



**EASTERN LANCASTER COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Garden Spot High School**

"THE SPARTAN WAY – HAIL TO GARDEN SPOT!"

December 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian:

It's a great day to be a Spartan! Course selection is an exciting time for all involved because it demonstrates the strength of the home-school partnership. Additionally, this is the first step in Mr. Starr passing the proverbial torch from the Middle School Administration to that of the High School Administration. A vital piece of that transition begins while your child is still a member of Garden Spot Middle School.

High School course selection for the upcoming school year will begin in January. A great deal of time and energy are invested by the high school faculty, guidance counselors and administrative team in helping students make informed decisions. Discussions regarding course selection begin in October and the entire process is not finalized until summer.

We recommend that you have discussions with your child regarding course selection. School counselors are available to answer any questions regarding the course selection process. From an administrative perspective, the scheduling process is extremely important as we utilize student course request data to assign staff, allocate resources, and decide which courses will be offered.

Ultimately, 9th grade students are placed in specific academic pathways that are consistent with your child's academic achievement data, academic growth data, Lexile levels, and teacher recommendations. Thus, 9th graders are responsible for selecting elective courses. At this point, course requests should mirror student interests, and should only be completed after carefully consulting the *Program of Studies*. With that in mind, we would like to formally invite you to be our guest on:

January 3, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the HS/MS Auditorium

By the end of the evening you will have a thorough understanding of the courses we offer and the course selection process. Moreover, your child will be fully prepared to select elective courses in the weeks ahead. We look forward to working with you and your child as they take steps toward preparing for a successful and productive future at Garden Spot High School. Please contact your child's school counselor with any questions you have regarding course selection.

Respectfully,

Matthew J. Sanger
Principal
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School Counselor
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