

## FAQ: Rising 10th-12th Grade Course Scheduling

*Based on the Parent Q&A Session*

### 1. Digital Tools & Platforms

**Q: There are so many platforms (StudentVue, Canvas, ParentSquare, SchooLinks). What is the difference between them?**

- **StudentVue:** Used for checking grades, class schedules, and attendance.
- **Canvas:** Used for student assignments and course content. Parents can sign up as "observers."
- **ParentSquare:** The primary tool for communication (news, calendar, messages). It includes text translation features for families.
- **SchooLinks:** The platform used specifically for **course scheduling** and college/career planning.

**Q: Is SchooLinks a replacement for the other platforms?** No. It is a specific tool for scheduling and future planning, separate from grades (StudentVue) or assignments (Canvas).

**Q: How do parents access SchooLinks?** You can access resources and login information via the APS College & Career Corner:

<https://www.apsva.us/college-career-corner/resources/schoolinks/>

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### 2. The Scheduling Process

**Q: When can students start selecting courses?** SchooLinks is open now for all students to begin the process.

**Q: Can we change course requests after they are submitted?** Yes. Counselors will meet with students in February to finalize requests. However, students and families can adjust course requests in the system until the **last day of school in June**.

**Q: Do teachers give recommendations for courses?** Yes. Teachers will discuss recommendations with students in class and input them digitally into the system.

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**Q: Can we see the teacher for a specific class before requesting it?** Teachers discuss courses with students during school hours. For parents, we recommend checking the Program of Studies or attending information nights, as individual teacher meetings for prospective classes are not standard.

### **3. Summer School**

**Q: When will information about Summer School be available?** Information regarding "New Work for Credit" summer classes will be available in **March** (late February/early Spring).

**Q: How do we sign up for Summer School?** Registration will happen in the spring. Students can typically register via ParentVue/StudentVue (this process may be updated when the info packet is released).

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**Q: If a student takes a summer class, does it free up space in next year's schedule?** Yes. Taking a summer class allows students to free up a block in their schedule for other electives or core classes.

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### **4. Credits, Transfer & Graduation Requirements**

**Q: Do middle school credits count toward high school graduation?** Yes. High school level courses taken in middle school (such as World Languages) count toward credit requirements.

**Q: What is a "Verified Credit"?** A verified credit is awarded when a student passes the class and passes the associated SOL (Standards of Learning) exam.

**Q: Is Economics & Personal Finance required?** Yes, it is a graduation requirement. However, AP or IB Economics courses also satisfy this requirement.

**Q: Does AP Human Geography count as a history credit?** Yes, completion of AP Human Geography fulfills the graduation requirement for one credit in Geography/History.

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## **5. IB & Special Programs**

**Q: Where can we find more information about the IB Program?** Washington-Liberty (W-L) hosts specific IB Information Nights. For example, the IB planning night for 10th graders is scheduled for January 14, 2026.

**Q: If a student transfers from another APS school, will their credits transfer?** Yes. If the student is already in APS, courses automatically transfer if they are high school credits.

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### **Draft for YouTube Description Box**

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#### **Rising 10th-12th Grade Scheduling Information Session**

Thank you for joining us to discuss course selection for the 2026-27 school year! This video covers important updates regarding SchooLinks, graduation requirements, and the timeline for course requests.

 **READ THE FULL Q&A DOCUMENT:** [Link to the document on your website]

#### **HELPFUL LINKS MENTIONED:**

- **SchooLinks Resources:** <https://www.apsva.us/college-career-corner/resources/schoolinks/>
- **Counseling Services:** <https://wl.apsva.us/office-of-counseling-services/>
- **Program of Studies:** <https://catalog.apsva.us/>

#### **TIMELINE:**

- **Now:** SchooLinks is open for course entry.
- **February:** Counselors meet 1-on-1 with students.
- **March:** Summer School registration information becomes available.
- **June:** Final deadline to adjust course requests.