

**Question(s) submitted via QR code and/or not asked due to time constraints from**  
**Pathways to Bright Futures Informational Session: Baton Rouge High School - 03.14.22**

**Question:** Why do we have to force 9th graders to take ap or dual enrollment?

**Response:** We found that too many students are entering the workforce or college with insufficient credentials, knowledge and experience to launch a career that leads to future success, and as a school district, we have a responsibility to try our best to remedy that. We are redefining the high school experience to expand opportunities and better meet the needs of students and the future workforce. This program is about ensuring that all students can access the resources and services they need to thrive in their communities.

**Question:** Because EBR schools cannot legally mandate a student take advanced courses, Is this a smoke and mirrors scam to get people who follow rules to sign up for advanced courses because they don't know any better?

**Response:** The East Baton Rouge Parish School District can determine a student's course sequencing. Multiple informational sessions have been held to educate parents and the school community about the Pathways to Bright Futures program.

**Question:** I have an entering Junior, is he too late to enter the program or gain support from this program. He doesn't have much direction coming from Dunham School.

**Response:** This program is for incoming 9th graders but options for Dual Enrollment, Industry Based Credentialing and advanced coursework are available to all of our students. We strongly encourage you to work with your school counselor for additional support. For additional assistance, please email [brightfutures@ebrschools.org](mailto:brightfutures@ebrschools.org).



**Question:** Why hasn't LSU and BRCC been at all the other meetings?

**Response:** Scheduling conflicts has prevented attendance.

**Question:** If you have an incoming 10th grader transferring from out of state, do these requirements apply?

**Response:** This program is for all incoming 9th graders.

**Question:** Why are you telling parents it is ok to take a W when students are only allowed to withdraw for a W 3 times per 60 hours of credit no matter if earned in high school or college?

**Response:** A student is allowed to withdraw from a course prior to the designated drop date, and he/she will receive a grade of "W," which will appear on the transcript. A grade of "W" will not be considered as hours attempted in the student's accumulated Grade-Point Average (GPA). We are making parents aware of the withdrawal process for this program.

**Question:** You have not fully explained if you have enough staff to teach the classes you hope to roll out. Do you have enough college faculty to teach the classes or are you planning primarily on virtual options? Also have you planned the collaborative piece between teachers and the dual enrollment faculty? This sounds vague and not well thought out. What is the EBR teacher's role and workload?

**Response:** The instructional model will include distance learning, in person instruction, and highlight collaborative engagement between college instructors and classroom teachers. Dual enrollment courses will be taught either at the high school or at the postsecondary institution by postsecondary faculty. There is an opportunity for district high school teachers with the required credentials to teach dual enrollment courses. They will be able to serve as credentialed adjunct faculty for the postsecondary institution offering the course. Dual enrollment courses taught by postsecondary faculty will also be staffed with EBRPSS teachers of record that are specialized in the content area being studied to provide academic support, engage in progress monitoring, serve as a point of contact for parents/guardians and collaborate with the postsecondary faculty members.



**Question:** Based on what was said, it seems that most students will only earn a technical degree with the new pathway. Is it realistic to expect an Associate's degree at the end of high school by using the Bright Future's pathway?

**Response:** Yes, if a student desires, they will have an opportunity to earn up to 60 credit hours towards a Louisiana transferable associates degree.

**Question:** What about students who are not sure what their path is yet? How do you expect students to choose a path from only 6-8 career path options?

**Response:** Students will be exposed to several career exploration opportunities, aptitude assessments and support from counselors. Additionally, students will not be bound to one pathway with no room to make a shift if they choose at a later date. Students should work with their counselors and teachers to select a pathway that best fits them.

**Question:** Students choose multiple AP courses in different areas to branch out their options so that they have a leg in the door no matter what path they choose. By focusing on just one career path with Bright Futures, do you believe this is beneficial to students who might not end up sticking with their original choice?

**Response:** Students are still able to select taking AP courses as a part of the Pathways to Bright Futures Program, so their access and opportunities have been expanded to assist in their choices.

**Question:** Students are required to take an AP class, art elective, 1.5 years of P.E, and .5 years of Health. Will students have any time to take Dual Enrollment coursework to earn the degree?

**Response:** The Pathways to Bright Futures program does not limit student access to AP courses. If the student decides AP courses are the preferred course sequencing that is a supported option in the Pathways to Bright Futures Program.

**Question:** Are there enough jobs in Louisiana to even support the number of incoming children who will start on the Bright Future's path? If not, then children will have wasted their time on credits that don't transfer outside of Louisiana.



**Response:** Portions of this program were designed in collaboration with the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce and other local industry leaders who studied past, current, and future workforce trends. It has been determined the Pathways areas of focus are where more than enough jobs will be available.

**Response:** We are continuing to build partnerships with multiple post-secondary institutions, including LSU and SU.

**Question:** Is Pathways mandated or optional? What if students do not want to take any AP or DE courses?

**Response:** Pathways to Bright Futures is a required program for incoming 9th graders who will engage in a minimum of one advanced course each academic year of their high school tenure.

**Question:** Please, say clearly if besides DE and AP still will be the chance of regular classes at BRH?

**Response:** Yes, there will be.

**\*\*Please note additional questions are still being researched and will be added to this document.**

