



# GUIDANCE NEWSLETTER

CULLMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2015

## Core Subjects and Your Career

### Have you ever wondered why students have to take math?

Math skills help us cope with today's complex world. We use math to carry out everyday tasks such as balancing a checkbook, shopping for groceries, cooking, and creating a personal budget. Other important skills we learn from studying math include problem solving, analysis, and estimating. Math knowledge is essential for earning a living in many occupations, including most higher-paying occupations. There are about 15,500 mathematicians employed in the United States, but millions of workers have jobs in which mathematics is a necessary part. In fact, almost all jobs require at least some understanding of basic mathematics. For example, carpenters must be able to measure lengths and angles when installing wood trim. Machinists need to understand and manipulate angles and dimensions. Loan officers must determine applicants' debt-equity ratios before approving mortgage applications. And math skills are required for any science, engineering, computer, and technical occupation. Math is also an important part of a well-rounded education. Most high schools require students to take at least 4 years of math to graduate. And most colleges require some proficiency in math for all applicants, regardless of their intended major.

#### Examples of Jobs that Require Advanced Math Skills

- **Engineers, Chemists, Physicists, Meteorologists, Biomechanical Sciences, Architects, Math Teachers, Agricultural Scientists**

#### Examples of Jobs that Require Applied Math Skills

- **Accountants, Chiropractors, Computer Programmers, Construction, Dentists, Drafters, Farmers, Farm Managers, Physicians, Pharmacists**

#### Examples of Jobs that Require General Math Skills

- **Bank Teller, Brick layer, Cashier, Book-keeping, Private investigator**

For More Information on careers visit the latest Occupational

Outlook Handbook [www.bls.gov/ooh](http://www.bls.gov/ooh)

## Upcoming Guidance Activities

### 7th Grade :

- **Goal Setting and Grading at CMS**
- **Coach Campbell's Classes: Register for Alabama Career Planning System and Career Interest Inventory**

### 8th Grade :

**October 8th Career Fair Field Trip**

## Important Dates

**October 2– 1st 6 Weeks**

**Report Cards sent home with students**

**October 12-13– Fall Break**

**October 29 Make up Pictures**

**November 6– End of 2nd 6 Weeks**

## GRADING AT CULLMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Each 6-weeks grade is worth 30% and the semester exam is worth 10% toward the Semester Average

Students will be promoted to the next grade level with no more than 2 semester F's. Remember students must attend summer school if they have more than 2 semester F's and will be retained if they have more than 4 semester F's. Please review the CMS handbook for the detailed guidelines for promotion/retention.

English 1<sup>st</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_ Math 1<sup>st</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

English exam..... \_\_\_\_\_

Math exam..... \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_ divided by 10= \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_ divided by 10= \_\_\_\_\_

(Estimate of semester grade)

(Estimate of semester grade)

Science 1<sup>st</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

Soc St 1<sup>st</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> 6-wks \_\_\_\_\_ X3= \_\_\_\_\_

Science exam ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Soc St exam..... \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_ divided by 10= \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_ divided by 10= \_\_\_\_\_

(Estimate of semester grade)

(Estimate of semester grade)

100-90=A; 89-80=B; 79-70=C; 69-60=D; 59-0=F

## Grades of A Student with Homework vs. Without Homework

### Grades of student with homework

Test	75/100	75%
Quiz	12/20	60%
HW	15/15	100%
Test	60/100	60%
Test	40/100	40%
Quiz	10/20	50%
<u>HW</u>	<u>20/20</u>	<u>100%</u>
Total	232/375	61.8%

### Same grades without homework

Test	75/100	75%
Quiz	12/20	60%
HW	0/15	0%
Test	60/100	60%
Test	40/100	40%
Quiz	10/20	50%
<u>HW</u>	<u>0/20</u>	<u>0%</u>
Total	197/375	52.5%

### Homework Help Websites

Kahn Academy:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>



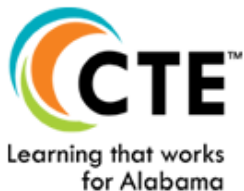
Homework Alabama:

[http://webmini.apls.state.al.us/apls\\_web/apls/apls/?q=homework](http://webmini.apls.state.al.us/apls_web/apls/apls/?q=homework)

Discovery Education Free Student Resources

<http://www.discoveryeducation.com/students/>

# ALABAMA CAREER PLANNING SYSTEM



ALABAMA CAREER PLANNING SYSTEM



[www.alcareerinfo.org](http://www.alcareerinfo.org)

The Alabama Career Planning System is a tool that has been purchased by the Alabama State Department of Education for use with students in middle school and high school. This tool has features that help students explore their interests in relation to careers, high school course selections, post high school options, college comparisons, financial aid, and many more. We are excited about using this tool with both 7th and 8th grade students as they begin exploring their careers and interests. Every student in Alabama from 8th-12th grade is required to have an updated 4 year education plan through ACPS Kuder that is either signed by the parent electronically, or an updated paper copy signed by the parent. The following breakdown shows how this tool will be utilized this year.

## 7th Grade

- **ALCPS Registration and Creating an Account**
- **Kuder Career Interest Inventory Assessment**
- **Exploration of Careers through Kuder**

## 8th Grade

- **ALCPS Registration and Creating an Account**
- **Kuder Career Interest Inventory Assessment**
- **Cullman Chamber of Commerce Career Awareness Fair ( October 8th)**
- **College Comparison**
- **4 Year Education Plan ( should be signed by parents and returned to school)**
- **Educational/Career Portfolio**

# Create a Parent Account in Alabama Career Planning System

1. Visit the Alabama Career Planning System Website at [www.alcareerinfo.org](http://www.alcareerinfo.org)
2. Click on the pink ALCPS Kuder Tab on the top right hand side of the webpage.
3. Click Log In Now
4. Click New Users Register Here under the username and password box.
5. Select Parent
6. Fill in the information, agree to the terms and conditions, and register. Please choose a username and password that is easy to remember as students will be utilizing this resource through their senior year of high school!
7. Use your students username to link to their account.
8. Use this account to explore the assessments and plans your child has made in ALCPS.
9. Begin having meaningful conversations with your child about his/her future!



# LEARNING STYLES AND STUDY TIPS

## Auditory Learners

If you are an auditory learner, you learn by hearing and listening. You understand and remember things you have heard. You store information by the way it sounds, and you have an easier time understanding spoken instructions than written ones. You often learn by reading out loud because you have to hear it or speak it in order to know it.

As an auditory learner, you probably hum or talk to yourself or others if you become bored. People may think you are not paying attention, even though you may be hearing and understanding everything being said.

Here are some things that auditory learners like you can do to learn better.

- Sit where you can hear.
- Have your hearing checked on a regular basis.
- Use flashcards to learn new words; read them out loud.
- Read stories, assignments, or directions out loud.
- Record yourself spelling words and then listen to the recording.
- Have test questions read to you out loud.
- Study new material by reading it out loud.
- Remember that you need to **hear** things, not just see things, in order to learn well.



## Visual Learners

If you are a visual learner, you learn by reading or seeing pictures. You understand and remember things by sight. You can picture what you are learning in your head, and you learn best by using methods that are primarily visual. You like to see what you are learning.

As a visual learner, you are usually neat and clean. You often close your eyes to visualize or remember something, and you will find something to watch if you become bored. You may have difficulty with spoken directions and may be easily distracted by sounds. You are attracted to color and to spoken language (like stories) that is rich in imagery.

Here are some things that visual learners like you can do to learn better:

- Sit near the front of the classroom.
- Have your eyesight checked on a regular basis.
- Use flashcards to learn new words.
- Try to visualize things that you hear or things that are read to you.
- Write down key words, ideas, or instructions.
- Draw pictures to help explain new concepts and then explain the pictures.
- Color code things.
- Avoid distractions during study times.

Remember that you need to **see** things, not just hear things, to learn well.



## Tactile Learners

If you are a tactile learner, you learn by touching and doing. You understand and remember things through physical movement. You are a "hands-on" learner who prefers to touch, move, build, or draw what you learn, and you tend to learn better when some type of physical activity is involved. You need to be active and take frequent breaks, you often speak with your hands and with gestures, and you may have difficulty sitting still.

As a tactile learner, you like to take things apart and put things together, and you tend to find reasons to tinker or move around when you become bored. You may be very well coordinated and have good athletic ability. You can easily remember things that were done but may have difficulty remembering what you saw or heard in the process. You often communicate by touching, and you appreciate physically expressed forms of encouragement, such as a pat on the back.

Here are some things that tactile learners like you can do to learn better:

- Participate in activities that involve touching, building, moving, or drawing.
- Do lots of hands-on activities like completing art projects, taking walks, or acting out stories.
- It's OK to chew gum, walk around, or rock in a chair while reading or studying.
- Use flashcards and arrange them in groups to show relationships between ideas.
- Trace words with your finger to learn spelling.
- Take frequent breaks during reading or studying periods (frequent, but not long).
- It's OK to tap a pencil, shake your foot, or hold on to something while learning.
- Use a computer to reinforce learning through the sense of touch.

Remember that you learn best by **doing**, not just by reading, seeing, or hearing



Learning Style Surveys:

Education Planner

<http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/index.shtml>

Edutopia

<http://www.edutopia.org/multiple-intelligences-learning-styles-quiz>

# College Spotlight

## JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

*The friendliest campus in the South.*

Jacksonville State University is located in Jacksonville, AL. It is about an hour and a half drive from Cullman.

### Quick Facts

- Fall Preview Day Saturday, October 3, 2015
- Spring Preview Day February 27 and April 2 2016
- Faculty to student ratio 21:1
- Approximately 7, 500 students
- Multiple Student Organizations
- Excellent Marching Band and Music Program
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### Unconditional Admissions:

ACT Score: 20 ( Composite)

SAT Score: 950 ( Combined Critical Reading and Math)

High School GPA: at least a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale

### Conditional Admission

ACT Score: 18

SAT Score: 870

For more information on undergraduate admissions and scholarship opportunities visit JSU's website : <http://jsu.edu/undergraduate/index.html>