

Hello Fairfield Families!

I hope this letter finds you well and that you have all been enjoying your summer. This letter pertains all things Counseling Office related. Yes it IS LONG but the information is important. I have tried to break it into sections so you can pick and choose what may apply to your family. .

### **Scheduling:**

- Student schedules are available to view in Skyward, if you require a schedule change, please have your student complete the Google form (posted in Schoology), I realize I am working through them slower than anticipated, but rest assured, if the form is completed I will get to you in the order that it is received. Duplicate entries and follow up emails are not necessary if the form is completed.
- Independent Study in Art will not be available this year
- Gaps are not permitted in schedules
- Online Courses: If you requested an online course it will not appear on your schedule until closer to the term that you registered to take it. As long as you filled out the online course request form - you are good to go.
- Conflict: If you see "conflict" listed on your schedule, it is most likely in block 2 or 3. If it is in block 2, it is because we have courses that run the entire block, and courses that run half of the block. If you have a course listed in "2" you will see conflicts in 2A and 2B, if you have a course listed in 2A or 2B you will see a conflict in block "2". If you have a 2A course, make sure you also have a 2B and vice versa. So you must have either a block "2" or a 2A AND 2B. Ignore "conflict" in block 3 unless you for some reason have two courses listed during the same block at the same time.
- Course load - make sure your courses are scheduled in sequence (Geometry then Algebra II, Intro to Art then Art 3D, PreCalculus then Calculus, Spanish I before Spanish II etc) Also make sure your course load is evenly distributed. You do not want to be taking all of your core courses in one semester, if it can be helped. If you are unsure about sequencing please check the informational sheet I posted on the Counseling Website under Scheduling or check the Course Selection Book listed under scheduling on the website.
- PE - You MUST have a PE every year, even if you doubled up somewhere
- Personal Finance is NOT a Math course and IS a graduation requirement
- Course selection cheat sheet:  
<https://www.fairfieldpaschools.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=3369&dataid=6694&FileName=2022-2023%20Course%20Selection%20Guidelines.pdf>
- Course selection book:  
<https://www.fairfieldpaschools.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=3369&dataid=6718&FileName=2022-2023%20Course%20Selection%20Book%20FINAL.pdf>

**Communications:**

- Schoology is the main method of communication from the Counseling Office to students, please make sure your student checks the Counseling Group (Class of 202\_ Counseling Group) regularly.
- If information is for parents and students, it is sent through Skyward, which sends it to the student's school email, and the email address the parent has on file with the district (please check your spam folders)
- First line of contact for communication and things occurring in a classroom is the teacher of the class. If you contact the office or Counseling Office regarding a teacher/class the first question you will be asked is "have you spoken with the teacher?" and if you have not, you will be directed to contact the teacher. All concerns and communications MUST go through the teacher first.

**Incoming Seniors:**

- Information has been posted in Schoology regarding Transcript Audits and Senior Meetings. These are mandatory for graduation, and parents can attend if they/you would like. Transcripts for the audit can be found in Schoology under Portfolio, please use the Final transcript from June 2022
- Transcript Audit Tutorial:  
[https://lockhaven.zoom.us/rec/play/sNhg6zPh7nOUH5F9nnmeeDjl8U\\_CJuFzzMyXdm8JOAR0ibmkF7MM3UIWkhhezi-HNi\\_n975PnS5dpxKI.5dLupjN2Pz5hqR2y?startTime=1644944515000&\\_x\\_zm\\_rtaid=OcdNHazbSVW9d7fjFV7DsA.1659662340391.774ec8076d96b1af1ce8f81629d02c69&\\_x\\_zm\\_rhtaid=262](https://lockhaven.zoom.us/rec/play/sNhg6zPh7nOUH5F9nnmeeDjl8U_CJuFzzMyXdm8JOAR0ibmkF7MM3UIWkhhezi-HNi_n975PnS5dpxKI.5dLupjN2Pz5hqR2y?startTime=1644944515000&_x_zm_rtaid=OcdNHazbSVW9d7fjFV7DsA.1659662340391.774ec8076d96b1af1ce8f81629d02c69&_x_zm_rhtaid=262)
- Senior Leave slips are MANDATORY if you are going to utilize Senior Leave and they do require parental signature. They will not be available until the first day of school in the Counseling Office and must be returned to the Counseling Office by Friday September 2nd

**Testing:**

- Information regarding PSAT, SAT and ACT for fall has been posted in Schoology (and was also sent home via Skyward)
- Sign up dates are firm and payment is due at time of registration
- If payment is not received your test could be canceled
- QR codes to register for testing:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-Fx2\\_mkcBq1nOq-h0XoWsibgDAO6SvWeECEXeJz6db8/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-Fx2_mkcBq1nOq-h0XoWsibgDAO6SvWeECEXeJz6db8/edit)
- Juniors and PSAT - all Juniors are automatically registered to take the PSAT paid for by the district. If you do NOT want to take the PSAT you MUST OPT OUT by September 12th using the above QR codes or link in Schoology.

**Financial Aid:**

- During back to school night on August 23 we will have a representative from PHEAA to discuss Financial Aid. You MUST register for this event (if there is not enough interest it will be

canceled) the registration can be found on the QR code link above or in Schoology. Everyone is welcome to attend regardless of grade.

- FAFSA completion night Thursday October 27th at 5:30 - again, you must register or this event will be canceled if there is not enough interest. You MUST have all documents ready by October 24th in order to participate in this workshop. This workshop is for Seniors only.
- [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-Fx2\\_mkcBq1nQc-h0XoWsibgDAQ6SvWeECExeJz6db8/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-Fx2_mkcBq1nQc-h0XoWsibgDAQ6SvWeECExeJz6db8/edit)

### **Act 158**

- There have been updates to graduation requirements and Keystone provided by the state. Please see the Act 158 website for more information <https://www.fairfieldpaschools.org/Page/2683>
- Students in the class of 2023 will be the first class graduating under Act 158 requirements and I will be communicating with students and families throughout the year who require alternate pathways to ensure all students requiring alternate pathways meet the requirements

### **Counseling Website and Schoology**

- Although the Counseling Office tries to keep all information on the Counseling website and Schoology up to date, if you ever see something that is NOT up to date, please let us know so that we can correct it.
- We are human and we all make mistakes/errors, they are not intentional and a little grace, patience and a conversation go a long way. Please reach out to us if you have any concerns.

### **Orientation 9th Grade**

- Incoming 9th Grade Orientation will take place on Back to School night August 23rd promptly at 5pm. This orientation will last approximately 20 minutes as the Financial Aid presentation starts at 5:30.
- The information for 9th Grade Orientation will also be available online (a powerpoint/Zoom) for those who wish to watch the presentation before/after that time frame.