

DELSEA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dr. Piera Gravenor, Superintendent • Dr. Melissa Williams, Assistant Superintendent • Joseph Collins, Business Administrator Dr. Anner Thompson, Director of Special Services/CST • Paul Berardelli, HS Principal • Margaret Delia, MS Principal

December, 2012

Dear 8th Grade Students and Guardians,

It is time for eighth grade students to start thinking about course selections for freshman year! The transition from middle school to high school is very important as it provides students with an opportunity to select courses suited to their individual plans. At Delsea, we understand that this is both an exciting and apprehensive time for eighth graders. Our counselors are prepared to take both you and your child through this process with minimal stress.

We are actively involving students and parents in the course selection process by scheduling time to meet with counselors. Our timeline for eighth grade course selection is listed below. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend our Course Selection Night.

Important Dates:

January 8th: Counselors will visit middle school Social Studies classes to distribute course selection worksheets which contain recommended courses for eighth grade students. Additionally, counselors will review our course selection booklets and speak specifically about the electives that are available to incoming ninth graders. Students will bring their course selection forms home for discussion with their parents. Parents will need to bring this form to "Course Selection Presentation & Expo Night" (see 2nd item below).

January 10th: Course Selection Presentation, 6:00 PM, HS Auditorium; Elective Expo, 6: 45 PM, HS Café Counselors will hold a "Course Selection Night" allowing parents to discuss their child's course selections and make any necessary adjustments to their child's course selection form. Parents are encouraged to bring their eighth grade student to this program. The evening begins at 6PM in the high school auditorium with a general presentation highlighting the ninth grade curriculum. Immediately following this presentation, high school counselors will hold an Elective Expo in the high school cafeteria (at approximately 6:45 PM). The Elective Expo will consist of displays, projects, and information regarding elective courses offered to 9th grade students. Several of our elective teachers and students will be on hand to answer student and parent questions. Course selection forms may be turned in to high school counselors on this night.

January 11th: Deadline for students to return completed and signed course selection worksheet forms to their respective middle school Social Studies teachers if not turned in during Course Selection Night.

January 14th through 18th: Counselors will meet with students on an individual basis to discuss and input their course selections. Changes in course selections resulting from the counselor-student conference will require parent/guardian approval by way of a "request change form" which will be provided to students as needed. In the spring, a final list of selected courses will be sent home for parents to review for accuracy.

June 14th: ALL COURSE SELECTIONS ARE FINAL! ALL COURSE CHANGE FORMS NEED TO HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR ASSIGNED HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR BY THIS DATE.

Notes: NJASK test results determine placement into HSPA Math and/or HSPA LAL courses. Students with IEP's will have course selections finalized during their annual spring conferences. Please take note that our course selection booklet will be available on-line via the Delsea web-page on January 1, 2013 (click on Guidance * High School * Course Selection folder * 2013-2014 * click on Course Selection Booklet). If you require a printed copy of the course selection booklet or need a course change form, please feel free to contact your child's current 8th grade counselor, Mr. D'Ottavio.

High school counselors will be visiting the middle school regularly over the course of the spring months to answer student questions as they arise.

Respectfully, DRHS Guidance Department

High School Counselor Student Assignments

DELSEA GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Required Courses:

4 years of English

4 years of PE/HE or JROTC/HE

1 year of World History

2 years of US History

3 years of Math (Algebra 1 & Higher)

2 years of Physical Science

1 year of Biology

2 years of World Language

1 year of Visual and Performing Arts

1 year of 21st Century Career or Practical/Technical Education

1 semester (2.5 credits) Personal Financial Literacy

Grade 9 into 10 = 35 credits Grade 10 into 11 = 65 credits

Credits for Promotion:

Grade 11 into 12 = 100 credits Graduation = 130 credits

Academic Levels:

Honors/AP: Most challenging and demanding levels of coursework. Rank Weight: Honors 1.1 and AP 1.15. There is no guarantee that more than 2 Honors/AP courses can be accommodated in a student's schedule due to potential course scheduling conflicts. Students must prioritize the Honors/AP courses which are most important for inclusion into their schedules for next year.

A: Demanding college preparation level courses that meets entrance requirements for four-year colleges. Rank Weight: 1.05

B: Meets entrance requirements for two-and four-year colleges and other post-secondary institutions. Rank Weight: 1

Weight Final Grade of **80** x B level or 1.0 = Rank Weighted GPA **80 Examples**: Final Grade of **80** x A level or 1.05 = Rank Weighted GPA **84**

Final Grade of **80** x H level or 1.1 = Rank Weighted GPA 88Final Grade of **80** x AP level or 1.15 = Rank Weighted GPA 92

Note: Rank Weight does not appear as a final grade on student report cards or transcripts; it is only used to determine student class rank and weighted GPA.

Special Course Programs:

Single semester courses: Students need to select 2 courses to occupy one period of the school day.