



**HIGHLAND PARK
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
HIGH SCHOOL

102 N 5th Ave, Highland Park, NJ 08904

PRINCIPAL MICHAEL LASSITER
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February 19, 2021

Dear Parents & Guardians,

This letter is to invite you to a **special virtual orientation for parents of our incoming 9th grade students on Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 7:00pm hosted in my Zoom room at <https://zoom.us/my/mlassiterhphs>**. Members of the High School faculty, staff, and the administration will be present to make a brief presentation about our High School and to answer questions. We will also have a Spanish version of the presentation available as well. The program will last approximately one hour including a question and answer period. I hope you can join us.

Although we will not be able to meet with all of our incoming 9th grade students in person this year for scheduling, they will be introduced to all of our high school counselors during their Physical Education classes via break out rooms in Zoom. **This will occur the week of March 8, 2021.** The counselors will review elective choices and high school graduation requirements along with other details from our [High School Program Planning Guide](#). They will answer questions about advanced course offerings, the recommendation and waiver process, and other questions posed by the students. The counselors will be assigned to students as follows:

- **Ms. Jada Gore will be assigned students with last names of A – H**
- **Ms. Dana Peterson will be assigned students with last names J – Q**
- **Ms. Melissa Hayes will be assigned students with last names R – Z**

In preparation for this presentation, a Google Form will be sent out which will assist with course selection. This form will be emailed directly to the students and all 8th grade parents and guardians. Please submit only one copy of this form when it is sent out. Mr. Marc LoBianco, the middle school counselor, will be meeting with each student individually between **March 11 – 19, 2021** to discuss course requests and their teachers' recommendations for their courses for next year and to input their choices in Genesis. The Google form will need to be completed prior to students meeting with Mr. LoBianco. The high school counselors will assist with follow up meetings with students and their parents for specific questions regarding course requests.

An orientation and tour of our high school for eighth grade students will be held later this school year. We plan this program annually to help alleviate the anxiety students may have about moving up to the high school and will make sure this event occurs with all safety protocols needed. More information will be sent out once we determine the best date for this event.

If at any time you have questions regarding our high school and its programs, please feel free to contact the high school guidance office at 732-572-2400 ext. 4007 or me at mlassiter@hpschools.net.

I look forward to our incoming ninth grade students' success as the Class of 2025.

Sincerely,

CC. Dr. Scott Taylor Superintendent
Mr. Jason Richardson, High School Assistant Principal
Ms. Caitlin Brady, Middle School Principal