

NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DEMAREST SCHOOL PROFILE 2016-2017



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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

At Northern Valley Regional High School District, we provide a safe environment in which each student seeks answers to questions, challenges assumptions and develops self-worth. Recognition of academic and cultural diversity promotes mutual respect and acceptance. Our high schools encourage individual academic excellence, aesthetic appreciation and moral integrity. We seek to prepare all students for their roles in a rapidly changing and diverse global community, and to become independent learners, critical thinkers, problem solvers, collaborative workers and responsible contributors to society.

Education requires a shared commitment. In providing a framework for the immediate and future concerns of our students, we require a constant and critical reevaluation of curriculum and course design to keep abreast of global research and new techniques within our respective discipline. The joint commitment of students, professional staff, Board of Education and the community, which supports and compliments our mission, forms the basis for a challenging and effective program.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

One of two public high schools in the regionalized district, we serve a student population of approximately 1015 students in Grades 9-12.

We support and encourage student participation in a variety of sports and co-curricular activities, including participation at the freshman through varsity level in 25 sports, as well as 74 co-curricular activities.

The Northern Valley High School District is accredited by the Commission of Secondary Schools, the New Jersey Department of Education, and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

COMMUNITY

Our communities, comprised of upper-middle income families, historically supported a school budget which provides for varied, in-depth college preparatory and career-oriented curricula. Recently, the community approved an 11.7 million dollar referendum.

AWARDS

Blue Ribbon Award – Technology School of Excellence
Newsweek – recognized in America's Best High Schools edition
Princeton University – Distinguished Secondary School Teaching Award
The Star Ledger – ranked among the most effective public schools in New Jersey
US News & World Report – Gold Medalist, survey of America's Best High Schools

HIGHLIGHTS

1:1 Laptop Teaching and Learning Initiative
Academic Competitions - Science and Math League Teams
Advanced Courses: 27 Advanced Placement, 44 Honors and 46 Dual Enrollment Courses running in 2016
Business Organizations - DECA & FBLA
Career Pathways Program of Studies
Character Education - Core Values Program - Community Service Clubs and Projects
Heroes and Cool Kids - Peer Life Skills Training
Intel Science Talent Search Semifinalist School and Siemens Math, Science & Technology Award Winners
Multicultural Club and Cultural Exchanges with Japan, Scotland and Korea
Peer Mentor Program and Student Leadership Programs
Senior Options - Community Service, Teaching and Professional Internships, Honors Independent Study Capstone
Students Against Destructive Decision-Making (SADD)
Visual & Performing Arts - Over 30 Music, Choral, Drama & Dance Performances and Visual Arts Show
Work Study Program - Cooperative Business Education

CURRICULUM

Northern Valley offers a wide range of courses for students with varied academic needs, goals and interests. In compliance with the New Jersey Department of Education, our minimum requirements are as follows:

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS			
ENGLISH	4 CREDITS (AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOES NOT COUNT)	WORLD LANGUAGES	1 CREDIT
MATHEMATICS	3 CREDITS (SEQUENTIAL, ALGEBRA 1 AT MINIMUM)	21 ST CENTURY LIFE & CAREERS	1 CREDIT
SCIENCE	3 CREDITS (INCLUDING BIOLOGY)	VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS	1 CREDIT
US HISTORY	2 CREDITS	FINANCIAL LITERACY (<i>BEGINNING 2014</i>)	0.5 CREDIT
WORLD HISTORY/CULTURES	1 CREDIT	PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH	1 CREDIT EACH YEAR ENROLLED IN NV
MINIMUM CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 24 (<i>BEGINNING 2013</i>)			

Students are encouraged to pursue courses reflecting academic goals and career interests while challenging themselves responsibly. In addition to enriching college preparatory courses, students may attempt honors courses through teacher recommendation, by earning qualifying grades or by selecting open-enrollment courses.

HONORS COURSES	
SUBJECT AREA	COURSES
ENGLISH	ENGLISH 1H, ENGLISH 2H ENGLISH 3H (MOST RIGOROUS OFFERING IN 11 TH GRADE - AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION IS <u>NOT</u> AN ENGLISH 3 OFFERING). ENG. 4 - WORLD MYTHOLOGY & ARCHETYPAL LITERATURE H ADVANCED JOURNALISM 2H, ADVANCED JOURNALISM 3H (ELECTIVES)
MATHEMATICS	GEOMETRY H, ALGEBRA 2H, PRECALCULUS H
SCIENCE	BIOLOGY H, CHEMISTRY H, PHYSICS H (THROUGH 2015-2016)
SOCIAL STUDIES	WORLD CIVILIZATIONS H, US HISTORY 1H
WORLD LANGUAGE	CHINESE 2H, 3H; FRENCH 2H, 3H, 4H; ITALIAN 2H, 3H; JAPANESE 2H, 3H; KOREAN 2H*; LATIN 2H, 3H, 4H; SPANISH 2H, 3H, 4H; (STUDENTS STARTING WITH LEVEL 1 SPANISH OR FRENCH CANNOT TAKE AP SPANISH, AS AP COURSE IS AT LEVEL 5)
BUSINESS	ACCOUNTING H, MARKETING 3: APPLIED MARKETING PRINCIPLES H* (ELECTIVES)
TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING	ENGINEERING DESIGN H (ELECTIVE)
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE	ADVANCED CHILD DEVELOPMENT H (ELECTIVE)
MUSIC	CHOIR 2H*, 3H; CONCERT BAND 2H*, 3H; WIND SYMPHONY 2H*, 3H (ELECTIVES)
VISUAL ARTS	ADVANCED DIGITAL ART & ANIMATION H, DRAWING PAINTING & MIXED MEDIA 2H* (ELECTIVES)
* New Course Offering	

Some Advanced Placement courses require teacher recommendation or qualifying grades, while others are essentially open enrollment. Students are limited to 4 AP courses in 11th grade and 5 AP courses in 12th grade. **As we recently added a number of AP courses, class of 2017 students may not have had full access to all AP courses throughout their four years.** 27 AP courses are running in 2016.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES - 2016 ACADEMIC YEAR	
SUBJECT AREA	COURSES
ENGLISH	ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION ¹ , ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION ^{2*}
MATHEMATICS	CALCULUS AB*, CALCULUS BC*, COMPUTER SCIENCE A (2015), STATISTICS
SCIENCE	BIOLOGY*, CHEMISTRY*, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (2016), PHYSICS 1 (2016) ^{2*} , PHYSICS C*
SOCIAL STUDIES	EUROPEAN HISTORY, MACROECONOMICS (2016), MICROECONOMICS (2016), US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS, US HISTORY ^{2*} , WORLD HISTORY
WORLD LANGUAGE	CHINESE LANGUAGE*, FRENCH LANGUAGE*, ITALIAN LANGUAGE*, JAPANESE LANGUAGE*, SPANISH LANGUAGE*
TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING	COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (2016)
VISUAL ARTS	STUDIO ART - DRAWING, STUDIO ART - 2-D DESIGN, STUDIO ART - 3-D DESIGN, ART HISTORY
¹ Elective only. <u>Not</u> a required English 3 course offering. *AP Exam mandatory for this course. ² Course fulfills academic graduation requirement. Prior to 2015-16, AP exam was required for all AP Courses.	

DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES

Northern Valley partners with several post-secondary institutions to offer dual enrollment courses. Students may earn college credit by enrolling through the college or university for courses taught at our high school. Course requirements are identical for all students in these courses, regardless of college enrollment status. The college or university maintains the college transcript. **Beginning 2016-17, courses are noted on the high school transcript as 'approved for college credit through dual enrollment'.** Offerings may vary from year-to-year. 2016-17 offerings:

ACCOUNTING HONORS	AP ITALIAN	CHILD DEVELOPMENT 1	LATIN 3 H
ADVANCED BAKING & PASTRY ARTS 2	AP JAPANESE	CHINESE 3 H	LATIN 4 H
ADVANCED DIGITAL ART & ANIMATION	AP PHYSICS C	CONCERT CHOIR 2, 2H, 3, OR 3H*	MARKETING 2: ADV. & PROD. DEV.
AP ART HISTORY	AP SPANISH	CULINARY ARTS 1	MUSIC THEORY & TECHNOLOGY
AP CHEMISTRY	AP STATISTICS	DRAWING, PAINTING, MIXED MEDIA 2 H	SPANISH 1
AP CHINESE	AP STUDIO ART 2D, 3D OR DRAWING*	FRENCH 3 H	SPANISH 4 H
AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION	AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS	FRENCH 4 H	SPANISH 5
AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION	AP US HISTORY	GUITAR 1	STRING ORCHESTRA 2, 2H, 3, OR 3H*
AP EUROPEAN HISTORY	BUSINESS ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT	ITALIAN 3 H	WIND SYMPHONY 2, 2H, 3, OR 3H*
AP FRENCH	CALCULUS (INCLUDING AP AB OR AP BC)	JAPANESE 3 H	

*Students may register for credits in the corresponding college course only once.

GPA, GRADE SCALE, WEIGHTING, GPA DISTRIBUTION AND CLASS RANK

GPA AND GRADE SCALE:

Grade point average (GPA) is calculated using the final grades in all courses completed. While grades for remedial courses are included in the GPA, grades for new credit courses taken during summer school, through virtual schools or through a third party provider are not. Transfer grades from other schools are converted into the Northern Valley grading scale and included where possible; otherwise, they are awarded P or F based on passing or failing status of each course. These do not calculate into the GPA.

Official GPA is calculated at the conclusion of the 4th, 6th and 7th semesters. Final letter grades are converted to the 4.0 scale (see table at right).

A weighted value of 1 is added for grades earned in Honors and Advanced Placement courses. For example, a grade of 'B' earned in English 2 Honors or AP US History is calculated as a 4.0 for GPA calculation purposes. In the 7th semester, the GPA values for courses in progress are multiplied by half of the potential credits. For example, a course bearing 1.0 potential credit has a credit value of .5 for GPA calculation purposes.

Each eligible course's GPA value is multiplied by the credits earned (half credits for courses in progress 7th semester) to determine quality points. GPA value is the total quality points earned divided by total credits attempted (half credits for courses in progress 7th semester).

GRADE SCALE			
LETTER GRADE	PERCENT RANGE	GPA VALUE	AP/HONORS GPA VALUE
A+	(98-100)	4.4	5.4
A	(92-97)	4.0	5.0
A-	(90-91)	3.6	4.6
B+	(88-89)	3.4	4.4
B	(82-87)	3.0	4.0
B-	(80-81)	2.6	3.6
C+	(78-79)	2.4	3.4
C	(72-77)	2.0	3.0
C-	(70-71)	1.6	2.6
D	(60-69)	1.2	2.2
F	(below 60)	0.0	0.0

6 TH SEMESTER GPA DISTRIBUTION	
TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN SENIOR CLASS	238
HIGHEST CUMULATIVE 6 TH SEMESTER GPA	4.759
MEDIAN CUMULATIVE 6 TH SEMESTER GPA	3.548
LOWEST CUMULATIVE 6 TH SEMESTER GPA	1.803
4.25 OR HIGHER	29
3.75 – 4.24	68
3.25 – 3.74	67
2.75 – 3.24	50
2.25 – 2.74	19
2.24 OR BELOW	2

GPA DISTRIBUTION:

The table (left) reflects the GPA distribution of the current senior class.

CLASS RANK:

The academic environment at Northern Valley is very challenging, and the majority of our students earn exemplary grades. Comparisons among students inherent in class rank unnecessarily increase competition among students. Further, we believe that our students' levels of achievement are not equitably or fully communicated by this single statistic. **Therefore, beginning with the class of 2017 Northern Valley will no longer publish class rank.**

Should an institution require a percentile to award scholarship after admission decisions, that institution may communicate directly with our department.

SCHOOL AND CLASS STATISTICS

POST SECONDARY SUMMARY			
	2016	2015	2014
% FOUR YEAR COLLEGE	94	91	92
% TWO YEAR COLLEGE	3	5	6
% MILITARY/VOCATIONAL/OTHER	3	4	2
CLASS SIZE	280	289	264

NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION			
CLASS	COMMENDED	SEMI-FINALISTS	FINALISTS
2017	21	3	*
2016	24	1	1
2015	28	4	3

*AWARDED SPRING OF CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR.
NJ SEMI-FINALIST QUALIFYING INDEX (222) IS HIGHEST IN NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM

AP SCHOLARS			
	2016	2015	2014
AP SCHOLARS	35	29	21
AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR	19	10	14
AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION	18	23	22
TOTAL AP SCHOLARS (AVG. SCORE)	72 (3.96)	62 (3.87)	57 (3.95)
AP NATIONAL SCHOLARS	1	2	1

MEAN PSAT SCORES - CLASS OF 2017					
EVIDENCE BASED READING & WRITING	MATH	MATHEMATICS	READING	WRITING	TOTAL
581	29	590	29	29	1171

145 STUDENTS TESTED - ADMINISTERED OCTOBER, 2015

MEAN SAT SCORES				
SUBJECT	CLASS 2017 ¹ 3/16 >	CLASS 2017 ¹ < 3/16	CLASS OF 2016 ²	CLASS OF 2015 ²
READING	29	609	586	590
MATH	32	657	627	624
WRITING	30	630	618	612
EVIDENCE BASED READING & WRITING	595	-	-	-
MATHEMATICS	630	-	-	-
TOTAL	1210	1896	1831	1827
CLASS SIZE	238		280	289
STUDENTS REPORTING	69	115	225	243

¹ SCORES THROUGH JUNIOR YEAR ² SCORES THROUGH SENIOR YEAR

MEAN ACT SCORES			
SUBJECT	2016	2015	2014
ENGLISH	27.0	25.1	26.3
MATH	26.3	25.8	26.4
READING	26.6	25.2	25.1
SCIENCE	24.9	24.6	24.5
COMPOSITE	26.3	25.3	25.7
STUDENTS TESTED	138	139	91

AP EXAM DATA - MAY 2016	
TOTAL STUDENTS TESTED	254
TOTAL SCORED EXAMS	448
SUBJECTS TESTED	27
AP STUDENTS WITH SCORES 3+	192
% OF TOTAL AP STUDENTS WITH SCORES 3+	76%
EXAMS SCORED 5	112
EXAMS SCORED 4	126
EXAMS SCORED 3	110

COLLEGES ATTENDING – CLASS OF 2014-2016

Allegheny College
AMDA-College & Conservatory of the Performing Arts
American Academy of Dramatic Arts
American University
Arcadia University
Auburn University
Babson College
Baldwin Wallace University
Barnard College
Bates College
Bennington College
Bentley University
Bergen Community College
Berkeley College
Berklee College of Music
Binghamton University
Bloomsburg University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
California Institute of Technology
Campbell University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Champlain College
Charleston Southern University
City University London
Clemson University
Colgate University
College of Charleston
College of William and Mary
Columbia University
Concordia College
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Denison University
Dickinson College
Drew University
Drexel University
Duke University
Eastwick College
Elmira College
Emerson College
Emory University
Fairfield University
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
George Mason University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Gettysburg College
Gordon College
Goucher College
Hamilton College
High Point University
Hofstra University
Howard University
IDC Herzliya- Raphael Recanati Int'l School
Indiana University
Iona College
Ithaca College
James Madison University
John Jay College-CUNY
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University
Kean University
Keio University
Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology
Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Liberty University
Lincoln Technical Institute
Long Island University, Post
Louisiana State University
Loyola University Maryland
Lynn University
Manhattan College
Manhattanville College
Marist College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
McGill University
Mercy College
Miami University, Oxford
Michigan State University
Monmouth University
Montclair State University
Moravian College
Muhlenberg College
New England Conservatory of Music
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New York Institute of Technology
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Nyack College
Oakland University
Oberlin College
Ohio State University
Pace University
Pennsylvania State University
Plymouth State University
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Ramapo College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rider University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Rowan University
Rutgers University
Sacred Heart University
Saint Peter's University
San Diego State University
Santa Barbara City College
School of Visual Arts
Seton Hall University
Siena College
Smith College
Springfield College
St. Bonaventure University
St. John's University
St. Thomas Aquinas College
Stanford University
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stockton University
SUNY at Albany
SUNY at Buffalo
SUNY at New Paltz
SUNY College at Cortland
SUNY College at Geneseo
SUNY College at Oneonta
SUNY Polytechnic Institute
Syracuse University
Tallahassee Community College
Temple University
Texas A&M University
The College of New Jersey
The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art
The Culinary Institute of America
The Curtis Institute of Music
The Juilliard School
The University of the Arts
Towson University
Tufts University
Tulane University
Union College
University of Alabama
University of Arizona
University of California
University of Chicago
University of Colorado
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Hartford
University of Illinois
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Mississippi
University of New Hampshire
University of New Orleans
University of North Carolina
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of Scranton
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
University of Tampa
University of Tennessee
University of the Sciences
University of Vermont
University of Wisconsin
Valparaiso University
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Villanova University
Virginia Tech
Wake Forest University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wellesley College
West Virginia University
William Paterson University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute