

# Executive Summary

## Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting January 8, 2008

### High School Course Catalog and Planning Guide

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#### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the latest information on the High School Course Catalog and Planning Guide for 2008-2009. The course catalog is comprised of all of the course offerings, graduation requirements, testing information, GPA guidelines and information, and college information, and also serves as a planning guide. The changes made to this new catalog were for purposes of updating TAKS requirements, deleting courses no longer offered, reflecting Board approved changes, updating websites and other dynamic information, and for text editing. All required or editing changes proposed are the direct result of a review by all high school principals, associate principals, counselors, registrars, the Academic Leadership Team, content area Curriculum Coordinators, the Director of CTE, the Director of Fine Arts, the Director of Bilingual /ESL Education, the Director of Athletics, the Director of Special Education, and the Director of Secondary Curriculum, Instruction, and Staff Development.

#### Objectives

- Each incoming freshman student receives their official High School Course Catalog and Planning Guide in the spring of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year during the course selection process. They are asked to keep this document for reference throughout their high school career since it contains all of the requirements for their graduation.
- The High School Course Catalog and Planning Guide is also available on-line on the Denton ISD website and can be downloaded or printed as well.
- The Course Catalog contains a description for each course offered, grade placement for that course, prerequisites, and credits earned. The description provides the students with an overview of the course, expectations, and other relevant course information.
- The Course Catalog also provides significant additional information of value to students and their parents including PSAT , SAT, and ACT information, credit by exam, college planning, dual course credit, career planning, counseling services, Distinguished Achievement Program, EXPO program, advanced coursework (AP and Pre-AP program), GPA, graduation requirements, and college/university resources..

#### Operational Impact

There is no operational impact and no cost to the campuses. The cost of publishing the High School Course Catalog and Planning Guide is part of the budget of the Secondary Curriculum, Instruction, and Staff Development Department. The Director of the Secondary Curriculum,

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Instruction, and Staff Development Department coordinates the editing of the Catalog and handles all of the arrangements from publishing to delivery to the campuses.

### **Results**

The annual High School Course Catalog and Planning Guide provides students and their parents with the information they need to make informed decisions regarding the appropriate coursework for a challenging and well-balanced high school experience relevant to their own goals and career path. The Catalog also helps students design their own personal blueprint for successful completion of their public education.