

## Counselors visited 8th Grade for Session #1 of the High School Preparation Lessons. Here is a recap:

- Lassiter is a traditional schedule with 6 periods per year. Sprayberry is a block schedule with 8 blocks per year (4 classes in the fall and 4 classes in the spring). Over the span of 4 years a student at Lassiter could earn 24 credits, and a Sprayberry student can earn 32.
- There are graduation requirements in high school. Over the four years of high school, students must get 4 English/Language Arts classes, 4 Math classes, 4 Science classes, and 3 Social Studies classes at minimum. Students must also complete a unit of Health/Personal Fitness. Some students do take this in summer to save that space in their schedule for other courses they wish to take. There is a cost to take Health/Personal Fitness over summer. See your high school's website for information on how to register for this. There are no other PE requirements in high school. Students need to complete a pathway in CTAE, Fine Arts, and/or Foreign Language. A pathway is a sequence of 3 courses concentrated in one area. An example would be Intro to Business, Business and Tech, and then Entrepreneurship. Or, French I, French II, and then French III. Or Band I, Band II, and Band III. There are many options for pathways. Beyond these requirements, there are also spaces on the 4-year plan for additional electives.
- CTAE stands for Career Technical Agricultural Education. Students were told that these class titles closely resemble career titles or jobs. Examples are Intro to Business, Foundations of Engineering, and Audio/Video Technology. There are other options as well.
- While Foreign Language isn't required to graduate, it IS required for college entrance. Students were encouraged to look at specific college requirements. For example, University of Georgia clearly says on their website they won't take any students with less than 3 years of the same foreign language. Most colleges do however accept students with at least 2 years of the same foreign language.
- Students can take college courses while they are in high school through Dual Enrollment. Students must apply and be accepted to that college (GPA + SAT/ACT scores). Credit earned will count both at the college and back at the high school. There is no cost on the student's part for Dual Enrollment.