Weekly Update 1/15
NORTH HIGH

Week 18 January 15th, 2021

North High | 1595 Hopkins Road | Williamsville, NY 14221
Please remember to continue to answer the daily COVID questions each morning prior to the school day starting. Thank you!

[Shared Decision Making Team Survey]
With January Regents Exams being cancelled, we will have classes the week of Jan. 26-29th. Any midterm or final exams for courses will be given in class during the regularly scheduled class period. January 29th will be the last of the first semester, with Monday, February 1st marking the start of the second semester.

We are in the process of assigning lockers to students that would like to use them to store winter coats/gear. Be on the look-out for a WITS Mail.

Our counselors have been giving presentations to classes regarding course selections for next year. Following these presentations each counselor will meet with students individually to go over their course requests. These individual meetings are important so that we can ensure that students are taking the required courses along with courses that will help them reach their post-high school goals.

Weekly Letter Day schedule

- 1/18
- 1/19
- 1/20
- 1/21
- 1/22

- OFF
- C-Day
- W-Day
- D-Day
- E-Day
December 16, 2020

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS REGARDING
THE COURSE SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE 2021/22 SCHOOL YEAR

We are starting to plan for the 2021-2022 school year. Our counselors will begin meeting with students in January to begin scheduling. The 2021-2022 course catalog is currently available on WITS and on the school's website. The course catalog is designed to assist students in the planning process as they prepare for the upcoming school year. It contains course descriptions for both required and elective courses available at North High School.

I encourage parents to be active participants in the course selection process. Courses that are selected should be at an appropriate academic level for the individual student. Students should challenge themselves to the best of their ability without compromising their ability to obtain a solid foundation in the course content. English, math, science and social studies teachers will make recommendations regarding the next level of study in their specific content areas. If you wish to override a teacher recommendation, I strongly encourage you to contact the teacher who made the recommendation to have a conversation and discuss the rationale for the recommendation.

Often times we hear that students want to have an easy senior year because they have completed most of their graduation requirements. However, colleges want to see four years of math and science as well as rigorous course work on a student's transcript. With the focus on college and career readiness, it is essential that students take four years of math and science. Our English and social studies departments also offer a number of half-year electives in addition to the multitude of courses offered by the art, business, music, second language and technology departments. With the abundance of course offerings available at North, please encourage your child to take advantage of these offerings to explore potential college majors and career possibilities.

I also ask not only for your support in helping your child select the most appropriate courses, but also in discouraging them from dropping courses once school resumes in September. Please know that there is no guarantee that your child will be able to select another course should they decide to drop an original course they choose this spring.

You will receive an email once your child's course selections are ready to be viewed on WITS. You will then be able to approve your child's selections on WITS. Please note that the deadline to approve your child's course selections is Friday, February 12th.

If approval is received after the February 12th deadline, requests for changes to what was planned when your child met with his/her counselor may not be honored. Should you have questions about the course selection process, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's counselor.

Sincerely,

Robert Corigli
Principal

2021-2022 Course Catalog
2021-2022 Master Course List
8th Grade Orientation/Class Description Site
Digital Learning Expectations

Lessons being delivered remotely should not be recorded by students and/or shared publicly. The online learning classroom is intended for Williamsville North students to participate in. Any parent questions should be directed to teachers outside of the online classroom time. We encourage parents to continue to support their children by allowing them to independently attend synchronous class periods and assisting with homework and assignments outside of class time.

We are all adjusting to new learning experiences and new types of interactions. We all benefit when everyone shares the same expectations. Everyone is expected to adhere to all District Acceptable Use policies, whether they are using a District-provided device or a personal device.

Students are expected to continue to give their best effort on assignments. They will submit their own work and use online tools appropriately. They will also keep their login information and passwords private, with the exception of sharing them with their parents, guardians, or teachers when necessary.

We will all respect the intellectual property of others. Work created by a student is his or her own intellectual property. Work created by an educator is his or her own intellectual property and/or the intellectual property of the Williamsville Central School District. No work, whether printed, audio, or video, should be shared, published, or duplicated without the author’s permission.

There are expectations when interacting in a digital environment that apply to everyone participating in the conference as well as those who may be in the vicinity during the conference. Participation in video conferencing experiences is contingent upon adhering to these expectations. Participants in video conferences and everyone in the vicinity of the video conference will:

- wear clothing that is appropriate for school.
- use language that would be appropriate in a school setting.
- be on time and ready to participate.
- be in an environment conducive for learning, such as at a desk or table or sitting on a couch or chair.
- keep themselves and their devices stationary during the conference.
- respect the direction of the organizer of the conference regarding whether video is on or off and whether mics are on or muted.
- use their own name when signing in to the conference.
- check that the background appearing on screen is free of any items that would not be appropriate in a school setting.
- ensure that a parent or guardian is aware they will be participating in a video conference.
- notify any household members in the vicinity that a video conference is occurring and that their image may be seen and their voices may be heard.
- be mindful that the chat feature may be visible by other participants.
- respect the privacy of others by not recording or taking pictures of any portion of the conference.
- be aware of background noise and use a headset when necessary to prevent disrupting the conference.
- make their teachers aware of any concerns they have about online interactions.
- be mindful of the attire of any small children who may be in the vicinity of a video conference.
YOUTH ALLIANCE FOR EDUCATION

It is easy to feel powerless as a young person today. We are in the middle of a global pandemic which we can’t control. There was a presidential election, but you couldn’t vote. Nationwide protests about racism and inequality are held and you can’t attend. Inequality exists in your classrooms and in your schools and you are frustrated. While you may be young, your voice matters and you deserve to be heard. You are not powerless. Apply to the Youth Alliance for Education and be a part of creating real change in education in Western New York.

Who should apply? Students in grades 7-12 from public schools in Western New York who are able to commit for the 2021 calendar year and have an interest in having their voices heard in transforming education in WNY. Seniors planning to graduate in 2021 are also eligible to apply.

How will members be selected? A committee will review applications and select members from a variety of schools and districts.

What will the YAE do? Members will participate in developing an annual agenda organized around their ideas and concerns related to equity in education. They will identify priorities and goals, and will engage in research projects, policy analysis, and the development of policy recommendations.

When and how will the alliance meet? With the support of GSE faculty, YAE will meet virtually beginning in January and shift to in-person meetings when public health guidelines allow. Transportation assistance will be available when the group is able to meet in person.

How do I apply? Visit ed.buffalo.edu/yaes.

Application deadline: Apply by January 18, 2021 for priority review. Applications will continue to be accepted and reviewed beyond the deadline.
The following sports are set to begin on Tuesday, January 19th: boys and girls bowling, boys swimming/diving, and alpine ski. Students must be signed up for a sport on WITS before attending a tryout.

**Williamsville North Winter Sports Tryout Dates 2020-2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JV/V Sport</th>
<th>Dates/Times:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B/G Bowling</td>
<td>1/19/2021 3:30pm</td>
<td>Transit Lanes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/20/2021 3:30pm</td>
<td>Transit Lanes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/21/2021 3:30pm</td>
<td>Transit Lanes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varsity Boys Swimming</td>
<td>1/19/2021 3:00pm</td>
<td>North HS Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpine Skiing</td>
<td>1/19/2021 4:00pm</td>
<td>Maple East (side door)</td>
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Click Below for the Health Tip of the Week:

**Self-Care**
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL STRATEGY OF THE WEEK:
The Art of the Do Over

When we are stressed, tired, or overworked we aren’t always the best at communicating kindly or making wise decisions. We have all been in a situation at some point where we say something in the heat of the moment and instantly regret it. Or, in hindsight, realize there was probably a much better way we could have handled the situation. Teenagers, who have impulsive brains and often poorly censored language to begin with, find themselves in these dilemmas more often than most. Sometimes they are so caught up in the moment they don’t even realize what they’ve said or how it could have been hurtful.

An important part of adolescence is reflecting on experiences and learning from mistakes. Offering teens a “Do-Over” is a method that helps young people pause, take a step back and rethink the way they are handling a situation. Granted, it can be hard for us as adults to give teens this opportunity at times, especially if they’ve said or done something that is hurtful or upsetting. However, stopping the conversation and allowing you both to have time to regroup is really effective. Simply saying, “I’m going to pause this conversation, let you think about your response and offer you a do-over in ten minutes” prevents both parties from responding in a highly reactive way.
Important Reminders/Updates:

- COVID TESTING INFORMATION:

  Here is the link to the district’s COVID Testing Procedures:
  

  Below are videos outlining both district testing sites; (Williamsville North & Williamsville South).

  North: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUPlIw8TZQ4&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUPlIw8TZQ4&feature=youtu.be)

  South: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p7V0tluasLc&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p7V0tluasLc&feature=youtu.be)

Important Links:

- Free & Reduced Lunch Application
- Health/Wellness Tips & Information
- Williamsville SEPTSA Information
- Williamsville North Webpage
- Williamsville North PTSA
- Williamsville North Guidance Office
- Williamsville North Hyflex Informational Packet
- Williamsville North Library Webpage