The background of the slide is a photograph of a beach. In the foreground, there is a dense layer of smooth, light-colored pebbles. In the middle ground, a stack of three smooth, greyish-blue stones is balanced on top of each other. The background shows a blurred view of the ocean with gentle waves under a bright sky.

9th Grade – Why is GPA Important?

Beachside High School Counselors

What we're going to learn about today ...



How to Find
Info



Graduation
Requirements



Community
Service



GPA
Information

Beachside Counseling Department



Ms. Ashenfelder –
Last Names A-D



Ms. Shook – Last
Names E-K



Ms. Patterson – Last
Names L-Re



Ms. Sterling – Last
Names Rf-Z



Ms. Cashwell –
AICE Counselor



Location: Main
Office, Building 1
Cashwell 3rd floor



Open office hours
during lunches, no
appointment needed

STAY
IN THE
LOOP

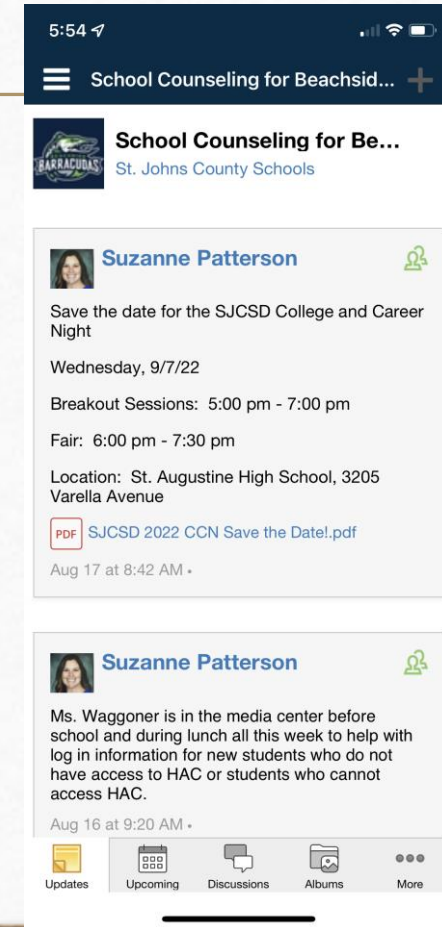
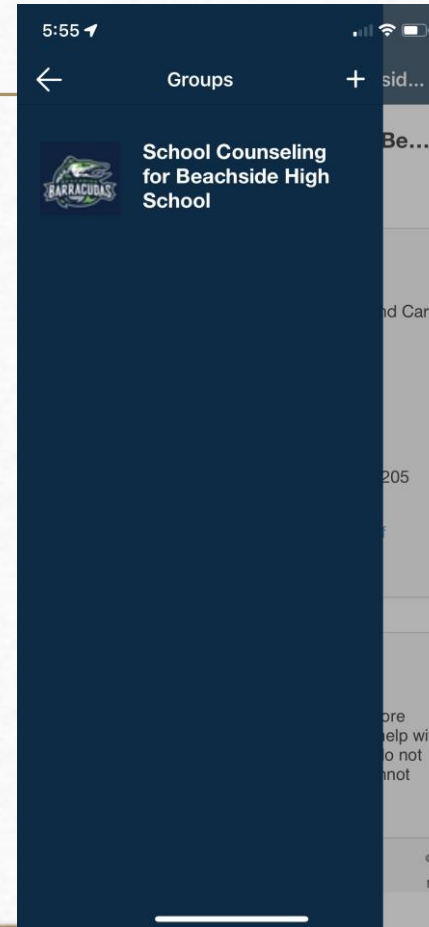


with the School Counseling Department at Beachside High School

- ▶ **Website:** <https://www-bhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/> - add this site to your favorites and check it for resources
- ▶ **Social Media:** Follow on Instagram @beachsidehigh_ and Twitter @beachside_high
- ▶ **Schoology:** Join the School Counseling for Beachside High School schoology group using access code: 8G4M-J5H5-5RZSD
 - Schoology Parent Access Codes are available to view in HAC. Log into HAC, click on Registration Icon, the code will be under “additional information”.
 - Link to Schoology Help (creating parent account, parent help guide, parent FAQ, etc) - <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/edtech/schoology/schoology-for-parents/>

How will you get information? Schoology!

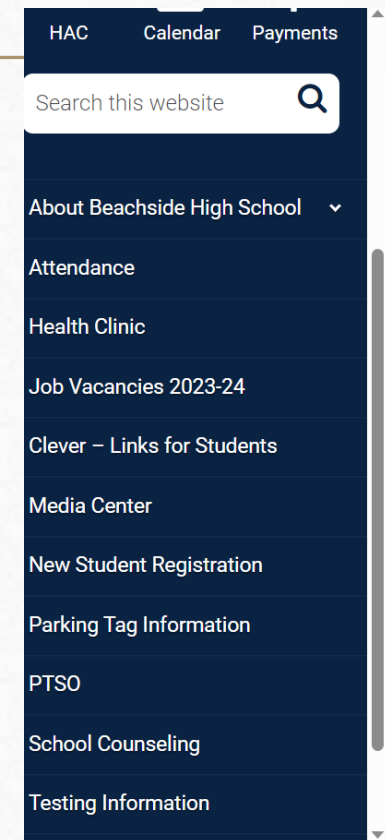
- Download Schoology App
- Join School Counseling for Beachside High School Schoology Group
- This is how you get info from School Counselors



School Counseling Website

Information you can find ...

- Community Service
- Financial Aid
- GPA
- Graduation Requirements
- Florida Bright Futures
- Post-Secondary Visits and options
- Scholarships
- Mental Health Resources
- NCAA
- Transcript Requests
- And more!



Graduation Requirements

Assessments
(Algebra 1 EOC and
Grade 10 Language
Arts -ELA)

2.0 Cumulative,
Unweighted GPA

24 specific credits

Assessments

-
- Must pass two assessments to graduate with diploma (otherwise you earn a Certificate Of Completion)
 - Algebra 1 EOC (level 3 or above) or
 - ACT Math – 16 or
 - SAT Math – 420 or
 - PSAT/NMSQT Math – 430 or
 - FSA Geometry EOC – Level 3 or
 - CLT Quantitative Reasoning section - 14
 - Grade 10 ELA FAST or
 - ACT Reading and English average – 18 or
 - SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing – 490 or
 - CLT Verbal Reasoning and Grammar/Writing sections sum - 39
 - If you earn a COC that means you did not graduate from high school and your post-secondary options are limited

GPA

- GPA - 2.0 cumulative unweighted or higher
 - 2.0 is a “C” average
 - Check HAC regularly to keep track of grades

Credits

- 24 credits must be earned in all of the following:
 - English 1, 2, 3, and 4
 - Algebra, Geometry, and two additional math courses
 - Biology and two additional sciences
 - World History, US History, Government, and Economics
 - 1 Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, Career and Technical Education, or Practical Arts
 - HOPE
 - 8 elective credits (to include .5 credit of personal financial literacy)
 - If you're planning to attend college, you will need two credits in the SAME world language

Promotion Requirements

- 9th to 10th Grade
 - 5 credits
- 10th to 11th Grade
 - 11 credits
- 11th to 12th Grade
 - 17 credits

Bright Futures Requirements

Type	16 High School Course Credits ¹	High School Weighted Bright Futures GPA	College Entrance Exams by High School Graduation Year (ACT [®] /CLT [®] /SAT [®])	Volunteer Service Only	Paid Work Hours Only	Combination of Volunteer/ Paid Hours
FAS	4 - English <i>(three must include substantial writing)</i> 4 - Mathematics <i>(at or above the Algebra I level)</i> 3 - Natural Science <i>(two must have substantial laboratory)</i>	3.50	2025-26 Graduates ² : 29/95/1330 2026-27 Graduates ³ : 29/95/1330	100 hours	100 hours	100 hours
FMS	3 - Social Science 2 - Foreign/World Language <i>(sequential, in same language)</i>	3.00	2025-26 Graduates ² : 24/82/1190 2026-27 Graduates ³ : 24/82/1190	75 hours	100 hours	100 hours

These requirements are subject to change each legislative season

Bright Futures Scholarship GPA



Bright Futures GPA is **NOT** the same as report card or transcript GPA.



Bright Futures **weighs** honors, AP, AICE, and dual enrollment classes **equally** with 0.5 per credit earned!



Bright Futures will also accept two additional academic electives toward the GPA calculation if it **benefits** the student.



Evaluation for Bright Futures includes an unrounded, weighted high school Grade Point Average (GPA) (calculated to two decimal places) in the **16 college-preparatory credits**

What should you do now to qualify for the Bright Futures scholarship?

1

Keep up with course work and maintain a good high school GPA – especially in CORE classes (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, World Language)

2

Stay involved in school and community. Seek out community service opportunities

3

Turn in service hours/work hours to Ms. Davis in building 1

4

Begin planning for next year's courses with your post-secondary plans and Bright Futures requirements in mind

Community Service



Not needed for graduation



Needed for \$\$ (scholarships, including Bright Futures)



Your goal should be to finish 100 hours of community service (or work hours) by the end of 11th grade so you will qualify for the highest level of the BF scholarship



How to find community service opportunities -

Beachside School Counseling Schoology Updates

<https://www-bhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/community-service/>

How to Turn in Community Service Hours

For volunteer work, have the supervisor of your service provide a signed letter on the organization's letterhead describing the type of service performed, who in the community the service benefited, and a description of the service event. Student and parent/guardian should sign this letter.

For paid work, student will need to print a copy of their pay stub.

Student should fill out the reflection log, located on the website.

Make a copy of all completed forms for your records.

Student provides letterhead or pay stub, and [reflection log](#) to Ms. D. Davis with all required signatures included.

Please allow 1 month for hours to be updated.

Students may check their hours by logging in to HAC and clicking on the registration tab.

When do you get your Bright Futures evaluation?

- 10th graders – In April
 - Posts will go out via Schoology for 10th graders to pick up their evaluation from their school counselor
- 11th graders – In April
 - Evaluations will be given via English class during a classroom lesson about the college application process
- 12th graders – In October and April
 - Evaluations will be given via English class during a classroom lesson about financial aid in October
 - Posts will go out via Schoology for 12th graders to pick up their evaluation from their school counselor in April

What are Colleges/Universities looking for?



Well rounded student



GPA (grade point average)



Test scores (ACT and SAT)



Community service hours



Rigorous courses taken
(Dual Enrollment, AP,
AICE, Pre-AICE, Honors)



Extra-curricular and
leadership activities –
Quality, not Quantity

Grades matter NOW

Average or middle 50% recalculated GPA for incoming freshmen

- FAMU – 3.69-4.25
- FAU – 3.78-4.35
- FGCU – 3.79-4.54
- FIU – 4.1-4.6
- FloridaPOLY – 3.48-3.86
- FSU – 4.3-4.6
- New College – 3.7-4.3
- UCF – 4.11-4.57
- UF – 4.5-4.7
- UNF – 4.00-4.53
- USF – 4.03-4.55
- UWF – 3.58-4.22

What we need to know about SJCSD GPA:

- GPA's update after every semester:
 - In January, after semester 1 grades post
 - In the summer, after semester 2 grades post
- Each letter grade has a quality point value assigned
- AP, AICE, Dual Enrollment, pre-AICE, and honors counts towards your **weighted** GPA
 - Honors and pre-AICE = additional .50 quality point
 - AP, AICE, DE = additional 1.0 quality point
- Only cumulative, **unweighted** GPA counts towards graduation and qualifications for Dual Enrollment
- Most public state universities in Florida, some colleges around the country, and the Bright Futures scholarship recalculate GPA based on only core and world language courses.

Calculating SJCSD Unweighted and Weighted GPA

Course	Grade	Point Value Standard	Point Value Honors/DE
English 1 Honors	B	3	3.5
Algebra 1	A	4	4
AP Human Geography	C	2	3
Environmental Science	D	1	1
HOPE	A	4	4
2-D Studio Art	B	3	3
Team Sports	C	2	2
	Total Quality Points	19	20.5
	Total Classes	7	7
Quality Points/Classes = GPA	GPA	2.71	2.92

Post-Secondary Visits to BHS

- August 14- US Air Force ROTC, US Navy, US Marine Corp
- August 28 – US Army, J-Tech Institute, Florida State College at Jacksonville, Paul Mitchell
- September 2 – Valdosta State University, New College of Florida, Florida State University, University of Florida, University of South Florida, University of South Alabama
- September 11 – Savannah College of Art and Design, University of North Florida, Jacksonville University, University of South Carolina
- September 18 – United States Coast Guard, United States Coast Guard Academy
- September 23 – First Coast Technical College, Universal Technical Institute
- September 30 – St Johns River State College
- October 16 – New York University, Florida Southern College
- October 24 – Aveda Institute
- October 30 – North Florida Sheet Metal Workers

Admission representatives will meet with students outside in the courtyard during all lunches. All info posted on our College Visits page - <https://www-bhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/guidance/post-secondary-visits/>

College Fairs

NACAC National College Fair – Jacksonville



Saturday, September 6th, 2025



9am – 1pm



Prime F. Osborn III
Convention Center

1130W West Bay Street
Jacksonville, FL
32204



Register at link:
<https://www.nacacattend.org/25Jacksonville>

CONTACT US

Open Office Hours During Lunch

