

October 1, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The 9th grade class of 2007-08 and all classes that follow will be required to complete the following in order to receive recognition as a Texas Scholar:

- Graduate from high school having completed the *recommended* high school plan, complete at least *two courses* while in high school that are *eligible for college credit*, and *earn at least B in these courses*,
- Pass *all* portions of the TAKS test with *a score of 2200 or above and score a 3 on the writing*, and
- Have an average of 70 or above in all classes

The college course credit requirement was added to encourage students to begin post secondary work while still in high school. Some examples of courses eligible for college credit are: Advanced Placement (AP) courses, International Baccalaureate courses (IB), CTE courses leading to a post secondary certification, and dual credit courses. CTE courses include:

- BCIS
- Preparation for Parenting/Child Development
- Introduction to Health Science/Medical Terminology
- Health Science Technology I, II, III
- Marketing Dynamics
- Principles of Marketing
- PFD
- Accounting

All students at Bishop High School are encouraged to graduate under the recommended or distinguished plan. Every student also has a 4-year plan on file in the guidance office.

Our current freshmen and sophomores have not had enough time to complete the second requirement listed above. For that reason, no freshmen or sophomore will receive recognition as a Texas Scholar as of now. If they meet the requirement their junior year, they will gain status as a Texas Scholar.

Please know that this is not a district decision; rather it is a policy that has been implemented due to the new graduation requirements for all 9th and 10th grade students. You may visit the following website for more information on Texas Scholars:

www.texasscholars.org/program_description

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Guidance Office (584-2547, ext. 233).

Nelda Vilches – Guidance Counselor