

MEET OR CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL COUNSELOR

The beginning of a school year is an excellent opportunity to initiate contact with your child's school counselor and doing so can ensure your child's positive school experience. Find out who the counselor is and what his or her experience and background are. By communicating with one another at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year, parents and counselors can have a definite impact on a child's success.

UNDERSTAND THE EXPERTISE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL COUNSELOR

School counselors make a measurable impact in every student's life, assisting with academic, career and personal/social development. Professional school counselors are trained in both educating and counseling, allowing them to function as a facilitator between parents, teachers, and the student in matters concerning the student's goals, abilities, and any areas needing improvement. School counselors provide services not only to students in need, but to all students.

Credits by Year

The following is the minimum number of credits that must be successfully completed for each grade level in high school. (Students not completing this minimum will not move on to the next grade)

Grade 9 — 5 1/2 credits

Grade 10 — 11 credits

Grade 11—16 1/2 credits

Grade 12 — 22 1/2 credits

Students who excel in math or science may take algebra or earth science in the 8th grade if they meet specific criteria. We offer 5 years of math, 4 years of Spanish, and 4 lab sciences: Earth Science, Living Environment, Chemistry, and Physics.

Berlin Middle High School is currently participating in the College in the High School Program. This program is run through Hudson Valley Community College, which is part of the State University of New York (SUNY) system. Students can earn college credit in Engineering Drawing, Spanish, Calculus and computer courses.

Honors sections are taught on each high school grade level in English and social studies.

In addition to the HVCC College in the High School Program, the Berlin High School joined the Questar III Distance Learning Consortium in 2010. Through this opportunity Berlin is able to connect with other districts by hosting courses for up to two other schools at a time and receiving courses that we would otherwise not be able to offer to our students. Some of the classes received have included Sign Language, Civil War, Holocaust, Poetry, Psychology, and Sociology.

Berlin also offers AP Psychology and AP Chemistry to seniors who have successfully completed the four Regents level lab sciences.

Remember, throughout the post-high school planning process your academics should remain the focus! Whether you choose college, the military or the work force, your work ethic in high school will prepare you for your next stage of life.