

# Planning for Freshman Year





WELCOME!

Ms. Keleher,  
9<sup>th</sup> Grade School Counselor

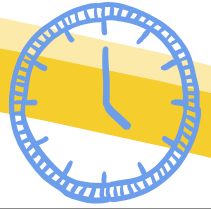


# Agenda

- What's so different?
- High school vocabulary
- Course selection process




# What's so different?

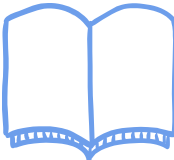


<b>TEMS</b>	<b>SWHS</b>
Start time ~ 8:05	Start time ~ 7:25
Attendance taken during HR	Attendance taken in EACH period and is <b>critical</b> to earning credit
Trimesters	Semesters

# What's so different?

<b>TEMS</b>	<b>SWHS</b>
Lockers = in team area	Lockers = assigned 
Lunch = with 8 <sup>th</sup> grade <i>only</i>	Lunch = all grades

# What's so different?

<b>TEMS</b>	<b>SWHS</b>
Predetermined classes	Many course offerings 
Leveling <b>ONLY</b> in math	Leveling in <i>most</i> classes
Grades are important	Grades count toward graduation; need to earn credit

# What's similar?

- ★ Extra help available from teachers
- ★ Late buses on M, W, TH
- ★ Lots of extra-curricular activities!



# High School “vocabulary”



🐾 Levels

🐾 Credits

🐾 Electives

🐾 Prerequisites



# Freshman Levels

Two levels for academic courses:

✓ College Prep

✓ Honors

# Levels

- Expectation of independent learning
- Pace of material
- Volume of work and homework



# Levels

Eighth grade teachers will give **level recommendations** on **February 4<sup>th</sup>** for: English, math, science, social studies and world language

These level recommendations are based on your :

- ✓ current performance
- ✓ work habits
- ✓ grades
- ✓ scores on benchmarks and state assessment(s)



# What is a Credit?



Semester Class=  
worth ½ credit

Full year courses=  
worth 1 credit

# Warning!



⚠ If you do not have the necessary credits by the beginning of the next school year, you will **not** be promoted to the next grade

⚠ Poor attendance can cause credit loss even if a student passes a class

# Freshman Classes

English

Mathematics

Science

Social  
Studies

Health I  
&  
Bobcat Seminar

# Freshman Classes



Students in special education and other academic supports will continue to have support; students will earn credit in that class

# Required Courses

## English

- First Year English
- The Modern World: An Interdisciplinary Seminar

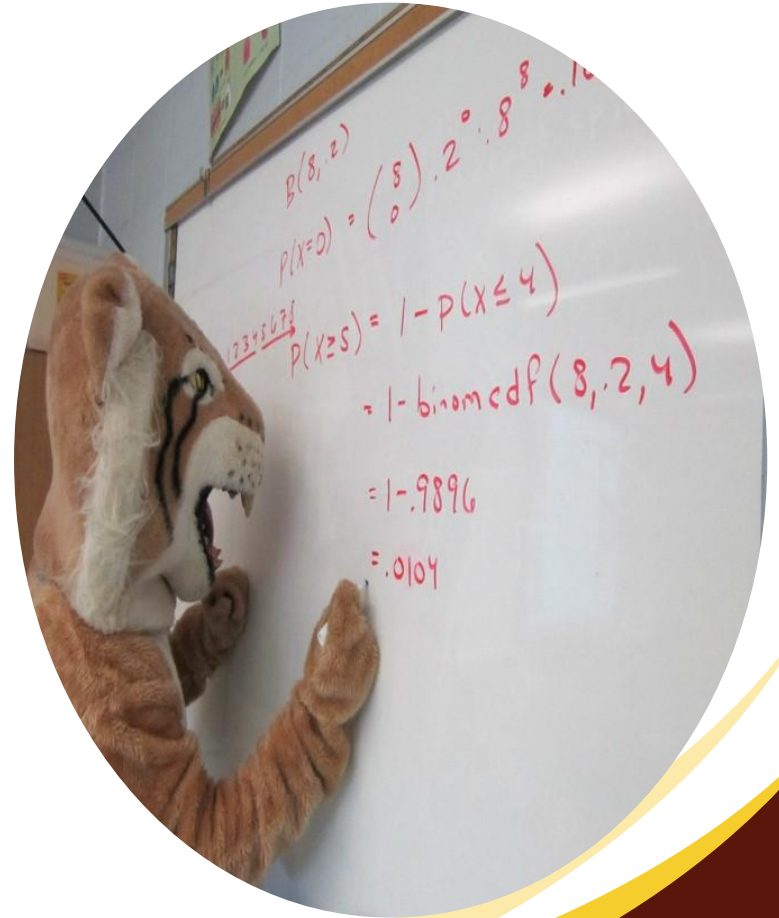




# Required Courses

## Mathematics

- Integrated Math
- Algebra I
- Geometry



# Required Courses

## Science

- Science Explorations
- Physical Science



# Required Courses

## Social Studies

- Modern World History
- The Modern World: An Interdisciplinary Seminar



# Required Courses

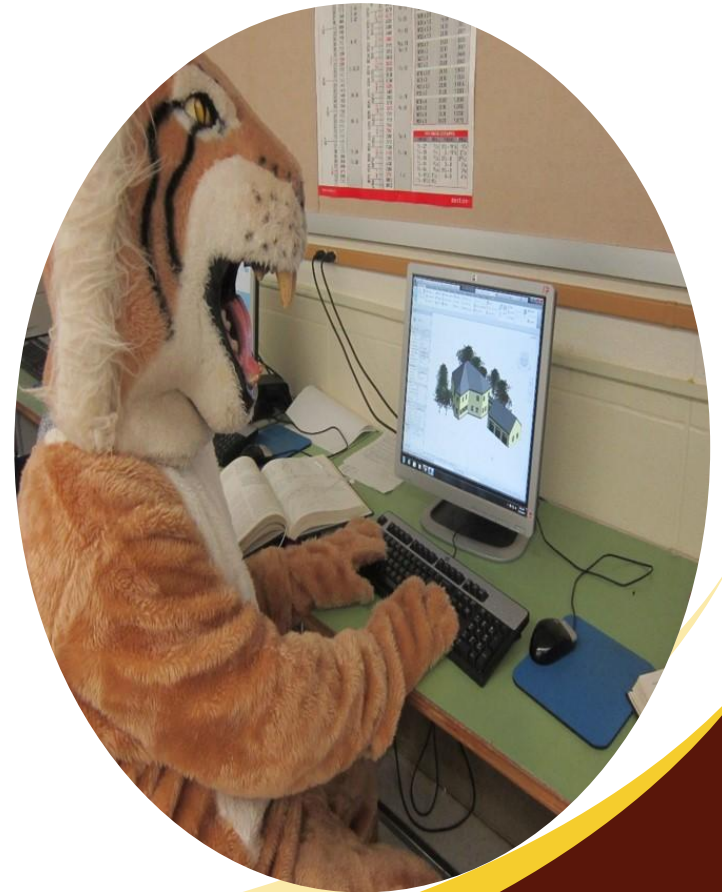
- Health



# Recommended Course

## Technology

- Bobcat Seminar
- Study hall



# What are your interests?



# Elective class

An elective is a class *chosen* by a student, as opposed to a required course which the student **must** take.



# Choosing an Elective



💡 Electives are important to develop your skills, interests and talents

💡 Consult with others (siblings, parents, etc.)



# Choosing an Elective



Career &  
Technology



Visual Arts



Music

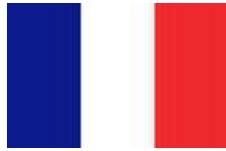


World  
Language

# World Language



American Sign Language



French



Italian



Latin



Spanish

# What is a Prerequisite?

A prerequisite is a class that is required in order to continue in the course in next level.



# Program of Studies

Graduation requirements

Course Description by department (grade level of students allowed to take the course, credits assigned to course, prerequisite)

Available online ~ under School Counseling,  
Publications

# Course Registration

## *World Language*



If you are enrolling in a World Language, the course **MUST** be noted as one elective.



# Course Registration

## *Music*

Audition information for Chorus, Band or String will be shared by your current music teacher.



# Course Registration



Students who would like to have **study hall** will simply **leave the box blank** on the worksheet.



No credit is assigned to study hall.

What could my freshman  
year schedule look like?

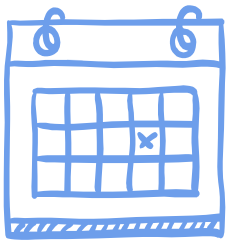




	<b>Class</b>	<b>Credit</b>
1	First Year English	1
2	Math	1
3	Physical Science	1
4	Modern World History	1
5	Health	.5
	Bobcat Seminar	.5
6	Latin	1
7	Video Game & Computer Programming	.5
	Guitar	.5
8	Study hall	
	<b>TOTAL CREDITS:</b>	<b>7</b>

	<b>Class</b>	<b>Credit</b>
1	First Year English	1
2	Math	1
3	Physical Science	1
4	Modern World History	1
5	Health	.5
	Bobcat Seminar	.5
6	Symphonic Band	1
7	Spanish	1
8	Explorations in Art	.5
	Intro to Robotics	.5
	<b>TOTAL CREDITS:</b>	<b>8</b>

	<b>Class</b>	<b>Credit</b>
1	First Year English	1
2	Math	1
3	Physical Science	1
4	Modern World History	1
5	Health	.5
	Bobcat Seminar	.5
6	French	1
7	“Sound Factory” Concert Chorus	1
8	Entrepreneurship	1
	<b>TOTAL CREDITS:</b>	<b>8</b>



# Selection Process



**February 10**

Complete Elective  
Course Selection  
sheet



**March 11**

deadline for level  
changes

**February 4**

Teacher level  
recommendation



**week of  
February 22nd**

course requests  
entered into  
PowerSchool



**mid-May**

Preliminary  
schedules mailed




# Academic Supports


- 🔑 Teachers ~ communicate with them!
- 🔑 Academic Support Center
- 🔑 National Honor Society Tutors
- 🔑 Use PowerSchool to check grades and attendance
- 🔑 School Counselors ~ help with personal/ academics

# A word (or more) of advice....



 Take your time and choose wisely.

 Talk with family to get input

 Talk with friends ~ but remember to  
make your own decisions!

A word (or more)  
of advice....



There are only 24 hours in a day,  
consider the time impact of sports  
and extracurricular activities AND  
the number of courses and rigor  
when choosing classes for next year.

# Freshman Orientation



Week before  
school starts ~  
Date TBD, will  
be confirmed  
when  
preliminary  
schedules are  
mailed in May



Come back to the high  
school *after* Freshman  
Orientation to walk  
around the building so  
you are comfortable  
with your schedule



August 31st ~  
First day of  
school





Thank you!

