

**FACT:** Once you get into high school, everything counts!

* **Your courses now earn credit**

All of your high school courses earn credits that go towards fulfilling your graduation requirements. If you do not pass a core course, (English, Math, Science, Soc Studies, Health/PE) you must take it until you pass. You need (**6**) credits to be promoted to the 10th grade. You need (**22**) credits to graduate.

* **Freshman grades are part of your high school GPA (Grade Point Average)**

Do your best!! Freshman grades will be used to figure your high school grade point average **(GPA).** Your GPA is important because colleges will use it to determine what kind of student or employee you will be.

* **Your permanent record starts now**

Starting in 9th grade, the courses you take, the grades and credits you earn, and your test scores all become part of your permanent record. If you plan to go to college, copy of your permanent record (transcript) is sent to the college.

* **Attendance is Key**

It is hard to learn if you are not in school. Onslow County has a 10 day policy regarding absences. If you exceed 10 days per semester, per class, you are subject to fail. If they’re extenuating circumstances (hospitalizations, death in family etc.) please make sure your school counselor is aware. Make sure you turn in a note regarding your absence when you return to school. *\*Notes go to the front office*

* **Get Organized**

Make sure you have what is required for your classes and extracurricular activities i.e. sports team, clubs.

Organize your papers with pocket folders. “There is a place for everything and everything in its place.”

Student Planner- Using a planner is a great way to keep yourself organized and on track.

Have a routine- Set aside time to study and complete homework each night

Keep your book bag clean, neat, and organized

* **Manage Your Time**

Use class time wisely- use any extra time i.e. Power Hour to look over homework or study

Make to do list- Prioritize what needs to get done and cross it off as you complete it. If you are unable to complete a task, put it on the top of your list for the next day. Control the amount of time you spend on cell phone, social media, watching t.v.