

# Welcome to Hillcrest High School

## Rigor, Relevance and Relationships



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

START SMART

The staff of Hillcrest welcomes you as the newest class of students at Hillcrest High School. You are looking forward to many years of activities, special events, and learning experiences. We are glad you are going to be part of our future.

Hillcrest High School is an effort-based school focusing on the conviction that most students can master rigorous academic and career/technical studies if school leaders and teachers create an environment that motivates students to make the effort to succeed. While we will provide a rigorous curriculum that has relevance, we expect you to put in the hard work to be successful.

This Freshman Guide has been built with you in mind. We asked ourselves, "What questions will they have?" and "What are the most important ideas that we can share with them?"

We encourage you to do your very best work as a student, starting with your first period of your freshman year. Every credit earned, or lost, counts to-

wards your academic progress, graduation, scholarships and admissions to technical schools and colleges. Throughout high school YOU have to take responsibility for your actions and for your progress in school.

Be aware that we believe students should be giving their best effort when turning in homework, taking quizzes, or testing. Therefore, extra-credit assignments are used very little if at all. Remember to turn in all your completed assignments. Maintaining a routine of completing assignments on time will pay off as you progress through the high school years.

The pace of high school is different than you have been use to in middle school. Our classes last longer and only meet every other day.

Effectively scheduling study time is just as important as keeping track of when class projects are due.

New friendships will be made over the next four years. Students who are able to appreciate the worth of other people are certainly the happiest.

Join clubs, participate in extra-curricular activities, be a fan and be a friend.

Hillcrest offers a wide variety of courses. You can become a Certified Nurses Assistant, be a cabinet maker, work with young children, dance, debate, and draw.

Over the next four years you can explore a wide variety of studies and expand your talents. We encourage you to try something new. It is in the trying of new things that we grow.

Great performances come from hard work; do your best and pay the price to become better.



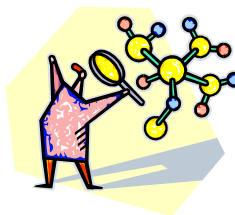
## Counseling Center

Each student is assigned a counselor to help guide them through their four years of education at Hillcrest. The counselor you are assigned is based upon the first letter of your last name.

Ms. Nikie

Greene is assigned students A-G, Mr. Craig Hole is assigned students H-O, and Mr. Jason Schmid is assigned students P-Z. With questions regarding testing, college applications, scholarships please visit the Counseling Cen-

ter. Counseling Secretary Mrs. Debbie Kelley is who you need to become acquainted with in scheduling appointments with your counselor.



## Choosing Classes and Making Changes to Schedule

As a high school student you will have a number of opportunities to make choices in your classes. Work closely with your parents to make sure you are taking the best classes for your situation.

At times you may run into conflicts within your schedule of classes and you will have to decide which classes are most important to you. When we build the schedule we make every effort to separate honors classes from specific music and debate classes. We try very hard to make sure enough electives are offered every period to carry the load of students who may need electives in their schedule.

Even with all this careful planning classes you want to take may conflict with one

another. You need to be prepared to take an alternative class. Through careful discussion with your parents and teachers you will find that a number of classes may be available that will fit your program of study.

To start the planning process in creating the Master Schedule we ask students for their class preferences. This will take place at Sandcreek with the help of your current teachers and our Hillcrest counselors. We at Hillcrest view your class selections as a contract—what you choose this spring will be the classes you will take next fall.

Parents can go online via PowerSchool to

look at their students' class choices.

Too often students want to change classes in the fall in an effort to be in classes with friends—we can not honor these wishes—remember the Master Schedule is built on student requests and making adjustments causes problems all-around.

The only class changes we will make include missing class periods where you might not have a class scheduled or periods where you might accidentally have more than one class scheduled.

Next fall each student will be assigned an advisor for the next four years—one of the duties of the advisors is to help communicate the proper class selections as students progress toward graduation.



## Honors and Advanced Placement Classes

Hillcrest offers honors classes in English, World History, and Earth Science to freshman. As students progress towards their senior year honors classes are offered at every grade level.

During the junior and senior years advanced student can choose from our 7 different Advanced Placement classes: Government, U. S. History, English Literature, English Composition, Physics, Chemistry, and Calculus.

Any class with an Honors or Advanced Placement label is important to building a

strong high school transcript for college applications and scholarships. College credits can be earned by taking the national Advanced Placement Exams in the Spring.

In several of our own courses Idaho State University is offering college credit for HHS students.

All of these opportunities are considered college preparation or college level courses. These classes require more effort and a higher level of work than our regular classes.

Be aware that honors and Advanced Placement classes have the same drop/add requirements as any other course. Once the class has met 5 times you cannot drop the class without receiving a failing grade, and you cannot change to a less challenging regular class without teacher/counselor/administrator approval.

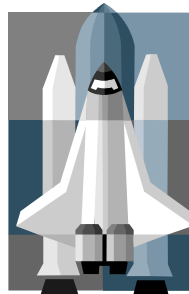
## Placement in Math

This coming school-year we will be placing students in their math classes based upon the following criteria:

- Placement Exam
- Teacher Recommendation
- Math Grades in Middle School
- ISAT Scores

In the past, students have registered for an inappropriate placement—in many cases students have registered for classes based on their friends class choice. This method of choosing classes harms students in so many ways.

Math is different from most curriculum with the fact that it is so linear—prerequisite knowledge



and skills must be mastered before moving on to the next course. By mastered we mean at least a grade of C being earned. D's demonstrate struggling with concepts and skills. Trying to move forward without the skills or knowledge is setting yourself up for failure.

## Professional-Technical Classes

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At Hillcrest we offer students the opportunity to take classes where they can apply their skills with a hands-on curriculum. Many of these classes are on the Hillcrest campus while others are located at Bonneville High School or Eastern Idaho Technical College. The Bonneville School District 93 Course Description Book lists which classes are offered and their location.

The school district provides transportation between Bonneville, EITC and Hillcrest.

Several of these classes offer students the opportunity to also earn college credit or university credit while also earning the needed credit for high school graduation. Please review the Course Description Book for which classes have this offering.

We encourage all students to enroll in at least one of these course offerings per year—a well rounded experience and skill development is something needed in today's economy.



## Fine Arts Classes

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A wide variety of classes are offered at Hillcrest where students may act, perform vocal or musical instruments. In addition art, debate and orchestra skills can be honed during the day. These classes offer something for everyone.

In many areas Hillcrest High School garners many awards annually for the product our students produce—don't be afraid to try these dynamic classes!

## Physical Education

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Keeping the mind sharp includes keeping the body active! We offer a wide variety of classes that allow students to get up and get going—from Physical Education 9, dance and aerobics to weight training and body sculpting. Review the Course Description Book to see how you want to get up and move!



## Early College Program

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Several of our classes are offered within the Early College Program with Idaho State University (we are currently working on expanding class offerings with additional universities). The classes currently within this program are listed in the Bonneville School District 93 Course Description Book. As we add others we will notify students and parents.

Students have the opportunity to earn

university credits (usually three) while also earning the needed credit for high school graduation.

Students wanting to earn university credit pay a fee of \$65 per credit—so students pay \$195 for the three credits—this is much less expensive than the \$250 per credit (\$750 for three) that most universities charge.

*Get a jump on college by enrolling in Advanced Placement and Early College Program classes.*

## Foreign Languages

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Hillcrest High School offers a variety of foreign language courses including, Spanish, German, French and Italian.

These courses fulfill the Humanities requirements for graduation along with many college/university requirements for enrollment.

The beginning classes teach the funda-



amentals of listening, speaking, reading, writing as well as include cultural information and activities. The upper level courses build upon already learned knowledge.

In many of these upper level classes Early College credit may be earned—please visit with your foreign language teacher or coun-

selor for more information regarding this opportunity.

## “Transitions” Class

Many students have a difficult time making the transition to high school from middle school. The rigor of the class work, A/B schedule and 87 minute class periods can be difficult.

In an effort to help, Hillcrest offers a “Transition” class that addresses many of the issues students might have while entering high school including: personal social development, educational achievement, career and life skills.

The “Transitions” class is a one semester course that serves as an elective opportunity.

## Staff You Need to Know!

It is very important that you know the following individuals:

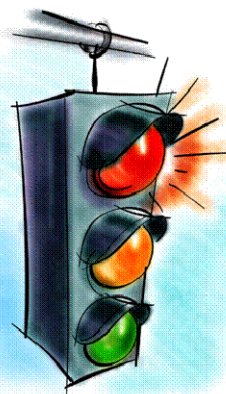
Mrs. Chris Knudson	Secretary
Mrs. Nancy Marley	Registrar
Mrs. Debbie Kelly	Counseling Secretary
Mr. Ron Hay	Head Custodian
Mrs. Jolene Anderson	Attendance Secretary
Mrs. Kathy Pimentel	Attendance Secretary
Mr. Barney Gardner	Athletic Director
Mrs. Debbie Schaefer	Librarian
Mr. Heath Jackson	Assistant Principal
Mrs. Elisa Saffle	Assistant Principal
Mr. Scott Miller	Principal
Officer Schwartz	School Resource Officer

## Drivers Education/Campus Parking

The school district recently had to cut Drivers Education as a program in the schools. Students wanting to take Drivers Education will have to contact one of the local companies .

Although we don’t encourage Freshmen to drive to school, those doing so must purchase a parking permit with our School Resource Officer, Deputy Schwartz. The cost is \$5.00, but violat-

ing the parking lot regulations may cost up to \$20.00 per violation.



## Athletic Eligibility

Hillcrest follows the rules and guidelines of the Idaho High School Activities Association. Students must have passed 6 of the 8 possible classes offered the semester prior to the sport season. As Freshmen, students must have passed 5 of the 7 classes offered at Sandcreek. This is not negotiable and students not meeting this



requirement will not be allowed to participate during that particular semester. Students must be careful not to include Release Time as a class that counts toward credit for high school graduation—therefore students taking RT must pass six (6) of the seven (7) remaining classes on their schedule to be eligible for the following semester of competition.

In addition, all Freshman are required to have a current physical on file with the school prior to participating in any school sponsored athletic event—including try-outs. For more information please contact Athletic Director Barney Gardner or the head coach of the sport you are interested in competing.