



NORTHGATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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SHAUN TOMASZEWSKI

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENT

TO: Class of 2019-2024 Students and Families
FROM: Shaun Tomaszewski
Date: 2-12-2018
Subject: *Updated* Scheduling and Curriculum Night, 2018

Dear Students and Families-

As you might have heard, Northgate Middle/High School is about to enter into an exciting and unprecedented relationship with the Community College of Allegheny County. This partnership will allow us to offer all of our students the opportunity to graduate from Northgate High School with a full 33-36 credit Certificate of General Education from CCAC. Should students choose to pursue more advanced courses of study by taking AP courses, they could easily graduate from Northgate High School with a full 60-63 credit Associate's Degree in General Studies. This opportunity is unique to Northgate School District and could save students and families over \$60,000 in tuition and expenses related to post-secondary study. CCAC is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education- the same Commission that accredits institutions such as the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University. Because of this, CCAC credits are transferable to colleges and universities across the country.

At our Scheduling and Curriculum Night, taking place at **6:00 p.m. on February 26th** at the Middle/High School, we will outline these opportunities, and representatives from CCAC will also be on hand to answer any questions that students and family members might have regarding the incredible opportunities that are available both on and off one of several CCAC campuses around the region.

Beginning in the 2018-2019 academic year, you will notice some changes to course titles and descriptions in the Middle/High School's Course Catalog. Courses for which students will be able to

earn CCAC credits are designated as College in High School courses and will be offered to students in grades 10-12. Though these courses will be weighted as honors courses have been in the past, we are strongly encouraging *all* students to pursue College in High School coursework. We are certain that all of our students can be successful in these courses.

At the middle school and 9th grade levels, courses that prepare students for College in High School work are titled as College Preparatory. As we believe that all students can be successful in College in High School courses in grades 10-12, we also believe that all students can succeed in College Preparatory courses in grades 7-9. We strongly encourage students to select College Preparatory courses in grades 7-9.

As we work together to foster this unique relationship with CCAC, I encourage students and their families to be involved in on-going conversations about how we can improve and enhance opportunities for every learner at Northgate. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office via phone or email.

Sincerely,

Shaun Tomaszewski