The Course Selection Process at Bronx Science

How will my child select a program for September 2020?

February 10, 2020
Who is involved?

- Your child
- Your child’s teachers
- Your child’s School Counselor
- The Assistant Principals
- Your child’s friends (word of mouth)
- You!
Timeline

- FEBRUARY: Gather Information
  - Read Course Guide (click here)
  - Review Grades (PupilPath and Transcript)
  - Check Talos (starting on February 26, 2020)
  - Plan for Placement Tests
    - Journalism - date TBD
    - AP Music Theory - date TBD
February 26, 2020

Talos course selection program opens

- Students can view their choices including the qualified entry classes for which they have been pre-approved

- IMPORTANT: Students can APPLY to classes for which they have not received pre-approval
What are Qualified Entry Classes?

- Classes that have pre-requisites and other qualifying criteria:
  - Honors classes
  - Research classes
  - Advanced Placement classes
  - Post AP classes
  - Other advanced classes
Monday, March 2, Elective Day

- Students have the opportunity to speak with teachers and Assistant Principals about courses in which they are interested.
- Students can speak with their school counselors about their classes for next year.
- Please encourage your children to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!
Monday, March 2, Elective Day

- They should ask:
  - How much reading is involved?
  - How much homework can I expect a night?
  - What type of student succeeds in this class?

- They should consider:
  - What other classes they are considering?
  - What are their other obligations in school and out of school?
Students may apply to qualified entry classes if they were not already pre-approved in Talos.

Application due date is **Wednesday, March 4.**

- All applications can be made digitally in Talos.
- Sophomore Research classes require completion of a short task. **Those applications are due March 9.**
Who is EXCLUDED from Qualified Entry classes?

- Students with suspended privileges are not allowed to have Qualified Entry classes.
  - Suspended privileges = 1 demerit or more
  - All demerits must be cleared (or detention served) immediately.
Friday, March 20: Registration Opens in Talos

- Students will register in Talos for their classes.
- Students are urged to speak to their school counselors, current teachers, and assistant principals before they register.
- Students who register for more than three qualified entry classes will need parental permission.
Registration Closes April 3

- Students must have registered on Talos.
- Registration does not guarantee a student will get the classes they chose.
- All programs must be approved by the school counselor.
- Finalized programs will be distributed to students no earlier than September.
IMPORTANT TO KNOW

- Students with suspended privileges must clear their demerits or serve detention immediately or risk losing access to qualified entry classes.

- Students will lose qualified entry classes if there are changes in their June grades and/or privilege status.
CRUCIAL

- Students need to select classes **carefully** in Talos. **Students will not be permitted to change or drop classes if they don’t “like” them.**

- For some 3rd, 4th or 5th major classes, students **must** also choose **ALTERNATES** that they are willing to take if their first choice is not available
  - Alternate selections are not required for additional classes
  - Students will be expected to honor their commitment to classes they receive even if not their first choice
Students who fail to register by the deadline, will be given generic programs, chosen by their school counselors.
Oh no! What if I change my MIND?

- Students can see their school counselor April-June if they want to change the requests they initially made.
- Students receive preliminary programs in the summer (by email).
- Students must check their bxscience email regularly for programming and other communications from the school.
- Once students receive their programs in September, programs cannot be changed.
Sophomore Foundational Classes

- Sophomores choose
  - One term of Coding for All (computer science) and one term of Rhetoric and Composition (writing course)
  - OR
  - Enter the three-year Research Track (Regeneron) and take a full-year sophomore research course followed by research courses in junior and senior years
    - This is a three year commitment
Research Track
Sophomore Foundational Classes

Over the course of three years, students complete independent research in an area of their interest:
- Biology Projects
- Mathematics/Computer Science Projects
- Physical Science/Engineering Projects
- Social Science Projects
Planning Ahead

**Summer school**

- Taking Art/Drama/Music/Health during the summer frees up “space” to take advantage of our robust course offerings during the school year.
Planning Ahead

- **Prerequisites**
  - Keep in mind some classes you may want to take have prerequisites so plan ahead. For example, you must take AP Biology before you can take Post-AP Biology: Advanced Genetics
Planning Ahead

- **College major/ career interest**
  - Keep your academic interests in mind when choosing classes
Bronx Science strongly encourages all students to have a lunch period.
The Right Schedule = The Right Experience

- Consider quality over quantity
- Intrinsic vs. Extrinsic factors
  - Take classes for which you have a passion and a true interest in the subject
- Do not think you can predict who your teacher will be or what period the class will be offered
The Right Schedule = The Right Experience

- Parents/Guardians: Remember, YOU are not responsible for completing the work! Let your child dictate what they feel they can manage.
- Support them in their choices and endeavors!
Sleep?! Who Needs That When I Have Coffee?!

- Please, do not undervalue the importance of sleep in regards to staying healthy, alert and efficient!
- Sleep will help with recall, recovery and rejuvenation!
- Structure and a routine are key elements to success!
- Encourage your children to “unplug” 30 minutes before bedtime
- It is helpful to end the day with something they want to do versus something they have to do
Other Things to Keep in Mind…..

- Where are your children studying? Is that the best place for that to occur?
- What does stress look like for them?
  - Are they drinking too many coffees/Monsters?
  - Are they eating poorly?
TIMELINE SUMMARY

- **February 26** Talos opens for viewing- students find out qualified entry classes for which they have pre-approval
- **March 2** Elective Day- students speak to guidance counselors and teachers after school about courses
- **February 26- March 4** Application period- Students apply to qualified entry classes. There is no benefit to the student to submit applications early but it helps the people reviewing applications so submit as soon as you know you want to apply.
- **March 20** Talos opens for course submission
- **April 3** Talos closes- **students must choose courses by this deadline**
- **Summer** Students receive preliminary programs for 2020-2021 by email
Science Options for Freshmen Currently in Regents or Honors Biology

- Regents Chemistry
- Honors Regents Chemistry (qualified entry)
- Sophomore AP Chemistry with Regents (qualified entry)
- Regents Physics (must currently be in Alg2/Trig)
- AP Physics 1 (qualified entry and must currently be in Alg2/Trig)
Science Options for Freshmen Currently in Regents or Honors Chemistry

- For students who passed the Living Environment Regents Exam in middle school
  - AP Biology (qualified entry)
  - AP Environmental Science (qualified entry)
  - Other Biology Electives
  - AP Chemistry (qualified entry)
  - Regents Physics (must currently be in Alg2/Trig)
  - AP Physics 1 (qualified entry and must currently be in Alg2/Trig)
Science Options for Freshmen Currently in Regents or Honors Chemistry

- For students who DID NOT pass the Living Environment Regents Exam in middle school
  - AP Biology (qualified entry)
  - Honors Biology (qualified entry)
  - Regents Biology
  - Regents Physics (must currently be in Alg2/Trig)
  - AP Physics 1 (qualified entry and must currently be in Alg2/Trig)