Welcome to Starr’s Mill High School
9th Grade Orientation
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Tonight we’re hoping to help the road ahead be a little more clear.
Introductions

Administrators
Allen Leonard - Principal
Andrea Freeman - Registrar
Elise Heaton - 504/MTSS
Brandi Meeks - Assessment
Shane Ratliff - Athletic Director

Counselors
Meshanna Marcus (A-D)
Shellie Edwards (E-Lac)
Lauren Fleming (Lad-Re)
Connie Patterson (Ri-Z)

School Resource Officer: Deputy Zane Taylor
Starr’s Mill High School Success

What do I need to know?
General School Information

* School begins at 8:35 am and ends at 3:45 pm.
* Bus riders will be dropped off and picked up in the bus loop.
* Car riders should be dropped off and picked up in the front car loop.
* There are 3 lunches and students go to lunch with their 4th period class.
* Students can choose their seats and eat in the lunchroom or the outside patio.
* There is no school-wide supply list. Teachers will provide class-specific needs at Meet the Teachers Night and on Schoology.
* Chromebooks should be charged and brought to school daily.
* Students must maintain academic eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.
Athletics

* 24 Varsity Teams in 15 Sports
  * 15 Girls Varsity Teams; 11 Boys Varsity Teams
  * 18 Sub-Varsity Teams
* Over 300 Female Student-Athletes
* Over 400 Male Student-Athletes
* Over 65 Coaches, including Volunteer Community Coaches
* Scholarship Athletes
* We also currently have 43 additional clubs and organizations.
Final Exams

Final exams are given in every course during the last week each semester.
2 exams per day with study sessions in the afternoon
Avoid these weeks for vacations!

AP and Milestone Classes

* Fall Semester: Exams cannot be exempted (count as 20% of your first semester grade)
* Spring Semester: Students take an AP or Milestone exam and do not have a final exam
* Milestone Classes are:
  * Acc Algebra/Geometry or Algebra I and Biology (9th grade)
  * U.S. History and American Lit (11th grade)
* Milestones count as your second semester final exam grade (20% of overall grade)
* AP exam is not included in course grade
Exam Exemptions

Exam Exemption Options:
Each semester, students can choose one of two types:

1. Academic Exemption (up to 3 classes)
   Must have an overall grade of \( \geq 95 \) in the class.

2. Attendance Exemption (1 class)
   Must have an overall grade of \( \geq 70 \) in the class and no more than 5 unexcused occurrences (includes absences and tardies)
Where do I go when I am struggling?

* Every adult in our building is dedicated to helping our students.
* If you need help in any of the following areas, let us know so we can help or get help for you!
  * Academic Struggles - Ask your teachers for help, they will help! Use remediation opportunities!
  * Social Struggles
  * Behavioral Struggles
  * Health Struggles (both physical and mental health)
  * Physical Needs Struggles
# 9th GRADE CLASSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>COURSE OPTIONS</th>
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| English         | 9th Grade Literature  
                     Gifted 9th Grade Literature                                                                                                                   |
| Math            | Algebra I  
                     Honors/Gifted Geometry (in Algebra I now)  
                     Accelerated Algebra/Geometry  
                     Accelerated Geometry/Algebra II (in Accelerated now)                                                                                   |
| Science         | Biology  
                     Gifted Biology                                                                                                                             |
| Social Studies  | -                                                                                                                                         |
| Health/PE       | Health (1/2 year) & Personal Fitness (1/2 year)                                                                                                |
| Electives       | 3 Choices (Eligible 9th graders are allowed to take one AP class only)                                                                      |
| TOTAL           | 7                                                                                                                                         |
SAMPLE SCHEDULES

**Student #1**
1st Period - 9th Grade English
2nd Period - Intro to Business*
3rd Period - Algebra I
4th Period - Personal Fitness (3rd lunch)
5th Period - Biology
6th Period - Math Support
7th Period - Weight Training*

**Student #2**
1st Period - Gifted Biology
2nd Period - Band*
3rd Period - Health
4th Period - Spanish II* (2nd lunch)
5th Period - Gifted 9th Grade English
6th Period - Yearbook*
7th Period - Accelerated Alg/Geo

**Student #3**
1st Period - Gifted 9th Grade English
2nd Period - Accelerated Geo/Alg II
3rd Period - Spanish II*
4th Period - Gifted Biology (1st lunch)
5th Period - Nutrition & Wellness*
6th Period - Chorus
7th Period - AP Human Geography*
High School Grading

- 7 classes per semester
- A passing grade earns:
  - ½ carnegie unit credit each semester → 7 units per school year
    → 28 units over 4 years
- Grades are finalized on the official transcript each semester
- GPA is updated each semester
- GPA is on a 4.0 scale with extra weight for AP and dual enrollment classes
- Class rank is not published until junior year

- Formative grades = 30%
- Summative grades = 50%
- Final exam = 20%
- Official grades/averages will be listed in Infinite Campus
- Schoology will only have Schoology assignment grades
What’s Next?

February 6th - Electives Assembly for RSMS 8th Graders
February 7th - Google Form sent out for AP Elections (for eligible students)
February 8th - CTE and Fine Arts Tours for RSMS 8th Graders
February 13th - Academic Planner opens for 8th Graders (directions will be sent via Infinite Campus)
Meet the Teachers
Tuesday, August 1st 8:30 am

**Agenda**

* Start in the auditorium for a brief overview
* Visit tables in the cafeteria and gym for involvement opportunities
* Students can walk their schedules

**Lockers**

* Students can choose their lockers location during Meet the Teachers Night
* Practice opening and locking them

**Teachers**

* Meet your teachers!
* Course expectations
* Supply needs
Keep up with SMHS events!

Social Media:  @StarrsMillHS: Official school account

* Many activities have their own accounts as well
* www.theprowlernews.org = Our school online newspaper
* Daily announcements can be seen on the SMHS website