



Steven Clapp, Ed. D.
Principal

HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Annie Mohr
Assistant Principal

January 6, 2022

Dear Parent(s)/Guardians of Grade 8 Students,

Happy New Year! This year is flying by, and therefore, we need to start planning your child's high school transition to Joel Barlow High School. Before winter break, students attended a virtual presentation facilitated by Joel Barlow High School's Counseling Department. Within this presentation, students learned about courses and extracurricular activities being offered next school year for 9th grade. After the presentation, the students and I had time to sit down and look through the Program of Studies to pick some classes he/she/they are interested in.

Our next steps are as follows:

- January 26th, 2022- teacher course recommendations are due within PowerSchool
- Monday, January 10th, 2022 from 7:00-8:30pm - Joel Barlow High School Virtual Presentation on the Program of Studies for the 2022-2023 school year. You can find the Program of Studies [here](#). Students are invited to attend as well. This is a great opportunity to get to know the staff at Joel Barlow and to begin the high school transition as a family.
- **January 28th to February 4th, 2022 - PowerSchool student portal opens for students/parents to input course selections.** Please be advised that the Joel Barlow and Helen Keller Counseling Departments strongly suggest families follow 8th grade teacher recommendations when considering course selections. **Please have your child refer back to the Google Form we filled out in December. They had the time to overlook the program of studies, and select courses they are interested in (including electives).** All course information is available in the [Joel Barlow Program of Studies 2022-2023](#).
- February 8th, 2021 - Students and Parents are invited to attend a one-on-one virtual meeting with a Joel Barlow High School Counselor. During this time, the course requests will be reviewed and questions will be answered. Each session is scheduled to be 15 minutes long. Students will be attending this virtually from the library during their scheduled time. A letter and link for parents to join will be sent via email.

For directions on how to make course selections within PowerSchool, please use the following link:
[Course Requests in PowerSchool Directions](#)

If you have any questions, concerns, or celebrations, please contact me at sterry@er9.org.

All the best,

Sara Terry

Sara Terry
HKMS School Counselor
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