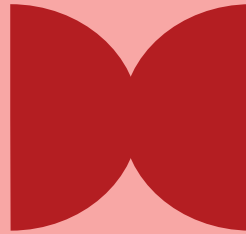


# What's the Scoop with High School?

Preparing Middle School Students to Enter High School



Mary Jo Sharp  
Graduation Coach - Vale School District  
October 3, 2025

# AGENDA

- What did the PAST transition activities tell us?
- YouScience- how does this fit?
- Engagement Activity (How do I "hook" kids?)
- Review
  - High school terms
- Introducing electives
  - Helping students understand why making good choices is necessary
- High School Visitation/Tour Day
- All School Field Trip Day (in March) (15+ TRIPS in ONE day!)
- Process for high school registration
- Timeline of what I do all year
- Results of our Transition Process - MY Opinion



# WHAT DID THE PAST TELL US?

- CTE Visitation Day (Dog & Pony Show)
  - Only available for Auto, Agriculture and Construction
    - Did not include Business or any other elective classes
    - Students only saw the FUN and not the WORK involved
    - The counselor would go over and go through elective courses prior to having students register for classes
  - Added a Tour
  - Added Business
  - Added the Principal and Counselor going over to review electives, talk about expectations of high school students, etc.
  - Students were brought over for Tour, listened to advice from ASB Officers, and were still given explanations of our electives
- The majority of students DID NOT have a CLUE what high school was all about - DEFINING terms is NECESSARY! (grades, credits to graduate, transcripts, etc.)



# YOUSCIENCE - OVERVIEW

- Mr. Knapp has students complete the SNAPSHOT YouScience Brain Games
- He asks students to use the results to complete a presentation and answer questions
  - Explain top 2-3 Talents (Aptitudes)
  - Top Three Job Categories
  - Careers that Might Work for Student based on Aptitude
    - Based on Aptitude
      - Detailed Information on 3 Different Jobs in 3 Different Categories
        - Type of Work
        - Typical Day of Work
        - Who do you work with
        - Hours Worked
        - Educational Opportunities
  - Careers that Might Work for Student based on Interest
    - Same Detailed Information on 3 Different Jobs in 3 Different Categories
  - Narrow down ALL the information to 2 Jobs that the student wants to focus on
    - What CTE modules might help, high school classes they could consider, activities, etc
- Do the RESULTS make sense to the student

# YOUSCIENCE

English

Spanish



## Remington, you crushed it!

You have some serious talent and awesome career opportunities!

### Your top 2 talents



#### Numerical Reasoning

You are a Predictor.



#### Spatial Visualization

You are an Abstract Thinker.

## Career Clusters by Aptitude Fit

Your results are sorted by Aptitude Fit, left to right, top to bottom.



### Financial Services

#### DESCRIPTION

Ever wonder how to start a company? Support people and businesses be successful with money.



[Learn more >](#)



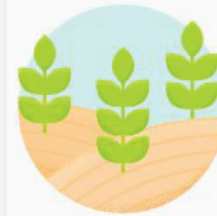
### Supply Chain & Transportation

#### DESCRIPTION

Ever wonder how your favorite foods get to the store? Move things by truck, ship, and plane!



[Learn more >](#)



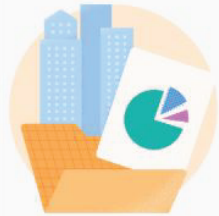
### Agriculture

#### DESCRIPTION

Wonder where your food comes from? Use science to grow food and care for farms and animals!



[Learn more >](#)



### Management & Entrepreneurship

#### DESCRIPTION

Have an idea for your own business? Be the leader who builds a team and turns ideas into reality!



### Healthcare & Human Services

#### DESCRIPTION

Want to help people feel better? Work as a doctor, nurse, or counselor to keep people healthy!



### Public Service & Safety

#### DESCRIPTION

Want to keep your community and country safe? Help people in local services or government.

## Financial Services

Starting a business or saving for something big requires a smart plan for money. A career in Financial Services means you help people and companies succeed by teaching them to manage their money wisely. Working in a bank or as an advisor, you help people make choices that lead to a better future for them.



Need help?

### Filter by

Displaying **31** results

AVERAGE SALARY RANGE



EDUCATION INVESTMENT



- ☐ No additional schooling
- ☐ Less than 1 year
- ☐ 1 - 2 years



### Brokerage Clerks

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Education investment | NONE   |
| Projected openings   | > 4.3K |
| Average salary       | 59k    |



### Loan Interviewers and Clerks

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Education investment | NONE  |
| Projected openings   | > 20K |
| Average salary       | 47k   |



### New Accounts Clerks

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Education investment | NONE   |
| Projected openings   | > 3.2K |
| Average salary       | 43k    |



### Accountants and Auditors

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Education investment | 4+     |
| Projected openings   | > 127K |
| Average salary       | 87k    |





Let's **Let's Get up and MOVE**



# HIGH SCHOOL TERMS - REVIEW

DEFINE VOCABULARY - IMPORTANT!

## ★ Grades

- Progress
- Nine Weeks
- Semester

## ★ Transcripts

## ★ Credits

- How many CREDITS to graduate
- Credits vs. Grades

## ★ Elective Courses

## ★ Required Course

## ★ Four Years of High School

- 9th - Freshman Year
- 10th - Sophomore Year
- 11th - Junior Year
- 12th - Senior Year

## ★ Diploma Types

- Regular - how many CREDITS
- Modified - how many CREDITS
  - Same amount of credits - what's the difference?
- Extended

## ★ Class Periods

## ★ Clubs

- How do I join?

| DEPT                     | TITLE                     | MARKS | CREDIT | DEPT                     | TITLE                       | MARKS | CREDIT |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------|--------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------|
| <b>Grade 09: 2004/05</b> |                           |       |        | <b>Grade 12: 2007/08</b> |                             |       |        |
| AA                       | SPANISH 1                 | A A   | 1.000  | EL                       | Teacher Aide                | P     | 0.500  |
| EL                       | COMPUTER LAB              | A A   | 1.000  | LA                       | Advanced English IV         | B+ C  | 1.000  |
| EL                       | DRIVERS ED                | P     | 0.250  | MA                       | Trigonometry                | B B   | 1.000  |
| HE                       | HEALTH                    | B B   | 1.000  | SP                       | IS Senior Projects          | A     | 1.000  |
| LA                       | ADVANCED ENGLISH 1        | B A   | 1.000  |                          | GPA: 3.571                  |       | 7.500  |
| MA                       | ALGEBRA 1                 | A A   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| SC                       | BIOLOGY                   | A B   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| WS                       | WORLD HISTORY             | B B   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
|                          | GPA: 3.571                |       | 7.250  |                          |                             |       |        |
| <b>Grade 10: 2005/06</b> |                           |       |        | <b>ACT</b>               |                             |       |        |
| AA                       | SPANISH 2                 | B B   | 1.000  | 06/07                    | Grade:                      | 11    |        |
| EL                       | CADET TEACHING            | A A   | 1.000  |                          | Composite                   | 22    |        |
| EL                       | FUTURE BUSINESS LE...     | A A   | 1.000  |                          | English                     | 19    |        |
| LA                       | ADVANCED ENGLISH 2        | A B   | 1.000  |                          | Math                        | 20    |        |
| MA                       | GEOMETRY                  | A A   | 1.000  |                          | Reading                     | 23    |        |
| PE                       | PHYSICAL EDUCATION        | B A   | 1.000  |                          | Science                     | 26    |        |
| SC                       | CHEMISTRY                 | A A   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
|                          | GPA: 3.714                |       | 7.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| <b>Grade 11: 2006/07</b> |                           |       |        | <b>Miscellaneous</b>     |                             |       |        |
| AA                       | SPANISH 3                 | B A-  | 1.000  | Diploma Type:            | Regular HS Diploma with CIM |       |        |
| EL                       | ADV SCIENCE LAB TECHA     | A A   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| EL                       | GRAPHIC DESIGN            | A A   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| LA                       | ADVANCED ENGLISH III      | A A   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| MA                       | ALGEBRA 2                 | A B   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| SC                       | ANATOMY & PHYSIOL...      | B A-  | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| US                       | US HISTORY                | B B   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
|                          | GPA: 3.643                |       | 7.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| <b>Grade 12: 2007/08</b> |                           |       |        |                          |                             |       |        |
| EC                       | Economics & Government A+ | A     | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| EL                       | Adv Science Lab Tech      | A A   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| EL                       | Aerobics                  | A B   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |
| EL                       | Chemistry 2               | A A   | 1.000  |                          |                             |       |        |

| CREDIT SUMMARY |                      |       |        |       |
|----------------|----------------------|-------|--------|-------|
| DEPT           | DEPARTMENT NAME      | REQ'D | EARNED | LEFT  |
| AA             | Applied Arts         | 1.000 | 3.000  | 0.000 |
| EC             | Economics/Government | 1.000 | 1.000  | 0.000 |
| EL             | Elective             | 8.000 | 8.750  | 0.000 |
| HE             | Health               | 1.000 | 1.000  | 0.000 |
| LA             | English              | 4.000 | 4.000  | 0.000 |
| MA             | Math                 | 3.000 | 4.000  | 0.000 |
| PE             | Physical Education   | 1.000 | 1.000  | 0.000 |
| SC             | Science              | 2.000 | 3.000  | 0.000 |

| CREDIT SUMMARY |                 |        |        |       |
|----------------|-----------------|--------|--------|-------|
| DEPT           | DEPARTMENT NAME | REQ'D  | EARNED | LEFT  |
| SP             | Senior Projects | 1.000  | 1.000  | 0.000 |
| US             | US History      | 1.000  | 1.000  | 0.000 |
| WS             | World Studies   | 1.000  | 1.000  | 0.000 |
|                | Other           | 0.000  | 0.000  | 0.000 |
|                | Total           | 24.000 | 28.750 | 0.000 |

| ACAD STANDING AS OF: |          |           |            |  |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|------------|--|
| TOT CRED             | GPA CRED | CUMUL GPA | CLASS RANK |  |
| 28.75                | 28.00    | 3.63      | 13/82      |  |

| AUTHORIZATION |          |
|---------------|----------|
| X             |          |
| TITLE         | DATE     |
| Principal     | 05/28/08 |

CREDITS!

GPA

How do we gain CREDITS?

½ credit is equal to ONE completed course per semester

**CREDIT**  
One of the primary methods used to determine and document that students have met academic requirements.

Zero CREDIT earned!



Not accepted at a college - D's!!



| Subject                     | Course Title              | Mark           | Cred Att/Cmp | Subject                                  | Course Title            | Mark      | Cred Att/Cmp             |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------|--|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Vale High School            |                           |                |              | Vale High School                         |                         |           |                          |
| Yr: 2022                    | Term: S1                  | Grade: 09      |              | Yr: 2023                                 | Term: S2                | Grade: 10 |                          |
| AA                          | Intro to Agriculture      | D              | 0.50 / 0.50  | MA                                       | Algebra 1B              | B-        | 0.50 / 0.50              |
| AA                          | Auto Technology 1         | A-             | 0.50 / 0.50  | SC                                       | Biology                 | D         | 0.50 / 0.50              |
| AA                          | Construction Tech 1       | B-             | 0.50 / 0.50  | SC                                       | SS Biology              | C         | 0.50 / 0.50              |
| LA                          | English 1                 | B-             | 0.50 / 0.50  | P1                                       | Strength & Conditioning | A         | 0.50 / 0.50              |
| MA                          | Algebra 1A                | C              | 0.50 / 0.50  | Cred Att: 4.00                           |                         |           | Cred Cmp: 4.00 GPA: 2.57 |
| SC                          | Physical Science          | F              | 0.50 / 0.00  | Graduation Requirements - Credit Summary |                         |           |                          |
| WS                          | World History             | C              | 0.50 / 0.50  | Subject Area                             | Req'd                   | Compl     | Needed                   |
| Cred Att: 3.50              |                           | Cred Cmp: 3.00 |              | Applied Arts, Fine Arts or Foreign       | 3.00                    | 3.00      |                          |
|                             |                           | GPA: 2.14      |              | Electives                                | 5.00                    | 3.00      | 2.00                     |
| Vale High School            |                           |                |              | Government                               | 1.00                    | 0.00      | 1.00                     |
| Yr: 2022                    | Term: S2                  | Grade: 09      |              | Health 1                                 | 1.00                    | 0.00      | 1.00                     |
| AA                          | Intro to Agriculture      | A              | 0.50 / 0.50  | Language Arts                            | 4.00                    | 2.00      | 2.00                     |
| AA                          | Auto Technology 1         | B+             | 0.50 / 0.50  | Mathematics                              | 3.00                    | 2.00      | 1.00                     |
| AA                          | Construction Tech 1       | B              | 0.50 / 0.50  | Physical Ed. 1                           | 1.00                    | 1.00      |                          |
| LA                          | English 1                 | C              | 0.50 / 0.50  | Science                                  | 3.00                    | 2.00      | 1.00                     |
| MA                          | Algebra 1A                | C-             | 0.50 / 0.50  | Senior Projects                          | 1.00                    | 0.00      | 1.00                     |
| SC                          | Physical Science          | D+             | 0.50 / 0.50  | US History                               | 1.00                    | 0.00      | 1.00                     |
| SC                          | SS Physical Science       | C              | 0.50 / 0.50  | World Studies                            | 1.00                    | 1.00      |                          |
| WS                          | World History             | C-             | 0.50 / 0.50  | TOTALS                                   | 24.00                   | 14.00     | 10.00                    |
| Cred Att: 4.00              |                           | Cred Cmp: 4.00 |              |  |                         |           |                          |
|                             |                           | GPA: 2.37      |              |  |                         |           |                          |
| Vale High School            |                           |                |              |  |                         |           |                          |
| Yr: 2023                    | Term: S1                  | Grade: 10      |              |  |                         |           |                          |
| EL                          | Agriculture Engineering 1 | C              | 0.50 / 0.50  |  |                         |           |                          |
| EL                          | Auto Technology 2         | C              | 1.00 / 1.00  |  |                         |           |                          |
| LA                          | English 2                 | C-             | 0.50 / 0.50  |  |                         |           |                          |
| MA                          | Algebra 1B                | B+             | 0.50 / 0.50  |  |                         |           |                          |
| SC                          | Biology                   | F              | 0.50 / 0.00  |  |                         |           |                          |
| P1                          | Strength & Conditioning   | B              | 0.50 / 0.50  |  |                         |           |                          |
| Cred Att: 3.50              |                           | Cred Cmp: 3.00 |              |  |                         |           |                          |
|                             |                           | GPA: 2.00      |              |  |                         |           |                          |
| Vale High School            |                           |                |              |  |                         |           |                          |
| Yr: 2023                    | Term: S2                  | Grade: 10      |              |  |                         |           |                          |
| EL                          | Agriculture Engineering 1 | C-             | 0.50 / 0.50  |  |                         |           |                          |
| EL                          | Auto Technology 2         | A-             | 1.00 / 1.00  |  |                         |           |                          |
| LA                          | English 2                 | C              | 0.50 / 0.50  |  |                         |           |                          |
| Continued on next column... |                           |                |              |  |                         |           |                          |

This student made a CHOICE in the month of June at SUMMER school to a FAILING grade. Do you think that CHOICE TOO? Isn't it better to DO THE WORK to get a passing grade?

This student made a CHOICE to spend the month of June at SUMMER SCHOOL due to a FAILING grade. Do you want to make that CHOICE TOO?  
Isn't it better to DO THE WORK and get a passing grade?

# LET'S PRACTICE!

| <u>Grade</u>  | <u>Points</u> |
|---------------|---------------|
| A             | 4             |
| B             | 3             |
| B             | 3             |
| A             | 4             |
| C             | 2             |
| A             | 4             |
| A             | 4             |
| Total         | 24            |
| $24/7 = 3.42$ |               |

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Points</u> |
|--------------|---------------|
| C            | 2             |
| D            | 1             |
| B            | 3             |
| C            | 2             |
| C            | 2             |
| B            | 3             |
| B            | 3             |
| Total        | ?             |

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Points</u> |
|--------------|---------------|
| A            |               |
| C            |               |
| B            |               |
| B            |               |
| A            |               |
| A            |               |
| B            |               |
| Total        |               |

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Points</u> |
|--------------|---------------|
| C            |               |
| F            |               |
| D            |               |
| C            |               |
| B            |               |
| C            |               |
| A            |               |
| Total        |               |

# SAMPLE STUDENT #1

## SUZY SNOWFLAKE - ADVANCED STUDENT

### 9th Grade

Advanced English 9

Geometry

Biology

World History

Spanish

Art

Introduction to Business & Technology

### 10th Grade

Advanced English 10

Algebra II

Chemistry

Strength/Conditioning

Spanish II

Art

Business Operations - Viking Brui (or  
Health Occupations)

Advanced

A

C

S

A

# LET'S PRACTICE TOGETHER

- In groups of 3, 4, 5
    - Look over the list of electives for 9th graders
    - Create a plan for your assigned student
    - Be prepared to share your ideas with the class
- Dale Dipstick - Electrician, CWI, 10th grade
  - Sam O'Dell - OSU, Agriculture, Simplot/own farm , 9th grade
  - Olle Oilchanger - Advanced student, Harvard/Stanford, unsure, 9th grade
  - Tiffany Trusdale - Cosmetology, Medical Records, Trade School/2 year, 11th grade
  - Molly Mulligan - no idea, has taken Ag classes, some business, likes outdoor work, 11th grade

# YouScience - Brain Process - Choosing Electives

- Police Officer
  - Auto?
- Teacher
  - Art?
  - Introduction to Business?
  - Additional Math, Science?
- Medical Field?
  - Spanish?
  - Introduction to Business?
  - Health Services?
  - Certified Nurse Assistant?



# YOUR TURN!

Use the handouts I gave you to create your own Two Year Plan!

Remember - You will have the following required courses your 9th and 10th grade years:

## 9th Grade

English  
Math  
Science  
World History

## 10th Grade

English  
Math  
Science  
Strength/Conditioning

## 11th Grade

English  
Math  
Science  
Health  
US History

## 12th Grade

English  
Government  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  Personal Finance  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  Higher Ed/Career

\*\*5 Required Electives

\*\*3 Required Applied Arts (CTE, Second Language, Art)

\*\*24

\*\* If time allows, complete a 4 year plan of success for high school

# HIGH SCHOOL VISITATION/TOUR DAY

- I create a spreadsheet with classes available EACH period
  - Mr. Knapp & Amy Applegate use the spreadsheet to sign students up for the class they would like to observe
    - Typically the classes have room for 3 - 4 students
- I confirm the date with the high school staff and let them know how many students to expect
- I go over (or drive the bus) to get the students and bring them to the high school
  - Once they are at the high school, I turn them over to some of our ASB officers who spend 10-15 minutes taking them on a tour of the school and talking to them about high school and answering questions
  - The ASB officers then take the students to their requested class for a 20-25 minute observation of the class
- The middle school students then meet me in the front hallway after their observation and I return them back to either the middle school or Willowcreek

# ALL SCHOOL FIELD TRIP DAY

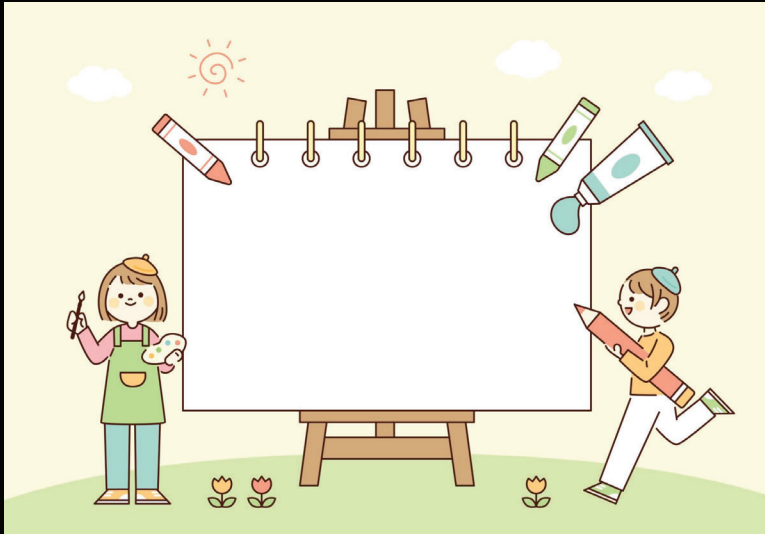
- We tried to host career fairs and found them to be semi-successful
  - Business/Industry partners were more than willing to come and speak to students
  - We wanted to give our students more opportunities to see what REALLY goes on in a specific industry
  - The first year, Mr. Knapp contacted US Silica and asked if they gave tours
    - US Silica was more than willing to have students come, but they gave some important parameters which were used to set up the All School Field Trip Day
- This DAY has blossomed into 15 - 20 different sites/industries in which students can gain important insight
  - Students are given a choice of the different industries BUT the choice has to be related to their discovered aptitude (YouScience)
  - Small groups of students are then bussed to their assigned location(s) (sometimes it is more than 1 location)
    - They are given tours, given information about the industry, education needed, skills needed, desired experience, etc.
- The All School Field Trip Day used to be scheduled at the end of the year but last year it was scheduled for March which turned out to be a much better time for the students and employers

# PROCESS FOR HS REGISTRATION

- I make another presentation to only 8th grade students regarding choosing their electives for the following school year
  - We review the difference between elective and required
  - We review why it is important to make good elective choices
- I am still OLD SCHOOL and I give them a copy of the Course Outline Book that lists all electives available for 9th grade students as well as descriptions for each elective course. They are also given a sheet where they are asked to list 5 electives choices in order of preference.
- Parents sign/students sign and return the form

I try to complete this activity before the March Parent/Teacher Conferences  
I want to make sure teachers have the opportunity to answer any questions a parent might have about recommended classes for their child

## TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES



August

YouScience Brain  
Games

(Zach directs that)

September

YouScience  
slideshow  
(Identify Aptitude)

October

Terms Introduction

October/November

Review Terms

December

High School Tour  
Class Observation

January

Review Transcripts,  
GPA, mock  
schedules

February

YouScience vs.  
Elective Choices  
Prepare for HS  
scheduling

March

All School Field  
Trips  
Meet with 8th  
Grade  
Scheduling for 9th!!

April - May

Confirm required  
course placements  
with MS staff

# RESULTS

- Students are better prepared to make WISE(r) choices for electives
  - What will benefit me for my future goals?
  - We are seeing fewer class changes once school starts
- More students are choosing to stay in higher levels of Math and Science their Senior Year
  - Students are seeking more college level opportunities instead of TA, Work Experience, Home Release, etc.
- Students have a better understanding of the expectations in ALL classes and not just in the CTE world
- We can REVIEW important concepts and not have to TEACH them

I truly believe MANY students are taking MORE responsibility for THEIR learning and not relying on US to just TELL them what they should do!

# Contact Information

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541-473-0264