

# NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

## OLD TAPPAN

### SCHOOL PROFILE 2016-2017



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#### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

At Northern Valley Regional High School District, we provide a safe environment in which each student seeks answers to questions, challenges assumptions and develops self-worth. Recognition of academic and cultural diversity promotes mutual respect and acceptance. Our high schools encourage individual academic excellence, aesthetic appreciation and moral integrity. We seek to prepare all students for their roles in a rapidly changing and diverse global community, and to become independent learners, critical thinkers, problem solvers, collaborative workers and responsible contributors to society.

Education requires a shared commitment. In providing a framework for the immediate and future concerns of our students, we require a constant and critical reevaluation of curriculum and course design to keep abreast of global research and new techniques within our respective discipline. The joint commitment of students, professional staff, Board of Education and the community, which supports and compliments our mission, forms the basis for a challenging and effective program.

#### SCHOOL INFORMATION

One of two public high schools in the regionalized district, we serve a student population of approximately 1222 students in Grades 9-12.

We support and encourage student participation in a variety of sports and co-curricular activities, including participation at the freshman through varsity level in 27 sports, as well as 68 co-curricular activities.

The Northern Valley High School District is accredited by the Commission of Secondary Schools, the New Jersey Department of Education, and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

#### COMMUNITY

Our communities, comprised of upper-middle income families, historically supported a school budget which provides for varied, in-depth college preparatory and career-oriented curricula. Recently, the community approved an 11.7 million dollar referendum.

#### AWARDS

*Blue Ribbon Award* - Technology School of Excellence  
*Newsweek* - recognized in America's Best High Schools edition  
*Princeton University* - Distinguished Secondary School Teaching Award  
*The Star Ledger* - ranked among the most effective public schools in New Jersey  
*US News & World Report* - Silver Medalist, survey of America's Best High Schools

#### HIGHLIGHTS

1:1 Laptop Teaching and Learning Initiative  
Academic Competitions - Science and Math League Teams  
Advanced Courses: 28 Advanced Placement, 42 Honors and 48 Dual Enrollment Courses running in 2016  
Business Organizations - DECA & FBLA  
Career Pathways Program of Studies  
Character Education - Core Values Program - Community Service Clubs and Projects  
Heroes and Cool Kids - Peer Life Skills Training  
Multicultural Club and Cultural Exchanges with Japan, Scotland and Korea  
Peer Mentor Program and Student Leadership Programs  
Senior Options - Community Service, Teaching and Professional Internships, Honors Independent Study Capstone  
Students Against Destructive Decision-Making (SADD)  
Visual & Performing Arts - Over 30 Music, Choral, Drama & Dance Performances. Visual Arts Show  
Work Study Program - Cooperative Business Education

## CURRICULUM

Northern Valley offers a wide range of courses for students with varied academic needs, goals and interests. In compliance with the New Jersey Department of Education, our minimum requirements are as follows:

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS			
ENGLISH	4 CREDITS (AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOES NOT COUNT)	WORLD LANGUAGES	1 CREDIT
MATHEMATICS	3 CREDITS (SEQUENTIAL, ALGEBRA 1 AT MINIMUM)	21 <sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LIFE & CAREERS	1 CREDIT
SCIENCE	3 CREDITS (INCLUDING BIOLOGY)	VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS	1 CREDIT
US HISTORY	2 CREDITS	FINANCIAL LITERACY ( <i>BEGINNING 2014</i> )	0.5 CREDIT
WORLD HISTORY/CULTURES	1 CREDIT	PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH	1 CREDIT EACH YEAR ENROLLED IN NV
MINIMUM CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 24 ( <i>BEGINNING 2013</i> )			

Students are encouraged to pursue courses reflecting academic goals and career interests while challenging themselves responsibly. In addition to enriching college preparatory courses, students may attempt honors courses through teacher recommendation, by earning qualifying grades or by selecting open-enrollment courses.

HONORS COURSES	
SUBJECT AREA	COURSES
ENGLISH	ENGLISH 1H, ENGLISH 2H ENGLISH 3H (MOST RIGOROUS OFFERING IN 11 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE - AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION IS NOT AN ENGLISH 3 OFFERING). ENG. 4 - WORLD MYTHOLOGY & ARCHETYPAL LITERATURE H; ENG. 4 - LITERATURE & PHILOSOPHY OF ASIA H ADVANCED JOURNALISM 2H, ADVANCED JOURNALISM 3H (ELECTIVES)
MATHEMATICS	GEOMETRY H, ALGEBRA 2H, PRECALCULUS H
SCIENCE	BIOLOGY H, CHEMISTRY H, PHYSICS H (THROUGH 2015-2016)
SOCIAL STUDIES	WORLD CIVILIZATIONS H, US HISTORY 1H
WORLD LANGUAGE	CHINESE 2H, 3H; FRENCH 2H, 3H, 4H; ITALIAN 2H, 3H; JAPANESE 2H, 3H; KOREAN 2H*; LATIN 2H, 3H; SPANISH 2H, 3H, 4H; (STUDENTS STARTING WITH LEVEL 1 SPANISH OR FRENCH CANNOT TAKE AP SPANISH, AS AP COURSE IS AT LEVEL 5)
BUSINESS	ACCOUNTING H, MARKETING 3: APPLIED MARKETING PRINCIPLES H* (ELECTIVES)
TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING	ENGINEERING DESIGN H (ELECTIVE)
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE	ADVANCED CHILD DEVELOPMENT H (ELECTIVE)
MUSIC	CHOIR 2H*, 3H; CONCERT BAND 2H*, 3H; WIND SYMPHONY 2H*, 3H (ELECTIVES)
VISUAL ARTS	ADVANCED DIGITAL ART & ANIMATION, DRAWING PAINTING & MIXED MEDIA 2H* (ELECTIVES)
* New Course Offering	

Some Advanced Placement courses require teacher recommendation or qualifying grades, while others are essentially open enrollment. Students are limited to 4 AP courses in 11<sup>th</sup> grade and 5 AP courses in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. **As we recently added a number of AP courses, class of 2017 students may not have had full access to all AP courses throughout their four years.** 28 AP courses are running in 2016.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES – 2016 ACADEMIC YEAR	
SUBJECT AREA	COURSES
ENGLISH	ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION <sup>1</sup> , ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION <sup>2*</sup>
MATHEMATICS	CALCULUS AB*, CALCULUS BC*, COMPUTER SCIENCE A (2015), STATISTICS
SCIENCE	BIOLOGY*, CHEMISTRY*, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (2016), PHYSICS 1 (2016) <sup>2*</sup> , PHYSICS 2 (2016)*, PHYSICS C*
SOCIAL STUDIES	EUROPEAN HISTORY, MACROECONOMICS (2016), MICROECONOMICS (2016), US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS, US HISTORY <sup>2*</sup> , WORLD HISTORY
WORLD LANGUAGE	CHINESE LANGUAGE*, ITALIAN LANGUAGE*, JAPANESE LANGUAGE*, SPANISH LANGUAGE*
TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING	COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (2016)
VISUAL ARTS	STUDIO ART - DRAWING, STUDIO ART - 2-D DESIGN, STUDIO ART - 3-D DESIGN, ART HISTORY
MUSIC	MUSIC THEORY
<sup>1</sup> Elective only. <u>Not</u> a required English 3 course offering. <sup>2</sup> Course fulfills academic graduation requirement.	
*AP Exam mandatory for this course. Prior to 2015-16, AP exam was required for all AP Courses.	

## DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES

Northern Valley partners with several post-secondary institutions to offer dual enrollment courses. Students may earn college credit by enrolling through the college or university for courses taught at our high school. Course requirements are identical for all students in these courses, regardless of college enrollment status. The college or university maintains the college transcript. **Beginning 2016-17, courses are noted on the high school transcript as ‘approved for college credit through dual enrollment’.** Offerings may vary from year-to-year. 2016-17 offerings:

ACCOUNTING HONORS	AP ITALIAN	CALCULUS (INCLUDING AP AB OR AP BC)	ITALIAN 3 H
ADVANCED BAKING & PASTRY ARTS 2	AP JAPANESE	CHILD DEVELOPMENT 1	JAPANESE 3 H
ADVANCED DIGITAL ART & ANIMATION	AP PHYSICS C	CHINESE 3 H	LATIN 3 H
AP ART HISTORY	AP SPANISH	CONCERT CHOIR 2, 2H, 3, OR 3H*	MARKETING 2: Adv. & Prod. Dev.
AP CHEMISTRY	AP STATISTICS	CULINARY ARTS 1	MUSIC THEORY & TECHNOLOGY
AP CHINESE	AP STUDIO ART 2D, 3D OR DRAWING*	DRAWING, PAINTING, MIXED MEDIA 2 H	SPANISH 1
AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION	AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS	FRENCH 3 H	SPANISH 4 H
AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION	AP US HISTORY	FRENCH 4 H	SPANISH 5
AP EUROPEAN HISTORY	BUSINESS ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT	GUITAR 1	STRING ORCHESTRA 2, 2H, 3, OR 3H*
AP FRENCH			WIND SYMPHONY 2, 2H, 3, OR 3H*

\*Students may register for credits in the corresponding college course only once.

## GPA, GRADE SCALE, WEIGHTING, GPA DISTRIBUTION AND CLASS RANK

### GPA AND GRADE SCALE:

Grade point average (GPA) is calculated using the final grades in all courses completed. While grades for remedial courses are included in the GPA, grades for new credit courses taken during summer school, through virtual schools or through a third party provider are not. Transfer grades from other schools are converted into the Northern Valley grading scale and included where possible; otherwise, they are awarded P or F based on passing or failing status of each course. These do not calculate into the GPA.

Official GPA is calculated at the conclusion of the 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> semesters. Final letter grades are converted to the 4.0 scale (see table at right).

A weighted value of 1 is added for grades earned in Honors and Advanced Placement courses. For example, a grade of 'B' earned in English 2 Honors or AP US History is calculated as a 4.0 for GPA calculation purposes. In the 7<sup>th</sup> semester, the GPA values for courses in progress are multiplied by half of the potential credits. For example, a course bearing 1.0 potential credit has a credit value of .5 for GPA calculation purposes.

Each eligible course's GPA value is multiplied by the credits earned (half credits for courses in progress 7<sup>th</sup> semester) to determine quality points. GPA value is the total quality points earned divided by total credits attempted (half credits for courses in progress 7<sup>th</sup> semester).

GRADE SCALE			
LETTER GRADE	PERCENT RANGE	GPA VALUE	AP/HONORS GPA VALUE
A+	(98-100)	4.4	5.4
A	(92-97)	4.0	5.0
A-	(90-91)	3.6	4.6
B+	(88-89)	3.4	4.4
B	(82-87)	3.0	4.0
B-	(80-81)	2.6	3.6
C+	(78-79)	2.4	3.4
C	(72-77)	2.0	3.0
C-	(70-71)	1.6	2.6
D	(60-69)	1.2	2.2
F	(below 60)	0.0	0.0

6 <sup>TH</sup> SEMESTER GPA DISTRIBUTION	
TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN SENIOR CLASS	305
HIGHEST CUMULATIVE 6 <sup>TH</sup> SEMESTER GPA	4.824
MEDIAN CUMULATIVE 6 <sup>TH</sup> SEMESTER GPA	3.365
LOWEST CUMULATIVE 6 <sup>TH</sup> SEMESTER GPA	1.706
4.25 OR HIGHER	26
3.75 – 4.24	66
3.25 – 3.74	85
2.75 – 3.24	77
2.25 – 2.74	41
2.24 OR BELOW	10

### GPA DISTRIBUTION:

The table (left) reflects the GPA distribution of the current senior class.

### CLASS RANK:

The academic environment at Northern Valley is very challenging, and the majority of our students earn exemplary grades. Comparisons among students inherent in class rank unnecessarily increase competition among students. Further, we believe that our students' levels of achievement are not equitably or fully communicated by this single statistic. **Therefore, beginning with the class of 2017 Northern Valley will no longer publish class rank.**

Should an institution require a percentile to award scholarship after admission decisions, that institution may communicate directly with our department.

## SCHOOL AND CLASS STATISTICS

POST SECONDARY SUMMARY			
	2016	2015	2014
% FOUR YEAR COLLEGE	88	91	85
% TWO YEAR COLLEGE	8	5	10
% MILITARY/VOCATIONAL/OTHER	4	4	5
CLASS SIZE	330	307	334

NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION			
CLASS	COMMENDED	SEMI-FINALISTS	FINALISTS
2017	12	1	*
2016	20	2	2
2015	16	4	2

\*AWARDED SPRING OF CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR.  
NJ SEMI-FINALIST QUALIFYING INDEX (222) IS HIGHEST IN NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM

AP SCHOLARS			
	2016	2015	2014
AP SCHOLARS	28	29	34
AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR	15	12	9
AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION	21	16	21
<b>TOTAL AP SCHOLARS (AVG. SCORE)</b>	<b>64 (3.99)</b>	<b>58 (3.89)</b>	<b>64 (3.84)</b>
AP NATIONAL SCHOLARS	-	1	-

MEAN PSAT SCORES - CLASS OF 2017					
EVIDENCE BASED READING & WRITING	MATH	MATHEMATICS	READING	WRITING	TOTAL
560	28	555	28	28	1115

236 STUDENTS TESTED - ADMINISTERED OCTOBER, 2015

MEAN SAT SCORES				
SUBJECT	CLASS 2017 <sup>1</sup> 3/16 >	CLASS 2017 <sup>1</sup> < 3/16	CLASS OF 2016 <sup>2</sup>	CLASS OF 2015 <sup>2</sup>
READING	29	578	573	577
MATH	29	622	609	612
WRITING	29	604	596	600
EVIDENCE BASED READING & WRITING	580	-	-	-
MATHEMATICS	580	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1170</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1778</b>	<b>1789</b>
CLASS SIZE	305		330	307
STUDENTS REPORTING	52	156	305	282

<sup>1</sup> SCORES THROUGH JUNIOR YEAR    <sup>2</sup> SCORES THROUGH SENIOR YEAR

MEAN ACT SCORES			
SUBJECT	2016	2015	2014
ENGLISH	25.3	25.7	24.3
MATH	25.4	26.3	24.4
READING	25.1	25.5	23.5
SCIENCE	23.8	24.2	23.0
<b>COMPOSITE</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>24.0</b>
STUDENTS REPORTING	111	82	116

AP EXAM DATA - MAY 2016	
TOTAL STUDENTS TESTED	284
TOTAL SCORED EXAMS	493
SUBJECTS TESTED	23
AP STUDENTS WITH SCORES 3+	216
% OF TOTAL AP STUDENTS WITH SCORES 3+	76%
EXAMS SCORED 5	159
EXAMS SCORED 4	109
EXAMS SCORED 3	99

## POST-SECONDARY ATTENDANCE – CLASSES OF 2014-2016

Adelphi University	Florida State University	Pace University	University of Alabama
American University	Fordham University	Palm Beach State College	University of Arizona
Amherst College	Franklin & Marshall College	Passaic County Community College	University of California, Los Angeles
Arizona State University	George Mason University	Pennsylvania State University	University of California, San Diego
Babson College	George Washington University	Plymouth State University	University of Cincinnati
Bard College	Georgetown University	Pratt Institute	University of Colorado
Belmont University	Georgia Institute of Technology	Purdue University	University of Connecticut
Bentley University	Georgia Southern University	Quinnipiac University	University of Dayton
Bergen Community College	Gettysburg College	Ramapo College of New Jersey	University of Delaware
Bergen County Technical Schools	Goucher College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Florida
Berklee College of Music	Guilford College	Rhode Island School of Design	University of Hartford
Binghamton University	Hamilton College	Rider University	University of Illinois
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	Hampshire College	Ringling College of Art & Design	University of Kentucky
Boston College	Harvard University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Maryland
Boston University	High Point University	Rockland Community College	University of Massachusetts
Brandeis University	Hobart & William Smith Colleges	Roger Williams University	University of Miami
Brigham Young University, Idaho	Hofstra University	Rowan University	University of Michigan
Brookdale Community College	Howard Community College	Rutgers University	University of Nebraska
Brown University	Indiana University	Sacred Heart University	University of New Hampshire
Bucknell University	Iona College	Salve Regina University	University of New Haven
Butler University	Ithaca College	San Diego State University	University of North Carolina at Charlotte
California Institute of the Arts	James Madison University	Santa Barbara City College	University of North Carolina at Greensboro
California Polytechnic State University	John Jay College - CUNY	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of North Carolina at Wilmington
Carnegie Mellon University	Johns Hopkins University	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Notre Dame
Case Western Reserve University	Johnson & Wales University	School of Visual Arts	University of Pennsylvania
Centenary University	Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology	Seton Hall University	University of Pittsburgh
Champlain College	Kean University	Sewanee: The University of the South	University of Rhode Island
Charleston Southern University	Keene State College	Simmons College	University of Rochester
Clark University	Lanier Technical Institute	Skidmore College	University of Scranton
Clemson University	Lehigh University	St. John's University	University of South Carolina
Coastal Carolina University	Lewis & Clark College	St. Lawrence University	University of Southern California
Colby College	Liberty University	St. Thomas Aquinas College	University of the Sciences in Philadelphia
Colgate University	Lincoln Technical Institute	Stevens Institute of Technology	University of Tampa
College of Charleston	Loyola Marymount University	Stevenson University	University of Texas
College of William and Mary	Loyola University Maryland	Stony Brook University	University of Tulsa
Colorado School of Mines	Lynchburg College	Suffolk University	University of Vermont
Columbia College Chicago	Lynn University	SUNY - at Albany	University of Wisconsin
Cornell University	Manhattan College	SUNY - Buffalo State University	University of Wyoming
Curry College	Manhattanville College	SUNY - at Cobleskill	Utica College
Davidson College	Marietta College	SUNY - at Potsdam	Valencia College
Delaware Valley University	Marist College	SUNY - Purchase College	Vanderbilt University
Dickinson College	Maryland Institute College of Art	SUNY - Stony Brook University	Villanova University
Dominican College	Marymount Manhattan College	SUNY - University at Buffalo	Virginia Commonwealth University
Drew University	Marywood University	Sussex County Community College	Virginia Tech
Drexel University	McGill University	Syracuse University	Wagner College
Duke University	Mercy College	Tallahassee Community College	Wake Forest University
Duquesne University	Middlebury College	Temple University	Washington and Lee University
East Carolina University	Millersville University of Pennsylvania	Texas Christian University	Wentworth Institute of Technology
East Stroudsburg Univ. of Pennsylvania	Misericordia University	The Citadel	Wesleyan University
Elon University	Monmouth University	The College of New Jersey	West Chester University of Pennsylvania
Emerson College	Montclair State University	The College of Saint Rose	West Virginia University
Emory University	Muhlenberg College	The Cooper Union	Westchester Community College
Empire Beauty School	New Jersey Institute of Technology	The Culinary Institute of America	Wheaton College IL
Endicott College	New York Institute of Technology	The Juilliard School	Wilkes University
Erskine College	New York University	The New School	William Paterson University
Fairfield University	Newbury College	The University of the Arts	Williams College
Fairleigh Dickinson University	North Dakota State University	Towson University	Winthrop University
Felician University	Northeastern University	Trinity College Dublin	Xavier University
Florida Atlantic University	Northwestern University	Tufts University	
Florida Gulf Coast University	Occidental College	Tulane University	
Florida International University	Ocean County College	United States Military Academy	
Florida Keys Community College	Ohio State University		
Florida SouthWestern State College	Old Dominion University		