

Dear Parents of students registering to be Seniors,

It is 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 seniors, leaving spaces for you to write in electives and study halls. All students are required to register for enough courses to earn 5.0 units and are encouraged to register for 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 the electives available to seniors 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:

English - In addition to English 4, pre-college students are encouraged to take Advanced Composition. This course is very helpful in preparing students to write research papers, skill much needed in college. AP English may be taken in place of these 2 courses by permission of instructor. Note that AP English replaces both English 4 and Advanced Composition. Its purpose is to accelerate the study of English and prepare students to take a College Board exam in May for possible college credit. On recommendation of a counselor, students may also take Keys to Effective Communication to satisfy the English 4 requirement.

Mathematics - Pre-college students should take a third year of math if they have not taken it in the junior year. A year of math beyond Integrated Math 3 is encouraged by many colleges and universities. By taking a fourth year of Math and completing it with a C average or better, a student can get a math requirement waived at some colleges.

Foreign Language - Pre-college students are encouraged to take at least 2 years of a foreign language.

The senior year is vital in preparing students for life beyond high school, whether it be in higher education or in the work force. Attitudes and habits developed in high school will carry over into the coming years. Students who look on their senior year as one to “kick back” find it very difficult to adjust to their freshman year of college with its increased demands or to the work place with a boss who expects a full day of productive work. The senior year should be the most challenging in a student’s high school career. We are finding that more colleges are basing admission on the complete senior year transcript rather than just the fall semester. In some colleges a student can actually be denied enrollment based on a drop in their 8th semester grade point average after having earlier been admitted on 7 semesters’ grades. Students planning on attending college also need to keep in mind the entrance requirements at the college of their choice.

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 either 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