



# Smithtown Central School District

26 New York Avenue, Smithtown, New York 11787

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**Kevin Colon**  
Administrator for Guidance and Related Student Services  
(631)382-2014

**Mark Secaur, Ed.D**  
Superintendent of Schools

**Daniel Helmes**  
Assistant Superintendent for Pupil  
Personnel Services

Dear Parent/Guardian of 8<sup>th</sup> 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 [2026-2027 Program Guide](#). Additionally, we encourage you to discuss educational options with your child.

## **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 [9th Grade Planning Sheet](#) to the best of their ability and bring it with them to their meeting.**
- Starting March 9<sup>th</sup>, 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 required 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**

- Students interested in challenging their placement by enrolling in related honors, college, or Advanced Placement courses, and who have taken the prerequisite course(s), should discuss the choice with their counselor during their meeting so they can input the challenge into PowerSchool. **Students should also discuss their interest in taking more challenging coursework with their current classroom teacher and parents/guardians.** For additional information regarding "challenge by choice" please refer to the [2026-2027 Program Guide](#).

### **Regents Extended Courses (RE) & Academic Intervention Services Courses (AIS)**

- Due to the district's commitment to preparing students to meet the rigorous NYS graduation requirements, Regents Extended (RE) and Academic Intervention Services (AIS) courses cannot be challenged. Questions about this placement should be directed to your child's teacher.

### **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