

New Hope-Solebury High School

Stephen B. Young, Ed. D.
Principal



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July 1, 2010

Dear Parents and Guardians of New Hope-Solebury High School Students:

Enclosed you will find a copy of your child's schedule for 2010-2011. Please pay careful attention to the following related details. Our process for handling scheduling concerns has changed.

General Information

- As you know, Ms. Peggy Hanselman retired as of June 30, 2010. We have interviewed candidates for her vacated position and anticipate an appointment in July. Ms. Hanselman's successor will handle all scheduling and related guidance matters for students whose last names begin with the letters A through K.
- School budgets are tight throughout the country. Our budget is no exception. In this context, we are affected in several ways, namely:
 - We have not added staff for 2010-2011.
 - Attention parents/guardians of ninth grade students: Please note that we are offering just one section of the combined biology/environmental science class and therefore have limited enrollment in that course to twenty-four (24) students. Students who could not be accommodated in that one combined section have been placed in separate sections of biology and environmental science.
 - Our counselors have a set number of days available for summer (scheduling) work.
 - Our elective offerings are limited. Some of these electives currently have considerable space available. We need to increase enrollment in these courses or risk losing them due to low enrollment.

Procedures for Addressing Concerns with Student Schedules

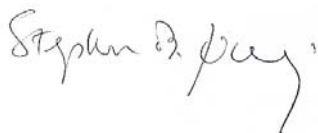
- Core classes (English, social studies, science, mathematics and world language) scheduled very well. Elective choices, as always, were problematic due to the limited number of sections offered and the wide range of single-section core classes. We recognize that some students will be disappointed to see that requested electives do not appear on his/her enclosed schedule. Our counselors reviewed each schedule and did not overlook any student's requests; however, some electives were not able to be scheduled despite our counselors' best effort.
- If there is a major problem with your child's schedule that requires a conference, you will find this noted on your child's schedule. This notation should prompt you to call the guidance or high school office to schedule an appointment to meet with your child's counselor. If there is no notation regarding the need for a conference, please do not telephone with a request to meet with your child's counselor. We are attempting to make the best use of our counselors' limited availability. I anticipate our counselors being available in late July and early August. Contact numbers for making appointments are:
 - Guidance Office: (215) 862-8171
 - High School Office: (215) 862-2028
 - Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept unannounced walk-in requests for conferences either! Please do not be disappointed with this. It is a function of limited

counselor availability. Again, we are simply attempting to make the most efficient use of their time.

- We intend to make every effort to eliminate study halls. This means that some students will need to fill their schedules by being placed in elective courses which they did not initially choose. Rather than do this arbitrarily, we would prefer to give your child some choice. Therefore, I am enclosing a form which you can use to prioritize your child's elective choices. A copy of this form is also available on the high school and guidance websites. Please return a paper or electronic copy of this form to the Guidance Office [182 W. Bridge Street, New Hope, PA 18938; fax number (215) 862-1446] by no later than July 30. The counselors will use these forms to place students in elective courses. Send electronic copies to the following email addresses:
 - Last names from A through K: email to mpaolini@nhsd.org
 - Last names from L through Z: email to vwierzbowski@nhsd.org
- If your child's counselor has a concern regarding his/her schedule following review of your child's prioritized list of elective choices, the counselor will contact you.
- Requests for independent study arrangements will be processed in September upon the return of students. Forms for use by students to request independent study arrangements are available in the Guidance Office.
 - I will attempt to coordinate independent study arrangements for all those students unable to schedule physical education due to academic course conflicts. I will also do the same for those seniors who are unable to schedule Health II. Students are not to worry about these conflicts.
- Requests for Virtual High School courses were processed by Mr. Elvey in the spring. These will not appear on student schedules. Details for these courses will be worked out upon the return of students in September.
- All other scheduling concerns can be emailed to the addresses noted above for Ms. Paolini and Ms. Wierzbowski.
 - Please note that the schedules for students with special learning needs were constructed by the special education teachers. These teachers will be available in late August to address questions or concerns. Direct your concerns to:
 - Kathy Woodring, grade 9: kwoodring@nhsd.org
 - Bob Gaffney, grade 10: bgaffney@nhsd.org
 - Andrea Sass, grade 11: asass@nhsd.org
 - Mike Finley, grade 12: mfinley@nhsd.org

Please know that our counselors will make every effort to satisfy the needs and wants of all students. The counselors will communicate with you as conditions require.

With best regards,



Stephen B. Young, Ed.D.
Principal

CC: Office of the Superintendent
Office of Pupil Services
File

NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY HIGH SCHOOL
New Hope, PA 18938

Prioritization of Elective Choices
Summer 2010

Student's Name: _____

Grade Level in September: _____

Please rank order your preferences for elective choices by placing numbers next to the courses listed below. Use number 1 to represent your first choice, number 2 to represent your second choice, etc. Return this form to the Guidance Office by no later than July 30, 2010. An electronic copy of this form can be found on the high school or guidance websites.

- ___ Money Management
- ___ Public Speaking and Presentation
- ___ Small Business Management
- ___ International Business
- ___ Journalism
- ___ Creative Writing
- ___ Dramatic Writing
- ___ Acting for Theater and Film
- ___ Theater Studies
- ___ Art
- ___ Band
- ___ Choir
- ___ Fitness for Life
- ___ Basic (programming)
- ___ Web Design
- ___ Photography
- ___ Digital Photography
- ___ Video Editing and Film Production
- ___ Multimedia Communications
- ___ Design with Materials
- ___ Contemporary Issues (grades 10-12)
- ___ Psychology (grades 10-12)
- ___ Sociology (grades 10-12)
- ___ Contemporary Issues (grades 10-12)
- ___ Honors Philosophy (grades 10-12)
- ___ Democracy in America (grades 10-12)
- ___ History through Film (grades 10-12)
- ___ Law and Justice I (grades 9-12)