

# High School Administration

- Stephen L. Townsend, Principal
- Patrick Magee, Assistant Principal – 9th
- Kelvin Cherry, Assistant Principal – 10th
- Robert Manning, Assistant Principal – 11th
- Lapell Chapman, Assistant Principal – 12th
- Nathan Davis, Assistant Principal – 3 - 7

# Survival Manual

- Every parent receives a Survival Manual when they enter the auditorium
- Explanation of event
- High School - At A Glance
- Faculty & Staff Departmental Directory
- Extra-curricular & Club information
- 9th Grade year - What to expect
- NJ Biology Competency Test
- Graduation requirements
- Transition suggestions
- Test/Note taking tips
- Map of School

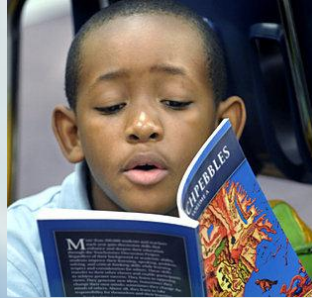


# Why Do We Focus on Transition to High School?

- Reduce fears
- Reduce schedule changes
- Reduce misunderstandings
- Reduce discipline problems
- Reduce attendance problems
- Reduce academic problems
- Increase confidence
- Increase information
- Increase communication
- Increase involvement
- Increase participation in clubs/sports
- Increase knowledge about requirements
- Increase awareness of policies

# CONCERNS FOR TYPICAL 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

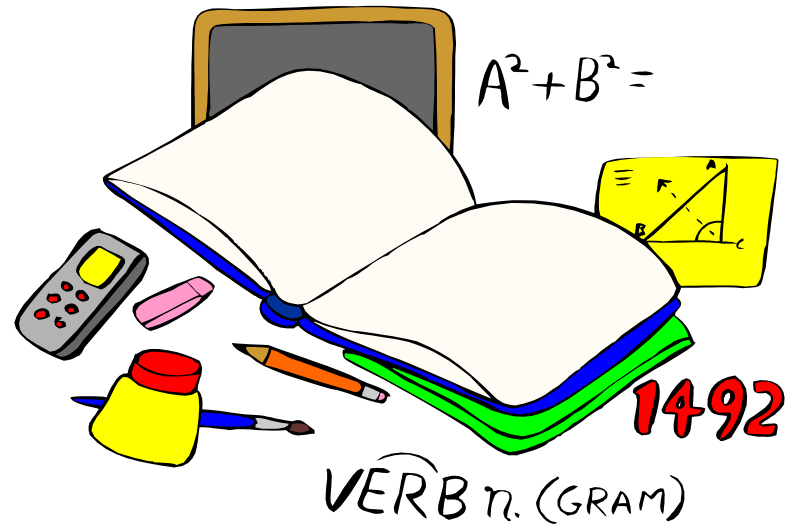
- Will I have friends?
- What is normal?
- Larger environment (fitting in)
- Locker
- Lunch
- Crowded halls
- What sports/clubs do you have?
- Bathrooms
- Getting on the right bus
- Taking medication
- Peer pressure
- Assignments
- Safety
- What will my typical schedule look like?



# HIGH SCHOOL IS A TIME OF CHANGE

Students will be:

- Taking new courses
- Meeting new teachers
- Having more independence
- Having more responsibilities



# SCHOOL WORK WILL BE MORE CHALLENGING

This includes:

- Subjects that will challenge your child to think and to work harder
- Tests and exams which will require more time to prepare for
- Homework which will be an important part of your child's grades in each class
- Long-term projects will be expected

# GRADES ARE MORE IMPORTANT IN HIGH SCHOOL

- Your child's first year grades are part of their grade point average (GPA).
- Colleges will look at your high school grades
- Grades help students obtain scholarships.



# ORGANIZATION MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

The keys are:

- Knowing when work is due
- Planning how to do quality work and getting it done on time
- Setting short-term goals that you can reach
- Writing down assignments for the day, week, month and semester in a planner or calendar.  
(Include any papers and tests.)

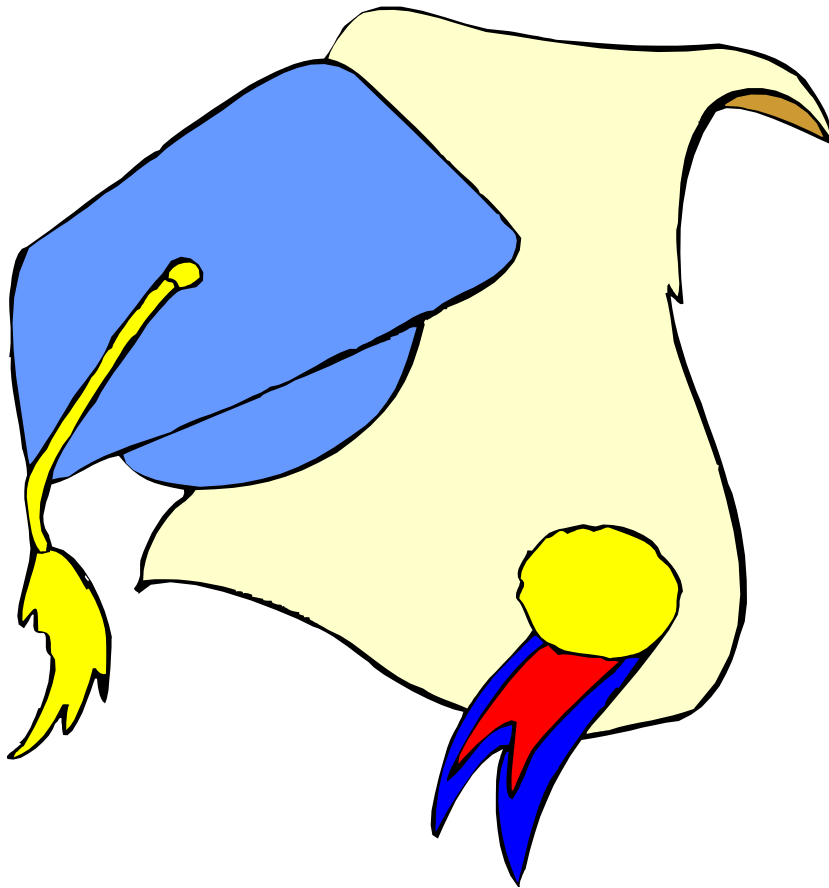


# WHAT COLLEGES ARE LOOKING FOR

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- The type of classes you are taking: AP, Foreign Language, rigorous courses
- Extra-curricular involvement: Clubs, Sports, etc. We have over 20 clubs and over 15 athletic teams.
- Students that are diverse

# TO GRADUATE:



You must:

- earn 140 credits
- pass all parts of the High School Proficiency Assessment, HSPA (Language Arts & Math)
- 200 LA Literacy
- 200 Mathematics

# Graduation Requirements



- |                                  |             |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| • Language Arts Literacy         | 20 credits  |
| • Mathematics                    | 20 credits  |
| • World History                  | 5 credits   |
| • United States History          | 10 credits  |
| • Science (includes lab Biology) | 15 credits  |
| • Health & PE or JROTC           | 20 credits  |
| • Visual and/or Performing Arts  | 10 credits  |
| • Technology Applications        | 5 credits   |
| • World Languages                | 10 credits  |
| • Economics                      | 2.5 credits |
| • Career Exploration             | 2.5 credits |
| • Electives                      | 20 credits  |

**140 Total Credits**

# Course Offerings

- *Academic*

*Honors*

- *Electives*

*Modern Language*

*Fine Arts*

*Introduction to Engineering*

# CAREER PLANNING

- **Arts, E-Communication & Media**
- **Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math (S.T.E.M.)**
- **Management Information Systems (Computer Applications)**
- **Youth Transition to Work / Local 54 Apprenticeship**
- **Radio, Television, & Digital Communication**
- **Hospitality Management**
- **JROTC**
- **Business**
- **School to Careers & Work Experience**



# **Example of 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Schedule**

## **1<sup>st</sup> Semester**

- Language Arts
- Algebra I
- World History
- Health/PE (Req.)  
or JROTC
- Elective, Foreign Language

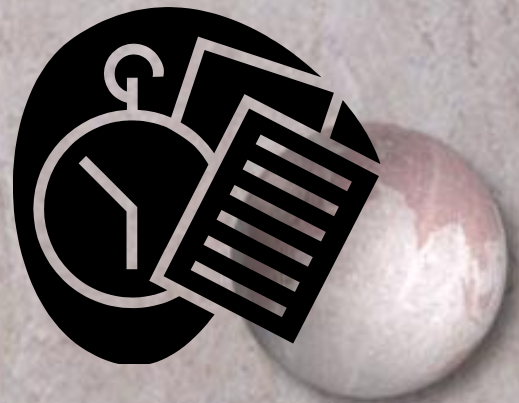
## **2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**

- Language Arts
- Algebra I
- Biology
- Elective



# New Jersey Biology Competency Test

- Any student enrolled in and/or receiving credit for a Biology course, regardless of grade level, will be required to take the New Jersey Biology Competency Test.



# Grading Scale

- A= 93-100
- B=85-92
- C=75-84
- D=70-74
- F=Below 69





# Promotion:

- Earn 35 credits = 10<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Earn 70 credits = 11<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Earn 105 credits = 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

# SEMESTER SYSTEM



- At the end of each semester, final grades for the courses taken are entered on the permanent record.
- On the block schedule, if all courses are passed, you may earn 20 credits each semester.

# **BLOCK SCHEDULE**

- \* Students typically take three academic classes and one elective class
- \* Students take a year's worth of coursework for 4 subjects each semester.
- \* Classes are approximately 80 minutes

**7:40-9:00 (1<sup>st</sup> block)**

**9:04-9:34 I & E Homeroom**

**9:38-10:58 (2<sup>nd</sup> block)**

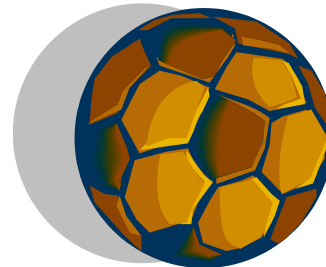
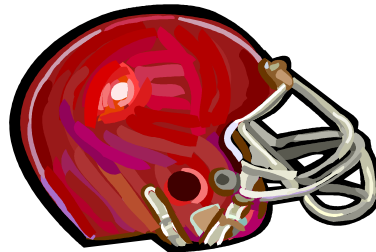
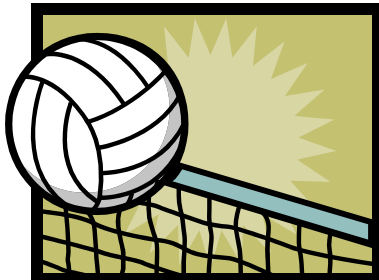
**11:02-12:22 (3<sup>rd</sup> block)**

**12:26-12:50 (Lunch)**

**12:54-2:14 (4<sup>th</sup> block)**

# ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

- Physical Exam (must be on the correct form)
- School Insurance or proof of individual accident coverage
- Signed parental permission form
- Satisfaction of all Pleasantville High School rules and school policies
- All ninth graders are automatically eligible 1<sup>st</sup> semester



# Lunch

- Students eat lunch during 3<sup>rd</sup> block
- Students report to their 3<sup>rd</sup> period teacher and are dismissed by schedule
- There are four, 24 minute lunch periods during this block
- Cost of lunch is \$2.25
- Students can also bring their own lunch
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade students sit with all grade levels



# Lockers

- All students will receive a locker and a lock.
- Students taking PE will have access to a PE locker but will need to buy an additional lock for their personal items.
- PE locks should be removed after each class period.



# Homeroom

- ✦ Students are assigned to a homeroom.
- ✦ During this time, Guidance and or other school personal will discuss important information specific to the student's grade level.
- ✦ Topics will include:
  - \* Character development
  - \* 4-year plans, goal setting, test taking and study skills

# Academic Help Available

- Guided Study (Intervention Homeroom)
- Tutoring/Credit Recovery is available during Guided Study, before and after school
- After-school tutoring from 2:35pm-3:35pm
- Media Center available for research/studying



# Rewards/Incentive Program

- Each grading period; Benchmark, Nine weeks, Semester
- No discipline referrals
- No more than 2 tardies
- No more than 4 unexcused absences
- Passing all classes
- Rewards have included food certificates from Chick-Fil-A and McDonalds, free passes to PHS events, other prizes and awards during Renaissance event

# TARDIES

- All students who are late (ex/un) to school must sign in at the Student entrance.
- Students who report more than 10 minutes late for class w/out an appropriate hall pass will be considered cutting.
- Accumulation of tardies will result in a discipline referral.
- Excuses for tardies will not be acceptable.

# ATTENDANCE

- Students are expected to attend all classes each day.
- Students with more than 8 unexcused absences per semester will not receive credit for their course.
- A student must attend school for at least 4 hours to be legally present in school.
- When absent, a note must be turned in within 48 hours.

# MAKE-UP WORK

- A student has an opportunity to complete assignments missed because of an unauthorized or excused absence. The time allowed to make up work missed is equal to the amount of time absent.
- Work from unexcused absences cannot be made up.

# *Checking Students In and Out*

- Checking student out of school: please send note with student in the morning before the bell rings with specific dismissal time and phone number to verify check out. Faxes and phone checkouts will not be accepted.
- Student leaves early: must have medical note or court appointment note to be excused
- All students should be to school on time
- Tardy: only excused with a medical or court appointment note-car trouble is not acceptable excuse

# *School Nurse*



- Gives care for injuries and illnesses occurring at school
- Gives medications/procedures for special medical conditions
- Students cannot have medicines, prescription or non-prescription, in their possession at school.
- Please make sure your child's immunizations are up to date.



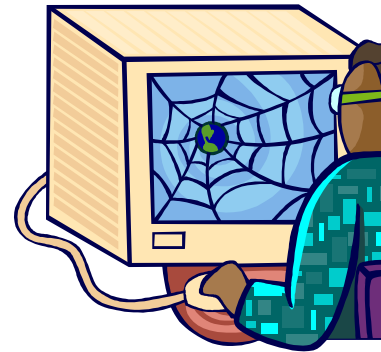




# SCHOOL WEBSITE

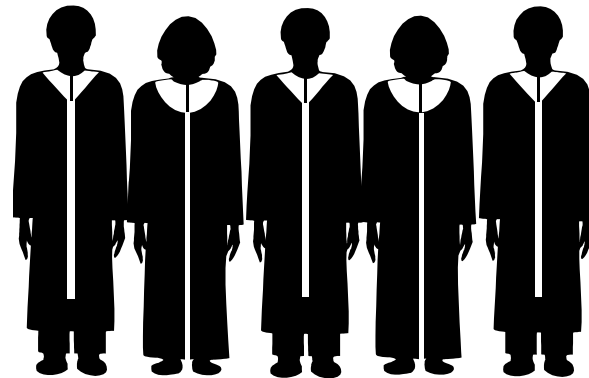
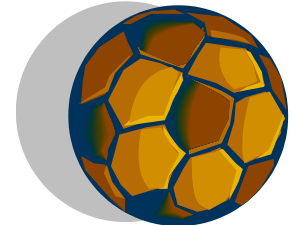
<http://www.pps-nj.us>

- School News/Calendar of Events
- Teacher/Course information
- Communication
- Scholarship Information
- Testing Information
- Student Handbook
- Can view this Power Point on school website



# Get Involved!

- See Packet for list of extra-curricular activities
- Sports
- Clubs/Activities
- Chorus/Band





# *SUCCESS DEPENDS ON:*

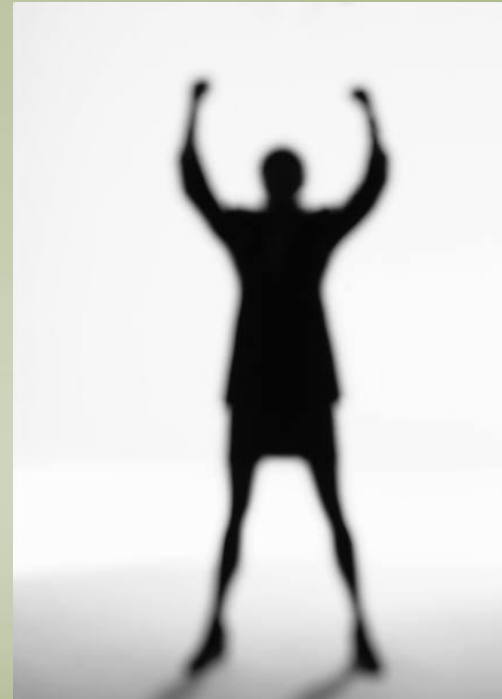
ATTITUDE

⊕ WORK ETHIC

⊕ ORGANIZATION

⊕ ACTIVITIES

⊕ BEING INFORMED



# *Five Characteristics for Success*

- ⊕ Serious
- ⊕ Focused
- ⊕ Diligent
- ⊕ Disciplined
- ⊕ Resilient



# Pleasantville High School



Teach, challenge, support, and prepare every student...!

Questions?

