Northwest High School: Opportunities for Excellence

“All for one and one for all”

Incoming 9th Grade Parent Meeting
Administrative Team

- Mr. Tim Britton, Assistant Principal Grade 09
- Mr. John Robertson, Assistant Principal Grade 10
- Mr. Matthew Niper, Assistant Principal Grade 11
- Mr. Matt Paushter, Assistant Principal Grade 12
Instructional Leadership Team

- Ms. Becky Ahearn, World Languages Resource Teacher
- Mr. Mike Bednarcik, Health & PE Resource Teacher
- Dr. Suzanne Borenzweig, Ulysses Signature Coordinator
- Ms. Berdett Coleman, Special Education (ED) Resource Teacher
- Ms. Aimee Conway, Mathematics Resource Teacher
- Ms. Theresa Dethlefsen, Resource Counselor
- Ms. Angie Fish, English Resource Teacher
- Ms. Karen Guthro, Special Education (LAD) Resource Teacher
- Ms. Celia Reidler, Science Resource Teacher
- Ms. Ellen Beck, Fine Arts Resource Teacher
- Mr. Rob Smith, Social Studies Resource Teacher
- Ms. Yolanda Rious, Career & Technology Ed. Resource Teacher
Parent Organization Leaders

Ms. Patrrice Park
PTSA President

Ms. Lori Teachum
Booster Club President
Outcomes

- Meet members of the Northwest HS Leadership Team
- Learn about our outstanding academic programs
- Gain information about the MCPS high school graduation requirements
- Acquire information about 9th grade registration
- Hear about the transition from middle school to high school
- Obtain information about course offerings in selected academic departments
The 9th grade year is a year of transition

The transition to high school is a critical juncture for students, a time when they move from smaller and more supportive middle schools to larger high schools, where the academic and social demands are higher.

Students’ experiences their first year of high school often determine their success throughout high school and beyond.

Equip students with the belief system they need to learn and be successful!
Expectations...Big Picture!

- Integrity Policy
- Attendance
- Challenging Yourself Academically
- Edline
- Counseling Office
- Time Management
- No DRAMA!
Welcome to Northwest!

- 2125 students and over 200 staff members
- Outstanding academic programs including:
  - 23 Advanced Placement classes to give students the opportunity to earn college credit in high school
  - Dozens of elective courses for students to explore wide-ranging interests
  - Ulysses Signature Program
  - 3 Academy Programs
  - ACES Scholars Program
  - Middle College Program
- Amazing facilities
- Northwest Class of 2014 earned over 10 million dollars in scholarships!
- 7 classes each day with one lunch period!
- Over 90 extracurricular opportunities (including clubs and sports)

Theme: “All for One & One for All”
Northwest Highlights

**Academics:**
Nine Honor Societies – offer tutoring to students

**Athletics:**
2013-14 State Champions – Boys Indoor Track
2014 County Finalist – Co-Ed Volleyball
2014 Regional Finalist – Girls Soccer
2014 County and Regional Champions, 4A State Runner-up – Girls Volleyball
2013 and 2014 State Champions – 4A Varsity Football

**Extra-Curricular Activities:**
Chess Team – 2012 and 2013 Maryland State Champions
Robotics Teams – FRC and FTC Teams
Its Academic Team – Featured
Drama Productions – Fall and Spring
Team Red Cross – Blood Drives
Contents of Folder

**LEFT SIDE**
- Academy Information
- Program Brochures
- Advanced Placement Course Information

**RIGHT SIDE**
- Agenda
- Copy of Tonight’s PowerPoint Presentation
- Articulation Information Booklet
- Sample Registration Card
Small Learning Communities

- **Academy of Biotechnology**
  Ms. Dina Link

- **Academy of Commercial and Fine Art**
  Ms. Kristina Stevens

- **National Academy of Finance**
  Ms. Nicola Richards

- **Middle College Program**
  Mr. Matthew Paushter

- **Ulysses Signature Program**
  Dr. Suzanne Borenzweig
Advanced Curriculum for Excellence in Science (ACES) Scholars Program

- Challenging course of study in the science disciplines.
- Comprehensive curriculum combining honors level courses and rigorous Advanced Placement (AP®) level course work.
- Provides students with a broad background in all the scientific disciplines.
- Encourages students to take more accelerated science courses.
- Includes heterogeneously grouped classes within Northwest High School.
Students can earn a Maryland High School Diploma and college credits towards an Associates Degree from Montgomery College. The degree will be within the STEM field.

Credits are transferrable to 4-year colleges within the University of Maryland system.

Students are supported through a progressive transition from a traditional high school experience to a college level experience.

Program began this year with a cohort of 20-30 students in grade 9. We are looking for approximately 30 students for 15-16 SY.

Please come to the Middle College Program Break out Session for more information.
Ulysses Signature Program Overview

- The online application window for the Ulysses Signature Program is currently open and will remain open until midnight on February 17, 2015.

- The application is 100% online this year and is available through the NWHS website: [http://northwesths-montgomeryschoolsmd.libguides.com/Ulysses](http://northwesths-montgomeryschoolsmd.libguides.com/Ulysses)

Please come to the Break out Session for more information.

- A four-year program, admission by application only
- A small learning community
- An opportunity to engage in real-world research
- A practicum for presentation skills
Grades & Credits
Grades & Credits

- Students take 7 classes each semester.
- Each class is worth ½ credit, and a student must pass the class (with a grade of A, B, C, or D) to receive the credit.
- A student should earn 7 credits each year (3.5 credits per semester) if he/she passes all of his/her classes.
Grade Point Average (GPA)

- Students receive a GPA each quarter and semester in addition to a cumulative GPA.
- The cumulative GPA is based only on the semester GPAs.
- Students also receive a weighted GPA and an unweighted GPA.

For Honors and AP classes, a student receives an additional GPA point for earning an A, B, or C.
Calculating a Student’s GPA

To calculate unweighted GPA:

- Multiply each A by 4
- Multiply each B by 3
- Multiply each C by 2
- Multiply each D by 1
- Multiply each E by 0

- Add all of the results, and divide by the total number of classes.

To calculate weighted GPA:

- Honors and AP courses
  - 5 for each A
  - 4 for each B
  - 3 for each C
  - 1 for each D
  - 0 for each E
Eligibility

- To participate in extracurricular activities, students must maintain, at all times, a 2.0 GPA with no more than one E.
- All 9th grade students are automatically eligible at the beginning of the school year.
Graduation Requirements
Graduation Requirements

- Credits
- Student Service Learning (SSL) 75 Hours
- PARCC – Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers
Graduation Requirements

22 credits total

- 4 credits of English
- 4 credits of math (including one credit in algebra 1 and one credit in geometry)
- 3 credits of science (including 1 credit of biology and 1 credit of physical science)
Graduation Requirements

- 3 credits of social studies
  - 1 credit in US History
  - 1 credit in National-State-Local (NSL) Government
  - 1 credit in Modern World History
- 1 credit of fine arts
- 1 credit of physical education
- ½ credit of health education
- 1 credit of technology education
Graduation Requirements

Program Completer

- Option 1: 2 credits in foreign language
- Option 2: 2 credits of advanced technology education
- Option 3: 3-9 credits in a state-approved career and technology program
Registration Process
Distribution of Registration Materials

This week:
- Roberto Clemente MS – Thursday, January 22
- Lakelands Park MS – Friday, January 23
- Kingsview MS – Friday, January 23

Registration materials include:
1. A registration form with 9th grade course offerings on the back
2. MCPS Course Information

Counselors discuss the process to apply for Ulysses Program and Academies
Registration Forms

- Students select 7 classes for each semester.
- Recommendations made by middle school teachers are listed on the registration form.
- If you would like for your child to be enrolled in a course that has not been recommended, please write a note indicating that and attach it to the registration form.

- Make appropriate choices for classes.
  - Limited choices.
  - No changes after June 1.
Articulation Booklet

Page 2 - Important Dates
Friday, June 12
9th Grade Student Orientation

Page 3 – Staff Member Contact List

Page 4 – Counseling Dept. Contact Info.

Page 5 – Grade 9 Course Offerings

Pages 6-21 – Departmental/Academy Information
Questions