

Harborfields Central School District

Guidance Department Update



November 16, 2016

Outline

- Introduction
- Highlights of OMS/HHS Guidance Programs
- Summer Work
- Enhancing Communication with Students
- Enhancing Communication with Parents
- Applications and Acceptances
- Moving Forward

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Introduction



Introduction

The purpose for this presentation is to provide an update to the Board of Education on the District's Guidance Program in keeping with Board Goal #1.

With the support of our Board of Education, our restructured Guidance Program was successful in meeting the needs of our students and parents in 2015-16. This program was further enhanced with the addition of a Guidance Coordinator at OMS this year.

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Guidance Mission Statement

Our mission is to foster and support the academic, career, social, and emotional development of all Harborfields students.

Through personal contact with highly trained, effective, and caring counselors, all students are offered the opportunity to discuss, explore, and evaluate their abilities, needs, difficulties and aspirations.

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Guidance Department Services

Delivery of Service

Small Groups
Large Groups
Classroom
Evening
Individual

Classroom Guidance & Groups

New entrant groups
Anti-Bullying
Character Education
Self-worth
College & Career Exploration
Conflict resolution

Counselors

Participate

IST
504
CSE
Grade level teams &
meetings

Responsive Services

- Individual and small group counseling
- Individual/family/school crisis intervention
- Peer facilitation
- Consultation/collaboration
- Referrals

Five-week

Review

Attendance
Discipline
Progress Reports
Report Cards

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Guidance Programs



OMS Guidance Programs

- ❑ Meeting the social-emotional needs of students through guidance programs
 - ❑ Social: Making and maintaining healthy relationships, friendships, and proper use of social media
 - ❑ Emotional: Providing support to students so that they can achieve at the highest possible level
- ❑ Enhancing communication between school and home
 - ❑ Parent – Team meetings
 - ❑ Daily/Weekly student based meetings
 - ❑ IST, SCSE, CSE, Annual Reviews, PPS



OMS Guidance Programs

- ❑ Programs designed to meet the grade-level needs of our students:
 - ❑ 6th Grade: Focus on the transition to middle school
 - ❑ 7th Grade: Learning academic program options & understanding their personal strengths
 - ❑ 8th Grade: Preparing for the transition to high school



HHS Guidance Programs

- College Admissions Night/Evening College Fair – New Program - April 18, 2017
- 2 Mini-College Days - During School Day
- HHS Guidance PTSA Financial Aid Information Night
- Financial Aid Workshop
- Harvard Interviews
- Naviance Workshop
- PSAT/ACT/SAT Workshop

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HHS Guidance Programs

- PSAT Review Course for Juniors
- Practice PSAT for Sophomores - New Program
- HHS Guidance/PTSA Rising Junior Information Session for Sophomores
- Grade 9-11 PTSA Information Night
- Grade 8 Parent Guidance Meeting

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HHS Summer Work



Summer Work

- ❑ A letter was mailed to all 9 – 12 students informing them of their counselor for the 2016-2017 school year.
- ❑ In order to ensure that the guidance staff was available throughout the summer, at least one counselor was present to staff the office daily, which resulted in more efficient communication with parents and students.



HHS Summer Essay Writing Program

- ❑ In response to the increasing number of students who are applying Early Action/Decision to college, a new program was developed to assist students in starting the college essay writing process during the summer.
- ❑ 62 seniors participated in a two-week intensive program, giving very positive feedback.



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Enhancing Communication with Students



Enhancing Communication with Students

- ❑ All students have met with their counselors at least twice during the opening months of school.
- ❑ All students and parents registered on Naviance, and will have a working email connected to Naviance, so they can receive the many guidance updates sent out via email.

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Enhancing Communication with Parents



Enhancing Communication with Parents

- ❑ Communicating information and guidance updates via regular email blasts.
- ❑ Increased production of the guidance newsletter, scholarship newsletters, and guidance website updates.
- ❑ Use Infinite Campus for student specific information and notices



Enhancing Communication with Parents

- ❑ As a result of increased communication, we have seen a rise in attendance at our evening and weekend programs. We had over 100 parents at our Naviance workshop October 20, 2016
- ❑ All juniors have had individual conferences with their counselor and a parent or guardian to start planning for their post-graduation options.



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The College Process: Applications and Acceptances



College Applications and Acceptances

- ❑ This year, 162 of our 285 seniors have already applied to colleges.
- ❑ The Guidance Office processed 2,577 applications in 2015-16.
- ❑ In 2015-16, 285 students out of 305 applied to college, which represents 93.4 percent of seniors.
- ❑ On average each senior applied to 9 schools.
- ❑ The Guidance Department welcomed 243 colleges and universities in 2015-16



Applications and Acceptances

Some examples of prestigious 2015-16
University acceptances:

Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth,
University of Pennsylvania, Princeton,
Boston College, Bucknell, University of Chicago,
Colgate, Davidson, Georgetown,
George Washington University, Hamilton,
University of Miami, Michigan, Northwestern,
NYU, Notre Dame, Tulane, Villanova,
University of Southern California.

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Moving Forward



Moving Forward

Continued college visitations by counselors to develop relationships with admissions officers and to enhance counselor familiarity with specific college programs.

- Boston
- Baltimore
- Washington DC
- Philadelphia/ Pennsylvania

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Moving Forward

Counselors participated in numerous workshops and college meetings in the local area and continue to network with college admissions professionals to ensure they have the most up to date information.

Additionally, counselors continue to monitor the constantly changing pathways to graduation, graduation requirements, and State regulations.



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Thank you

