May 2019

Re: 8th Grade Course Requests for 2019-2020 School Year

Dear Parents/Guardians of 8th Grade Students:

Enclosed in this letter are the course requests selected by your child for their 9th grade schedule at Bellport High School. Please review these course requests for accuracy and contact your child’s guidance counselor by Wednesday, May 22, 2019 with any changes. After this deadline, no changes will be permitted until schedules are produced over the summer. All enclosed course requests are based on the assumption that current courses in progress and required Regents Exams are successfully completed by the end of the year. Students that fail a required course will have their course requests adjusted to appropriately reflect the courses required for graduation. Please carefully consider the following information while reviewing your child’s course requests:

New York State Graduation Requirements: All 9th grade students at Bellport High School are expected to enroll in courses aligned with NYS graduation requirements. This includes course, curriculum, sequence, and timing of the aforementioned requirements. Therefore, 9th grade students are expected to enroll in a minimum of one (1) Social Studies, one (1) English, one (1) Mathematics, one (1) Lab Science, and one-half (0.5) credits of Physical Education. Additionally, most students will also be enrolled in one (1) credit of World Language, one (1) credit of Fine Arts, and one-half (0.5) credit of Health. Lunch, elective options, and academic services will occupy remaining periods. A copy of the NYS graduation requirements has been included with this letter.

Extended and Lab Sections: Some courses in science and mathematics have labs or “extended” meeting times. These courses may have been included in your child’s course requests because they are either required for graduation, or they were identified as an appropriate placement based on current academic progress. These courses may impact your child’s ability to enroll in additional electives.

Schedules: The enclosed course request sheet is not a guarantee of schedule, rather a list of courses requested by your child. Schedules will be finalized over the summer and made available to families prior to the opening of school. In addition, please know that some course requests may not be scheduled when conflicts occur. These conflicts include, but are not limited to: conflicting course sections; unmet prerequisites; courses not running; CSE/504/AIS placements; assessment and final grade outcomes.
Electives: Although your child likely identified multiple elective options, the counselor has prioritized elective requests as instructed by your child. Consequently, not all requested electives may be present on the enclosed course request sheet. If your child is unable to receive their requested electives, the counselor will refer to other alternative electives identified by your child, or they will contact you for additional elective course requests.

Special Requests: Special requests, such as teacher requests, requests to have lunch or courses at a specific time, or requests driven by social reasons are not permitted. The counselors will not address any of these special requests.

CSE / 504 Meetings: If applicable to your child, CSE and 504 meetings determine academically and socially appropriate program placements. These stipulations may change current course requests if deemed appropriate.

AIS / Reading Support / Content Support: If your child is identified as needing Academic Intervention Services, Reading Support, or Humanities Content Support at the conclusion of the academic year, current course requests may be impacted by the addition of these services. For more information regarding the addition of these services to your child’s schedule, please contact your Guidance Counselor.

Advanced Placement, Pre-AP World History, and Honors Placements: Any student who does not meet the prerequisites of AP, Pre-AP, and Honors courses may have their course requests changed to appropriately reflect the qualified level of course rigor.

Any student who has their course requests changed will received an updated course request sheet. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your school counselor at 631-730-1768. Please make any changes to your child’s course requests no later than Wednesday, May 22, 2019 – no changes will be permitted after this date.

Sincerely,

Justin Arini

Director of Guidance & Counseling Programs
South Country Central School District