

# Sachem Central School District at Holbrook

James J. Nolan  
Superintendent of Schools

Gemma M. Salvia  
Principal

Seneca Middle School  
850 Main Street  
Holbrook, NY 11741

-----  
(631) 471-1850  
FAX (631) 471-1849

January 2012

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In January Mr. Sheehan, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Guidance Counselor, will begin programming your child into his/her 8<sup>th</sup> grade courses. This is a very important process and there are several dates to mark on your calendar.

**During the week of January 9<sup>th</sup>** all 7<sup>th</sup> graders will attend a meeting during their Math class to discuss information related to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade programming process.

**On or before Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>** you and your child must sign the bottom portion of this letter and return it to your child's homeroom teacher. This should be an opportunity for you to discuss with your child the importance of making decisions that will affect his/her future education.

- Most students will be able to select a Language Other Than English (LOTE) course – French, Italian or Spanish. Students should select a 1<sup>st</sup> choice and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice LOTE. Due to scheduling constraints, once a LOTE course is scheduled, we will be unable to make changes. Please choose wisely, since this is also the LOTE course your child will be continuing in high school to fulfill graduation requirements.
- All students will be able to select a music course - General Music 8, Chorus 8, Band 8, or Orchestra 8. During 8<sup>th</sup> grade, all music courses are part of the 8-period school day. If you are currently participating in a performing music group and would like to continue, please indicate that below. If you are *not* presently in a performing music group and wish to do so during the 2011-2012 school year, an audition will be required. Auditions can be arranged through the performing music group teachers. Otherwise, students should select General Music-8.

All 7<sup>th</sup> grade English, History, Math and Science teachers will complete 2012-2013 course recommendations by the middle of January. All students will be scheduled into Art, Physical Education, and Lunch. All student course selections will be posted on Parent Portal on March 30, 2012. Any student needing an Academic Intervention Service (AIS) course as a result of the NYS English Language Arts and Math Assessments will be scheduled accordingly. Students in the Special Education Program will be scheduled for Reading, Resource Room or Reteach in place of a LOTE course.

Please keep in mind that all recommendations are tentative pending the results of your child's performance in June. Please contact Mr. Sheehan at (631) 471-1850 ext.3 or dsheehan@sachem.edu with any questions.

Sincerely Yours,

Gemma M. Salvia  
Principal

-----  
**\*To be returned by January 20<sup>th</sup>\***

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

**LOTE:** Your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice LOTE *must* be two different languages (Circle below)

<u>1<sup>st</sup> Choice</u> –	French	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Choice</u> –	French
	Italian		Italian
	Spanish		Spanish

**MUSIC:** (Check all that apply) I am currently in: \_\_\_\_\_ Chorus-7 \_\_\_\_\_ Band-7 \_\_\_\_\_ Orchestra-7

(Circle one) I would like to take:    General Music-8                      Chorus-8                      Band-8                      Orchestra-8

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_