



Smithtown Central School District

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Kevin Colon

Administrator for Guidance and Related Student
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Mark Secaur, Ed.D

Superintendent of Schools

Daniel Helmes

Assistant Superintendent for Pupil
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Dear Parent/Guardian of 7th grade students,

January 2026

It is time to schedule our students for the 2026-2027 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 online [MS Course Selection Guide](#). Additionally, we encourage you to discuss educational options with your child and the professional staff throughout the scheduling process.

Teacher/Departmental Recommendations

- Teachers have been busy throughout December and January making course recommendations for your child. Once the portal opens on January 27th, you will be able to view these teacher/departmental recommendations. Please contact your child's classroom teacher(s) directly if you have any questions about the recommendation.

Course Request with the School Counselor

- Parents will have access to view departmental recommendations beginning January 27th, using this link (<https://smithtown.powerschool.com/public/home.html>). Once logged in you can click "Class Registration"
- Starting January 28th, through March 13th, Counselors will be meeting students and entering their 2026-2027 course requests directly into PowerSchool.
- In order to prepare your child for these meetings, **please have them complete the [8th Grade Planning Sheet](#) to the best of their ability and bring it with them to their meeting.**
- Starting March 9thth, parents can view the course selections that have been entered up to that point. After you have reviewed their selections, you can contact your child's counselor directly to make any necessary adjustments through March 13th. After this date, student requests will be used to create schedules for the 2026-2027 school year and changes to requests can no longer be made. Though there is an effort to schedule every course request, there are no guarantees that all course requests will be honored due to scheduling constraints. Additionally, due to budgetary constraints, there is no guarantee that every course will run for the 2026-2027 school year.

Challenge by Choice

- 7th Graders interested in challenging their placement by enrolling in honors and/or accelerated courses should choose the course from the drop-down. **As part of this process, students should discuss their interest in taking more challenging coursework with their current classroom teacher, parents/guardians, and counselor.** Please be advised that the final grade of any high school level courses (Algebra 1 and/or Life Science: Biology) will transfer to the high school transcript and be calculated into the high school GPA. **Once a student has made his/her course selection(s), there is no guarantee that a future request for a course change can be**

accommodated. For additional information regarding “challenge by choice” please refer to the [2026-2027 MS Course Selection Guide](#) and the [Accelerated Science Letter](#)

Projected enrollments are determined by the number of selections that are made by the students. Therefore, requests must be 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Colon', written in a cursive style.

Kevin Colon
Administrator for Guidance and Related Student Services