



RISING 9TH GRADE

Registration Guide 2025-2026

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J-HAWK PRIDE

Personal Responsibility
To be accountable for my actions,
my choices and the results.

Respect
To demonstrate consideration,
appreciation and acceptance.

Integrity
To be honest and kind in my
words and actions.

Determination
To set goals and persevere to
meet expectations.

Excellence
To be my best
at all times.



JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

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@CRSchools



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Welcome to Jefferson!

Dear Incoming 9th Grade Students and Families,

Welcome to the exciting transition into high school! As your principal, I am thrilled to welcome you to Jefferson High School and to what promises to be a transformative and rewarding chapter in your educational journey at CRCSD. The transition to high school is an important milestone, filled with opportunities for academic growth, personal development, and new experiences. At Jefferson High School, we are committed to fostering a supportive and challenging learning environment where all students are encouraged to explore their interests, build on their strengths, and prepare for success beyond high school.

This *Rising 9th Grade Registration Guide* provides students and families with valuable information about our diverse course offerings, graduation requirements, and policies and procedures. Please read through the guide in its entirety to help you and your family make a smooth transition into high school.

As you plan for your 9th grade year, I encourage you to take the time to thoughtfully consider your course selections. High school is a time to challenge yourself, explore new possibilities, and develop the skills and knowledge you will need for success in college, your career, and life. Our school counselors and administrators are here to support you every step of the way, so please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or for guidance in planning your academic journey.

I look forward to welcoming you to Jefferson High School and working together to make your high school experience great.

Jessica Aulif
Principal, Jefferson High School



School Administrators



JESSICA AULIFF
Principal



SAM HOSTETLER
Assoc. Principal



CHARLIE GOETZINGER
Assoc. Principal

Freshman Team



MYCALA MACTAGGART
Engagement Specialist



KATIE SORGENFREY
School Counselor



CALEB CLAUS
Freshman Facilitator

Welcome to High School!

To help you transition smoothly into high school, middle and high school counselors and administrators have organized several events this spring. Here are some opportunities for you and your family to learn more about high school and the class registration process.

High School Counselors Visits

High school counselors will be visiting each middle school to talk to 8th graders about their transition to high school and the course registration process.

| SCHOOL | VISIT DATES |
|-----------|---------------|
| Franklin | March 5 & 10 |
| Harding | March 6 |
| McKinley | March 12 |
| Roosevelt | March 12 & 13 |
| Taft | March 11 |
| Wilson | March 14 |

High School Student Assembly

All 8th grade students will be attending an assembly at their designated high schools to learn more about high school life including co-curricular options, extracurricular activities and clubs, athletics, and more.

| SCHOOL | ASSEMBLY DATES |
|------------|----------------|
| Jefferson | March 24 |
| Kennedy | March 27 |
| Washington | March 27 |

High School Family Night

Each high school will hold an 8th grade family night where students and their families can tour their high school, meet staff, and learn more about the transition from middle school.

| SCHOOL | EVENT DATES |
|------------|-------------|
| Jefferson | March 24 |
| Kennedy | March 25 |
| Washington | March 27 |

Policies & Procedures



Academic Advising

To provide for a wide variety of individual student goals, interests, and abilities, Jefferson High School offers many more courses than it will be possible for you to take during your high school years. Therefore, it is very important that you make your educational plans carefully and keep such plans up-to-date as you progress through high school. An individual student's plan (total credits needed each year) may look different based on the courses taken. Counselors will work with students and parents to analyze student graduation progress.

Academic Competency Requirements

The school reserves the right to require specific skills courses or activities of students whose Iowa Assessment results or failed classes reveal educational deficiencies.

Academic Awards

Students can start earning academic awards or medals to wear at graduation beginning their freshman year. These medals include academic numerals, honor roll, math scholar, social studies scholar, valedictorian, and more. A complete list of all awards is available in our Jefferson Parent Handbook and on the Jefferson website. Please reach out to the Jefferson School Counselors if you would like more information about the different awards.

Adding Classes

Adding a class may only occur within the first 10 days of the semester. The ability to add a class is dependant on class availability and scheduling needs. This can be discussed with a Jefferson School Counselor.

Advanced Placement Courses

Advanced Placement (or AP) courses at Jefferson High School provide students a challenging, college-level educational experience, while still receiving the support of our excellent faculty. AP courses expose our students to new experiences and subjects that they might not otherwise encounter in their other classes. In addition, students have the opportunity to possibly earn college credit (this can vary by college/university, so make sure to ask your counselor or teacher!) by successfully taking the national exams at the end of each course. Because AP courses are more rigorous than other courses, grades are weighted out of a 5.0 instead of the usual 4.0 grading scale.

Announcements

School announcements are broadcast via video during the school day and are available on the Jefferson High School website.

Athletic and Co-Curricular Eligibility

Here are the requirements for Athletic and Co-curricular eligibility at Jefferson High School: 1.) Have earned passing grades in at least 4 classes the previous term/semester; 2.) Be earning passing grades in at least 4 classes in the current term/semester at the grade reporting times; 3.) Be making adequate progress toward graduation 4.) Students in co-curricular activities failing to meet 1, 2, or 3 above will not be allowed to participate in the next performance/competition during the current/following semester as determined by the school administration. 5.) Per Iowa Law 36.15 (2) "The Scholarship Rule," all students participating in athletics shall pass ALL classes at the END of each term in the past 12 months to be eligible.

Policies & Procedures



Attendance Policy & Start on Time

All absences must be excused by a telephone call from a parent or guardian the day before, the day of or the day after the absence. Attendance office hours are 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The phone number is 558-2341. Parents may call after hours and leave a message on the answering machine stating their name, the student's name and the reason for the student's absence. Students who attend 90% or more of the school year have greater academic success. Our school is committed to helping families understand the importance of regular attendance. Chronic absenteeism can result in district truancy intervention.

Start on Time is the name of Jefferson's tardy policy. Students who are tardy to class will be required to scan their ID and will be escorted to class by a staff member. Students who are chronically tardy will be assigned a restorative session with support staff to discuss possible barriers to success. The expectation is that all students will be on time to every class so that learning for all is maximized.

Behavior

Students must follow behavior expectations set in the classroom under the PRIDE Guidelines. Specific behavior rules will be available for viewing in the Student Handbook on the Jefferson High School website.

Bus Transportation

Students living three miles or more from Jefferson may be eligible for free bus transportation. For information, call 558-2435. We have arranged with the city bus company to schedule a bus that arrives at our campus just in time for the school day to start.

Calendar

Students will follow an A/B block schedule rotation. This pattern will be every other day, four blocks each day. A copy of the school A/B block calendar can be found on the Jefferson website. As needed, students will have Homeroom where important school information will be shared. Students will be notified of an upcoming Homeroom day via Announcements and Infinite Campus.

Chrome Books

The Chromebook should be used for all academic purposes, but for academic purposes only. Each student and a parent/guardian will need to complete necessary paperwork and online training prior to receiving the device. Information regarding expectations, policies, and liability is provided in our school handbook.

Clinic

Jefferson High School has a full-time school-based health clinic, also known as Metro Care Connection or MCC. MCC is a health clinic providing services such as routine physical examinations, which are required for students to participate in sports. For more information, please see our Jefferson High School webpage.

Closed Campus

All freshman must stay at school and in their assigned classes. Freshman are not allowed to leave during lunch. Parents/Guardians may request a release time if their freshman has a study hall.

Policies & Procedures

Concurrent Enrollment/Dual Enrollment Courses

CRCSD high school students are eligible to enroll in college-level courses through Kirkwood Community College's dual credit program. Credit earned through this program counts towards your high school diploma and future college degree. This program is free for high school students. Please see our Jefferson webpage for more information.

Courseload Requirements

All Freshman in the Cedar Rapids Community School District are required to take a minimum of 7 classes each semester. This allows students to take one study hall per semester. Within these 7 classes, freshman are required to take 4 core classes: Math, Science, Social Studies, and a Language Arts class. One PE credit is also required per school year.

Daily Schedule

Block 1 or Block 5 7:50 to 9:20

Block 2 or Block 6 + Announcements 9:25 to 11:00

Block 3 or Block 7 (3rd or 7th Period) + Lunch 11:05 to 1:15

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A Lunch: 11:05 to 11:35 | Class: 11:40 to 1:15 |
| B Lunch: 11:35 to 12:05 | Class: 11:05 to 11:35 & 12:10 to 1:15 |
| C Lunch: 12:10 to 12:40 | Class: 11:05 to 12:10 & 12:45 to 1:15 |
| D Lunch: 12:45 to 1:15 | Class: 11:05 to 12:40 |

4th Block or Block 8 1:20 to 2:50

*Student lunch shifts are determined by their 3rd or 7th block teachers. Schedule adjustments will be shared on the Jefferson website.

Drivers Education

Drivers Education information can be found in the Jefferson Counseling Office. Jefferson does offer driver's permit testing on Tuesdays after school from 2:50 to 3:30. Please see Rebecca Egli for more information.

Dropping a Course

Students always have the option of dropping classes during the first 10 school days without it appearing on the student's transcript. A class dropped after the 10th day of the semester requires a drop form and a letter grade of W or F will be issued on the transcript, pending approval from district personnel. Additional information on the Drop Policy can be found in the complete version of the Parent and Student Handbook.

Electronic Devices/Cell Phones

Cell phones and any electronic gaming, music, or social media devices, or other distractions may only be used in the cafeteria during lunch time or in the hallways during passing times. If such items are brought to school and used inappropriately, students risk having them confiscated by a staff member and returned only to parents. Jefferson High School assumes no responsibility if these items are lost, stolen, or damaged while on our campus.

Policies & Procedures



Fees

The CRCSD charges fees for certain items such as consumable materials, driver education, and musical instrument rental. Students whose families meet the income guidelines for free and reduced price meals, the Family Investment Program (FIP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), transportation assistance under open enrollment, or who are in foster care are eligible to have student fees waived or partially waived. Parents/guardians or students who may qualify should contact their school office. This waiver does not carry over from year to year; it must be applied for annually. To be considered for reduced/waived school fees you must complete the Waiver Benefit section on the Application for Free/Reduced Price School Meals.

Handbook

Students will review the digital School Handbook at the beginning of the year during Homeroom. This Handbook is available on the Jefferson website for students and families to view. All school information can be found in this handbook.

ID Cards

Ninth graders will be issued a Jefferson School ID. Students are required to have their ID at all times. It will be required to enter the building, to check out library materials, lunch purchases, admission to extra-curricular events, dances, and to ride the city bus free of charge. There is no cost for the first ID. If lost, students will be charged \$2.00.

Infinite Campus

The Cedar Rapids School District will continue to use Infinite Campus to help parents and students monitor grades and attendance. This can be done online or through the Infinite Campus portal app. The app provides students and parents with real-time access to assignments, grades, schedules, announcements, attendance, and more. Infinite Campus also offers apps for both iOS (Apple) and Android devices. Please contact the Jefferson Main Office for assistance.

Library IMC

The Jefferson High School library provides academic support for students. The library is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please see the Library page on the Jefferson website for additional resources.

Lockers

Lockers are available to freshman upon request. Note that lockers and desks remain the property of the school district; both lockers and desks are subject to unannounced inspections or may be searched by an administrator if there is reasonable and articulable suspicion. Students may request a locker in the Attendance Office.

Lunch & Breakfast

Lunch money can be deposited in your student's account by sending money with your student or through an on-line program. However, students are not allowed to overdraw their lunch account in high school. All 9th graders are expected to stay on campus at all times. This is referred to as "closed campus".

Policies & Procedures



Open Enrollment & In-District Permits

Students are required to attend their resident high school based on address, per the district boundaries. If you wish to attend a different school other than your addressed resident school, an application must be submitted via the District website within the enrollment timeframe. Both in-district permits and open enrollment are subjected to an application process and final decisions are made at the district office. Questions should be directed to the district office.

Orientation

Each year Jefferson High School hosts orientation events focused on Freshman and for all students. These specific events and dates will be shared through social media and our Jefferson Journal.

Parking

Students are permitted to park on school premises. Students must obtain a Jefferson parking pass and park in the designated student lots.

Freshman under the age of 16 must have a school permit and can only obtain a parking pass after Thanksgiving break.

Passing Time

All students have 5 minutes between classes to transition to their next class. This is signaled by a bell. There is also a warning bell that alerts students when there is 1 minute left of passing time. If a student remains in the hallway after the 5 minute bell they are considered tardy to class.

Repeating a Course

If a student fails a required class, that class must be repeated. When a student repeats a course, the new grade will be recorded as the grade for the course and will be included in the computation of grade point average. The transcript will retain the course number and title from the first effort. Students must notify the counselor to change the previous grade to N (No Grade) and it will no longer adversely impact the Grade Point Average (GPA).

Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grading Option

Students have the option to select one elective course per year to be graded on a satisfactory (pass) or unsatisfactory (fail) basis and either way, it has NO impact on GPA. Courses which are taken to meet core graduation or Academic Honors Program requirements may NOT be taken as S/U. Forms are available from the guidance counselors

Schedules

Jefferson High School uses semester scheduling. The year is divided into two 18-week semesters. Classes are taken on a A day & B day block schedule with four 90 minute classes on each day. Each class taken and completed with a passing grade will earn students 1 credit. We encourage students to take at least five or more classes per semester to prepare for education and career opportunities beyond high school. Each students' individual schedule will be available in August.

Policies & Procedures



School Supplies

Jefferson High School does not issue a supply list but basic supplies such as pens, pencils, loose leaf paper and folders will be needed. Some classes may require a certain item for their class, but the cost will be minimal. Backpacks can be carried to class, so a sturdy one would be helpful.

Staff Contact Information

Should you need to reach out to a teacher or staff member, contact information can be found on Infinite Campus under your student's schedule and teacher listed. Teachers and staff can be reached by email or phone call. Teachers and staff no longer have direct phone number lines, so please call the main office and they will connect you to the correct teacher or staff member. The main office line is 319-558-2435.

Study Hall

Freshmen are required to have at least 7 classes, this allows students to have one study hall per semester. Study hall is assigned on each students' Infinite Campus schedule and is required to be attended, as attendance will be taken daily. Students can use this time to complete their homework or work with a teacher if they need help. Students are required to remain in their seat and work quietly during this time, unless they have a pass to be elsewhere.

Visitors

All visitors must enter using the main entrance and state your reason to our staff for coming to JHS. Approved visitors will be issued a pass that is to be worn at all times. Included on the pass will be your name and destination. It is very important that all parents, guardians, and visitors exit using the main entrance.

School Apparel

Jefferson apparel is available throughout the school year through different fundraisers. You will see and hear about these opportunities to purchase apparel in our Jefferson school announcements as well as our Jefferson Journal Newsletter that is sent weekly.

Academic & Graduation Requirements



Graduation Requirements

Graduating from Jefferson High School is an important milestone that requires careful planning and dedication. To earn a diploma, students must complete a minimum of 40 credit hours, following the graduation requirements set by the Cedar Rapids Community School District and the state of Iowa.

Jefferson operates on a semester system, with most courses earning one credit per semester. Some high school credit-bearing courses taken in middle school may also count toward graduation. Our diverse course offerings allow students to explore their interests, challenge themselves academically, and prepare for future college and career opportunities. School counselors will work closely with students and parents to ensure progress toward graduation while allowing flexibility to adapt to individual goals and aspirations.

| Subject | Required Credits | Details |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--|
| English Language Arts | 8 Credits (4-years) | LA 9, LA 10, & 4 semesters of |
| Mathmatics | 6 Credits (3 years) | Algebra One, Geometry, Algebra Two |
| Science | 6 Credits (3 years) | Including Biology, Chemistry, and Physics courses. |
| Social Studies | 6 Credits (3 years) | Including World History, US History, American Government, and Economics |
| Physical Education | 4 Credits | One semester of PE per year <small>*The State of Iowa requires students to complete a CPR course for high school graduation per Iowa Code 281-IAC 12.5(20).</small> |
| Elective Courses | 10 Credits | |
| World Language | 0 Credits | |

Program of Studies

To provide for a wide variety of individual student goals, interests, and abilities, Jefferson High School offers many more courses than it will be possible for you to take during your high school years. Therefore, it is very important that you make your educational plans carefully as you progress through high school. Counselors will work with students and parents to analyze student graduation progress. The high school's *Program of Studies Book* includes the list of all available high school courses and is available on the CRCS District website or by scanning the QR code.



Course Sequencing

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS: 4 YEARS REQUIRED

| Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grades 11 & 12 |
|---|---|---|
| Language Arts 9 or Advanced Language Arts 9 | Language Arts 10 or Advanced Language Arts 10 | US Humanities & Composition World Humanities & Composition African American Humanities & Composition Perspectives in Literature & Comp AP English Language & Composition AP Literature & Composition |

MATH: 3 YEARS REQUIRED, 4 YEARS RECOMMENDED

| Sequence Options | Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grades 11 | Grade 12 |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Sequence Option 1 | Algebra 1 or Advanced Algebra 1 | Geometry or Advanced Geometry | Algebra 2 or Advanced Algebra 2 | Pre-Calculus or AP Pre-Calculus Finite Topics with Statistics AP Statistics AP Calculus Survey of Data Applied Math Financial Literacy Math |
| Sequence Option 2 | Geometry or Advanced Geometry | Algebra 2 or Advanced Algebra 2 | Pre-Calculus AP Pre-Calculus Ap Statistics | AP Calculus AP Statistics Finite Topics with Statistics Survey of Data Applied Math Financial Literacy Math |
| Sequence Option 3 | Algebra 2 or Advanced Algebra 2 | Pre-Calculus AP Pre-Calculus Ap Statistics | AP Calculus AP Statistics Finite Topics with Statistics | Finite Topics with Statistics Survey of Data Applied Math Financial Literacy Math |

SCIENCE: 3 YEARS REQUIRED, 4 YEARS RECOMMENDED

| Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grades 11 | Grade 11 & 12 |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Biology or Advanced Biology | Chemistry Advanced Chemistry Concepts in Chemistry | Physics AP Physics 1 Concepts in Physics | Earth Science AP Environmental Science AP Biology Anatomy and Physiology Forensic Science 1 or 2 AP Chemistry AP Physics C AP physics 2 |

Course Sequencing

SOCIAL STUDIES: 3 YEARS REQUIRED, 4 YEARS RECOMMENDED

| Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grades 11 | Grade 12 |
|---|---|---|--|
| World History AP World History AP Human Geography AP European History AP African-American Studies | US History AP US History or Concurrent Credit US History Course | American Government AP US Government & Politics AP Comparative Government & Politics | Economic AP microeconomics AM Macroeconomics |

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVE COURSES AVAILABLE

- African American History
- Human Geography
- Psychology
- Social Psychology
- Current World Issues
- Philosophy
- AP Psychology
- Introduction to Psychology
- US History to 1877
- US History Since 1877

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: 4 YEARS REQUIRED

| Grade 9 | Grades 10-12 |
|--|--|
| Performance PE Personal Fitness Health & Fitness 1 | Performance PE Personal Fitness Swimming Health & Fitness 1 Health & Fitness 2 |

Grading

Grading Scale

The high school grading system and its numerical equivalents are as follows:

| Grading Scale for Non-weighted Courses | |
|--|------|
| A+ | 4.33 |
| A | 4.00 |
| A- | 3.67 |
| B+ | 3.33 |
| B | 3.00 |
| B- | 2.67 |
| C+ | 2.33 |
| C | 2.00 |
| C- | 1.67 |
| D+ | 1.33 |
| D | 1.00 |
| D- | 0.67 |
| F | 0.00 |

| Grading Scale for Weighted Courses | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| A | 5.00 |
| A- | 4.67 |
| B+ | 4.33 |
| B | 4.00 |
| B- | 3.67 |
| C+ | 3.33 |
| C | 3.00 |
| C- | 2.67 |
| D+ | 2.33 |
| D | 2.00 |
| D- | 1.67 |
| F | 0.00 |

Weighted Courses

To encourage students to pursue a challenging learning experience, all courses providing students the opportunity to earn college-level credit will be calculated on a 5.0 grading scale. This includes all AP courses, world language courses that do not have an AP option, all Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) courses, and all concurrent enrollment courses taken both at Kirkwood Community College and within CRCSD. These courses are identified in the CRCSD Program of Studies with a “W” for weighted course.

Grade Point Calculation (GPA)

To encourage students to pursue a challenging learning experience, all courses providing students the opportunity to earn college-level credit will be calculated on a 5.0 grading scale. This includes all AP courses, world language courses that do not have an AP option, all Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) courses, and all concurrent enrollment courses taken both at Kirkwood Community College and within CRCSD. These courses are identified in the CRCSD Program of Studies with a “W” for weighted course.

9th Grade Elective Course Offerings



| COURSE | CREDIT | LENGTH |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <p>Freshman Seminar</p> <p>This course is designed to support freshmen in their transition to high school. Students will experience content learning and develop skills in alignment with the Portrait of a Graduate. Areas of learning include: self-awareness, interpersonal skills, habits for academic success, college and career planning, community engagement, employability skills, and career exploration. This course is strongly encouraged for all 9th grade students.</p> | 1 Credit per semester | 2 Semesters |
| <p>Art Electives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art 101: Learn the elements and principles of art • Ceramics 1: Create pottery projects • Drawing 1: Develop drawing skills with varied media and approaches. • Painting 1: Explore Basic color theory and painting techniques. • Photography 1: Explore and manipulate digital photography through aperture, shutter speed, and ISO features. Students will focus on technical and compositional skills | 1 Credit per semester | 1 Semester Each |
| <p>CTE: Business/Computers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Finance: Money concepts regarding savings, investments, credit, etc. • Computer Essentials: Covers the five main career paths in Information Technology. • Money Management: Money strategies that include wages, taxes, budgeting, banking • Entrepreneurship: Create & operate your own business. • Computer Coding I: learn how to write computer code • *Computer Coding 2: Advanced coding application. | 1 Credit per semester | 1 Semester Each |
| <p>CTE: Family & Consumer Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore Family & Consumer Science: units on Child Development, Fashion, Interior Design, Foods, and Nutrition. • Early Childhood Development: Learn about the development of infants through preschool children. • School Age Development: Learn about the development of children ages 5-12 years. • Interior Design: Learn design principles and apply them. • Fashion Design: Learn basic design principles, garment details, and construction. | 1 Credit per semester | 1 Semester Each |
| <p>CTE: Technical Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction I and II: explore the construction industry including building sites • Consumer Auto Mechanics: learning about cars including purchasing, maintenance, and repair. • Woodworking I and II: emphasis on safe use of tools and machines • Robotics & Automation: Build modular units, learning basics of CNC mills, lathes, routers, robotics, and lasers. | 1 Credit per semester | 1 Semester Each |

9th Grade Elective Course Offerings



| COURSE | CREDIT | LENGTH |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <p>Project Lead The Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering Essentials: One semester course designed to be a student's first exposure to the PLTW Engineering program. • Intro to Engineering Design*: Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. • Computer Science Principles*: use visual, block-based & text-based programming, and develop websites and more. | 1 Credit per semester | 2 Semesters |
| <p>Physical Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Fitness 1: Learn about health concepts and overall physical fitness • Personal Fitness: Students will utilize heart rate monitors, pedometers, etc. • Intro to PE: Learn the fundamentals of lifting and conditioning; high intensity. • *Performance PE (Includes Early Bird): Structured lessons for students seeking high intensity training. Students will follow a set program that is designed to help them achieve a high level of strength and fitness. | 1 Credit per semester | 1 Semester Each |
| <p>Language Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech & Debate: Develop public speaking skills • Theatre Arts & Performance: Study theater, history, learn performance skills • Stage Craft & Design: Design & safely build sets for drama productions. • Creative Writing: Develop creative fiction, drama, short story & poetry writing skills • Introduction to Media: Learn to write for newspapers, magazines & social media. • *Student Yearbook: (*Journalism) work on yearbook • *Student News: work on HS newspaper, writing, editing, and photography | 1 Credit per semester | 1 Semester Each |
| <p>Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current World Issues: Student will apply a realistic perspective on global issues • Psychology: Explores behavioral science of Psychology • Social Psychology: Explores topics in the behavioral science of Sociology & Psychology • African American History: Explores African American history from the era of the nation's founding up to the present. • Human Geography: focuses on understanding the physical and cultural features of places and their natural settings on earth. • A.P. Human Geography: College level class about population, economic development, culture & ethnicity(year-long) | 1 Credit per semester | 1 Semester Each |
| <p>Instrumental and Vocal Music</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Band (9th): Instruction & preparation for performance • Marching Band and Symphonic Band: Students will march at multiple events Fall Semester and perform advanced literature from a variety of styles Spring Semester. • Symphony Orchestra: Open to all 9th grade string players • HS Singer or HS Chorus: Anyone can join for one or both semesters. | 1 Credit per semester | 2 Semesters |

9th Grade Elective Course Offerings



| COURSE | CREDIT | LENGTH |
|--|-----------------------|-------------|
| World Language <ul style="list-style-type: none">• French 1: Study of French language & culture• German 1: Study of German language & culture• Japanese 1: Study of Japanese language & culture• Spanish 1: Study of Spanish language & culture• Heritage Spanish: students whose first language is Spanish.• Heritage French: Student whose first language is French. | 1 Credit per semester | 2 Semesters |

Additional Academic Opportunities

IowaBIG

To provide for a wide variety of individual student goals, interests, and abilities, Jefferson High School offers many more courses than it will be possible for you to take during your high school years. Therefore, it is very important that you make your educational plans carefully and keep such plans up-to-date as you progress through high school. An individual student's plan (total credits needed each year) may look different based on the courses taken. Counselors will work with students and parents to analyze student graduation progress.

Kirkwood Classes

To provide for a wide variety of individual student goals, interests, and abilities, Jefferson High School offers many more courses than it will be possible for you to take during your high school years. Therefore, it is very important that you make your educational plans carefully and keep such plans up-to-date as you progress through high school. An individual student's plan (total credits needed each year) may look different based on the courses taken. Counselors will work with students and parents to analyze student graduation progress.

Co-curricular Activities



Band

Jefferson High School's band program offers a balanced curriculum providing opportunities at all stages of musical development. There are three concert bands, two jazz bands, and a marching band. Incoming freshman have a few scheduling options:

- First Semester: Marching band/color guard or fall concert band (freshman only)
- Second Semester: Wind symphony, symphonic band, or concert band
- Jazz band

Orchestra

Orchestra is a year-long class. There are two orchestra ensembles for students to participate in - String Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra

Choral Music

The Jefferson High School choral department is committed to providing all interested students with a positive, growth-focused singing experience. Choir members learn about vocal production, music theory, and ensemble singing. Student can choose to join a choir, jazz vocal ensemble, or show choir.

Debate

The Debate Team helps students develop critical thinking, public speaking, and argumentation skills by researching and debating current issues. The debate team trains and participants compete against other teams across the country at in person and online tournaments.

Drama/Theatre

Students bring stories to life through multiple stage productions each year, participating as performers, musicians in the pit orchestra, or behind the scenes in the tech theater program.

Speech Team

The Speech Team offers two seasons: Large Group Speech, where students perform together in events like ensemble acting and group improv, and Individual Speech, where they showcase solo talents. Students rehearse and compete in contests, performing for peers and judges in various categories.

Athletics & Clubs



- Baseball
- Basketball
- Bowling
- Boys Swimming
- Cheerleading
- Cross Country
- Dance Team
- Football
- Girls Swimming & Diving
- Golf
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Academic Decathlon
- Afrobeat Club
- Black Student Union
- Chess Club
- Class Officers
- Gay-Straight Alliance
- Earth Club
- German Club
- Islander Club
- Jefferson Service Club & Interact Club
- Latinx Club
- National Honor Society
- Outlook Newspaper
- Special Olympics/Unified Partners
- Speech & Debate
- Statesman Yearbook
- Student Council
- Trap Shooting Team
- Video Game Club

Awards and Honors

At Jefferson High School, we want to recognize and reinforce the hard work and accomplishments of our students. Starting in 9th grade, students can start earning academic awards or medals to showcase their hard work and can be worn at graduation. These medals include academic numerals, honor roll, math scholar, social studies scholar, valedictorian, and more. A complete list of all awards is available in the student handbook or reach out to the main office for more information.

- Academic Numeral: Earn a minimum GPA of 3.0 for both semesters of grade 9.
- Academic Letter: Earn a minimum GPA of 3.0 for any two consecutive semesters during grades 10-12.
- Academic Certificate: Students who earn at least a 3.0 GPA for four or six consecutive semesters receive a special certificate.
- Outstanding Four-Year Math Scholar: Complete four years of math courses.
- Outstanding Four-Year Science Scholar: Complete four years of science courses.
- Outstanding Four-Year World Language Scholar: Complete four years of a single world language.
- Outstanding Four-Year AP Social Studies Scholar: Complete four years of AP Social Studies courses.
- Credit Club: Earn 54 semester credit hours over the course of four years.
- AP Scholar: Scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams.
- AP Scholar with Honor: Average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more exams.
- AP Scholar with Distinction: Average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more exams.
- Four Years of AP Testing Award: Take at least one AP exam each of four years.
- The Academic Honors Program: Earn a minimum of 42 total credits, 30 of which are from core subjects (language arts, math, science, social studies, and world language), and maintains a minimum 3.0 GPA in core subject classes.
- The Academic Honors Program With Distinction: Earn a minimum of 48 total credits, 34 of which are from core subjects, (language arts, math, science, social studies, and world language), and maintains a minimum 3.33 GPA in core subject classes.
- Valedictorian Scholar Award: Cumulative GPA of 4.0 or above.
- Salutatorian: Cumulative GPA between 3.95 and 3.99.
- President's Award For Academic Excellence: Sponsored by the President of the United States and presented to seniors with cumulative GPA at or above 3.5 and scores on national standardized tests at or above the 85th percentile.
- National Merit Commended, Semi-Finalist and Finalist Awards: Based on PSAT scores and given by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Parent/Guardian Organizations



PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the teacher's lounge across from the attendance office. The PTSA does not meet in June, July, August, and December. You are welcome to join!

We have also set up a Google Meet link if you would like to attend virtually:

<https://meet.google.com/pkr-puuq-jqm>

Please see the Jefferson website for membership sign up and more information.

Boosters/Athletic Club

The athletic booster club are Jefferson High School parents and alumni who support J-Hawk athletic programs. The booster club promotes fellowship and cooperation between parents, students, coaches.

Please see Jefferson website for more detailed information.

Plan Your Future at Jefferson High School!



9th Grade Schedule Planning Worksheet

| SEMESTER 1 |
|-----------------------|
| Language Arts: |
| Math: |
| Science: |
| Social Studies: |
| PE or Elective: |
| Elective: |
| Elective: |
| Elective: |

| SEMESTER 2 |
|-----------------------|
| Language Arts: |
| Math: |
| Science: |
| Social Studies: |
| PE or Elective: |
| Elective: |
| Elective: |
| Elective: |

Total Credits:

Total Credits:

Plan Your Future at Jefferson High School!



10th Grade Schedule Planning Worksheet

| SEMESTER 1 | SEMESTER 2 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Language Arts: | Language Arts: |
| Math: | Math: |
| Science: | Science: |
| Social Studies: | Social Studies: |
| PE or Elective: | PE or Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |

11th Grade Schedule Planning Worksheet

| SEMESTER 1 | SEMESTER 2 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Language Arts: | Language Arts: |
| Math: | Math: |
| Science: | Science: |
| Social Studies: | Social Studies: |
| PE or Elective: | PE or Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |

Plan Your Future at Jefferson High School!



12th Grade Schedule Planning Worksheet

| SEMESTER 1 | SEMESTER 2 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Language Arts: | Language Arts: |
| Math: | Math: |
| Science: | Science: |
| Social Studies: | Social Studies: |
| PE or Elective: | PE or Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |

NOTES: