





Agenda



- **Review** the timeline for course selection process
- **Discuss** the choices that you'll get to make
- **Think** about what you'll need to keep in mind while you make those choices
- What **resources** are available to you during the process
- Graduation Requirements



Academic Planning Timeline



April

- 13th @ 8:30 am - Placement Testing for Grades 8-11
 - World Languages (if continuing with language from previous school)
 - Humanities for Grades 9-11
- Mid-Late April - New 10th/11th Graders schedule appointments with Geoff and Karen Ferretti, Director of College Counseling

May

- Early May - SRDS Parent Portal Access
- 17th @ 8:00 am - Placement Testing for Grades 8-11, Session 2
- Mid-late May - Course selection forms posted on Portal
- May 29 @ 3:30 - Science Placement test (7th & 8th grade)

June

- June 1 - Submit Course selection forms
- June 19 & 20 - Course list sent to students
- Mid-June - Book list and summer work posted to New Family Page
- Set up Individual meetings with Deirdre Angrick to review courses

Online Curriculum Guides

- <https://www.saddleriverday.org/academics/middle-school>
- <https://www.saddleriverday.org/academics/upper-school>



What to Consider and Resources



- **Performance and work/life balance:** How did this year go in terms of grades, stress, workload, etc?
- **Time:** Will you have the same amount of time during/after school next year? More time? Less time?
- **Requirements:** What requirements should you be working to complete?
- **Co- and extracurricular commitments:** what things - besides academic work - will take up your time both inside and outside of school?
- **Resources:** Parents, Academic Dean, Upper School Head, and Advisors



Honors and AP Expectations



Honors Criteria

- The workload in Honors courses is more demanding, both in terms of amount and difficulty - faster moving.
- Students must be able to master skills and concepts quickly without additional support.
- They must be adept at both following instructions and working independently on classwork, be that a history paper or an experiment.
- Honors classes spend less time in class reviewing for tests and quizzes. Students are expected to be organized and responsible with respect to handing in work on time, asking questions, and keeping track of assignments.
- The standards for achievement in Honors classes are more rigorous than those in College Prep classes. Grades are but one factor used in determining readiness for work at this level.

AP Criteria

- ***Proficiency as a student, a reader, a writer, and a problem solver***
- ***Intellectual ambition and sophistication***

A student should demonstrate:

- Passion for learning and an active independent intellectual life
- An ability to think abstractly, critically, and creatively
- Curiosity about the different ways that meaning is constructed;
- Active engagement in class discussion
- A willingness to take intellectual risks and reconsider initial thinking.

- ***Initiative and independence***

A student should demonstrate:

- Commitment to their studies
- An ability to manage a heavy workload
- The confidence and self-discipline to flourish without extensive guidance
- A positive responsiveness to being challenged



Curriculum - New Courses for 2023 and 2024



Math

- Financial Algebra and College Algebra**
- AP Precalculus*
- Post AP Math Courses (full year)
 - Multivariable Calculus
 - Linear Algebra*
 - Discrete Math (in discussion)**

Business and Economics

- 7th Grade Intro to Business & Entrepreneurship
- Closing Bell Class**
- AP Microeconomics**

Science

- Professional Research with Dr. Robinson*
- AP Environmental Science**
- AP Physics I**

Computer Science

- Honors Natural Language Processing*
 - Machine Learning
- Honors Artificial Intelligence

Languages

- AP Spanish Literature**
- Latin I**

Enhanced Wellness Program for 9-12**

Art

- AP Art History**

History

- Honors level added for 9th and 10th
 - CP, Honors* and AP
- Semester Electives (seniors-2025)** Voting in June
 - History of NYC
 - Presidents at War
 - US Government and Law
 - World Cultures and Literature
 - Environmental History 500-1800
 - History of Piracy

English Semester Electives (11th & 12th grade CP and Honors) voting in June

- Mystery and Murder*
- Fantasy Literature
- Crossing Borders - An Exploration of World Literature
- Humor*
- Sports Literature*
- Bronte Sisters
- The Art of the Short Story
- The *Iliad*
- Madness and Mayhem*
- Post Colonial Literature

*New 23-24

** New 24-25



Middle School Curriculum



Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
English 5	English 6	English 7	English 8
History 5	History 6	History 7	History 8
Math 5	Pre-Algebra 6 Pre-Algebra/Algebra I	Algebra I Algebra I Honors Geometry Honors	CP Algebra I Algebra I Honors Geometry Honors Algebra II Honors
Science 5	Science 6	Science 7 Science 8 Biology Honors	Science 8 Biology Honors Chemistry Honors
Spanish 5	Spanish 6	Spanish 7 French 1 Latin 1 (evening)	World Language (Spanish, French, or Latin)
Studio Art (2x/week) Graphic Art (1x/week)	At least two art classes (students may take three depending on scheduling): Visual Arts: Studio Art or Graphic Arts (2x/week)	At least one art class (students may take more than one) Visual Arts: Studio Art or Graphic Arts (2x/week)	At least one art class (students may take more than one) Visual Arts: Studio Art or Graphic Arts (2x/week)
Performing Arts: Instrumental Music (2x/week) Chorus (2x/week)	Performing Arts: Band, Strings, Chorus, Theater Arts & Dance, or Guitar Ensemble (All 2x/week)	Performing Arts: Band, Strings, Chorus, Theater Arts & Dance, or Guitar Ensemble (All 2x/week)	Performing Arts: Band, Strings, Chorus, Theater Arts & Dance, or Guitar Ensemble (All 2x/week)
Health		Health	Health
Physical Education (2x/week)	Physical Education (2x/week)	Physical Education (2x/week)	Physical Education (2x/week)
Digital Citizenship (1x/week)	Digital Literacy (1x/week)	Digital Fluency (1x/week)	
Study Skills (1x week) IDEAS Lab(1 x week)	Study Skills (1x week)	Study Skills (1x week)	Public Speaking/Creative Writing (3x/week one semester each)
Capstone Project (1 x week)	Capstone Projects (1 x week)	Capstone Projects (1 x week)	Capstone Projects (1 x week)
		Optional Elective: Introduction to Business & Entrepreneurship	Optional Electives: Comp. Sci I, Comp. Sci. Principles, or Business. & Entrepreneurship I



7th Grade Course Offerings Snapshot



- English 7
- History 7
- Math - Based on letter of recommendation and current math class
- Science: Science 7, Science 8, or Honors Biology
- World Language: Spanish, French, or Latin
- Arts Requirement (only one required)
 - Visual Arts: Studio Art or Graphic Arts (can take both)
 - Performing Arts: Band, Strings, Chorus, Theater Arts & Dance, or Guitar Ensemble (can take multiple)
- Digital Literacy
- Health
- Phys Ed
- Capstone Project
- Optional Upper School electives: Introduction to Business and Entrepreneurship



8th Grade Course Offerings Snapshot



- English 8
- History 8
- Math - Based on letter of recommendation and current math class
- Science: Science 8 or Honors Biology
- World Language: Spanish, French, or Latin (or replace with ESL)
- Arts Requirement (only one required)
 - Visual Arts: Studio Art or Graphic Arts (can take both)
 - Performing Arts: Band, Strings, Chorus, Theater Arts & Dance, or Guitar Ensemble (can take multiple)
- Public Speaking/Creative Writing Semester Courses
- Health
- Phys Ed
- Capstone Project
- Optional Upper School electives: Computer Science or Business and Entrepreneurship I



Upper School Graduation Requirements



Department	Credit	Course Requirements
English	12	One English course per year
History	9	World History, Modern World History, US History
Mathematics	9	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II
Science	9	Biology, Chemistry, one other lab science
World Language	9	Through level III in one language
Art	3	Performing and/or Visual Arts
Wellness	4 Semesters	Health, Phys Ed, and 9th Grade Exec. Functioning



English



Students are required to take 4 years of English.

- English 8 → English 9 or English 9 Honors
 - Research and Writing twice a week for 9th grade!
- English 9 OR English 9 Honors → English 10 OR English 10 Honors

After these two years serve as the foundation, students have more choice and variety in grades 11 and 12, including Advanced Placement courses.



History



Students are required to take 3 years of history. Typically, students follow this sequence:

- Early World History (CP or Honors) or AP Human Geography (9th grade)
- Modern World History (CP or Honors) or AP World/Euro (10th grade)
(AP World + Euro swap every two years - can take the other course later)
- US History (CP or Honors) or AP US History (11th grade)

We also offer electives!

- Psych I
- AP Psych (*Seniors only; Psych I is pre-rec*)
- AP Microeconomics (every other year)
- AP Macroeconomics (every other year)
- AP Government & Politics
- AP Art History



Mathematics, Grades 8-12

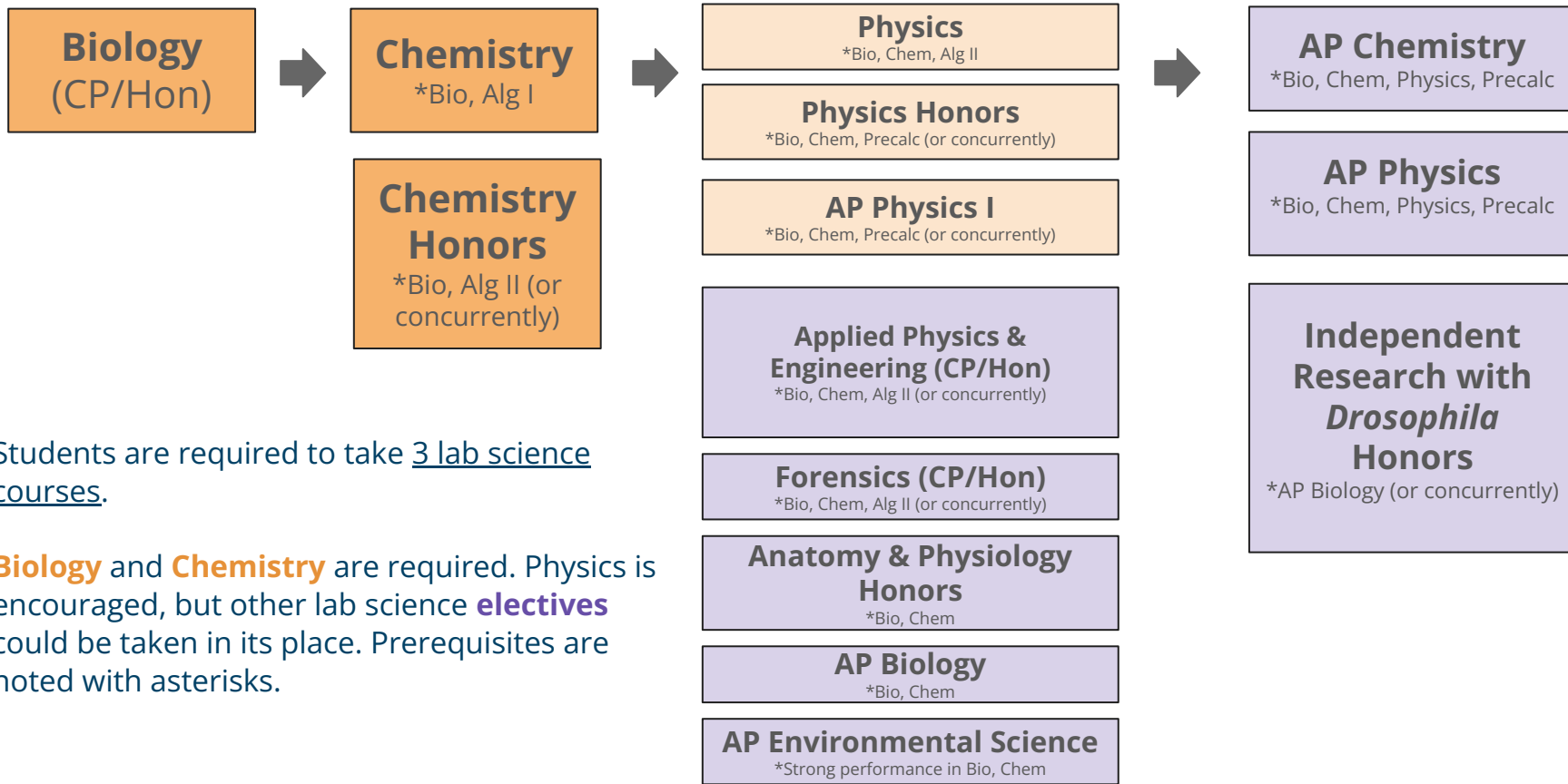


- Students are required to take 3 years of math

Algebra	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus	Calculus	Post Calculus	Supplemental
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus	Calculus Honors	Linear Algebra	Statistics
Algebra I Honors	Geometry Honors	Algebra II Honors	Honors Precalculus	AP Calculus AB	Stanford Math Online	Honors Statistics
			AP Precalculus	AP Calculus BC	Independent Study	AP Statistics
				Multivariable Calculus		Financial Algebra
						College Algebra



Sciences



Students are required to take 3 lab science courses.

Biology and **Chemistry** are required. Physics is encouraged, but other lab science **electives** could be taken in its place. Prerequisites are noted with asterisks.



World Languages



Must complete level 3 of a language

- At least two years at SRDS
- We recommend that all students at least take a language through the end of the their junior year, even if that means going beyond level 3.
- Spanish and French offered up to AP level
 - AP Spanish Literature new for 24-25
- Latin - new for 24-25 (evening course)



Arts



Must Complete 3 credits to graduate - options below available every year

Performing Arts

- Concert Choir (1.2)
- Vocal Masterclass (1.2)
- Band (1.2)
- String Ensemble (1.2)
- Jazz Ensemble (1.2)
- Guitar Ensemble (1.2)
- Music Theory (1.2)
- AP Music Theory (1 yr Music Theory Required)
- Acting (1.2)

Visual Arts

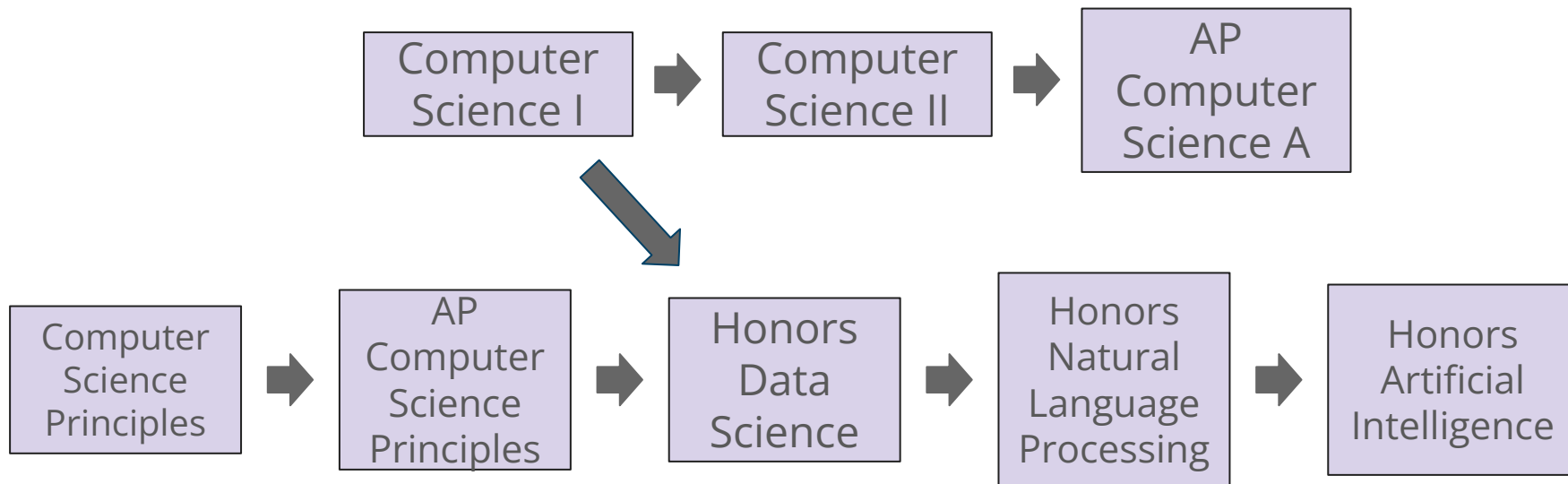
- Studio Art (2.4)
- Art Major (3.0) (Starting 10th grade)
- Graphic Art (1.8)
- Photography (1.8)
- Videography (1.8)
- Portfolio Art Honors (3.0) (Available Starting 11th grade)
- AP Art History (3.0)



Computer Science



These courses are optional, but encouraged. Placement depending on experience/proficiency



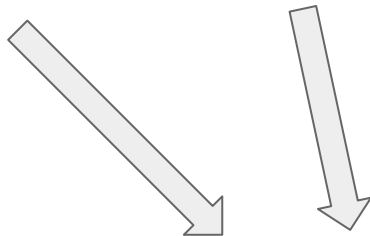


Business and Entrepreneurship



Business and Entrepreneurship is an introduction to starting a business and to becoming an entrepreneur. Students learn the foundations of turning an idea into an opportunity from ideation and pitching an idea to the elements of a business plan. The focus of the course is in developing an entrepreneurial mindset while learning business basics.

Business 1 → Business 2 → Business 3 → Business 4



Closing Bell Class



Revised Wellness Program



9th Grade Wellness Requirement

- Executive functioning, Health, and PE (2x/week for whole year)

New Options for 10th-12th Grade

The options below are one semester course options to encourage students to learn about the different activities that will benefit them today and especially after they graduate:

Semester Elective options available from 10th grade:

- TA for a Lower or Middle School Gym class
- Yoga and Focus
- All the Sports!
- Strength and Conditioning
- Musical Theater Dance
- If they play for 2 seasons they will get a waiver for a semester (aim to give them more time to do HWK at school)

If a student plays a sport for three season 10th-12th they will get a waiver for the year



9th Grade Course Offerings Snapshot



- English: CP or Honors
- History: CP, Honors, or AP Human Geography
- Math - Based on letter of recommendation and current math class
- Science: Biology or Honors Biology
- World Language: Spanish, French, or Latin
- Research and Writing Course
- Arts Requirement
 - Visual Arts: Studio Art, Graphic Arts (with teacher permission), Digital Photography, or Videography (can do more than one)
 - Performing Arts: Acting, Music Theory, Band, Choir, Jazz Ensemble, String Ensemble, Vocal Master Class (can do more than one)
- 9th Grade Wellness Curriculum
 - Executive Functioning Course
 - Phys Ed
 - Health
- Electives: Business and Entrepreneurship, Computer Science, or Psychology



10th Grade Course Offerings Snapshot



- English: CP or Honors
- History: CP, Honors, or AP European History (opposite years with AP World History)
- Math: Based on letter of recommendation and current math class
- Science: Chemistry or Honors Chemistry
- World Language: Spanish, French, or Arabic
- Sophomore College Seminar
- Arts Requirement
 - Visual Arts: Studio Art, Graphic Arts (with teacher permission), Digital Photography, or Videography (can do more than one)
 - Performing Arts: Acting, Music Theory, Band, Choir, Jazz Ensemble, String Ensemble, Vocal Master Class (can do more than one)
- Health
- Wellness Program/Phys Ed
- Electives: Business and Entrepreneurship or Computer Science, or Psychology



Gateway Honors Diploma

Gateway Diplomas at SRDS



Mission

To emphasize the exploration of individual, career-based interests through rigorous coursework and experiential learning, leading to a deeper understanding of the skills necessary for a successful college and career path.



Field Experience

Designed by the student with assistance from their faculty mentor regarding location, work being performed, and expectations of both the student and the on-site mentor.

All field experiences will be documented through:

- Reflective journal entries
- Check-in with faculty mentor
- 5-10 page scholarly paper



Portfolio and Presentation

A diploma portfolio is the formal documentation of the progress a student has made focusing on the skills ascertained in:

- Critical-thinking,
- Creativity
- Scholarly writing
- Knowledge in their chosen specialization area.

Students will present their field experience in an evening presentation to the school community.



Diploma Tracks

Arts Diploma

- Visual Arts
- Music
- Theater

Humanities and International Engagement Diploma

- Humanities
- Global Citizenship
- Civic Engagement

Innovation & Entrepreneurship Diploma

- STEAM
- Medical
- Entrepreneurship

Research Proposals

Medical

- To what extent does plastic affect human health in the medical industry, and how can we change to using bioplastics?
- How do language barriers affect access to healthcare?

STEAM

- To what extent is human psychology affected by biology and circumstances in our modern world?
- How can we best design infrastructure for the public good?

Civic Engagement

- How can we improve our democratic and economic systems?

Entrepreneurship

- What does it take to succeed in the energy industry today?
- What obstacles do minority entrepreneurs face?

Visual Arts

- How can we best express a person's identity through a portrait?



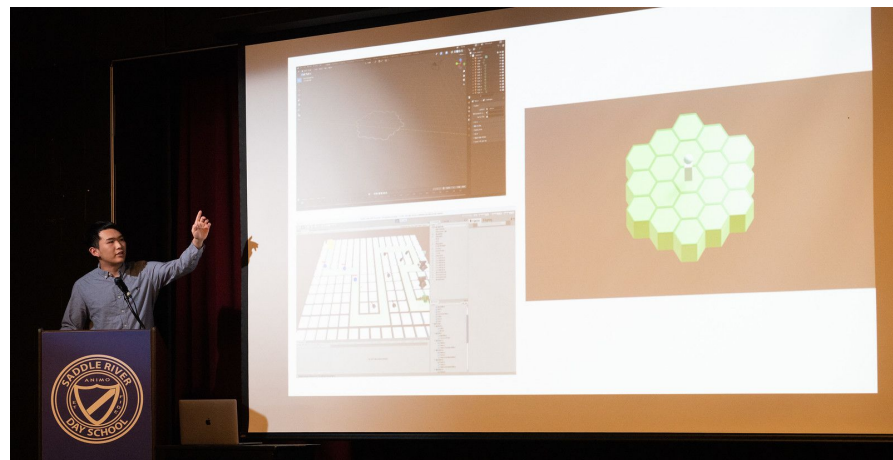
Gateway Program Timeline



	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior		
Fall		Finish Up Summer Work				
		Sophomore Applications (After conferences)	Weekly Meetings (Students are scheduled for one period a week to meet with Gateway Coordinator)	Weekly Meetings (continued)	Mentor Younger Gateway Students (for graduates)	Weekly Meetings (continued)
Winter	Parent Info Night + Student Assembly	Write Research Question + Define Project		Gateway Diploma Night (Juniors and Seniors present summative projects in a public forum)		
	Applications Begin (After Semester 1 Ends)					
Spring	Applications Due + Acceptances Announced (Before Student-Led Conferences)			Mentor Younger Gateway Students (for graduates)	Weekly Meetings (continued for those who did not graduate)	Graduation Gateway Diplomas Conferred
	Write Research Question + Define Project					
Summer	Complete Summer Work / Projects (Annotated bibliography or journals along with a mentorship or internship)					



Gateway Project Defense





Upcoming Events and Dates



All dates posted on New Family Page - www.saddleriverday.org/newfamilypage

May

- May 17 - 9th & 10th Grade Social Event
- May 21 - Middle & Upper School New Family Information Session
- May 21 - All School Art Show
- May 23 - Middle School Field Day (for Grade 7-8)
- May 23 - All School BBQ

June

- Early June - Summer work and book lists posted on New Family Page
- Early June - Fall sports sign up via Family ID

August

- Mid August - Schedules sent out
- Meetings with Division Heads

