

D211 POST: NEW HANDBOOKS SIMPLIFY TRANSITION FOR INCOMING FRESHMEN



Earlier this year, Township High School District 211 unveiled the new “Incoming Freshman Handbook.” The handbooks were designed to aid and simplify the process for students preparing to enter high school.

“In the past, we’ve had a series of separate mailings,” said Mark Kovack, Associate Superintendent for Student Services. “These were disjointed and perhaps not as engaging.”

Kovack said the decision to change to a guidebook was based on both feedback from families as well as internal evaluations.

The new books were sent to families of 8th grade students currently enrolled in districts 15 and 54. Kovack said that principals at area private middle schools also received copies.

One of the features of the new guidebook is to provide incoming students with a list of important dates and events. One such event is the incoming freshmen placement exam which takes place October 14. Kovack said information about the exam as well as available bus schedules was included in the book.

Incoming Freshman Night

Each new student's first year experience begins and best starts at an evening orientation event. Incoming Freshman Night (IFN) is a night of activities designed to help students transition to college life. The event includes information on campus resources, student organizations, and more. The event is held at the University Center, Room 100, on Wednesday, September 10, 2014, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

INCOMING FRESHMAN NIGHT OCT. 14 8 PM - 10 PM

Placement Exam

Placement exams are designed to help determine the appropriate level of instruction for incoming students. The exams cover mathematics and writing. The results of the exams will determine the student's placement in the appropriate course. The exams are held on Wednesday, September 10, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the University Center, Room 100.

INCOMING FRESHMAN NIGHT OCT. 14 8 PM - 10 PM

Student Health Information

Students are required to complete a health history form and provide proof of immunization. The health history form is available on the student portal. Proof of immunization can be provided by a doctor or a health department. The health history form is due by September 10, 2014.

INCOMING FRESHMAN NIGHT OCT. 14 8 PM - 10 PM

Transportation to Placement Exam

Students who do not have a car or do not have a driver's license can use the transportation service provided by the University. The service is available for students who are taking the placement exam on Wednesday, September 10, 2014. The service is free of charge.

INCOMING FRESHMAN NIGHT OCT. 14 8 PM - 10 PM

Parents and students who want to download a copy of the new handbooks can do so through the District 211 [website under the incoming freshmen tab](#). Each school has a unique book.

Kovack said he looks forward to hearing from parents about their thoughts on the new handbooks.

“We’re anxious to get feedback from parents. That’s the primary audience,” he said. “Some of them may have suggestions for improvement. We would welcome that.”