

NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

OLD TAPPAN

SCHOOL PROFILE 2017-2018



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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

At Northern Valley Regional High School, 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 complements our mission, forms the basis for a challenging and effective program.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

One of two comprehensive public high schools in the regionalized district, we serve a student population of approximately 1230 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

Future Ready Schools-New Jersey - Certified School

Newsweek - recognized in America's Best High Schools edition

New Jersey Department of Education - Building Capacity for Career Pathways Grant Recipient

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: 30 Advanced Placement, 45 Honors and 48 Dual Enrollment Courses

Business Organizations - DECA & FBLA

Career & Technical Education (CTE) - Biomedical Technology

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 Honors Independent Study Capstone

Senior S.L.E. - Community Service & Service Learning, Teaching Mentorships, Professional Internships,

Students Against Destructive Decision-Making (SADD) / Stigma Free

Visual & Performing Arts - Over 30 Music, Choral, Drama & Dance Performances and Visual Arts Show

Work Study Program - Cooperative Business Education

CURRICULUM - For more information, please see the Northern Valley High School Program of Studies

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS			
ENGLISH	4 CREDITS (AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOES NOT SATISFY REQUIREMENT)	WORLD LANGUAGES	1 CREDIT
MATHEMATICS	3 CREDITS (SEQUENTIAL, ALGEBRA 1 AT MINIMUM)	21 ST CENTURY LIFE & CAREERS	1 CREDIT
SCIENCE	3 CREDITS (INQUIRY BASED, INCLUDING BIOLOGY)	VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS	1 CREDIT
US HISTORY	2 CREDITS	FINANCIAL LITERACY	0.5 CREDIT
WORLD HISTORY	1 CREDIT	HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1 CREDIT EACH YEAR ENROLLED IN NJ PUBLIC
MINIMUM 24 CREDITS REQUIRED. STUDENTS MUST ALSO DEMONSTRATE NJDOE-DETERMINED PROFICIENCY IN BOTH ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATHEMATICS.			

Students are offered a comprehensive range of courses designed to address academic goals, learning needs, career interests and college plans. All courses prepare students for post-secondary success. Students are encouraged to challenge themselves with appropriate rigor. **College Prep courses taken on the 'ENRICHED' level will be noted as 'E' on the transcript beginning 2017-18. While 'E' level course designations did not appear on the transcript prior to 2017-18, students having taken courses on the 'Enriched' level prior to 2017-18 may self report such course levels as 'Enriched'.** In addition to College Prep and College Prep Enriched level courses, students may challenge themselves with additional rigor in honors courses through teacher recommendation, grade-qualified waiver or open-enrollment courses.

HONORS COURSES	
SUBJECT AREA	COURSES (43)
ENGLISH	ENGLISH 1H, ENGLISH 2H, ENGLISH 3H (MOST RIGOROUS GRADE 11 OFFERING - AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION IS <u>NOT</u> AN ENGLISH 3 COURSE). 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: REPLACED BY AP PHYSICS 1 AS MOST RIGOROUS GRADE 11 SCIENCE COURSE)
SOCIAL STUDIES	US HISTORY 1H, WORLD CIVILIZATIONS H (THROUGH 2015-16: TO BE REPLACED BY AP WORLD HISTORY IN 2018-19 AS MOST RIGOROUS GRADE 11 SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE)
WORLD LANGUAGE	CHINESE 2H, 3H; FRENCH 2H, 3H, 4H; ITALIAN 2H, 3H; JAPANESE 2H, 3H; KOREAN 2H*; 3H*; LATIN 2H, 3H*, 4H*; SPANISH 2H, 3H, 4H; (STUDENTS BEGINNING WITH LEVEL 1 SPANISH OR FRENCH <u>CANNOT</u> TAKE AP SPANISH, AS AP COURSE IS AT LEVEL 5)
BUSINESS	ACCOUNTING H, MARKETING 3H: APPLIED MARKETING PRINCIPLES H ^{1*} (ELECTIVES)
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE	ADVANCED CHILD DEVELOPMENT H (ELECTIVE)
MUSIC	CHOIR 2H(2016), 3H; STRING ORCHESTRA 2H (2016), 3H; WIND SYMPHONY 2H (2016), 3H (ELECTIVES)
TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING	ENGINEERING DESIGN H, BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY 1H* (ELECTIVES)
THEATRE ARTS	THEATRE ARTS 2H* (ELECTIVE)
VISUAL ARTS	DRAWING PAINTING & MIXED MEDIA 2H* (ELECTIVES)
* New Course Offering ¹ Course not running in 2017-18	

Considered our most rigorous offerings, some Advanced Placement courses require teacher recommendation or grade-qualified waiver, while others are open enrollment. The majority of AP courses are available to 11th and 12th graders. Students may take 4 AP courses in 11th grade and 5 AP courses in 12th grade. **With recently introduced courses, the class of 2018 students may not have had full access to all AP courses.**

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES – 2017-18 ACADEMIC YEAR	
SUBJECT AREA	COURSES - COURSES (30) - 55% OF 11 TH AND 12 TH GRADERS TOOK AT LEAST ONE AP COURSE IN 2016-17
ENGLISH	ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION ¹ , ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION ^{2*}
MATHEMATICS	CALCULUS AB*, CALCULUS BC*, COMPUTER SCIENCE A (2015), STATISTICS
SCIENCE	BIOLOGY*, CHEMISTRY*, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (2016), PHYSICS 1 (2016) ^{2*} , PHYSICS 2 (2016)*, PHYSICS C: MECHANICS*
SOCIAL STUDIES	EUROPEAN HISTORY, MACROECONOMICS (2016), MICROECONOMICS (2016), PSYCHOLOGY (2017), US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS, US HISTORY ^{2*} , WORLD HISTORY
WORLD LANGUAGE	CHINESE LANGUAGE*, FRENCH LANGUAGE*, ITALIAN LANGUAGE*, JAPANESE LANGUAGE*, SPANISH LANGUAGE* (STUDENTS STARTING WITH LEVEL 1 SPANISH OR FRENCH <u>CANNOT</u> TAKE AP SPANISH, AS AP COURSE IS AT LEVEL 5)
MUSIC	MUSIC THEORY (2016)
TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING	COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (2016)
VISUAL ARTS	ART HISTORY, STUDIO ART - DRAWING, STUDIO ART - 2-D DESIGN, STUDIO ART - 3-D DESIGN
¹ Elective only. Does Not satisfy English 3 course requirement. ² Course fulfills academic graduation requirement. *Teacher recommendation or grade qualification and AP Exam mandatory for this course. Prior to 2015-16, AP exam was required for all AP Courses.	

DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES

11th and 12th grade students may earn optional college credit by enrolling through partner institutions for certain high school courses. **Beginning 2016-17, transcript will note courses as 'approved for college credit through dual enrollment' regardless of college enrollment status.**

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

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

GRADE SCALE, COURSE WEIGHTING, GPA CALCULATION, GPA DISTRIBUTION AND CLASS RANK

GRADE SCALE AND GPA:

Courses are graded on a 100-point scale correlated to a letter grade. Final letter grades are converted to a 4.0 scale (see table). Honors and Advanced Placement courses earn an additional weighted value of 1.

GPA is calculated using the final grades in all completed courses. Remedial courses are included in GPA. New credit courses taken through summer school, virtual school or third party providers are not included. Transfer grades are included where possible; otherwise, they are awarded P (Pass) or F (Fail) and do not calculate into the GPA.

GPA is calculated at the end of 4th, 6th and 7th semesters. Each course's GPA value is multiplied by the credits earned (including half potential credits for 7th semester) to determine quality points. GPA value equals the total quality points earned divided by total credits attempted (including half potential credits 7th semester).

GPA STATISTICS AND DISTRIBUTION: Class of 2018 GPA details are displayed on the table (below).

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 TH SEMESTER GPA DISTRIBUTION	
TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN SENIOR CLASS	322
HIGHEST CUMULATIVE 6 TH SEMESTER GPA	4.751
MEDIAN CUMULATIVE 6 TH SEMESTER GPA	3.42
LOWEST CUMULATIVE 6 TH SEMESTER GPA	2.101
4.25 OR HIGHER	22
3.75 – 4.24	77
3.25 – 3.74	97
2.75 – 3.24	95
2.25 – 2.74	27
2.24 OR BELOW	3

CLASS RANK:

Within our very challenging academic environment, most students earn exemplary grades. Comparisons among students inherent in class rank unnecessarily increase competition.

Therefore, beginning with the class of 2017 Northern Valley will no longer publish class rank. Should an institution *require* percentile information for admission or scholarship, that institution may communicate directly with our department.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND COURSE ENROLLMENT:

Courses are noted on the transcript if student in enrolled past Quarter 1. Changes to a student's school or course enrollment status after initial transcripts have been sent will be communicated to colleges.

DISCIPLINE DISCLOSURE:

It is not the practice of NVRHS to disclose student discipline in application reports.

SCHOOL AND CLASS STATISTICS

POST SECONDARY SUMMARY			
	2017	2016	2015
% FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE MATRICULATION	85	88	91
% TWO-YEAR COLLEGE MATRICULATION	9	8	5
% MILITARY / VOCATIONAL / OTHER	6	4	4
CLASS SIZE	304	330	307

NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION			
CLASS	COMMENDED	SEMI-FINALISTS	FINALISTS
2018	12	3	AWARDED SPRING
2017	12	1	1
2016	20	2	2

NJ SEMI-FINALIST QUALIFYING INDEX (223) IS HIGHEST IN NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM

AP SCHOLARS			
	2017	2016	2015
AP SCHOLARS	42	28	29
AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR	21	15	12
AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION	25	21	16
AP NATIONAL SCHOLARS	3	-	1
TOTAL AP SCHOLARS (AVG. SCORE)	88 (4.11)	64 (3.99)	58 (3.89)

SAT SCORES (MEAN)				
SUBJECT	CLASS 2018 ¹ 3/16 >	CLASS 2017 ² 3/16 >	CLASS 2017 ² < 3/16	CLASS OF 2016 ²
READING	31	29	578	573
MATH	30	29	622	609
WRITING	31	30	604	596
READING & WRITING	620	580	-	-
MATHEMATICS	605	580	-	-
TOTAL	1220	1170	1804	1778
CLASS SIZE	324	305		307
STUDENTS REPORTING	226	92	156	305

¹ SCORES THROUGH JUNIOR YEAR ² SCORES THROUGH SENIOR YEAR

SAT SUBJECT SCORES - CLASS OF 2018			
SUBJECT	MIDDLE 50%	MEAN	STUDENTS
BIOLOGY - ECOLOGY	590 - 700	642	25
BIOLOGY - MOLECULAR	580 - 680	655	11
CHEMISTRY	640 - 760	695	31
MATH LEVEL II	690 - 800	739	31
PHYSICS	670 - 730	684	11
U.S. HISTORY	610 - 710	658	18

MEAN PSAT SCORES - CLASS OF 2018					
READING & WRITING	MATH	MATHEMATICS	READING	WRITING	TOTAL
562	28	555	28	28	1117

273 STUDENTS TESTED - ADMINISTERED OCTOBER, 2016

ACT SCORES (MEAN)				
SUBJECT	2018*	2017	2016	2015
ENGLISH	27	26.4	25.3	25.7
MATH	25.7	25.6	25.4	26.3
READING	26.5	25.7	25.1	25.5
SCIENCE	25.2	24.4	23.8	24.2
COMPOSITE	26	25.7	25.0	25.5
STUDENTS REPORTING	141	181	111	82

* INTERNAL DATA; VERIFIED BY ACT IN SUBSEQUENT SEPTEMBER

AP EXAM DATA			
	2017	2016	2015
TOTAL STUDENTS TESTED	349	283	274
TOTAL SCORED EXAMS	677	490	491
SUBJECTS TESTED	30	21	18
AP STUDENTS WITH SCORES 3+	257	217	191
% OF TOTAL AP STUDENTS WITH SCORES 3+	74%	77%	70%
% EXAMS 3+ (% REC REQUIRED 3+)	75% (82%)	75% (78%)	70% (81%)
EXAMS SCORED 5	148	158	78
EXAMS SCORED 4	172	109	122
EXAMS SCORED 3	187	99	139

POST-SECONDARY ATTENDANCE - CLASSES OF 2015 – 2017

We proudly celebrate the post-secondary placements of all Northern Valley graduates into nearly 250 different 2-year, 4-year and vocational colleges across a range of selectivity and in 37 states and 3 countries.

Adelphi University	Elon University	MCPHS - Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences	San Diego State University
The University of Alabama	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	University of Massachusetts	Sarah Lawrence College
American University	Emerson College	Mercy College	Savannah College of Art and Design
Amherst College	Emory University	Miami University, Oxford	School of the Art Institute of Chicago
The University of Arizona	Endicott College	University of Miami	School of Visual Arts
Assumption College	Erskine College	Michigan State University	University of the Sciences in Philadelphia
Babson College	Fairfield University	University of Michigan	The University of Scranton
Bates College	Fairleigh Dickinson University - Fashion Institute of Technology	Middlebury College	Seton Hall University
Belmont University	Felician University	Millersville University of Pennsylvania	Sewanee: The University of the South
Bentley University	Florida Atlantic University	University of Minnesota	Simmons College
Bergen Community College	Florida Gulf Coast University	Misericordia University	Skidmore College
Bergen County Technical Schools	Florida International University	University of Mississippi	University of South Carolina
Berklee College of Music	Florida SouthWestern State College	Monmouth University	University of Southern California
Binghamton University	Florida State University	Montclair State University	Southern Vermont College
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	University of Florida	Muhlenberg College	St. John's University - Queens
Borough of Manhattan Community College CUNY	Fordham University	University of Nebraska at Lincoln	St. Thomas Aquinas College
Boston College	Franklin & Marshall College	New England Conservatory of Music	State University of New York at Albany
Boston University	George Mason University	University of New Hampshire at University of New Haven	Stevens Institute of Technology
Brandeis University	The George Washington University	New Jersey Institute of Technology	Stevenson University
Brookdale Community College	Georgetown University	The College of New Jersey	Stockton University
Brown University	Georgia Institute of Technology	New York Institute of Technology	Stonehill College
Bucknell University	Georgia Southern University	New York University	Stony Brook University
Butler University	Gettysburg College	Newbury College	Suffolk University
California Institute of the Arts	Guilford College	University of North Carolina at Charlotte	SUNY Alfred State College
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo	Hamilton College - NY	University of North Carolina at Wilmington	SUNY College at Potsdam
University of California, Berkeley	Harvard University	North Dakota State University	Sussex County Community College
University of California, Los Angeles	High Point University	Northeastern University	Swarthmore College
University of California, San Diego	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Northwestern University	Syracuse University
University of California, Santa Cruz	Hofstra University	University of Notre Dame	Tallahassee Community College
Carnegie Mellon University	Howard Community College	Nyack College	The University of Tampa
Centenary University	University of Illinois	Oberlin Conservatory of Music	Temple University
Champlain College	Indiana University at Bloomington	Occidental College	The University of Texas, Austin
Charleston Southern University	Iona College	Old Dominion University	The Culinary Institute of America- NY
College of Charleston	Ithaca College	Pace University, New York City	The New School - All Divisions
University of Cincinnati	James Madison University	Pace University, Westchester	The Ohio State University
The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina	John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the CUNY	Palm Beach State College	Towson University
Clark University	Johns Hopkins University	Pennsylvania State University	Trinity College
Clemson University	Johnson & Wales University	Pennsylvania State University, Altoona	Trinity College Dublin
Coastal Carolina University	The Juilliard School	University of Pennsylvania	Tufts University
Colby College	KAIST - Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology	University of Pittsburgh	Tulane University
Colgate University	Keane University	Plymouth State University	Union College (New York)
University of Colorado at Boulder	Keene State College	Pratt Institute	University at Buffalo - SUNY
Colorado School of Mines	University of Kentucky	Purchase College SUNY	University of St Andrews
Columbia College Chicago	Kutztown University of Pennsylvania	Purdue University	The University of the Arts
University of Connecticut	Lanier Technical Institute	Quinnipiac University	Ursinus College
The Cooper Union for the Adv. of Science & Art	Lehigh University	Ramapo College of New Jersey	Utica College
Cornell University	Lewis & Clark College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Valencia College
University of Dayton	Liberty University	Rhode Island School of Design	Vanderbilt University
Delaware Valley University	Lincoln Technical Institute	University of Rhode Island	University of Vermont
University of Delaware	Long Island University, Brooklyn	Rhodes College	Villanova University
Dickinson College	Loyola Marymount University	Rider University	Virginia Commonwealth University
Dominican College	Loyola University Maryland	Ringling College of Art and Design	Virginia Tech
Drew University	Lynchburg College	Rochester Institute of Technology	Wagner College
Drexel University	Lynn University	University of Rochester	Washington University in St. Louis
Duquesne University	University of Maine	Rockland Community College	West Chester University of Pennsylvania
East Carolina University	Make-up Designory - New York	Roger Williams University	West Virginia University
East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania	Manhattan College	Rowan University	Westchester Community College
	Manhattanville College	Rutgers University-New Brunswick	Widener University
	Marist College	Rutgers University-Newark	William Paterson University of NJ
	Maryland Institute College of Art	Sacred Heart University	Williams College
	University of Maryland, College Park	Salve Regina University	University of Wisconsin, Madison
	Marymount Manhattan College		University of Wyoming
			Xavier University
			Yale University