



# WAYLAND HIGH SCHOOL

264 Old Connecticut Path, Wayland MA 01778

(508) 358-7746

March 24, 2023

Dear WHS parents, guardians, and students in Grades 9-11:

Beginning today, you may view course recommendations by your student's current teachers in Home Access Center (HAC). In this letter, I will outline the scheduling process, beginning with the following important links:

- An overview of course selection information is [linked here](#).
- A brief video describing the process for viewing these course recommendations, making elective requests, and changing a teacher recommendation is [linked here](#).

This information is also available on the WHS home page.

The process of course selection should be collaborative and open, and should involve discussions among the student and their parents, school counselor, and teachers. The ultimate aim for each student is a balanced and enriching academic schedule that provides appropriate rigor, that cultivates new passions, and that still allows enough time and energy for family, friends, outside interests, and sleep. As you and your child consider their program of studies next year, we would like to offer the following points to guide your thinking.

- Please consider the overall time commitment that your child's courses will require, especially as they relate to other activities (clubs, job, music, athletics, etc.). It is important to evaluate all of the competing priorities, especially good physical and mental health.
- Teacher recommendations are based on their experiences with your child in the classroom throughout the year. They know their students' skills, strengths, and areas of growth, and are well versed in the sequence of courses in their discipline. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's placement in any course, please contact the teacher directly.
- Although our schedule features eight possible periods in a six-block daily rotation, please remember that we consider students' schedules *full* when they are taking five academic majors (English, math, science, social studies, and world language) and Wellness. Many students are able to take one or two additional electives throughout the year. Please note that students with fuller schedules have fewer unscheduled blocks during the day when they can meet with teachers or their counselor, study in the Library, and unwind in between classes.

- A large part of the high school experience for our students is coming to understand who they are as learners. To this end, we encourage you and your child to select courses that will of course highlight and build on strengths, but also that will address particular areas of growth. We advise that your child enrolls in the courses that are most suited to their needs and interests. Our course descriptions often contain specific skills that a course will seek to develop, although if you have any questions, please speak with your child's teachers and school counselor, or our academic department chairs.

We ask that you and your child view their course recommendations and make all elective requests by **Friday, April 10th**. At that time, our Counseling team will begin reviewing student course requests and, a few weeks later, we will begin to build the master schedule from scratch. Our team aims to provide student schedules to view by the end of the school year.

Please reach out to me, Ms. Cole, Mr. Gass, or your child's school counselor for any assistance during this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allyson Mizoguchi', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Allyson Mizoguchi  
Principal