



Ringgold School District

RINGGOLD HIGH SCHOOL

Jason Minniti, *Principal*
Jason M. Marvin, *Assistant Principal*
James Klugh, *Assistant Principal*

#1 Ram Drive
Monongahela, PA 15063

(724) 258-2200
FAX (724) 258-7360

Dear Parents/Guardians of AP Students:

Congratulations on your student's decision to enroll in Advanced Placement classes for the 2016-17 school year.

One important step for students to get ready for education after high school is **taking Advanced Placement (AP) courses and exams while in high school.** By taking AP courses, students experience challenging, college-level work. At the end of each year-long course, students are **required** to take the corresponding AP exam.

Ringgold High School is participating in the National Math and Science Initiative's (NMSI) College Readiness Program. The purpose of NMSI's program is to increase the number of students taking and passing AP math, science and English exams. To achieve this goal, NMSI's College Readiness Program provides intensive content training to AP teachers and continuous support to AP students. **For more detailed information about the NMSI program, please reference the enclosed program information flyer.**

A critical component of NMSI student support is Saturday Study Sessions for AP math, science and English students. On nine Saturdays throughout the 2016-17 school year, NMSI expert teachers from across the United States will lead study sessions for **Ringgold High School** AP students. Working with **Ringgold High School** teachers, the expert teachers will work with students on specific course topics which will prepare them for the AP exam in May. **All sessions are provided at no cost to students and families.**

All students who are enrolled in AP math, science & English courses are expected to attend all Saturday Study Sessions and take the corresponding AP exam in May 2017.

When and where will the Saturday Study Sessions take place?

All sessions will take place on Saturdays from 8:30-1:00 on the following dates:

English: 11/19/2016, 1/7/2017, & 3/4/2017 @ McGuffey High School

Science: 3/18/2017, 4/1/2017, 4/29/2017 @ Trinity High School

Math: 2/4/2017, 3/25/2017, 4/22/2017 @ Ringgold High School

Will transportation be provided?

Transportation will be provided from Ringgold High School for each Saturday Study Session located at either McGuffey HS or Trinity HS.

How do students register?

Students will register via Eventbrite, an online reservation platform. They will receive the appropriate link from their AP teacher(s) roughly 2-4 weeks before each session.

What else do I need to know about the AP program and AP exams?

- **All AP math, science and English exams will be paid for by both NMSI and Ringgold School District.**
- As part of the NMSI AP program, **students will earn \$100 for every qualifying score he/she receives on an AP Math, Science and/or English exam.** A qualifying score is earning a 3, 4 or 5 on AP exams.
- Research shows that students who succeed on AP exams are **three times more likely** to graduate from college in four years with a diploma or certificate than students who do not succeed on AP exams.
- The **college remediation** rate among students who take AP exams is **significantly lower** than among students who do not take AP exams.
- In 2015-16, seven PA schools joined the College Readiness Program. After their first year, those schools saw a combined 108% increase in qualifying math science and English AP scores – more than fifteen times the national average. Moreover, the increase achieved by these seven schools accounted for 25% of the entire state of Pennsylvania’s increase in math, science and English AP qualifying scores (across more than 600 high schools).

If you or your student has any questions about NMSI’s College Readiness Program, or the Saturday Study Sessions, please contact Mrs. Michelle Dvorchak, Site Coordinator or Mr. Jason Marvin, Designated Administrator.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jason Marvin, Assistant Principal