

# Middle School PAC Meeting Agenda

February 6, 2019 Presentation by Billings West High School 281-5600

## Easing the Transition from 8th grade to 9th grade

- Incoming Freshmen Open House is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 23, 2019 @ 6PM**
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Tours – **April 11** in-district schools, **May 7<sup>th</sup>** for outlying schools
- Mentor Program & First Day of School
- Freshmen Academy – Located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rooms 209-227
- Academic Interventions
  - Academic Assistance Center (AAC)
  - Students can meet with teachers from **7:30am-8am** and **3pm-3:30pm**
  - Pre-Algebra, Algebra Foundations, Reading Foundations
- PowerSchool Parent/Student - Attendance, homework, communication with teacher
- “Paperless Report Cards” at six and twelve weeks, final semester grades mailed home
- School registration/boundaries, Out of Area Requests
- Student IDs and School Safety
- **Communication** is key – student, teacher, counselor, administration
- Attendance matters!! So does homework!!

## Typical Freshman School Day & Required Course Work

- Six class periods **8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
- Early Morning classes primarily for grades 10-12 honors and AP classes
- Early Out Wednesday Schedule for PLCs (Professional Learning Communities)
  - **8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
  - Shorter classes and passing periods, longer and earlier “one lunch”
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade “Big Four” – English, Math, Science, Health Enhancement
- Honors English, Honors Earth Science, Honors Geometry, Honors Biology
  - Process- Honors English Application for our Outlying Schools
  - Criteria- Test scores, grades, writing assessment, teacher recommendation
  - Parents and students will be informed over the summer (by July 1)
  - Weighted Grades (Honors and AP Courses) A=5, B=4, C=3, D=1, F=0
  - Valedictorian Criteria (highest weighted GPA unrounded on 24 credits)
  - Platinum Program
  - Required summer reading assignment in Honors English
- Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1 + Algebra Foundations, Reading Foundations
- Academic Assistance Center
- Electives (CTE, VPA, World Languages) and Career Center Options
- Special Education- determined through IEP
- 504 follows the student with annual conversation (meet only if need to revise)

## **Registration for 2019-2020 School Year**

- Students receive a registration guide and sample registration sheet at their middle school and have access to our Course Offerings Book online. Our counselors will visit middle schools later in February to register students.
- All registration information is available on our website at [www.billingswesthigh.com](http://www.billingswesthigh.com)
- 6 classes taken each semester = 6 Credits Possible as a Freshman (5.0 credits must be earned to maintain appropriate progress toward graduation).
- There are attendance guidelines for earning credit/grades (10 Day Rule, P Grades).
- Students must pass all of the graduation requirements listed in the Registration Guide in order to earn a West High diploma.
- Making up failed credits:
  - Fee-based options such as summer school or correspondence courses.
  - Free options include credit recovery classes during the school day, after school, or MTDA Connect classes online.

## **Activity Involvement**

### **Clubs:**

**Honorary Groups (Application and Selection Process):** National Honor Society, Girls' State, Boys' State, HOBY, Youth Leadership Billings

**Service Clubs:** Key Club, St. Jude's Club, Student Council (STUCO)

**Special Interest Groups:** Academic Team, Amnesty International, Art Club, Bears Experiencing the World, Business Professionals of America (BPA), Chess Club, Creative Writing Club, Democrats Club, Drama Club, Ecology Club, Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), French Club, German Club, Math Club, Native American Club, Pep Band, Science Club, Ski Club, Spanish Club, Special Olympics, Sports Medicine, Technology Club, Westward.

**Career Center Organizations:** Future Farmers of America (FFA), Distributive Education Clubs of America, Jobs for Montana Grads (JMG), Vocational Industrial Clubs of America

### **Sports:**

**Golf begins August 15<sup>th</sup>** (tryouts are 2 days, need 3 days of practice before competition)

**Football, Volleyball, Soccer begin August 16<sup>th</sup>; Cross Country begins August 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Cheerleading Tryouts usually in early May, check website in March**

**Dance Team Tryouts usually in early May, check website in March**

**Speech/Debate practice begins October 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Band, Choir, Orchestra Auditions Arranged with the teacher;** contact the Music Office at 281-5738

For eligibility information, financial obligations, physicals, and summer camp information, please contact Liz Welch, Activities Secretary, at 281-5617.

*Thank you for coming tonight & welcome to the Golden Bear Family!*