

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration for Richard Montgomery High School for 2012/2013 School Year**  
**PowerPoint Script**  
**November 23, 2011**

*The following script accompanies a Powerpoint presentation on how to register for 9<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Richard Montgomery HS for the 2012-2013 school year. Please follow the bolded prompts to view the slide that corresponds with the appropriate script text.*

**Please view the Title Slide**

The following is a presentation that explains how to fill out the course, registration card for Richard Montgomery High School. This presentation is linked on the counseling page of the Julius West website. In order to complete the registration card, you will need a pencil and pen. Using a pen, please write your last name, first name, and student ID number at the top of your registration card. If you are a “junior,” please include the word “junior” after your last name.

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Please write the name of your future counselor on the line designated “RM Counselor” Counselors at Richard Montgomery are assigned to students based on the first letter of the student’s last name. To find out who your counselor will be, reference the chart shown here.

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After you have entered the name of your future counselor, please write down your date of birth, and enter the contact information for yourself and your parents or guardians. When you are finished, please put your pen down.

If you do not have an email address, please create one in the next few days and write this new email address on your registration card. Many email addresses can be created for free on search engines such as Yahoo and Google. If you do not have a computer at your home, you can create and access email from the computers of any public library or designated computers at Julius West. In high school, email communication is used frequently between students, teachers, counselors, and administrators. As early as this spring, counselors may be communicating with parents and students via email. In a moment, you will start choosing the classes you wish to take at Richard Montgomery next year. Before choosing your classes, it is important to keep the following points in mind:

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Students can mix and match on-level and honors classes. For example, if you want to take on-level English and honors history, you can do so.

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MYP classes cannot be mixed and matched. Either a student takes all MYP classes or none at all. MYP classes are honors level classes that go more in depth and move at a faster pace than non-MYP honors level classes. Therefore, an MYP student is taking all honors level courses; even their electives are honors level, including PE. MYP students will take all MYP classes both their freshman and sophomore years.

If you have applied to be in the Magnet IB Program, please fill out your schedule card for the courses you would like in case you are not accepted into the program. Even if you do not think you will be attending Richard Montgomery next year, please still fill out a registration card. Now please pick up your pencil, not your pen. The remainder of your schedule card will be filled in using a pencil.

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The chart you see on the front side of the registration card lists year-long courses that are divided into halves, which we refer to as Semester 1 and Semester 2. The first half of a class is referred to as the “A” half and is offered first semester. The second half of a class is referred to as the “B” half and is offered second semester. The numbers next to course names are called “Course Codes,” and there are separate course codes for each semester of a class. For example, English 9A is taught first semester and has a course code of 1311. English 9B is taught second semester and has a course code of 1312.

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Please now focus on the first numbered section of the chart on the schedule card. Section#1 refers to the English class freshman will take at Richard Montgomery for both first and second semester of the school year. Students take the same type of English class both semesters. Please circle the course codes that correspond with the type of English class you would like for both Semester 1 and Semester 2. In this sample card, the student has circled the course codes next to English 9A and English 9B, indicating that this is the course he would like to take. If you are planning on continuing in the MYP Program, you must circle the course codes next to MYP English. Your middle school English teacher will have recommended a specific class for you to take that matches your academic abilities.

Now look at the second numbered section which refers to your history class. Please circle the course codes that correspond with the type of history class you would like to take for Semester 1 and Semester 2. Students wishing to continue in the MYP program, please circle the course codes for MYP Government.

Students choosing to continue in the MYP Program may have the option of taking Pre-IB Government instead of MYP Government. Both MYP Government and Pre-IB Government are rigorous, enriched classes that cover the MCPS national, state, and local government curriculum. The MYP Government class prepares students for the county exam while the Pre-IB class prepares students for the county as well as the Advanced Placement NSL exam. MYP Government students have the option to take the Advanced Placement NSL exam; however, not many take it. Close to 100% of the Pre-IB Government students take the Advanced Placement NSL exam. Acceptance into the Pre-IB Government class is dependant on your first semester grades during the current school year. If you would like to be considered for the Pre-IB Government class, please indicate so at the bottom of your schedule card.

Please direct your attention to the third numbered section, which refers to your math level next year. Please follow your teacher’s math level recommendation and write in the name of the math class that corresponds to your teacher’s recommendation. Leave the area for the Math course code blank for now. If you will be taking Algebra I or Geometry next year, please indicate whether you have been recommended for a single period or a double period of your math class next year. This student indicated they have been recommended for a single period of geometry.

Now look at the fourth numbered section which refers to your science class. In high school, your science class is based on your math level. Please listen carefully for the science option that applies to you:

Option 1: If you have been recommended for Algebra 1 or a double period of geometry, please circle the course codes next to either Matter and Energy or Honors Matter and Energy. You can register for either of these classes. If you enjoy science and are getting an A or high B in your current science class, we suggest you consider registering for Honors Matter and Energy.

Option 2: If you have been recommended for a single period of geometry, geometry honors, or a math level higher than geometry next year, please circle the course codes next to Honors Biology.

Option 3: All students wishing to be in the MYP program will circle MYP Biology.

Because the student in this sample card is recommended for a single period of Geometry, he has circled the course codes next to Honors Biology A and Honors Biology B

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Please now look at sections 5 through 7, which refer to the elective courses you can choose to take at Richard Montgomery. Let's start by looking at section 5, which refers to the world language course you may take next year. In high school, most students take at least two years of a world language, and students interested in going to a competitive college usually take four years. If you have room in your schedule, it is highly recommended you take a world language next year. Should you have taken one world language in middle school and wish to start a new one in high school, you are welcome to do so. All students interested in continuing in the MYP Program MUST continue in the same world language they are currently taking. At Richard Montgomery, your world language options include Spanish, French, Chinese, and Latin.

In the box marked "1<sup>st</sup> Choice Language A," please write the name of the world language you would like to take and the level of that language for semester 1. For example, this student did not take a foreign language in middle school, and he would like Spanish 1 in high school, so he wrote "Spanish 1A" in the box marked "First Choice Language A." Next to the phrase "1<sup>st</sup> Choice Language B," you will write the name and level of the world language class you would like to take for semester 2. This student wrote under his second semester option "Spanish 1B." Please remember that you have to take the same world language class and level each semester.

In case your first choice of a world language is not available, please write down your second choice in the boxes marked "2<sup>nd</sup> Choice Language A" and "2<sup>nd</sup> Choice Language B." You can see that for this student, if Spanish 1 is not available, he is happy taking French 1 next year at Richard Montgomery. Please leave the course code boxes of section 5 blank for now.

Now please look at section six, which refers to the PE courses you will take next year. All students who graduate from a Montgomery County high school are required to take one year of PE, and at Richard Montgomery, all freshmen take PE. Please flip to the back of your schedule card to see your PE options.

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Most of our PE options focus on one or two sports only, but our general Physical Education class refers to a class where multiple sports are played throughout the semester. All of our classes are co-ed except for "Body Sculpting," an aerobics and toning focused class just for female students. Our co-ed weightlifting course focuses on traditional free-weights and weight machines. Take a minute to look at the PE options available to you.

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Please flip to the front of your schedule card, and write down the names and course codes for at least two PE classes you would consider taking. You will use the same method in making your PE choice as you did your world language choice. Your first choice for a PE class should be written in the box marked "1<sup>st</sup> Choice PE A" and "1<sup>st</sup> Choice PE B." Your second choice will be written in "2<sup>nd</sup> Choice PE A and 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice PE B," and so forth. Unlike all other classes, PE choices can be mixed and matched. For example, this student has signed up to take soccer for the first semester, and volleyball for second semester. However, for their second choice, this student has chosen General PE for both first and second semester. If you plan on enrolling in the MYP program next year, your only PE choice is MYP PE. Please only write down this PE selection. Leave the rest of the PE boxes blank.

Lastly, please focus on section 7, where you will pick from visual arts, music, theater and technology electives. To graduate from a Montgomery County high school, you are required to take one year of an arts class, which includes visual arts, music, and theatre. You are also required to take one year of a technology course. You will take either an arts class or a technology class your freshman year. MYP students must choose from MYP electives only. Please flip over your registration card to its back to see the electives available to you.

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The “notes” section next of each course lists any requirements for taking that course. For any music classes designated as “by audition only,” a student must audition with either Richard Montgomery’s choral teacher or instrumental music teacher. Richard Montgomery’s choral and instrumental music teachers will come to Julius West Middle School in the spring to hold auditions. Should you miss these auditions for any reason, you may contact the teachers directly to set up an audition time.

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The contact information for our music teachers is shown here. This information is also on the Richard Montgomery webpage should you need it in the future.

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The “notes” section of a technology elective refers to the minimum level of mathematics a student must be enrolled in their freshman year in order to qualify to take that course.

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Once you have determined the arts or technology courses you would most prefer to take your freshman year, please flip over your registration card to its front side.

In section 7, please write the course code numbers and course names for your most preferred arts or technology electives. Just as you did for your world language and PE choices, make sure to write down a second choice for your arts or technology choice in case your first choice is not available.

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Here’s what the bottom of MYP schedule card looks like completed. Remember – all students wishing to continue in the MYP Program must select MYP electives only.

When you are finished filling out your course registration card, you **MUST** review it with your parent or guardian. Both of you need to sign and date the bottom of the card, which indicates that you understand the choices you have made for your class selections next year are considered FINAL. Each year, the selection of teaching staff and courses offered is based on registration information. For example, if only 28 students sign up to take Foundations of Art, only one class period of it will be offered. Therefore, it is very important that you choose your courses carefully. More information on all classes offered at Richard Montgomery is available on the counseling page of the Richard Montgomery website.

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Should you have further questions about filling out a registration card, you can access this presentation on the counseling page of the Julius West website. You can also contact your child’s *current* counselor. To know your child’s class recommendations for next year, email your child’s current teachers directly. Thank you for your attention, and welcome to Richard Montgomery High School.

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