



Smithtown Central School District

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Dear Parent/Guardian of 8th grade students,

January 2024

It is time to schedule our students for the 2024-2025 school year. We encourage you to participate in the planning of your child's instructional program for the new school year by becoming familiar with the on-line [2024-2025 Program Guide](#). Additionally we encourage you to discuss educational options with your child and the professional staff throughout the scheduling process.

Teacher/Departmental Recommendations

- Once the portal opens on February 1st, the course first displayed in each respective subject represents the course that your child has been recommended for. Please reach out to your child's classroom teacher(s) if you have any questions about the recommendation.

Online Course Request on the Parent Portal

- Parents will have access to view departmental recommendations and have the ability to change elective courses via the parent portal (<https://smithtown.powerschool.com/public/home.html>) from February 1st – February 9th. February 9th **will be the last day for parents to make any elective changes on-line**. Starting February 28th, parents will be able to view and finalize course selections. Please refer to this "[Scheduling Help Document](#)" in order to assist you and your child with the scheduling process.

Course Selections with Counselors

- While students and families are able to make course selections at home through the parent portal during the scheduling window, counselors will be meeting with students to assist them with making appropriate course selections. In addition to your ability to call and email the counselors directly, counselors will be pushing into classes to assist students with the scheduling process.

Challenge by Choice

- Students interested in challenging their placement by enrolling in a related honors, college, or Advanced Placement course, and who have taken the prerequisite course(s), should choose the course from the drop down during scheduling. **As part of this process, students should discuss their interest in taking more challenging coursework with their current classroom teacher, parents/guardians and counselor.** For additional information regarding "challenge by choice" please refer to the [2024-2025 Program Guide](#).

Regents Extended Courses (RE)

- RE courses are offered for 9th graders in Math, English and Global History. They meet 7.5 class periods per week (once every day and twice every other day). Due to the district's commitment to preparing students to meet the rigorous NYS graduation requirements, regents extended courses cannot be challenged. **Please be advised that placement in RE classes may impact your elective placement due to the additional time requirement for the course(s).**

Business/Family and Consumer Sciences/Technology Electives

- Taking electives is a great way for students to find their niche and build lifelong skills that will help them in the future. Smithtown offers a comprehensive list of electives and some tracks will lead to NYS CTE Technical Endorsement on their high school diploma. Please click the links below for an in depth presentation of these electives.

[Business](#)

[FCS](#)

[Technology](#)

Projected enrollments are determined by the number of selections that are made by the students. Therefore, it is important that requests are well planned and suitable to accommodate the learning needs of your child. Please remember that the availability of the program is subject to fiscal constraints affecting the K-12 operations of the district.

Respectfully,



Kevin Colon

Administrator for Guidance and Related Student Services