



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear EMS ISD Parents:

As we open the new calendar year, we are pleased to announce that the Personalized Course Selection process for the 2021-2022 school year is now underway. Personalized Course Selection (PCS) is the process of creating and annually revising 4-year plans that support yearly course requests. Throughout high school, PCS is a part of a students' personal education plan that keeps them on their graduation track.

Students have already been working to verify their 4-year graduation plans and submitting requests for their courses for the next school year. This process began in late fall with our current juniors and will continue this month with our current 8th graders preparing for their freshman year of high school. Students and parents can view the 4-year plans through *Skyward Family Access*, but plans can only be edited in *Skyward Student Access*. Once updated, the plans are used to build course offerings for the coming year.

Students will have the opportunity to provide feedback in building their class schedules and requests will be accommodated as possible; however, **specific class period requests or class schedule order cannot be guaranteed**. Once students submit their preferred schedules, counselors may need to make adjustments to accommodate for course availability and provide flexibility within the schedule to support a student's individual academic needs moving into the new school year.

8th Graders

Counselors and teachers have been working with students in their advisory classes on "High School 101" lessons. Students will be completing interest questionnaires to consider Career and Technology Education (CTE) pathways and electives based on their interests. They also will begin creating their 4-year graduation plans. In January, middle school counselors will assist 8th grade students with the planning process. Once these plans are created, parents and students will click on the link at the top of the plan to add signatures. Parents must add their signature through their *Skyward Family Access* and students through their *Skyward Student Access*.

9th-11th Graders

Counselors began revising and updating 4-year plans with students in October and will continue through February. Once these plans are finalized for the coming year, parents and students will click on the link at the top of the plan to add signatures. Parents must add their signature through their *Skyward Family Access* and students through their *Skyward Student Access*.

PCS Parent and Student Activities and Information Nights

Offered in Virtual-Only Format for 2021

January 11: Dual Credit Information Night

- Dual Credit virtual meeting for students grades 8-11 and families
- Link goes live at 6:30 pm and will be available here: <https://www.emsisd.com/PersonalizedCourseSelection>
- Recording will be posted to the district website

January 25: High School Preview Nights for Current 8th Grade

- Links go live at 6:30 pm and will be available here: <https://www.emsisd.com/PersonalizedCourseSelection>
- Recordings will be posted to the district website
 - Ranger Showcase
 - Rough Rider Round-Up
 - Pioneer Preview



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January 25: Virtual CTE Showcase

- Link goes live at 6:30 pm can be accessed here: <https://www.emsisd.com/PersonalizedCourseSelection>
- Recordings will be posted to EMS ISD's Hollenstein Career and Technology Education (HCTC) website

Skyward Arena/Schedule Request Dates

- April 26 – current Juniors
- April 27 – current Sophomores
- April 28 – current Freshman
- April 29 – current 8th graders

Course Change Requests

- May 17-21
- All incoming freshmen and returning high school students

Additional information is available on our district guidance counseling website under [4-Year Planning Tools](#). For high school course description handbooks and more, click [here](#). If you would like personalized time with your child's counselor to discuss your child's options, please reach out via e-mail or phone: [EMS ISD Counselor Contacts](#).

We appreciate your partnership and support as your child finalizes his/her requests. Please contact your child's counselor if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Mariella Alvarado
Director, Counseling and Campus Support
Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD