

## *Frequently Asked Questions for New Students*

### **When is the first day of school?**

This year, Freshmen will have a “Freshmen-only” day on either Thursday, Sept. 10 or Friday, Sept 11 depending on your last name. Here is the alphabetical distribution:

<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>A-Ka</b>	Thursday, September 10th
<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>Ke-Z</b>	Friday, September 11th

*\*Students new to JD in grades 10-12 will be contacted by their School Counselor to arrange orientation.\**

Freshman will start their day with a socially distanced meeting in the auditorium, followed by shortened classes that will include “A” and “B” days

The official start of the school year will be **Monday, September 14th**. Those students in Groups A & C will report to the high school, while the students in Groups B & E will be expected to sign into their courses remotely. Students in Group B will begin their in-person instruction on Thursday, September 17th. Please refer to the August 13 Community Letter from Dr. Smith at [www.jamesvilledewitt.org](http://www.jamesvilledewitt.org) to determine your student grouping.

All students will have a temperature screening when they enter the high school building each day.

### **What should I bring the first day of school?**

Plan to bring:

A face mask

A pen and pad of paper to write down any supplies your teacher recommends for you

Lunch or lunch money

Your schedule, written out on the grid that was mailed with your computer-printed schedule

**Are there supply lists for my classes?** There is a general list of supplies on the high school website. During the first week of classes, teachers will discuss more specific materials needed.

**Where should I go when I arrive at the high school on the first day?** On the freshmen only day, you will start in the Auditorium, followed by all of your classes from an “A” and a “B” day. On the first regular day of school (Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>), your day will start with 1st period, and it will be an “A” day. You will go to the class listed for period 1 on “A” days on your schedule. Room numbers at the high school have an easy-to-understand system. The first letter tells you which color hallway the room is in—either G (Green), R (Red) or B (Blue). The letter is followed by a number, and rooms are arranged in numerical order in each hallway. There will be many people helping to direct you on the first day.

**When do I receive my locker and combination?** Due to the Coronavirus precautions, and the close distance between lockers, we will not be using student lockers this year. Locker use may be permitted later in the year if health precautions change.

**What should I do if my schedule doesn't include classes I requested?** Sometimes, students requested an elective that could not be scheduled because it is offered at the same time as a required course. Your counselor has already tried to fit in the elective you requested, but sometimes it will not fit with your core academic courses. In this instance, you may have a study hall scheduled instead of the elective you requested. If this is the case, consider one of the electives offered in the study hall period. A listing of **Electives by Period** is available online at the Counseling Center section of the High School website ([www.jamesvilledewitt.org/highschool](http://www.jamesvilledewitt.org/highschool)). Look under the listing “Helpful Information”. Please email

your counselor to determine if the electives you would like have open seats. *Due to Covid-19 precautions, and the requirement to reduce class sizes to allow for safe social distancing, many electives will not have sufficient space to allow for additional students.*

**What do I need to know about lunch?** Lunches are mixed with underclassmen and upperclassmen. There are two cafeterias near one another and students can choose whichever cafeteria they prefer. The cost of breakfast is \$2.10 and the cost of lunch is \$3.30.

**Can we use backpacks during the day?** Yes. Most students use a backpack throughout the day to carry their books, especially this year when we will not be using lockers.

**How long is each class?** Classes are 83 minutes in length. Lunch is 30 minutes. You will have 4 classes and a lunch every day. Classes offered during the lunch periods are either:

- Period 3-4, totaling 83 minutes, followed by a 30 minute lunch in period 5
- Or Period 4-5, totaling 83 minutes, preceded by a 30 minute lunch in period 3
- Or Period 3 & 5, which is a class that begins with 41 minutes of class (period 3), then a 30 minute lunch break (which is period 4), then students return to the same class for 43 minutes of class, which is period 5.

**How much time do I have between classes?** Students have 4 minutes to move from one class to another. You must be in your classroom when the period bell rings. Students may not be in the hallways during class periods unless you have a pass from your teacher.

**What kind of calculator should I purchase?** The Jamesville-DeWitt Math department uses the TI-84 Plus calculator in its classes, and every classroom has a full set available for student use in the classroom. Many students find it very useful to have their own calculator to use at home, and students are encouraged to purchase a calculator for home use. If you plan to purchase a calculator, you should purchase the TI 84 Plus.

**What happens if I am late to class?** Teachers expect to begin instruction when the bell rings, so teachers assign penalties to students who are tardy to class, ranging from a *warning* to *after-school detention(s)*. Students who are persistently late to class may be referred to an administrator who may assign further consequences.

**What do I do if I am late to school?** If you arrive at school after 7:45 a.m., you must sign in at the Attendance Office to receive a pass that allows you to enter your class. A note from your parent explaining the reason for your tardiness must be turned in to the Attendance Office. The Student Handbook, which can be found on the homepage of the high school website, outlines the reasons that are determined to be “excused” and “unexcused”. There are disciplinary consequences for unexcused tardiness as explained in the Code of Conduct.

**What do I do if I am absent from school due to illness?** Your parent or guardian should call the Attendance Office at 445-5227. When you return to school, you must bring a **written excuse** from your parent or guardian to the Attendance Office explaining the reason for your absence.

**How can I get work if I am absent?** If a student is out of school due to illness, the student (or if the student is unable, their parent) should email the student’s teachers to request work. The email should include an expected date of return as well as some information about the student’s ability to complete work at home, given their medical condition. Work will be sent electronically by teachers or will be

available on Google Classroom. When you return to school, you should plan to meet with your teachers and to make up any missed tests or quizzes. Teacher email addresses are listed under “staff email” on the Jamesville-DeWitt High School website.

**How should I use the block schedule to manage my time?** Since you will have most academic classes every other day, you should plan to do the homework for each class in the afternoon or evening of the day it was assigned. If you need additional direction from your teacher, please email your teacher to determine the best way to get additional help.

**How do I join a club?** Extracurricular clubs and activities are an important part of the student experience at JD. As 2020-21 begins, we are still working to find the best ways to offer clubs and activities while keeping our students safe. More information will follow as we determine these plans.

**How do I set up a time to meet with one of my teachers?** Email your teacher or use Google Classroom to arrange an in-person or remote meeting time. Many teachers will be using Wednesdays to conduct “office hours” when students can remotely connect with their teachers.

**What is Activity Period?** The regular class day ends at 2:15 p.m. and students are dismissed at that time. In previous years, Activity Period ran from 2:25-3:00 and was an opportunity for students to meet with teachers and for Clubs and Activities to conduct meetings. *However, in 2020-21, we have had to cancel the Activity Period for health and safety reasons. All students must leave the building at 2:15 p.m.*

**How do my parents and I access my grades?** JDHS teachers use Schootool to report your grades. Your high school username and password will give you access. Your parents can request a Schooltool username and password by contacting district Technology Director, Philip Luckette at: [pluckette@jd.cnyric.org](mailto:pluckette@jd.cnyric.org).

**How can my parents contact my teachers?** Teachers are available via telephone, email, and through virtual meetings. Teachers can be reached by telephone through the Main Office telephone number (445-8340). Teacher email addresses are available on the high school page of the Jamesville-DeWitt website ([jamesvilledewitt.org](http://jamesvilledewitt.org)). Parents can also access our online grade book system, SchoolTool to obtain information about their child’s academic progress. Report cards are mailed home every ten weeks, and interim reports can be viewed on the SchoolTool website at the mid-point of each marking period. If a parent wishes to meet with all of their child’s teachers, virtual parent-teacher conferences may be arranged by calling their child’s counselor.

**When can I meet with my School Counselor?** Counselors are available throughout the day to meet with students regarding academic, personal and social concerns. You may schedule a meeting with your counselor during your lunch, study hall, or academic prep period by signing up on your counselor’s online schedule (which will be available soon) or by emailing your counselor.

**Who can I contact with additional questions?** The Student Handbook, which is available at the high school website, will answer many of your questions.

**Main Office 315-445-8340**

Mrs. Jacqueline Wheeler	Secretary	<a href="mailto:jwheeler@jd.cnyric.org">jwheeler@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Mr. Paul Gasparini	Principal	<a href="mailto:pgasparini@jd.cnyric.org">pgasparini@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Mr. David Nylen	AssistantPrincipal	<a href="mailto:dnylen@jd.cnyric.org">dnylen@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Ms. Candace Johnson	Assistant Principal	<a href="mailto:cjohnson@jd.cnyric.org">cjohnson@jd.cnyric.org</a>

**Counseling Center 315-445-5274**

Ms. Maryanne Smithers	Secretary	<a href="mailto:msmithers@jd.cnyric.org">msmithers@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Mrs. Barb Barker	Secretary	<a href="mailto:bbarker@jd.cnyric.org">bbarker@jd.cnyric.org</a>

**Counseling Team**

Mrs. Diane Ennis	School Counselor	<a href="mailto:dennis@jd.cnyric.org">dennis@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Mrs. Laura Bond	School Counselor	<a href="mailto:lbond@jd.cnyric.org">lbond@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Mr. Clete Gualtieri	School Counselor	<a href="mailto:cgualtieri@jd.cnyric.org">cgualtieri@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Ms. Denise Becher	School Counselor	<a href="mailto:dbecher@jd.cnyric.org">dbecher@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Mrs. Amy Heveron LeStrange	School Counselor	<a href="mailto:alestrange@jd.cnyric.org">alestrange@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Mr. Will Hartley	Social Worker/ADAPEP	<a href="mailto:whartley@jd.cnyric.org">whartley@jd.cnyric.org</a>
Mrs. Elaine Howe	School Psychologist	<a href="mailto:ehowe@jd.cnyric.org">ehowe@jd.cnyric.org</a>

**Transportation 315-445-8388**

**Athletic Department 315-445-8345**

Mr. John Goodson	Director of Athletics	<a href="mailto:jgoodson@jd.cnyric.org">jgoodson@jd.cnyric.org</a>
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**Health Office 315-445-8329**

Mrs. Heather Cavalluzi	School Nurse	<a href="mailto:hcavalluzzi@jd.cnyric.org">hcavalluzzi@jd.cnyric.org</a>
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**Attendance/ 315-445-5227**

**Working Papers**

Mrs. Pam Breck	HS Attendance Clerk	<a href="mailto:pbreck@jd.cnyric.org">pbreck@jd.cnyric.org</a>
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***2020-2021 School Counselor Student Assignments***

	<i>Ennis</i>	<i>Bond</i>	<i>Gualtieri</i>	<i>Becher</i>	<i>LeStrange</i>
<b>9th Grade</b>	A - Co	Cop - H	I - Mi	Mo - She	Shi - Z
<b>10th Grade</b>	A - Ca	Ce - F	G - L	M - Sh	Si - Z
<b>11th Grade</b>	A - Der	Des - He	Hi - Mc	Me - Sa	Sc - Z
<b>12th Grade</b>	A - Cl	Co - Ha	He - Me	Mi - Sa	Sc - Z