

# Sophomore Class Update, 3/24/2018

Brian Pittman \_ Staff - HollySpringsHS

Sat 3/24/2018 5:41 PM

Inbox

To: Brian Pittman \_ Staff - HollySpringsHS <bpittman@wcpss.net>;

**To: Sophomores / Class of 2020**

**From: Brian Pittman, Principal**

**The purpose of this email is to provide you with information to support you in being engaged both to finish this year strong and to get ready for the start of a new school year!** Knowing that everyone at this point does not necessarily access their WCPSS email account, we are also posting this and future updates online. Please let us know how we can make these updates as helpful as possible.

**Topics Include:**

1. Advanced Placement (AP) Night
2. College & Career Readiness
3. School Safety Updates
4. Early Graduation Applications
5. After School Tutoring
6. HSHS Student Handbook
7. Promotion Requirements

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**1. Advanced Placement (AP) Night - Thursday, April 26**

On Thursday, April 26 at 7pm we will meet with parents and students who signed up for Advanced Placement (AP) courses for the 2018-19 school year. The goal of this event is to provide you with information on supports for AP courses, overviews of AP courses you signed up for, etc. For more information, please view [this website announcement](#).

**2. College & Career Readiness**

As your high school career comes closer, we encourage sophomores to be planning for the options they want after graduation.

- **Have you considered taking college courses now for FREE?** The State of North Carolina allows currently enrolled high school students who qualify to take courses at their local community college (for us, Wake Tech) for free while enrolled in high school. The program is called [College & Career Promise](#). The first step of accessing this resource is attending a required orientation. We have an orientation session at HSHS on Wednesday, March 28 at 6:30pm.

- **Have you taken the ACT or SAT yet?** You should definitely start thinking about taking the SAT and/or ACT in your junior year. You will take the ACT once in the spring semester of your junior year for free at school. HSHS is not a test site for the SAT. More information on ACT Testing can be found [at this link](#). More information on SAT Testing can be found at [this link](#).
- **Have you started your Brag Sheet?** Your [Brag Sheet](#) is a great resource to help you when applying for colleges and will be essential when you start talking with individuals to write recommendations for you. If you have not started this yet, now is a good time! It often takes some pressure off in the senior year if you start recording your achievements along the way.
- **Have you started college visits?** College visits are a great way to help determine what kind of university you are interested in attending (or not attending). These are always excused absences when you submit the [Request for Educational Absence Form](#).

If you have questions, please see your counselor.

### 3. School Safety Updates

We appreciate the work that all students are doing to support school safety. The school has been wired for a buzzer system at external doors that will allow us to have all doors locked throughout the school day. We will keep you posted on this. We do, however, get that school safety means more than locked doors. It also means an environment where everyone feels happy, healthy, and safe. If you have other ideas on how we can make our school safer, feel free to talk with an administrator or submit your idea using [this form](#). If you are interested in joining a group of student leaders to talk about school safety, please let Mr. Pittman know.

### 4. Early Graduation Applications

In some cases, students will have enough credits to graduate at the end of their third year of high school. This option is certainly not for everyone, however it is an option that is available to some students. If you are interested, please talk with your counselor this spring. Applications can be found [at this link](#).

### 5. After School Tutorials

We have started offering after school tutorials for interested students. This typically happens Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. For more information, please see Mr. Page (bpage2@wcpss.net) or visit [this link](#).

### 6. HSHS Student Handbook

We will soon be making adjustments to the HSHS Student Handbook and submitting it for printing for the 2018-19 school year. If you have suggestions where we can make it clearer or improve our processes, please feel free to let us know. You can do this by emailing Mr. Pittman or submitting your idea through [this link](#).

### 7. Promotion Requirements

Please keep in mind your promotion requirements! In order to be promoted from grade 10 to grade 11, you must have 12 overall credits including English I, English II, and at least one credit in each of the other three core content areas of Science, Social Studies, and Math. If you have any questions about promotion requirements, please see your counselor.

## Go Hawks & Enjoy your Spring Break!!

**Brian Pittman**

*Principal, Holly Springs High School*

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