

Transylvania County Scholars Program Guidelines

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

English/Language Arts: 4 credits

Mathematics: 4 credits

- May include Algebra I taken in the 8th grade.
- Includes a higher level course with Algebra II or Integrated Mathematics III as a prerequisite.

Science: 4 credits

- Must include Biology and at least two upper level sciences courses above Biology (one of which must be Chemistry or Physics).

Social Studies: 4 credits

- World History, Civics and Economics, U.S. History, and one upper-level course at Honors level of higher.

Foreign Language: 2 credits

- Two levels of the same language

Healthful Living/P.E.: 1 credit

Career/Technical Ed: 1 credit

Arts Education: 1 credit

Concentration Area: 4 credits

- Four credits in an approved sequence from one of the following: Career/Technical Education, Arts, or Foreign Language. At least one course in the sequence must be a second level or capstone course.
- Students may request approval of an interdisciplinary Integrated Concentration Area.

Electives: ~~4 credits~~ (amount to fulfill total units of credit required for graduation)

- To include at least two ~~second-level or advanced~~ courses taken during the junior and/or senior years which carry 5 or 6 quality points.

G.P.A.: Student must have both a 3.8 (weighted) **and** a 3.5 (un-weighted) grade point average.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Honors Graduate Designation: TCS designation of “with high honors” and NCS designation of “with honors” at graduation. Final decision on methods of recognition to be determined at later time.

Recognition (Scholars Banquet):

- All Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors who are on track to graduate as TC Scholars will be recognized at the annual awards program.

Class Rank: Based upon the weighted grade point average.

Junior Marshalls: Juniors who are on track to graduate as TC Scholars **and** are in the top 10% of their class.

Appeals Process:

- Committee chair: Principal/designee at each high school
- Committee composition:
 - Recommendation that Team Academically Gifted (TAG) also serve as the TC Scholars appeals committee
 - Teacher representative from each of the core disciplines (Math, Science, English, Social Studies)
 - Teacher representative from Career/Technical Education
 - Teacher representative from Arts Education
- Process:
 - A letter requesting a hearing must be written and submitted by the student to the committee chair prior to the start of classes of the appropriate (fall/spring) semester. The letter must include specific reason(s) for the appeal
 - As quickly as possible, the committee chair will schedule a meeting whereby the appeals letter will be submitted to the full committee for review and discussion. A decision will be made and the student and student's parents will be notified of the decision in writing within one calendar week and prior to the end of drop/add
 - If circumstances warrant, ad hoc members will be added to assist in rendering a fair and informative decision

Honor Code:

Honor: Staking one's good name on one's truthfulness, trustworthiness, and reliability; possessing a keen sense of ethical conduct; bringing respect through one's actions and words.

A core value of an institution that seeks to maintain high moral and ethical standards is the intolerance of cheating in any form. As a student of the Transylvania County School system, and with intention of graduating with honors as a Transylvania County Scholar, you are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. Students who are mature and capable enough to select such a rigorous and valuable program must also be mature enough to accept the responsibilities and expectations that go along with it. This honor code intends to reduce the level of unhealthy competition in the schools by shifting peer pressure away from cheating and toward ethical behaviors such as **Respect, Honesty, and Trustworthiness.**

The Transylvania Scholars' Code of Conduct defines cheating as including, but not limited to:

- The willful or deliberate unauthorized use of the work of another person for academic purposes, or inappropriate use of notes or other material in the completion of an academic assignment or exam.
- Dealing dishonestly or deceptively to obtain advantage for oneself.
- Willful involvement with the giving of any unauthorized aid, assistance, or unfair advantage of academic work, including sharing the content or structure of an exam or quiz with another student.
- Using crib notes/cheat sheets while taking a test

- The intentional representation of another person's words, thoughts, or ideas as one's own (plagiarism).
- Downloading papers from a website and turning them in as your own.

The Transylvania County Schools' community is opposed to cheating for the following reasons:

- Cheating allows a student to receive the same or better grade than students who have put in the time and effort to master the material and concepts. Dishonestly inflated grades ultimately and unfairly raise the cheater's grade point and class rank, simultaneously lowering the rank of the students who do the work on their own.
- Cheating misrepresents a student's mastery of the subject to parents, employers, and colleges, and also distorts the teacher's perception of curriculum effectiveness and class progress.
- Cheating breaks trust in the student-teacher and student-student relationship.
- Cheating is morally wrong.

Consequences

Any student involved in cheating shall be guilty of an Honor Code violation and will be required to go before a District Council who will hear the charges and make a recommendation as to the continued status of the student's participation in the Transylvania County Scholar's program.

Students participating in the Transylvania County Scholar's program are expected to uphold its honor by refraining from all forms of dishonesty in their academic life and strive to do all they can to create a spirit of honesty and honor.

Students participating in the Transylvania County Scholar's program are expected to do all they can to create a spirit of honesty and honor within the program by refraining from all forms of dishonesty in their academic life.

Students participating in the Transylvania County Scholar's program are expected to uphold its honor and do all they can to create a spirit of integrity within the program by refraining from all forms of dishonesty in their academic life.