

Office of the School Counselor

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Watchung Hills Regional High School  
Grade 9 Course Request Form

February 13, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Enclosed is the official copy of the Watchung Hills “Grade 9 Course Request” Form which highlights teacher recommendations in the areas of English, History, Math, Science and World Language for next year. Each teacher chose a course level commensurate with your child’s performance. It was also chosen with the belief that your child may meet with success on that level. The high school counselors and chairs of each department commend us on our placements. They honor, as do I, the recommendations made by our teachers as the primary indicators of your child’s success for the first year of high school. Therefore, if you have any concerns about your child’s placement, please contact the teacher first. It would also be advisable for you to review requirements for placement in each of the academic areas found on the high school website: <https://www.whrhs.org/guidance/2018-2019-program-of-studies> before contacting your child’s teacher.

Please review elective choices with your child. The online WHRHS *Program of Studies* found on the guidance page of the WHRHS website offers descriptions of every course offered at the high school; however, only those on the enclosed form are available to freshmen. Please note that there are certain electives that require teacher recommendation or auditions (\*) and others that require a prerequisite (\*\*).

Electives are found on both sides of the form. There are academic electives in English and history as well as study hall on the face page and visual/performing/career arts on the back. Kindly remember that elective choices must compliment two semesters of two electives each. Some of the electives are a full year. Thus, your child may circle any **one** of the following possible choices:

- **Two** electives if each is a **full year**
- **Three** electives if one is a **full year** and the other **two are semester** electives

- **Four** electives if each is a **semester** elective

Once the top elective preferences have been circled, your child must choose **seven** alternates and write them in the table on the back of the form. Please note that **Introduction to Accounting** (no prerequisite) is also available to students. If your child wishes to take this course, please write it in under “Child Development 2” and circle as a one year elective.

In addition to selecting (by circling top choices) electives, there are several other items which must be addressed on this form:

- Please place your **phone number** on the proper line at the top of the paper (upper right hand corner).
- Given any course level choice from the teacher, please circle the level you wish for your child to take and initial your choice. Please note the example on the attached page.
- Address any language changes by crossing out what was recommended and circling and initialing a different choice. Please note the example on the attached page.
- If your child wishes to take a **study hall**, it must be checked off in the elective box in the upper left corner of the paper. Please designate “year” or “semester” in the box, as well. By making this choice, **the study hall fulfills one elective slot.**
- Both you and your child must sign and date the back of the form.

I understand that this may be confusing in writing, so Dr. Bigsby and I have prepared a video on the school’s website in order to assist you in filling out this form. The video is available on the main webpage. If you still have questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

This form must be returned to me no later than **Monday, March 5th.** Late forms sent to the high school may jeopardize your child’s elective choices. Thank you for your cooperation!

Sincerely,

*Ann Stephanie Kessler*