**Tips for 9th Grade Students at Hopewell High School**

* **Know what you need to do in order to graduate high school. Students need 24 credits in order to graduate. Each class a student takes is worth one credit. Students need each of the following credits in order to graduate: English I, English II, English III, English IV, Math I, Math II, Math III, a fourth math, Earth/Environmental Science, Biology, Physical Science or Chemistry, World History, Civics, American History I, American History II, Health/PE, two special electives (CTE, Art, or World Language) and six electives.**
* **Ninth grade matters! Classes from your freshman year through your senior year will appear on your transcript. All of these classes will count towards your GPA.**
* **GPA is calculated as follows**
  + **100 – 90 = 4.0**
  + **80 – 89 = 3.0**
  + **70 - 79 = 2.0**
  + **60 - 69 = 1.0**
  + **0 – 59 = 0.0, and no credit awarded for the course**
  + **Honors level courses add an extra .5 to your GPA**
  + **AP level courses add an extra 1.0 to your GPA**
* **Start thinking about life after high school graduation now. Where do you see yourself in four years? Make sure you are taking the steps to get there now.**
* **Create an account at CFNC.org. This account will allow you to research different colleges and their admission requirements, take career interest inventories, and see the income you can expect to earn with various careers. You can use this website during your senior year to apply to colleges in North Carolina.**
* **Join something! Joining a club or a sport will help you to make friends and will look great on college applications and resumes.**
* **Get organized! Keep a folder or binder for each class you are taking and remember to turn your work in. Being organized allows you to use your time to complete your assignments instead of searching for them.**
* **If you need help, ask! If you don’t understand something, chances are others are confused as well. If you need extra help teachers are often available before and after school, just ask.**
* **Know who your counselor is and how to contact them. Counselors are available in the media center from 6:45 until the start of first block every morning. Counselors are assigned by last name as follows:**
  + **Jenna Quintana A - E**
  + **Byron Gettings F - K**
  + **Anne Conner L - Re**
  + **Kelly Teague Ri – Z**
* **And perhaps most importantly, enjoy high school! Take care of yourself, challenge yourself, make great friends and great memories. What you do today will impact the rest of your life. We are happy that you are spending these years here at Hopewell. Go Titans!**

