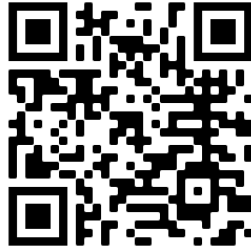


SOPHOMORE INFORMATION

Class of 2025



Crucial Information: Important information is available to MHS students almost daily. You must ensure that you are receiving this valuable information. Do you or your parent(s) receive Marcus High School emails? If not, you MUST update your email address in parent access of Skyward. 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 all things testing you'll need 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 early junior year. 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. Students need to register for tests on their individual websites. On the website is where you will pick a testing date, location, and pay for the test. **SAT:** www.collegeboard.org **ACT:** www.act.org. **Marcus School Code 444-132**

PSAT - The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) and measure what you're learning in school, determine if you're on track, and open 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>

Choices 360 – Choices 360 is an excellent resource provided by the district. You can find information regarding scholarships, college admissions, interest inventories, career exploration, resume-building, and four-year planning. You can access Choices 360 through lhub.lisd.net.

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.

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 - Your GPA and corresponding rank are determined by grades earned in all courses counting towards your GPA. Your GPA is cumulative and began 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. Click hyperlinks for more information on [GPA](#) and [Rank](#).

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 can range from \$50- \$175 per 0.5 credit and will be assessed based on your lunch plan. 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.