



Central High School

Principal – Chris Testone
Assistant Principal – Kim Lewis
Assistant Principal – Kerri McCastland
Assistant Principal – Michelle Vaughn
Athletic Director – Steven Diversey

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www.central301.net

CHS Community,

We are hopeful that the beginning of your school year has been as exciting and successful as it has been for us. There are so many outstanding things happening on Rocket Hill that we just cannot help but feel the energy all around.

Additionally, our second phase of construction is on pace to be completed for the beginning of the 2018-19 school year. Highlights will include new instructional space targeted for programs such as Incubator, Mobile App Maker, and Vet Tech. These courses are highlighted examples of a 21st Century educational program that will help our students become college & career ready. Finally, the completion of our physical education facilities will be realized.

Last year, CHS implemented a hybrid schedule that included both block and traditional scheduling models. This schedule was developed by a schedule committee which began in the spring of 2014. After receiving feedback from parents, students, and staff, the new schedule was discussed by school and district administration. While there are some positive elements of the schedule, there are concerns with the logistics of running it long term. The primary concern of the schedule is the lack of flexibility it affords students to select more of the classes that interest them. Based on this analysis, the Central 301 Board of Education agreed that implementing a traditional schedule moving forward is the best course of action. Administration has worked in collaboration with a committee of teachers and board members to develop a traditional model schedule. This model continues to enable students to take seven classes during the school day. Furthermore, this model does project to increase schedule flexibility for students increasing the chance they will get more of the classes they have selected.

Another change within next year schedule pertains to study halls. Study halls will be a full period and will be distributed throughout the day. This will help provide more intensive intervention for students in need of help as well as increased time for others to complete more work during the school day. Students, however, will not likely have the option to leave early as a result.

The scheduling process at CHS will begin in mid-October when teachers begin entering student course recommendations for the 2018 - 2019 school year. During the remainder of October, counselors will push into classrooms to discuss with each grade level what the course selection process will look like and distribute course selection forms. Additionally, they will provide instructions on how to select courses via the Student Skyward Portal. In November, counselors will visit with each student individually to verify that all students have entered their requests and alternate requests correctly in Skyward. The final steps of the scheduling process include determining which classes will run, officially scheduling students, and finally making schedules



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available to students. Once the process is complete, counselors will work with students during the spring to rectify any conflicts that may have arisen.

We are confident that the traditional schedule will provide a platform upon which our students will be able to tailor their programs to meet their specific college and career goals. While there is no perfect schedule, the traditional model that has been selected offers great opportunities for CHS students. Please be reminded that this is the first communication with regard to the new schedule. We plan to update the CHS community on our progress on a monthly basis.

Thank you,

Chris Testone, Principal