



**North Warren Jr. Sr. High School Guidance Office**

**August, 2017**

**To the Class of 2020:**

Dear Sophomore Students and Parents,  
 It's my hope that you are enjoying what is left of your summer! Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> will mark the start of your sophomore year, a time where classes taken, grades earned, and extra activities will make all the difference in your college and career plans for the future. This is a year where hard work and effort will make a big difference. But equally important is to remember to have fun and get the most out of your high school experience. Whether your plans include college or career, this sophomore letter is intended to provide you with information to help you along the way. Listed below, are the graduation requirements for the Class of 2020:

**NWCS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

(Subject to change based on New York State Board of Regents Approval)

Class of 2016 and beyond

<b>REGENTS DIPLOMA</b>		<b>ADVANCED REGENTS</b>	
<i>Required Courses</i>		<i>Required Courses</i>	
	<b>Credits</b>		<b>Credits</b>
English	4	English	4
Social Studies	4	Social Studies	4
Math	3	Math	3
Science	3	Science	3
Foreign Language	1	Foreign Language	3 *
Art/Music	1	Art/Music	1
Health	.5	Health	.5
Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2
Electives	3.5	Electives	1.5
<i>Total Required Credits</i>	22	<i>Total Required Credits</i>	22
(*) Students who earn a 5 unit sequence in Art, Music, Business, Technology, or a Vo-Tec Program may be exempt from this requirement.			

<b>Required Regents Exams *</b> <i>(grade of 65 or better required)</i>	<b>Required Regents Exams *</b> <i>(grade of 65 or better required)</i>
ELA ( <i>Common Core</i> ) (grade 11)	ELA ( <i>Common Core</i> ) (grade 11)
Algebra I ( <i>Common Core</i> )	Algebra I ( <i>Common Core</i> ) Geometry ( <i>Common Core</i> ) Algebra II ( <i>Common Core</i> )
Global Studies (grade 10)	Global Studies (grade 10)
U.S. History (grade 11)	U.S. History (grade 11)
Science	2 Science Exams



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(\*) The Regents Diploma with Honors requires an average of a 90 for the 5 exams, while the Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors requires an average of 90 for the 8 exams. A Mastery in Science and/or Math designation requires a score of 85 or greater for each of the 3 exams in each discipline.

## Sophomore Pre-College & Career Calendar: 2017-2018

### September

- Challenge yourself with an appropriate sophomore year schedule. Any elective looks better than a Study Hall on your academic transcript!
- Work diligently and strive for excellence in all subjects
- Seek assistance from teachers if you are struggling with course work. Ask teachers who may be available after school to provide extra help in your core subjects.
- This a great time to get involved in extracurricular activities, such as sports, volunteer work, clubs, or community involvement.
- Community Service – Giving back to our community builds better relationships, higher self-esteem and an improved culture overall. As a job preparation and self-discovery skill, community service opportunities can benefit you greatly. In 2016, the North Warren BOE enacted a Community Service Graduation requirement, which requires a total of 20 service hours over a period of four years. More information about service opportunities and how community service hours are tracked will be provided to students in September.
- Trio Upward Bound Program – Learn how first generation college students or those with financial need can gain access to some great college opportunities.

### October

- *October 19<sup>th</sup>* – The ASVAB Career Exploration Program is a nationally recognized tool for career planning and learning about aptitudes. Students who take this assessment will have the opportunity to participate in a workshop to review their results. Please see the <http://www.asvabprogram.com/> website for more information. Testing will run from 8:00 to 11:30. Any parents who do NOT wish to have their student sit for the exam, are asked to provide a note to the Guidance Office. We are hopeful that all will participate, however, as this will provide a common career planning baseline for all sophomores.
- The 2018-2019 Course Selection Survey will be administered to Grades 8-11 to determine availability of future course electives.

### November - December

- *November* – The ASVAB Career Exploration workshop will be scheduled to assist students in interpreting their ASVAB results, and helping to identify skills and aptitudes that will assist them in their college and career searches.
- Sophomore conferences to work on your future college / career planning will begin in November.
- Check out career options on [www.bridges.com](http://www.bridges.com) using the Planner tool provided.
- Explore your interests, skills, aptitude.
- Become active in clubs and activities...NOT just a member!
- Seek leadership positions in those activities

### January

- *January 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>* Grade HS and Post-Secondary Planning Night – Please plan on attending to learn more about the Early College and Career Academy (ECCA), as well as BOCES Career and Technical Education (CTE) Opportunities available to North Warren



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Junior and Senior students. The ECCA programs include Business, Electrical Technology / Advanced Manufacturing, Information Technology/Computer Networking and New Media.

- *January 9<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>* – Early College Career Academy Open Houses at SUNY Adirondack.
- Scheduling for your junior year course selections will begin in February. Final course selections must be made by May.
- Continue to challenge yourself in order to have the most opportunities available to you! Any elective looks better than a Study Hall on your academic transcript!
- Regents exams will be offered for students who wish to retake Living Environment or Earth Science examinations previously taken.
- A visit to the Southern Adirondack Education Center will take place at the end of January to enable students to view the BOCES CTE programs that will be available to them during their Junior and Senior year.

### February

- *February 2<sup>nd</sup>*- Deadline date to submit student / parent BOCES agreement and commitment forms to take BOCES CTE or Early College Career Academy programs during junior year.
- Scheduling for junior year course selections will take place, with final selections confirmed by May.

### March-April

- Scheduling for Junior year will continue. Be sure to challenge yourself academically to provide as many future options as possible. Any elective looks better than a Study Hall on your academic transcript!

### May

- Final course selections for your junior year will be determined.
- Sign-ups for the October 2018 PSAT test will be made for students who wish to prepare for the SAT to be taken during Spring of junior year.

### June

- Regents examinations will take place for Algebra I (or Geometry or Algebra II), Earth Science, and Global Studies 10.
- Find a summer job or volunteer work that may be related to your career or personal interests.

Sophomore year marks an important milestone in your high school experience. Great choices made today will result in many future opportunities following graduation. If you want to look at your interests and how they relate to careers, please check out the Choices Explorer on the back of this page.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 494-3015 ext 752, or via email at [mtherio@northwarrencsd.org](mailto:mtherio@northwarrencsd.org). Your schedule for 2017-2018 will be mailed home during the last week of August. I hope you have a great remainder of summer, and I look forward to seeing and working with you in September!

Michael Therio  
9-12 School Counselor

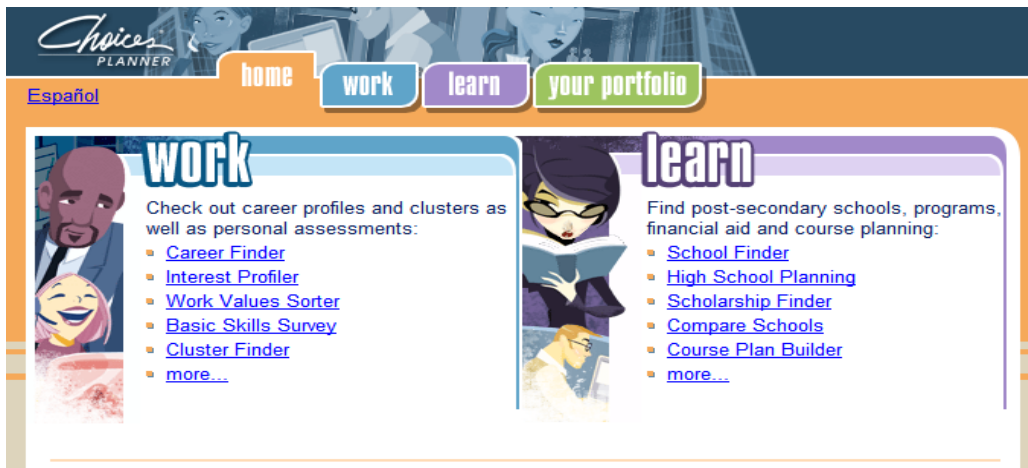


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Some great career, interest and college exploration resources!

[www.bridges.com](http://www.bridges.com)

Use your existing profile, or build a new one! Site ID=0106466, Password=warren



<https://www.careerzone.ny.gov>

This New York State sponsored website also provides some great resources for learning about what is important to you!

