

FRESHMEN NEWS

Fall 2017

Sponsored by

Somerset Berkley Regional High School Guidance Department

FRESHMEN NEWS is written for grade nine students and their parents three times a year. The goal of the newsletter is to inform and to remind students and parents of important dates, events and requirements. Freshmen News is available on the SBRHS website at www.sbregional.org. To access the newsletter, click on Department Web Site, and then click on Guidance in the drop down list.

NOTICE Students should be aware that no course changes will be made for electives selected during the course selection process. Level changes can be made until one week after the second parent teacher conference, changes require parental consent. Please see the parent/teacher handbook on pages 115-116 for more information.

2017-2018 STUDENT HANDBOOK/AGENDA BOOK Each student has access to a very convenient and useful electronic handbook that not only covers academic requirements and disciplinary regulations, but also possesses the following features: a built-in 17-18 calendar, a high school calendar of events (mid-term/term dates, holidays, early dismissals, etc.), a convenient eight-day schedule with lunch periods listed, reference pages that promote study and test-taking skills, career listings and general resources for English, mathematics, science and social studies. Please review the handbook carefully.

GRADE PROGRESSION Students are encouraged to earn at least 36 credits or more each academic year in order to accumulate the required number of credits (144) needed for graduation. Guidance counselors will notify students who fail to meet this target goal of credit accumulation. They will also inform the student's parents through the mail. The student's guidance counselor will meet with the student and his or her parent/guardian to formulate an academic plan to accrue the 144 credits to graduate.

MONITORING STUDENT PROGRESS In addition to quarterly report cards, student progress can be monitored on-line. Parents/guardians may access the Somerset Berkley Regional High School Aspen Program. Instructions on how to access this information was provided to parents/guardians in the first day packet. This information will be helpful to monitor student progress as well as speaking with teachers at parent/teacher conferences. Any issues related to the Aspen Student/Parent portal please email aspen@sbregional.org

REPORT CARDS report cards will be emailed to parents/guardians after the completion of each quarter. Please be sure to notify the guidance office of any changes in email address to ensure you receive your child's report card.

THE HOMEWORK CLUB is designed for students in all grades who may need additional academic support and assistance. The Homework Club takes place after school. Students may take advantage of this academic support as a drop-in service. Staff members from math, language arts, science and social studies will serve as facilitators. Students who are interested in participating in the Homework Club should report to the media center (library) on the appropriate day(s). The homework club schedule for the 2017-2018 school year is as follows: Monday/language arts, Tuesday/math, Wednesday/social studies, and Thursday/science.

THE ANNUAL SOMERSET-CASE COLLEGE NIGHT will be held at Joseph Case High School on **October 5, 2017 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** Please note that not only will two-year and four-year colleges be represented but also one and two-year technical and vocational schools. College Night affords parents, as well as students, the opportunity to speak directly with college admissions representatives concerning programs, costs, facilities and financial aid at their institutions. It is never too early to begin the college search process.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE NIGHTS are scheduled for Wednesday, October 11 and Thursday, October 26, 2017. Please check your email for instructions on how to sign up for appointments online.

IMPORTANT DATES Please know that the mid-quarter of Quarter 1 is October 5, 2017 and that the Quarter ends on November 9, 2017.

COMMUNICATION WITH GUIDANCE Please feel free to contact your guidance counselor at any time with questions or concerns.

GRADE 9 MCAS Please be aware that all Grade 9 students will take the Introductory Physics MCAS Test on June 6 and 7, 2018.

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