



# A+ Update

### Special Points of Interest

- 9TH –11TH GRADERS CHOOSE CAREER CLUSTER AND COMPLETE 4-YEAR PLANS
- PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES
- IMPORTANT SENIOR REMINDERS

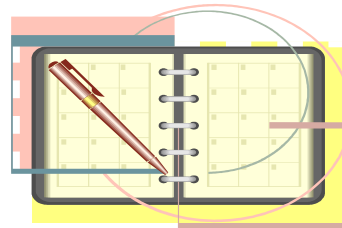
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## Selection of Studies and Scheduling

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will soon begin process of selecting classes for the 2010-11 school year. As part of the process, students will be asked to select a career cluster (based upon their current career interests) and complete a four-year plan (a set of classes to be taken until graduation that will help them best accomplish their career goals). These pathways and four-year plans help students focus on the future. They can be changed at any time with the advisement of a parent and/or guardian or a counselor.

During the scheduling process, Endeavor teachers work with all 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders to determine a proper career cluster and course of study. This course of study is then transcribed to the student's four-year plan, which requires a parent/guardian's signature. It is very important that these forms are completed and returned to the student's English teacher prior to scheduling with their counselor. Your student should already be aware of their scheduling date.



### Planning to Take a Tutoring Class?

2010-11 juniors and seniors who are meeting A+ eligibility requirements can enroll in the class. During the semester-long course, students will receive their required training and should earn about 30 hours. Once the initial tutoring class has been completed, students may finish their 50 hours of tutoring through a variety of ways: Endeavor tutoring, after school tutoring programs, or through a Cadet Teaching class. Students must get the A+ Coordinator's initials on the Selection of Studies to enroll in the class.

## Seniors: FAFSA Forms to Be Filed

One of the final steps for potential A+ Qualifying **seniors** to do is to file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This application is available on-line at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

The first step in the process is for **both** parent

and student to apply for a PIN number. This needs to be done as soon as possible.

It is recommended that families complete this document on-line by March 31st (especially if interested in other scholarships); however, the

A+ deadline is by graduation. A FAFSA must be on file before A+ funds can be accessed. It is wise to have the student complete an application for his/her chosen college prior to sending the FAFSA so a file is established.

## Semester Status Reports

During February, it is goal of the A+ Office to provide all students who have indicated an interest in the A+ Program an A+ status report. The reports are distributed through their Endeavor classes. These reports indicate whether the students have done the following:

- maintained at least a 2.5 grade point average (unweighted),
- accumulated at least a 95% atten-

dance average,

- maintained good citizenship,
- received tutor training, and
- earned tutoring hours.

If a student is behind in his/her gpa, it is very important that he/she makes good grades from this point on.

If a student is behind in his/her attendance average, it will be very important that he/she is in attendance every hour of every day pos-

sible in order to increase his/her average.

If the student is not meeting the citizenship standards, he/she can show improvement (by not getting ISS or OSS) and get back into good standing. If the student is a senior, he/she must file an appeal in order to continue with the program.

Students can start their tutoring during their junior or senior year. Students who are meeting the gpa and attendance

If a student is below the requirements, then he/she should spend the junior year striving to meet the requirements and take tutoring his/her senior year.

Students must be meeting all A+ requirements at the time of graduation in May to earn the A+ financial incentive. Staying on top of all these requirements is much easier than trying to "catch up!"

## Congrats to the Following Students for Completing Their 50 Hours of Required A+ Tutoring

Sierra Dessert  
Bryce Heffington  
Julina Foss  
Nick Endsley  
Travis Dillard  
Tucker Rogers  
Mary Guzman  
Matt Scheiderer  
Ashlee Barlow  
KaLyn James

Kayla Edge  
Frankye Johnson  
Danielle Terrell  
Courtney Cutbirth  
Kameron Long  
Charisse Armstrong  
Weslee Lillard  
Caylin Manary  
Randee Williams  
Trystan Fanning

Josh Buford  
Nick Michalak  
Josh Brashears  
Tommy McCroskey  
Thomas Bartolotta  
Dylan Lama  
Lucy Tran  
Tyler Lown  
Shelby Davault  
Jared Newhart



Arianna Abrams-Radford  
Sam Vigil  
Michelle Anderson  
Sarah Stutz  
Sydney Boswell

## Four Year Colleges & Universities Offering Awards to A+ Graduates

**Updated December 2008 - These awards occasionally change. Interested students should check with colleges for confirmation of the location availability and the specifics of each award.**

Central Methodist University

Missouri Western

Stephens College

Columbia College

Northwest Missouri State

Truman State University

Drury University

Park University

Webster University

MidAmerica Nazarene University

Rockhurst University

William Woods University

Missouri Southern State University

Southeast Missouri State University

## Facts about the Parkview A+ Tutoring Program



- ◆ During 1st semester 59 tutors and over 47 cadet teachers, worked towards their required 50 hours of tutoring.
- ◆ For 2nd semester 45 tutors

and over 35 cadet teachers are working towards their hours.

- ◆ Parkview tutors are assisting at 10 schools: 8 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, and at Parkview High School.
- ◆ Students start tutoring during their junior or senior year.
- ◆ Students must receive training by taking the tutoring class prior to earning tutoring hours.
- ◆ The A+ Coordinator makes classroom placements for

trained tutors.

- ◆ Summer School tutoring is also available. Students must sign up in April and will receive training during the first day of summer school. The remainder of summer school, students will tutor at a middle school or elementary school location.
- ◆ After-school programs also allow trained tutors to earn additional hours. Currently there are after-school Math lab options available at Parkview on Monday's and Wednesday's from 3:00-4:00.

## Personal Finance Employment Unit

The Personal Finance Employment Unit for juniors and seniors was a huge success 1st semester and is set to start again in February.

During the activity, students in Parkview's Personal Finance courses learn how to properly complete job applications, write cover letters and resumes, and prepare for job interviews. Representatives from each partner

(City of Springfield, Jack Ball Architects, and Missouri State University Career Center) visit with the classes about proper interviewing etiquette and conduct one-on-one interviews with students. .

We extend a HUGE thanks to our partners and our Personal Finance teachers for taking the time to help make this activity happen!



## Teaching Program Available at OTC

Two years ago, Ozarks Technical Community College began offering a fully transferrable Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree.

This degree allows your students to complete the first two years of college and transfer as juniors to all P-12 Teacher Certification programs of colleges

and universities that accept the degree. This program is offered at several OTC campuses as well as on-line.

This is an excellent opportunity for our students. The curriculum requires a field experience of 30-45 contact hours observing in a public school.

For more information about his program please stop by the A+ office for a brochure or visit [www.otc.edu](http://www.otc.edu).

FEA (Future Teachers of America) is another great way for students to get a taste of the education career path. This organization is available at Parkview.

## PARKVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

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### Parkview A+

**Check us out on the web  
at <http://sps.k12.mo.us/phs>**

## Important Senior Information



The following items must be completed and on file in the A+ Office **PRIOR** to graduation in order for students to access A+ Funds (in addition to meeting the g.p.a., attendance, and citizenship requirements):

- ⇒ Enrollment in Selective Service (18 year old males only)
- ⇒ Verification of Social Security number on file in A+ Office
- ⇒ Completion of FAFSA
- ⇒ Be sure to contact the A+ Office if you have any questions!

## Seniors Interested in OTC...

Seniors enrolled in the A+ program will be receiving an A+ College Checklist. This provides important information and dates that are needed to utilize your A+ funds at OTC. This checklist will be sent with the 2nd semester status report to the students Endeavor classrooms.

## Career Paths, Career Clusters, Career Pathways - OH MY...

Missouri has identified six Career Paths as a way to help students become aware of and explore careers in a logical and meaningful way. Career Paths are a good starting point for this career exploration and has been our tool here at PHS for the last few years in assisting our students with scheduling and career planning.

### Career Paths

- ⇒ Arts and Communications
- ⇒ Business, Management and Technology
- ⇒ Health Services
- ⇒ Human Services
- ⇒ Industrial and Engineering Technology
- ⇒ Natural Resources / Agriculture

Within the six Career Paths are 16 Career Clusters. A+ schools in Missouri are making the move towards

utilizing the Career Clusters during junior high and high school to shape and plan coursework for each individual student. These areas of emphasis are not set in stone and can be adjusted from semester to semester as decided by students and their parents.

### Career Clusters

- ⇒ Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- ⇒ Architecture and Construction
- ⇒ Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications
- ⇒ Business Management and Administration
- ⇒ Education and Training
- ⇒ Finance
- ⇒ Government and Public Administration
- ⇒ Health Science
- ⇒ Hospitality Tourism
- ⇒ Human Services

- ⇒ Information Technology
- ⇒ Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
- ⇒ Manufacturing
- ⇒ Marketing, Sales and Services
- ⇒ Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- ⇒ Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

Students eventually can narrow their interest even more by selecting from two to seven Career Pathways within each Career Cluster.

We are excited about this move and you should begin to see more information regarding this subject in the next year.

For information you can visit [www.missouriconnections.org](http://www.missouriconnections.org)