

# WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

## SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

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Dear Class of 2023 Students:

We hope you are doing well and enjoying your summer. On behalf of our School Counseling Department, we extend a warm welcome to you. You are the newest members of our high school community and this is truly an exciting time for all of you. This year will offer you a greater sense of independence as you engage in rigorous academics, have the opportunity to join extracurricular activities, and develop new relationships. One of our goals as school counselors is to assist your transition to high school, and this process will begin at Freshman Orientation on Wednesday, August 21st from 10am to 1pm (information on this event is included with this mailing).

The School Counseling program is designed to support your growth in academic and personal/social areas throughout your time at WHS, as well as help you plan and prepare for life after high school. We do this through a variety of individual meetings and group lessons with you each year. During freshman year, the focus is on identity and helping you thrive as individuals, while also becoming a part of the greater WHS community. This includes helping you understand how to connect your interests to academic and extracurricular opportunities while gaining the empowerment to achieve your goals.

We also strive to maintain good communication with you and your family to help build our relationships and keep you informed of important information. To start this process, we ask that you complete two things prior to the start of the year:

1. Fill out the Student Personal Profile included in this envelope, and return it at Freshman Orientation on August 21st. (Also return the Freshman Parent/Guardian Questionnaire that your parent or guardian will complete.)
2. Register your Naviance Account (your personal instructions will be emailed later this summer to your Westborough student email accounts). Naviance is the most commonly used communication tool by our department. It is also a comprehensive website for career and college research and exploration. Each student will have his or her own personal Naviance account to use throughout all four years of high school.

Make sure to check your Westborough student email accounts regularly for updates from us as well as your teachers. You will also receive a Google Calendar invite in your Westborough email account whenever you have an individual appointment with your counselor, with the date and time of the appointment.

We look forward to working with you and your family and encourage you to contact us for any needed support. Enjoy the rest of your vacation. We will see you soon!

Sincerely,

*The Westborough High School Counselors*