



*One Team, One Goal, Student Success*



# Welcome to Rising 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night

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## 2025-26

# Kell High School PTSA Officers

President: Laura Mirmelli

Co-President - Katie Kell

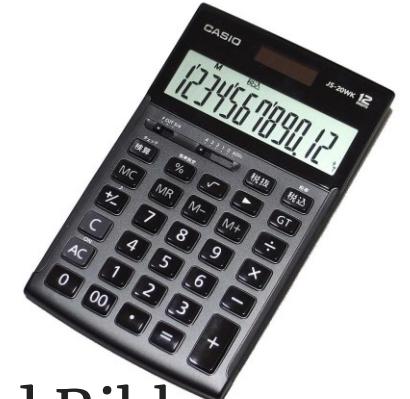
Vice-President - Jolynn Hardizi

Treasurer - Angela Yon

Secretary - Amanda Richey

# What Does PTSA Do for Kell HS?

- Awards teacher mini grants to purchase items for classrooms
- Staff appreciation luncheons and events
- Scholarships for Seniors
- Homecoming Community Party
- Senior Activities, including Senior Breakfast and Baccalaureate
- Helps the school with various events such as Block Parties and Red Ribbon Week
- So much more.....





Scan QR Code  
to Purchase your  
PTSA Membership



# PTSA Business Sponsorships

## **Grey Level - \$150**

- Logo/name recognition in monthly membership newsletter 4 times per year.
- Facebook & Instagram "Shout Out" 1 time.

## **Black Level - \$250**

- Business name/logo featured during PTSA events
- Logo/name recognition in monthly membership newsletter 4 times per year.
- Logo on PTSA Website with link to business website.
- Facebook & Instagram "Shout Out" 2 times.

## **Copper Level - \$350**

- Business name/logo featured during PTSA events.
- Logo/name recognition in membership newsletter monthly with link to business website.
- Display logo/name at PTSA meetings.
- Logo on PTSA Website with link to business website.
- Facebook & Instagram "Shout Out" 6 times.

Website: <https://www.kellpts.org/business-sponsors>

## Administration

- **Dr. Peter Giles**, Principal
- **Dr. Charrod Taylor**, Assistant Principal, 9<sup>th</sup> administrator
- **Jeff Burch**, Assistant Principal, 9<sup>th</sup> administrator,
- **Dr. Landon Odom**, Assistant Principal, 10<sup>th</sup> administrator
- **Oneisha Young**, Assistant Principal, 11<sup>th</sup> administrator/AD
- **Amelia Sanders**, Assistant Principal, 12<sup>th</sup> administrator/scheduler
- **Glenda Canada**, Student Support Administrator



## Kell Department Leads

- **English**
  - Lauren Forbes
- **Mathematics**
  - Rachel Buhler
- **Science**
  - Danielle LeBrun
- **Social Studies**
  - Matt White
- **Special Education**
  - Michelle Hubbart
- **ESOL**
  - Rachel Walton
- **World Languages**
  - Ashley McIntosh
- **Fine Arts**
  - Gary Hicks
- **Career Tech**
  - Katie Dow
- **Health/PE**
  - Todd Harris

## Kell Counselors

- **Del Green**, last names A-D
- **Holly Von Laken**, last names E-K
- **Taran Smith**, last names L-Re
- **Wendy Bucaj**, last names Ri-Z



## High School Schedule

### • 4 x 4 Block Schedule

- Eight classes each year – 4 each semester
- LASSO before 1<sup>st</sup> block on Tuesday and Thursday
- Lunch during 3<sup>rd</sup> block

### SAMPLE STUDENT SCHEDULE

#### Fall Semester – Student 1

- 1st Block Band (elective 2)
- 2nd Block German (elective 4)
- 3rd Block Honors Geometry
- 4th Block Honors Lit/Comp I

#### Spring Semester – Student 1

- 1st Block Band (elective 3)
- 2nd Block Honors Biology
- 3rd Block Health/BPE (elective 1-GRE)
- 4th Block Honors World Geography

#### Fall Semester – Student 2

- 1st Block World Geography
- 2nd Block Foundations of Algebra
- 3rd Block Intro to Culinary (elective 1)
- 4th Block Lit/Comp I

#### Spring Semester – Student 2

- 1st Block Environmental Science
- 2nd Block Algebra 1
- 3rd Block Health/BPE (elective 2-GRE)
- 4th Block Intro to Graphic Design (elective 3)

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## How Many Credits are Required for Graduation?

Area of Study	Required Credits
English/Language Arts	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
World Language/Technical/Fine Art Elective	3 credits
Personal Fitness	0.5 credit
Health	0.5 credit
Electives (any subject)	4 credits
<b>TOTAL CREDITS:</b>	<b>23</b>



## Units of Credits

- Students earn **units of credit** by successfully completing courses
- In order to graduate, a student must earn a minimum of **23** credits
  - 5 to be promoted to a Sophomore
  - 10 to be promoted to a Junior
  - 16 to be promoted to a Senior
  - **\*students must also earn credit in English, Science, & Math each year to be promoted\***
- Credits earned impact extracurricular sports and activities (athletic eligibility)





## Rigor

Three main considerations

1. Colleges look heavily at rigor for admission

- More rigor = more college opportunities

2. Certain scholarships look exclusively at GPA

- Less rigor = easier to maintain higher GPA
- Hope rigor requirements

3. Preparation for College

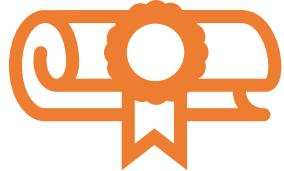
- More rigor = better preparation for college rigor



Students and families must carefully consider all three factors when deciding what level of rigor to pursue.

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## How to check grades and credits earned?



### Report Card

ParentVUE/StudentVUE shows current grades

Progress reports-every 6 weeks

Report card at end of semester-not printed

### Transcript

Official high school record

Attempted & earned credits

High school credit from middle school



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## Course Options

### Programs of Study

- On-level
  - General course of study
- Honors
  - Increased rigor to challenge gifted & higher-achieving students
  - Prepares students for AP courses
- Advanced Placement (AP®)
  - College-level courses taught in high school
  - AP Exams in May provide opportunity to earn college credit
- Dual Enrollment
  - College course taken in-person or online through local colleges & universities
  - Earns HS & College Credit concurrently
  - 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Only



# Career Pathways

## College & Career Readiness

- High school students complete a college &/or career pathway within their program of study for post high school readiness
  - Advanced Academic Pathway
  - Fine Arts Pathway
  - World Languages Pathway
  - CTAE Pathway

## Career Tech Programs

- Army JROTC, Audio-Video & Film, Marketing, Computer Science, Engineering, Culinary, Graphic Design, Teaching as a Profession, Health Sciences



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## Career Pathways

- 3 units of **JROTC** satisfies the health & personal fitness graduation requirement.
- **World Language** classes are not required for graduation, but necessary to attend 4-year colleges & universities as well as some 2-year colleges.
- **Career Pathways** are not required for graduation, but they are encouraged



# Kell STEM Academy

- A STEM Academy is a program within a school that allows students who are interested, to do in-depth study in the STEM fields.
- The curriculum pathway for our STEM Academy students sets out a plan for these students to maximize STEM class and extracurricular related offerings during their 4 years in High School.
- High academic achievement and STEM involvement outside of the classroom are expectations for successful completion of the program.
- Students are grouped in an advisement with one of our STEM Teacher Coordinators.
- Successful completion prepares students for the rigor of STEM related college and career work as well as earns student recognitions at honors night and their graduation ceremony with an honor cord.



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# Kell STEM Admissions Process

- Kell STEM Academy will have a competitive admissions process. Criteria that will be evaluated will include the following:
  - Standardized test scores, with emphasis on Math and Science scores
  - Middle school grades, with emphasis on 7th and 8th grade
  - Curriculum taken in middle school, with favor given to students taking Algebra I or higher in math and Physical Science.
- Link available on the Kell website ([Kell STEM Academy webpage](#)) for students to apply to the Kell STEM Academy.



# Scheduling Timeline

- February – core and elective registration at respective middle schools
  - All course info is available on the Kell 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration Webpage in the Handbook
  - Core happening now in classrooms with 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, and is due by Friday, February 6
    - AP Human Geography Contracts due by Monday, February 9
  - Elective information available now, fair tomorrow during field trip, actual registration on Monday, February 9
- March/April – course registration review & opportunity to change academic course requests
  - Will be available on Parent/Studentvue
  - Receipt confirmation & waivers/double-up forms available
- Late July – schedule available; schedule corrections only (no course changes)
  - Online form to request corrections



## Why is 9<sup>th</sup> Grade So Important?

- Determines promotion to 10<sup>th</sup> grade
- Hope Scholarship
- Transcript
- Graduation and Post-secondary options

## End of Course (EOC) Milestones

- Algebra 1
- Honors Biology

*These tests count 10% of a student's grade!*



## Academic Support

### LASSO

- Longhorn Academic Student Support Opportunity
- To allow students of all levels with a grade below a 78 to receive additional academic support during the school day.
  - Also includes tutoring, college essay writing and Leadership Opportunities

### LEAP

- Longhorn Educational Assistance Program
- Afterschool Tutoring for Math, Science, Language Arts and Social Studies.

### Assessment Accountability

- Ensures that student grades are truly reflective of understanding or mastery of the standards
- Holds students accountable for their learning by not letting them choose to "opt out"
- Offers extra opportunities to complete late work without penalty



# Ways to Support Your Student's Success

- Check ParentVue to view your student's attendance & grades
- Communicate with Teachers
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
  - Should be scheduled with each teacher
- Best way to communicate with teachers:
  - E-mail (accessible via course syllabus & Kell website)
  - CTLS Parent



# Athletics, Clubs, and Extra-Curricular Activities

- Kell offers 26 Varsity sports
- Multiple academic and social clubs for all interests. Clubs are added yearly based on student interests
- Tryouts will begin in April and May!
  - Cheer
  - Softball
  - Football
  - Volleyball
  - Flag Football

Contact coaches via [www.kellathletics.org](http://www.kellathletics.org)

**PHYSICALS and FORMS must be filled out on ParentVue**



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## Social Media



Kell High School



Instagram

thekellhighschool



KellHighSchool



#OurTimeOurPlaceOurKell

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Thank You! We look forward to  
welcoming you to our Kell community!