



Hi!

Welcome to



ittola!

High School

# Your High School Student Support Team

## School Counselors

Ms. Byrd

9th-12th Grades Last Names A-Gn  
[jbyrd2@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:jbyrd2@schools.nyc.gov)

Ms. Payne

9th-12th Grades Last Names Go-Pa  
[mpayne3@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:mpayne3@schools.nyc.gov)

Ms. Lockhart-Lee

9th-12th Grades Last Names Pb-Z  
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Ms. McCloggan

Dean

[nmccloggan@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:nmccloggan@schools.nyc.gov)

Ms. O'Mara

Principal

[lomara@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:lomara@schools.nyc.gov)

 @RKAMSHS141

## Assistant Principals

Ms. Lustig: [slustig2@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:slustig2@schools.nyc.gov)

Ms. Brownstein [jbrownstein@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:jbrownstein@schools.nyc.gov)

Ms. Miller: [smiller43@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:smiller43@schools.nyc.gov)

Ms. Prado [mpradoromero2@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:mpradoromero2@schools.nyc.gov)

Mr. Scholz: [escholz@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:escholz@schools.nyc.gov)

Ms. Prince

Parent Coordinator


Email is: [jprince4@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:jprince4@schools.nyc.gov)

# Your High School Student Support Team

## Ms. Purdy

Student Activities Coordinator

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 @rkaactivities

## Mr. Clachar

SAPIS Counselor

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## Mr. Edmond

Athletics Director

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 @RKAathletics

## CIS Counselors

Ms. Gordian

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Ms. Riverapen

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## Related Service

Ms. Alfonso-Bilingual Psychologist

Ms. Benitez- Related Service

Ms. Bicknese- OT

Ms. Callan-Grima- Psychologist

Ms. Clarke- Speech

Ms. D'Amico-Speech

Mr. Innocent- Speech

Mr. Oguagha-Related Service



# What can the School Counselor help students with?

## Academic Support

- Academic planning
- Time Management
- MS/HS School transition
- Concerns with a class
- Goal-setting
- Planning for graduation

## Social Emotional Support

- Personal/family problems
- Peer relationships
- Bullying/handling conflict
- If they're feeling sad, anxious, stressed
- Transition to high school

## Post-Secondary & Career Preparation

- Career exploration
- Interest inventories
- Resume building
- College process
- Providing skills to help in planning for life after RKA

**Individual Counseling**



**Group Counseling**

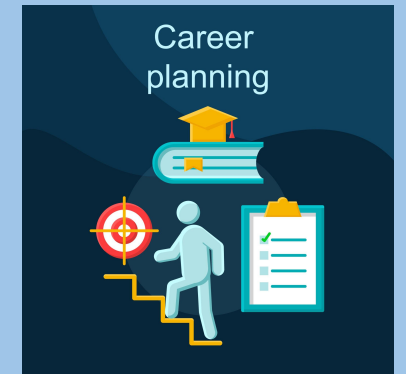


**Classroom Workshops**

# Pathway Days!!

Once a month for 3 periods (6th, 7th & 8th period) the school counselors & teachers collaborate to facilitate different workshops covering different topics to support students with **Preparing** for, **Planning** for, and **Paying** for their post secondary plans such as college process, career readiness and life skills.

These days are regular school days and students are expected to be in attendance.



How students can Meet with their Counselor

- ❖ Students can visit right before their 1st period class, during lunch (with a pass), or after school. (Monday-Friday/8:00 am-3:00 pm)
  - This method is best if there is a concern or question that can be addressed quickly.
- ❖ They can fill out the appointment form (available in their grade level google classroom and the introduction email they will receive from their school counselor)
  - This method is best if there is a concern or question that may take more time to address.
  - If they have a scheduled appointment we encourage them to be on time.
- ❖ Students may also email their counselor for any questions and/or concerns.

**Students MUST have a pass at all time when coming to the Guidance Suite & sign the binder**

**\*\*VERY IMPORTANT\*\***

For an urgent matter which requires immediate attention and cannot be addressed through the other methods, students may come in to see any counselor anytime. Students must check in and retrieve a pass from their teacher.

# 9th Grade Matters!!

- ❖ **Classes taken in 9th grade count toward graduation, student's cumulative GPA (grade point average) and postsecondary decisions (college, trade, work, etc).**
- ❖ **Students MUST complete both; 44 credits & at least 5 Regents Exam**
- ❖ **If students do not successfully complete a course (65+) that is required for graduation, they must make it up.**

- In their schedule the next school year**
- Summer school**
- PM School**
- YABC PM School**

**\*\*Students should NOT rely on these options. They may or may not be available\*\***

## Potential 9th Grade Courses

English 1  
Global 1  
Algebra I or Geometry 1  
Biology 1 or Earth & Space 1  
Physical Education 1 (and maybe Health)  
Arts (music or art) or World Language I or II  
LUNCH

Some students may have different classifications and may have other courses such as SETSS, Strategic Reading or ENL

Each student's schedule may be different depending if they passed a high school credit bearing course such as Algebra I, Foreign Language and/or Biology in 8th grade!

# 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)

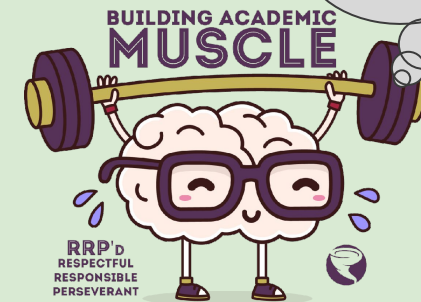
-30 Credits:

- Promotion from 11th to 12th Grade

-44 Credits Plus NYS Regents exam requirements

- Local/Regents/Advanced Regents
- Graduate from RKA with a High School DIPLOMA

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



# Graduation Requirements

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

As of February 2022

### 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) <sup>1</sup>	2 for local and Regents diplomas 6 for advanced Regents diploma <sup>2</sup>
Visual Art, Music, Dance, and/or Theater	2
Physical Education	4
Consistently throughout high school	
Health	1
Electives	7 for local and Regents diplomas 3 for advanced Regents diploma
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>44</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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.  
<sup>2</sup> Students completing an Arts or CTE endorsement with the advanced Regents diploma are required to complete only 2 credits of World Languages.

### 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 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.

<sup>3</sup> Students completing an Arts or CTE endorsement with the advanced Regents diploma are not required to take the World Languages exam. Likewise, students whose IEP indicates that a disability negatively affects their ability to learn a language are not required to take the World Languages exam to receive an advanced Regents diploma.

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

Students will be provided with courses and Regents for the Advanced Regents Diploma pathway

# College Credit Opportunities Starting in 10th Grade

## Advanced Placement Courses at RKA

AP English Language

AP English Literature

AP Seminar

AP Spanish

AP US History

AP Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus

AP African American Studies

AP Biology

AP Environmental Science

AP Psychology

College Now Course at Lehman College

# Ways to Communicate:

It is important that parents and students utilize different avenues of communication with the school counselor and teachers.

The school counselors will communicate with students & parents via email **MOST** times.

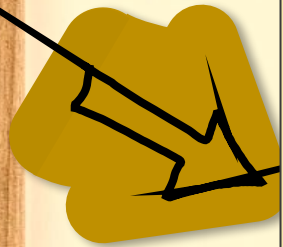
It is important for students to read and respond (when necessary).

Kindly encourage your child to check their emails, JupiterEd and google classrooms at least once a day.

Parents are also encouraged to register for JupiterEd. This method provide parents with checking student's grades, attendance and can communicate directly with teachers.

Grade Level Google classroom will be used to post information about upcoming events, opportunities and other important items.

NYSCA is the NYCPS system for Report cards, state test scores and Emergencies



## AT RKA, EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

- Students should get to school on **TIME!!**
- School starts at 8:20am, ends at 2:40 pm (Students should be at the HS Entrance by 8:12am)
- Students are responsible for completing assignments they've missed during their absence
  - There is **DIRECT** correlation between attendance and grades
- When a student is absent, they **MUST** bring a note to all their teachers and have the teachers sign the back of it as a confirmation that they were made aware of the absence.  
Once all the teachers have signed the note, students must bring it to the main office so their absence can be coded as an **EXPLAINED** absence

EACH time a student is ABSENT/LATE (no matter the reason), Parent/guardian will receive a phone call & email to make them aware of the absence/lateness.



Some examples of clubs offered are:

# RKA Clubs

- Write to Roar- Literary and Arts
- Photography Club
- Black Student Union
- Video Game Club
- Poetry for Social Justice
- Creative Writing
- Debate Club
- Mural Making Club
- Gender Sexuality Alliance
- Band
- Chorus
- Key Club
- Girls Incorporated
- Anime
- Theatre Lover's Club
- Anime
- Future Medical professions

**CLUBS**

**RKA Clubs 2024**  
2-45-3-45 PM

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p><b>Black Union</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @blackunion@rka.org</p> <p><b>Black Student Union and Allies Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @blackstudentunion@rka.org</p> <p><b>Key Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @keyclub@rka.org</p> <p><b>Future Medical Professions</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @futuremedical@rka.org</p>	<p><b>Band</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @band@rka.org</p> <p><b>Chorus</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @chorus@rka.org</p> <p><b>Key Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @keyclub@rka.org</p> <p><b>Girls Incorporated</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @girlsincorporated@rka.org</p> <p><b>Anime</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @anime@rka.org</p> <p><b>Theatre Lover's Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @theatrelover@rka.org</p> <p><b>Anime</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @anime@rka.org</p>	<p><b>Black Student Union and Allies Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @blackstudentunion@rka.org</p> <p><b>Key Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @keyclub@rka.org</p> <p><b>Future Medical Professions</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @futuremedical@rka.org</p> <p><b>Band</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @band@rka.org</p> <p><b>Chorus</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @chorus@rka.org</p> <p><b>Key Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @keyclub@rka.org</p> <p><b>Girls Incorporated</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @girlsincorporated@rka.org</p> <p><b>Anime</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @anime@rka.org</p> <p><b>Theatre Lover's Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @theatrelover@rka.org</p> <p><b>Anime</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @anime@rka.org</p>	<p><b>Black Student Union and Allies Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @blackstudentunion@rka.org</p> <p><b>Key Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @keyclub@rka.org</p> <p><b>Future Medical Professions</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @futuremedical@rka.org</p> <p><b>Band</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @band@rka.org</p> <p><b>Chorus</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @chorus@rka.org</p> <p><b>Key Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @keyclub@rka.org</p> <p><b>Girls Incorporated</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @girlsincorporated@rka.org</p> <p><b>Anime</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @anime@rka.org</p> <p><b>Theatre Lover's Club</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @theatrelover@rka.org</p> <p><b>Anime</b> Room 102 2:45-3:45 PM @anime@rka.org</p>

**Just check the dates the club is meeting and show up!**

# TIGER TOKENS

Earn tiger tokens for positive behavior!

Students can track your progress on the  
**APP!**

Students can redeem points for  
prizes!

tickets to events!

school supplies!

gift cards!


Snacks!

Tiger token parties!



PBISREWARDS.com


Documents  
to  
Complete Now



Media Consent Form  
Emergency Contact Form

Income Verification Form

Documents  
to  
Complete In  
September





Thank you!

Do you have any  
questions?

¡Gracias!