

Dear Parents of students registering to be Sophomores,

It is the time again to start making plans for the coming school year. In an effort to make the registration process as clear as possible, we have put together this pre-registration packet to assist you and your son or daughter in making well informed course choices.

The attached pre-registration form indicates the required classes for sophomores, leaving spaces for you to write in electives and study halls. All students should register for enough courses to earn a total of at least 6.0 units and up to 7.0 units. Seven units would result in a full schedule, allowing no time for a study hall. One page in this packet gives a list of required courses as well as all electives available to sophomores by department. A description of each of these courses can be found in the Holland Christian High School Curriculum Guide. The Curriculum Guide can be found online at <http://register.hollandchristian.org>. Printed copies are also available for reference in the high school media center and the office. Note that the total units required for graduation from Holland Christian are 22.

As you complete the Pre-Registration Form, consider the following guidelines:

Mathematics - All students must take a math class. Ordinarily Integrated Math 2 will be the course selected by sophomores. A student should select Integrated Math 3 for their sophomore math course if they have taken Integrated Math 2 as a freshman. On recommendation of a counselor, Fundamental Integrated Math 2 may also be taken. The Michigan Merit high school graduation requirements require that you complete 4 units of mathematics in high school.

Physical Education – Students are required to take 1 semester of PE. There are two courses to choose from: 7271 PE2 Individual & Team Activities and 7273 PE2 Fitness, Strength & Conditioning.

Science – Typically, sophomores should schedule Chemistry 1 first semester and Biology 1 second semester for a full year of science. Chemistry in Community 1 (9249) may be substituted for Chemistry 1 and Biology in Community 1 (9247) for Biology 1 by those students who are sure they will not pursue a science-related career or take college chemistry. Note that in their junior year students will be encouraged to continue the science sequence by taking Biology 2 or Biology in Community 2 first semester and Chemistry 2 or Chemistry in Community 2 second semester. If the student is part of the GATES program and has already taken Chemistry 1 and Biology 1, then Chemistry 2 (9350) and Biology 2 (9348) should be selected for the sophomore year. The Michigan Merit high school graduation requirements require that you complete 3 units of science in high school.

Foreign Language - Pre-College students are advised to take at least 2 years of a foreign language and may take up to 4 years. It is recommended that students intending to take only 2 years of a foreign language wait until their junior and senior years to avoid a 2-year gap between high school instruction and college foreign language placement tests. A student taking additional years of a foreign language can expect to test higher on the foreign language placement tests, with the possibility of meeting the total college requirement should they choose to take 4 years.

Visual, Performing and Applied Arts – The Michigan Merit high school graduation requirements require that you complete 1 unit of the visual, performing and applied arts in high school. In addition to the courses offered by the Art and Music departments, Introduction to Technology 1 and 2 will also fulfill this requirement.

If you need further assistance in deciding the courses for which your son or daughter should register, we encourage you to call the high school office and ask for Mr. Hoekstra (Registrar), Mrs. Howell (Counselor), or Mrs. Kwantes (Counselor). All of us at Holland Christian are prayerfully anticipating the coming school year with its opportunities to enrich students' lives both intellectually and spiritually. We ask you to join us in praying for a positive coming year for your son or daughter.

Sincerely,

Norm Hoekstra, Registrar