on your college readiness and a free, personalized plan to help you start getting ready for the SAT — and for college.
- ☐ **Ask if the PSAT/NMSQT is offered to 10th-graders.** Although this test is usually given in the 11th grade, it is also often offered in the 10th grade. That's because it provides valuable feedback through the Student Score Report. You can then work on any of your academic weaknesses while there is still plenty of time to make improvements.
- ☐ **Are you interested in attending a U.S. military academy?** If so, you should request a precandidate questionnaire.
- ☐ **Along with your family, do some research about how to obtain financial aid.** Many students use financial aid to cover college costs. Find out what financial aid is, where it comes from, and how you can apply for it. Read the U.S. Department of Education's *Funding Your Education* (about federal aid programs).
- ☐ **Attend college and career fairs.** The fairs often take place in the fall at your school or in your area.
- ☐ **Participate in school activities or volunteer efforts.** Extracurricular activities can help you develop time-management skills and enrich your high school experience.
- ☐ **Talk to your counselor** about your plans for life after high school. He or she can help you plan your schedule, search for colleges, and navigate the financial aid process. The more your counselor knows about you, the more he or she can help you along the way.
- ☐ **Tour college campuses.** If possible, take advantage of vacation or other family travel time to visit colleges and see what they're like. Even if you have no interest in attending the college you are visiting, it will help you learn what to look for in a college.

Recommended College Timeline from College Board



Access

College Planning: 11th Grade

Junior year marks a turning point. This is because for most students and families, it's when college planning activities kick into high gear. Here are some things you can do this year to stay on track for college.

SPRING

- ☐ **Contact your counselor** before leaving school for the summer if you are considering military academies or ROTC scholarships. If you want a four-year ROTC scholarship, you should begin the application process the summer before your senior year.
- ☐ **Develop a list of 15 or 20 colleges that are of interest to you.** You can find many colleges at which you'll be happy and get a great education. The college search is about exploring who you are and what you want and then finding colleges that will meet your goals.
- ☐ **Stay open to all the possibilities—don't limit your search.** To find the best college for you, you should apply to colleges of varying selectivity. Selective colleges admit a portion of students who apply. Some colleges are highly selective while others are less selective. Make sure to apply to public, private, in-state, and out-of-state schools so that you have plenty of options from which to choose.

- ☐ **Take the SAT.** The test is typically offered in March, May, and June. Make sure you start preparing for the test several months in advance using the tools available at satpractice.org. And remember, if you're not happy with your scores when you get them, you might want to test again in the fall. Many students take the test a second time as seniors, and they usually do better.
- ☐ **Start to gather documents for financial aid:** Be sure to keep a copy of your tax returns handy. You'll use these to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which opens on Oct. 1.

SUMMER

- ☐ **Register with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center** if you are an athlete planning to continue playing a sport in college (ncaaclearinghouse.net).
- ☐ **Get your FSA ID:** Before you can fill out your FAFSA, you need to get a username and password (also known as an FSA ID).
- ☐ **Find a full-time or part-time job,** or participate in a summer camp or summer college program.
- ☐ **Visit colleges.** When planning your campus visits, make sure to allow time to explore each college. While you're there, talk to as many people as possible. These can include college admission staff, professors, and students. Take campus tours and, at colleges you're serious about, make appointments to have interviews with admission counselors.
- ☐ **Create a résumé**—a record of your academic accomplishments, extracurricular activities, and work experiences since you started high school.
- ☐ **Download applications.** Go to the website of each college's admission office and either complete the application online or request a paper application from colleges to which you'll apply. Check application dates—large universities may have early dates or rolling admission.
- ☐ **Visit some local colleges**—large, small, public, and private. A visit to a college campus can help you decide if that college is right for you. Make a plan ahead of time to get the most from your visit. Check out the campus checklist at bigfuture.org. Attend college fairs, too.
- ☐ **Scan local newspapers** to see which civic, cultural, and service organizations in your area award financial aid to graduating seniors. Start a file.

SCOIR



We will go
over this
during
Pathway
Days

RKA is pleased to share that we will be rolling out a new College & Career Readiness platform called Scoir (pronounced "score"). This system will streamline the process of requesting, processing, sending, and tracking the electronic delivery of all application-related documents. More importantly, it's a much more enjoyable way for students and parents to engage in the college search and selection process. On Scoir, colleges come to life through pictures, videos, and links that highlight active student clubs and organizations. This better enables students to discover and identify colleges and careers that are a good fit with their personal and academic interests, which increases college retention. Scoir also provides parents and guardians with useful financial calculators so you can determine the likely cost of attendance at different colleges and consider affordability when deciding where to apply. These features, along with more convenient scheduling and communication tools for high school counselors, will help keep everyone informed and engaged throughout the college application process. Scoir exists to help more students achieve more positive outcomes, and we're excited that our students will have access to this system and the college and career readiness opportunities it provides.

Current 11th Graders will apply to colleges through the Scoir platform during their senior year!!

COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS & HONOR SOCIETY

❖ Community Service Hours Requirements for Graduation:

- ❖ Class of 2027= 40 hours
- ❖ Class of 2028= 40 hours
- ❖ If you need a service log to keep track of your hours, you can pick one up from the bulletin board outside of the **Guidance office (outside of room 303)**.

❖ National Honor Society (NHS):

- ❖ Guidelines have changed significantly the last couple of years for honor society to incorporate more student-led related activities and meetings.
- ❖ 9th grade students must maintain their academics within the 90% or above cumulative GPA for both terms this year, and 10th grade year to work towards their invitation to join Honor Society in the Spring of their Sophomore year.
 - Once student is invited, they will need to complete an additional **5 hours** of Community Service to complete their induction requirements.

You are required to have 10 Hours of community service each school year!

Links will be provided by next week

If you have any questions regarding NHS please email Ms. Roberts
(LRoberts6@schools.nyc.gov)

Activities Get Involved!!

- Clubs
- Dances
- Leadership
- Team Tiger
- Special Events





Athletics (PSAL Sports)



● Girls

- Soccer
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Softball
- Cross Country
- Track
- Cheerleading (non competitive)

● Boys

- Soccer
- Basketball
- Baseball
- Cross Country
- Track

● Co-Ed

- Wrestling
- Golf

- Must qualify for athletics based on grades, attendance and punctuality
- Athletic/ academic/ work habit connection
- Must be cleared prior to tryouts
- Paperwork on our website/ pre season meeting on calendar
- Cut teams and non-cut teams
- Roughly $\frac{1}{3}$ of the high school plays a sport and a $\frac{1}{4}$ play 2 or more





ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES



Arrival Procedures:

- **High School- Glass doors to the cafeteria. (9th grade uses the door closer to the arcade)**
 - Doors open at 8:05am
 - Students must turn off and place their phone in their assigned Yondr pouch as they enter the building, not before
 - Students MAY NOT bring FOOD or OPEN DRINKS to school. All food must be consumed before the start of the day
 - PD 1 begins at 8:20 You must be in your seat by that time or you are considered late!
 - 3 Latenesses will result in lunch detention and parent contact
 - Excessive lateness will result in loss of privileges

Dismissal Procedures:

- *Students leave at 2:40 pm NOT BEFORE!
- *Leave from the nearest exit to your class, arcade, E, C, A



Electronics

In order to promote intellectual engagement and maintain a wholesome and productive environment, the following will be implemented:

- School chromebooks will be used in class only
- Students will not be allowed to take chromebooks home
- Cell phones and all Wi-Fi Enabled devices are to be placed in a Yondr pouch upon entry.
- Pouches can be stored in backpack or locker until the end of the day



**** Chromebook use will be managed by classroom teachers during class time.**



NO WI-FI ENABLED DEVICES



**ONLY SCHOOL-ISSUED OR APPROVED DEVICES
PERMITTED IN SCHOOL BUILDING
ARRIVAL BELL TO DISMISSAL BELL**



**TURN OFF
DEVICES/ITEMS**



**SEAL IN POUCH WITH
ID WITH STAFF**



**STORE IN OWN LOCKER OR BAG UNTIL
UNSEALED BY STAFF AT THE END OF
THE DAY**

CONFISCATION & CONSEQUENCES



**EARN 5
TIGER TOKENS
EVERY WEEK
FOR
FOLLOWING
THE RULE**

1. STUDENT/ADMIN CONFERENCE; ITEMS RTN'D END OF DAY
2. PHONE CALL HOME; ITEMS RTN'D END OF DAY
3. PARENT PICK UP OF DEVICE; ITEMS RTN'D TO PARENT ONLY
4. AFTER SCHOOL DETENTION; ITEMS RTN'D TO PARENT ONLY AFTER CONSEQUENCE COMPLETE
5. LOSS OF PRIVILEGES; ITEMS RTN'D TO PARENT ONLY END OF DAY
6. CLASS REMOVAL SUSPENSION; ITEMS RTN'D TO PARENT ONLY AFTER CONSEQUENCE COMPLETE



DOCUMENTS ARE HERE:



**FOR FAMILY SIGN OFFS
BEGIN HERE:**



Contact
JPrince4@schools.nyc.gov
with questions

- Go to www.rka141.org
- Follow us on IG @ RKAMSHS141
- **Packets**
 - Return Lunch Forms and Blue Cards
 - Read and sign off @ www.rka141.org/publications
 - Calendar
 - Code of Conduct
 - Club Listing

**HELP US
REACH OUR GOAL**

**RIVERDALE • KINGSBRIDGE
ACADEMY**

FILL IN THE FAMILY
INCOME FORM TODAY

1300 FORMS
1200 FORMS
1100 FORMS
1000 FORMS
900 FORMS
800 FORMS
700 FORMS
600 FORMS
500 FORMS

EVERY
FORM
COUNTS!!

FAMILY INCOME
FORMS MEAN
POSSIBLE
FUNDING
INCREASES FOR
RKA

**WWW.
MYSCHOOLAPPS
.COM**

HELP US FUND
STAFF
STAFF TRAINING
INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS
TECHNOLOGY
EVENTS
ACTIVITIES
ATHLETICS

Please,
Please,
Please!!!
!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Back To School Night (in-person) 5:30-8:00 pm

September 25

Club Fair

Parents & Students **September 25**

Students only- **September 26th during Lunch**

Clubs Begin

September 30

College Fair- Here at RKA!

October 15

End of 1st Marking Period

October 17

Parent Teacher Conferences

November 20- Evening

November 21- Afternoon



Student Support Team

School Counselors

Ms. Byrd
Last Name A-Gn
Jbyrd2@schools.nyc.gov

Mrs. Payne
Last names Go-Pa
Mpayne3@schools.nyc.gov

Mrs. Lockhart-Lee
Last Name- Pb-Z
Slockhartlee@schools.nyc.gov

Assistant Principal

Ms. Lustig
All High School
Slustig2@schools.nyc.gov

Deans

Ms. McCloggan
All 9th & 10th Grades
Nmccloggan@schools.nyc.gov

Mr. Dicanio
All 11th & 12th Grades
Rdicanio@schools.nyc.gov

Links & Resources:

(click on each to open to the page)

☐ How to Read my Child's Transcript:

☐ By Semester

☐ By Subject

☐ Graduation Requirements

☐ RKA Website

☐ Teacher Emails

☐ CollegeBoard College Timeline for Sophmores

☐ CollegeBoard College Timeline for Juniors

☐ Khan Academy (for free SAT prep)

☐ NACAC Virtual College Fair Registration

☐ Career Exploration

☐ Big Future Scholarships

☐ RKA Clubs

Questions

