

From Your Ridgecrest Counselors

The beginning of the school year is about transitioning away from summer and back into our yearly routine. The beginning of the New Year is about preparing for the new school year. At this time of year, administrators, counselors and teachers begin planning and discussing the 2015 – 2016 school year. Parents and students alike have a lot of questions about student schedules, course offerings, teacher recommendations, when to expect paperwork and the like. To make this process a bit simpler for you, below is a breakdown of what to expect in the coming months.

Your child's teachers will be making course recommendations for your child's classes for next year at the start of 3rd trimester. Incoming 7th grade recommendations include Math and, if appropriate, Foreign Language; incoming 8th grade recommendations include Math, Language Arts, Science, and, if appropriate, Foreign Language; and incoming 9th grade recommendations include Math, English, Biology, and, if appropriate, Foreign Language. Teachers uphold your child's best interest in mind when making academic recommendations. Recommendations will be sent home with your child on the reverse side of their scheduling sheet in April. Should you have any questions or concerns about their course recommendations, please contact Ms. Shulman or your child's teacher directly.

6th Grade: Ms. Shulman will be making scheduling presentations to all 6th grade Science classes on Wednesday, April 8. Scheduling sheets will be handed to your child on that day. Your child is expected to bring home their scheduling sheet to review their teacher recommendations with you and select elective courses for their 7th grade year. Students are expected to return their scheduling sheets to their Science teacher by Wednesday, April 15.

7th Grade: Ms. Shulman will be making scheduling presentations to all 7th grade Science classes on Tuesday, April 7. Scheduling sheets will be handed to your child on that day. Your child is expected to bring home their scheduling sheet to review their teacher recommendations with you and select elective courses for their 8th grade year. Students are expected to return their scheduling sheets to their Science teacher by Wednesday, April 15.

8th Grade: Ms. Shulman will be making scheduling presentations to all 8th grade Science classes on Monday, April 6. At that time, a letter which includes teacher recommendations for 8th grade students going onto high school will be mailed home. On Thursday, April 9, high school counselors from both PVPHS and PVHS will be presenting High School Orientation in all 8th grade Social Studies classes. Students will receive their Educational Planning Guide, High School Course Handbook, and freshman year scheduling sheets. Counselors will return on Tuesday, April 21 to conduct scheduling with each 8th grader for their freshman year classes. It is imperative that 8th graders have their scheduling sheets completed prior to this date. Both of these visits are wonderful opportunities for students to interact with their future counselor. If you have any questions, please direct these to Ms. Shulman.

As you review your student's course recommendations for the 2015 – 2016 school year and wish to complete a Request for Placement (waiver) form for placement in a different course level, forms will become available in the office once presentations have been made. An electronic copy of the waiver form may be found at http://www.pvpusd.k12.ca.us/images/uploads/math_placement_request.pdf. Completed forms must be submitted to the Ridgecrest Intermediate office by April 17 for consideration. Any forms submitted after the deadline will accepted on a space availability basis.

The spring scheduling process is a busy but exciting time as we prepare our students for the next step in their educational career. Please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Shulman with any questions or concerns at shulmanh@pvpusd.net.

Heidi Shulman & Jesse Allen

[Click here to follow @HeidiShulman](#)