

Welcome to Jefferson Township High School

8th Grade Parent Night: Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Class of 2024!

Peggy Widgren – Director of Student Personnel
Services



Welcome and Introduction Dr. Timothy Plotts, Principal



**Michelle Papa
Assistant Principal for Student Leadership**

**Vickki Nadler
Assistant Principal for Academic Leadership**

Introductions

K-12 Department Supervisors

- Jennifer Wnuk - Language Arts
- Christopher Hiben – Family Consumer Science, Gifted & Talented, and Science & STEM
- Dan Papa- Social Studies, Art, and Technology Education
- Laura Kasa, Mathematics
- Theresa Fritzky– Special Education
- Derek Sica – Tomorrow’s Teachers, ESL, Music, and World Languages
- Kelly Villa – Instructional Technology, Business, and Media
- Bill Koch – Director of Athletics and Supervisor of Health and Physical Education

The Process Begins...

- 8th Grade Parent Night – January 22
- Parents and students complete course requests in Realtime January 23-29
- Course selection meetings with high school counselors – Week of Feb 12-14
- PDP Outreaches – Spring, 2020
- Freshman orientation program - August, 2020
- Freshman year begins – September, 2020

What Is Different?

- **Teaming vs. Departments**
- **Counselor Assignments**
- **Elective Choices**
- **Mixed Classes**
- **Lunch Period**
- **Transcript**
- **GPA and Rank**
- **Credits**
- **Attendance**
- **Interscholastic Athletics**

Independence/Responsibility

Master Schedule

Block	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom
A	Period 1	Period 4	Period 3	Period 2
B	Period 2	Period 1	Period 4	Period 3
C	Period 3	Period 2	Period 1	Period 4
Lunch/ Academic				
D	Period 5	Period 8	Period 7	Period 6
E	Period 6	Period 5	Period 8	Period 7
F	Period 7	Period 6	Period 5	Period 8

Scheduling Requirements

Freshmen must take at least 35 credits.

Each full-year class is 5 credits

Each half-year class is 2.5 credits

**Science classes with a lab period
are 6 credits.**

*Students earn credits both with their grades and
through their attendance.*

Academic Standing



Graduation Requirements



Beginning with the class of 2022, students must earn a minimum of 140 credits:

Including the following graduation requirements ...

- ❖ **20 Credits in English**
- ❖ **15 Credits in Math**
- ❖ **15 Credits in Social Studies**
- ❖ **15 Credits in Science**
- ❖ **5 Credits in World Languages**
- ❖ **3 ³/₄ Credits in Health/Physical Education for each year enrolled**

Graduation Requirements

continued...

- ❖ 5 Credits in Visual & Performing Arts
- ❖ 5 Credits in 21st Century Skills
- ❖ 2.5 Credits in Financial & Economic Literacy

Students will also be required to meet NJ State testing requirements as outlined by the NJDOE.

School counselors monitor course selections to be sure every student meets all graduation requirements.

However, it is your child's responsibility to know where they stand in terms of graduation requirements.

Course Selection

Students will schedule 8 classes:

- 1. English – Teacher Placement**
- 2. Math – Teacher Placement**
- 3. Science – Teacher Placement**
- 4. Social Studies – Teacher Placement**
- 5. World Language – Teacher Placement**
- 6. Physical Education/Health – Requirement**
- 7. Elective - Student Choice**
- 8. Elective – Student Choice**

Students may choose or be recommended for an Academic Study Period

Teacher Placements



**English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and
World Language**

College Prep Level (CP)

Honors Level (H)

Advanced Placement (AP)

Which Level is Right for You?



Teachers make recommendations based on the following:

- ❖ **Grades**
- ❖ **Homework**
- ❖ **Attendance**
- ❖ **Tests and Quizzes**
- ❖ **Department Criteria**
- ❖ **Prerequisites**
- ❖ **Honors Requirements**

Level Change Requests:

If you wish to override the teacher's placement, may submit a level change request. If denied, then the parent may Petition their child into a course.

Must be completed by June 1.

Choosing Electives



Freshman Elective Choices

ART

Art & Design
Digital Visual Media 1
Fine Arts

MUSIC

Symphonic Band (CP and H)
Chorus CP (CP and H)
Music Theory CP (CP and H)

BUSINESS

Pathways to Business
Entrepreneurship*
Personal Finance*
Basic Coding and Web Design*
Marketing 1
Accounting 1

ENGLISH

Communications CP
Principles of Dramatic Study

Mathematics

AP Computer Science Principles

MUSIC

Survey of Music CP
Intro to Studio Recording* CP
Guitar*
Piano/Keyboard Lab*
Music Theory 1 CP

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

3D Modeling Skills*
Robotics 1*
Intro. to Woodworking*
Video Production 1*

Family and Consumer Science

Intro. to Culinary Arts

NON-CREDIT COURSES

Academic Study Fall*
Academic Study Spring*

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

General Home Repairs*
CAD 1 (CP and H)
Architectural Drawing (CP and H)
Engineering 1 (CP and H)

Departmental Approval



Students will be able to choose electives at the AP and Honors level when choosing electives on the Realtime Portal.

These classes will require **DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL** after the course has been selected. If a course request is denied, the school counselor will meet with the student to discuss scheduling options:

- Petition into the course
- Choosing a different elective

Scheduling Process



January 23-29: Course selection through the parent portal.

February 12-14: Students meet with high school counselors to finalize course requests.

April 1 -3: Parent portal opens for parents to verify course requests.

June 1: Deadline to submit level change requests and/or petitions.

July 1: Portal open for students and parents to see preliminary courses scheduled for next year.

Summer 2020: Students can add/drop **non-**honors/AP elective courses.

Scheduling Process

8th Grade Orientation and First Day of School: Students receive final schedule

Second full week of school: Non-Honors/AP Elective Add/Drop Period

October 1: Add/drop for AP/Honors Courses. (May drop AP/Honors Electives and add non-AP or Honors Electives)

End of first marking period: Change of Level Requests.

Schedules will not be changed to accommodate a teacher request, specific lunch period, or social request.

Schedules may only be changed if there is space available in requested courses.



Counseling Program

Groups

College and Career Planning

Scheduling

Social/Emotional Support



School Counselors:

- ❖ Kayla Alkon
- ❖ Kevin Flatierre
- ❖ Robin Montegari
- ❖ Karen Staples
- ❖ Tara Torkos
- ❖ Amy Robinson, SAC/Anti-Bullying Specialist

Secretaries:

- ❖ Alice Cassara
- ❖ Dawn Bublitz
- ❖ Tracy Orlandoni

Attendance

Vickki Nadler, Assistant Principal







Attendance is taken daily & by period.

- ❖ Students are permitted 16 unexcused absences in a full year course.
- ❖ Students are permitted 8 unexcused absences in a semester course (half year)
- ❖ Excessive tardiness accrues as unexcused absences

Academic Assistance



There are a wide variety of support systems to ensure your student is academically successful in high school.

- ❖ The media center is open Monday-Thursday after school
 - ❖ Subject area teacher on duty
 - ❖ National Honor Society tutors available for assistance
 - ❖ Academic Support Center: students with a scheduled study hall period can receive tutoring from an English, mathematics, science, and/or social studies teacher.
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Student Activities



Extra-curricular activities have been organized in keeping with the interest and request of students. Organized activities and other special groups will meet before or after school.

Some general student activity opportunities are:

STUDENT COUNCIL:

Represents the students' voice in the management of high school affairs.

CIVIC AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS:

There are many opportunities to give back to the community through community service and outreach.

CLASS ORGANIZATIONS:

Each grade level has a class advisor and officers are elected yearly.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETIES:

Our honor societies are designed to recognize outstanding achievements in academics as well as character, service and leadership.

Eligibility for Student Activities and Athletics

Bill Koch, Athletic Director

- ❖ All Freshmen are eligible for fall and winter sports and clubs/activities. Students must be passing at least 15 credits/6 classes to be eligible for spring sports.
- ❖ All student athletes must adhere to the district academic probation/suspension regulations.

Athletic Opportunities



Fall Sports

- Football
- Soccer
- X-Country
- Field Hockey
- Cheerleading
- Volleyball

Michele Grieves
Athletic Secretary



Winter Sports

- Basketball
- Wrestling
- Ice Hockey
- Swimming
- Skiing
- Indoor Track
- Bowling
- Comp. Cheering

Bill Koch,
Director of
Athletics



Spring Sports

- Baseball
- Softball
- Golf
- Track
- Lacrosse
- Volleyball

Michael
Fernandes
Athletic Trainer

Follow us on Twitter!



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@JTHSfalcons

@JTHScounseling



Final Thoughts

Peggy Widgren

Q & A with department supervisors, administration, and counselors.

In the Cafeteria

