

# NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203



*To commit minds to inquiry, hearts to compassion, and lives to the service of humanity.®*

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December 2022

Dear Class of 2027 Families-

Earlier today you received an email with information about 15-minute course selection conferences for incoming freshmen. From our experience with these conferences in 2020, we learned that 15-minute conferences were causing confusion when paired with the longer, required IEP meeting for Special Education students. To avoid this confusion, we will **not** be having 15-minute course selection conferences with students who have IEPs. In place of this 15-minute meeting, students who receive special education services will be provided with a more individualized conversation during their IEP meeting. We believe the inclusion of the course selection process within IEP meetings will provide more support for students as well as a consistent contact person for parents as your student transitions to the high school setting.

A formal IEP meeting includes a student's family, their current special education teacher, and a Special Education articulator from New Trier. All of these participants will have the opportunity to weigh in on the best course choices for a student, and these choices will reflect each student's individual needs most effectively. The New Trier articulators have tremendous overall knowledge of the freshman curriculum and can thus provide both specific Special Education support AND overall academic support to your student.

***Please do not sign up for the 15-minute conferences with your sender school. You will be contacted separately to schedule your student's IEP meeting.***

The deadline for entering courses into PowerSchool is February 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 pm. All families are required to input their student's course choices in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. If your student's IEP meeting is ***after this date, you must still enter courses in PowerSchool as a place holder. Your New Trier Special Education articulator can make changes as needed after the full IEP meeting.*** Your student will not be kept from enrollment in any of their courses if there are changes made after the IEP meeting.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Academic Life nights in January, and we are pleased to partner with you to make your student's transition to New Trier as smooth as possible.

Thank you.

Gail Gamrath, Assistant Principal Northfield Campus

Colleen Koulentes, Special Education Coordinator Northfield Campus

Lori Worth, Transition Coordinator