



HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL

January 17, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In the coming weeks, you and your child will make a decision about whether or not to register to take Advanced Placement exam(s) for AP courses taken during the 2017-2018 school year. As you make this decision, please consider the information below.

Educational research has identified a clear link between students' AP experiences in high school and future success in college. Students who take AP courses in high school are more likely to succeed in and graduate from college than their peers who do not have a high school background that includes AP. Students who take AP exams are more likely to succeed in college than students who take AP courses but not the exams. And, students who earn scores of 3, 4 or 5 on AP tests after taking the courses are the most likely to succeed. The data below, published in a 2005 study by the National Center for Educational Accountability, illustrates the "AP exam effect."

Impact of AP Course Enrollment and Test Success on College Graduation Rate (Comparison to Students Without AP Experience)			
Student Group	AP Exam Grade of 3, 4, 5	AP Exam Grade of 1, 2	Took AP Course but not Exam
African-American	28% higher	22% higher	16% higher
Hispanic	28% higher	12% higher	10% higher
White	33% higher	22% higher	20% higher
Low Income	26% higher	17% higher	12% higher
Not Low Income	34% higher	23% higher	19% higher

With research like this in mind, I hope that students who have chosen to enroll and persist in AP courses here at Homestead—doing so with aspirations of college success—see that effort through to fruition and take corresponding AP exams.

During the weeks between the end of second trimester and AP testing, AP teachers will conduct AP testing "boosts" outside the school day. These boosts may involve review on specific topics and/or practice AP testing. A schedule of these voluntary afternoon/evening/weekend meetings is currently being finalized. Students will receive a copy before the end of the second trimester. I will also send one to parents via an email blast and mailing. AP exam boosts are intended to guide and complement the exam preparation that students elect to do individually and/or in student-developed study groups.

Last year, Homestead students once again set a number of school records regarding AP testing:

- number of test-takers in a single year (496)
- number of AP exams administered (1,002)
- number of exams scored 3, 4, or 5 (741)
- number of students scoring 3, 4 or 5 on at least one exam (399)
- number of students scoring 4 or 5 on at least one exam (320).

Considering the value of AP testing overall, Homestead students' history of success in AP testing, and our planned efforts to support students as they prepare for AP exams during the third trimester, I hope that you actively encourage your child to participate in AP testing this spring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of two stylized, overlapping capital letters 'B' and 'B' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Brett Bowers
Principal



HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL
Counseling Office

January 16, 2018

Dear Parents,

The on-line registration instructions and *AP Bulletin for Students and Parents* will be handed out in all AP classes the week of January 22. Registration for AP exams will take place from **February 1-16**, with payment due no later than Friday, February 16th. The cost of each AP exam is \$94, with the exception of the AP Seminar and AP Research exams (\$142).

PLEASE NOTE: Refunds are not issued for cancelled exams.

Please carefully select the appropriate exam on the registration survey! There are multiple versions of some exams (Calculus, Physics and Economics) and we need to order the exact number and type of exams.

Please see the AP Exam Registration Instructions on the following page for step-by-step directions. Feel free to contact me with any AP questions.

Sincerely,

Lauren Schaefer
AP Coordinator
262-238-5654
lschaefer@mtsd.k12.wi.us



HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL
Counseling Office

2018 AP EXAM REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

February 1 - 16

1. Log into your *Family Connection* account. If you cannot remember your username or password, please contact the counseling office.
2. Once logged into your *Family Connection* account, click the “**About Me**” tab at the top of the page.
3. Click the “**ap exam registration 2018**” link in the left column. **This link will be available from February 1 – February 16.**
4. Fill out the survey to register for your exams and click “submit.”
5. After the survey is submitted, click “**survey history**” in the left column. Click “**ap exam registration 2018**,” and review your registration to **make sure you selected the correct exams.**
6. AP Exam registration and payment **must be submitted by 3pm on Friday, February 16th.**
7. **Exams may be paid with a credit card or eCheck through Parent Portal (Infinite Campus), or you may pay with cash or personal check in the counseling office.** Checks should be made payable to Homestead High School. Each AP exam costs \$94, with the exception of the AP Seminar and AP Research exams (\$142).

To pay your AP exam fees in **Parent Portal**, log into Infinite Campus, select the “Payments,” tab, then select the exams you are registering to take, and pay the corresponding fees.

8. Add the **AP Exam Preparation Launch** to your calendar. This mandatory pre-registration event will be held in the HHS cafeteria on **Wednesday, April 12th during 4th or 5th hour** (you will only attend one of these hours).

PLEASE CONTACT THE COUNSELING OFFICE WITH ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT AP REGISTRATION!

262-238-5635