



## Scituate High School School Counseling Newsletter Course Registration 25-26 Edition

Together, WE **inspire, support, and challenge** *all learners* to reach their unique potential.

Course Selection has started for the 2025-2026 school year! This edition of the Scituate High School's Counseling Department's Newsletter will touch upon all the ins and outs of the process. Please reach out to your student's counselor with any questions!

The Scituate High School [2025-2026 Program of Studies](#) provides an overview of the school's curriculum and course offerings for next school year, including course descriptions, prerequisites, and recommended program sequences. Students and caregivers are encouraged to refer to the document when considering which required and elective courses to take next school year.

**SHS's Graduation Requirements:** When selecting courses, students should be mindful of the courses that are required for graduation. Scituate High School requires that all students take:

- 4 years of English
- 4 years of Math
- 3 years of History (must include 1 year of World History and 2 years of U.S. History)
- 3 years of Science
- 4 quarters of Health and 4 quarters of Physical Education (1 quarter of each every year)
- 2 years of a World Language in the same language
- 20 (minimum) additional credits from any discipline

### Course Selection Overview - Rising 10,11,12th Graders

The course selection process begins with the Scituate Public Schools recommending course levels for next year's required courses. Course recommendations are based on available academic data to best promote academic growth and success for the student. Students and caregivers will be able to view course recommendations when the window opens in Aspen on **Monday, March 3rd, 2025**.

During WINN block on **Monday, March 3rd**, all 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students will view a presentation curated by the School Counseling staff in regards to the course selection process. Students will have access to their course recommendations and should use this time to check their recommendations in Aspen.

After reviewing their required course recommendations, the course selection window will be open and available on the students' Aspen accounts. Students will have **from Monday, March 3rd to Monday, March 17th to enter their course selections into Aspen**. Students will be prompted to choose the classes they would most like to take next school year and will also be able to rank alternative courses in the event that scheduling conflicts occur.

During this time when course selections are entered into Aspen, counselors will meet with all of their students individually. Counselors will make sure to touch upon the following points:

- Does the schedule meet the graduation requirements?
- Do courses fit with the student's goals, interests and passions?
- Do courses/scheduling account for special education requirements (if required)?
- Is the schedule the right level of challenge?
- Are there overrides? If so, counselors will give students the course waiver form.

**Course waiver forms** must be utilized by students who wish to take a course in a level that was *not* recommended to them. For example, if a student has been recommended for a number of Honors courses and wishes to balance their schedule out, they may fill out the course waiver form to take a course at the CP level. Course waiver forms need signatures from the student's current teacher in said subject and from their parent/caregiver. Course waiver form will be available at the students' individual meetings with their school counselors and will be due on March 24th to the School Counseling office. School Counseling will then ensure the correct course is assigned in Aspen.

### **Course Selection Overview - Rising 9th Graders**

Entering high school is no small feat, and we want to ensure that the transition from middle to high school is a smooth one for all of our students! Below are things to be aware of and keep in mind for rising 9th graders and their caregivers.

During the weeks of **February 3rd and February 10th**, 9th grade counselor Katie Leabo delivered presentations to all current Gates 8th graders through wellness courses about the course selection process. Students have become familiar with course offerings at SHS, graduation/credit requirements, the daily and semester schedule that SHS follows, SHS Pathways, and more! In addition, the SHS School Counseling Department delivered an overview of the Course Selection Process for Caregivers on Wednesday, February 12th. [Here](#) is the slidedeck to that presentation.

8th grade families wishing to change a recommended level for their students will need to contact the appropriate Department Chairperson to discuss course options. Families will be provided with a Course Waiver Form to submit to the Gates Main Office by Monday, March 24, 2025.

#### **Department Chairperson Contact Information: 781-545-8759**

Patrick Newton, Science and Engineering - ext. 23377

Samantha Lesniak, Social Studies - ext. 23392

Laura Messner, ELA - ext. 23376

Tara Szymaniak, Math and Computer Science - ext. 21008

Jim Thomas, Fine Arts - ext. 23342

Kate Ciulla, World Language - ext. 21009

Greg Ranieri, Business, Health, Wellness and Family & Consumer Sciences - ext. 23401

From **March 3rd through the 17th**, 9th grade School Counselor, Katie Leabo will hold office hours at Gates to meet with rising 9th graders who may have questions about the course selection process. If rising 9th grade families have questions/concerns regarding the high school course selection process, please contact Tammy

Rundle at [trundle@scit.org](mailto:trundle@scit.org) or Katie Leabo at [kleabo@scit.org](mailto:kleabo@scit.org).

**Keep in mind....**

This is the course selection process only. Once selections are made, the master building schedule is built. Once the building schedule is finalized, the students are scheduled into classes. It is important that students make every effort to make their course selections carefully. Please note that all efforts are made to accommodate selections but there is no guarantee that all course requests will be fulfilled. Scituate High School reserves the right to withdraw any course due to insufficient enrollment.

**Timeline:**

March 3, 2025	Grades 9, 10, 11	Academic Advisory - Overview of the Course Selection Process
March 3-17, 2025	Grades 8, 9, 10, 11	Aspen portal is open for students to select courses.
March 11, 13, 14, 2025	Grade 8	Open office hours for 8th grade students to meet with Katie Leabo, 9th Grade School Counselor @ Gates
March 10-21, 2025	Grades 9, 10, 11	Individual student/counselor meetings to review
March 24, 2025	Grades 8, 9, 10, 11	Course Waiver Forms due to School Counseling (for 9-11th grade students) or Gates Main Office (for 8th grade students)
June, 2025	Grades 8, 9, 10, 11	25-26 Course lists published for students
Late August, 2025	Incoming grades 9, 10, 11, 12	25-26 Course schedules published for students

**How to reach us:**

[Scituate High School website](#)

Counselor Contact Information 781-545-8750			
Tammy Rundle	School Counseling Director	<a href="mailto:trundle@scit.org">trundle@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11370
Keely Benoit	School Counseling Intern	<a href="mailto:kbenoit@scit.org">kbenoit@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11370
Elizabeth Clancy	9th Grade Adjustment Counselor	<a href="mailto:eclancy@scit.org">eclancy@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11272
James Cooney	School Counselor	<a href="mailto:jcooney@scit.org">jcooney@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11371
Zoe Hassett	School Counselor	<a href="mailto:zhassett@scit.org">zhassett@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11372
Rosalind Kimani	School Counselor	<a href="mailto:rkimani@scit.org">rkimani@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11374
Katie Leabo	9th Grade School Counselor	<a href="mailto:kleabo@scit.org">kleabo@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11378
Jennifer Lopes	Adjustment Counselor	<a href="mailto:jlopes@scit.org">jlopes@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11102
Jennifer Osmer	Adjustment Counselor Intern	<a href="mailto:josmer@scit.org">josmer@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11102
Kathleen Ward	Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:kward@scit.org">kward@scit.org</a>	Ext. 11375