

The Academies of Secaucus High School Mathematics & Science Academy

**Student/Parent/Faculty/Administrator Manual
2009-2010**

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Est. 2003

Introduction

The Math and Science Academy was created in 2003 in a collaborative effort among the science department supervisor at the time and the high school administration. It was formed in order to address the need to boost potential talent and leadership in exceptional students who were interested in a mathematics, science, and/or engineering career. In addition, it provides students with the opportunity to travel in small learning communities throughout their high school career (the students will travel with their colleagues for a period of four years in the almost all of the same classes.) Research has proven that students achieve more with smaller groups and more personal attention is given to them by their science teachers throughout their time in high school. In the senior year of this academy, students are also given the opportunity to take an internship with various institutions around the area pertinent to math and science careers, which may include some exceptional colleges and research institutions. Just recently, partnerships were fostered with NJIT and St. Peters College to offer college credits for the A.P. courses the Academy students are taking. Many of these opportunities are not afforded to students outside of the academy.

This manual is being developed to give a detailed picture of what the Math and Science Academy at Secaucus High School entails. With the new state and national accountability regulations set in place within the past few years, it is imperative that we as a high school give a clear account of what we do here on a daily basis. Any questions about the Math and Science Academy, whether it is from a parent, student, teacher, or administrator, can be answered using this comprehensive information manual. In doing this, the high school can insure that program information can be made available, at any time, to those interested in learning more about this Academy.

Since its inception, there have been a number of changes to the Math and Science Academy here at Secaucus High School. Many of the core courses that we offer to our students have remained the same. However, course schedules in electives have been altered to accommodate changes in state

graduation requirements. Unions with colleges to offer our students college credits have been made and severed. College classes offered at Hudson Community College have been replaced by classes affiliated by NJIT that are being offered on our own Secaucus High School campus in order to minimize the hassles of busing. This program has been continuously assessed every academic year, with input from the students, faculty, and parents associated with the Academy, in order to offer the program best suited to our students. Many students who have been members of the Math and Science Academy for four years have been convinced that this program has been a great experience for them.

Although this program has proven to be highly successful here at Secaucus High School, many issues and shortcomings could always be addressed. For example, the new NJIT college classes that are being taught on campus require certain materials and laboratory resources that are not typically found in the high school science laboratories and are relatively expensive to purchase. Although our Academy labs can be partially performed without these materials, it would be beneficial to have them at our disposal. In addition, true Academy classes should be run with only Academy students in them. Many of our classes designated for these students are combined with Honors students and, in some cases for electives, average-level students. In time, the administration should contemplate a way to properly staff our classes in order to provide them with the proper learning communities that would warrant a true academy.

Vision Statement

The Academies at Secaucus High School foster a positive learning environment that generates critical-thinkers, skillful communicators, autonomous learners, and technologically proficient citizens. Teachers and students in the Math and Science Academy integrate academic and occupation-related classes as a way to augment real-world relevance while maintaining high academic standards. Following an intensive schedule of rigorous core courses, in addition to out-of-class experiences in areas pertinent to math and science in the real world, students graduate with an appreciation for the relevance and understanding of community responsibilities and knowledge of life skills and can use that knowledge to prepare for and succeed in prestigious university level courses.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to ignite and nurture creative, ethical scientific minds that can potentially advance the human condition. The Math and Science Academy provides teaching and learning experiences outside of the typical high school curriculum that focus on imagination, inquiry, problem-solving, and integration of various disciplines to ultimately foster more project-based instruction. The program also strives to establish small learning communities housed within the larger high school environment, designed to encompass a particular course of study and personalize education through a specific content focus and hands-on experiences with experts in the math and science fields.

Admission

Admission to the Math and Science Academy is highly competitive. Selection criteria include the completion of a common Academy application, exceptional grades in math and science courses in the middle school, teacher recommendation, and a personal essay. Typically, placement is restricted to students receiving a grade of an A or higher in Algebra 1 Honors and an A or higher in Science 8 Honors in the middle school. However, the ultimate decision on a student's academy admission is

made by the building principal and upon recommendation by the math and science department facilitators.

Curriculum

The Math and Science Academy's school-within-a-school structure supports constructive relationships between and among students and teachers by grouping students together each year to take a number of rigorous math and science courses with increased student support and individualized attention. Students are grouped into their respective academy upon acceptance in the 9th grade. Although other non-academy students may be placed in certain academy classes, each particular Math and Science Academy group will travel together each year in their core program classes. In their Senior year students will have a choice to break away from their Academy pack and will have the option to pick a number of internships as part of a collaborative effort established by the student, internship coordinator, and the institution.

In addition, by taking the required Academy classes on the Secaucus High School campus, students will be able to earn college credit in many of their A.P. math and science courses. A number of the Secaucus High School faculty members are also considered to be adjunct professors at a number of prestigious collegiate institutions around the tri-state area, providing Academy students with the opportunity to earn a number of college credits without leaving the confines of the school building. In their junior year of the Academy program, students will have the option of purchasing 3 credits at a discounted rate from St. Peters University when taking their A.P. Environmental Science course on-site at the Secaucus High School campus. In addition, Academy students will be able to exclusively get NJIT credit (at no cost) for their College Chemistry course (equivalent to an A.P. Chemistry course) and their College Calculus course. In their senior year, a College Physics course (equivalent to A.P. Physics C) will also earn them a number of college credits, accepted at many state and private institutions around the country.

In addition to having the select experience of earning a number of low or no-cost college credits in their academy classes, students will also be able to make connections to many institutions, both academic and professional, through their Academy seminars and Internship experiences.

Approximately once a month, seminars will be organized to incorporate group question and answer sessions among math and science teachers and Academy students in addition to various career presentations from professionals in the workforce. In previous years, guest speakers at such seminars included doctors, chiropractors, reproductive geneticists, food science professionals, and various types of engineers. These professionals also opened the door to establishing productive internships at various institutions of student interest. Such experiences included being intimately involved in professional practices working with doctors, nurses, physical therapists, athletic trainers, and neuroscientists. Periodically throughout the school year, career day field trips include bringing Math and Science Academy students to various universities to explore a number of potential math and science careers. The opportunities to speak to professors and students currently enrolled in such programs often arise and student issues about the college application process are often resolved.

There are currently plans to offer senior Academy students a Project-based Technology course during their second semester. In theory, the course should offer students the opportunity to construct a senior project based on a culmination of what they learned in the previous four years of the Academy. This program will run for part or all of the spring semester of senior year and consist of a portfolio based assessment. The exact specifications of the course and its specific assessments will be determined at a later date when its curriculum is written by its designated instructor.

Science Fair

Many would agree that this prestigious program should stand out above and beyond the norm. Therefore, involvement in the yearly Secaucus Middle and High School Science Fair is mandatory for all Math and Science Academy students. The Science Fair provides students with a creative

outlet for their yearly science work, in addition to keeping parents and the rest of the Secaucus community informed on what their students are doing in their core classes throughout the course of the year. The Science Fair is held in late March/early April each school year, which gives students an ample amount of time in to begin working on a substantial project. As it currently stands, the following is a list of prospective projects for each grade of Academy student:

Freshmen Academy Students:

Individual research projects - a combination of Biology and Chemistry concepts.

Sophomore Academy Students:

Individual research projects - Physics and/or Human Anatomy/Physiology project.

Junior Academy Students:

A group project – a combination of Environmental Science and advanced Chemistry.

Senior Academy Students:

An advanced Physics/Technology Project-Based venture (class, individual, or group)

Course of study

The following is a list and brief description of the core courses the Mathematics and Science Academy students are required to take over the course of their high school career. This list is subject to change depending on the changing requirements of the state department of education and the administration of Secaucus High School. A complete list of the remaining classes students are required to take can be found in the 'Program of Studies' available in the guidance office.

Freshman Year

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------|--------------|
| Biology Honors/Academy | L/1 | 9 | 5 cr. |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------|--------------|

Prerequisites: Science 8 Honors, Algebra 1 Honors

geometry program demands greater student initiative and participation. Additional topics such as transformations and mappings and areas and volumes of solids will be studied in this course.

Algebra II - Trigonometry Honors/Academy L/1 9 5 cr.

Prerequisite: Department Recommendation

This course is designed for the above average mathematics student in preparation for Pre-calculus and Calculus. Since it demands greater initiative and participation, students must be highly motivated in order to succeed. This course presents a discussion of functions over the system of real numbers with an emphasis on trigonometric functions.

Sophomore Year

Human Anatomy & Physiology Academy L/2 10 5 cr.

Prerequisite: Biology

A survey course designed for students interested in science and health related fields. Emphasis will be on detailed studies of human structure and function with a concentrated examination of present day technology and career opportunities in the health sciences. Enrollment in this course as an Academy member requires mandatory involvement in the SHS/MS Science Fair.

Physics Honors/Academy L/1 10 5 cr.

Prerequisite/Core requisite: Pre-Calculus Honors

An accelerated, in-depth course providing the student with an understanding of the physical world by a study of five basic areas: mechanics, thermodynamics, light, electricity and magnetism. Enrollment in this course as an Academy member requires mandatory involvement in the SHS/MS Science Fair.

Pre-Calculus Honors/Academy L/1 10 5 cr.

Senior Year

A.P. Biology L/5 12 10 cr.

Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry (Human Anatomy and Physiology is strongly encouraged)

This is an advanced level Biology course. A college text will be used to follow a curriculum outlined by the College Board. Laboratory activities are an integral part of the course. All students are encouraged to register for the A.P. Biology exam after taking this course. Enrollment in this course as an Academy student requires mandatory involvement in the SHS/MS Science Fair.

A.P. Physics C/NJIT Physics 111, 111A, 121, 121A L/5 12 10 cr.

Prerequisites: Algebra II, Geometry, Physics, and Calculus (can be taken concurrently)

This college level course covers concepts of both classical and modern Physics. Five general areas include Newtonian Mechanics, Thermal Physics, Electricity & Magnetism, Waves & Optics, and Atomic & Nuclear Physics. This advanced level of Physics requires a basic knowledge of calculus. Academy students will receive 8 college credits in NJIT Physics 111, 111A, 121, and 121A upon successful completion of the course. Non-academy students may elect to purchase these credits at a nominal cost. Enrollment in this course as an Academy study requires mandatory involvement in the SHS/MS Science Fair.

Project-Based Technology (Proposed Course) 11, 12 5 cr.

As one of the final cumulative experiences of each Mathematics & Science Academy student's program of study, the project-based technology course truly sets students apart. The focus of this course is centered on a specific aspect of technology while integrating the foundational topics covered in the preceding years of Academy study. Students will elect to complete a class project, individual projects, or small group projects with the instructor acting as a facilitator. Successful completion of this course requires a significant amount of independent work, a multimedia

presentation of the experience, a written summation of the course (student portfolio), and an oral presentation.

Academy Internship**12****5 cr.**

The Academy Internship is offered to those seniors who are enrolled in any Academy Program offered by Secaucus High School. By interning in local industries/businesses pertinent to the Academy, students will have the opportunity to get hands-on experience in the professional realm, in addition to utilizing the acquired skills obtained through four years of intensive Academy work. The ultimate intention of this internship is to have the Academy students acquire the real-world experience and skills that are not possible to obtain within the confines of a high school classroom, preparing them for higher education and/or employment in industry. Internship assessment will be determined by the coordinator or department facilitator before the internship commences.

Standards Clarification Project: Mathematics & Science

All of the courses offered in the Secaucus School District follow the recommendations of the State Department of Education's Core Curriculum Content Standards pertaining to the grade level and subject area being taught. Many of the courses offered by the Mathematics and Science Academy are continuously tailored to its student members, but never stray from adhering to the Math and Science Standards of the state. The recent completion of the Standards Clarification Project provides a simple way of confirming the coverage of the various standards in each subject area.

The framework from which our Mathematics and Science Academy courses are constructed is contained in an excerpt from the New Jersey Department of Education's Standards Clarification Project pertaining to the Mathematics and Science disciplines. A copy can be found online at:

http://www.ntuaft.com/Departments/Research_Communication/standardsclassification/Webpage/Main%20CCCS%20Page.htm.

The 2009 New Jersey Standards Revision Project

Many will argue that scientific literacy is integral to our children's future, and to our future understanding of our technology-rich world. The newly instated N.J. Science standards recognize the need for our students to not only capture the concepts discussed in many science classes, but to experience science in many different inquiry-based ways. Suggestions on what should be included in a student's high school lab science experience are located in this novel document, and include the following:

- Physical manipulation of authentic substances or systems
- Interactions with simulations
- Interactions with authentic data
- Access to large databases
- Remote access to scientific instruments and observations

Our Math and Science Academy classes are built upon the same principals that are exemplified in the new standards. It was built upon a more student-centered approach to science education, where the instructors serve as facilitators of information when needed and where learners are consistently engaged in inquiry. The Academy integrates 21st century knowledge and skills with a strong emphasis on technology integration into the curriculum, interdisciplinary connections to various subjects, and infusion of global perspectives. Using the standards based suggestions as guidelines, the following will highlight how the Math and Science Academy classes already foster scientific literacy.

Physical Manipulation of Authentic Substances or Systems

Many of the science labs are equipped with the fundamental supplies that are needed to perform hands-on chemistry experiments, dissections of a number of different animal species, and investigations of physics concepts such as force, motion, and electricity. In addition we are lucky

enough to be surrounded by a true marsh ecosystem that provides our students with the opportunities to perform authentic manipulations of sample data from a natural system. Our Academy classes are infused with these hands-on activities that include various forms of individual and group assessments.

Interactions with Simulations

The addition of smart boards, promethean boards and speedy internet connections have provided our students with the opportunities to experience phenomena they wouldn't be able to experience in the classroom alone. Simulation programs have been used in Environmental Science courses, where students could observe the results of their manipulation of a natural safari systems and populations of certain species in a specific ecosystem. In addition, TI-82 calculators are readily used in the math classroom to observe student operations in complex equations, in addition to internet based math review software that is currently being utilized in many, if not all, of the Academy mathematics classes. A.P. Biology courses have used the smart boards to perform virtual labs that could not be performed adequately in the high school science classroom. The addition of Vernier probes have enhanced a number of science courses by accurately measuring acceleration, velocity and other forms of motion that would not be measured in real time by the naked eye.

Interaction with Authentic Data

The same probeware that is readily used in the physics classroom is also used to measure aspects of the environment, such as temperature (air and water), dissolved oxygen, pH, nitrate and phosphorous levels more accurately than with manual devices. The addition of Safari montage could provide authentic data for student analysis in many different ways. For example, an informative video on the life cycle of the butterfly could lend itself to have students predict how the life cycle of a similar organism compares to it. The addition of two new spectrophotometers this year to the Chemistry laboratory will open the door to many of the advanced laboratory activities requiring such

complex equipment, allowing students to analyze many unknown substances and distinguish the differences in certain liquids.

Access to Large Databases

Many, if not all of the Academy students have access to a number of scientific databases that can provide a number of articles, videos, databases, simulation programs, templates, and other useful tidbits that will assist them in excelling in their respective classes. For example, the Human Genome Project has been integral in understanding the particulars of genetic engineering and gene therapy. Students who have access to such a database can be exposed to information that will make learning complex biological concepts a little easier. The wealth of information contained in such databases serves as a great foundation of a number of activities and assessments in the classroom.

Remote Access to Scientific Instruments and Observations

In many Academy math and science classes, remote information are obtained from a number of other places in the region and sometimes, even remote areas of the world. For example, laboratory results in certain experiments have been shared with other schools using internet access. By doing this students gain another perspective on how things are done in other areas of the country and how data can be interpreted in different ways. Population studies have also been performed comparing countries from all around the world using data collected on certain websites.

Technology

Now more than ever, there is a dire need to keep up with technological advances of the real world. As stated previously, the Math and Science Academy has been utilizing various forms of technology in the classroom since its inception. In addition, there is promise of updating the computer systems in the high school for the upcoming school year, bringing us up-to-date in terms of much needed functional hardware and software. Sufficient to say, we will theoretically be in full

compliance of the updated standards in terms of the suggested technology that should be integrated into many aspects of the high school classroom.

Guidance and Mentoring

With such a rigorous schedule and hectic school day, Academy student are in no doubt in need of continuous guidance through their high school careers. Fortunately, there are many staff members that are available for guidance and mentoring for each student in need. Typically, every student that enters Secaucus High School is assigned a guidance counselor who will provide an adequate amount of guidance to those who need it. Academy students will have the advantage of getting additional mentorship from the department facilitators for Math and Science and, in the younger Academy member's case, older students who have been through the Academy steps in previous years. Academy seminars will periodically give students a chance to touch base with department facilitators, department staff members, and other Academy students on a monthly basis.

In previous years, the department facilitator, along with guidance from the administration, would be the one making the integral day-to-day decisions for Academy students and be in charge of continuously assessing the programs. With the input from their staff and students who previously experienced the Academy, the facilitator seems to be the one best equipped to decide what direction future Academy programs should take.

The internship could potentially lend itself to being a great mentoring opportunity for Academy students. Students usually pick their internships based on their interests and career preferences, so the employers involved in partnership can serve to be the ultimate mentor for the students in the peak of their Academy careers. The internship coordinator can also serve as a mentor at the time, working with the student on what they would like to achieve during this point in high school. At that point, the coordinator should take into account that the student will be making most of their

own decisions based on their own interests and they should facilitate any prospective connections that these students can potentially make.

Recognition

When students accomplish a feat such as going through four years of the Mathematics and Science Academy, there is no doubt that they should be acknowledged in a significant way at the time of their graduation. Currently, students in this particular Academy are acknowledged when their name is announced at graduation and a medal is given along with their diploma. Additionally, certificates of recognition or plaques can be given to senior Academy members at the senior awards night in June of each year. Other thoughts on additional recognition could include a publication in the local newspaper highlighting the students who graduated with Academy distinction, and creating a link dedicated to the Academies of Secaucus High School on the High School web page. In that way, parents and the community can be updated on what their sons/daughters are accomplishing on a regular basis. In addition, there are various publications around the school that can highlight accomplishments of the Academy, such as the Patriot Press and the periodic Guidance newsletter to parents. The installation of additional bulletin boards around the department, or the utilization of corridor space on the second floor of the high school can be designated to highlighting accomplishments of Academy students. Finally, there is always the possibility of morning announcements and campaigning by posting fliers around the building premises.

Conclusion

The philosophy has been consistent in creating every Academy here at Secaucus High School; prepare our student to become informed citizens ready to excel with 21st century skills, providing them with the opportunities that would not be available in a typical high school curriculum. Because we are afforded a strict focus of Mathematics and Science vocation paths in this particular Academy, we can offer our students the exposure to various career-related opportunities through various

internships and visitations. By being the first Academy at Secaucus High School, the Mathematics and Science Academy has provided a solid foundation for other Academies to flourish. It has proven to provide our students with the preparation they need in order to excel in various Mathematics and Science careers, and has given Secaucus High School a new, distinguished look.

The Academies of Secaucus High School Mathematics & Science Academy

**Student/Parent/Faculty/Administrator Manual
2009-2010**

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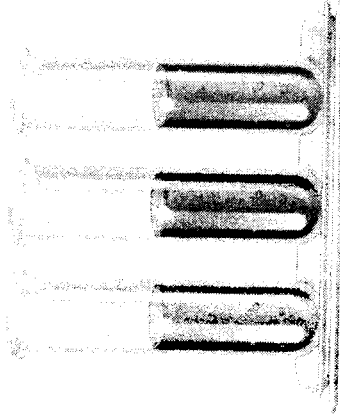
11 Mill Ridge Road
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Est. 2003

“WE STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE”

Objectives

- ✓ To offer students a variety of professional opportunities and career training.
- ✓ To increase student awareness, acceptance, and respect for Mathematics, Science and the Arts.
- ✓ To expose students to the importance of our natural environment as it relates to the process of science and technology.
- ✓ To provide students with career exploration and employment skills to become independent lifelong learners.
- ✓ To assist every individual student exceed the requirements of the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards in all disciplines.
- ✓ To provide opportunities for students to develop their talents into career goals.
- ✓ To have students demonstrate a willingness to take educational risks in exploring new concepts involving innovations and technology.



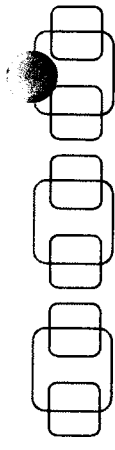
Alumni

Michael Lienhard, Salutatorian of the Science Academy Class of 2008
Currently attending Georgetown University

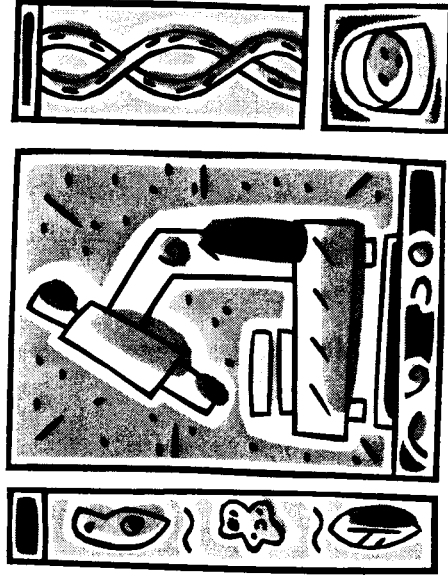
“The Science Academy extensively prepared me for the level of intensity of science and math courses that I had at Georgetown University. I often find myself smiling and silently thanking the Science Academy for the benefits it has given me.”

Maria Velkova, Science Academy Class of 2008
Currently attending Rutgers University

“The Mathematics and Science Academy is an outstanding program at Secaucus High School, which integrates a number of rigorous science, math, and humanities courses to educate young people at an accelerated pace. I am honored to have been the first woman to graduate from this exceptional program and hope others will also

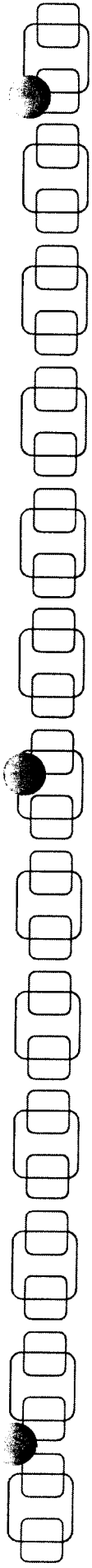


The Secaucus High School Mathematics and Science Academy



*“We Strive for
Excellence”*

Secaucus High School
11 Millridge Road
Secaucus, NJ 07094



S.H.S Mathematics

Established in 2003 by Secaucus High School to develop talent and leadership in science, engineering, and mathematics, the Secaucus High School Mathematics and Science Academy had become recognized for inspiring, challenging and providing invaluable opportunities to those students who will use their exceptional abilities to inspire other people's lives

Admission

Admission is competitive. Selection will be based on performance in previous mathematics and science classes, teacher recommendations and a personal essay. A common Academy application is available in the guidance office

Mission Statement

Our mission is to ignite and nurture creative, ethical scientific minds that can potentially advance the human condition. The Math and Science Academy provides teaching and learning experiences outside of the typical high school curriculum that focus on imagination, inquiry, problem-solving, and integration of various disciplines to ultimately foster more project-based instruction. The program also strives to establish small learning communities housed within the larger high school environment, designed to encompass a particular course of study and personalize education through a specific content focus and hands-on experiences with experts in the math and science fields.

Mathematics and Science Academy Curriculum

Recommended Pre-Requisites: An 'A' in Algebra I Honors and Science 8 Honors

Fall

Italian I/Spanish I
English 9 Honors
Geometry Honors/Academy
Biology Honors/Academy

Ninth Grade

World Civilization
Physical Education/Health
Algebra II-Trigonometry Honor Academy
Chemistry Honors/Academy

Tenth Grade

Italian II/Spanish II
English 10 Honors
Pre-Calculus Honors/Academy
Physics Honors/ Academy

Us History I
Human Anatomy & Physiology
Physical Education/Health/Fine Arts
Calculus I/NJIT 102*

Eleventh Grade

A.P. Chemistry/NJIT 125*
A.P. Environmental Science
A.P. Calculus BC/NJIT 111*

A.P. Chemistry/NJIT 126*
A.P. Environmental Science
Physical Education/Health

Twelfth Grade

A.P. Biology
A.P. Physics C/NJIT 111/111A*
English 12
Physical Education/Health

A.P. Biology
A.P. Physics C/NJIT 121/121A*
Project-Based Technology
Internship

***NJIT courses will be taught by NJIT adjunct faculty*

Any questions should be directed to the Secaucus High School Guidance Department

Telephone: (201) 974-2037, 2033, 2039

Fax: (201) 974-0026

The Academies of Secaucus High School

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP – Please select one

_____ SCIENCE & MATH ACADEMY _____ BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

_____ MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY _____ FUTURE TEACHERS ACADEMY
(beginning in the Fall, 2010)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

| | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| First Name | Last Name | School | Today's Date | Grade |
| Address | | City | State | Zip |
| Home Phone Number | Student Alternate Phone Number | Parent Emergency Phone Number | | |

Name of Teacher Reference: _____

Prior Related Experience (summer employment, community work, clubs)

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|------------------------|----------------------|
| From | To | Role/Job Title | Duties |
| Organization or Business Name | | Contact Reference Name | Contact Phone Number |
| From | To | Role/Job Title | Duties |
| Organization or Business Name | | Contact Reference Name | Contact Phone Number |

The Academies of Secaucus High School

Explain why you would like to participate in the academy of choice:

_____ Science & Math Academy

_____ Business & Technology Academy

_____ Media & Communications Academy

_____ Future Teachers Academy

Signature Section:

1. I/We verify the information on this application is true and accurate.
2. I/We have read, understand and agree with the requirements, and understand that all policy and rules for the District of Secaucus remain in effect and apply to any volunteer or other work.
3. I/We understand that any application requires the student to attend either group or individual interview and seminar time after school.

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Student Printed Name | Student Signature | Today's Date |
| Parent/Guardian Printed Name | Parent/Guardian Signature | Today's Date |

Please return this application to the Guidance Office for further verification by the assistant principal and your guidance counselor.

Assistant Principal referral for respect, work ethic and dependability: (Key: 1= Excellent, 2= Good, 3= Fair)

| Rating | Assistant Principal Printed Name | Assistant Principal Signature | Date |
|----------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| Comments | | | |

Counselor Information

| GPA | Counselor Printed Name | Counselor Signature | Date |
|----------|------------------------|---------------------|------|
| Comments | | | |

Secaucus High School

TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENT – as per the respective academy

The following student has applied for acceptance into one of the following Academies of Secaucus High School:

Science & Math Academy

Business & Technology Academy

Media & Communications Academy

Future Teachers Academy

Would you kindly comment of their work ethic, level of respect for others, and dependability.

Name of Student: _____

Name of Teacher: _____

Date: _____

Rating: _____ (1=Excellent, 2=Good, 3=Fair)

Comments: _____

Teacher's Signature: _____

Please return this form *as soon as possible* to the respective department facilitator/teacher:

Science & Math Academy – Dr. Daniela Dimichino

Business & Technology Academy – Felice Wilson

Media & Communications Academy – Debbie Gerbasio

Future Teachers Academy – Kathy Kuchar

Thank you for your time.

The Academies of Secaucus High School

Dear

We are pleased to announce your acceptance into the _____ Academy. Your application has been reviewed and accepted. Requirements for your participation in this program are the following:

- Mandatory seminar attendance.
- Active participation in the seminars.
- Completion of all assignments.
- Community service requirements pertaining to respective academy.

Dr. Dimichino, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Kuchar, and Mrs. Gerbasio have been actively involved in the development of the various academies. We look forward to working with you as you embark on your journey.

Your assignment, to be completed before our first meeting, is as follows:

1. **Identify:** Complete technology inventory
2. **Journal:** Describe the person who most inspired you to achieve your academic goals. This assignment should be 1-2 pages typed, double-spaced, and MLA format.

You may contact any of the staff members, either in person or by email at the addresses listed below, with any questions you may have. If you contact us by email, please put "**Academy**" in the subject box.

Congratulations! We are so pleased to welcome you to this new program.

Sincerely,

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Dr. Dimichino | ddimichino@sboe.org |
| Mrs. Wilson | fwilson@sboe.org |
| Mrs. Kuchar | kkuchar@sboe.org |
| Mrs. Gerbasio | dgerbasio@sboe.org |