

HALF HOLLOW HILLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

OF HUNTINGTON AND BABYLON

HALF HOLLOW HILLS HIGH SCHOOL WEST COUNSELING CENTER

DR. JAMES J. LOFRESE
Principal

Donna Gross
Director of Guidance

Counseling Center News

Class Orientations

By the time you read this, the counselors have met with all **9th, 11th and 12th graders** for orientation. The **10th graders** will be meeting with us during the week of October 2nd. Please ask your children to share the informational packets with you – they contain important and timely information. In particular, we've asked students to look over the activity list and try to get involved with at least three activities- clubs, sports, music and community service- during this school year. Their involvement will allow them to explore new interests, get to know other students across the grades with similar interests, add to their high school resume, and satisfy the activity requirement if they are invited into National Honor Society in their **11th grade** year.

The meeting with our **12th graders** was especially important as we reviewed the college process and emphasized important deadlines.

The college checklist details the steps in the college application process. Please review this with your child and, as always, if you have questions or need help, call your child's counselor. This is a very exciting time for all involved, but it can also be stressful and overwhelming. We're here to help you through the process.

(Information on these will be noted below in Website News.)

Also distributed to our **12th graders** was information and access codes to an exciting new college tool, **Naviance**. This program will allow for detailed and extensive college searches, and will provide students and their families with specific data on the college admissions' results of students from both high schools over the past two years (names withheld). This objective information will help you decide if the colleges on your list are 'reach', 'attainable', or 'safe'. This is never a guarantee, but can be a useful guide. Please explore the site with your child now. (If he or she has misplaced their access code, you can call Mrs. Robak @ 592-3251.)

A brief overview and tutorial for 12th grade parents/guardians will be presented by our counseling staff the half hour before each conference night.

Oct.25, 5:30- 6:00 and Nov. 6, 6:00-6:30



Special Invitation to 9th Grade Parents

In past years, we have met with **9th grade** parents before the teachers' conference appointments to discuss high school expectations and requirements – a repeat of the orientation for parents at the end of the 8th grade year. Since the large majority of families attend in the spring, attendance is usually low. Instead, this year we are encouraging **9th grade** parents to make a conference appointment on parent/teacher conference night with their child's counselor as well. We look forward to meeting with you on those evenings.

Website News

Our high school website has a wealth of information- "Everything You've Always Wanted To Know, But Your Child Hasn't Told You". Please visit www.hhh.k12.ny.us , go to ***Our Schools, High School West*** and you can get a list and description in ***clubs and activities***, weekly meetings are listed in ***school news***, and in ***extra help schedules*** you will find the teachers' after- school hours.

All **12th grade** parents, and interested **11th grade** parents, are encouraged to visit ***Guidance*** to view important dates, standardized test deadlines and a list of college visits to our school. There, you will also find information for **all grades** on counseling center programs, summer and scholarship information, and community resources.

Counseling Center Staff

Counselors

Susan (Kanowitz) Alexander
Maria Flynn
Lisa Kesten
Frank Marino
Kimberly Muzio
Susan Stevens
Joseph Toles
Brian Welsh

Secretaries

Claudette Baggio
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Susan Martello
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Renata Robak –
College/Career Resource Center coordinator

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School Psychologists

Dr. Jacqueline Hernandez

Dr. William Sefick

