

February 2, 2012

Dear Gr. 8 Parents and Guardians,

Student Tours February 7

As you know, your children will be visiting Arlington High School next Tuesday morning. They will come directly to AHS and report to Lowe Auditorium. Buses will pick them up between 10:30 and 11:00 AM to bring them back to the Ottoson.

The program will include the following components:

1. Power Point Presentation
 - Overview of AHS
 - Academic Programs
 - Athletic offerings
 - Social Activities
 - Support Programs
 - Course Selection Process
2. Tour of the Building
3. Events Fair
 - a. Displays of various programs and activities
 - b. Staff and students available to answer questions about athletics, activities, etc...

***Students will be provided with a list of elective offerings for next year to take home. Later in the course selection process, students and parents will be asked to choose the elective they would like to take next year.

Course Selection Process

We are beginning the process of selecting courses for the 2012-2013 school year. Here is how it will work:

All gr. 9 students are required to take 7 course including English Language Arts, Math, US History I, Physical Science and Gr. 9 PE/Freshman Seminar. Most students will take a Foreign Language unless they are exempt due to specific Special Needs requirements. Except for PE/Freshman Seminar, students will choose the level for each of these courses. All students will choose an elective.

- Step 1 Gr. 8 Teachers (Core subjects and Foreign Languages) will make recommendations for each of their students for the level they believe is most appropriate for next year. The recommendations will be put into our Power School Program.
- Step 2 Students will also be placed in the Physical Education/Freshman Seminar Classes.
- Step 3 Students who are in Special Education Programs and reading classes will be scheduled into the appropriate courses.
- Step 4 Parent Portal will be opened to gr 8 students and parents to view course options, level recommendations, and to choose electives. At that time, parents and students will see what their current teachers have recommended for levels in each of the core subjects. If parents/guardians disagree with the recommendation, we will have a process for you to follow to request an override. (more specific information will be provided when we are ready for that step).

TimeLine

We are beginning step one now. We hope to be at step 4 by February 16. When we are at that point, I will send you instructions for viewing the portal and selecting electives.

The Program of Studies will be posted on the AHS Home Page within the next week.