

HALLS HIGH SCHOOL

2013-14

REGISTRATION GUIDE



<http://www.lced.net>

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LAUDERDALE COUNTY SCHOOLS

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The Lauderdale County School System does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, national origin, language, creed, age, marital status, religion, and/or disability in the operation of its educational program, activities, athletic programs, and/or employment policies.

INTRODUCTION

This handbook is designed to assist you in planning an individualized academic program that further develops your potential and expands your horizons. As you plan, keep in mind three important things: (a) your requirements for graduation, (b) your future occupational and academic plans, and (c) your personal interests and talents. Then, with the help of your parents, teachers, and high school counselor, you will be able to design a curriculum that will prepare you for postsecondary education, training, and the pursuit of your personal career goals.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

REGISTRATION POLICY

Halls High School has established a policy that, when registering, students are requesting a course, not a specific teacher, time, or place. Furthermore, since any course for which there is insufficient enrollment may be deleted, alternate courses must be selected where appropriate.

Alternate courses replace primary course selections that cannot be scheduled. Consequently, students should only select alternate courses that they are definitely interested in taking. Courses are offered, books and materials are purchased, and teachers are hired based on student course selections made in the spring. It is imperative that students maintain a commitment to these course selections

SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY

Due to the in-depth registration process, changes in student schedules will be minimal. Changes will be made ONLY for the following reasons:

- The students who participate in Registration Day held in late July have the advantage of picking up their schedule. Students who need a schedule change may make an appointment to work with the guidance counselor. Students who do not attend Registration Day and do not complete the required items will not receive a schedule until the first day of school.
- The student is required to follow the schedule given to them when school begins. Students will not be permitted to visit school counselors about changes until the principal permits.
- If a student fails a pre-requisite course, the course must be repeated or an alternate course may be scheduled based on space, availability, and counselor/teacher recommendation. Change may require rearranging more than one block.
- The student's schedule is incorrect due to a staff error. Under these circumstances, the appropriate changes will be made. Although efforts will be made to schedule changes within the same block, it may be necessary to rearrange more than one block to accommodate the change.

NOTE: These changes need to be made as soon as any mistake becomes apparent to the counselor, student, teacher, or parent.

Graduation Requirements for Students

COURSES	CREDITS
ENGLISH	4 Credits
MATH	4 Credits Algebra I, II, Geometry, and a 4 th higher level math Course (at least one math per year)
SCIENCE	3 Credits Biology I, Chemistry or Physics and a 3 rd lab course
SOCIAL STUDIES	3.5 Credits World History or World Geography U.S. Government U.S. History Economics/Personal Finance
PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND WELLNESS	1.5 Credits
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	2 Credits <i>May be waived for students who are not planning to attend college</i>
FINE ARTS	1 Credit <i>May be waived for students who are not planning to attend college</i>
ELECTIVE FOCUS	3 Credits in 1 area– <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fine Arts**</i> • <i>Humanities**</i> • <i>Math/Science**</i> • <i>Career and Technical Education Program of Study</i> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>**3 courses beyond required courses listed above</i></p>
ADDITIONAL CREDITS	4 – 7 Credits
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED	26 Credits

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

State Recognition of Graduates

Graduate with HONORS—Beginning with the Class of 2013, Tennessee high school graduates who meet all 4 ACT benchmarks (English = 18, Math = 22, Reading = 21, Science = 24) will graduate with HONORS.

Graduate with DISTINCTION—Students meeting at least one of the following will graduate with DISTINCTION: 3.0 GPA and complete at least one of the following

- Earn a nationally recognized industry certification
- Participate in at least one of the Governor’s Schools
- Participate in one of the state’s All State musical organizations
- Attain a score of 31 or higher composite score on the ACT
- Earn 12 or more semester hours of postsecondary credit
- Be selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semi-Finalist

Local Recognition of Graduates

1. Quality points on a 4.0 scale will be used to calculate grade point average rather than numerical grades. Only the student with the highest GPA who has met all 4 ACT benchmarks will be awarded the position of valedictorian; if multiple students meet this requirement, then all students with a 4.0 GPA who have met all 4 ACT benchmarks will be valedictorians.
2. Denote the following students in the graduation program and recognize them as a group:
 - a. **Honor Roll Graduate** – GPA 3.0 to 3.49 (stand as group)
 - b. **TN Honors Diploma** – have met all 4 ACT benchmarks (note in program)
 - c. **Cum Laude** – GPA 3.50+ and have not met all 4 ACT benchmarks (bronze cord)
 - d. **Magna Cum Laude** – GPA 3.50 to 3.89 and have met all 4 ACT benchmarks (silver cord)
 - e. **Summa Cum Laude** – GPA 3.90+ and have met all 4 ACT benchmarks (gold cord)
3. Recognize all students from Halls and Ripley who have a 3.5+ GPA and have met all 4 ACT benchmarks as **Lauderdale County Scholars**. Publicizing these graduates together will take the place of recognizing the top ten from each separate school.
4. In the event that a college scholarship application requires a class rank, the student may confidentially obtain his/her position from school officials. All students with a 4.0 GPA who have met all 4 ACT benchmarks will be ranked as #1. Other than valedictorian, all GPA rankings will be kept confidential and will not be publicized.

Tennessee Scholars Program

Tennessee Scholars is an education initiative sponsored by the Tennessee and Lauderdale County Chambers of Commerce. The purpose is to increase the percentage of students graduating from high school with a rigorous, defined academic course of study to be prepared for higher education, the workforce, or the military.

Course Requirements To Be A Tennessee Scholar

- 4 credits in English
- 4 credits in math - Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, and 1 higher level course (Note: Bridge Math will not count towards TN Scholars math requirement)
- 3 credits in science - Biology and Chemistry required plus 1 other lab science (Physics preferred)
- 3.5 credits in social studies - World History or Geography, 1 US History, 1/2 credit Economics, 1/2 credit U.S. Government and 1/2 credit Personal Finance
- 1.5 credits in wellness
- 1 credit in fine arts
- 2 credits in the same foreign language
- A combination of 2 credits above graduation requirements in technical courses, AP classes, or dual enrollment courses
- Must pass all end-of-course exams

Additional Tennessee Scholar Requirements

- 80 hours of community service
- Overall C average in all Tennessee Scholars courses
- 95 percent attendance (no more than 36 total absences in 4 years)
- No out-of-school suspensions



To be eligible for **Tennessee Hope Scholarship** a student must graduate with at least one of the following criteria:

1. **At least a 3.0 GPA** - OR -
2. **Score of 21 on the ACT**

According to statistical data, students who take the Tennessee Scholars course of study have a high percentage of meeting both criteria, thus qualifying for more scholarships and maintaining the grade point average in college required to keep possession of those scholarships through graduation. Students who take the path of least rigor have a harder time keeping the scholarships awarded to them upon graduation from high school. Tennessee Scholars performance on ACT has increased, 2011 Tennessee Scholars averaged 23.8 on ACT and in 2009 56.5% of students who took the Tennessee Scholars course of study curriculum met all four ACT benchmarks.