Beyond the Language Barrier

Choosing Classes

How course levels work and how to plan a schedule with intention.

1. KNOW YOUR COURSE LEVEL OPTIONS

On-Level (Regular)

- Meets graduation requirements.
- A strong foundation for success.

Pre-AP

- Honors-level courses that prepare you for AP.
- More rigorous than on-level classes.

Advanced Placement (AP)

- College-level courses that can earn you college credit.
- Show colleges you are ready for a challenge.

2. THINK BEFORE YOU CHOOSE

Know Your Goals

Think about your interests, strengths, and what you want to study in college or your future career.

Be Realistic

Challenge yourself, but make sure you can handle your workload and extra responsibilities.

Check Prerequisites

Some classes (like AP courses) have required prerequisites. Check the Katy ISD Course Guide and talk to your counselor.

Get Teacher Recommendations

Your teachers know your potential and can help guide you to the right level.

3. BUILD A BALANCED SCHEDULE

Challenge Yourself

Take challenging classes that help you grow and reach your goals.

Balance is Key

Mix rigorous classes with classes that match your strengths and interests.

Think Long-Term

Make sure your classes align with graduation requirements and college plans.

Consider Your Time

Include time for homework, activities, rest, and things you enjoy.

4. USE YOUR RESOURCES

Talk to Your Counselor

They can help you plan classes that fit your goals.

Use the Course Guide

Check the Katy ISD Course Guide online for course descriptions, prerequisites, and endorsements.

Ask & Explore

Ask questions, attend course information nights, and explore new opportunities!

5. SAMPLE PATHWAYS (EXAMPLES)

BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

Great for exploring and preparing.

On-Level English | On-Level Math | On-Level Science | On-Level / Elective | PE / Elective

Focus: Build skills, discover interests, and stay involved.

PREPARING FOR CHALLENGE

Take the next step with Pre-AP.

Pre-AP English | Pre-AP Math | Pre-AP Science | Pre-AP / Elective | PE / Elective

Focus: Develop deeper understanding and get ready for AP.

TAKING ON AP COURSES

Challenge yourself with college-level courses.

AP English | AP Math | AP Science | AP / Elective | PE / Elective

Focus: Earn college credit, stand out to colleges, and achieve your goals.

Remember: There is no one perfect schedule for everyone. Choose classes that help you grow, reach your goals, and set you up for a **successful future!**

6. TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Plan Ahead

Plan your classes early and review course options carefully.

Stay Organized

Use a planner or digital tools to keep track of assignments and deadlines.

Stay Involved

Join clubs, sports, and activities that make you a well-rounded student.

Take Care of Yourself

Get enough rest, manage stress, and ask for help when you need it.

Keep Your Goals in Mind

Every class you take brings you one step closer to your future!

Your classes today shape your tomorrow.

Choose with purpose. Work with your teachers and counselor.
You've got this!

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