



3434 PHEASANT CREEK
SUGAR LAND, TX
77498
281-634-2000

Dates to Remember

Exams	Dec 13-16
Early Dismissal	Dec 15-16
Holiday Break No School	Dec 19- Jan 2
Faculty Work Day	Jan 2
Students Return (Report to 3rd Period 7:20 a.m.)	Jan 3
Senior Assembly	Jan 11
No School	Jan 16
Book Check	Jan 30
Early Dismissal	Feb 17
Student Holiday	Feb 20
TX Public Schools Week	Feb 27- March 3
Term 3 Period Ends	Mar 10
Spring Break No School	Mar 13-17
Librarian Appreciation Week	Apr 10-14
No School	Apr 14
AP Testing	May 1-5
Teacher Appreciation Week	May 1-5

AHS Bulldog Bark

DECEMBER 2016

Principal's Message *by Mary Ellen Eidson*

Hello ~

As we prepare for winter break and approach the holiday season, we want you to know that we are pleased to have you as partners in your child's education. We encourage you to contact teachers if you need assistance or have questions about grades or assignments. Parental supervision plays a vital role in student success and there are numerous ways for families to remain informed. Teachers utilize websites for posting calendars and resources and another great way to stay informed of all the events, activities, announcements, and news is to visit our website <http://www.fortbendisd.com/ahs>. The site houses announcements, bell schedules, clubs/organizations, and many, many more useful links with important information. On behalf of the AHS Faculty and Staff, thanks for your continued support!

The fall semester was filled with numerous student accomplishments. The faculty and staff are so very proud of our students and the commitment to excellence that they exhibit daily in our hallways and classrooms. Watching our students in various competitions, plays, concerts, debates, and projects is pure joy and represents the quality of students here at AHS. It's so much fun to watch our students mature and exemplify their best efforts.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is expected to send some updates on the A-F grading Accountability System that will be used to evaluate school districts. We expect to learn more about the exact methodologies in the coming weeks. I encourage you to stay closely tuned to the FBISD website for updates. <http://www.fortbendisd.com>

Thanks for sharing your best and brightest students with us everyday!

Best Regards,
Mary Ellen

COUNSELOR'S CORNER



The AHS Counseling Office wishes everybody a safe and enjoyable holiday break!

We hope our Seniors use this winter break as a time to work on scholarships and any last college applications. Scholarships can be found on Naviance. This is a perfect time for Juniors to be researching colleges, careers, and setting goals for after high school. The spring is a very busy time for our Juniors between the SAT's and ACT's, and visiting colleges. We suggest that you use your winter break very wisely!

Freshmen and Sophomores, we hope you are becoming familiar with Naviance. Naviance has a feature called Family Connection, which is a program designed especially for students and parents. It is a comprehensive website that you can use to help make decisions about colleges, scholarships, and careers. Family Connection provides up-to-date information that's specific to our school. It also lets us share information with you about upcoming meetings, news, events, as well as other Web resources for college and career information.

If the first semester presented itself with unforeseen difficulties which may have resulted in failure, remember that you can average to pass and still receive credit. For example, if you made a 65 first semester, then you could regain that credit if you make at least a 75 second semester, since the average of the two grades would be passing. Do not think that all hope of passing is lost and give up...it is much easier to regain credit now than later.



COUNSELOR'S CORNER cont'd

Important Dates

- Jan 13 Last day to change to a new course (only if there was an error in the student schedule and it's a 1 semester course)
- Jan 24 PSAT Results Overview Meeting for parents @ 6:00 p.m. (grades 9-11)
- Jan 23-27 College Week
- Feb 1 8th/9th Grade Parent Night @ 6:00 p.m.
- March 10 Last day to change a level and/or drop a course for a non-credit class (1 semester courses only)

Upcoming Testing

AP Test Registration Dec 1 through Feb 28 @
www.totalregistration.net/AP/445860

ACT/SAT Spring Test Schedule

SAT	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
	January 21, 2017	December 21, 2016	January 10, 2017
	May 6, 2017	April 7, 2017	April 25, 2017
	June 3, 2017	May 9, 2017	May 24, 2017

ACT	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
	February 11, 2017	January 13, 2017	January 20, 2017
	April 8, 2017	March 3, 2017	March 17, 2017
	June 10, 2017	May 5, 2017	May 19, 2017

Course Selection

Counselors will meet with students to review transcripts and graduation requirements Feb 1-3. Students will then be responsible for entering their course selection online through Skyward Student Access. The online course selection window will be open Feb 1-22, 2017.

AHS COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

Located in H1



To register for the ACT and send your scores to college



To register for the SAT and send your scores to college



Naviance: One Stop College Shop
goo.gl/woAYpe



Follow @weraustingocntr



AUSTIN HS	www.fortbendisd.com/ahs	AHS Information
FACEBOOK	https://www.facebook.com/weareaustingocenter	Scholarships, Jobs, School Information
FORT BEND ISD	http://www.fortbendisd.com	District Information
NAVIANCE	https://connection.naviance.com/auth/fclookup	College/Career Planning
PARENT INFORMATION/ ACCESS	http://www.fortbendisd.com/home/student-parent-information	Student Information, Grades, Handbook
TALKLINE	281-240-TALK	Need someone to talk to
TEACHER EMAIL	http://www.fortbendisd.com/campuses/ahs/faculty.cfm	Grades, Classroom Info, Homework, etc.
Twitter	https://twitter.com/WERAUSTINGOCNTR	Scholarships, Jobs, School Information

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Austin High School Website

Updates and morning announcements can be found @

<http://www.fortbendisd.com/Domain/2452>

A calendar with all of the campus events is housed on this website.

Cafeteria

Cafeteria payments can be made in the mornings in the cafeteria between 7:00-7:20 a.m.

Payments can also be made online @

<http://fortbendisd.revtrak.net/tek9.asp>



Change of Address

If you have a change of address, please stop by and visit with our Registrar, Stephanie Rammrath or our Registrar's Assistant, Carol Imwalle.

Please bring the following:

- ✓ A current deed or lease
- ✓ A current utility bill (gas, water, electric)
- ✓ A copy of parent/guardian drivers license with the new address.

Dress Code

Students are expected to follow the Fort Bend ISD guidelines for dress code. The Student Handbook is available on the FBISD Website. Males must be clean shaven daily and no sagging pants are permissible. Females wearing skirts, dresses, and/or shorts (the length of the garment must fall within three inches of the knee.) Undergarments should not be visible.



Lockers

Students wishing to request a locker can do so by completing the form on the AHS Website. Forms are also available in Office 101.

VOE's

AHS students will need a VOE form to take Driver's Ed, to apply for a driver's permit or driver's license, and to take the driving test. To obtain a VOE form, the student cannot be on any fines list and must have good school attendance. Students may sign up for a VOE at the front desk with our receptionist, Mrs. Weers. VOE's will be available for pick up the following school day. Students must show a form of ID to retrieve the form.



Registrar's Office

Certain forms such as social security, child support, car insurance discounts, etc. can be verified by the Registrar's Office. Drop your forms off at our office in Room 201. Please allow 3-5 days for these forms to be verified and completed by our Registrar.

Tardy Stations



Students are not permitted to leave class the first and last ten minutes of the class period. If students are tardy, teachers will escort them to the nearest tardy station and then escort them to class. Students must have their ID's. Remember to use the back hallways to avoid heavy traffic in the halls.

ELA Information

English I

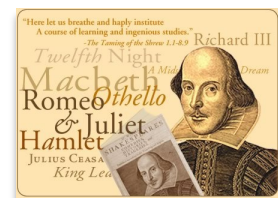
9th grade is finishing out the year with Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. We've had great debates about love, tragedy and the idea of loyalty throughout all the characters' lives. We've continued identifying and discussing commonly used literary devices. The students have also practiced the STAAR skills of Short Answer Responses (SARs) and Expository Essay. We've written, graded, and evaluated various examples. The students' last major grade is a project over *Romeo and Juliet* where they can pick various creative options to demonstrate their knowledge of the play. Next semester, we will begin to research various controversial topics to create an annotated bibliography. We will continue to practice STAAR skills with a focus on the crossover SAR. We will also be reading Homer's *The Odyssey*, which is epic literature at its finest. The contrast of a tragic hero with an epic hero will be a focus of our classroom.

English I Pre-AP

For the next term, the Pre-AP English I classes will begin with reviewing Greek and Roman mythology, before applying the archetypes of mythology to reading Homer's *The Odyssey*. Students will end the nine weeks beginning a study of argumentation and rhetoric before reading George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. The students will also begin researching controversial topics, building their own argument, and composing a research essay, which will be carried into the final term.

English II

10th grade students have read Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* as the national election was in full swing. It was a great real-world connection to discuss politics and political agendas while reading about these famous Romans. The idea of creating a strong argument, as seen in the work, helped the students craft and edit their STAAR persuasive essays. The students have also practiced the STAAR skills of Short Answer Responses (SARs) and we've written, graded, and evaluated various examples. Next semester, we will build on the annotated bibliographies the students created in 9th grade to craft an outline to a research essay on various controversial topics. We will continue to practice STAAR skills with a focus on the crossover SAR. We will also be reading the play *12 Angry Men*, which will serve as a great extension from *Caesar*. It will carry through the ideas of guilt, prejudice, and the art of being a persuasive speaker.



English II Pre-AP

This past nine weeks, the Pre-AP Sophomores have been working on their writing skills working with persuasive and thematic essays and short answer questions. In addition, the students have been reading and analyzing the tragedy *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare. They will finish the 9 weeks creating a project comparing and contrasting how traits of a tragic hero have evolved and changed over time. Next 9 weeks, the Pre-AP students will read *Oedipus Rex* and analyze the traits of Aristotle's Tragedy writing a persuasive essay arguing what led to Oedipus' downfall. The students will then begin a poetry unit where they will analyze poetic form and structure to create meaning while perfecting their short answer question skills. During the 9 weeks, they will select a Biography to read which will be the primary source for their upcoming research paper.

English III

English III has had a busy first semester. We began by exploring Early American Writing with “Of Plymouth Plantation” along with “Upon the Burning of our House,” to name a few. We also explored the rhetoric of Jonathan Edwards’ “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God.” Through Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible*, we stepped into the town of Salem and experienced the paranoia of the Salem witch trials. Students have also engaged in a few writing pieces along the way including an expository essay and a research paper focusing on how literary elements contributed to theme in their chosen short story. Students will finish up the semester with a closer look at the life of a migrant worker during the 1930s by reading Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men*. During the second semester we will prepare students for the upcoming SAT while studying the Age of Reason, Romanticism, and



Realism through several short stories and poems. Throughout the semester, we will read a few novels. One novel, *The Great Gatsby*, will help students take a closer look at life during the 1920s through the eyes of Nick. They will also work on a few other writing projects/essays related to their readings.

English III AP

During the second nine weeks, AP English Language and Composition students completed a researched argument essay over a topic chosen by their groups. Students developed their skills in locating and evaluating information and in synthesizing information in support of a central argument. We also began a topical unit focusing on historical arguments regarding American government, and began more extensive practice of AP multiple choice questions. In the third nine weeks, we will delve deeply into rhetorical analysis. Students will write several AP-style rhetorical analysis essays in order to prepare for this challenging task on both the SAT and AP exam. We will also continue working on our argumentative writing skills and AP multiple choice skills. Finally, students will read a nonfiction book of their choice in literature circles and will complete a project over the book.

English IV

During the second nine weeks, English IV students studied Geoffrey Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales* and Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*. Next semester they will begin working on and writing their research papers. They will also read a variety of fiction text ranging from the Victorian to Modern era. They will close out the year with the Senior Legacy.

English IV AP

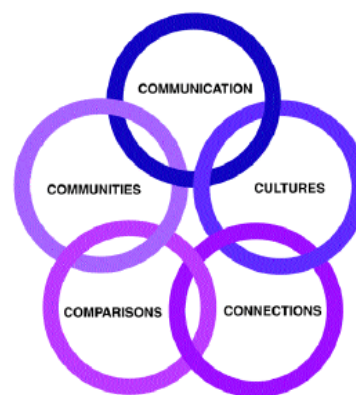
English IV AP students have spent this semester delving deeply into different works of fiction. They focused on how author’s use literary devices to express themes in literature. They created a research paper, and delved into the world of sonnets, and started their journeys into the AP multiple choice and essay sections. They are finishing up the semester with *Macbeth* and beginning the next nine weeks by finishing *Macbeth* and moving on to Gothic literature, Romantic poetry, and *Frankenstein*. They will use this to hone their AP skills in preparation for the exams in May.

College Now

During the past nine weeks, College Now students have been about writing cause and effect essays and argument essays. We looked at nonfiction pieces that dealt with social issues relevant to our world today and students used these to inspire them in their topics for their essays. They also read *Canterbury Tales* and *Macbeth*. As this semester comes to a close, they have successfully completed their first college course. Next semester they will start their second college course and it will focus on research and responses to how authors use their poems, plays, short stories, and novels to express their opinions and highlight the social issues of their time.

World Language Newsletter

December 2016



Upcoming Common Unit Assessments

Testing Window February 7th -9th

All languages levels 1-3 will take the Common Unit Assessment (CUA). Assessments are **Integrated Performance Assessments (IPA)** that assess student's abilities to read, write, speak and comprehend both in writing and verbally.

Language & level	Unit Topic	Type of Assessment
Spanish 1	A Day in the Life	Interpersonal Speaking
Spanish 2	Where We Live	Interpersonal Writing
Spanish 3	The World of Food	Presentational Speaking
French 1	A Day in the Life	Interpersonal Speaking
French 2	Where We Live	Interpretative & Presentational Speaking
French 3	The World of Food	Presentational Writing
ASL 1	A day in the Life	IPA
ASL 2	Building Relationships	IPA
ASL 3	Storytelling	IPA

French and Spanish AP Exams:

AP Exam registration is now open until February 28, 2017.

Register online at <http://www.TOTALREGISTRATION.NET/AP/44586>

*Students should purchase an AP study book by January to begin their independent practice and studies outside the classroom.

AP Exam Dates:

Spanish IV AP – Spanish Language and Culture	May 2, 2017
Spanish V AP – Spanish Literature and Culture	May 9, 2017
French IV AP – French Language and Culture	May 9, 2017



The fall semester has flown by quickly and we're now preparing for final exams. Each student should be receiving a final exam review in his or her Social Studies class to help them prepare for that exam. All final exams count as 15% of their final semester grade.

A lot will be going on in Social Studies classes during the spring semester. In early February, look for information on selecting courses for the next school year. World Geography, World History, and U.S. History classes will all have district Checkpoint assessments in February and April. Students in U.S. History classes will be taking their U.S. History STAAR end of course exam on May 3.

Finally, AP courses will be testing on the following dates:

<i>AP Psychology</i>	<i>Mon, May 1</i>
<i>AP US Government</i>	<i>Thurs, May 4</i>
<i>AP US History</i>	<i>Fri, May 5</i>
<i>AP Macroeconomics</i>	<i>Wed, May 10</i>
<i>AP World History</i>	<i>Thurs, May 11</i>
<i>AP Human Geography</i>	<i>Fri, May 12 (am)</i>
<i>AP Microeconomics</i>	<i>Fri, May 12 (am)</i>
<i>AP European History</i>	<i>Fri, May 12 (am)</i>

FBISD Spring Semester Exam Exemptions 2017

Note: For some students, exemption eligibility criteria includes passing an End of Course Exam (EOC). If a student has not passed the EOC exam for that course, they are not eligible to be exempt from the spring semester exam in that course. If EOC scores are not received from TEA prior to the start of spring semester final exams, then the exemption criteria will only be based on attendance, discipline, fines/fees, and grades.

9th and 10th Grade

Attendance:	No more than 4 absences for the spring semester. 3 tardies equals 1 absence for exemption purposes.
Discipline:	No removals to DAEP/JJAEP during the current school year (p. 43 of Student/Parent Handbook). Fines/Fees: No outstanding fines or fees.
Grades:	Must have a semester average of 80 or above for the spring semester in the course eligible for exemption.
State Testing:	Must have met minimum standard on the EOC exam for the course eligible for exemption.
Exemptions:	Eligible for 3 exemptions in core courses only. (Math, Science, ELA, or Social Studies)
Test Days:	Students must attend class during exam exemptions to receive exemptions.

11th Grade

Attendance:	No more than 4 absences for the spring semester. 3 tardies equals 1 absence for exemption purposes.
Discipline:	No removals to DAEP/JJAEP during the current school year (p. 43 of Student/Parent Handbook).
Fines/Fees:	No outstanding fines or fees.
Grades:	Must have a semester average of 80 or above for the spring semester in the course eligible for exemption.
State Testing:	Must have met minimum standard on the EOC exam for the course eligible for exemption (US History).
Exemptions:	Eligible for 4 exemptions in core courses only. (Math, Science, ELA, and Social Studies)
Test Days:	Students must attend class or all required activities during exam exemptions to receive exemptions.

12th Grade

Attendance:	No more than 4 absences for the spring semester. 3 tardies equals 1 absence for exemption purposes.
Discipline:	No removals to DAEP/JJAEP during the current school year (p. 43 of Student/Parent Handbook).
Fines/Fees:	No outstanding fines or fees.
Grades:	Must have a semester average of 80 or above for the spring semester in the course eligible for exemption.
State Testing:	Must have met minimum standard on the EOC exam for the course eligible for exemption.
Exemptions:	Eligible for exemptions in <u>all</u> courses.
Test Days:	Students must attend class or all required activities during exam exemptions to receive exemptions.

EXEMPTION ACTIVITIES AND ATTENDANCE – *more specific details to be published in April 2017*

Mon-Thurs, 5/22-5/25 Exempt 12th graders report to exemption activities.

Friday, 5/26:	All 9-11 grade students attend all classes. 12 th graders report to exemption activities.
Tuesday, 5/30:	All 9-11 grade students attend all classes. 12 th graders report to exemption activities.
Wednesday, 5/31:	All 9-10 grade students attend all classes, Early Release. Exempt 11 th and 12 th graders report to exemption activities.
Thursday, 6/1:	All 9-10 grade students attend all classes, Early Release. Exempt 11 th and 12 th graders report to exemption activities.

2017 SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE FOR
GRADUATING SENIORS ONLY

MONDAY	MAY 22, 2017
7:30 – 9:30	1 st PERIOD EXAM
9:35 – 10:20	3 RD period review
10:25 – 11:10	4 th period review
11:15 – 12:40	5 th period review/lunch
12:45 – 2:45	6 th PERIOD EXAM
TUESDAY	MAY 23, 2017
7:30 – 9:30	2 nd PERIOD EXAM
9:40 – 11:40	4 th PERIOD EXAM
	Early Dismissal for Seniors
WEDNESDAY	MAY 24, 2017
7:30 – 9:30	3 rd PERIOD EXAM
9:40 – 11:40	5 th PERIOD EXAM
	Early Dismissal for Seniors
THURSDAY	MAY 25, 2017
7:30 – 9:30	7 th PERIOD EXAM
9:40 – 11:40	EXEMPTION ACTIVITIES
FRIDAY	MAY 26, 2017
	EXEMPTION ACTIVITIES (2 nd annual FBISD Decision Day is today)
Tue 5/30, Wed 5/31, Thu 6/1	EXEMPTION ACTIVITIES specific details will be published in April 2017

FBISD High School Spring Exam Schedule for 2017 (for 9th-11th graders)	
FIRST DAY: May 26, 2017	
7:30-8:20	1 st period review
8:25-9:15	2 nd period review
9:20-10:10	3 rd period review
10:15-11:05	4 th period review
11:10-12:40	5 th period review and lunch
12:45-2:45	6 th PERIOD EXAM
SECOND DAY: May 30, 2017	
7:30-9:30	2 nd PERIOD EXAM
9:35-11:35	4 th PERIOD EXAM
11:35-1:05* (lunch is later)	5 th period lunch and class
1:10 – 2:45	7 th period review
THIRD DAY: May 31, 2017	
7:30-9:30	3 rd PERIOD EXAM
9:35-11:35	5 th PERIOD EXAM
11:35	EARLY DISMISSAL
FOURTH DAY: June 1, 2017	
7:30-9:30	1 st PERIOD EXAM
9:35-11:35	7 th PERIOD EXAM
11:35	EARLY DISMISSAL