



# ROBERT H. GODDARD HIGH SCHOOL

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High School for Communication Arts and Technology  
Motto: Perseverance\*Achievement\*Civility

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Dr. Joseph J. Birgeles and I am the Principal of the Robert H. Goddard High School. I am truly looking forward to all of the wonderful and exciting programs your children, my students, will be exposed to this year. I know that this year is going to be an exciting and academically enriching year.

To stay informed I have listed below the new and continuing programs taking place here at the Robert H. Goddard High School. This list exemplifies the quality of instruction and programs we offer to your children so they can graduate with an Advanced Regents Diploma and attend the College of their dreams.

- **iLearn:** This year we are offering students a blended learning environment that exposes students to ONLINE academic courses: AP World, AP US, AP Psych, AP ELA, and Health. We believe in online learning because of the accountability options and flexibility it provides for student learning inside and outside of school.
- **Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS):** All schools in NYC are implementing the Common Core Learning Standards which are national standards that have been created to better prepare students for college and career readiness. Our teachers in all subject areas infuse the CCLS to raise both the intellectual rigor and skills required by to be successful on the new NYS Regents Exams. We also have budgeted and planned targeted professional development throughout the year, specifically in Math, to support teachers in meeting the Common Core Standards.
- **Pupil Path-Datacation:** This online tool allows parents to communicate directly with teachers and also gives parents the ability to closely view their child's performance (grades) over the course of the school year. Please contact the school and ask for Mrs. Rose Pino, Parent Coordinator to assist you in receiving your password.
- **Safety:** Please make sure that your child is traveling in a group when walking to/from school. Parents should be well aware of the routes that their children are taking to/from school. If your child is walking from Lindenwood, please make sure that they use the footbridge and are not walking across the Conduit. In addition, remind students that electronic devices (iPods, etc.,) are not to be used during school hours.
- **Lunch Form/Blue Cards:** Please ensure that your child brings back to the high school 2 blue cards containing emergency contact information as well as their lunch forms. Lunch forms are critical for maintaining our Title-I status, which enables us to offer numerous programs and services to maximize your son's/daughter's academic achievement.
- **Programming Policy:** As a college and career high school, we design student programs with the intent of ensuring that students are on track for the Advanced Regents Diploma and are able to take

Advanced Placement Courses. Our goal is for students to graduate in 4-years while preparing them for the college entrance requirements and rigorous college level work. Programming decisions are made in line with this philosophy. For example, Teachers, Assistant Principals, and the Programming Chairperson recommend students, based on academic performance, for AP courses. As a small high school programming flexibility is limited. Therefore, students who are programmed in line with our philosophy above are to remain in their current classes and college preparatory program. This year we are offering two new AP courses: AP Art and AP Computer Science Principles.

- **Academic Discipline:** To improve attendance and minimize student lateness we have instituted an Academic Lunch detention program to provide students with the opportunity to be on track with their academics. Furthermore, to ensure that all students stay on track towards graduating high school in four years we have implemented an academic policy that requires students to pass their classes prior to attending a school dance or senior event. This policy ensures that students work hard in all of their classes so they can be college and career ready.
- **Parent Engagement Night:** Please mark your calendars for our first PTA meeting which will be held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm. Also, make sure you attend our Parent Engagement Night on September 30<sup>th</sup> from 4:30pm-7:30pm. This is a wonderful time to meet your child's teachers and to see firsthand what they will be learning and doing this year at Goddard.
- **Website:** Please visit our website for the most current information about Goddard High School's programs and events. Please visit: [www.Goddardhs308.com](http://www.Goddardhs308.com) for more information..

As always, thank you for your continued support, I look forward to meeting you and working with you over the course of the school year.

Yours in Education,

*Joseph J. Birgeles*

Dr. Joseph J. Birgeles  
Principal

**SUCCESS IS A CHOICE!**