Dear Parents and Incoming Freshmen,

As you begin your high school career, I hope that you will do so with an eye toward college and beyond. There are many things to know and learn and there is plenty of information available. I encourage you to seek out as much information as possible. It can often be confusing and nobody should get lost just because they do not know or understand the system. There are many factors that go into building your resume for life after high school and I am writing this to help you find your way through.

Admission as a freshman into most universities is primarily based upon a combination of grades earned in specific high-school courses, class standing, high school curriculum, grades, choice of college major, and standardized test scores (SAT or ACT). Other factors taken into consideration include extraordinary personal circumstances, special talents, outstanding extracurricular activities, and evidence of leadership.

 Colleges encourage all students to challenge themselves in the classroom. Taking challenging courses in high school prepares a student for the rigors of college classes and also helps develop consistent study habits. Students may have many or limited options for AP courses and not all students are able to fill their schedules with AP courses due to a number of factors. These include, but are not limited to, school size, personal interests, and scheduling issues. There is no “set” number of advanced courses that universities are looking for to grant admission. Rather, they want to see that the student has succeeded in their own academic environment, is well rounded, and shows the ability to commit to a course of study.

Below is a list of what is required to graduate from Loveland High School. A unit equals one year (2 semesters) of high school study or 1 semester of college study. This doesn’t account for zero or ninth period classes, which we offer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Science</td>
<td>3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
<td>1 unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied/Fine Arts</td>
<td>1 unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys Ed/Health</td>
<td>1 unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>8 units (this could be music courses)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>24 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following lists the general freshmen requirements required at Colorado State University and University of Colorado-Boulder. A unit equal one year (2 semesters) of high school study or 1 semester of college study.
English            4 units
Mathematics        4 units
Lab Science        3 units
Social Studies     3 units
Foreign Language   2 units (Some will accept 1 HS unit if a language course was
completed in middle school)
Fine Arts          1 unit
Electives          2 units (this could be music courses as well)
Total:              19 units

As you can see there are only 24 units required yet every student has 32 to 34 year-
long course opportunities in high school. This doesn’t even take in account the
opportunity to take zero/ninth period classes in our program or the ability to satisfy a
fitness/PE credit with Marching Band. This provides even more flexibility for our
students! There are plenty of options to build your resume so be prepared to take
advantage of the great opportunities that our high school has to offer. All of the
information on this page was taken from the colleges listed above. I encourage you to
visit any university’s undergraduate admissions website to learn even more.

Feel free to contact me any time with questions about how to fit band into a rigorous
college preparatory course of study here at Loveland High School. I will do anything I
can to provide a music education to all students. Remember, Be Loveland. Be the
Best.

Sincerely,

Mr. Kyle Freesen
Director of Bands/Music Department Chair
Loveland High School
http://www.LovelandBand.org
Kyle.Freesen@thompsonschools.org