

## SOPHOMORE INFORMATION

### Class of 2027



**Crucial Information:** Important information is available to MHS students almost daily. You must ensure that you are receiving this valuable information. If you are not, contact your counselor or registrar. Follow us on Twitter [@MarcusCounselor](#) and [@Marcus\\_HS](#). Check the MHS Counselor's website for more resources <http://bit.ly/MHSCounselorWebsite>

**Sophomore Handbook** - Use the [Freshman/Sophomore Handbook](#) to ensure that you are staying on track throughout high school and not missing any important opportunities. This can also be found on the Marcus Counseling Website.

**MHS Testing Website** - Take advantage of the [Marcus testing website](#), which provides information on tests you may need to take while in high school.

**SAT/ACT** – If you are planning to attend a four-year university after graduating high school, you will need to take the SAT or ACT. You should plan to take the test sometime junior year after having Algebra 2. If your score is not as high as you want, you may choose to take the test again so you are submitting your best scores to colleges. Marcus offers one free ACT or SAT test to juniors and seniors during the school day. Otherwise, students can register for these tests on their individual websites where you will select a testing date, location, and pay for the test. **SAT:** [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) **ACT:** [my.act.org](http://my.act.org). **Marcus School Code 444-132**

**PSAT** - The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) measures what you're learning in school, determines if you're on track, and opens doors for opportunities to prepare and pay for college. All sophomores take the test nationwide in the month of October. Junior year, students have the opportunity to register and pay to take the test again in effort to qualify for national scholarships. Visit the [College Board website](#) to learn more about the test, including inside tips and practice questions.

**Texas On-Course:** As a state-funded initiative to improve college and career readiness, our mission is to equip all Texas students for an educational and professional future that unlocks their potential. Texas OnCourse empowers you to make decisions that will help you succeed after high school. Access their resources here: <https://texasoncourse.org>

**Resume** - If you haven't already, begin building your high school resume now. Your resume will be very helpful when filling out college admission forms and scholarship applications. Start getting involved now in the [clubs and organizations](#) that we have available here at Marcus!

**Four-Year Plan** – It is important to keep your 4-year plan updated. Make sure you are taking the required courses for your graduation plan. Here is an [example](#) of a 4-year plan.

**GPA / Rank** - GPA and corresponding rank are determined by grades earned in all courses counting towards your GPA. GPA is cumulative and begins your 9th-grade year. Your class rank becomes available after the fall semester of sophomore year. [GPA](#) and [Rank](#) are calculated at the end of each nine week term.

**VLA** – The Virtual Learning Academy, through LISD, provides online classes, including core classes and electives. Students are able to take 1-3 VLA courses during the school year and/or in summer. Select courses taken during the school day are at no cost. Courses taken outside the school day or in the summer cost \$250 per 0.5 credit (*discount for students on free & reduced lunch*). Please see the [VLA website](#) for more information on course listings and visit with your counselor if interested in enrolling.

**Dual Credit** - A dual credit class is where you earn both high school and college credit for the course. Students can take dual credit courses through NCTC or we offer select courses on our campus. Please see your counselor for more information. Registration for these courses will take place during registration for the upcoming year. Visit the counseling website for more [dual credit](#) information.

**Texas First Early High School Completion Scholarship Program**: This program allows public high school students who demonstrate early readiness for college to graduate early from high school. Click [HERE](#) to view more information.

**College, Career, Military Readiness (CCMR)** - Preparing students for life after graduation and is integrated into everyday culture. LISD strives for each student to meet at least one of the CCMR indicators below through high school programming.

- Score 3 on any AP exam in grades 9-12
- Dual Course Credit
  - 3 hours of dual course credit in ELA or Math - OR
  - 9 hours of dual course credits accumulated across subjects
- Earn an Associate's Degree prior to graduation
- Complete aligned sequence of CTE coursework in Program of Study & earn Industry-Based Certification (IBC)
- Meet specific criteria on assessments of college readiness - SAT, ACT, or TSIA2