

What to expect in 9th grade

Characteristics of 9th grade – more oral information given, auditory skills are taxed, less prompting by the teacher, tests get harder, independent reading, have to manage assignments, homework increases, lecture from several teachers, note-taking increases, more long-range assignments, increased personal initiative, more details to manage, less organization imposed, more honors level classes introduced, study skills are a must, first year in high school (counts the most over four years), final exams begin, community service hours introduced – students are required to complete 8 hours of service during the school year. These hours must be served in the community, NOT in school, family, church, or foreign missions. Summer is a great time to get started.

9th grade participates in a **beach retreat (projected cost is \$175)**. The dates for this retreat will be during the week of September 25, just before fall break. Information will be given on the first day of school with payment and trip details.

Homeroom supplies – please provide two boxes of Kleenex

General supplies for all classes – You may choose to get a three-ring binder for each class or one large three-ring trapper keeper for all classes. Organization is Key! Students will need the following items in all classes: blue/black pens, pencils, notebook paper (college ruled) and at least two flash drives. All students will need access to a computer, the internet, and a printer. Please pay attention to specific supplies needed for each class listed below.

Classes – Geometry, Algebra I, Spanish I, Language Arts, Bible, PE (one semester), Health (one semester), Biology, elective

Spanish I – A variety of methods will be used to teach Spanish vocabulary, verbs, grammar, pronunciation, and communication. Students will be using not only their textbook, but also oral repetition, videos, Power Point, games, drama, songs, and dance to learn to converse in Spanish with the ultimate purpose of not only understanding Spanish speaking-people, but also sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Students will learn to create study sheets for learning vocabulary and make “verb cards” (50+ verbs first semester).

Specific supplies needed – a large three-ringed pencil pouch made to go inside a binder (for storing verb cards), bright color for grading, highlighters, glue and scissors for projects, and a flash drive (to be used for Spanish ONLY—NOT shared with other subjects) for computer projects.

Geometry – This course will cover the following topics: geometry basics, reasoning and proof, perpendicular and parallel lines, congruency and properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, similarity, right triangles and trigonometry, circles, area, surface area and volume of polygons and circles, transformations, and constructions.

Specific supplies needed –graph paper, protractor, compass, ruler, jumbo book cover, TI30XIIS scientific calculator, and one jumbo book cover.

Algebra I – This course is designed to introduce students to the basic algebraic concepts, problem solving strategies, and real world applications. Students will explore these concepts through a multistep approach including guided instruction, modeling of appropriate problem solving strategies, and opportunities to apply newly acquired skills. The course demonstrates the order of God’s creation.

Specific supplies needed – large spiral notebook with insert folders/pockets, graph paper, TI30XIIS, and one jumbo book cover.

Language Arts – This course addresses five important literary elements: conflict, character, theme, structure, and point of view. Students will read, discuss, and analyze various reading selections and will identify important literary terms within each. Students will also write creatively and critically, incorporating new vocabulary and grammatical mechanics into their various compositions. In addition, students will enhance their learning by participating in various individual and group projects, including a literary analysis second semester. Students will study units from the literature textbook and read several novels, including *The Outsiders*, *Animal Farm*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Specific supplies needed –2-inch 3-ring notebook, 70-page spiral notebook, highlighters, colored grading pens, and one flash drive. Students need regular access to a computer, the internet, and a printer.

Bible – Students will take an active approach to learning about the Old and New Testament. Students will discuss in class, complete handouts, journal, and conduct presentations based on the materials taught in class.

Specific supplies needed –Bible

Science – Biology - This course is an overview of Botany, Human Anatomy, Evolution, Zoology, and Cellular Biology. Students will study the complexity of life forms and the strong arguments for a Creator seen in biological complexity and diversity. Students will analyze simple genetic characteristics and probabilities of inheritance.

Specific supplies needed – a 3-pronged folder, one red pen, 1 bag of candy (no chocolate or gum please), 1 roll paper towels.

Health (One Semester) – This class is designed to give the student more of an in-depth look at life and to acknowledge habits for a better life – physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. Students will learn from a Christian perspective an overview of the body systems, some first aid procedures, and ways to avoid potential dangers. This class includes the ADAP program (Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program) required by the state of Georgia to be completed before a student can get a drivers license.

Specific supplies needed –2 highlighters, one roll of paper towels.

PE (One Semester) – Students will be required to dress appropriately for PE each day. Students will be given adequate time to dress before and after class. Dress requirements are: Solid color tee shirt, pull-up athletic shorts (no zipper, button or snap, and should be mid-thigh length), socks and athletic shoes. (Sliders under shorts are permitted.)