Course Offerings and Prerequisites

Please read this document carefully before you select your courses for Spring 2019

1. **Minimum/Maximum Course Load**: All students in grades 10 & 11 must enroll in at least six (6) classes. Seniors are required to take a minimum of five (5) courses if they have met all other requirements; however, this is not recommended by counselors and college admission representatives.

2. **7th Course approval**: Students who request a 7th course MUST have a GPA of 3.0 or above for the 1st grading period in fall 2018. They must have report card evidence while requesting the class. Talk to your counselor if you are not sure about your GPA. Students taking a 7th course MUST understand that they may not have a designated lunch block.

3. **Advanced Placement (AP) Courses**: AP courses are college level courses and require more commitment, effort, and time than regular courses. Please refer to the Advanced Placement Course Expectations sheet for more information. You are required to complete this form, sign it and submit it to the counseling office.

4. **Courses/Teachers/Block not guaranteed**: Students are not guaranteed their selection of courses, sections, or teachers. The limit on course offerings, section numbers, and class size may make it necessary to balance some classes and to close others.

5. **Class Schedule during Blocks 1-8**: All students MUST be prepared to have a Block 1-8 class schedule in an effort to provide all students with complete schedules, to balance class size, and to meet the State requirements for instructional minutes.

6. **Block 8 Exemption Application Procedures**: Under certain circumstances, students may request a Block 8 exemption. The Block 8 Exemption form is available in the Counseling Office and must be submitted to Ms. Chu, by November 3, 2018. Approval will ONLY be granted for:
   a. Students who participate in after school Mayor’s Youthworks, MYEEP internships, and/or are engaged in internships related to district sponsored programs;
   b. Students with medical/health reasons;
   c. Applicants with reasons specified under category “a” and/or “b” must submit a letter on official letterhead from the approved employer or from the doctor with signature and contact information;
   d. Students who are on a sports team. This is based on the official list of the students’ names given by Mr. Ray, the Athletic Director.

7. **Teachers**: Students are not guaranteed the same teacher in any sequential course during the school year (from fall to spring). However, if you are in a designated year-long AP class in Science, World Language, Social Studies, English, and VPA marked with a “*”, you must sign up with the same teacher.

8. **Math**: Only freshmen and sophomores who are currently enrolled in two required math classes in the fall semester may request the same two math classes for the spring semester. For all other students, adds will be considered ONLY after arena schedules are complete.

9. **UC/CSU Requirements**: Courses that can be used to satisfy UC a-g requirements are labeled accordingly. All courses used to meet UC/CSU requirements must have a grade of C or better.

10. **UC Honor Level Courses**: The University of California assigns extra weight to grades received in honor level courses to encourage students to undertake more challenging work. While all honors courses taught at Lowell are acceptable in meeting the UC a-g course requirements, not all honors courses are assigned extra weight.

11. **PE/PEIS Requirements**: PE Independent Study is offered only to 9th and 10th graders with concurrent enrollment in a JROTC course. Please refer to SFUSD BOE policy regarding PE requirements for students in grades 10-12.

12. **Teacher Assistant and Student Aide**: Students may work as a teacher assistant in the classroom and/or a student aide in the office to gain valuable working experience while earning credits towards graduation. A
maximum of ten (10) credits for Teacher Assistant or ten (10) credits for Student Aide may be earned while attending Lowell. Students wishing to work as a Teacher Assistant or Student Aide should first make arrangements with the staff member for whom they wish to work. Students must submit the TA form in the first 2 weeks of the spring semester.

13. **Counseling**: Students with questions regarding course choices or course requirements should seek help from their assigned counselors.