



February 1, 2023

Dear Class of 2027 Families:

We have been hard at work preparing for the Class of 2027 and the time has come to select the courses your student will take next year! **Course selection is due on Sunday, February 26th at 9:00 pm to allow adequate time to make thoughtful choices for classes for the 2023-2024 school year.** This letter contains answers to the most commonly asked questions regarding course selection. Included with this letter are the following documents:

- Comprehensive Testing Program Results (CTP5)
- New Trier Course and Level Recommendations
- New Trier Program of Studies Description of Levels (pink)
- Course Selection Procedures
- New Trier Freshman Course Options (green)

## **1. How do I read the test score results from the CTP5?**

The Comprehensive Testing Program (CTP5) measured your child's academic performance in the following four areas: Verbal Reasoning, Reading Comprehension, Quantitative Reasoning, and Mathematics 1 and 2. The results are presented in two norm groups; National and New Trier. The National Percentile Rankings show how your child's score compared to a sample of students across the nation who took this test for norming purposes. *The New Trier Percentile Rankings reflect your student's score compared to approximately 1,000 New Trier district students who took the test this past November or December as part of the Class of 2027.*

Your child's results are presented in the box under the "Percentile Rankings" heading. These numbers do not represent the number of questions that he/she answered correctly on the test. Rather, the percentile rankings indicate the percentage of students whose scores fell at or below your child's score compared with students across the country and within the New Trier district. Thus, the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile corresponds to the median and indicates that a student scored in the middle of that specific group.

## **2. How does New Trier determine the initial level placement?**

The level placement is determined by department chairs and department coordinators from five departments: English, Social Studies, Math, Science, and Modern and Classical Languages. To determine a level placement, they review the CTP5 test scores, evaluative feedback gathered from sender school teachers, the student self-assessment and writing sample, and the student profile (completed by parent/guardian). As they review these materials, they are looking for patterns that suggest a specific level placement.

### **3. What if I want to move my student to a level that is not shown in their placement report?**

Parents/guardians can choose a level that is not shown in the placement report, but we urge families to use caution when moving levels. Guidelines for changing levels are explained on the handout titled *Course Selection Procedures* in this mailing. You will also see the level change guidelines as you log into the PowerSchool Parent Portal to enter your student's course selections. **You do NOT need to contact New Trier if you move levels, but we may contact you if you move your student up in more than 3 classes.**

### **4. How and where do I indicate my student's choice for Adviser Room?**

Before choosing courses for your student in PowerSchool you will be prompted to make a choice for your student's adviser room. Your students must choose no preference, single gender, or mixed gender for their four-year adviser room assignment. You will receive a confirmation of your choice in May. If you choose no preference, you will be notified in May of your student's placement in a mixed or single gender adviser room.

### **5. How do I make course requests in Power School?**

Log on to Power School using the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Your PowerSchool account was established when you completed PowerSchool enrollment in December. The Power School User Guide provides helpful information to assist you in the course selection process, including "helpline" support if necessary. **The helpline number is 847-784-7548.**

All families must input courses in PowerSchool. You will not get a confirmation email when you input courses, but you will be able to view your student's choices under "**view requests**". You will hear from us if we do not receive your student's course requests. **Course requests are due in Power School on Sunday, February 26th at 9:00 pm.**

### **6. Whom do I contact if I have questions?**

If you have questions regarding course selection and/or level recommendations, please call the Course Selection Helpline. The helpline will be open from **February 7th – February 24**. Your voice mail message will be forwarded to the appropriate person who will return your call. We respond to ALL helpline calls but it can take more than 24 hours.

- **Power School & Course Selection Helpline – call 847-784-7548**
- You may submit a question via the "Ask the Transition Coordinator" link on the Incoming Freshman page on our website [www.newtrier.k12.il.us/incomingfreshmen](http://www.newtrier.k12.il.us/incomingfreshmen)

**Course requests are due in Power School on Sunday, February 26th at 9:00 pm**



## **Class of 2027 Course Selection Procedures**

**Course selections are due in Power School February 26 at 9:00 pm**

**Helpline (847) 784-7548**

*Use the instructions below to complete your course selection worksheet as you choose courses for your student.*

### **Step #1 Choose Your Student's Adviser Room Option:**

Students must choose single gender, mixed gender or no preference for their four-year adviser room assignment. You will receive a confirmation of your choice in May. If you choose no preference, you will be notified in May of your student's placement in a mixed or single gender adviser room.

### **Step #2 Select Core Academics:**

Students must select either four or five core academic courses. English and Math are required for all freshmen. Other core academic courses are Science, Modern Classical Language and Social Studies. All freshman courses (including electives) are year-long courses.

### **Step #3 Select Kinetic Wellness Class Option:**

Kinetic Wellness is required for all freshmen. However, you may choose between Kinetic Wellness 1 or a combined Kinetic Wellness 1/ Dance Course.

### **Step #4 Select Levels:**

Review the level recommendations for each of the core academic courses. The recommendations represent our best judgment of the level at which your student will be successful. These recommendations are based on sender school teacher feedback, the student profile, the student self-assessment and the CTP5 placement test scores. **The last digit of the course number tells you the level of the class (2, 3, 4, or 9)** or whether the course is for elective credit (8). Please see the pink Program of Studies description of levels enclosed in this mailing.

### **Change of Level Information:**

- New Trier policy allows parents and students to choose their course levels based on the recommendations in your student's placement report.
- You DO NOT need to contact New Trier or complete special paperwork for a level change.
- A student that changes levels is expected to remain in the course through the first quarter.
- Any class changes that occur during the semester are at the discretion of the teacher and are based on available space in courses. The space available may be in a different period and require multiple classes to be moved.
- Level change requests within the given parameters received after the class selection deadline and prior to the first day of school will be considered by department coordinators but may be denied if there is no space available.
- We do not recommend moving levels in more than 3 courses. We will contact you for further discussion if you move your student in 4 or more courses.
- If you wish to make level changes, please review the level descriptions from the Program of Studies (pink sheet) enclosed in this mailing.

### **Change of Level Constraints:**

- Requests for changes from level 2 to level 4 are not permitted.
- Requests from 2E to 3 level are not permitted
- Changes from 2E to 9 level require department approval.
- Requests for changes from double period algebra level 2 to algebra level 3 are not permitted.
- If there is a note on your student's placement report that says "World Studies is not recommended" *please do NOT register for this class*. Please contact us if you have further questions.

### **In math and foreign language, you may not change the year of the course, just the level.**

- Mathematics: If we recommend Geometry, you may not select Algebra 1. Conversely, if we recommend Algebra 1, you may not select Geometry. The math course placement (not level) comes from the sender school teacher. Please contact them with questions regarding math course placement.
- MCL: If we recommend 2<sup>nd</sup> year Spanish, you may not select 1<sup>st</sup> year Spanish, but you may request to change the level of 2<sup>nd</sup> year Spanish or select another first year language. Conversely, if we recommend 1<sup>st</sup> year Spanish, you may not select 2<sup>nd</sup> year Spanish.

### **Step #5 Select Elective Courses:**

Students are encouraged to explore their interests by selecting an elective course. All elective courses are year-long courses. Northfield chorus is the only elective that can be scheduled opposite a science course as a half block. If your student has a busy extracurricular schedule, they can wait to take an elective course until sophomore year and may benefit from an extra study hall.

### **Important Things to Consider as you make your student's schedule:**

- Science takes two blocks in the schedule. Students will have a study hall three times per week opposite Science lecture for a half block. Study hall will be added to a student's schedule by New Trier and you do not need to select it in PowerSchool.
- If you select the World Studies - English/History Team, please select both World Studies English-T and World Studies History-T classes. World Studies satisfies requirements for Freshman English and World History.
- If you select the Geometry/Design and Construction team course *it requires concurrent enrollment in Geometry **and** Design & Construction. This course requires a double period.*
- Students who have an unassigned period in their schedule will be assigned a study hall by New Trier.
- If your student has an active IEP, you should choose Resource Seminar in your student's schedule. This class meets for a half block.
- All students must have a lunch period. This will be added to your student's schedule by New Trier. **Lunch is embedded in the schedule and does NOT take up one of the eight blocks.**

***The Course Selection Helpline is available for all of your questions!***

***Call (847) 784-7548***

## NEW TRIER HIGH SCHOOL COURSE LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS

	College Prep Level 2	Honors Level 3	High Honors Level 4
<b>Concepts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abstraction from concrete examples</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis, inference, and abstraction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis, inference, abstraction, and synthesis leading to complex concept development</li> </ul>
<b>Pace</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accelerated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rapid</li> </ul>
<b>Scope</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focused</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expanded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-depth</li> </ul>
<b>Instructional Approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sequential and guided</li> <li>Concrete, linear emphasized</li> <li>Emphasis on building and reinforcing skills leading to independent learning</li> <li>Resourcefulness and creative thinking encouraged</li> <li>Extensive development of fundamental skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and organization.</li> <li>Classes are smaller; some are co-taught.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Combination of guided instruction and independent inquiry</li> <li>Connection established between concrete, literal, and abstract, theoretical</li> <li>Emphasis on building skills leading to independent learning</li> <li>Resourcefulness and creative thinking encouraged</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less guided instruction and more independent inquiry</li> <li>Abstract, theoretical emphasized</li> <li>Emphasis on independent learning</li> <li>Resourcefulness and creative thinking encouraged</li> </ul>
<b>Communication Skills</b> (e.g., writing, speaking, listening)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic conventions of correct spoken and written expression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Correctness of standard conventions plus introduction to rhetorical techniques</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong degree of proficiency in standard conventions and deliberate rhetorical techniques</li> </ul>
<b>Class Activities</b> (e.g., discussion, problem solving, group work)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explicitly structured and ordered</li> <li>Teacher-directed, some open-ended activities</li> <li>Frequent content and skill review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderately structured and ordered</li> <li>Some student initiative expected</li> <li>Some content and skill review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimally structured and open-ended activities</li> <li>Student initiative expected</li> <li>Infrequent skill review; content review done independently</li> </ul>
<b>Assignments</b> (e.g., homework, projects, papers, research)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explicitly structured and directed</li> <li>Some amount of reading and writing required</li> <li>Independent work reinforces new material introduced in class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explicitly structured and moderately directed</li> <li>Moderate amount of reading and writing required</li> <li>Independent work requires some new material to be learned outside of class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explicitly structured and open-ended</li> <li>Extensive amount of reading and writing required</li> <li>Independent work requires significant amount of new material to be learned outside of class</li> </ul>
<b>ADDITIONAL LEVEL</b>			
<b>Level 9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In core academic departments, level-9 courses accommodate the needs of students at all academic levels and are taught with expectations for learning that are most appropriately weighted at level 3. Students who choose to take an elective class as a level-9 major credit class are required to do significant work outside of class to deepen the learning experience.</li> </ul>		

**\*AP courses are calculated at level-4 credit.**

**New Trier High School Freshman Course Options 2023-2024** *Revision: 1/25/23*

For course descriptions refer to the Program of Studies  
Note the last number in the six-digit course code denotes the level

**English: English 1**

N200134	Level 4
N200133	Level 3
N200132	Level 2
N201132 English 1-E (CT)	Level 2E
N940132 S-English 1 ( <i>Special Ed single</i> )	Level 2

**Social Studies: World History**

N800134	Level 4
N800133	Level 3
N800132	Level 2
N801132 World History-E (CT)	Level 2E
N901132 S-World History ( <i>Special ed</i> )	Level 2

**World Studies: English/History-T**

*(Register for both English & History from this grouping)*

N202134 World Studies: English	Level 4
N802134 World Studies: History	Level 4
N202139 World Studies: English	Level 9
N802139 World Studies: History	Level 9

**Mathematics: Plane Geometry**

N400134	Level 4
N400233	Level 3
N400232	Level 2

**Mathematics & Applied Arts**

**Geometry, Design and Construction - T**

*Concurrent enrollment in Applied Art: Design/Construction*

N401134 & N140234	Level 4
N400239 & N140239	Level 9

**Mathematics: Algebra 1**

N400133	Level 3
N400132	Level 2
N405132 ( <i>double block</i> )	Level 2
N950232 S-Algebra 1 double pd( <i>approval</i> )	
N990530 S-Survey of Algebra	
<b>Algebra 2/College Algebra &amp; Trig</b>	N400234
<b>Algebra 2</b> ( <i>department approval</i> )	W400333

**Science: Biology**

N710134	Level 4
N710133	Level 3
N710132	Level 2
N710232 – E (CT)	Level 2E

**Science: Geoscience**

N720134	Level 4
N720139	Level 9
N720232	Level 2 - CT

**Science: Physics PCB**

N740134	Level 4
N740133	Level 3

**Modern & Classical Languages: 1<sup>st</sup> year**

Chinese 1:	N520139	N520134	
French 1:	N530139	N530134	
German 1:	N540139	N540134	
Hebrew 1:	N550139	N550134	
Japanese 1:	N560139	N560134	
Latin 1:	N500132	N500139	N500134
Spanish 1:	N570132	N570133	N570134

**Modern & Classical Languages: 2<sup>nd</sup> year**

Chinese 2:	N520239	N520234	
French 2:	N530239	N530234	
German 2:	N540239	N540234	
Latin 2:	N500239	N500234	
Spanish 2:	N570232	N570233	N570234
Spanish 3: (approval)	N570333	N570334	

**Kinetic Wellness**

*Kinetic Wellness or Kinetic Wellness/Dance are required*

Kinetic Wellness	N300138
Kinetic Wellness/Dance 1	N320138
Kinetic Wellness/Dance 2	N320338

*(Audition required for Dance 2)*

.Elective Options: Students who have an unassigned period in their day will be assigned a daily study hall by New Trier.

<p><b>Applied Arts – Family &amp; Consumer</b></p> <p>Fashion Construction N121138</p> <p>Creative Cuisine N121238</p> <p><b>Applied Arts – Technology Ed</b></p> <p>Intro Design Tech/Coding N140138</p> <p>Intro Architecture N141138</p> <p>Intro to Engineering Design N143338</p> <p>Design/Construct/Geometry N140239</p> <p>Design/Construct/Geometry N140234</p> <p><i>Concurrent enrollment in Geometry</i></p> <p><b>Art</b></p> <p>Art Essentials 1 N112238</p> <p>Art Exploration N100138</p> <p>Intro to Photography N103038</p> <p>Drawing/Painting 1 N105238</p>	<p><b>Business Education</b></p> <p>Web &amp; Multimedia N163138</p> <p>Intro to Business N170138</p> <p><b>English – Media &amp; Journalism</b></p> <p>Freshman Media Production N157138</p> <p><b>Social Studies</b></p> <p>Freshmen Speech &amp; Debate N150138</p> <p><b>Theatre</b></p> <p>Theatre 1: Theatre Workshop N151138</p> <p>Technical Theatre &amp; Design W151038</p> <p><i>(Winnetka Campus)</i></p> <p>Technical Theatre &amp; Design W152038</p> <p><i>(Winnetka half-block)</i></p>	<p><b>Music - Choral</b></p> <p>Northfield Chorus N600238</p> <p>Northfield Chorus (half block) N600338</p> <p><b>Music - Instrumental</b></p> <p>Freshman Concert Band N610038</p> <p>Freshman Jazz Ensemble N620138</p> <p><i>(concurrent enrollment Band or Orchestra)</i></p> <p>Freshman Orchestra N630038</p> <p>Beginning &amp; Returning Music N641138</p> <p><b>Special Education</b></p> <p>Resource Seminar 3 N901238</p> <p>Resource Seminar 5 N901038</p> <p><i>(For students with active IEPs)</i></p> <p><i>Lunch is required - will be added by NT</i></p>
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Class of 2027 Course Selection Worksheet**

Please use this worksheet to help you choose courses for your student. **Indicate the course name and level.**

*(You may not need to use all the spaces for courses)*

<u><b>Course Name</b></u>	<u><b>Level</b></u>	<u><b>Notes</b></u>
Kinetic Wellness or KW /Dance	N/A	
English or World Studies		
Math		

**\*\*Lunch will be embedded in your student's schedule by New Trier and does NOT need to be entered in PowerSchool**