

PTSA Transition Committee Presents:

ANSWERS TO JBHS FRESHMAN FAQ

Day to Day Items (in random order)

1. The Joel Barlow High School schedule is a 7 Day, 8 period rotating model. Each day 1 through day 7, a maximum of 7 classes will meet with one class dropping per cycle.
2. All students must have a minimum of 6 classes per semester and can have a maximum of 7 classes.
3. The lunch takes place during period 5 on Days 1, 6, 7 and during period 6 on days 2,3,4,5. There are 25 minute lunch shifts during the period. Students will attend one of the shifts depending on their classroom location. The teacher will inform students which lunch shift they will have at the beginning of each semester.
4. The Activity Period (a.k.a X-Period) occurs one time during the 7 day cycle on day 2. Students can choose from over 40 activities. If a student would like to change their activity they would need to see the Dean of Students.
5. There is a designated drop-off and pick up area in front of the school. In the morning for drop off parents may use the bus loop. In the afternoon for pick up parents will need to use the inner loop with the parking area. These areas are marked.
6. Students who are late for school will need to sign in at the Security Office in the Main Lobby as soon as they arrive. (See Tardy Policy on page 44 of JBHS Student/Parent Handbook for clarification of excused and unexcused Tardies).
7. If a student needs to leave school early a note must be submitted to the Security Office.
8. A request for an excused absence must be submitted in writing to the Assistant Principal for approval. (Page 35 of the Student/Parent Handbook for details).
9. Early Dismissal Days end at 12 noon. Some Professional Development Days will be designated for a late arrival which would start at 10 AM.
10. Dynacal is the official school calendar that lists all athletic, curricular and co-curricular events held at JBHS. This calendar can be found on the JBHS website. www.joelbarlowps.org
11. All students are assigned a locker at the beginning of the school year. The locker number can be found on the upper left hand corner of the student's schedule. If a student wishes to have a lock one can be provided to them from Data Processing for a \$5 fee. Students are not allowed to use their own locks.
12. Students who wish to request a change to their schedule should see their school counselor. Request to change class for the 1st semester must be received prior to August 1st. Request for 2nd semester schedule changes must be submitted prior to December 1st.
13. If a student has a question on a grade they should first speak to their teacher directly. If they are not satisfied with the results they should then make an appointment to see their counselor.
14. Students are assigned to the School Counselors by alphabet.
15. JBHS has two Assistant Principals. Students are assigned to Assistant Principals according to their graduation class: 9 & 11; 10 & 12.
16. Supplies for school include pens, pencils, a notebook for each class, file folders, and all math classes require a calculator - The TI-84Plus. Individual teachers might require specific supplies in addition to these.
17. Course selection takes place during the month of January with the students' school counselor.
18. All long term academic planning can be found in the JBHS Program of Studies published yearly and available online.
19. Course weight information is available in the Program of Studies.

Extra Help & Enrichment

1. Students can opt to sign in to the Commons area located in the cafeteria during an unassigned study period. They can also choose to go to the Media Center, Academic Center, or the Writing Resource Center during this time.
2. The Academic Center is a room located in the A Hallway that is staffed every period throughout the day with faculty and staff to assist students with course work and homework. It is open to all students in all four grades.
3. The Writing Lab is a room located in the A Hallway that is staffed every period throughout the day with faculty and staff to assist students with writing across disciplines.
4. The Writing Room is open and supervised until 4 PM daily for student use. The Media Center is open and supervised until 3:15 daily for student use. If for some reason these areas are to be closed to students during these times announcements are made via the school PA.

Athletics

1. Information and forms for participating in sports can be found in several places including the Barlow website (Athletics page). There are also three mailings sent home each year (including a mailing in April/May that is sent to next fall's incoming freshmen). Forms are also available in the Athletics Office, the Nurse's Office and the Main Office.
2. Tryout information is sent home each April/May for the upcoming fall season. The school calendar also has all practice/tryout information. (Dynacal is the official school calendar that lists all athletic, curricular and co-curricular events held at JBHS. This calendar can be found on the JBHS website. www.joelbarlowps.org).
3. Buses are provided for most off-campus practices, including to Redding Community Center and Newtown Youth Academy for soccer, Weston HS for lacrosse, and Helen Keller MS for baseball. Transportation is not provided for swimming practices/meets, or for ice hockey practices/games.
4. The only intramural opportunity offered through Athletics is bowling (but not enough students signed up this year, so we didn't have a team). Club activities are not administered through the Athletics Office.
5. Anyone can attend any sporting event. There is no charge for most games, but there are a few exceptions. We charge for varsity football, ice hockey, and basketball games. We also charge for night games for soccer, lacrosse, and field hockey. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for students grades 1-12, and \$2 for Barlow Seniors. Children 6 and under, senior citizens, and military personnel are admitted free of charge.
6. We also charge for SWC and CIAC tournament games, but the funds from those contests go directly to those organizations. Current tournament games admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for students.
7. Students may use the locker room to store equipment, but it is highly suggested that all items be secured in a locker, as JBHS is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Several teams have in-season access to a team room that is specific to their sport as well.
8. Each student is assigned a PE locker during freshman year, and that same locker stays with the student during his/her entire career at Barlow. Locks are provided for each locker.
9. If students are unable to ride the bus to/from a contest or practice, a travel waiver must be filled out, signed by a parent/guardian, and submitted 24 hours in advance (or the morning of the contest/practice at the very latest).
10. Unfortunately, there is no current map of the athletic fields or associated parking areas. There was a map made during the building project, but it is not accurate and depicts fields that do not exist. The Athletics Department does not have the capacity to make maps of the campus.

Music

1. For performers-All performance courses are semesterized but enrollment in both semesters is strongly recommended.
2. Singers can enroll in Chorus I.
3. String Players (violin, viola, cello, upright bass) can enroll in Orchestra.
4. Brass/Woodwind Players (flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba) can enroll in Concert Band.
5. Percussionists (knowledge of reading music and playing concert instruments) can enroll in Concert Band
6. Jazz Ensemble enrollment is by audition only for (saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, bass, drums). Advanced ability to read music is a must. Auditions for Jazz Ensemble occur in the first few weeks of the school year.
7. All of the above are academic courses at Barlow and meet within the school day except for Jazz Ensemble which meets one evening and one afternoon per week.
8. Non-performers can enroll in Music Appreciation or Music Theory.

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