



PAUL R. BROWN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY  
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A NORTH CAROLINA CHARTER SCHOOL



Dr. Jason M. Wray, Superintendent

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## High School Year-by-Year 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Year

Greetings Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to The Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy. I would like to share some very important information that we feel would allow your student to reach their full potential in high school. The high school counselor can be a valuable resource in helping your student make decisions regarding the high school years. It is, however, important that you and your child also assume responsibility for setting goals, making educational plans and meeting requirements to fulfill those plans.

### The Junior Year

What can you do to advise and guide your 11th grade student?

Continue to monitor academic progress.

Continue to encourage your student to be involved in a wide variety of activities and to develop social and leadership skills.

Help your student choose the appropriate test to take this year. Testing occurs early in the fall, and every junior is given the opportunity to take a national test which may relate to their post high school, college, or career options.

If your student is planning to attend a 4-year university or technical college, have them register for the SAT or ACT early in the spring. Some colleges also require the SAT. The counselor have information regarding which tests are required by individual colleges. All 11<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to take the ACT free of charge in the Spring.

Spring of the junior year is an excellent time to make college visits. Parents should follow the Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy attendance procedures to arrange for an excused absence for a college visit. The counselor can assist in making appointments with admissions officers, as well as arranging for campus tours.

Important factors to consider as you look at colleges and start to narrow your focus: location, size, cost, facilities, available majors, reputation, competitiveness and community.

Start checking into scholarships. The counselors have scholarship information, internet addresses and other information regarding possible sources of funds for higher education. Also, our counselor alerts students to scholarship opportunities through announcements and postings. Parents are always welcome to come in and examine them.

Help your student carefully select courses for the senior year.

Help your student choose meaningful activities for the summer months.

Your 11th grade student can expect to complete the required core classes listed below during their second year of high school. Classes may be offered in the first or second semester but should be offered and completed during your students' 11th grade year. Additionally, students will have to complete elective courses as well during their first year of high school. A total of 20 credits that includes English III and Biology (normally taken in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade) are necessary for promotion to the 11th grade.

English III – 1 Credit (required for promotion)  
NC Math III – 1 Credit  
Biology – 1 Credit  
American History or Econ and Pers Finance– 1 Credit  
Electives – 4 Credits

**Monitor Academic Progress** – The Powerschool Parent Portal gives you the ability to monitor your students' progress. Make sure that you see all interim progress reports and your students' report cards. Ask your students' teachers to send your progress reports via email. All teachers are expected to contact parents when there are concerns, but I encourage you not to assume someone will contact you if there is a problem. Provide encouragement and support, making certain that your student understands academic grades are vitally important.

**Encourage your student to become involved in a wide variety of activities.** Many colleges and employers like to see students who are well-rounded, active citizens of the high school and community. Some scholarship committees also consider extracurricular activities to be important. Perhaps more important, students who are involved in activities seem to enjoy high school more, and generally have greater academic success.

**Finally, help your student choose meaningful activities for the summer months.** These varied activities may include college summer programs, summer employment, taking lessons, reading, volunteer work with a local business organization, or other activities that will develop social and leadership skills. These activities are significant to prospective employers and to higher education admissions officers.

We are looking forward to a great school year at The Paul R. Brown Leadership. Should you ever need my assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me @ (910) 862-2965 or [jwray@prbla.org](mailto:jwray@prbla.org).

Respectfully,

Jason M. Wray, EdD  
Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy  
Superintendent