



January 21, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Welcome to the 2011-2012 registration process! This year, Danbury High School (DHS) is going green with the Course of Study Guide. Instead of printing thousands of copies, it is posted online at the DHS website. Please visit [www.danbury.k12.ct.us](http://www.danbury.k12.ct.us), click "Danbury High School", and then select the Course of Study Guide from the "School Counseling" tab. If you do not have internet access, please contact your child's guidance counselor.

In June 2010, the Danbury Board of Education adopted increased graduation requirements beginning with the Class of 2015. The new policy requires students to earn more credits, includes a more prescribed course sequence, and changes the credit accounting system. Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, students who successfully complete one year-long course will be awarded 1 credit. Students who successfully complete a semester course will be awarded .5 credit. Students should select courses that will satisfy their interests and equip them upon graduation, either for further education or with a salable skill to enter the working world. The 25 credits are divided among the required areas as follows:

| Requirements                                                                               | Total Credits     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| English I, II, III, IV                                                                     | 4                 |
| Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, one additional year                                       | 4                 |
| World Studies, Modern World, U.S. History, Civics                                          | 3.5               |
| Biology, Chemistry, one additional year                                                    | 3                 |
| Physical Education                                                                         | 1                 |
| Health                                                                                     | .5                |
| Fine Arts electives (Music, Art, Communication Arts)                                       | 1                 |
| Career & Life Skills electives (Business, Technology Education, Family & Consumer Science) | 1                 |
| World Language                                                                             | 1                 |
| Student-selected electives                                                                 | 5.5               |
| Service Learning Project                                                                   | .5                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                               | <b>25 credits</b> |

Prior to registering, your child will receive a transcript and current report card in Advisory. These tools, along with current teacher and guidance counselor recommendations, should be used to select the most appropriate courses and levels. College Preparatory courses are the core course of study for all students at DHS. While it is recognized that not all students will attend college, these courses will

**Danbury High School**  
43 Clapboard Ridge Rd.  
Danbury, CT 06811

203-797-4800-Phone  
203-797-4730-Fax

**Dr. Bob Rossi, Principal**  
203-797-4808  
[rossib@danbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:rossib@danbury.k12.ct.us)

Dr. Meghan Martins,  
Associate Principal of  
Instruction,  
Secondary Schools  
203-797-4802  
[martime@danbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:martime@danbury.k12.ct.us)

Gary Bocaccio,  
Asst. Principal  
Senior Class  
203-797-4836  
[bocacg@danbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:bocacg@danbury.k12.ct.us)

Jessie Ballenger,  
Asst. Principal  
Junior Class  
203-797-4824  
[ballej@danbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:ballej@danbury.k12.ct.us)

Michael Clarke,  
Asst. Principal  
Sophomore Class  
203-790-2870  
[clarkm@danbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:clarkm@danbury.k12.ct.us)

Dan Donovan  
Asst. Principal  
Freshman Class  
203-797-4844  
[donovd@danbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:donovd@danbury.k12.ct.us)

Daniel Scavone  
Athletic Director  
203-797-4853  
[scavod@danbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:scavod@danbury.k12.ct.us)

ensure that all students, if they so choose, are thoroughly prepared for the rigors of college. College Preparatory courses will also ensure that all students are prepared to be productive citizens in the global community in which we live. Honors courses present students with the opportunity to learn the same content and skills in the College Preparatory courses, but at a more rigorous level. Students will be exposed to a wider breadth and deeper depth of study at the Honors level. Students in Honors courses can expect a heavier work load than those students enrolled in College Preparatory courses. Advanced Placement (AP) courses are extremely rigorous and provide students with the opportunity to learn a college curriculum and potentially earn college credit for receiving a qualifying score on the required AP examination. If you are unsure which class or level to choose, please feel free to discuss student options with current teachers and/or a guidance counselor prior to your registration date.

DHS guidance counselors will be visiting middle schools on February 2<sup>nd</sup> (Rogers Park) and February 3<sup>rd</sup> (Broadview) to speak with students about the registration process and to distribute registration sheets. There will be an evening session on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the DHS auditorium (snow date February 8<sup>th</sup>) where information about the Freshman Academy and general guidance on the registration process will be provided. Please make every effort to attend this important and informative event.

The registration sheet should be completed by the parent/guardian and student in advance of the actual registration process. DHS guidance counselors will return to middle schools on February 9<sup>th</sup> (Rogers Park) and February 10<sup>th</sup> (Broadview) to collect registration sheets. When completing the sheet, please make sure to select a course from each of the major subject areas and the appropriate number of electives. Please understand that while we will do our best to meet the needs of all students, that this is not always possible. List three additional alternative elective choices in the event that we are not able to accommodate the first choice of students.

### ***Special Education Students***

If your son or daughter receives special services, registration will take place this semester at their transitional PPT meeting.

### ***English as Second Language (ESL) Students***

ESL students will take English every day and work to progress through the four proficiency levels: ESL 1, ESL 2, ESL 3, and Transitional English. Other classes will be taught by teachers who have special training in working with students whose second language is English.

### ***Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM)/Inquiry Team***

At the middle school level, students can choose to participate on the STEM team if they have an interest in these disciplines and an inquiry-based approach to learning. At DHS, this learning model is offered on the Inquiry Team. If your child is interested in this, please check the "Inquiry Team" box on the registration sheet. Students do not have to have been on the STEM Team to request placement on the Inquiry Team.

Please do not hesitate to contact our 9<sup>th</sup> grade guidance counselors or administrator if you have any questions. Thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Rossi, Ed. D.  
Principal.

