BLUE KNIGHTS ADVISORY PROGRAM (BKAP) NEWSLETTER

September: Knights are United

Welcome back to school! A new year is the perfect time for reflection, fresh starts, and growth. This month during our advisory session, students will come together while incorporating critical thinking, communication and citizenship.

In these lessons, students will:

- Begin to build community by recognizing our different experiences, finding common ground, and practicing respectful communication and active listening (grade 9)
- Understand how their choices strengthen the SHS community and how trusted adults can support their success (grade 10)
- Take ownership of their education by using key resources, staying on track, and building a clear plan toward postsecondary goals (grade 11)
- Take ownership by reflecting on priorities, assessing readiness, and planning purposeful next steps for the future (grade 12)

KNIGHTS ARE UNITED

Research consistently demonstrates that students who feel connected to their school are more likely to attend regularly, engage in learning, persevere through challenges, and experience positive social-emotional outcomes. While academic success is important, students are most successful when they first believe they belong. The September lessons are intentionally designed to create that sense of connection while gradually helping students understand that being part of a school community also carries increasing responsibility. Rather than delivering the same community-building lesson each year, each grade level revisits the idea of unity through a different developmental lens. Students move from finding their place, to strengthening their community, to planning their future, and finally to leaving a lasting legacy.

*Each lesson reflects the developmental needs of adolescents while reinforcing that **every Blue Knight is part of something larger than themselves**.*