

Garden City High School
Curriculum Meeting
May 16, 2022

Parent Reps:
Anna Allsbrook - Chair
Christine Alkin
Melissa Gaffney
Ploumou Scricca
Frances Mingoia – SEPTA

NOTES

1. REGENTS

Regents exam grades count as 20% of the final course grade. In addition, each of the four (4) academic quarters counts for 20% toward the final course grade—even if assessments within a quarter, such as quizzes and tests, are scored on a points system. After-school Regents review classes have always been offered. During class periods, teachers have discretion to review but it may be offered differently; for example, Honors courses may devote less time to review.

2. NOTE-TAKING SKILLS

Note-taking is primarily covered in Middle School, especially in English and Social Studies. As students advance in High School, different teachers may require specific kinds of notes—for example, Cornell Notes. For Special Education, note-taking is taught differently according to the needs of the students. In light of Covid disruptions, teachers will be made aware that students note-taking/annotating skills may need to be refreshed.

3. ELECTIVES

Most electives are running. The few that are not due to low interest are: College Scene Study & Analysis; Ethics in Print; Contemporary America H; Oceanography; Website Programming & Design; and Music Theory H as well as Music Industry, Technology & Theory H (which alternates years with AP Music Theory). Freshman Science Research has always included an option for social science research. For 2022-23, due to increased enrollment, the course will be larger and comprised of two sections: Science and Social Science. Both sections will meet during the same class period, allowing students to work with both teachers to further their research projects. Upper-level science research courses are open to a variety of topics.

4. PLTW

Two (2) sections of Design and Drawing for Production will run next year, and the HS will have five (5) teachers trained in this course. This is the foundation course for other PLTW engineering classes for both teachers and students. Once teachers are trained to teach this course, they are eligible to enroll in training for other PLTW engineering courses. Similarly, once they have taken Design and Drawing for Production, students

are eligible to take any of the other PLTW engineering courses. For 2022-23, Civil Engineering and Architecture, and Aerospace Engineering, will also run. A fourth course will be added for the 2023-2024 school year. This course has not yet been determined.

5. COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

To help students and parents with the college process, guidance counselors have started advising students earlier, including with selecting classes and extracurriculars that are appropriate and challenging. A critical factor in college admissions is the rigor of high school coursework. Counseling is also there to help students who are interested in Early Decision or Early Action. Counselors have encouraged students to “cast a wide net” when it comes to applying to colleges and work with students throughout their high school years to help them make thoughtful choices. During the most recent college application cycle, seniors applied to over 300 schools with great results. Two Garden City Summer Enrichment offerings are available to Juniors who want help with college applications: Mr. Doyle leads the College Application Process and Mr. Rebolini teaches College Essay Writing. Some colleges have moved up their deadlines, so students should work on their applications during the summer.

6. EXTRACURRICULARS

The Long Island Forensic Association (lifa.org) is something that can be considered as another activity in which our students can excel. There is a theatrical component to some of the competitions, which may be a great option, in addition to the high school musical, for students with a talent and passion for performing.