



**A Guide for
Grade 7 through Grade 12
Students and Parents**

We BELIEVE...

- Each student can be **successful** in school and **in life**
- Teachers **make the difference**
- Technology **opens** doors and **creates opportunities**
- Learning is **best** when it is **personalized** for **each student**
- Clear, challenging standards **improve** student **learning**
- Parents and the community are **critical** to our **success**



To ACHIEVE...

- Students' **ownership** of their **own learning**
- **Success** on standards at every level
- **Readiness** for **college** and **career**
- A **stronger** community and a **better** world

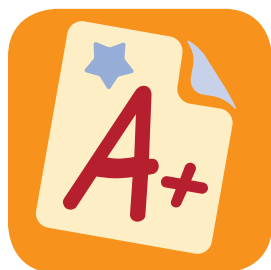
We BELIEVE Technology...

- Gives students **opportunities** to learn **anytime** and **anywhere**
- **Improves** student **achievement**
- **Prepares** students for their futures
- Allows students to **learn** and **demonstrate** what they learn in **different** ways
- Provides for **enrichment** and **creativity**
- **Opens** classrooms to the **world**
- **Levels** the **playing field** for students from **all backgrounds**
- Should be **in the hands** of every 7-12 student
- Should be **readily available** to all preK-6 students



We BELIEVE Standards...

- **Clarify learning goals** for students and families
- Make students **competitive** across the **nation** and **world**
- **Help** teachers and students **work together** to **reach goals**
- Can be met by all students, but **not always at the same time**
- Are better when they are **shared** across **multiple states**
- Can be **assessed** in a **variety** of ways



Academics



We work to ensure each student is engaged with research-based teaching strategies to achieve her highest potential. This guide will help you organize and implement a plan for high school and beyond. In a world where two-thirds of new jobs will require some kind of education or training after high school, all graduates need high levels of knowledge and skills, whether they enroll in a two- or four-year college, are hired for a job that offers a career path at a self-supporting wage, participate in an apprenticeship or related training, or join the military.



Graduation Requirements

To ensure that students master the knowledge and skills to succeed after high school, they will need the following credits to graduate:

REQUIRED CREDITS

• English Language Arts	4 credits
• Social Studies	3 credits
• Math	3 credits
• Science	3 credits
• Practical Art	1 credit
• Personal Finance	½ credit
• Fine Art	1 credit
• Physical Education	1 credit
• Health	½ credit

TOTAL 17 credits

ELECTIVE CREDITS + 8 credits

TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED 25 credits

What your child will learn in 7th grade



English Language Arts and Literacy

In grade seven, students will continue to develop the ability to cite relevant evidence when interpreting or analyzing a text or supporting their points in speaking and writing. Your child will also build academic vocabulary as he or she reads more complex texts, including stories, plays, historical novels, poems, and informational books and articles.



Math

Students will further develop their understanding of rates and ratios, using tables, graphs, and equations to solve real-world problems involving proportional relationships. Students will also work on quickly and accurately solving multi-step problems

involving positive and negative rational numbers (any number that can be made by dividing one integer by another, such as $\frac{1}{2}$, 0.75, or 2). Additionally, students will expand their knowledge of geometry and apply the properties of operations to solve real world problems involving the measurement of multi-dimensional objects.

Achieving at home in 7th grade

- Ask your child about her favorite author and why this person stands out to her.
- Have your child figure out how much you should tip at a restaurant.



What your child will learn in 8th grade



English Language Arts and Literacy

Students will read major works of fiction and nonfiction from all over the world and from different time periods. They will continue to learn how to understand what they read and evaluate an author's assumptions and claims. They will also conduct research that will require the analysis of resources and accurate interpretation of literary and informational text.

Math



Students take their understanding of unit rates and proportional relationships to a new level, connecting these concepts to points on a line and ultimately using them to solve linear equations that require them to apply algebraic reasoning as well as knowledge of the properties of operations. Students will also expand their understanding of numbers beyond rational numbers to include numbers that are irrational (meaning that they cannot be written as a simple fraction, such as the square root of 2).

Achieving at home in 8th grade

- Set aside time as a family for discussions about local and world events.
- Ask your child to show you how she analyzes data or find ways for her to analyze data for the family.



A sample of what your child will work on in High School



English Language Arts and Literacy

To become ready for college and career, students will learn to evaluate arguments and challenges posed by complex written material. Students will expand their literary and cultural knowledge and better understand references and images. By writing and participating in a variety of conversations, they assert and defend claims and show what they know about a subject using appropriate examples and evidence.

Math

Numerical skill and quantitative reasoning remain crucial. There is an emphasis on using mathematics creatively to analyze real-world situations. In a data-rich world, statistics and probability offer powerful ways of drawing conclusions from data and dealing with uncertainty.

Achieving at home during high school

- Visit the campus of a local college.
- Talk about what your child wants to do after high school and what she needs to do now to be successful with her plan.
- Develop a high school personal plan of study.

Talking to your child's teacher

When talking with your child's teachers, ask questions such as:

- Does my child have the skills needed to be successful after high school?
- How could my child improve her work in your class?
- Does my child demonstrate understanding of what she has read and researched?

Achieving College

8th grade

- Create a personal plan of study
- Become aware of GPA, course credits, and class rank
- Take the EXPLORE test
- Gather career information

Freshman Year

- Attend orientation
- Understand course credits, GPA, class rank
- Have personal plan of study in place and ready to update
- Complete A+ information
- Utilize STAR time to gather college and career information
- Attend college night

Sophomore Year

- Take the PLAN Test
- Take the PSAT (optional)
- Review/update the personal plan of study
- Maintain A+ Status
- Participate in community service and school activities
- Attend college night

Junior Year

- Take the PSAT (optional)
- Learn about eligibility for military academies and NCAA sports
- Conduct college searches and watch for junior day visits with colleges representatives
- Review A+ status and complete history requirement
- Check for junior scholarships
- Review/update personal plan of study
- Prepare for the ACT and participate in April/June testing
- Take the ASVAB/TSA/COMPASS (optional)
- Attend college night
- Talk with college representatives
- Pass the Constitution Test

Senior Year

- Meet with counselors to confirm credits and college planning
- Register for the ACT, ASVAB, COMPASS and/or SAT
- Narrow college search and plan visits
- Check A+ Status and complete requirements
- Complete college applications and counselor and teacher recommendations



- Search and apply for scholarships including local scholarships in January
- Gather local scholarship information in January
- Talk with college representatives
- Check NCAA eligibility
- Attend Financial Aid meeting for students and parents in January
- Attend college fair/night
- Read the Monthly Scholarship Bulletin
- Apply for FAFSA

Career Success

Career Paths and Career Clusters

Fort Osage has adopted Career Paths and Career Clusters to help students become aware of and explore careers in a logical and meaningful way.

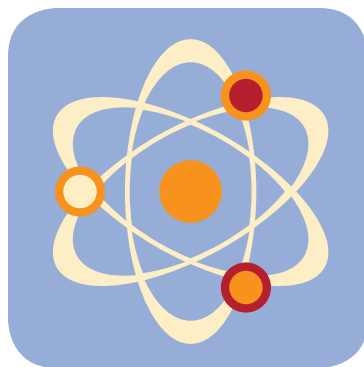
The Career Paths are:

- Arts and Communication
- Business, Management, and Technology
- Health Services
- Human Services
- Industrial and Engineering Technology
- Natural Resources, Agriculture
- Career and Educational Planning Guide

Career and Technology Center (CTC)

At Fort Osage we are proud to offer students the opportunity to attend the Career and Technology Center. We proudly offer the following programs at the Career and Technology Center:

- CSI/Law Enforcement
- Entrepreneurial Studies
- Fire Science/EMT
- Health Science
- Culinary Arts
- Construction Trades
- Automotive Technology
- Computer Support Services
- Computer-Aided Design Technology (CAD)
- Auto Collision Technology
- Agriculture



Achieving Career Success at Home

- Help students identify interests, abilities, and talents by discussing strengths with them
- Share information about careers and work experiences
- Arrange for students to talk with people about careers that are of interest

Resources

Local Scholarships

In January of each year, senior students are encouraged to complete the local scholarship application to qualify for over 40 scholarships awarded just to Fort Osage High School seniors.

College and Career Training Scholarships

High school counselors work with students to obtain the funding they need to pursue college or career skills. The scholarships are endless for students and many can be applied for and awarded before the senior year of high school. We encourage parents and students to visit our high school counseling website for more complete details.

► fortosagehs.sharpschool.net

Look to your Career and Educational Planning Guide provided to students and families by Fort Osage High School.

Programs and Opportunities

Career and Technology Center

Students who want more in their high school careers find a variety of options in our CTC. The CTC works closely with the Metropolitan Community colleges (MCC) and offers dual and articulated credit for completion of most CTC programs.

A+ Program

The primary goal of the A+ Schools Program is to ensure that all students who graduate from Missouri high schools are well prepared to pursue advanced education and employment. Student who sign an agreement and meet the requirements are eligible to receive two years of free tuition at any public community college or accredited vocational/technical institution in Missouri and may be eligible for A+ scholarships at some four-year universities.

Trailblazer Collegiate Academy

The Trailblazer Collegiate Academy is designed to challenge highly motivated high school students to maximize their time and talent. Successful candidates in this academy will be able to obtain a high school diploma and an Associate Degree of Arts from Blue River Community College simultaneously. Admission is competitive and students must have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. Other considerations include PLAN, ACT, or COMPASS scores, written essay and teacher recommendations.

Missouri Connections

Missouri Connections is a tool to help your student learn about career options and job expectations so she can make sound educational and career decisions while creating a plan to achieve success as she define it.

► Learn more at www.missouriconnections.org

ACT Prep

Fort Osage High School offers a course for ACT/College Preparation that emphasizes test-taking strategies, math and English skills, and other valuable information. The high school also offers students opportunities before and after school to work with staff to ensure they are prepared with the necessary skills to take the ACT test and be successful.

Technology

Fort Osage is committed to preparing students for their futures, and technology will definitely play an important role. To ensure students have access to powerful learning and research tools, Fort Osage is implementing a one-to-one technology plan that will put a Chromebook computer into the hands of every 7-12 grade student by 2016. A Chromebook will be assigned to each student beginning at 7th grade, and the student will have the device 24/7 during each school year until graduation. The Chromebooks will be used to access resources, complete assignments, research information, and complete real-world projects.



► Visit <http://fortosageb2a.weebly.com/believe-in-technology.html> for more information.

The Mathematics and Physics Institute

The Mathematics and Physics Institute (MPI) is a program for talented high school seniors with an interest in math and science. Students meet daily to earn college as well as high school credit.

Dual Credit/Advanced Placement Courses

Students at Fort Osage High School have the opportunity to take dual credit and/or Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Fort Osage currently partners with the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), the University of Central Missouri (UCM), and the Metropolitan Community Colleges (MCC) to offer dual credit courses. Presently, there are 19 courses that students can take to earn both high school and college credit. The high school also offers 10 Advanced Placement (AP) courses. In addition, the Career and Technology Center (CTC) offers students the opportunity to earn dual or articulated credit.

Missouri Academy

The Missouri Academy is an early-entrance-to-college, two-year residential school, located on the campus of Northwest Missouri State University (NWMSU). Students attend for 2 years replacing their junior and senior years of high school. Upon completion, students earn an Associate of Science degree as well as a high school diploma.



Additional Resources

We are committed to helping your child succeed and achieve to their highest potential. We have other resources available on our Facebook page, our Pinterest accounts, and our school websites.



Find us on:

- ▶ <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fort-Osage-School-District/26208454196>
- ▶ <http://pinterest.com/fortosageschool/boards>
- ▶ <http://www.fortosage.net>

Follow us on:

- ▶ [twitter@fortosageschool](https://twitter.com/fortosageschool)



CONTACT US

Mailing address for all schools:

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Osage Trail Middle School..... (816) 650-7151

2101 N. Twyman Road, Independence, MO 64058

Fort Osage High School..... (816) 650-7030

2101 N. Twyman Road, Independence, MO 64058

Fort Osage Career and Technology Center..... (816) 650-7180

2101 N. Twyman Road, Independence, MO 64058

Lewis and Clark Academy..... (816) 650-7708

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