

Van Antwerp Middle School



January 21, 2010

Dear Grade 8 Parent/Guardians,

As we move through January, Van Antwerp teachers and counselors will be helping students through the process of high school orientation and planning. We look forward to helping ready students for their freshman year. Much of this work includes communication and orientation meant for families. Please make careful note of the upcoming events outlined below.

Over the last two week, Directors of each department have been meeting with our 8th graders to describe course offerings and opportunities for freshman in the various subject areas. They also explained graduation requirements as well as some of the possible elective courses they can take later on in their high school careers. Eighth grade teachers have started the process of recommending students for high school courses. Families will receive a copy of those recommendations in early February in order to plan with their student.

On **Tuesday, January 26th** we will take all 8th grade students to visit Niskayuna High School. They will meet their new principals, get a tour of the facilities, eat lunch in the cafeteria and hear more about the programs offered. Students can either buy or bring a lunch. We will leave Van Antwerp around **12:15** and will return in time for regular dismissal. Students requiring transportation will be able to take their regular bus routes home.

The High School will also hold a parent orientation on **Thursday, January 28th at 6:30** in the High School Auditorium. Here you will get a chance to meet with the school administration, teachers, directors and counselors. Information will be shared regarding high school course offerings, programs and how the course selection process works. We strongly encourage families to attend on this evening. .

If you have any questions regarding the orientation process, the High School visitation or course selection please feel free to contact us in the Main Office or your child's counselor.

Sincerely,

Luke Rakoczy
Van Antwerp Principal
370-1243

Imran Abbasi
Niskayuna Middle Schools Assistant Principal