



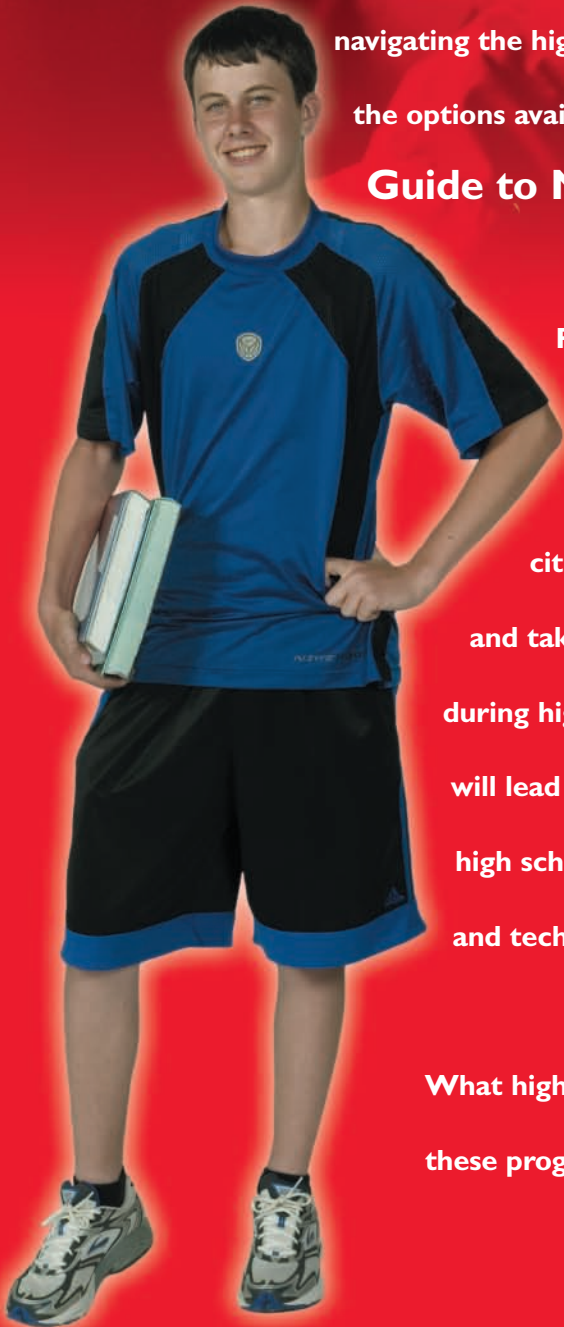
# Transition

**Making the Move**  
to High School



## *What are the choices? How do I enroll?*

Starting school for the first time, graduating to middle school, then making the move to high school are likely three of the most important transitions students make during their K-12 years. Successfully navigating the high school transition can be particularly challenging because of all the options available to students in Durham. That's why DPS has prepared this **Guide to Making the Move to High School.**



Preparing students for college is a key goal for all our schools.

DPS is committed to graduating students who are fully prepared to continue their education and to become productive citizens. In fact, many students take Advanced Placement courses and take part in other programs that allow them to earn college credit during high school. Some students already know where their career paths will lead them and can get a head start on technical skills while still in high school. Our high schools are equipped to provide college preparation and technical skills.

**What high school choices does DPS offer, and how do students enroll in these programs? These are two of the key questions answered in this guide.**

## Course of Study

All students in North Carolina have to select and complete a "course of study" to earn a high school diploma. This course of study outlines what courses students must take in order to be prepared to enter the University of North Carolina system, other colleges and universities, and community college. The state encourages students to enroll in the College/University Prep or College Tech Prep course of study.

DPS has a goal of at least 90 percent of students completing College Tech Prep or College/University Prep course of study and at least 80 percent of all graduates meeting UNC admission requirements by 2009.

Students who select the College Tech Prep or Career Prep course of study must also choose a career pathway.

## 4 Four Courses of Study

- *College/University Prep: the highest level of academic standards; fulfills entrance requirements for the UNC System*
- *Career Prep: prepares students for entry level career positions and community college admission*
- *College Tech Prep: prepares students for admission in highly technical fields at community colleges or universities*
- *Occupational: designed for some Exceptional Children's Program students*

## High School Exit Requirements

Students who are following the College/University Prep, College Tech Prep or Career Prep also must meet the following standards in order to exit from high school. These students must complete a graduation project and score at proficiency level III or above on the end-of-course assessments for English I, U.S. History, Biology, Civics and Economics, and Algebra I. Students who do not score level III but do pass the course shall be offered the chance to retake the test. If the student still does not score level III, a review process will be used to determine if the student has met the exit standard for the course. The principal makes the final decision as to whether the student has met the exit standard. The Graduation Project includes a research paper; a product related to the research paper; a portfolio and a presentation.



## Educational Planning for High School

All 8th-graders meet with a counselor in middle school who works with them to complete a four-year Graduation Plan. This plan is an outline of the courses the student will take in high school. DPS requires students to earn 28 credits (24 credits at DSA) in high school in order to earn a diploma.

Before completing the plan, 8th-grade students use Futures 4 Kids, an online assessment that helps students determine career interests. The Four-Year Graduation Plan goes with students to high school, where counselors use it to help keep students on track for graduation. DPS wants parents to be involved with the plan, so please talk with your child's counselor about your child's future goals.

## Private/Charter School Students

Middle school students entering DPS high schools from private, charter or other schools should meet with the guidance counselors at the high school he/she will attend to complete course schedules.

# checklist

## Checklist for 8th-Graders Making the Move to High School

### 1 Meet with Middle School Counselor

Middle school counselors will set up meetings with each student to complete the Four-Year Graduation Plan and determine the Course of Study. Students who choose the College Tech Prep or Career Prep course of study must also choose a career pathway.

### 2 Determine High School Assignment

Students who are entering the 9th grade are assigned a base high school according to their home address. If your child plans to attend the base high school, he or she will simply register for classes when the base high school representative visits the middle school in the spring of his or her 8th-grade year. Students who would like to participate in a magnet program or a small high school or transfer into a career pathway from their base school must complete an application.

All high schools offer College/University Prep, College Tech Prep and Career Prep. Students who select the College Tech Prep or Career Prep Course of Study must choose a Career Pathway. Students who choose a career pathway must apply and may be accepted if space allows.

### 3 Visit Schools

Visit small high schools, magnet programs and career pathway programs during Showcase of Schools tours scheduled in February to determine the best high school fit.

## Small High School Options

### **Early College High School at North Carolina Central University**

The Josephine Dobbs Clement Early College High School is an innovative partnership with North Carolina Central University and Durham Public Schools. Students will graduate with a high school diploma, plus up to two years of college credit toward a bachelor's degree. The Early College High School is designed to substantially increase the number of minority and female students who will pursue advanced studies and careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

All rising 9th-grade students enrolled in Durham Public Schools are eligible to apply. Applications are available from middle school counselors, the Office of Student Assignment, or ECHS Web site ([www.echs.dpsnc.net](http://www.echs.dpsnc.net)). You may also call the school at 530-7793 and request an application be mailed to you.

### **Middle College High School at Durham Technical Community College**

The Middle College High School at Durham Technical Community College expands opportunities for academically capable high school juniors and seniors to earn a high school diploma and receive credit toward a post-secondary certificate, diploma or associate's degree. It is a partnership among the Durham, Chapel Hill-Carrboro and Orange County School Systems and Durham Technical Community College. Through this collaboration, students will experience a rigorous program of study while on the campus of a community college.

All Durham, Chapel Hill-Carrboro and Orange County students who have achieved junior year status are eligible to apply. Students must be 16 years old to enroll in a community college course. Curriculum offerings include core honors-level high school courses and community college courses that will count as career pathway credits or high school diploma elective credits.

### **City of Medicine Academy**

City of Medicine Academy is a high school curriculum program that provides four-year health career strands (academic and health sciences elective courses) for students pursuing healthcare related careers after graduation.

Taking advantage of the rich health care tradition of Durham, DPS offers the City of Medicine Academy. Connected to Southern High School, the program taps into the resources and work of the Veteran's Administration Hospital, Durham Regional Hospital and Duke Medical Center. An application and parent orientation are required.



# make

## 4 Complete Application

If you are interested in a small high school, magnet program or career pathway program, you must submit your application by February 23.

Applications will be available in all schools, from counselors in middle and high schools and at the DPS Office of Student Assignment, Fuller Building (511 Cleveland St.—phone number is 560-2059).

## 5 Meet with high school counselors

In the spring, high school counselors will visit middle schools to help students complete the course schedule for 9th grade. DPS encourages parents to be involved in their child's course selection.

*NOTE: Students entering DPS high schools from non-DPS middle schools should visit the Office of Student Assignment to enroll. Those selecting a career pathway should also contact the high school guidance counselors at their base high school to complete the Educational Preparation Plan.*



## Magnet Programs

### Durham School of the Arts

The mission of Durham School of the Arts is to help students from diverse backgrounds to fully realize their individual academic and creative capacities through a rigorous educational program emphasizing visual and performing arts. Durham School of the Arts offers beginning through advanced arts courses in band, chorus, piano, strings, guitar, art, sculpture, photography, dance, theater; and creative writing. The school uses the A+ approach, which is based on research demonstrating that people possess multiple intelligences or talents which allow them to learn through a variety of activities. Interdisciplinary projects, cooperative learning, and discovery learning are examples of this philosophy. DSA is one school, not a separate middle and high school. Many courses at Durham School of the Arts are open to students in different grades. Entrance depends on interest, experience, and readiness. High school students can elect to take honors or Advanced Placement classes in all academic subjects provided they meet DPS prerequisites.

*Application is made through the Magnet School process.*

### International Baccalaureate

Widely considered a prestigious instructional program, the International Baccalaureate provides students with an international perspective and critical-thinking skills. The diploma is accepted by universities worldwide. The Hillside High School IB Programme provides students the opportunity to participate in a rigorous course of study, practice critical thinking, get involved in the community and develop their special talents. Students at Hillside can participate in the Middle Years Programme their freshmen and sophomore years. They also may apply for the Diploma Programme to continue in IB their junior and senior years. Potential students must be interested in learning and willing to participate actively in class. Students should have excellent study and time management skills (generally demonstrated by As and Bs in prior coursework) and be prepared to spend an average of two to three hours outside of class on schoolwork each day. For more information, check the IB Web site at [www.dpsnc.net/IB](http://www.dpsnc.net/IB).

*Application is made through the Magnet School process.*

# the move

## Career Pathways

*Students who select the College Tech Prep or Career Prep course of study must choose a Career Pathway. Students who choose a career pathway must apply and may be accepted if space allows.*

### **Agricultural Technologies**

Agricultural Technology is designed to provide students with the information and skills needed to pursue careers in Agriscience, Biotechnology, Horticulture, Veterinary Medicine, Animal Management, Food Science, Livestock Production, and Environmental Science. Courses focus on current topics within the agriscience industry. There is an emphasis on personal growth, leadership, and career success while exploring topics in nutrition, anatomy, genetics, reproduction, economics, and lab safety.

### **Business Technologies**

Business Technologies is a broad, comprehensive curriculum that prepares students to become competent and literate in business skills, practices and technology. The pathway encompasses understanding and application in accounting and finance, business administration, marketing, sales, hospitality marketing, business management, information technology, office systems technology, basic economics, and financial management in business and personal affairs. Students have the opportunity to earn industry certification while in high school.

### **Commercial & Artistic Production**

Commercial & Artistic Production provides students the opportunity to participate in instructional units that focus on the production of commercial graphics and design in a variety of industries. The pathway encompasses graphic design and production, housing and interior design, printing graphics, apparel development and graphic communications.

### **Construction Technologies**

Construction Technologies prepares students, both through academics and practical application, for careers in the construction industry that employ standard industry processes related to: concepts, layout, materials, production, assembly, construction, quality control, and maintenance. The pathway comprises training and skill development in carpentry, electrical trades, HVAC and drafting. Students have the opportunity to earn industry certification while in high school.

### **Engineering Technologies**

Engineering Technologies offers an innovative and integrated learning environment, designed for students to acquire skills needed in higher education, the engineering workplace, and in emerging technology fields. The rigorous academic study, combined with technical training, addresses major challenges facing industry and the workforce of the 21st century.

### **Health Sciences**

Health Sciences is a comprehensive curriculum designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to become a health-care provider. The curriculum concepts incorporate technological advances related to the health-care delivery system, including ethics, professionalism, prevention, patient/client diagnosis, treatment, care, and rehabilitation as a result of disease/disorders. Students have the opportunity to earn industry certification while in high school.

### **Public Services**

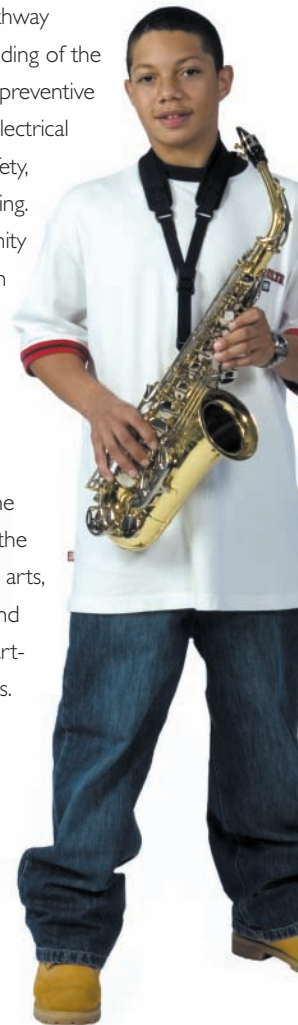
Public Services prepares students for careers working with individuals and families, as well as competence in their personal lives. The pathway encompasses instruction in resource management, foods, nutrition, culinary arts, family relationships, parenting, child development and education, housing and interiors, textiles, cosmetology, and fashion. Students have the opportunity to earn industry certification while in high school.

### **Transportation Systems**

Transportation Systems provides students the opportunity to earn industry certifications required to work in the automotive technology industry. The pathway encompasses the understanding of the automotive engine, service, preventive maintenance, brake repair, electrical systems troubleshooting, safety, test equipment and measuring. Students have the opportunity to earn industry certification while in high school.

### **Sports & Entertainment Marketing**

Sports and Entertainment Marketing offers students the opportunity to experience the world of hospitality, culinary arts, travel, tourism and sports and entertainment through a partnership with local businesses.



Pathway	Hillside	Jordan	Northern	Riverside	Southern	DSA
<b>Agricultural Technologies</b>						
Animal Science		•				
Agricultural Biotechnology		•				
<b>Business Technologies</b>						
Computer Applications	•	•	•	•	•	•
Computer Accounting	•			•	•	
Marketing	•	•	•	•	•	
Sports & Entertainment Marketing			•			
<b>Commercial &amp; Artistic</b>						
<b>Production Technologies</b>						
Printing Graphics		•				
Apparel Development	•	•		•	•	
Housing and Interior Design		•		•		
<b>Construction Technologies</b>						
Construction Technologies			•		•	
Electrical Trades					•	
Architectural Drafting			•		•	
Masonry					•	
<b>Engineering Technologies</b>						
Electronics	•					
Computer Engineering	•			•		
Pre-Engineering Option				•		
Engineering Drafting				•		
<b>Health Sciences</b>						
Allied Health					•	
Pre-Medical Option					•	
<b>Public Services</b>						
Early Childhood Education	•		•		•	
Culinary Arts			•		•	
Cosmetology	•					
Foods	•	•	•	•	•	
<b>Transportation Systems</b>						
Automotive Technologies			•		•	
<b>ROTC Concentration</b>						
Air Force			•	•		
Army	•					

Durham Public Schools does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, or political affiliation.

## Showcase Tours

Parents and students are encouraged to visit high schools during February's Showcase of Schools.

All schools will hold open houses/tours. Check the Web and DPS Channel 4 for specifics.

### J.D. Clement Early College High School

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 6:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 20, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

### Durham School of the Arts

Tuesday, Jan. 30, 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 1, 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 6, 9:30 a.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 13, 9:30 a.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 20, 9:30 a.m.  
Interested parents should report to the Main Cafeteria by 9:30 am for daytime tours

### Hillside

Monday, Feb. 12, 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
Monday, Feb. 19, 6 p.m.

### Jordan

Thursday, Feb. 1, 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 8, 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 15, 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 22, 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m. – Parent Night

### Middle College High School

Please contact Principal Chuck Nolan, 686-3815, to schedule a tour.

### Northern

Thursday, Feb. 1, 9-10 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 8, 9-10 a.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 13, 6:30-8 p.m., Curriculum Fair  
Thursday, Feb. 15, 9-10 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 22, 9-10 a.m.  
Please call Guidance, 560-3537, to register for daytime tours.

### Riverside

Thursday, Feb. 1, 9 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 8, 9 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 15, 9 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 15 at 6:30 p.m., Curriculum Fair/Open House  
Please call the school, 560-3965, to make an appointment for the daytime tours.

### Southern

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 9-10 a.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 13, 9-10 a.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 15, 6:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 20, 9-10 a.m.



Making the Move  
to High School

What are the choices? How do I enroll?



Durham Public Schools  
**M a k i n g   t h e   M o v e**  
P.O. Box 30002  
Durham, NC 27702

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**P A I D**  
DURHAM, NC  
PERMIT NO. 716

[www.dpsnc.net](http://www.dpsnc.net)