

High School Course Selection Information

Hello 8th Grade Families,

The week of **November 11th**, during Social Studies, your child participated in **Preparing for High School Course Selection Part 1** with their school counselor, Ms. Rader. This lesson provides background knowledge on the following:

- Required 9th grade classes
- Earning Credits toward high school graduation
- Exploring elective choices for 9th grade using the program planning guide
- Planning for Freshman year

The week of **December 9th and 16th** students will participate in **Preparing for High School Course Selection Part 2** with their school counselor. This lesson will prepare students to create a **draft 4 year plan**. Having a 4 year plan is an important concept as it helps students to understand the progression of classes, prerequisite classes and when to consider a summer learning opportunity. Making a 4 year plan that is updated every year based on their goals will also help them to meet any entrance requirements for their post high school plans. The content covered in this lesson is:

- Understanding how credits are accumulated to earn a diploma
- Understanding semesters
- Thinking about interests to guide student planning
- Understanding the variety of levels of classes (Blended, Honors, AP)
- Understanding the curriculum progression/requirements
- Using the Program Planning Guide to read about course descriptions and requirements
- Drafting out a 4 year plan- this will be updated each year with their high school counselor and is only a **draft** at this time

What can parents/guardians do?

- Attend the parent/guardian night on **December 11th at 7:00 PM** at NCHS.
- Students were asked to copy and personalize a slide deck in their drive called "High School Planning". Ask your child to show you this slide deck and help them work on the 4 year draft plan.
- Refer to this [DOCUMENT](#) for your reference on a variety of topics.
- Review the course recommendations that will be sent to you and your student the week of January 6th via email from the high school.
- Assist your student in entering their classes into SchoolLinks starting January 8-23rd. Follow teacher recommendations and help your child select classes that will provide a balance for them based on interests, strengths, and time commitments.
- Attend **Family Night on January 15th** at NCHS from 6:30-8pm with your student.
- Be on the lookout for additional information coming from NCHS next week!

Sincerely,

Lori Rader - lrader@naperville203.org
8th Grade LJHS School Counselor