

# FRESHMAN REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

## 2017-2018

1. **Guideline for building your sophomore program** – You are encouraged to consider your academic aspirations as you plan your sophomore program; seek out the advice of your teachers, counselors and parents as you select your program. It should be a balanced schedule that will sufficiently **challenge you** in each subject area **without overwhelming yourself**. All students **must** be scheduled for a minimum of six courses per semester in addition to P.E.
2. Our **Course Catalog for 2017-2018** is available online at: <http://gnnhsguidance.weebly.com/>. Please review it carefully regarding your choices in each subject area.
3. **Graduation Requirements: Art/Music/Drama (1 credit); Practical Arts (.50 cr.), which includes any Business, Technology, or Family and Consumer Science course, and Computer (.50 cr.)**. Please see the elective course listing to determine which courses fulfill these requirements. You are encouraged to meet the elective requirements by the completion of tenth grade, if possible.
4. All sophomores will continue with their English, Social Studies, Math, Science, and Foreign Language (L.O.T.E.) courses. In the event that you have or will be taking the Language Regents Equivalency Exam this year, we strongly recommend that you continue the study of your language throughout high school.
5. **AP and Honors Courses** –If interested in AP or Honors courses, *it is necessary that you receive departmental approval in order to register for these courses*. If you are not approved for an AP course, it may be possible to self-select depending upon room in the course. If you wish to pursue enrolling in one, you must schedule and participate in a self-selection conference with the Department Head, your parent and counselor. All those involved must sign the AP Self-Select Agreement before you may register for the AP course in question (*if room is available*). Students are not permitted to pursue the self-select process for more than one AP course and should be cautious about not enrolling in more AP courses than they can comfortably handle. Remember, AP courses are not for everyone and are not required in order to be admitted to college. *There is no self-select process for Honors level courses. Enrollment in Honors level courses is dictated by teacher and department chairperson recommendation only.*
6. **Community School** – An alternative humanities program; freshmen are encouraged to explore the program to see if they are interested.
7. **Physical Education** – All students must be registered for P. E. classes each semester. AM Swim & AM Fitness are PE alternatives (departmental approval required).
8. **Lunch** – All students should plan for a lunch/ break during their school day.
9. **Advisory** – All sophomores will be assigned to a new Advisory group next year.
10. **Schedule Change Policy** – You are making a commitment to this schedule for your **entire sophomore year**. In those cases when a change is absolutely necessary, a couple of policies to keep in mind are:
  - a. Dropping a course – No full-year course shall be dropped from a student’s schedule after the first quarter, and no half-year course shall be dropped after the first five weeks.
  - b. Add/Drop Combination – **must** be completed within the first two weeks of the year.
  - c. Course level changes **must** be made within the first quarter (these changes will be made only if there is space in the new course).