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HERRICKS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Herricks High School

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IMPORTANT SCHOOL START INFORMATION

- **BRING YOUR SCHEDULE WITH YOU ON OPENING DAY, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2016.**
- **9TH GRADERS WILL RECEIVE THEIR SCHEDULES AT THE “BAGELS AND LOCKS” PROGRAM ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 25TH (9 A.M. TO 12 P.M.)**
- **ALL SCHEDULES WILL BE POSTED ON THE PARENT PORTAL ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 25TH AFTER 4:00 P.M.**
- **CHECK YOUR EMAIL OR THE HERRICKS WEBSITE FOR SCHOOL FLYERS.**
- **STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR DISTRICT-PROVIDED TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE THEIR BUS PASSES AND RELATED INFORMATION DIRECTLY FROM THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE.**

August 2016

Dear Parents and Students:

We are looking forward to an exciting new school year for Herricks High School! Your administration, teachers, and support staff are here to ensure that you have every opportunity to be successful. To achieve your goals you are encouraged to be an active and respectful participant in the Herricks High School learning community. There are wonderful opportunities each school year for you to continue to learn and grow; please, take advantage of them. I am delighted to be joining the Herricks High School educational community for what should be an exciting and enjoyable journey.

In an effort to welcome students back and support a smooth transition as the new school year approaches, some important items are listed below.

Ninth Graders

Welcome to the High School! We are looking forward to having the Class of 2020 join our community. Please join us for “Bagels & Locks” sponsored by the Student Government on Thursday, August 25th, at 9:00 a.m. Agenda books will be distributed at that time.

School Opening

School will begin on Tuesday, September 6th. The first day is a “Blue Day.” Regular schedules will be in effect on that day. You must bring the copy of your 2016-2017 schedule to school with you.

The school day (periods 1-9) runs from 8:00 a.m. to 2:53 p.m. (Please see the new bell schedule as a separate document.)

Schedule Problems

If you have any concerns with your course schedule after the start of school on September 6th, please make an appointment to see your guidance counselor. Appointments may be made during unassigned periods, lunch periods, or the problem period in question. Any requests for changes other than input errors from original student course requests require written approval from a parent or guardian. Other than input errors, changes will be made for the following reasons only:

- A failing grade in a prior course from the assigned teacher
- Change of placement level, as approved by a department chairperson only
- Addition of new courses during free periods, if seats are available
- All other changes will need to be approved by the department chairperson or assistant principal. Our schedule has been developed in a manner which best meets the academic needs of our students and it is important that class enrollments remain as balanced as possible. The number of sections for each course have been determined based on the requests made by students last spring.

Student Parking

Regrettably, parking space at the High School is limited. As such, student parking is reserved for only seniors who hold a Class 5 or Class D license. Seniors who hold a junior license (Class DJ) are not permitted to park or drive on campus at any time. Student parking is limited to the front and rear parking lots. Seniors must register their cars in Mr. Frisone's office where they will receive a parking sticker, provided they have attended one of the Safe Driving programs offered last spring. An additional Safe Driving program is being offered in early fall. Parking stickers must be displayed at all times. Failure to do so may result in the loss of parking privileges.

A copy of "Learners' Permits and Junior Licenses," published by the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, is available on request for any interested student or parent from Mr. Frisone's office. This publication sets forth guidelines for student drivers.

Lockers

YOUR LOCKER NUMBER CAN BE FOUND ON THE UPPER LEFT SIDE OF YOUR SCHEDULE. Students must supply their own locks or they can be purchased through the HHS school store.

Agenda Books for Students in Grades 10-12

Copies of the Herricks Student Handbook will be distributed during the first week of school at our grade level orientation sessions. This contains important information about the school, the high school policies and regulations, and the services available to all students. Please read it carefully when you receive your copy. A copy has also been posted on the HHS website.

Open Campus Policy

All ninth and tenth grade students are required to remain in the building at all times during the school day. Ninth and tenth grade students **do not** have open campus privileges. If a ninth or tenth grade student has a study hall during the first or last (ninth) period, s/he may (with parent permission) be excused from the study hall. Permission slips will be distributed the first week of school; students must attend study hall until the permission slip is returned.

Open Campus is a privilege that is extended to eleventh and twelfth grade students only. Students who use the open campus privilege may leave the building during lunch and unassigned periods. Students who leave campus during the school day are expected to behave appropriately while off school property and will be subjected to disciplinary action for unacceptable behavior as identified in the Student

Handbook. **In order for a student to have open campus privileges, a permission form must be completed and submitted. They are available in, and must be returned to, Mr. Frisone's office.**

The open campus privilege for students may be rescinded by the Principal at any time for academic, disciplinary or safety concerns.

A parent may have the open campus privilege of his/her son or daughter rescinded or suspended at any time by e-mailing Mr. Frisone, the Assistant Principal, or by calling the office at 305-8703.

DASA (Dignity for All Students Act): New York State's Anti-Bullying Law

This law confirms one of our important CORE values – that everyone in the school community is treated with respect. DASA addresses bias-based bullying, harassment, and discrimination in public schools in order to ensure that every student is able to learn in a safe, caring environment. All three of these types of behavior will not be tolerated in HHS.

Dress Code

While we do not have a specific dress code, it certainly is expected that students dress appropriately for school. Clothing that is too revealing is not appropriate for school. Students who are not dressed appropriately will be asked to change, cover up, or go home.

Smoking Policy

A **NO SMOKING POLICY** established by NYS law and the Herricks Board of Education is in effect. This means that there will be absolutely no smoking anywhere on school property, including all buildings and areas of the campus, at any time. This includes electronic cigarettes. This policy applies to all students and adults on campus. Your cooperation in adhering to this policy is essential. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. Your health and the health of your classmates is important to us all.

Honor Code

Attached you will find a copy of our Honor Code. Please read it carefully. Academic integrity is an ideal that we take very seriously. Please make sure that the work you submit for evaluation is your own work.

Attendance Policy

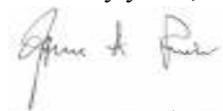
Attached you will find a copy of our Attendance Policy. We believe that attendance in class is an important part of academic success. Please familiarize yourself with the details of this policy.

Cell Phone and Text Messaging

Herricks High School has a very reasonable cell phone policy. Cell phones may be used everywhere except in instructional settings (i.e. during class, in assemblies or concerts, etc.) If a student is using a phone or texting in an instructional setting, the phone will be confiscated (and returned at the end of the school day), and additional consequences may apply.

While there is a considerable amount of information included in this letter and attachments, please read them carefully. If there are any questions now or along the way, please raise them sooner rather than later. High school is a very important time in a student's life. Take advantage of the multitude of opportunities that exist in HHS. Let the journey begin!

Sincerely yours,



James A. Ruck, Ed.D.
Principal