

The Eyas Express

A monthly newsletter for Hebron High School Ninth Graders and Their Parents

September 2009
Volume 2



The roots of education are bitter,
but the fruit is sweet.
~Aristotle

PAP, AP, and DAP: The Academic "Marks Brothers"

So at this point, you must be wondering, "Do I need to take all PAP and AP classes to be DAP? And moreover, what do PAP, AP and DAP mean?"

PAP and AP are acronyms for PreAdvanced Placement and Advanced Placement curriculae. **Advanced Placement (AP)** is curriculum developed by the Collegeboard for high schools who want to offer challenging curriculum to students with the opportunity to gain college credit. The AP subject tests allow students to test in a subject for potential college credit with acceptance to college.

PreAdvanced Placement (PAP) curriculum prepare you to take AP classes. PAP classes *do not* allow you to gain college credit. However, like AP classes they count as level one courses and have a weight multiplier attached to them for class ranking. So the more PAP and AP classes you take and you make good grades, the higher your class rank could be.

That leads us to **DAP** which stands for **Distinguished Achievement Plan**. DAP is a graduation plan that requires additional prerequisites and measures in order to graduate. Examples of prerequisites include: an additional

year of foreign language (3 instead of 2 years). Examples of additional measures include:

Scoring a 3 or better on any AP test, specific Tech Prep courses, or Commended status on PSAT. Colleges pay close attention to transcripts (AARs) that show the DAP because it means that the student worked hard and challenged themselves with rigorous course work.

GPA Facts

GPA = Grade Point Average (usually on a 4.0 scale)

- GPA for college begins **NOW**.

Colleges use your GPA for entrance requirements into their programs

GPA is often used to determine scholarships

Once a GPA is low, it is difficult to bring it up



Time to think about Graduation

WHAT?! GRADUATION?! Time to think about it. The fact is that graduation is only 4 years away. Are you on the right path to graduate? Have you taken the right courses? Are you going to be one of the few who come to the spring semester of their senior year missing a credit. Get into the "know" now. The document with your academic history is called a transcript or an *Academic Achievement Record (AAR)*. It is one of only a few documents that colleges will use to get a picture of who you are. Your decisions about coursework, completing your homework, and attending tutorials are reflected in your AAR. How is your AAR going to look? Better start working on it now.

Remember that to graduate you must earn 26 credits. However, you can't just earn ANY credits, you must earn particular credits: Four english credits, four math credits, four science credits, four social studies credits, two credits of the same foreign language, one and a half credits of PE, one fine arts credit, one technology credit, a half credit of health, a half credit of speech (Communication Applications) and an additional three and a half credits in electives.

On your mark, get set, Go! to the finish line ... when you walk across the stage at graduation.

Did You Know?

(www.collegeboard.com)

- There is a positive correlation between higher levels of education and higher earnings for all racial/ethnic groups for both men and women
- Other rewards of a college education include better health and greater opportunities for the next generation.
- Higher levels of education correspond to lower unemployment and poverty levels.



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September 17th
Prestonwood Church
Christian College Fair

September 22
UNT
Nortex College Fair

Notes on the Quote

Who is: Aristotle

Born - 384 BC – 322 BC

Aristotle was one of the most influential founding "fathers" of western philosophy.

His ideas about the world and humans encompassed logic, science, morality, aesthetics, and politics.

In the Next Issue: Communication is the Key

