




SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD
HIGH SCHOOL

FRESHMAN PARENT
ORIENTATION
WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 28, 2019



AGENDA

- Opening Comments – Dr. David Heisey
- Counseling – Mr. Tim Donahue
- 9th Grade Experience – Mrs. Brooke Esposito
- Athletics – Ryan Miller
- School Resource Officer- Det. Rich Hernandez
- PTA – Ms. Maggie Savoca
- Questions

Building Information

- * Visitors are directed to Door #1 (front of the building-Attendance/Athletic Office).
- * Visitors are required to show valid identification prior to entering the building.

HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY

- There are 150 faculty members (teachers).
- Approximately 1,600 students will attend SPFHS this coming school year.
- High School Administrators:
 - Dr. David Heisey, Principal
 - Mr. Tim Donahue, Assistant Principal of Counseling & Student Management
 - Mrs. Brooke Esposito, Assistant Principal of Curriculum
 - & Student Management
 - Mr. Ryan Miller, Assistant Principal of Athletics & Student Management

DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS

- **Business/ITE – Mr. Darren Watsky**
- **English Language Arts – Mrs. Elizabeth McKenna**
- **Family & Consumer Science – Mrs. Guida Faria**
- **Counseling – Mr. Tim Donahue**
- **Mathematics – Ms. Sarah Kaeli**
- **Science – Mrs. Guida Faria**
- **Social Studies – Mrs. Noel Baxter**
- **Special Education – Mrs. D. Peneno & Mrs. A. Tomesko**
- **Music/Fine Arts-Mr. Wayne Mallette**
- **World Language – Mrs. Lisa Howard**
- **Health/PE- Mr. Ryan Miller**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Program of Studies**

- Course Selection
- Grading
- Drop/Add Procedure

Other information: Publicity Release Form & Acceptable Use Policy Agreement – Completed and returned at the start of the school year.

- **Student Handbook**

- Attendance
- Discipline Guidelines
- Athletics

- **High School Website:** www.spfk12.org

- **Power School-** same login

- Having problems accessing your PowerSchool Parent Portal account? Please email parents@spfk12.org
- *Twitter account:* [@SPFHS_Heisey](https://twitter.com/SPFHS_Heisey)



SCHOOL OPENING INFORMATION

[Freshmen](#)

[Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors](#)

[School Supply Guide](#)

[Student Forms](#)



[Expand All](#)

[Welcome from Dr. David Heisey, Principal](#)



[Freshman Orientation](#)



[Freshman Mini Golf & Pizza](#)



[Freshman Parent Orientation](#)



[Publicity Release](#)



[Green Dot - Bystander Intervention Program](#)



PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

- The Transportation Department is located in the District Office (attached to Evergreen School). Bus passes should be received by **the end of this week.**
 - Mrs. Marisol Rodriguez, Director
 - 908.232.6161 x 4010 or (mrodriques@spfk12.org)
- Students who rely on district transportation must get to the front of the building in a timely fashion. A ***Bus Location Map*** will be available in the front of the building and in the Attendance Office to assist students.
- The after school late bus begins on Monday, September 9th for students that are eligible for bussing, and who were engaged in a supervised after school activity.
 - The late bus departs from the front of the school at 3:45 pm

LOCKERS

- All students have been assigned a hallway locker. There is a built-in combination lock that comes with the locker.
- All students will be issued a padlock and a locker to be used during their Physical Education class.
- We constantly remind students to lock their valuables.
- In talking with students over the years, many have indicated to me that they rarely use their hallway locker.
- There are no restrictions as to when or how often a student may go to their locker.

CONTACTING STAFF

- Each staff member checks their email on a regular basis. The best way to access a staff member's email is by going to the high school website.
- Teachers are assigned voice mailboxes (extensions are found on the website).

ACADEMIC SCHEDULE

- Classes are 44 minutes in length.
- Period 1-2 has additional time for announcements, distribution of material, and other types of business.
- A limited number of announcements are made at the beginning of period 14-15.
- Lunch is served during periods 7, 9, or 11.
 - *All freshmen eat lunch in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR).*
- Health/Physical Education teachers are assigned by marking period.
- Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, S1,S2, 19-20

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School-Bell Schedule

AM1 AM2	1-2	3-4	5-6	7	8-9	10-11	12-13	14-15
				10:42 11:07 LUNCH	11:12 11:56	12:01 12:45		
7:19	8:08	9:04	9:53	7-8 10:42 11:26	9 11:31 11:56 LUNCH	10-11 12:01 12:45	12:50	1:39
8:03	8:59	9:48	10:37				1:34	2:24
				7-8 10:42 11:26	9-10 11:31 12:15	11 12:20 12:45 LUNCH		
AP Science Labs 7:41 - 8:59								
				AM VoTech: @ SPFHS Periods 7/7-8 thru 14-15				
PM VoTech: @ SPFHS Periods AM thru 8-9 / 9								
Class length: 44 minutes			AP Science Labs: 71 minutes			Lunch: 25 minutes		

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

- **Back-To-School Night** is scheduled for **Thursday, October 3, 2019.**
- The program will begin with a general session at 6:45 pm in the auditorium.

STUDENT MANAGEMENT

- Grades 10 & 12: Mr. Tim Donahue
- Grades 9 & 11: Mrs. Brooke Esposito
- Attendance Coordinator: Mrs. Lisa DeGaetano

9th Grade Experience

A successful 9th grade year
is a springboard for a successful
high school experience.

Department of Counseling Services

- **9th Grade:**
 - *Counselors meet individually with students to assess their progress in school.*
 - *Begin career counseling.*
- **10th Grade:**
 - *Continue career assessment and career options.*
 - *Spotlight on careers: professionals brought in to speak about their career*
- **11th Grade:**
 - *Junior Conference-Focused discussion on post high school plans*
 - *This is a joint parent/guardian and student conference-beginning in December of 11th grade.*
- **12th Grade:**
 - *College Applications - Begin in September*
 - *Assist in completing each college application including transcripts and letters of recommendation*
 - *Support and resources for post-secondary plans and careers.*

Student Schedules & Changes

- Once school starts, students are given a chance to experience their classes and determine if level placements are correct, changes to student schedules are not permitted until the 10th day of class (9/21).
- Should a student want to change a course level, they will need to meet with their counselor to initiate the change.
- Schedule changes are permitted until December 1.
- Semester courses cannot be dropped.

Counselors are excited to begin the school year and to develop meaningful relationships with the incoming 9th grade.

The counselor/student connection is important for the success of our students and to begin thinking and planning for their post high school plans.

For the first month of school, counselors prioritize their time to address the various needs of students transitioning from 8th to 9th grade.

It is important that students take ownership of their academic success. 9th grade is the foundation for a successful high school experience, as well as for a strong college application.

As students continue throughout high school, they should look to challenge themselves by exploring and taking courses that might be out of the current comfort zone.

Students should get involved in the activities that most interest them. Colleges and employers like to see that students are involved and have a sustained commitment to those activities.

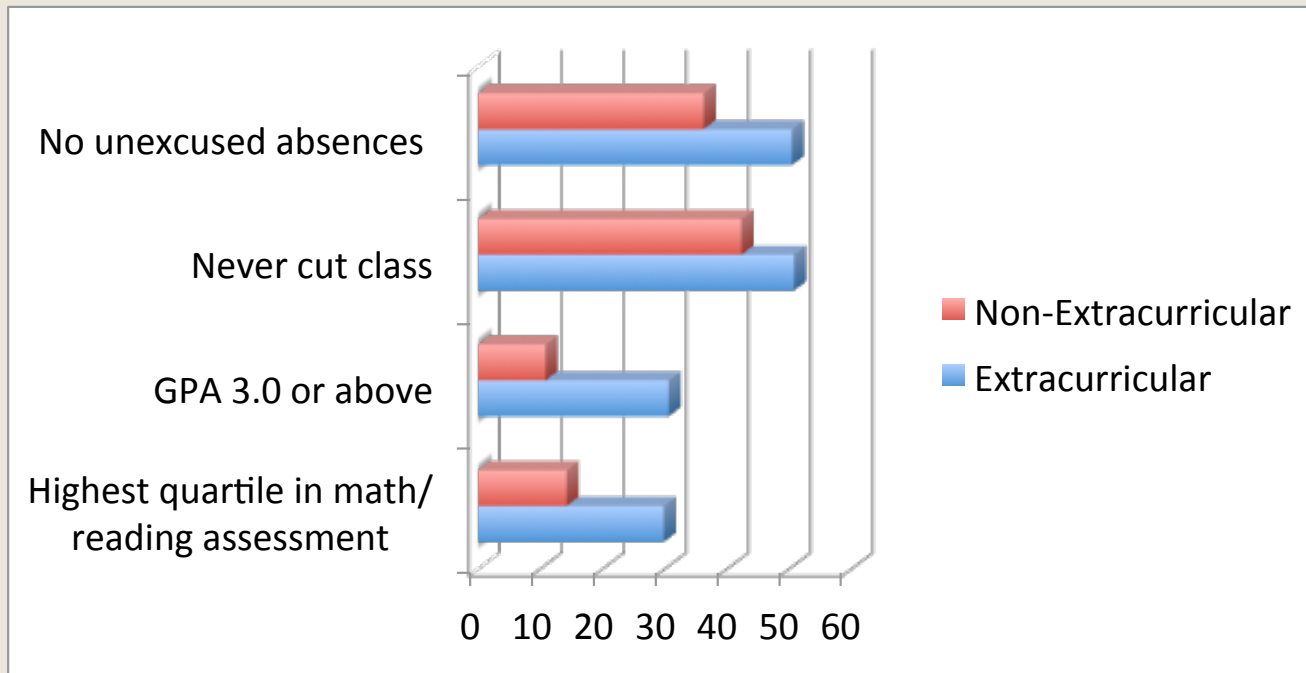


THE 9TH GRADE EXPERIENCE

High School Success

- Personal Work Ethic/Responsibility/Independence
- Academic Risk-taking/Exploration
- Increased Rigor/Extra Help
- Social & Emotional Wellness
- Attendance
- School Rules
- Getting Involved
Academic Success/Extra-curriculars
Arts/Reading/Testing

Extracurriculars & Student Engagement



Handbook Highlights

Most Common Freshman Infractions

- **Cell Phones/Ear phones**
 - *In class*
 - *During Assessment*
 - *Refusal*

- **Dress Code**
- **Vaping**
- **Absences/Tardies**
- **Lunchroom Issues**

Attendance

- **To report your child absent:**
Call **889-8600 Option 1** prior to the start of the school day. Students must bring note to attendance the morning of their return. You may also email spfhs_attendance@spfk12.org.
- Students may **lose credit** after **8 absences** in a semester course and **16 absences** in a full year course. You will be alerted if your child accumulates absences.
- Verified absences are not excused absences

What can you do to support your child?

- Nurture reading at home; show your child that **you are a reader.**
- Respond first not to the grade but the **content** of their work.
- Continuously **discuss newspaper reports** on science discoveries and world events.
- Expose children to a variety of art forms and help them be **empowered, not awed, audiences.**



ATHLETICS

Ryan Miller

Introduction

- Strong proponent of the multiple sport athlete
- Believe that participation in any activity in High School makes for a stronger educational experience

Athletic Benefits

- Extension of the academic classroom
- Allows students to compete, apply values and morals, and instill camaraderie among others
- Promotes a healthy active lifestyle
- Involves an additional strong role model for students

Athletic Information

- Member of the Union County Conference (UCC), Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference (UCIAC) and the NJSIAA (North II Group 3 or 4)
- Athletic season starts every year on or about August 15th.
- Incoming freshmen still have opportunity to join certain squads

Athletics at SPFHS

- Strong tradition of success through athletics to include some professional athletes – many play at the collegiate level
- Outstanding record of both individual and team success
- Becoming a part of this great tradition can enhance the high school experience

Athletic Offerings

- Fall season: Cross Country, Football, Gymnastics, Soccer, Girls' Tennis, Girls' Volleyball, Cheerleading, Field Hockey
- Winter season: Basketball, Wrestling, Ice Hockey, Track, Swimming, Bowling, Cheerleading
- Spring season: Baseball, Softball, Track, Boys' Tennis, Lacrosse, Golf, Boys' Volleyball
- Many opportunities for your sons and daughters to participate.

Academic Eligibility

- Incoming freshmen are academically eligible to participate immediately
- After first semester they must have accumulated 15 credits
- After first year they must have 30 credits
- All sports programs work with the teachers to breed academic success

Athletic Boosters

- Booster club supports the sports teams through scholarships, recognition awards, and approved equipment purchases
- On the web at: spfhsathleticboosters.com
- Matt Tibbles current President
- Please get involved and join

Conclusion

- High School Website: spfk12.org
- Email coaches directly
- (908) 889-4882 Athletics Office
 - *Kelly May – Athletic Secretary*
- Athletic Trainers: Laura Friedman & Katherine Guarnaccia
- Questions or Concerns