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#WeAreSachem

Sachem Central School District

Samoset Middle School

December 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In January, our school counselors will begin the process of programming your child for 8th grade. **During the week of January 8th**, all 7th graders will meet with their counselor during their Health class to discuss information related to the 8th grade programming process. Your child will have the opportunity to select a **Music course (Chorus, Band, Orchestra or Music-8)** for the 2024-2025 school year. They will also fill out and submit their Course Selection Form in the Guidance Google Classroom during that class visit. In the meantime, please discuss with your child the importance of making decisions that will affect his/her future education.

- All students will be able to select a Music course – Chorus, Band, Orchestra or Music-8. During 8th grade, all music courses are part of the 9-period school day and performing groups will have additional lessons on a rotating basis. If your child is *not* presently in a performing music group and wishes to participate during the 2024-2025 school year, an audition may be required. Otherwise, students who are not in a performing music should choose Music-8.

All 7th grade English, Social Studies, Math and Science teachers will submit 2024-2025 course recommendations to the Guidance Office. Students will also be scheduled into Physical Education, Art and Lunch. Any student needing an Academic Intervention Service (AIS) course will be scheduled accordingly. Other courses offered to 8th graders are World Language (French, Italian or Spanish) and Science 8 Inquiry (for students not recommended into Regents Earth Science Honors). Students receiving Special Education services may be scheduled for Reading, Resource Room, Reteach and/or Speech based on their needs.

Course verifications will be posted on the Parent Portal in the spring of 2024 where you will be able to view your child's courses for 8th grade. Please keep in mind that all recommendations are tentative pending the results of your child's performance in June. If you have any additional questions about the programming process for your child, please contact the Guidance Office at (631) 471-1700 ext 3.

Sincerely,
Dr. Georgia Afxendiou
Principal

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