



Sachem Central School District at Holbrook

Mr. James J. Nolan
Superintendent of School

Sequoia Middle School
Frank Panasci, Principal
750 Waverly Avenue
Holtsville, New York 11742
631-207-7100

January 2012

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In January, Mrs. Cruz, 7th grade Guidance Counselor, will begin programming your child into his/her 8th grade courses. Listed below is important information pertaining to this process.

January 17th-19th: Mrs. Cruz will be going into all 7th grade history classes to discuss 8th grade programming. During that time your child will choose a LOTE (Languages other than English) and music course. If your child receives special education services (Resource Room, Collaborative or Skills) he/she will not be taking a LOTE class in middle school.

- Most students will be able to select a Language Other Than English (LOTE) course – Spanish, Italian or French. Students should select a 1st choice and 2nd 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 select a music course - General Music 8, Chorus 8, Band 8, or Orchestra 8. If your child is currently participating in a performing music group and would like to continue, he/she should choose that class. If your child is currently participating in a performing music group and would not like to continue in 8th grade, he/she should choose General Music-8. If your child is not presently in a performing music group, they should select General Music-8.

All 7th grade English, History, Math and Science teachers will make 2012-2013 course recommendations in January. All students will be scheduled into Art, Physical Education, Writing Workshop and Lunch. 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 when we receive the exam results during the summer. Students in the Special Education Program will be scheduled for Reading, Resource Room or Re-teach in place of a LOTE course.

In March, your student's course recommendations will be posted on the Parent Portal. Please keep in mind that all recommendations are tentative pending your student's final performance in June. Please contact Mrs. Cruz at 207-7100 or jcruz2@sachem.edu if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Panasci".

Frank Panasci
Principal