University City High School to Offer Nongraded Course

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The University City High School, set to open in West Philadelphia in the fall of 1970, will offer a nongraded study program, tailored for each student's needs.

The Board of Education said yesterday that the high school, specializing in science and mathematics, will allow each student to proceed at his own pace. A quarter of its pupils will be drawn from all over the city, and the rest will come from the neighborhood.

The nongraded program was developed and financed by the U. S. Office of Education, and is in operation at 13 schools across the country.

No Grade Levels

The term "nongraded" means students will not be divided by grade levels.

Upon entering, students will be given special "learning packets" of all their courses for the semester, tailored to suit their individual needs.

A student weak in a particular subject will get extra materials on it in his packet, which contains outlines for various studies and lists of books for the courses.

The packets, said the school officials, will also include the state-mandated courses in social sciences, languages and other subjects.

4-Week Workshop

The packets will be developed by teachers within the city school system.

The officials said 50 teachers will take part in a four-week workshop next summer, sponsored by the school board and the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education.

Dr. Bernard Watson, director of development, said the teachers must be "good writers, excellent instructors and thoroughly familiar with their subjects."

Applications have been sent to teachers throughout the city, he added, and eight have been selected to teach at the new school so far.

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