**Presentation #4    Academics**

**Events (~3 minutes) – 1st group writes on whiteboard**

Rally today! Hope you’re wearing red 

Today is the Powder Puff Football game at lunch. Watch the girls play and the manleaders cheer! Buy foods from the clubs that are selling!Students must buy tickets (1 ticket/$1) before purchasing food. Everything happens right outside of the gym when lunch starts after the rally.

Winter break: Last day of school is December 16th. We come back on January 3rd.

Finals start on January 25th and end on January 27th. Tell them how the schedule works.

If they have any questions about college, encourage them to go see Ms. Torres in the College and Career Center, and to read the newsletters she sends at the end of every week. She also makes important announcements through Instagram **@WestHighCCC**!

**Game (~10 minutes)**Pictionary with a Twist:  Team with most points gets candy!

Divide class in half. One rep. from each side comes up. Tell reps to draw something different but using the same body part. Teams start guessing when the drawing is done **(Consider noise level for surrounding classes.)**First team with correct answer gets a point. Go about 5 times. **(Keep an eye on the clock! Lots of info to cover.)**

Words can be random. DELEGATES ARE IN CHARGE OF GIVING THEM SOMETHING TO DRAW!

Body Parts: armpit, elbow, no thumb, two pointer fingers, wrists, between forearms, palm to palm with partner.

**Video (~5 minutes)**if link doesn’t work, type “FF academics 2016”

**Lesson (~20 minutes) [ADD YOUR PERSONAL TWISTS/ADVICE]**

**GPA Demonstration on the Board**: Show examples first! Then have one of the students do it.  You or the class tells him/her the classes and grades.  Correct it if needed.

        What is it? Grade Point Average

        Determines student’s overall academic performance

        DOES NOT INCLUDE P.E. OR ATHLETICS. TA & LAB ASSISTANT COUNT (these are 2 separate classes. Explain difference if needed).

Calculating: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0 Find average by adding values and dividing by 5. Add 1 point for each Honors/ AP class

Ex) A in Honors/ AP class gets 5 points.

YOU MUST GET A C OR HIGHER TO GET THE EXTRA POINT.

Ex)       Math (C) = 2    Science (D) = 1    Health (A) = 4    English H (A) = 5   Spanish (B) = 3

            P.E. (B) = 3    **GPA=3.6**

        Weighted vs. Un-Weighted: Weighted includes additional points from AP/ Honors classes.

o   Whether or not the schools look at the weighted or un-weighted GPA, IT DEPENDS ON THE SCHOOL YOU ARE APPLYING TO.

        UC and CSU schools use 10th and 11th year grades to calculate GPA, but grades from ALL years still count because they are fulfilling A-G requirements. Keep in mind that all schools/school systems have their own ways of calculating GPA when they look at your transcript. Make sure you know how they’re calculating!

        First quarter grades are included in the first semester grades. Semester grades are what count on your transcript.

**Graduation Requirements**

        Needed: English (4years), Social Studies (3 years), Science (2 years), Math (2 years), Health (1 semester), P.E. (2 years), Foreign Language or Visual/ Performing Arts (1 year)

        220 credits needed to graduate (over all 4 years)

        5 credits each semester for classes you pass

o   2.5 credits per quarter [used for Athletics, P.E., or class/ office aide]

THIS IS THE BARE MINIMUM **TO GRADUATE FROM WEST HIGH SCHOOL.**  UC’S AND CAL STATES WANT 2 YEARS OF A FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND A YEAR OF VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS.

        Counselors help with scheduling classes and meeting graduation requirements.

**Testing**

        The school does **Common Core** now, so there are no more CSTs.

        SAT/ ACT: important for colleges

o   Schools can see if you’re prepared for college level course, and determine admission from that.

  Should prep for them

  Taken Junior/ Beginning of Senior Year

  SAT is reasoning based

        Grading Scale out of 1600

        PSAT and prep classes are available

        With new SAT writing is optional, but recommended

  ACT is content/knowledge based

        Scale from 6-36 for each section, and in total score

        Tests English, Math, Reading, Science, Writing (optional, but recommended)

        Finals are taken at the end of each semester.

o   First semester finals are THREE weeks after we come back from winter break.It sounds far away, but it’s not, and it’s best to start studying a few weeks before finals – maybe even during winter break. Encourage them to start early!

o   Though quarter grades are not on your transcript, low quarter grades can be difficult to raise by the end of a semester.

**JUNIOR YEAR:**Students will take the Smarter Balance Test which is based on Common Core (English and Math), in replacement of the CST.

**\*\*As long as they pay attention in their classes they will do fine on the test**\*\*

**Study Habits**

**Have them partner up and discuss different study habits. Give them about 2-3 minutes, then ask volunteers to share. If they forget any, fill in the gaps.**

***FOR NOT SO CHATTY GROUPS, DELEGATES NEED TO JUMP IN AND GET THE FRESHMEN TALKING!***

        Form study groups if they work for you.

        Techniques like flash cards/ highlighters.

        Taking notes in class to study from.

        **Delegates, tell them what works for you!**

        Tutoring (Library at lunch, Tutorial Club after school (Monday – Thursday), Study Hut, Shamrock Tutoring, ask teachers for help, etc.)

        For Finals: START THE WEEK BEFORE **AT LEAST** AND WORK IN CHUNKS.

        Cram sessions in the library w/ professional tutors always take place before finals

o   Listen to announcements for when Tutorial Club is selling tickets

o   Purchase in ASB (price usually $5)

o   Usually take place the week before finals on a Friday after school and the following Saturday

        NO PROCRASTINATION!

        SPEND LESS TIME ON SOCIAL MEDIA

o   **Don’t let them know that you use it while studying (if you do)**

o   Time management is key for studying

o   Avoid cramming for tests. It’s not healthy, you need more sleep, and it doesn’t help you retain much of what you learn.

**Counselors**

        4 counselors: Barricklow, Garcia, Druten, Lau

o   College and Career Center: Torres

        Help to schedule classes, order transcripts, and answer questions

o   How to Set Up an Appointment (review from Office Basics): Scheduling appointments ahead of time is much faster and easier.  Go to Counseling Office.  When you walk inside, there’s a binder on the counter right next to the door.  You’ll see a sheet that says the date, the different counselors, and the different time slots available.  Put your name when you want to meet your counselor.  YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR WRITING YOUR OWN OUT OF CLASS SLIP. There’s an example sheet next to the binder that you can follow when writing down your slip.

o   Transcripts show citizenship and all classes (including summer school) as well as credits and class rank

     Help to schedule AP/ Honors classes

o   Provide all the paperwork needed to be filled out

o   REMINDER: These classes have harder work, and are more time consuming.

o   AP classes get college credit if you pass the AP Test in May.

o   If you pass the test, it will allow you to not have to take certain classes. (For example, you don’t have to take certain general ed classes.)

**\*Remind them that they need to see their counselors if they do not know their NAVIANCE log in info\***

**Cheating**(tell them that a lot of academic-related info can be found in West High planners before the calendar section)

         DON’T DO IT

o   Forms of cheating**(Personal stories are needed for this, but DO NOT mention any names)**:

o   Telling/asking someone about a quiz if you take it before/after the person

o   Allowing/asking to copy homework

o   Knowing someone cheated/possessing answers that may have been sent to you and not doing anything about it

o   Double-dipping on assignments, whether it’s one of your own or a sibling’s

o   Plagiarism

o   Having your phone out during tests could be mistaken as cheating

         Cheating Referrals stay on your high school record for all four years

         Punishments:

o   Cheating Referral

o   1st Offense: U or 0 on the assignment, all other and future teachers know, parent notification by teacher, if in honors/AP class, could result in removal from course,Saturday School

o   2nd Offense: U AND F in the class for semester (if it’s the same class), all other and future teachers know, conference w/ dean, teachers, counselor, parents, 2 SaturdaySchools

o   Possible suspension, removal from extra-curriculars, removal from course

         Colleges are notified of cheating, and may not want to admit you to their school

        Lose a lot of money in potential scholarships

**Review Game (~10 minutes): Team with most points gets candy**

White Board Marker Race: Split the class in half (2 teams); make sure there is a small aisle in the middle. One rep from each side stands in back of aisle with a white board marker. Ask the question. Students must SPEEDWALK to front white board and write answer. First person to write correct answer fully on board wins a point.

**Review Game Questions**

1. What does GPA stand for?

Grade Point Average

2. How many credits do you need in order to graduate?

220

3. How many tardies will result in a U in citizenship for the quarter?

4

4. When was West High founded?

1962

5. Who was the 1st Black President of South Africa?

Nelson Mandela

6. Which test do you need to take in your junior year of high school?

            Smarter Balance test

7. Name 1 good study habit.

(Anything from the suggestions provided.)

8. Name 1 counselor.

(You should know who they are)

9. What is 1 form of cheating?

(Anything from the examples provided.)

10. What happens if you don’t have your ID and you get caught?

Detention

11. What are our names?

12. What is this room number?

**CHECK BEFOREHAND!**

13. What is your class color?

Red

14. Do you NEED to take the SAT to get into college?

            No! There is the ACT also!

15. What club are we a part of?

**FRESHMAN FOCUS**

16. How many years of science do you have to take to graduate?

2 years

17. What is one of the purposes of Naviance?

(Answers may vary)

   Tell them to ENJOY WINTER BREAK!