Thank you for attending this evening. It’s almost February which means we are already busy planning for next year. As the parent of an 8th grader, “next year” means having a student in high school! Our goal this evening is to explain the new graduation requirements, explain the scheduling process for 9th grade, and answer any questions you might have about Seymour High School. This handout and tonight’s PowerPoint presentation are both available on our school website. (http://shs.scsc.k12.in.us). Click on Student Services then 8th Graders to access the handout and PowerPoint presentation.

If you have any questions regarding the scheduling process please feel free to contact us:

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Seymour High School operates on an alternating block schedule which allows for 8 periods of scheduled classes – 4 classes on a Purple Day and 4 classes on a White Day. All incoming freshman must be enrolled in the following 5 courses:

1. English
2. Math
3. Science
4. Prep for College & Career (Semester 1) / Digital Applications (Semester 2) *(Unless taken in Summer)*
5. Study Hall or Algebra Lab (to be determined by the math teacher)

Once course requests have been entered, counselors will review any requests for accelerated classes by reviewing student grades and standardized test scores. Accelerated course rosters will also be given to SMS teachers to review. Counselors will contact parents if changes need to be discussed.

The majority of incoming 9th graders will be enrolled in: 1. English 9 
2. Algebra I 
3. Earth & Space Science

Each of the above courses meets the requirements for the Core 40, Academic Honors, and Technical Honors designations. Some students may be enrolled in 1 or more accelerated courses such as:

1. Accelerated English 9 in place of English 9
2. Geometry or Accelerated Geometry in place of Algebra I
3. Accelerated Biology in place of Earth & Space Science

Please refer to the back of this page for elective courses. You will need to choose electives to complete the yellow worksheet. If you are selecting a course for an entire year, you will need to select the course for both semester 1 and semester 2. Please list the course name and course number each semester for each course you choose.
- **Social Studies** – Two semesters are required during grade 9 or 10. If a student selects Social Studies as an elective in grade 9, the course will be *Geography/History of the World (157091 & 157092)*. Students wanting to take an advanced course in social studies should wait until grade 10 and take AP World History. Students who do not have room for social studies in grade 9 will be required to take social studies during grade 10.

- **Physical Education** – Two semesters of PE are required for graduation. Participation in athletics, band, color guard, or cheerleading during high school can count as PE credit under the guidelines of Alternative Supervised PE (ASPE). Students not earning PE credit through ASPE should choose 2 semesters of **PE** (35420 & 35440) in grade 9. Athletes wanting a weights class should choose **Elective PE Weights** (35603 & 35604). Students wanting to earn lifeguarding certification should choose **Elective PE Aquatics** (35605) and students wanting an advanced PE course which includes weight training and a variety of lifetime fitness activities should choose **Elective PE Lifetime Fitness** (35601 & 35602). The Elective PE courses do not meet the PE requirement for graduation.

- **Fine Arts** – Students can choose from Art (40001/40020), Band (41601/41602), Choir (41821/41822 for girls and 41823/41824 for boys), Theatre Arts 42421/42422, and Music Appreciation (42060). Fine arts classes are available for 2 semesters with the exception of Music Appreciation which is only a 1 semester course. Fine arts courses are not required for graduation but are required (2 semesters) for Academic Honors. Yearbook and Newspaper also meet the fine arts requirement and can be taken in grades 10-12.

- **Agriculture** – *Introduction to Agriculture (50561 & 50562)*. Topics to be covered include: animal science, plant and soil science, food science, horticultural science, agricultural business management, landscape management, natural resources. Students who took Intro to Agriculture in 8th grade may choose one of the following dual credit electives: **Horticulture** (51321 & 51322) - plant basics, greenhouse mgmt., fruit & veg. production, gardening. **Plant & Soil Science** (51701 & 51702) - plant anatomy/physiology, crop growth, disease, soil composition, nutrient mgmt. **Animal Science** (50081/50082) - anatomy/physiology, disease, nutrition, care. **Food Science** (51021 & 51022) - composition of food, reaction to cooking/processing, product development, marketing. **Natural Resource Mgmt** (51801 & 51802) - wildlife, hunting, soil, water, & forestry conservation. **Landscape Mgmt.** (51361 & 51362) – landscape & lawn maintenance, landscape planting, pruning, and designing landscapes.

- **World Languages** – Students may choose from **French** (20201 & 20202), **Latin** (20801 & 20802) and **Spanish** (21201 & 21202). World Language credit is not required for graduation but is required for an Academic Honors designation. In addition, some colleges require 2 years of World Language for admission.

- **Engineering & Technology** – *Intro to Adv Manufacturing & Logistics (47961 & 47962)* explores a variety of manufacturing processes including hydraulics, pneumatics, electronics, and CNC machines. *Intro to Engineering* (48021 & 48022) uses 3-D software to teach students problem solving skills in regards to conceptualizing and designing 3-D models. *Intro to Construction* (47921 & 47922) is a hands-on course teaching construction skills such as framing, dry walling, electric, and plumbing. *Intro to Transportation* (47981 & 47982) helps students become familiar with land, sea, air, and space transportation.

- **Family & Consumer Sciences** – **Interpersonal Relations** (53640) lets students work on their interpersonal skills such as listening, verbal and non-verbal communication, decision making, and group dynamics.

- **Business** – Freshman students may choose **Introduction to Entrepreneurship** (59671). Students will learn about starting and operating a business as well as how to market products and services.