

January 4, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

On December 18, 2018, our Board of Education approved the 2019-2020 Program of Studies which lists and summarizes course offerings available to Montville Township High School students. This document is now published on the MTHS website. Students and parents/guardians can access the Program of Studies by utilizing the shortcut links on the MTHS website or by clicking directly on this link: <https://bit.ly/2SwwUEv>.

It is highly recommended that families carefully review the Program of Studies, as they prepare for the course selection process for the upcoming school year.

Please review elective options with your child so he/she is prepared to provide the counselor with 6-8 electives of interest in priority order. Students are encouraged to discuss course options with their teachers, counselor and case manager, when applicable, to better prepare to choose electives. It is important to make sure your child has the necessary pre-requisites for any of the courses they are selecting. Unfortunately, elective preferences are not guaranteed, but we will do our best to honor the requests.

Some highlights of our Program of Studies include:

- *Forensics I and II* are now called *Speech and Debate I and II*, *Networking Essentials* is now called *Computer Essentials*, and *Strategic Design* is now called *Digital Graphic Design*.
- The PARCC Assessment is now called *NJSLA-ELA (English)* and *NJSLA-M (Mathematics)*
- Incoming freshmen are able to choose between Earth Science and Biology to fulfill their first year's science graduation requirement. Your child's 8th grade science teacher will recommend the level for students to take in either class. It is highly recommended that students speak with their teacher, counselor, and case manager, when applicable, if they would like some guidance in determining which course to select.
- Band and Orchestra classes meet as a full ensemble period. Additionally, enrollment in either class will include a weekly small group lesson. This greatly benefits students as they receive individualized instruction on their chosen instrument.

During the months of February and March, your child will meet with his or her school counselor and case manager, when applicable, to make course requests for next year. As this process unfolds, you will receive additional notification through email, Naviance, and the MTHS and Lazar school websites. Parents/Guardians of incoming freshmen will be receiving a letter later in the month with additional information regarding your course selection meeting with your child and his/her counselor. You and your child will also have the ability to view course recommendations and requests through Parent Access in the near future.

Our school counselors look forward to meeting with your child(ren) in the coming months to plan and prepare for next year.

Sincerely,

Douglas Sanford
MTHS Principal

Leslee J. Scheckman
Director of School Counseling K-12