

Dear Parents,

I hope your eighth graders are enjoying the year and growing more excited as high school approaches. Hopefully you have initiated discussions with your children regarding high school registration and the options that are available to them. With that being said, it is important the students understand there are two relatively new options available to them as they consider their options for high school; The Biomedical Sciences Academy and the Computer Science and Software Engineering Academy.

These Academies are operated through partnerships between Hunterdon County Vocational School District (HCVSD) and two of the county's high schools—North Hunterdon High School and Delaware Valley Regional High School. Established to provide educational opportunities to students interested in pursuing careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math, the Academies are available to all eighth grade students in Hunterdon County. Due to the structure of each Academy, students will spend their entire academic day at the school in which their Academy is located. For example, all students of the Biomedical Sciences Academy will take academic classes at North Hunterdon High School and all students of the Computer Science and Software Engineering Academy will take academic classes at Delaware Valley Regional High School.

As Career and Technical Education programs, these Academies offer more to students than a traditional Advanced Placement or Honors course in high school. Both Academies have partnerships with colleges and universities, including RVCC, Rutgers, Rowan, and Keane, which allows students to earn college credits while still in high school. In addition, both Academies have advisory boards composed of individuals with industry experience and professors from institutions of higher learning. Internship opportunities are also a significant aspect of this type of education, and HCVSD's partnership with Hunterdon Medical Center will allow students of both Academies to gain real-world experience while still in high school.

In order to be considered for either of the Academies, interested students must submit an application through www.hcvsd.org by Thursday, December 15th. This is an important decision in your child's life, and HCVSD is prepared to answer any questions you may have. Parents are encouraged to contact Mr. Dan Sexton at (908) 788-1119 x 2024 or dsexton@hcvsd.org if they would like to learn more about these opportunities.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Please feel free to also contact me should you have questions regarding the admissions and application process.

Regards,

Tanya Nalesnik
Assistant Business Administrator &
Student Services Coordinator