



Deer Park Jr/Sr High School
Counselors' Corner
Week of February 9th, 2020



WHAT'S NEW?

Sophomores!

Priority Deadline for Scarlet is February 10th! If you are interested in attending Scarlet next year, be sure to apply at <https://application.greatoaks.com/>

Healthy Relationships and Responsible Decision Making

Coming up in a few weeks, our 7th and 8th students will receive presentations from the Maximum Freedom organization. These lessons are age-appropriate and address such issues as goal setting, the importance of self-control and self-respect, sexually transmitted infections, teen pregnancy, personal responsibility, boundary setting, refusal skills, secondary abstinence and much more. While we think this information is important for all students, we respect a parent's decision to discuss such topics privately. If you **DO NOT** want your child to take part in these classes, please simply contact Jason Spelic at 936-4652 or spelic.j@dpccsd.org. More information about this program can be found here: <https://www.maximumfreedom.org/>

Deer Park High School Scheduling for 2020-2021

Dear Parents and Guardians of Students Grade 8 - 11,

We are officially starting the scheduling process for the next school year. This process includes presentations by the counselors, opportunities to meet and ask questions, acquiring signatures for honors and AP level courses, and completing an online course selection. A final individual meeting takes place later in the spring to go over open bells, courses that didn't schedule, etc. Students will receive their official forms the week of February 3rd and will need to have these completed by Feb. 12th. Below is further information important to the process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your student's school counselor.

Important Information about Scheduling:

Dropping Honors or AP Courses

Students CANNOT seek to be removed from the course due to receiving an unsatisfactory grade. Additionally, as part of the course registration, both counselors and teachers provide students with feedback regarding student success rate. Should a student need to drop due to a course failure, this will appear as a DROP/FAIL on the student's' final transcript. Additionally, this course change will only occur at the semester, unless a student needs this content to graduate.

Important information about AP Courses



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AP classes are considered college-level courses with an expected out-of-school homework commitment of 4-6 hours per week per class. Students should have a discussion with parents and think strenuously if planning on taking two or more AP classes during a school year. Taking an AP course is a commitment.

Requests and Course Offerings

While Deer Park Jr/Sr High School would like to guarantee that all courses in this planner will be available next year, the administration may decide to not offer a course based upon the number or course requests the class receives, staffing changes, or other pertinent factors.

Note to Parents and Students Regarding Graduation Requirements:

It is the student's responsibility to see that requirements for graduation are met. The high school will make every effort to keep up-to-date records and to inform the student and parent(s) about the student's progress toward the completion of graduation requirements. However, it is the student's responsibility to be acquainted with the necessary requirements to meet this goal. It is the student's responsibility to inform his/her parents/guardians of any deficiencies that would prevent taking part in commencement.

Step by Step Scheduling Process

Initial Steps:

1. Students and parents should review the Academic Course Planner and the Course Request forms together. The Academic Course Planner will be emailed to every student grade 8 - 11 and posted in Schoology in each English class grades 8 - 11.
2. Students should get initials from staff for Honors or Advanced courses as required by the form.
3. Students must have completed their course request forms with teacher initials with 7 bells per semester and a parent signature prior to making online requests.

Online Requests:

1. All students will receive a letter that will have a username, a password, and the URL/web address for students. The URL is: **Daslpublic.hccanet.org**
2. Students should confirm that the information on the screen after the initial log-in is correct. If not, please contact your school counselor.
3. To make "Course Requests," next to "Search Mode," students should click on the circle next to "Specific Course Code" and then enter the course numbers in the box, separated by a comma. For example: "1234, 5678, 9012, 3456, etc." until all of the course numbers have been entered. Then click "Search."
4. Click on the boxes next to the courses you would like to request. Then, click "Request Selected Courses."
5. If a course did not appear, make sure the correct course number was typed and search again. If the course still does not appear, it is possible to search for the course by department or subject area. If the course still does not appear, please make a note on the Course Request form.
6. Once all of the requests have been made, click "Review Requests" to verify. If all the courses are present, click "Submit Requests." Then, log out



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7. Turn the completed form into the Xbell teacher.

New Courses for 2020-2021

Below are some brief descriptions of some new courses for next year. Complete descriptions are available in the Academic Course Planner. Note: The Academic Course Planner will be emailed to every student grade 8 - 11 and posted in Schoology in each English class grades 8 - 11.

Technical Theatre

In this course students will study the administrative side of theatrical productions with units and activities focusing on, but not limited to, lighting design, sound design, set design and construction, stage management, theatre production, etc.

Honors Physics

The content of this course is aligned with the State of Ohio and National Science Teachers Association's learning objectives / topics. Students will work with peers and independently as we explore Newtonian mechanics, energy, electricity, magnetism, waves, and optics.

Beginning Guitar

Did you know that many of today's famous guitarists began learning guitar when they were high school? This class is for students who have taken Band/Choir at the Jr. High level, or for beginning students or students who have had no previous guitar instruction.

Survey of Jazz & Rock Music

What is Jazz/Blues? What is Rock? How did it develop? This course will examine the Jazz/Rock Music phenomenon from its beginnings in popular music in the early 1900's through its development into the powerful influence on today's society. **Attention 7th Graders:** West Point has announced its 2020 Middle School STEM Workshop to be held at West Point, NY Tuesday-Friday, May 26 – 29, 2020. The workshop provides an opportunity for students interested in STEM to live and learn with their peers from across the United States in a campus setting. The application deadline is February 21, 2020. Complete information is available [HERE](#). Applicants must be 6th or 7th grade students during the current academic year (2019-20) and must have demonstrated **strong academic performance**, an interest in STEM, and an eagerness to learn. The application process is competitive and provides each student with what is likely their first experience with what the college application may be like for them only a few years from now. Please see Mr. Spelic if you are interested.

High School Level Scheduling: Parents, please know that scheduling for next year's courses will be starting next week. This process includes presentations by the counselors, opportunities to meet and ask questions, acquiring signatures for honors and AP level courses, and completing an online course selection. A final



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individual meeting takes place later in the spring to go over open bells, courses that didn't schedule, etc. Students will receive their official forms the week of February 3rd and will need to have these completed by Feb. 12th. Please be on the lookout for further information.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Important Information for Students

Freshmen: Field trip letters and permission slips have been sent out! On March 11th, the freshmen students will travel to Cincinnati State to visit the Clifton Campus. Students will also travel to the Duke Energy Convention Center for the [Junior Achievement INSPIRE](#) career fair. At INSPIRE, our students will be on the floor of the convention center interacting with employers from the Cincinnati area and taking part in hands-on activities related to these fields. Please be on the lookout for this letter as it will have the permission slip on the back!

KNOW! This month's article can provide helpful information for parents when the family is going through a divorce. Please click [HERE](#) to read this article from the [Prevention Action Alliance](#).

Important Information for Seniors

Cap and Gown packets were sent home with students in October. Students can obtain extra copies in the CCR office or they can be accessed electronically at <https://www.herffjones.com/product/graduation>.

Q: When should I order my cap and gown?

A: ASAP because cost increases and to ensure appropriate sizing.

Q: How can I order my cap and gown?

A: Orders can be placed on-line at www.graduateserviceinc.com or by phone at 513-272-5890. Graduates Services will accept cash, check or credit card.

Q: What if I cannot afford a cap and gown?

A: Please contact Ms. Madden at 513-936-4684

If you have not already completed your FAFSA, please do so ASAP (please remember that funding is given to those who apply early first). Fantastic information is located at: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>. If you have



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additional questions feel free to reach out to Ms. Madden at madden.c@dpcsd.org. **Many colleges have deadlines on December 1st.**

Social-Emotional Learning and Supports

KNOW! If you're not familiar, the Wildcat Weekly Counselor's Corner will occasionally showcase an article from **Know!** from the Prevention Action Alliance. From their website: "*Know! gives the parents and caregivers of middle and high school-age kids the education, tools, strategies, and empowerment they need to raise children who are alcohol, tobacco, and drug-free. It's a personal, at-home program that's incredibly accessible.*" Click [HERE](#) to read more and find out how to sign up for their automatic newsletters

Teen Depression: Please check out [this article](#) from the **Prevention Action Alliance Know!** regarding identifying the symptoms of teen depression.

Teen Anxiety

[Here is a link](#) to an interesting article from Psychology Today regarding the reasons teens may be experiencing anxiety.

Suicide Prevention/Community Resources: It is always good to have resource numbers available. As always, please contact 911 if you feel like someone is truly a danger to themselves or others. The information below is from SERA (Suicide, Education, Research and Advocacy):

*National Crisis Hotline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or say "Suicide Resources" to Siri on Apple Products
Crisis Hotline By County:*

Butler County: 844-427-4747

Clermont County: 513-528-SAVE (7283)

Clinton County: 877-695-NEED (6333)

Hamilton County: 513-281-CARE (2273)

Hamilton County Text Line: 839863 and text 4hope

Northern Kentucky: 859-331-3292

Warren County: 877-695-NEED (6333)

If you feel that you or a friend is in a crisis situation and/or fearful of hurting yourself or others and there isn't a caring adult you can reach right away, please contact 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or text 4hope to 741 741.