

New Student Orientation
Big Brother/Sister Schedule & Topics
August 28, 2007

- 8:00 - 9:10..... Tour and Assembly in MPR (See Additional Information Sheets)
- 9:15 - 12:15..... Incoming 9th grade students attend periods 2 - 7 and TAP (See below)
- 12:15- 12:45..... Lunch provided
- 12:45 - 4:00..... Student Store open for business, lockers and locks distributed

Period 2	9:15 - 9:40	Period 5	10:35 - 10:55
Passing	9:40 - 9:45	Passing	10: 55 - 11:00
Period 3	9:45 - 10:05	Period 6	11:00 - 11:20
Passing	10:05 - 10: 10	Passing	11:20 - 11:25
Period 4	10:10 - 10:30	Period 7	11:25 - 11:45
Passing	10:30 - 10:35	Passing	11:45 - 11:50
		TAP	11:50 - 12:15

Today's Overall Theme: RESPONSIBILITY

Period 2:

- 1) Teacher introduction, etc. (whatever the teacher would like to discuss)
- 2) Topic: ***IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE AND BEING ON TIME***

Attendance:

- o Attending class is the only way to do well and learn. You must be at school every day!
- o Getting to class on time is **mandatory**. Tardies will earn you a detention. Don't be late!

Agenda Books:

- o You will receive an Agenda Book when school starts. On this campus it is mandatory to have your agenda book with you every day. This will be **your only hall pass**, your calendar to keep track of your homework assignments, and you must bring it to school. Your teacher will **require** you to write your name in **ink** on all pages of the hall pass section.
- o If you do not have your agenda book you will not be permitted to leave class. In an emergency situation only, your teacher will call the office to request that someone come to the classroom to escort you to the restroom.
- o If you lose your agenda book you must buy one from the student store (limited quantity).

Getting to Class on Time:

- o Being on time at SSHS is easy, but you need to plan ahead—
 1. Make sure to go to the restroom before school and at lunch (they can get crowded!)
 2. Be strategic in deciding which books to take out of your locker when you have the time. Make sure you do not need to go back to your locker between every single class—think ahead and go when it is convenient and on the way.

Absences:

- o What happens if you are absent? You are not in middle school anymore. It is now **YOUR** responsibility to find out what you missed and what you are responsible for making up. Don't wait for the teacher to tell you. You are in high school now and you need to do this on your own. This is **NOT** the teachers' responsibility!

Class Schedule:

- o The schedule you receive the 1st day of school **might not be identical** to the one you have received today. **Make sure to follow the new schedule you receive tomorrow!**

Period 3:

- 1) Teacher introduction, etc. (whatever the teacher would like to discuss)
- 2) Topic: ***A CLEAN & SAFE CAMPUS***
 - Santa Susana High School is always clean and attractive because students and staff take the responsibility to keep it that way.
 - Students at SSHS always throw away their own trash. Nobody is here to do it. It's up to you.
 - Everybody chips in. Students at Santa Su pitch in to help keep the campus looking good. Even if it's not my piece of trash, I still pick it up and throw it away!
 - Santa Susana is a very safe place to be because the students and staff make an effort to make it that way. You can help by not running on campus, keeping skateboards and bikes off campus, and paying attention to where you are walking.
 - Drugs, smoking, alcohol, theft, and other illegal behavior will NOT be tolerated. A student who chooses to engage in illegal behavior chooses to go elsewhere. Students choose to attend SSHS and therefore choose to make it a safe, clean place to be.
 - Students here don't want trouble—they will tell on you! Administrators are always available for you to report illegal behavior on campus.

Period 4:

- 1) Teacher introduction, etc. (whatever the teacher would like to discuss)
- 2) Topic: ***I'M NOT DOING WELL ACADEMICALLY. WHAT DO I DO?***
 - In middle school, if you didn't pass a class, what would happen? Well... in high school if you don't pass a class, it will hold you back and will affect your future. You will not graduate and you will not be able to go to college or get a job. Do it right the first time around!
 - There is help for you here. BUT... you are now the one responsible for knowing your own progress. You now have to track your own grades. In middle school your teachers might have told you when and what to write your assignments in your agenda book. Here it is now up to you!
 - At the first sign of trouble, talk to your teacher for guidance (**during the appropriate time**). *Don't wait for things to improve on their own because they won't.* **You may need to see your teacher at lunch, after school, or during scheduled office hours.**
 - Waiting for progress reports or report cards is **too late. Don't wait.**
 - DART Math is an after school tutoring opportunity for math.
 - You will be referred to the Intervention Specialists if you are not performing up to standard.
 - **Failed Classes:** If you fail a class you will be required to repeat that class the following year. Pass it the first time—it will not be more fun for you the second time around and you do not want to miss out on an elective class!!

Period 5:

- 1) Teacher introduction, etc. (whatever the teacher would like to discuss).
- 2) Topic: ***GOOD DECISION MAKING***
 - Middle school and high school are very different. In high school you will be treated like an adult. As long as you *act* like an adult, you will be *treated* like an adult.
 - Be responsible for your own success. You now have to make good decisions about when to study rather than relaxing, when to do homework rather than hanging out with friends. It's up to you. Your future depends on your good decision-making.

Prioritizing: It is now up to you to decide how to prioritize. You need to keep in mind that nobody here will check on you every moment to make sure you have done what you should have. You have to keep track on your own.

- **Scenario #1:** I am home from school because I am sick. I am bored. Because I am at home I am missing school work. I can wait until I get back at school to find out what I missed, or I can e-mail my teachers to find out what I am missing and try to stay on top of it while I'm home. Starting early will pay off later!
- **Scenario #2:** Tomorrow I have a test in Algebra. I can study for the test right after dinner now that I have food in my stomach, or I can watch some TV and study late night.
- **Scenario #3:** I need to use the restroom and my teacher has given me permission to go. Should I take the longest possible route to the restroom or go quickly and return quickly

to class? The short route will ensure that the campus supervisors do not stop me, and it will help create trust between my teacher and me. The long route means I will miss what is happening in class and will put a strain on my relationship with my teacher.

Period 6:

- 1) Teacher introduction, etc. (whatever the teacher would like to discuss)
- 2) Topic: ***PERSONALITY CONFLICTS***
 - There are people that we naturally get along with and there are those that we have a harder time with. This is true for everyone. But we are in the real world and have to deal with this discomfort and get along with all types of people. Most of the time, the people we have conflicts with are the people we do not understand.
 - Santa Susana is known for its tolerant atmosphere. Students here have learned to accept others who have different styles, beliefs, or backgrounds. Cliques are rare at SSSHS.
 - Don't get sucked into problems by using disrespectful words. This isn't tolerated by students or staff at this school. Everyone here should be here because they *want* to be.
 - If you have a hard time managing a personality conflict, ask for help from a teacher, counselor or administrator. Don't let it get out of hand. Ask counselors about our **Peer Mediation** program!

Period 7:

- 1) Teacher introduction, etc. (whatever the teacher would like to discuss)
- 2) Topic: ***RESPECT FOR YOURSELF AND FOR OTHERS***
 - Leave cussing and profanity outside of school. Certain words are appropriate in certain situations. Just like in the professional world, profanity doesn't fit in here at school.
 - Students at Santa Susana always help each other out. They hold doors open for each other, they are polite and use words like thank you and excuse me. Visitors to our campus continually comment on the adult-like behavior of our students and their poise and maturity.

In ALL classrooms at Santa Susana we have some absolute "NO's":

No eating / drinking	No hoods on your head
No headphones	No sunglasses during class
No cell phones (turned OFF during class)	No sleeping or heads down during class

TAP:

- 1) Teacher introduction, etc. (whatever the teacher would like to discuss)
- 2) Topic #1: ***SCHOOLS & ACADEMIES***
 - Why are you here? What are your interests? What do we have to offer you?
 - Discuss the options for Academy and Areas of Emphasis. You will be asked to declare a School & Academy choice after the first few weeks of school. This will help guide you and help focus your course of study to specialize in The Arts, Information Technology, or Advanced Academics.
- 3) Topic #2: ***TAP***
 - What is TAP? The Troubadour Advisory Program is the place where you will receive important information and see televised announcements, where you will have a teacher monitor your progress throughout your four years of high school, and where you will receive guidance based on your individual needs and interests.
 - Your TAP teacher will become your advocate. He or she will continually ask you about your academic progress and will give you guidance when you need it.
 - Your TAP teacher will be looking at grades with you **OFTEN**. In fact, you might get really tired of looking at your grades, but you will do it every 5 weeks. This is done for a reason, and we will not allow you to fail. You may get sick of going over your progress in TAP, but just know that someone will always be looking out for you and asking you about your academic performance.
You can't run and you can't hide.
 - TAP will be a place where you will have fun competitions, win prizes and play games too.
 - You may not see the day-to-day results of TAP, but you will learn and be better prepared from what it offers you.
 - *The TAP class you are in today will most likely **not** be your TAP class after the first month of school. We will do the "shuffle" once your Academies are declared the first quarter.*