

## Best path to success

By: Jenna Sackett @Jenna\_Sackett13

For some high schoolers,

it is just about getting through the core classes and getting that diploma when they walk across the stage. However, some students take their high school education to the next level and actually start working on their collegiate education. AP classes like Art Appreciation, Literature, Human Geography, and more can count for college credit. Kirkwood classes can also count for credit and are sometimes available in academy style where you can get many classes done throughout the year to help you get better at the area you're looking to work in. But which one is the better option? Which should you choose?

The answer is not that simple and can be different for everyone. In reality it all depends on what you're looking to get out of the class. For example, while both AP Literature and Kirkwood Comp can count for college credit, they have different benefits. Kirkwood Comp is rumored to be an easier class than AP Literature. I'm not sure how true it is but apparently enough people believe it to have signed up for it rather than AP Literature for next year. Because

of this AP Lit. will not be offered next year because of the small number of students interested. This is a shame because as someone who has personally taken AP Literature I think it is a very valuable class. It definitely felt like a class that was similar to a college class and prepared me for next year.

However, Kirkwood classes can also be beneficial. The Nurse Aide Academy I took my junior year prepared me for working in the medical field, and I was able to earn my CNA certification just by taking a class out at the Regional Center every day during 3rd block. Getting a CNA in high school puts you ahead. Kirkwood has many great opportunities like this.

The downside to the Kirkwood Regional Center classes is the commute. Driving to Hiawatha everyday isn't possible for every student. Some don't have cars, or simply don't feel comfortable driving in that traffic. It also causes some issues for students who had a 1st block Kirkwood class in Hiawatha, and a second block class at Marion High School. Obviously the five minute passing period isn't enough time to get to that class so they would end up missing the beginning of class and having to work harder to catch up.

Overall the decision is yours to make. It all depends on what you have time for and what you want to achieve. The best thing a student can do is really think about all



A representation of the struggle to choose AP or Kirkwood classes.

the options they are being given and decide what works best for them. It may seem like just another class to fill a block, but if you play your cards right, this could really be beneficial to your future. Plus it's nice to take advantage of the classes in high school before you have to pay half your soul for them in college.

## Paying for inclusion

By: Sydney Burlage @burlage\_sydney

High school is not only a time to learn in the classroom, but also to be a teenager and have fun. Many students take part in school sports and arts programs to grow close bonds with their teammates, but joining these teams isn't for everyone. Many students can't take part in these landmark high school moments, not for lack of trying, but lack of funds.

Most teams and activities that draw large numbers of students require some sort of equipment to be used. This can range anywhere from costumes or instruments to the newest style of shoes or a new ball. Even if students do buy what they can, the standard of the equipment varies. This

brings up the question of what the school can do to help? The hard part of this question is that the school also doesn't have unlimited funds. As much as many people in the district want to help, there isn't always enough to go around. One thing the school could improve is the distribution of the funds they do have.

Many times it seems like the traditional sports or those with the best records receive the most support from the school for a new set of matching uniforms or



A line of people wait to pay and get into a girl's soccer game.

matching team bags. This is not saying a team's accomplishments should go unrecognized, but it is saying that funds should not be funneled only to the spotlight sports.

Another way students can stay involved and make friends is by going to

the games, shows, and concerts to support their classmates. Yet again, this is easier said than done for many. Almost all events require a fee to enter. The fee most often doesn't seem like a significant amount for

many, but for others it is a determining factor in what high school experiences they can be involved in. The school would counter that it needs the admittance fee to pay for their own responsibilities in running the event. This is a valid argument, but not at the expense of the students. Keeping the fee for non-student spectators is reasonable, but why make there be one more hurdle for students to jump over on the path to inclusion? Not to mention how the school spirit would grow from larger student attendance at events.

There is no way for a school to completely eliminate the effect money has for certain students to do certain activities, but there are things they can do to decrease the impact. Equally helping all events and not requiring students to pay to watch them are two ideas that could decrease the effect that money has on inclusion in school.

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The Vox is a public forum student-run newspaper dedicated to informing and entertaining the students of Marion High School since 1934.

It's published four times a year by Tri-Co printing company and is distributed during the final block of the school day by the journalism staff.

The staff will report as ac-

curately, fairly, and objectively as possible. All activities will be covered by the staff to the best of their abilities, without showing favoritism to any group.

Letters to the editor will be printed from anyone in the community.

However, The Vox staff retains the right to edit articles

without changing the writer's intent.

There is a limit of two hundred words per article and all letters must be signed in order for them to be published.

The decision to include them rests solely on the staff and the advisor.

Turn letters in to room 26 or any staff member.