

Counselor Corner

In January, we will be enrolling students for 2012-2013 – students will receive a copy of the Course Description Guide and Course Selection Sheet, though we do plan to have additional copies on the website. Parents are encouraged to discuss with their children what courses in which to enroll. When you have those conversations, please discuss the information in this article.

Once the enrollment period ends, scheduling changes are not made. There are several reasons, including:

- Staffing decisions for next year are based on what students have chosen.
- Allowing students to drop and add classes throughout the year would cause some classes to be too small and others to be too large.
- Making a commitment to a decision is an important part of a middle school student's learning process.

Therefore, please choose the courses you want to take carefully.

Registration must be done in the student's Infinite Campus account – not under the parents' account. The Infinite Campus Portal Registration link will open Friday, January 20th at 7:00 a.m. and close Tuesday, January 31st at 4 p.m. If your child fails to register on time, your child may not be able to get into certain classes.

We try to make sure all students receive at least some of their first choices for encore classes; however, we cannot guarantee this. If your child signs up for a semester-long encore class, he/she must stay in the class all semester. If he/she signs up for a year-long class, he/she must stay in the class all year.

A parent signature is required on the Course Selection Form and indicates your approval of your child's selections.

Additional Current 5th Grade Information

- During January, current 5th grade students will be making their elective decisions for next year.
- Students who qualify for challenge classes will be notified of this option by the counselor once eligibility is determined. This is done in February and June.
- Parents of current 5th graders are invited to attend a parent meeting on Tuesday, January 10th at 7pm in the RVMS commons. Counselors will share information about RVMS, core, encore, and challenge classes, and registration for sixth grade classes.
- Also in January, RVMS Counselors will visit the elementary schools to discuss registration with 5th grade students; students will receive enrollment paperwork at this time. The visits are planned as follows: Pond – 1/9, Babler – 1/17, Chesterfield – 1/19
- The Course Selection Sheet should be turned into the 5th grader's elementary school teacher no later than Wednesday February 1st. However, should you have any questions, please contact one of the Middle School counselors.

- Please do not worry about putting electives into Infinite Campus; we will take care of this for you.

Additional Current 6th and 7th Grade Information

- 6th and 7th grade students will be making their elective decisions for next year.
- 6th and 7th grade students will receive a Course Description Guide and a Course Selection Sheet through Language Arts classes on Wednesday 1/11 or Thursday 1/12.
- Core classes, PE, Foreign Language (7th to 8th only), and for those students currently enrolled in them, music classes (band, orchestra, and choir), will be rolled over in Infinite Campus for the next year. Therefore, you do not have the liberty of dropping those; should you wish to change those, please mark it on the Course Selection Sheet.
- Students who may qualify for new challenge classes will be notified by a counselor once eligibility is determined. This is done in February and June.
- The Course Selection Sheet should be turned into the student's Language Arts teacher no later than Wednesday, February 1st.
- Please call your child's current counselor if you have any questions.

Additional 8th Grade Information

- Current 8th grade students will be looking at all of their course selections.
- On Tuesday, January 10th, Lafayette High School counselors will be at RVMS to talk to 8th graders about choosing classes for 9th grade; this will be done through Language Arts classes.
- On Wednesday, January 18th, Lafayette High School will host Curriculum Night. Parents and students should plan on attending this event to learn more about the High School transition, scheduling, academic requirements, and the registration process.
- 8th grade students will need to turn in: 5-Year Program of Study, Course Recommendation Sheet, Course Request Worksheet, and a Registration print-out from Infinite Campus. All of these should be signed by a parent; papers should be turned in to the student's current Language Arts teacher no later than Wednesday, February 1st.
- Questions regarding high school enrollment should be directed to one of the High School counselors.

<http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/rvalley/offices/guidance/Pages/default.aspx>

Mrs. Jaime Finck – 6th Grade and Team 8-Red Counselor

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