



# High School Transition Night

School of the Arts  
Information Session  
May 19, 2025  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

# Introductions

Heather Kelly - 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Counselor A-L

Nadia Adams - 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Counselor M-Z




# Expectations

- Be Punctual and Be Present
  - Attendance in high school is critical and directly related to the passing or failing of courses.
    - Ex. Labs require a set amount of lab minutes to take a regents exam. When a student doesn't have enough minutes, they cannot sit for the exam.
  - Communicating and advocating for oneself
- Emailing or speaking with teachers when there is a question or need help
  - Setting up appointments with school personnel
  - Checking PowerSchool regularly to ensure they are aware of work that is due, or if anything is missing.
  - Parents are also able to access PowerSchool - if you need the ID and Password, please let us know so we can send it to you!



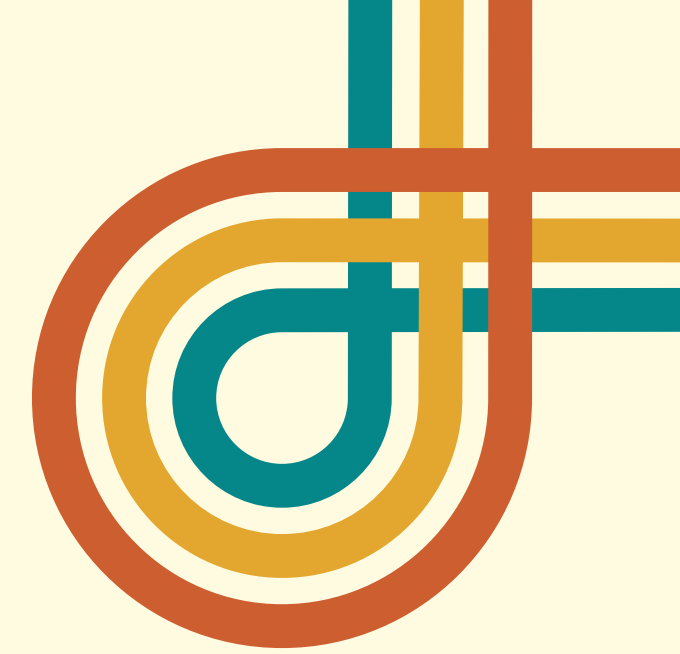


# Expectations

- Students and Parents should be aware of RCSD and SOTA codes of conduct
  - Students should maintain:
    - Self-control
    - Appreciation of the rights of others
    - Respect for the property of the school and others
    - Appropriate use of social media
    - Display compliance with classroom rules for each individual teacher
- 



# NYS Graduation Requirements



## CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

(Apply to all diploma types: local, Regents, Regents with advanced designation)

	MINIMUM NUMBER OF CREDITS
English	4
Social Studies (see note #6) <i>Distributed as follows:</i> U.S. History (1) Global History and Geography (2) Participation in Government (½) Economics (½)	4
Science <i>Distributed as follows:</i> Life Science (1) Physical Science (1) Life Science or Physical Science (1)	3
Mathematics	3
Languages Other than English (LOTE)	1 <sup>(**)</sup>
Visual Art, Music, Dance, and/or Theater	1
Physical Education (participation each semester)	2
Health	0.5
Electives	3.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>

Updated January 2019

## EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS

	Regents Diploma for All Students		Regents Diploma via Appeal for All Students		Local Diploma via Appeal for All Students		Local Diploma for Students with a Disability		Local Diploma via Appeal for English Language Learners	
REGENTS EXAM or passing score on a Department approved alternative	# of Exams	Passing Score	# of Exams	Passing Score	# of Exams	Passing Score	# of Exams	Passing Score	# of Exams	Passing Score
English Language Arts (ELA)	1	65	1	1 Regents exam with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal has been granted by the district and all remaining Regents exams with a score of 65 or above	1	2 Regents exams with a score of 60-64 for which appeals have been granted by the district and all remaining Regents exams with a score of 65 or above	1	55 <sup>*^</sup>	1	Either the ELA Regents exam with a score of 55-59 for which an appeal has been granted by the district, and all remaining Regents exams with a score of 65 or above, <u>OR</u> 1 Regents exam with a score of 60-64 and the ELA Regents with a score of 55-59 for which appeals have been granted for both by the district, and the remaining Regents exams with a score of 65 or above <sup>†</sup>
Math	1	65	1		1		1	55 <sup>*^</sup>	1	
Science	1	65	1		1		1	55 <sup>*^</sup>	1	
Social Studies	1	65	1		1		1	55 <sup>*^</sup>	1	
Pathway (See note 1 on reverse side)	1 or CDOS	65 if Regents Exam	1 or CDOS		1 or CDOS		1 or CDOS	55 <sup>*^</sup> if Regents Exam	1 or CDOS	
Compensatory Safety Net	Non-Applicable		Non-Applicable		Non-Applicable		Scores of 45-54 on any required Regents exam (except ELA and Mathematics) can be compensated by a score of 65 or above on another required Regents exam including ELA and Mathematics.		Non-Applicable	



# NYS Requirements

## REGENTS DIPLOMA with ADVANCED DESIGNATION

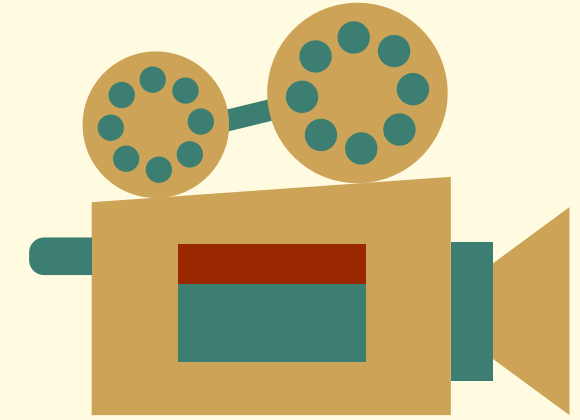
Depending on the pathway a student chooses, the Regents diploma with advanced designation assessment requirements may be met in multiple ways. Students seeking the Regents diploma with Advanced Designation may choose from the following assessment options:

Traditional Combination	ELA, Global History and Geography, US History and Government, 3 mathematics, 2 science (1 life science, 1 physical science) = 8 assessments. In addition, the student must choose either 2 additional credits in LOTE and the locally developed Checkpoint B LOTE Exam OR a 5-unit sequence in the arts or CTE.
Pathway Combination (other than STEM)	ELA, 1 social studies, 3 math, 2 science (1 life science, 1 physical science), 1 Pathway (other than science or math) or complete the requirements for the CDOS Commencement Credential = 7 (+CDOS) or 8 assessments. In addition, the student must choose either 2 additional credits in LOTE and the locally developed Checkpoint B LOTE Exam OR a 5-unit sequence in the arts or CTE.
STEM (Mathematics) Pathway Combination	ELA, 1 social studies, 4 math <sup>†</sup> , 2 science (1 life science, 1 physical science) = 8 assessments. In addition, the student must choose either 2 additional credits in LOTE and the locally developed Checkpoint B Exam or a 5-unit sequence in the arts or CTE.
STEM (Science) Pathway Combination	ELA, 1 social studies, 3 math, 3 science (at least 1 life science, at least 1 physical science) = 8 assessments. In addition, the student must choose either 2 additional credits in LOTE and the locally developed Checkpoint B LOTE Exam OR a 5-unit sequence in the arts or CTE.

SOTA Students already qualify for the NYS Advanced Designation with the Arts credits earned through their major.



# SOTA Graduation Requirements



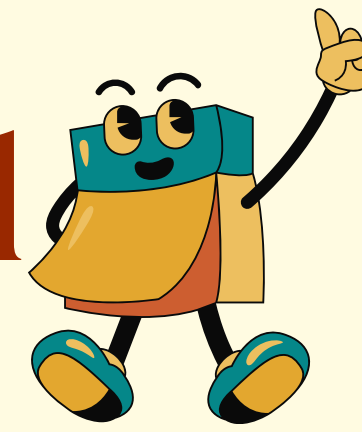
## School of the Arts Graduation Requirements

Subject	Required Credits: SOTA Diploma	Required Credits: RCSD Diploma	Regents Diploma: Exam Requirements
English	4	4	65% on English
Social Studies	4	4	65% on Global History and US History
Math	3	3	65% on One (1) Regents Math exam
Science	3	3	65% on One (1) Regents Science exam
Foreign Language	1*	1*	
P.E.	2	2	
Health	.5	.5	
Arts	8	4.5 electives	
Total Required Credits	25.5	22	

\*Or score 65% on 8<sup>th</sup> grade Checkpoint A exam



# School Links and College Board



## SchoolLinks:

- Where Counselors can communicate with parents, students, and college programs.
- Where students can connect with colleges and learn more about their academic, social, and emotional needs and goals.

## College Board:

- A non-profit organization that supports college transitions and is the hub to see test scores such as the SAT, ACT, and AP exams.
- College Board also offers tutoring programs based on PSAT results
- For more information, you can visit the College Board website: <https://www.collegeboard.org/>





# Summer School

8th-grade students going into 9th grade have an opportunity for advancement as well as recovery this summer:

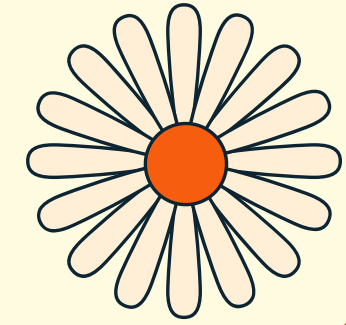
- Acceleration University at St. John Fisher University: This placement is for advancement for high school credits. Parents must sign their child up if they'd like to attend.
- For students currently enrolled in a credit-bearing course, such as Earth Science or Algebra I, who fail an exam or course will be registered by their counselor for recovery at summer school.

# What to Expect in July

Course requests will be sent out at some point in July. If there is something that is incorrect or needs changing, please contact Mr. Tirre via e-mail.



# Contact Information

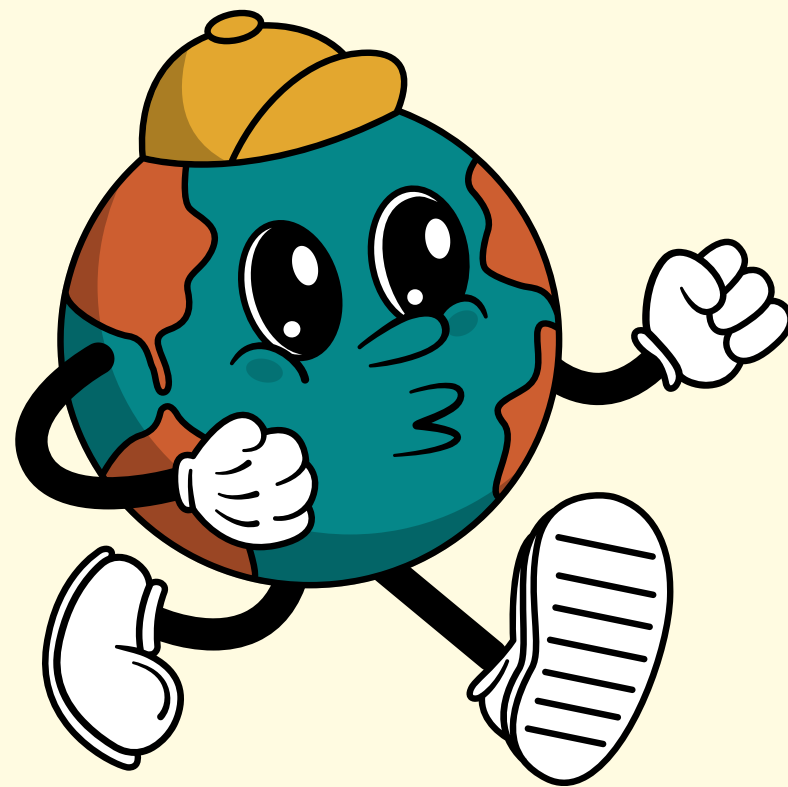


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# Q & A



# Questions:

Q: Do students need to take summer school to take the August regents? Can they take the exam without taking summer school?

A: You do not need to attend all of the summer school if you pass the class but fail the regents. There is an opportunity to take a review class if you opt out of school in this case. If you fail the class and the regents, you should be signed up for summer school.

Q: What is the minimum grade for AP classes?

A: Students must have a 65 or higher to pass a course. The AP exam is on a 1-5 rating scale. Colleges recognize a 3, 4, or 5 for college credit. Some colleges only recognize a 4 or 5.

Q: If my student is taking Earth Science and Algebra I in 8th grade, does it count towards their diploma?

A: YES!! These classes, along with Spanish I C count towards a student's high school diploma (One credit for each class)



# Questions

Q: What is the Spanish Checkpoint A exam?


A: This is the exam that 8th-grade students take to gain credit toward their language requirement for graduation.

Q: What are the other languages offered at SOTA?

A: After a student completes Spanish I C, they can take Mandarin Chinese or American Sign Language which are offered as a virtual course and taken in the Virtual lab with teachers in the room to help them if they need support.

Q: If my child plays a sport, are they PE exempt?

A: We do not exempt students who are athletes from PE. However, we do offer Dance classes for non-majors that count as a PE credit. Students have a choice between Jazz and Tap PE.







# Questions

Q: What do students do when they have completed their 3 Math and 3 Science credits?

A: They can take more elective classes, continue on with other Math and Science classes, or they can have an advisement period.

Q: How does a student obtain an Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors?

A: The student must score above a 90% on each regents exam.

Q: Can a student take Mandarin Chinese in the World Language track?

A: There are no regents exams for Mandarin Chinese but it still counts for high school credit.

# Questions

Q: How does the course request process work?

A: Students fill out a form during the year with their preferences and those preferences are taken into consideration when the counselors are inputting the information. SOTA has a very specific track that needs to be followed with major classes involved, but students or parents are able to see their requests via PowerSchool and can email their counselor or principal if there needs to be a change.

Q: When will students find out about their acceptance to the St. John Fisher Summer Program?

A: Families will be notified before the end of June. They will hear from the district or their counselor directly.





# Questions

Q: How do students double major?

A: Students have to re-audition in January to have a major added to their program of study. The addition of another major would not happen until the following year if accepted (Auditioned in 9<sup>th</sup> and begins in 10<sup>th</sup>). If a student re-auditions, they do not lose their spot in their current major. When a student "double majors" they take two pathways but they only complete half of each.