

- **2019 Defense Dates: March 26, 27**
 - Second Pass: April 16, 17 (subject to change with state testing dates)
 - Third (Fourth, Fifth, etc.) Pass: Individually scheduled during senior activities
- **How do you know if the artifact you select for your backpack defense is the “right one?” Use these criteria to determine if you should include an artifact:**
 - I worked on this artifact for **more than one week**, either in class or outside of class time
 - I played a significant role in creating this artifact (if it is part of a group project)
 - I **revised** this artifact after receiving feedback to improve upon it
 - I was challenged when working on this artifact
 - I am able to demonstrate my understanding of **content standards** through this artifact
 - I can explain what backpack skills I learned or developed through this artifact, such as active listening skills or using feedback to improve (refer to list of backpack success skills)
 - I can explain how this artifact connects to life outside of school and/or my future
 - I grew as a student and as an individual through this artifact
- **Plan for defense:**
 - 3 minutes: Share the ACT score and your progress towards meeting the three benchmarks (English 18, math 19, reading 20), if you did not meet a benchmark include how you worked on those skills through an ACT practice site or in class. Reflect on a numeracy artifact and then a literacy artifact, including what the task was, the class where you worked on it, the content standard the work exemplifies, and how you created the work and learned from it (these artifacts do not necessarily have to come from English or math)
 - 3 minutes: Briefly list the artifact you submitted for each backpack success skill, then choose one artifact to analyze and explain how the artifact exemplifies your proficiency in one or more backpack skill(s), include what you needed to know/learn/do. Summarize your understanding of content standards and backpack skills, how you have grown as a learner over the course of the years, and what progress you still need to make
 - 1 minute: Explain your transition plans using either evidence of college planning/acceptance or career planning/employment, share how you made the decision, how the content standards or skills you’ve mastered have prepared you for your next step, and your long term goal
 - 1 minute: Ask the panel if they have any questions
- **Passing the defense:**
 - Students who receive an Exemplary or Pass will receive a certificate verifying they have successfully completed their senior defense
 - Students who receive a Not Ready will receive feedback and will revise their defense or a portion of their defense and be rescheduled to defend again
 - All students must defend their learning and receive a minimum of Pass to participate in senior activities