

High School Registration—FAQ's 2008-09

- 1. Help! I am locked out of SPAN.**
Email your full name and NCWise ID # to our SAM administrator, Meg Smith at msmith6@wcpss.net and ask her to reset your password.
- 2. Why are you requiring that our new password have a certain format? (first and last initial, two digit month and two digit date of birth)**
During the registration process, there will be times that I will need to access your SPAN account to assist with your course selection. If everyone's password has the same format, I can easily do that. After high school registration, you can change your password to any combination of 6 or more letters and numbers.
- 3. How can I find out what courses have been recommended by the teachers?**
The recommendations can be viewed when you log on to SPAN. Until all the high schools have completed the loading of courses, you will see the generic categories of courses. Students were given a handout that showed how the generic categories translate into courses at various high schools.
- 4. What if I disagree with a teacher's recommendation?**
You are **not** required to contact the teacher to request a different level of a course. **No** waiver form is required. When selecting courses in SPAN, click on the desired course in the list of courses rather than clicking on the recommended course.
- 5. I am not planning to attend my base school. Do I have to select courses at that school?**
All students are required to select courses for their assigned school. Students may also select courses for any other WCPSS high school that they might attend because of a transfer or a change of residence.
- 6. I plan to request a transfer to another WCPSS high school. When can I complete the transfer form and select courses?**
You can select courses at the time you select courses for your base school. Notify Mrs. Joyner (bjoyner@wcpss.net) to add the new school to your list of schools so that it will be available when you go into SPAN. Transfer request forms for 2008-09 will be available beginning May 15.
- 7. We are moving out of state (or county) during the summer? Why do I have to select courses for Wake County? OR I have already made plans to attend a private school next year....**
Selecting courses at your base school serves as documentation of courses you are recommended for in case your new school needs that information for your schedule there. Also, many times plans change....
- 8. Do I have to register for Band or Orchestra all year?**
Yes, you should select Band I and II and Orchestra I and II.

9. Should I take a second language in 9th grade?

Two courses in second language are required for the College University Course of Study—three are recommended by the high schools. High schools recommend taking Levels 1 and 2 of a language during the same school year. Therefore the most desirable time to begin second language is in Grade 10, signing up for both Level 1 and 2. Even then, a student who wants to can take up to 6 courses in the language before graduation. (Exception: A student who has taken year long second language in middle school and who places in Level II, should take Level II in Grade 9.) A course in Latin (offered at Wakefield HS) is an appropriate 9th grade elective for its value to vocabulary building.

10. When will I know if I have been accepted to a magnet school?

Notification letters are to go out by March 15.

11. Will I receive graduation credit for Beginning Spanish/Beginning French or for Spanish A/French A?

No. Graduation credit is only given for the “completer” course in the second language—Spanish B/French B.

12. Will my grade in Algebra I/Geometry/Spanish B/French B be counted in my high school GPA?

No. You will receive 1 unit of graduation credit for each of these courses that you successfully completed in middle school, but the grade(s) you earned will not be included in your GPA.

13. I have an IEP. How do I know what classes to register for?

Select the classes that most closely match the current IEP service.

All IEP'S for 8th graders must be reviewed for high school service within the last 30 days of school. After the IEP review, the Special Programs department will review high school course selections and ensure that the courses selected match the IEP service delivery.

14. If I select my courses in SPAN early, am I more likely to get the electives I choose?

After all middle school course selections have been entered in SPAN, the high school downloads all of the registrations from the middle school at the same time. (Equal opportunity scheduling!)

15. What if I change my mind about a course I selected?

In May, high schools send out course verification forms listing the courses you have selected in SPAN. Instructions will inform you how to make last minute changes to your course selection before schedules are printed.

RESOURCES:

www.wcpss.net (Click on “Parents” to go to the parent/student resource page.)
(Click on “Schools” to go to individual high school websites.)

www.wakefieldms.wcpss.net updated with information about high school registration, including handouts in the registration packets

WCPSS Program Planning Guide—included in student registration packets—Keep the copy provided to use throughout high school.

Wakefield/Millbrook/other high school program planning guides—provides information specific to individual high school courses, contacts, etc.

8th grade counselor: bjoyner@wcpss.net