

8th grade
Program of Studies Night

January 20, 2010

Welcome Class of 2014!!!

Some Important People...

- Administration:
 - Gary Snyder
 - Harvey Highland
 - Lori Rotz
- Supervisors:
 - English—Barbara O’Breza
 - Mathematics/Business—Joanne Krause
 - Science—Cherry Sprague
- Supervisors:
 - Social Studies—Rick Miller
 - World Languages/ESL—Priscilla Russel
 - Special Education—Eileen Sanchez
 - PE/Health—John Miranda
 - Visual & Performing Arts—Linda Shaw
 - Guidance—Angela Siso

The PHS Guidance Department

- Supervisor:
 - Ms. Angela Siso
- Counselors:
 - Mr. Tom Filippone
 - Ms. Deirdre Mullen
 - Mr. Chris Floor
 - Mr. Paulo Velasco
 - Mrs. Shah
- Child Study Team:
 - Dr. Cathi Ragsdale
 - Mrs. Lenora Keel
- College Advisor:
 - Mrs. Patti Lieberman
- Dean of Students:
 - Mrs. Diana Lygas
- Student Activities Coordinator:
 - Ms. Christine Carbone
- SAC/Peer Group Coordinator:
 - Mrs. Gwen Kimsal
- IDEAS Center/Service Learning Coordinator:
 - Dr. Andrea Dinan

The Daily Schedule

- 8 periods
- 44 minutes for each period
- Homeroom (12 minutes) after period 2
- Break (25 minutes) after period 6
- School begins at 7:50 am
- School ends at 2:51 pm
- Wednesdays: 1:39 pm dismissal for activities until 2:51 pm

PHS Graduation Requirements

- English = 20 credits
- US History = 10 credits
- World History = 5 credits
- Mathematics = 15 credits
(one year must be Geometry)
- Science = 15 credits
- PE/Health = 4 years
- 98.5 required credits +
21.5 elective credits = 120
- Full year course = 5 credits
- Half year course = 2.5
credits
- World Languages = 5
credits
- Visual & Performing Arts
= 5 credits
- Practical Arts = 5 credits
- Peer Group = grade 9
- Community Service =
grade 10
- Pass the HSPA test =
grade 11
- Financial Literacy = 2.5
credits

Typical Freshman Schedule

- English I
- US History I
- Physical Education (3 quarters)
- Freshmen Health (1 quarter)
- Science***
- Mathematics***
- World Language***
- Visual, Performing or Practical Arts Electives,
Financial Literacy and/or supplemental instruction
for Math and Language Arts

Reminders

- Students must carry a minimum of 30 credits a year
- Teacher recommendations, grades and performance determine class placements
- Performance on the 8th grade NJ ASK test, EOC Algebra and/or EOC Biology tests could affect student's schedule
- Performing Arts electives may require an audition in the Spring.

Department Presentations

- Math Department
- Science Department
- World Languages/ESL Department

Mathematics Department

- Students currently enrolled in Algebra 8 will have the following options based on teacher recommendations and performance in class:
 - PHS Algebra I
 - Geometry I or Acc Geometry
- Students currently enrolled in Algebra II 8 will have the following options based on teacher recommendations and performance in class:
 - Geometry
 - Acc Geometry

Mathematics Department

- Electives:
 - Visual Basic Programming (this can count as a Practical Arts requirement)
- The following electives do not meet graduation requirements and are based on either teacher recommendations and/or NJ ASK results:
 - Algebra I & II PLUS, Geometry PLUS
 - HSPA Math
- All students enrolled in Alg I will take the Algebra EOC in May (field test). These results will help validate recommendations and may require adjustments.

Science for Ninth Graders

Biology I (Inclusion/Co-teaching)

Accelerated Biology I

Earth Science (Inclusion/Co-teaching)

Introduction to Biology

Features of Course

Biology I

- Two~double lab periods per cycle
- EOC exam in May
- Prepares students for upper level science electives
- Alg. I C+ or better or concurrent enrollment in Alg. I or Geo.I, and teacher recommendation

Features of Course

Biology Accelerated I

- Two~double lab periods per cycle
- Independent, long~term research project (over several months)
- Prepares students for upper level science electives
- Recommendation A~ or better in 8th grade science, Alg. I B+ or better or concurrent enrollment in Alg. II or Acc. Geo.I or Geo. I and teacher recommendation based on established criteria, and completion of a student self~assessment form
- EOC exam in May

Features of Course

Earth Science

- One~double lab period per cycle
- Prepares students for upper level science electives
- Teacher recommendation

Features of Course

Introduction to Biology

- One~double lab period per cycle
- Emphasis on science process, skills, and related topics
- Prepares students for Biology I
- Teacher recommendation

End-of-Course Exam

- All students in Biology I and Accelerated Biology take the exam in May 2011.
- Biology course and EOC proficiency is a graduation requirement for Class of 2014.
- Department is organized for EOC and preparation of students.

What comes after the 9th grade year?

- In science, paths are dependent upon student interest, math comfort, and teacher recommendations
- Biology I ~> Chemistry I, Chemistry in Context or Accelerated Chemistry
- Accelerated Biology~> Accelerated Chemistry I or Chemistry I
- Earth Science~> Introduction to Biology, Biology, or Chemistry

Other closing comments

- Recommendations reviewed for finalization in April~May.
- Accelerated Biology challenges students. Before registering consider your daughter's/son's total load, school interest, outside interest, and having a successful transition to PHS
- Other science opportunities~ Science Olympiad, Science Bowl, upper level Olympiad Tests in Content areas, and check out the following link:
<http://www.prs.k12.nj.us/Science/StudentOpp>
- Any questions, contact Dr. Cherry Sprague at
609-806-4280 x 3660 or
cherry_sprague@monet.prs.k12.nj.us

World Languages/ESL

- One year requirement, although the recommendation is for two to four years in one language.
- Students receive a placement recommendation from their 8th grade world languages teacher. Counselors will place students with this recommendation, not higher or lower. Teachers will re-visit these recommendations mid-May. Any changes will go through Mrs. Russel.
- Beginning levels of language are open to all students who have not studied that language.

World Languages/ESL

- Students who have proficiency in Latin, Mandarin, Chinese, Japanese or Italian and wish to study these languages, should contact Mrs. Russel to arrange a placement interview with the appropriate teacher.
- Students should choose an alternative language in case the classes for their first choice are full or the schedule does not permit that language.
- ESL classes are based on placement testing. Two periods a day with an extra class for support for other subjects.

Scheduling Timeline

- 8th grade students—Orientation and individual Registration appointment in January with counselor
- Course requests are mailed in April/May
- Schedule/placement changes will not be made until the end of July
- Final schedules mailed home one week prior to the start of school

Helpful Hints for a Successful Registration Appointment

- Complete course selection worksheet prior to your appointment.
- Choose alternatives for electives.
- Come prepared with questions.
- Remind your child of his or her appointment.
It is key!

Save the Dates!

- New Student Orientation at PHS:
 - Thursday, August 26th at 10 a.m. in the PAC
- Are you planning on playing a fall sport?
 - Physicals must be filed in advance
 - Pre-Season begins mid-August
 - Contact the Athletic Office or visit the PHS website for details!
- Program of Studies is available on-line:
 - <http://phs.prs.k12.nj.us>

Contact Us

- www.prs.k12.nj.us
- To e-mail:
 - Firstname_Lastname@monet.prs.k12.nj.us
- To call:
 - 609.806.4280

Thank you for coming!

We appreciate your investment
in your child's education!

WELCOME AGAIN,
CLASS OF 2014!