FAQ's for Incoming 9th Grade Students:

- **If I am currently in honors classes can I continue in honors classes?**
  - If you are enrolled in honors classes in 8th grade and earning B's or higher you can continue in honors courses that are offered in 9th grade.
- **How can I get into honors classes?**
  - You need a teacher recommendation and a subject GPA of at least 3.5. Current teachers can sign off on your course selection or give you a letter of recommendation. We will verify grades at the end of the school year.
- **I heard you can advance in math, how can I do that?**
  Math classes for advancement will be offered by Santiago Canyon College over the summer. Classes are recommended only for students who excel at math.
  - All classes are from June 20-July 27
  - Apply to SCC-starting April 1, obtain a signed CAP form
  - Take a placement test and attend an SCC orientation
  - May 11: Placement test and orientation at CHS in the cafeteria. Test: 3:30-4:30 and orientation 4:30-5:30.
  - Purchase textbook from SCC bookstore or online
- **What is the difference between AP and IB?**
  The Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs are both high school programs that offer college-level courses and the opportunity to earn college credit.
  - The International Baccalaureate (IB) program is a rigorous academic program designed to challenge students to be critical thinkers, communicate effectively using written and verbal expression, and develop an awareness of the world around them. The IB program provides a balanced two-year course of study.
  - AP® courses reflect what is taught in top introductory college courses. Students take AP Exams at the end of the course, measuring their mastery of college-level work. A score of 3 or higher on an AP Exam can typically earn students college credit and/or placement into advanced courses in college.

International Baccalaureate	Advanced Placement
More than one form of assessment: *exams and projects/papers	Solely based on exam in May
Exams are primarily short answer & essay	Exams are multiple choice & essays
Additional requirements: *CAS, EE, TOK	Only involves the exam in May
IB is a program *All HL courses are 2 years	AP classes are independent, one year courses
Approximate Cost: $900 over 2 years *includes registration fee & 6 exams	Approximate Cost: $91 per exam

- **I am interested in the IB program, what are the next steps?**
  - Applications are due to the Program Coordinator in the spring of sophomore year. Students applying to the program should be in good-standing academically and are generally in Honors classes as sophomores. The most important aspects for student success in the program are motivation and dedication.

- **When is Taking Care of Business (TCOB)? What happens if I can't come on that date?**
  - TCOB for incoming freshmen will take place on August 18, 2017. If you can't attend on that day, we will offer a make up day on August 21, 2017. If a student misses their assigned day and the make up day, they will complete this process on the first day of school.

- **How do I plan my 4 years of courses I will take?**
    - Your counselor will do 4 year planning with you in 9th grade and you will have many opportunities to talk with your counselor regarding courses and plans for your future.
- **How can I make sure I am taking the right classes to meet college admissions requirements?**
    - Your counselor not only tracks graduation requirements for you, but also makes sure you are completing the necessary courses to meet your goals post high school.
- **What math will I take in 9th grade?**
    - If you are in Math 8, you will take Integrated Math 1
    - If you are in Algebra I, you will take either Math 1 H or Geometry (H)
    - If you are in Geometry, you will take Algebra II (H)