

# VOORHEES GUIDANCE

## NEWS

2016-2017

MICHAEL SQUARCIA  
DIRECTOR OF GUIDANCE

COUNSELORS:

JEAN DISALVIO  
ANN FRESOLI  
MEGAN GRILLI-DEROBBIO  
BETH NEMETH  
BRIAN STRAUSS

JEFF HUNT—STUDENT  
ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR

JESSICA GORTON—COLLEGE  
& CAREER COORDINATOR

## Freshmen Newsletter

Welcome to Voorhees High School! This is the beginning of an exciting four years. The teachers and counselors are here to help you prepare for your future and guide you along the way. We hope you will be a regular visitor in the guidance office and access many of the resources we have to help you become the best you can be.

**Guidance Office: 908 638-2130**

### 9th grade counselor assignments:

Director of Guidance: Michael Squarcia [msquarcia@nhvweb.net](mailto:msquarcia@nhvweb.net)

A-Ch Nemeth	<a href="mailto:enemeth@nhvweb.net">enemeth@nhvweb.net</a> (ext.7378)
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Student Assistance Coordinator—Jeff Hunt [jhunt@nhvweb.net](mailto:jhunt@nhvweb.net)

College & Career Coordinator—Jessica Gorton [jgorton@nhvweb.net](mailto:jgorton@nhvweb.net)

## Get involved! Try new things!

- \*Join a club/activity/sport
- \*Check out the guidance website
- \*Get to know your guidance counselor!
- \*Log onto ASPEN—check your grades
- \*Watch your attendance
- \*Stay after school for help on M-W-Th from 2:30pm—3:10pm.
- \*See your guidance counselor if you need additional help in a class.
- \*Use the resource centers during lunch or study hall.

# Important Dates:

August 24—Freshmen Orientation  
August 25— 1st day of school  
August 31—Meet the Teachers Night 7pm-9pm  
September 2—Last day to add classes  
September 5—Labor Day—**School Closed**  
October 3—Rosh Hashanah—**School Closed**  
October 6—PSAT Prep Assembly 2:30 pm  
October 10—Full day Staff In-service **School Closed**  
October 12 — Yom Kippur—**School Closed**  
October 19—PSAT's administered in school for 9th-10th –11th grades  
November 1—1st MP ends  
November 2—2nd MP begins  
November 10, 11—NJEA Convention—**School Closed**  
November 23 (half day) through November 27—Thanksgiving Recess—**School Closed**  
December 23 (half day) through January 1 —Winter Recess—**School Closed**  
January 10-13— Curriculum review in history classes (2017-2018 scheduling review)  
January 10-23—Course Selection in ASPEN  
January 16—Martin Luther King Day—**School Closed**  
January 20—2nd MP ends—**1st semester ends-Half Day**  
January 23—2nd semester/3rd MP begins  
January 24—online course selection in ASPEN-closed  
January 25—Course verification forms due to counselor (for 2017-2018 school year)  
January 27—last day for 2nd semester schedule changes  
February 17 (half day) - through February 20—Presidents' Weekend— **School Closed**  
March 31—3rd MP ends  
April 3—4th MP begins  
April 14-21—Spring Recess—**School Closed**  
May 29—Memorial Day—**School Closed**  
June 15—end of MP 4—Last day of school

**Attendance Policy— Please keep a close eye on your attendance.** Remember that more than **6 unexcused absences in a semester course or more than 12 unexcused absences in a full-year course** will result in a loss of credit which will impact your GPA.

**Schedules—** If you have any questions regarding your schedule, please make an appointment with your guidance counselor. A pass can be filled out in the guidance office and put in your guidance counselor's mailbox (located on their office door). You will be sent a pass during your mods 1-2 class. When you come to guidance, be sure to

## **PSAT**

On Wednesday, October 19th, the PSAT test will be administered during the school day to all 9th, 10th and 11th grade students. All students who plan to pursue college should also take the PSAT again during their junior year since the PSAT score from junior year serves as a screening device for the National Merit Scholarship program. Sign-ups are not necessary.

**Student Assistance Program**— Mr. Hunt, our Student Assistance Coordinator is located in the guidance office. His door is open to all. Confidential support is available on an individual basis, as well as group support for a number of student concerns. Check out his webpage for lots of student/parent resources. Stop by guidance or email him at [jhunt@nhvweb.net](mailto:jhunt@nhvweb.net)

**College & Career Coordinator**—Ms. Jessica Gorton is located in the Athletic Office. Stop by and see her to discuss future scholarship possibilities, summer opportunities and possible job shadowing experiences. Please visit our guidance website to find valuable information and resources for post-secondary opportunities. Ms. Gorton can be reached at [jgorton@nhvweb.net](mailto:jgorton@nhvweb.net) or at (908) 638-2168.

**Naviance**—A college and career planning tool that can be used to help explore potential careers, determine areas of interest and provide parents/students with valuable college and career information. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to talk with their son/daughter about post high school plans. **Naviance** can be accessed from the guidance website \*input user name and pw.

**Community Service hours**— Please keep track of your community service hours (post 8th grade). Documentation of hours is needed for acceptance into the National Honor Society. If you have any questions, please see your guidance counselor.

**Extra Help**—Academic support is available after school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 pm—3:10pm. **Peer tutors** are also available. Peer tutors are members of the National Honor Society and are happy to help students who may need some additional support—please stop by guidance and speak with your counselor.

**National Honor Society**—Students interested in pursuing the National Honor Society must have a GPA of 3.5 and documentation of **100 hours of community service hours/100 hours of extra curricular/50 hours of leadership since their freshman year** \*there may be overlap in all three areas. Check out their webpage on the school website listed under Student Activities.

# **HAVE A WONDERFUL YEAR!**