

BEARDEN HIGH SCHOOL



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Pre-AP[®] Partner

Bearden High School is among the first to join the new College Board Pre-AP Program.

The new Pre-AP program offers instructional resources and classroom-based assessments to improve college and career readiness for all students.

Last year Bearden High School was selected from over 1,000 schools worldwide to participate in the new Pre-AP Program. Pre-AP is designed to give all students the opportunity to learn the foundational knowledge and skills they need to be successful in Advanced Placement courses, college-level coursework and in their careers. The College Board selected Bearden High School as a partner who is committed to college and career readiness for all students.

Participation in challenging coursework helps prepare students for success in high school and beyond. However, less than 50% of U.S. high school students are ready for college. And more than 300,000 high school students are not taking AP courses and exams that they have demonstrated the potential to succeed on, based on their scores on an SAT Suite assessment. With this data in mind – along with feedback from teachers who have said they would like to help shape a curriculum that prepares students before they enter an AP class – the College Board has developed the Pre-AP Program.

The Pre-AP Program objectives are to:

- Significantly increase the number of students who are able to access and complete college-level work – like AP – before leaving high school.
- Improve the college and career readiness of all students.

Bearden High School has received an official Pre-AP designation for each Pre-AP course and the chance to bring engaging coursework to all their students. This designation signals consistent, high standards in focused courses that help build, strengthen, and reinforce student's content knowledge and skills. Bearden High School is currently offering five 9th grade Pre-AP courses that will provide teachers and students with instructional resources, classroom-based assessments, high-quality professional learning, and focused practice.

Each Pre-AP course has been developed by committees of expert educators, including middle school, high school, and college faculty. These development committees work with the College Board to design effective instructional resources that emphasize and prioritize the content and skills that matter most for later high school coursework and college and career readiness. Pre-AP will continue to evolve through educator involvement, and Bearden High School will be a critical partner. Throughout the initial cohort experience, Pre-AP course teachers will be encouraged to share feedback that will help shape the program in years to come.

Your student is currently enrolled, for the 2019-2020 school year, in a Pre-AP designated course. As part of this initial cohort of students, we will be providing data to the college board. Your student will be offered the PSAT, at no cost to you, in both the Fall and Spring. The added benefit is that you will be provided with a wealth of information pertinent to your student in the form of a score report. This will not only provide you with a list of skills that your student should work on, but also free, personalized SAT study on Khan Academy, AP Potential feedback, and other career and college search resources.

More information on the PSAT and a sample score report can be found here:
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9/scores/student-score-reports>

More information on the College Board Pre-AP Program can be found **here**:
Preap.collegeboard.org

Bearden High School will be offering an optional informational forum at 6 pm on Thursday, August 22nd in the theatre.

If you have questions before that time, please feel free to reach out to our Pre-AP Coordinator, Cheri Reznicek at cheri.reznicek@knoxschools.org.

Respectfully,

Debbie Sayers
Principal
Bearden High School

Please return signed letter to your Pre-AP English teacher if you are enrolled in that course this semester. Please return signed letter to East Mall office (or another Pre-AP course teacher) if you are not enrolled in Pre-AP English until Spring Semester.

Please sign below to certify that this letter was received and reviewed.

Student Name (Print) _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____