

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

IMPORTANT DECISIONS

Few decisions you make in high school are more important than the course of study you should follow. Since much of your program consists of individually chosen courses, you should be careful in selecting subjects that fit your abilities, interests, and future plans. All students must discuss their program plans with their present teachers and obtain their recommendations in specific subjects. Your program--its level of challenge and its effect on your career plans--should be discussed most carefully with your counselor, since he/she is the person who is most knowledgeable concerning you and your program of studies.

We urge you to discuss your selection of subjects very carefully with your parents and obtain their assistance in making wise decisions. Should they have any questions, please have them call your counselor for an appointment to discuss.

Please remember that recommendations made by teachers and counselors are their best judgment of what is most advisable for you. All are most eager to help you. Our aim is to help you obtain all pertinent information that will aid you in making your final decision.

PLANNING YOUR PROGRAM

You should carefully consider the kinds of courses you need and want. Make decisions about the breadth as well as the depth of your program; a general rule for all students is impossible to establish--some students can broaden their studies considerably, while others want or require intensive concentration in relatively few areas. A MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE PROGRAM MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST SIX COURSES OF STUDY PLUS PHYSICAL EDUCATION. You are urged to take a maximum program consistent with your needs and interests. Be aware not only of the time and number of periods involved in your course work but also determine the number of free periods and make decisions for a wise use of this free time. As you read this booklet, you should pay particular attention to elective subjects--all students are encouraged to broaden their background with selected courses in Art, Business, Family and Consumer Science, Music, Speech and Drama or Technology Education. In reading the course descriptions of each department, be sure to read the department's opening statement and what prerequisites may exist. Course credit is also listed for each offered course.

REGISTRATION DATES

Specific dates and deadlines will be communicated. Final registration occurs in February and March and it represents your best plans based on your progress in present class work and on discussions with your counselor and your classroom teachers.

COMPLETION OF COURSE SELECTIONS

Your parents will have access to your course selection through the parent portal of Infinite Campus. If they have any questions about the courses for which you have been recommended or your elective choices, they are asked to inform your counselor immediately. You will then be scheduled for these courses, provided there is sufficient enrollment and provided no "conflict" occurs.

During the spring semester every effort is made to provide each student with a program which includes courses with a level of challenge commensurate with the student's level of ability as well as courses in special interest areas. Teachers, department chairpersons, and counselors spend a great deal of time in class and in individual conferences helping students make decisions regarding their schedules which are educationally sound. Every student should be careful to take advantage of this expert assistance in planning his or her academic program for next year. Consequently, students are expected to view their course selections, which they make this spring, as a serious commitment with which they plan to live during the coming school year.

THE SCHOOL HOPES THAT ALL COURSES DESCRIBED IN THIS BOOKLET WILL BE OFFERED. HOWEVER, IF ENROLLMENT FOR A COURSE IS TOO LOW, THE SCHOOL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL THE COURSE. IF CERTAIN COURSES ARE OVERSUBSCRIBED, THE SCHOOL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO LIMIT ENROLLMENT TO STUDENTS AT A CERTAIN GRADE LEVEL OR TO THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL.

SCHEDULING REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Students who wish to pursue an Independent Study must comply with the procedure listed below:

A completed application must be submitted to Ms. Reilly, Independent Study Coordinator, no later than May 1, 2024. Applications submitted after this date cannot be considered until after September 1, 2024.

These applications may be obtained from Ms. Reilly's office. Forms must be completely filled out including a statement of what the educational project is. If the project requires special consideration for early dismissal from or late arrival to school, a reason should be included.

GREAT NECK PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHEDULE CHANGE PRACTICES

SCHEDULE CHANGES: All schedule changes will follow procedures posted on each school's guidance website. Typically, students may add a new course to their schedule within the first two (2) weeks of the start of the course, replacing one (1) elective course with another shall be done within the first two (2) weeks of the start of the course.

DROPPING A COURSE: Provided that the resulting schedule maintains the course load required by state law and Board of Education Policy, a student may drop a full-year course up until the mid-point of the 2nd marking period, and a half-year course up until the mid-point of the first quarter in which that course is taken. Students will not be permitted to drop a course after these deadlines.

***If an AP course is dropped after November 15th, a processing fee of approximately \$40 will be assessed in accordance with new test ordering policies instituted by College Board.**

COURSE LEVEL CHANGES HIGH SCHOOL: Students may change course level (for example, AP to Honors, Honors to Regents) up to the mid-point of the 2nd marking period. Students will not be permitted to change course levels after this deadline. Grades will not follow from one level course to another.

NOTE: Students who remain in an Advanced Placement course but who do not sit for the corresponding examination will have the AP course designation removed from their transcript and be assigned the course grade which they otherwise would have received.

EXCEPTIONS: Exceptions to the add/drop deadlines may be made for ungraded and support classes such as study skills unless these courses are required by State Law, Board of Education Policy, Individualized Education Plan, or 504 accommodation.

In cases of compelling educational need, these practices may be overridden by the building principal in consultation with the teacher, department head, and guidance counselor.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: 22 units of credit including Physical Education (a unit represents one year of study).

A. REQUIRED COURSES:

English	4 units
Social Studies	4 units
Mathematics	3 units
Science	3 units
Foreign Language	1 unit
Health Education	1 unit
Physical Education	2 units (½ unit in each of 4 years)
Computer*	½ unit
Practical Arts**	½ unit
Art, Music, or Drama***	1 unit

* Students may satisfy this requirement by taking any course in Computer Studies or any elective course with a computer component that satisfies the computer literacy requirement.

** Any course in Business, Family and Consumer Science, Technology Education, or Stagecraft.

*** All courses in the Fine and Performing Arts meet this requirement.

B. ELECTIVES - Students must supplement the above requirements with additional electives of their choice to obtain a total of at least 22 units of credit, including Physical Education.

C. TO EARN A GREAT NECK LOCAL DIPLOMA

The requirements for obtaining a local diploma are as follows:

1. Have completed ALL graduation requirements as listed above in areas A and B.
2. Have a documented learning disability
3. Have demonstrated competency in each of the six areas (Reading, Writing, Mathematics, U.S. History and Government, Global Studies and Science) by achieving a score of between 55 and 64 on 5 NYS Regents Exams:

- Comprehensive English Regents Exam
- Global History Regents Exam
- US History and Government Regents Exam
- Any Mathematics Regents Exam
- Any Science Regents Exam

* Compensatory option for classified students: Student may score 45-54 on one or more of the required exams (excluding English and Math) if they compensate with scores higher than 65 on other exams.

** Superintendent determination option available for all students. Criteria vary for General Education students and Students with Disabilities.

*** Regents exemptions granted due to the cancellation of exams will be used towards diploma requirements

NOTE: According to the most recent information received from the New York State Education Department, the following graduation requirements will be in effect for the classes of 2025 through 2028.

D. TO EARN A NEW YORK STATE REGENTS DIPLOMA

Diploma Type

Advanced

Regents

Regents

Yes

Yes

1. Have completed ALL graduation requirements as listed above in areas A & B.

Yes

No

2. Have completed a sequence of 3 units of credit in a Foreign Language.

Yes

Yes

3. Have completed a sequence of 3 units of credit in Mathematics.

Yes

Yes

4. Have completed a sequence of 3 units of credit in Science.

Advanced

Regents

Regents

3

1

Regents Mathematics Examination(s)

2

1

Regents Science Examination(s)

Yes

Yes

Regents Comprehensive English Examination

Yes

No

Regents Equivalency Foreign Language Exam

Yes

Yes

Regents Examination – Global History

Yes

Yes

Regents Examination – U.S. History and Government

9

5

Total number of Regents Examinations required

*To obtain either a Regents or an Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors a student must obtain an average of 90 or higher on required Regents examinations.

*4+1 pathway option available to earn Regents Diploma

*5 credit sequence in Occupational Education or the Fine & Performing Arts can replace 2 credits in World Language for an Advanced Regents Diploma.

*Superintendent determination option available for all students

*Regents exemptions granted due to the cancellation of exams will be used towards diploma requirements

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

A.P. courses are designed to give high achieving, motivated students the opportunity to pursue college level studies in subject areas where the student has demonstrated exceptional interest, aptitude, and accomplishments.

In order to succeed in an A.P. course, a student must be self-directed, highly disciplined and ready to commit time and energy to reach beyond high school standards of workload and performance.

Students earn criterion-referenced grades; that is, grades are determined solely on mastery of the concepts and skills taught in the A.P. curriculum. While variables such as effort and cooperation are always expected, they are not given consideration in the A.P. grading system, nor are extra-credit projects. Students must be in command of the prerequisite knowledge and skills contained in the course descriptions, and will not receive extra help to make up for deficits in academic background.

Ambitious, accomplished students are encouraged by department recommendation to enroll in A.P. courses. If a student does not have the department's recommendation, the student and his/her parents must meet with the department chairperson and the student's counselor. The purpose of the meeting is to clearly define the scope and depth of the course so that the student has all the information needed to make realistic choices for his/her academic program. Enrollment in an A.P. course is subject to availability and will not be completed until the department's recommendation is secured or the counseling meeting is held. In like manner, if the counselor determines that the number of A.P. courses the student has elected is a concern, the same procedure will be followed before the schedule of courses is completed.

Completion of the A.P. course requires preparation and sitting for the A. P. exam sponsored by the College Board in the spring. Students are also responsible for paying the A. P. Exam fee which will be approximately \$98 per exam for the 2024-2025 school year.

The Shared Decision Making Committee of North High School supports a differentiated curriculum in which the A.P. courses are designed to serve the needs of students with exceptional academic abilities and achievement, and the Shared Decision Making Committee has approved the regulations described herein to discourage enrollment in A. P. courses for any other reason.

Obviously, careful consideration must be given to the high level of challenge demanded by the A.P. program before enrolling.

District Policy for Advanced Placement Examinations:

The Great Neck Public Schools believe that an Advanced Placement exam is a culminating experience which follows a year of college-level work in an AP class which has College Board approval for both its curriculum and instructor. Therefore, the Great Neck Public Schools will only register students for AP exams for which they have been enrolled in a corresponding AP course in their respective high schools.

This practice of requiring students to complete a year of college-level work in a College Board certified course of study before Great Neck will administer an Advanced Placement exam has been in place for more than a decade. Exceptions are extremely rare and have been approved only when truly extenuating circumstances exist; exceptions are NOT granted simply because a student has taken an exam preparation course outside of the District. Only the College Board may approve a school, its instructors, and its programs of study and, should an outside school meet these standards, it would be in a position to administer the AP examination.

For the 2024-2025 school year, requests for exceptions to this practice must be made in writing to [Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Schools Dr. Stephen Lando](#) by September 30, 2024.

ACCELERATED GRADUATION

In general, high school students are not encouraged to complete the requirements for graduation prior to the end of the normal senior year. For most students, enrichment and variety in program are preferable to acceleration and early graduation. For a very small number of students an alternate study or work experience may be more appropriate than the full senior year.

Those students who are interested in requesting consideration for early graduation should carefully discuss the matter with their parents and counselor. If, after a careful discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of this option, the student and his or her parents still wish to request it, they must receive the permission of the Principal and the Superintendent before April 15.

Those few students who are approved for one full year acceleration must obtain written approval of both the English and Social Studies Chairpersons for the manner in which they propose to meet graduation requirements in these subject areas.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE

Specific entrance requirements are determined by each individual college--they vary considerably. There are some colleges where no particular pattern of high school subjects is required and other colleges where all entrance units are prescribed.

As soon as you become interested in a college, you should check requirements on that college's website. Students must accept this responsibility. Catalogues and reference books are available in the Guidance Center as well as web-based search programs that can be very useful.

Colleges would like all applicants to have had the maximum possible high school program appropriate to their abilities and interests. Generally, they stress courses in English, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, and Foreign Language.

The Guidance Department posts information on the website which will keep you updated about SAT testing, College Application procedures and the availability of various scholarships and other sources of financial aid. Students are encouraged to consult with their counselors on the very important process of college selection.

CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAM

We urge you to consider participation in our co-curricular program as part of your overall involvement with our school. These activities usually meet once a week after regular school day between 2:45 and 5:00 p.m. All clubs and activities are open to all students with only a few requiring an audition or tryout.

Extensive listing of student activities, meeting places, day and time of meetings, sponsors, etc., are available in the office of the Assistant Principal and will be circulated each year early in the fall semester. An updated listing can be found on the school website at www.greatneck.k12.ny.us/domain/3

