

Charting Your Path for Success in the 21st Century

Dear Students and Parents:

To be competitive in the 21st century students graduating from high school need to be more prepared academically than at any time in our history. The future for all students must include some form of post-secondary education or training. According to *Learning for the 21st Century* published by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills students should consider the following as they chart their four-year, high school sequence:

- Complete four years of Language Arts; three years of Math, Science and Social Studies and two years of a world language.
- Take classes that build critical thinking, communication, problem solving and self-directional skills.
- Learn to use technology tools that improve your ability to complete school work effectively and efficiently.

To achieve these goals you need to carefully choose courses that prepare you for a variety of options after graduation. The decisions you make now will help you prepare for the future of your choice. I would encourage every student to set your sights on taking at least one Honors, Advanced Placement or IB course (without being part of the IB program) during your four years. I would also suggest carefully examining your goals and ambitions so that you don't end up in a class just because a friend is taking it. A well-planned high school program can open up many doors to the future even before you graduate.

Each year the LHS faculty carefully considers every course. We make minor changes in some courses, create new courses, and remove others. The Lion's Lore represents our best thinking with regard to what students should know and be able to do by graduation so they are prepared for the 21st century. Deciding what to offer students is a task we take very seriously. I would encourage you to become familiar with the contents of Lion's Lore so that you make informed decisions.

Preparing for your future is important. Charting your individual path for the 21st-century workforce begins now.

Sincerely,



Amy R. Oaks, Ph.D.
Principal