

Revised 7/27/20

Parent/Student High School Orientation

Preparing for the Next Step



Agenda

- ▶ Welcome and Staff Introductions
- ▶ High School - What's Different?
 - ▶ High School Credits vs. Pass/Fail
 - ▶ State Testing and Graduation Requirements
 - ▶ Attendance and Dress Code Policies
 - ▶ Online Courses
 - ▶ Class Schedules
- ▶ Technology and Supplies
- ▶ Preparing Students for life after high school
 - ▶ College
 - ▶ Careers

Faculty

Administrators

- ▶ Monica Fox - Superintendent/Principal
- ▶ Alyssa Nanninga - Assistant Principal/Special Programs Coordinator

High School Instructors

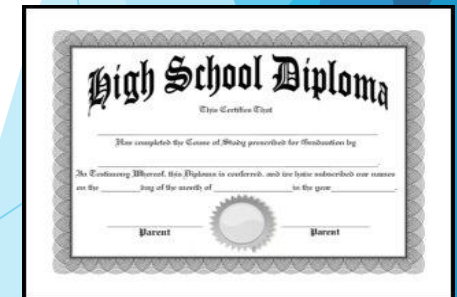
- ▶ Steve Williams - High School Facilitator/ELAR/Social Studies/Electives
- ▶ Juan Lopez - Mathematics/Physics
- ▶ Luiz Carvalho - Science/Art
- ▶ Dolly Adams - Psychology/Sociology
- ▶ Paula Barry - Physical Education

High School What's Different?

- ▶ Class Credits vs. Pass/Fail
- ▶ State Testing
- ▶ Attendance affects receipt of credits
- ▶ Online Courses
- ▶ Class Schedules

What are Credits?

- ▶ Primary method used to determine and document that students have met academic requirements at the high school level.
- ▶ Credits are awarded upon completing and passing a course.
- ▶ In Texas, a course that is taught over an entire school year (two semesters) will earn a student **one credit** while a one semester course will earn a student **½ credit**.
- ▶ Texas requires students to earn a minimum of **22 credits** to be eligible for a high school diploma.
- ▶ Students may choose to graduate with an endorsement in a particular specialization (Arts & Humanities, Business Industry).
- ▶ Endorsements require students to earn an additional 4 credits (**26 credits total**) to be eligible for graduation.



Credits vs. Pass/Fail

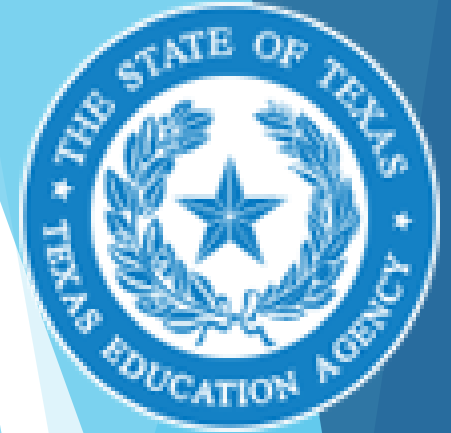
- ▶ Unlike elementary and middle school, high school is based on the earning of credits to advance to the next grade level.
- ▶ For each high school grade level a student should earn an average of **5.5 credits** per year to graduate at the minimum credit level (22) or **6.5 credits** per year to graduate with an endorsement (26).
- ▶ Because advancement is based on the number of credits earned and not pass/fail, students may advance in one subject but not in another.
 - ▶ **Example:** A student may pass English I but fail Algebra I. In this instance, the student is able to advance to English II but must repeat Algebra I and pass before moving to the next math course.

22 or more Credits =





Jean Massieu Academy is a **fully accredited** school as determined by the **Texas Education Agency**. This means that credits earned in high school are accepted by post secondary education institutions.



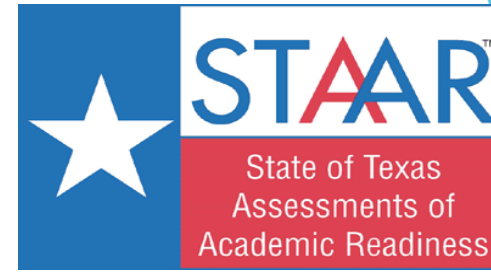
CDN	DISTRICT NAME	ESC	2019 FIRST Rating	2019 Accountability Rating	2019-2020 Accreditation Status
057819	JEAN MASSIEU ACADEMY	10	A - Superior	B	ACCREDITED



Source: www.tea.texas.gov



State Testing



- ▶ In order to graduate from high school, students in Texas are required to take five End of Course exams - **State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR)**.
 - ▶ **9th Grade:** Algebra I, Biology, English I
 - ▶ **10th Grade:** English II
 - ▶ **11th Grade:** United States History
- ▶ Students must pass four of five exams in order to be eligible for graduation.
- ▶ Students who do not pass an EOC exam may retake it multiple times.
- ▶ Testing accommodations are available for students who meet requirements.

Attendance

High School students are expected to follow the attendance policy as outlined on pages 13 - 15 of the Jean Massieu Academy Student Handbook.

Key Points

- ▶ One to two days absences may be excused by Parent note.
- ▶ Three days or more absences may be excused **only** with a Doctor's note.
- ▶ To receive credit in a class, a student must attend at least **90 percent** of the days the class is offered.
- ▶ If a student has **nine or more** absences (regardless of whether it is excused) during a semester, the student and parent must go before the Jean Massieu Attendance Committee to determine whether or not the student will receive credit for the courses taken.
- ▶ If a student has **18 or more** absences within a school year, the student **may be retained in the current grade and/or lose credit for classes**.
- ▶ These policies are in accordance with **Texas Educational Code 25.085** from the Texas Education Agency

[Texas Education Code 25.085](#)



Dress Code

Jean Massieu Academy takes pride in the appearance of its students. Our dress code and grooming standards have been established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards at school or school-related functions. The policies are stated on pages 18 - 21 of the **Jean Massieu Academy Student Handbook**.

Key Points

- ▶ The dress code is the same for all students at JMA, **including high school** (white or navy blue shirt, khaki pants, shorts, or skirts).
- ▶ If students want to wear hoodies, jackets, or sweaters throughout the day, **they must be navy blue or white - no logos**, otherwise they will be asked to remove them when they get to class.
- ▶ In addition, boys are required to be clean shaven at school. This means **no mustaches, beards, or sideburns below the ear**.
- ▶ Violations will be handled in accordance with the policies listed in the student handbook.



Online Courses

To provide a more well-rounded and enriching curriculum at JMA, we offer online courses to students for various core and elective courses. The courses meet all state requirements in accordance with the **Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)** set up by the Texas Education Agency.

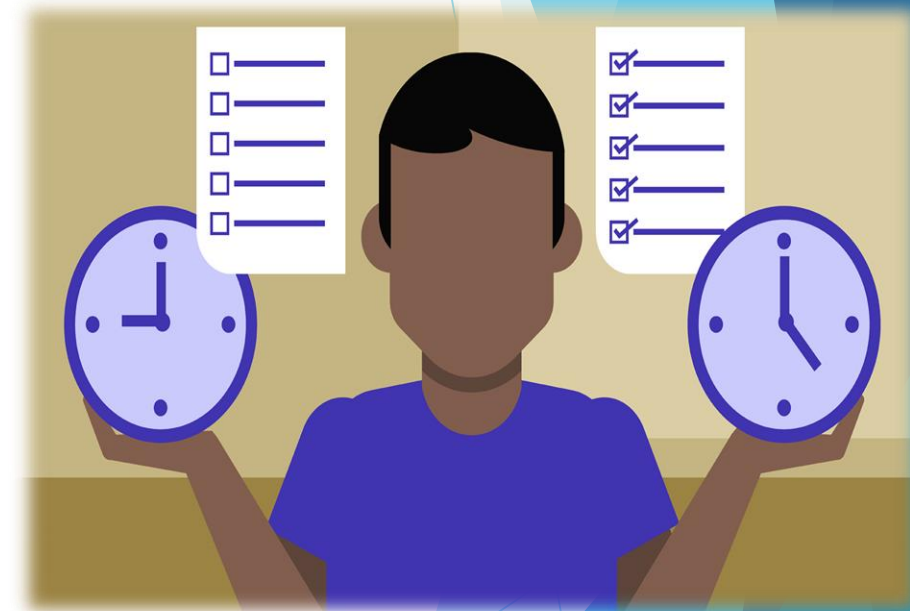
Courses may be offered two ways:

- ▶ Taught and managed by a **Teacher of Record (TOR)** off campus who administers and grades assignments and assists students needing help via online communication.
- ▶ **Self contained courses** in which students may work at their own pace. These will be managed by a member of the JMA instructional staff who will be responsible for managing student progress and assisting them with assignments as needed.



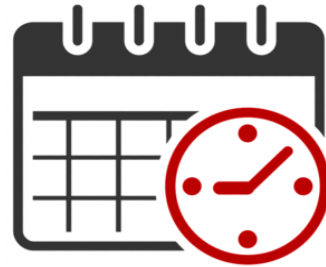
Online Classes - What's Expected of Students?

- ▶ Students at **all grade levels** in high school will have opportunities to take online courses. Each high school student will have access to a Chromebook (small laptop) that they will use daily to complete online courses and assignments from JMA instructors.
- ▶ Students should have an understanding of what online learning is and the readiness skills necessary to be a successful online learner.
- ▶ **Self discipline, responsibility, and time management** are essential to the successful completion of an online class.



Class Schedules

- ▶ JMA schedules in high school follow a typical A-B format that is common in most high schools. Students will have set times for both classroom and online courses.
 - ▶ **Schedule A:** Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
 - ▶ Class length - 55 minutes
 - ▶ **Schedule B:** Tuesday and Thursday
 - ▶ Class length - 1 hour 20 minutes



High school students also have **independent study periods** each day when they may work on any assignments they need to complete. These periods are monitored by instructors to ensure students are focused and busy.



- ▶ **These study periods are a privilege.** Students who are not focused on their studies will not be allowed to use study rooms and must work under strict teacher management during this time.

Technology in the Classroom

At JMA we strive to blend **traditional** classroom learning with the latest **technology** to engage students and enrich their learning.

- ▶ At the beginning of the school year, each high school student will be provided with a **technology usage agreement contract** that must be read and signed by **both** the student and a parent.
- ▶ When that signed agreement is returned the student will be issued a **Chromebook** computer that they will use for the entire school year. Students are responsible for the care of this computer. **They may not be taken off school property and any damage to the computer is the responsibility of the student, including the cost of repair or replacement.**
- ▶ Students will also have access to **graphing calculators** for math and science classes. These should also not be taken off school property.
- ▶ The use of **cell phones** is **not allowed** in high school without expressed permission of a teacher. Cell phones will be turned in at the beginning of the day and returned at dismissal.



Supplies

- ▶ Students will receive a standard list of supplies they will need to have the first week of school. Students may bring other supplies not listed if they will help them to be organized and prepared.
- ▶ Students are expected to have the supplies they need and be prepared for classes each day.
- ▶ Some **limited** supplies are kept by the teacher if a student is in need of an item.
- ▶ For **computer and technology** use:
 - ▶ Earbuds for listening to audio of lessons or video assignments
 - ▶ Flash drive used to transfer files to or from their computers
- ▶ **Tissue and hand sanitizer** are used regularly throughout the school year. Please be sure to send a supply of those with your students the first week.



Preparing for the Next Step

“Students will apply their knowledge of culture and language diversity and enter the global labor force of the 21st century with marketable skills.”

- From the JMA Mission Statement

High school is not just about passing classes and earning credits. It is also a time when students prepare themselves for the next stage of their life. Our goal is to help them to enter that stage well prepared.



I graduated
so now what
do I do?



College Preparation

There will be an emphasis each year on becoming “college ready.”

▶ Dual Credit Courses

- ▶ Beginning in 11th grade students will have the opportunity to apply for enrollment in **dual credit courses** through **Tarrant County College**. The courses allow students to earn credits for college while they are still in high school. JMA will provide support and assistance with enrollment in this program. Students will be given more information on this program.

▶ College Entrance Testing

- ▶ For acceptance in most colleges, students must pass either the **ACT** or **SAT** entrance exam. JMA will assist students in preparing and registering for these tests beginning their 11th grade year.

▶ Paying for School

- ▶ There are various ways to pay for college and in high school students will receive assistance in researching and applying for those opportunities whether they are financial loans, grants, or scholarships.

How are you getting ready for College?



Career Preparation

Besides preparing students for post secondary education, JMA will help guide them in the exploration of possible careers after high school and the skills needed to be successful.

▶ ASVAB

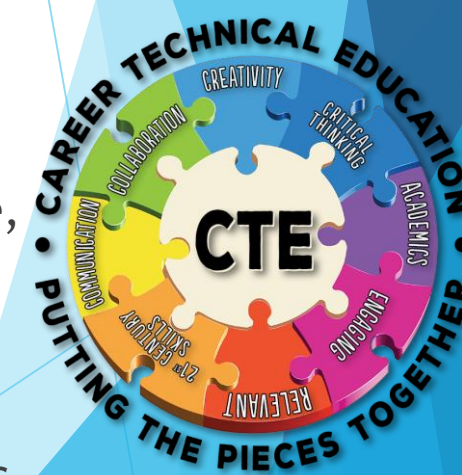
- ▶ Beginning in 10th grade students take an **aptitude test (ASVAB)**. Administered by the U.S. Army and used to help students determine areas of interest and skills when thinking about further study or future careers. Army representatives will also interpret the results for students and show them what areas they may excel in.

▶ Career Visits

- ▶ Each year we will have presentations by different individuals who will provide information to high school students about careers in various industries. For example, each branch of the **military** will visit the school to talk about benefits and opportunities in the armed forces.

▶ Elective Classes

- ▶ In addition to required core courses (English, math, science, social studies), students will take **Career and Technical Education** elective courses that help prepare them for careers and adult life. Some of these include Personal Financial Literacy, Business Information Management, and Professional Communication.



Questions???

Please contact Steve Williams

email: swilliams@jmaisd.org

phone: 817-460-0396

Thank You!

