



Office of the Superintendent

HANOVER PARK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Serving East Hanover Township, Florham Park Borough and Hanover Township



Carol Grossi
Superintendent of Schools

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July, 2010

Dear High School Parent/Guardian,

In just a few weeks, the Hanover Park Regional High School District will once again open its doors to welcome our students back to school. I am delighted to know that your freshman student will be among them.

As I enter my second year as superintendent, I am proud to say that I lead a staff that is second to none. As a team, we work every day to create a supportive, disciplined school environment. We take pride in our safe and orderly schools, as well as in the way we prepare our students for the future. Our mission is to ensure that every graduate has the requisite academic knowledge and technical and critical thinking skills for life and work in the 21st century.

The staff has worked long and hard this year to enhance our existing programs and develop new ones as supported in our district Educational Plan available on our website, hpreg.org. With the incoming ninth graders, the Hanover Park Regional High School District has increased graduation requirements from 130 credits to 140 credits (Policy 5460). Within the added ten credits, students will be expected to take a minimum of two years of a world language instead of the state minimum requirement of one year and an additional five elective credits. Also included in the policy, entering ninth graders are permitted to take no more than one study hall per year. Ultimately, however, I would like to see our students scheduled with the maximum course load of eight periods a day and no study halls; and, with your support and encouragement, we will be able to accomplish this.

We have developed partnerships with universities giving us the opportunity to offer dual credit courses in which students can receive high school credit along with college credit. Our high school courses, Spanish V, Economics I & II, Calculus, and Anatomy and Physiology, have been accepted by Seton Hall University Project Acceleration at an extremely reasonable tuition rate to you if your child is enrolled in the class and elects to subscribe for the college credit. Two courses, Dynamics of Health Care and Emergency and Clinical Care, are offered to us by the University of Medicine and Dentistry at no tuition cost to you. We also have a partnership with Kean University in the KUnow Program giving our junior and senior students an opportunity to attend college courses on the campus of Kean University at a discounted tuition rate. Students can also enroll in courses through the Challenger Program offered by the County College of Morris. We are continuing to explore additional relationships with colleges/universities, while we expand our own Advanced Placement program. This year we are offering a new course-AP Environmental Science-and evaluating others to add to our course of study for future years.

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In creating opportunities for all students to meet high quality standards, the Hanover Park Regional High School District has enhanced its special education program. The district schools welcome the in-class support model using collaborative teaching pairs in specific content areas. Our new Director of Special Services, Greg Acocella, has been very busy developing the program, providing professional development for the teachers and working towards strengthening our relationships with our sending districts.

We continue to offer a comprehensive extra/co-curricular program which meets the needs, interests and talents of all students. Many clubs offer competition, such as Mock Trial, Future Business Leaders of America, Academic Team, Forensics/Debate Team while others offer community service, Key Club, Future Homemakers of America, Environmental Club, Interact and many others. Students also have the opportunity to show their leadership skills by participating in Student Government as part of the Class Council, Class Officers, and Student Council. Both high schools also offer an extensive athletic program, as well as an award-winning performing arts program.

We have also recognized change with our Administrative Team. This year Hanover Park High School has a new principal, Thomas Callanan, former Assistant Principal of Whippany Park High School; Whippany Park High School has a new Assistant Principal, Brian Palumbo, former Assistant Principal of Dumont High School; a new District Supervisor, Christopher Kelly, former Spanish teacher at Hanover Park High School; and, Joseph Merlino is now the District Athletic Director/Assistant Principal. For your convenience, I have enclosed a copy of the district's administrative contact list. Please feel free to call or email if you have any questions and/or concerns.

I am inviting you to a Meet and Greet to be held in the theaters at Hanover Park High School on August 9 at 10:00 a.m. and at Whippany Park High School at 1:00 p.m. You will have an opportunity to connect a name to a face and ask any questions you may have about your child's new school. Feel free to attend the session that is most convenient for you. I am looking forward to meeting you.

I hope you and your family enjoy the remaining days of summer. I wish you and your child success in the upcoming school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Grossi".

Carol Grossi
Superintendent of Schools