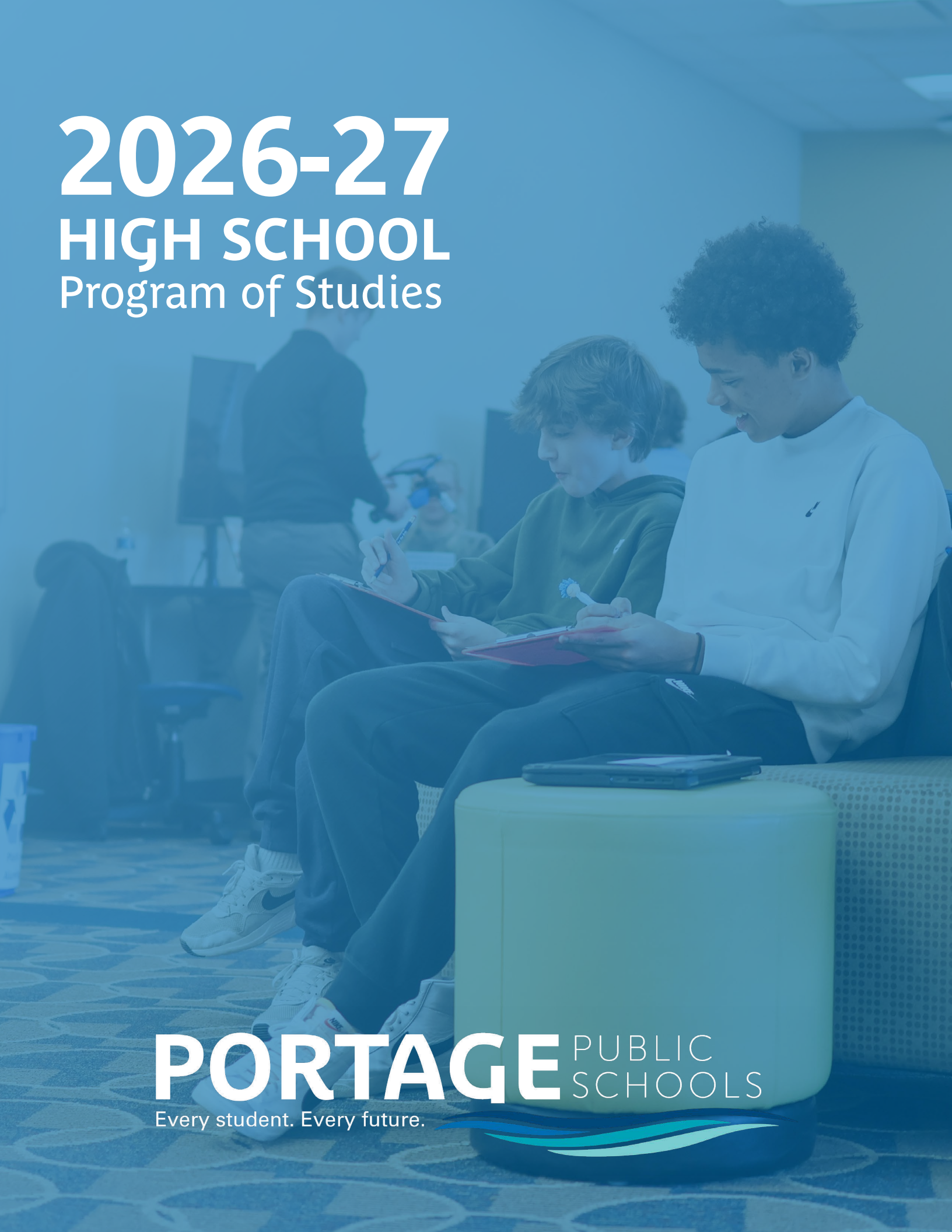
2026-27
HIGH SCHOOL
Program of Studies



PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Every student. Every future.

Vision: An exceptional, continuously improving learning culture, committed to all!
Mission: Portage Public Schools will educate all students to achieve their potential

Portage Central and Northern High Schools
Program of Studies and Information
2026-2027

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NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Portage Public Schools Board of Education has affirmed that "…no person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity…" and therefore encourages students to take courses based on the interest, potentials and abilities rather than past stereotyping cast upon them due to gender.

Table of Contents

Your program of studies can help you….

- Review your progress
- Plan your classes each year
- Find out about special programs

Your counselor can help you…

- Recognize your aptitudes
- Understand your abilities
- Identify your interests
- Plan classes in sequence for your success

Together, with your parent/guardian(s) and your counselor, we can create an educational plan that will lead you to your goals for graduation and life after high school (post-secondary education and career).

This course catalog is one of the many tools you may use to plan your high school program. It provides brief descriptions of the courses, diploma requirements, and information on special programs available in our county.

Throughout the school year, you have access to test results, career information, college catalogs, college visits, and counselors who want to help you succeed. We look forward to working with you.

General Information

This Program of Studies has been prepared as a listing of courses available to Portage high school students during the 2026-2027 school year. Courses may be altered or deleted by subsequent Board of Education or administrative action after this catalog has been published. Students should maintain close contact with the counseling office to keep informed of courses available. An updated version is maintained online at portageps.org/o/pps/page/curriculum which contains corrections and modifications as needed.

Academic Eligibility Requirements

Secondary students who want to participate in extra/co-curricular activities will need to meet specific academic standards set by the Board of Education. A participation fee may be required.

Highlights are given below:

Standard:
A student is expected to pass all classes throughout the marking period and acquire no less than a 1.5 GPA for each semester. This standard is in addition to those established by the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

Eligibility Probation:
During a Marking Period
A student is placed on eligibility probation for a minimum of two weeks (14 days) if he/she is:

- failing one (1) class at the weekly checkpoints, or
- earning less than a 1.5 GPA at the conclusion of the marking period.

If a student fails to improve his/her grade to a passing status at that time, he/she becomes ineligible for a minimum of one week (7 days) and on a weekly basis thereafter, until the grade is sufficiently improved.

The probation may be extended for a longer period of time, if necessary, in order for the student to improve the grade to a 1.5 GPA or better.

Eligibility Exclusion:
During a Marking Period
A student who is failing two (2) or more classes becomes ineligible to participate for a minimum of one week (7 days) beginning the Monday following notification. Eligibility is reinstated at such time that the grades in all of the failing classes are improved to a passing status.

At the End of Each Semester
A student who fails to maintain a minimum of a 1.5 GPA for a semester or has failed two (2) or more classes becomes ineligible to participate in the extra/co-curricular activities mentioned below for the first 10% of the semester or season. After that time, the student will be reinstated upon passing all classes.

High School Areas Included:
Interscholastics, student council/senate, drama productions, all formally recognized clubs, forensics/debate tournaments and music performances or activities not required for credit. Dances are not included.

Monitoring of Eligibility:
Weekly eligibility checks for poor and/or failing grades are monitored by athletic directors, coaches and club sponsors.

The intent of the Academic Eligibility Regulation is to give students as much support as possible to enable them to improve their academic standing while continuing participation in extra/co-curricular activities. Regulations governing middle school or high school eligibility as established by the Michigan High School Athletic Association apply to Portage Public School athletes by virtue of membership in that organization. High school regulations are listed, but similar statements apply to middle school athletes.

1. **Enrollment –** To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, a student must be enrolled in a high school not later than the fourth Friday after Labor Day (1st semester) or the fourth Friday of February (2nd semester). A student must be enrolled in the school for which he or she competes.
2. **Age –** A student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contests must be under 19. If the nineteenth birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a current school year, a student is eligible for the balance of that school year.
3. **Physical Examinations –** No student shall be eligible to represent a high school without a physician's statement dated for the current school year on file in the office of the principal. Physician's statement must certify that the student has passed a physical examination and is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests.
4. **Semesters of Enrollment –** A student shall not compete in any branch of athletics who has been enrolled in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, for more than eight semesters. The seventh and eighth semesters must be consecutive. Enrollments in a school beyond the fourth Friday after Labor Day (1st semester) or fourth Friday of February (2nd semester) or competing in one or more interscholastic athletic contests shall be considered enrollment for a semester under this rule.
5. **Semesters of Competition –** A student, once enrolled in grade nine, shall be allowed to compete in only four first semesters and four second semesters.

Weighted Grade and Class Rank

For a college admission, scholarship application, and other awards, certain courses have been designated as "weighted." These include courses that qualify as dual enrollment or dual credit in the student's regular high school schedule and any courses labeled as IB, AP, or Honors or are capable of receiving college credit. Independent Study courses are not weighted.

Students' grades are not altered, but the point value is increased for these courses which are reflected as weighted only in a student's GPA and class rank which appears on the student's transcript. The weighted GPA and class rank are shown on the transcript side-by-side with the unweighted GPA and class rank.

Weighted Grade Values:

A =	5.0	B- =	3.7	D+ =	2.3
A- =	4.7	C+=	3.3	D =	2.0
B+ =	4.30	C =	3.0	D- =	1.7
B =	4.0	C- =	2.7	E =	0

PASS/FAIL GRADING REQUESTS

A parent/guardian may request Pass/Fail on one course per semester if a formal request is approved in writing by the student's counselor by the third Friday of each semester. That applies to all courses offered by Portage Public Schools through approved county-wide programs, universities, independent study, and on-line. Students should refer questions to their counselor or teacher.

Portage Community High School

Community High School is designed to assist students who need an alternative to the regular high school learning environment. Contact your counselor for information.

High School Libraries

High School students have access to the school library that holds a variety of print and digital materials, including academic databases. All catalogued library materials are specifically chosen by school librarians to support the high school curriculum, independent reading, and inquiry. Our librarians are certified teachers who collaborate with classroom teachers to provide instruction in research, digital citizenship, how to use reliable resources in an ethical manner, and guide them in the process of becoming effective and efficient

inquirers, users and creators of information. Our librarians also work individually with students to provide a personalized learning environment and equitable access to resources. They follow the American Association for School Librarians (AASL) mission of an effective school library program, which is to ensure that all students and staff are effective users of ideas and information.

Independent Study

Under special circumstances, a limited number of students are permitted to pursue course work for credit on an independent study basis. Students approved for this program will follow the prescribed course of study for the subject and will be required to meet with the instructor on a daily basis. Independent Study requires self-discipline, since students must monitor progress on a daily basis. Independent Study credit will follow school regulation.

As a basis for Independent Study, these criteria have been identified:

1. The subject is in the curriculum, but is not being taught during the current semester and probably will not be available to the student in future semesters.
2. The subject is being taught, but a schedule conflict (not based on individual preferences of teachers and/or hours) exists and the subject probably will not be available to the student in the coming semester.

Students must show that the request for Independent Study falls within one of the criteria above. Students must receive approval of the instructor first and then will arrange Independent Study with their instructor, in conjunction with a counselor.

Personal Curriculum (PC)

A Personal Curriculum is a documented process that modifies certain requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and approval must be requested on an individual basis. To be approved, a Personal Curriculum **must meet certain conditions**.

To learn more about a Personal Curriculum and the procedures for making the written request, please contact your counseling office. Scan the QR code or click to download the Personal Curriculum Parent and Educator Guide.

Testing Out

Any student may attempt to test out of a high school course. Students will register using the Test Out Registration Form online during the registration window. Test out exams are administered twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring. Exams will be taken at a designated PPS location as determined by the District Assessment Coordinator.

Students need to exhibit mastery of the subject matter by attaining a grade not less than C+ (77.5%) on the course's comprehensive cumulative final assessment (generally the final exam). All test out attempts will be recorded on the student's high school transcript with passes recorded as Credit (CR) and non-passes recorded as No-Credit (NC). Attempting to test out of a course will neither positively nor negatively affect a student's grade point average (either weighted or unweighted).

Successful test-out courses will be noted as a Credit (CR) on the transcript and will not be included in the grade point average. Credit will be counted toward fulfillment of a required course sequence. Students may not receive credit thereafter for a lower course in the subject area sequence. Successfully testing out of a course will count toward the total credits required for graduation. Only the course grade entry will receive credit towards graduation.

Unsuccessful test-out courses will be noted as No-Credit (NC) on the transcript and will not be included in the grade point average. If a student enrolls in the same course after an unsuccessful test-out the grade shall overwrite the NC listed on the transcript. If test-out credit is obtained in a course, students are not permitted to test-out of a lower course in the course sequence.

Students must comply with the District's guidelines and procedures to qualify to be allowed to participate in the test-out program.

Teacher of Record

For all high school programs, including extension programs, the teacher of record has the final authority to determine grade/credit for the course. Students will receive a grade on their transcript and report card and the course will affect the students' grade point average.

International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program

Portage Central and Portage Northern High Schools are authorized IB World Schools.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program is a nationally and internationally respected two-year comprehensive program for grades 11 and 12 encouraging critical thinking, research skills and service as a part of the learning process. The core of the IB Diploma Program is centered around 10 key learner traits. We strive for our IB students to be inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective. Coursework provides outstanding preparation to prepare students for post-secondary success at any college or university. Colleges and universities also generally award credit and/or advanced placement based on a student's IB exam scores. Successful completion of the full IB Diploma Program allows students to be considered for preferred admission to many selective colleges and universities within our state and worldwide. For information regarding college credit awarded for IB coursework, please contact the high school IB Coordinator and/or the admissions office of the college/university of interest.

There are no prerequisites for participation in the IB Program, although motivation, energy, good verbal and written communication skills, open-mindedness, the desire for a global perspective, a willingness to cooperate with others, and honors level course work will be of great benefit to IB candidates. It is important to remember that the goals of the International Baccalaureate go beyond academic preparation. The IB program encourages a young adult to be informed, to be tolerant, and to be communicative about a range of topics. The course work always reflects a global outlook.

Unique Characteristics of IB:
Students in the Portage Public high schools have two choices: the Diploma Program and the Certificate Option. Based on their expectations and goals, they choose the one that works best for them.

The Diploma Program:
Students will develop both breadth and depth in their academic work by taking a majority of IB classes during their junior and senior years. In order to earn the IB Diploma, students must complete coursework in each of the six groups offered by Portage Public Schools. The IB Diploma students are required to test in either 3 higher level (HL) courses and 3 standard level (SL) courses; or 4 higher level (HL) and 2 standard level (SL) courses. In addition, they must fulfill the following requirements to receive an IB diploma:

1. **Theory of Knowledge –** Theory of Knowledge stimulates and develops critical thinking and evaluation skills. It challenges students to question the basis of knowledge, to be aware of biases and to develop a perspective based on analyzing evidence discussed in rational argument.
2. **Extended Essay –** Students research and write an original essay of 4,000 words on a student-selected topic. Students will work with a faculty advisor to complete this Extended Essay. This introduces students to the type of research projects expected in college.
3. **Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) –** Students participate in supervised extracurricular school and community activities. This helps students foster a responsibility to their community as well as become well-rounded citizens.

Students interested in pursuing the IB Diploma should communicate their intent to their counselor and the IB Coordinator as soon as possible. A two-year plan of IB coursework for the junior and senior years will be prepared. This plan will be monitored and possibly revised if there is insufficient enrollment for a desired course.

The Certificate Option:
Students who wish to take IB coursework but not complete the entire IB Diploma Program are encouraged to enroll in IB Courses. Students can take one or more IB courses during their time at Portage Public Schools. Students who successfully complete the coursework can register to sit for IB examination in that course area. With a successful examination and completion of the coursework, students can receive college credit in the area of study. Students should speak with their counselor or the IB Coordinator to determine potential college recognition of the coursework at their college/university of interest.

IB & Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations:
Students who have successfully completed all requirements for the IB or AP exam associated with a course do not have to complete the classroom final exam in the course unless attendance expectations or other circumstances require the student to demonstrate their learning. All IB HL exams must be taken in the same year.

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Preparation

The NCAA suggests applying for certification before graduation if you wish to participate in athletics as a freshman at the college to which you will be admitted. The Clearinghouse will issue a preliminary certification report when you have all materials submitted. After graduation, the Clearinghouse will review your final transcript to make a final certification decision according to NCAA standards. For NCAA Certification, specific GPAs are required. Please review NCAA standards or consult the eligibility center: www.ncaa.org/sports/2015/2/11/student-athletes-future-educational-resources.aspx. No special values are allowed for "+" or "-" grades. Students should check with the NCAA website and their athletic director or counselor for specific requirements.

National Honor Society

National Honor Society is an organization founded in 1921. It was and remains the purpose of the National Honor Society to encourage students to go beyond personal academic goals and to become involved with the concerns of their school and their community. Candidates for membership must meet the minimum weighted grade-point requirements. Eligible junior and senior candidates will be sent a letter asking them to complete an information form to verify interest in membership. Students selected for induction will be sent an acceptance letter during the school year.

Online Learning Options

Online learning opportunities are available for middle school and high school students. Students can register for online courses as an opportunity to extend learning, replace local courses, or recover credit needed for graduation.

Students may select up to two online courses per semester and are required to complete major tests and the final exam on site, but may have some flexibility as determined by their school principal for work outside of the school setting. Approved Michigan Virtual courses will be accepted for middle school and high school credit.

Prospective student athletes must contact the NCAA Eligibility Center at 877-262-1492 before enrolling in online high school courses to fully understand the implication of online courses. Also, be aware that once enrolled, the NCAA may have additional requirements for completing the course.

A list of available courses can be found at www.michiganvirtual.org/students. If your child is interested in taking an online course please contact their counselor. Due to enrollment caps, requesting a course does not guarantee placement. **All requests must be approved prior to registration**.

Credit Recovery:

Credit recovery refers to credit that a student attempts to earn after having failed on the initial attempt to earn that particular credit.

Portage Public Schools will accept the following for credit recovery following approval by the student's counselor and principal, when available:

1. Online Courses through Edmentum and/or Michigan Virtual

Graduation Requirements

Based on Board Policy 5460

In order for a student to qualify for a diploma in this District, they must have satisfactorily completed 26* credits required for graduation. This includes the course, attendance, and assessment requirements outlined below.

English Language Arts — 4 credits
Mathematics Core — 3 credits
- Algebra 1 — 1 credit
- Geometry or Honors Geometry — 1 credit
- Algebra 2 or Honors Algebra 2[+] — 1 credit

Mathematics or Mathematics Related Course in the Senior Year — 1 credit
Science — 3 credits
- Chemistry or Honors Chemistry — .0.5 credit
- Physics or Honors Physics — .0.5 credit
- Biology or Honors Biology — 1 credit
- Earth Science, IB ESS, IB Chem HL1, IB Biology HL1, or IB Physics HL1[++] — 1 credit

Social Studies — 3 credits
- Modern American History or Honors Modern American History — 1 credit
- U.S. Government or A.P. U.S. Government — 0.5 credit
- Economics or Honors Economics — 0.5 credit
- Contemporary International Studies (and Elective World History) or IB 20th Century World History — 1 credit

Physical Education — 1.5 credit
Fine or Applied Arts — 1 credit
Health — 0.5 credit
Online and/or Technology Integration Experience — 1 credit
(Embedded in other courses)
World Language[+++] — 2 credits
Personal Finance[++++] — 0.5 credit

Electives - In addition to the credits outlined above, credits must be obtained through additional electives or career and technology education programs for the remaining balance of the 26 required credits.

- Full-time attendance for four years**
- Students shall complete all sections of the Michigan Merit Exam or another required test by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) before the end of senior year to be eligible for graduation from Portage Public Schools (PPS).***

*A student's parent/guardian may request a personal modification to the core credit requirements as outlined by MDE. Waivers, substitutes, or courses recognized to fulfill specific requirements shall be reviewed, published, and distributed to students annually.

**A student may be eligible to graduate in fewer than four years if the requirements for early graduation or grade-level promotion are met. Students should contact their counselor for more information.

A student enrolled in Early Middle College will remain enrolled for five years to graduate with a high school diploma and a post-secondary degree or certificate.

***Students who transfer to the District after the testing window will be granted special consideration. A student under an Individual Education Program (IEP) shall receive reasonable accommodations, as defined under State or Federal law, to assist them in taking any required tests or assessments for graduation.

[+] Algebra 2 credit: Additional option of a formal CTE program that covers Alg. 2 assessed benchmarks on the MME can be substituted

[++] 3rd Science credit: Additional options of a formal CTE program (regardless of content) or 1 credit of Computer Science can be substituted

[+++] Foreign/World Language: Two (2) credits of formal coursework or an equivalent learning experience in Grades K-12; or One (1) credit of formal coursework or an equivalent learning experience in Grades K-12 AND One (1) credit from the completion of an approved formal CTE course or an additional VPAA course.

[++++] Beginning with the class of 2028, students will be required to complete 0.5 credits of Personal Finance. MCL 380.1278a(3) states: The ½ credit course in personal finance must count toward ½ credit of mathematics, ½ credit of visual arts, performing arts, or ½ credit of a language other than English.

Visual Performing and Applied Arts & Senior Math Related Course List 2026-2027

All Art and Music courses offered by Portage Public Schools, Education for Art, and Career and Technical Education are eligible for Visual Performing and Applied Arts credit (refer to the course descriptions for these subjects for more details). The following course offerings are eligible for a Visual Performing and Applied Arts credit and/or Senior Math Related Credit. These courses will have a designation in their course description of VPAA for Visual Performing and Applied Arts and SMR for Senior Math Related.

Eligible for Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit	**Eligible for Senior Math Related Credit**
Accounting//Finance 1, 2 & 3	Accounting Finance 1, 2 & 3
Child Development/Parenting	Art 1 & 2
College Success Strategies	Ceramics & Sculpture 1 & 2
Creative Writing	Computer Science Principles
Dramatics 1 & 2	Chemistry 2 & IB Chemistry*
Engineering in Wood Technology	Engineering in Wood Technology
IB Business Management SL	Entrepreneurship
Interior Design	IB Biology HL*
Introduction to Business	IB Computer Science SL*
Entrepreneurship	IB Environmental Systems and Societies*
Forensics 1 & 2	IB Exercise and Sports Science*
Journalism 1 and 2	IB Visual Arts HL 1 &2
Keyboarding	IB Visual Arts SL
Living in Today's World	Interior Design
Marketing 1 & 2	Jewelry and Metalsmithing
Nutrition/Foods 1 & 2	Forensic Science 1 & 2
Peer to Peer	Marketing 1 & 2
Student Council	Nutrition/Foods 1 & 2
TV Internship	Personal Finance A & B
Yearbook	Physics 2 & IB Physics*
	Technology/Engineering/Creativity
	*only eligible for SMR if not using the course for science credit

NCAA Approved Core Course List for 2026-2027

English Courses

English 9 & 9/H
English Prep 10
English 10 & 10/H
English Prep 11
English 11
English Prep 12
English 12
English 1 HL/IB/H
English 2 HL/IB/H
Creative Writing
Journalism 1

Social Sciences Courses

Ancient World History
Comparative World Religions
Contemporary International Studies
Eastern World Studies
Economics/Economics H
European History
IB 20th Century World History SL
IB History of the Americas HL
IB Psychology 2 HL
IB Psychology SL
IB/AP Psychology 1 SL
IB Theory of Knowledge
Government
AP US Gov't & Politics
Modern American History/H
Psychology
Sociology

Mathematics Courses

Algebra 1
Algebra 1 A/B/C*
Geometry A/B
Algebra 2
IB Math Analysis & Approaches SL/HL
Honors Algebra 2
Geometry
Geometry B/Algebra 2C**
AP Statistics
Honors Geometry
AP Calculus
IB Math Applications & Interpretation SL
Algebra 2 A/B/C*
Pre-Calculus

*.34 unit max per semester
**.5 credits

Natural/Physical Science Courses

An asterisk (*) denotes a course with a lab requirement.

Astronomy .5
Biology, Honors Biology, Anatomy*
Ecology & Environment
IB Biology 1 HL/2 HL*
Chemistry 1, Honors Chem., C
IB Chemistry 1*HL/2 HL
Earth Science*
IB Environmental Systems & Societies SL
IB Physics 1 HL/2 HL
IB Sports Exercise & Health Science SL
Forensic Science 1/2*
Physics 1, Honors Physics, Physics 2,
IB Computer Science SL

Additional Courses

French 1
French 2
French 3
IB French 4 SL/Hl 1
IB French 5 HL 2
Spanish 1
Spanish 2
Spanish 3
IB Spanish 4 SL/HL 1
IB Spanish 5 HL 2

Further questions about the NCAA and approved courses should be directed to your athletic director. The NCAA website is a good reference for students and parents. https://www.ncaa.org/index.aspx

Legal Disclaimer: The list of NCAA courses, and courses contained within, are maintained as a guide for prospective student-athletes seeking NCAA initial-eligibility. The list of approved courses does not, nor is intended to signify accreditation, certification, approval or endorsement of any high school or specific courses by the NCAA or NCAA Eligibility Center and is subject to change at any time and without notice. Core course information included on this Web site (NCAA Eligibility Center) is provided for guidance purposes only and should not be solely relied on as an indication of NCAA initial-eligibility. Certification of a prospective student-athlete is case-specific, and the Eligibility Center has the authority to determine in its sole discretion whether the prospective student-athlete has met all criteria. - NCAA Clearinghouse

Freshman Checklist

- ❑ Enroll in classes that are academically challenging and will prepare you for your career path.
- ❑ Design your high school Educational Development Plan (EDP).
- ❑ Participate in career exploration activities. Discuss possible careers with school personnel, parents, friends, relatives and local employers.
- ❑ Make sure you are enrolled in required and elective courses that prepare you for meeting future plans.
- ❑ Get involved in extracurricular activities (school and non-school sponsored).
- ❑ You will begin developing your high school transcript. Your transcript is an official record of the classes that you enroll in, the grades that you receive, absences, citizenship and grade point average. Colleges and universities, as well as future employers, will be interested in this information.
- ❑ Begin exploring post-secondary education and opportunities.
- ❑ Visit the high school web site at portageps.org to check out testing and other educational opportunities.

Sophomore Checklist

- ❑ Make an appointment with your counselor to discuss progress towards graduation.
- ❑ Talk with your counselor or the IB Coordinator to decide whether you should consider taking the full IB Diploma.
- ❑ Attend to your studies so that you have the highest GPA possible for your ability.
- ❑ Remember the importance of being a well-rounded individual. Work toward leadership positions in the activities that you like best. Become involved in community service and/or other volunteer activities.
- ❑ Continue to explore career options. Review and update your EDP and course selections to reflect your career path.
- ❑ Select challenging courses that will prepare you for future career options. Explore IB, CTE and EFA course offerings, as well as other elective and enrichment classes.
- ❑ Begin thinking about post-secondary education and training opportunities (community college, university, military, technical, on-the-job) needed for your career of interest.
- ❑ Explore colleges of interest by on-site visits or visiting college web sites on the internet.
- ❑ Investigate summer training programs/volunteer activities, or summer camp opportunities.
- ❑ Visit the high school web site at portageps.org to check out testing and other educational opportunities.

Junior Checklist

- ❑ Make an audit appointment with your counselor to discuss your career goals, college plans and review your EDP and course selections.
- ❑ Enroll in classes that are academically challenging and will prepare you for your career path.
- ❑ Check to make sure you have all of the credits necessary for graduation and you are enrolled in the correct courses for graduation.
- ❑ Review your transcript, credits needed for graduation, and GPA. Continue to improve your performance in the classroom.
- ❑ Participate in college planning workshops offered in English class.
- ❑ Meet with representatives visiting your school from colleges, military, and technical training institutes.
- ❑ Attend College Night hosted by Kalamazoo Valley Community College.
- ❑ Stay involved in extracurricular activities. These experiences are viewed favorably by employers and colleges.
- ❑ Take the MME (includes SAT, wrap around State test and WIN) during the 2nd semester of your junior year. Many Michigan colleges and universities require the SAT/ACT for admission.
- ❑ Begin exploring financial aid and scholarship opportunities. Do internet searches and view school counseling office website.
- ❑ Visit colleges that interest you.
- ❑ College admissions representatives visit the high schools in the fall. Be sure to attend these presentations in the fall at your high school.

Senior Checklist

- ❑ Maintain and improve academic grades. Colleges look unfavorably on failing grades.
- ❑ Enroll in classes that are academically challenging and will prepare you for your career path.
- ❑ Discuss post graduate plans and choices with parents, counselors and teachers.
- ❑ Obtain and fill out applications for two-year schools, four-year schools and technical institutes in the fall.
- ❑ Retake or take the SAT/ACT if necessary. Make sure the results are sent to the colleges that you are considering.
- ❑ Check all available sources for scholarships. These would include the Kalamazoo Community Foundation Guide, web site searches, individual college web sites, the counseling bulletin board and daily announcements.
- ❑ Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and attend the financial aid night offered at your school or virtually.
- ❑ Write or update your résumé.
- ❑ Visit the high school web site at portageps.org to check out scholarships, testing and other educational opportunities.
- ❑ College admissions representatives visit the high schools in the fall. Be sure to attend these presentations in the fall at your high school.

PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Every student. Every future.

Graduation Audit Worksheet

Based on Board Policy 5460

Name: _____ Current Grade: _____ Date: _____ Counselor: _____

COURSE LIST	CREDIT	COMMON SCHEDULE	COMPLETED *S1/GR S2/GR*	COURSE TITLE/COMMENTS
English Language Arts - 4 credits				
English 9	1.0	9th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
English 10	1.0	10th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
English 11	1.0	11th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
English 12	1.0	12th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
Mathematics - 4 credits				
Algebra 1	1.0	9th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
Geometry	1.0	10th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
Algebra 2^	1.0	11th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
Senior-year Math or Math Related	1.0	12th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
Science - 3 credits				
Chemistry 1	0.5	9th Gr	☐ _____	_____
Physics 1	0.5	9th Gr	☐ _____	_____
Biology	1.0	10th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
Earth/IB Science or CTE	1.0	11th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
Social Studies - 3 credits				
Modern American History	1.0	9th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
Government	0.5	10th Gr	☐ _____	_____
Economics	0.5	10th Gr	☐ _____	_____
CIS/World Hist Elective/IB World Hist	1.0	11th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
World Language^^^ - 2 credits				
French 1/Spanish 1	1.0	8th/9th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
French 2/Spanish 2	1.0	9th/10th Gr	☐ ___ ☐ ___	_____
Fine or Applied Arts - 1 credit *(could be fulfilled with 1 year-long or 2 semester-long courses)*				
Course: _____	0.5	ANY	☐ _____	_____
Course: _____	0.5	ANY	☐ _____	_____
Physical Education - 1.5 credits				
Course: _____	0.5	ANY	☐ _____	_____
Course: _____	0.5	ANY	☐ _____	_____
Course: _____	0.5	ANY	☐ _____	_____
Health	0.5	9th Gr	☐ _____	_____
Personal Finance *(beginning with the class of 2028)*	0.5	11th/12th Gr	☐ _____	_____
Online or Integrated Technology	1.0	ANY	*This is embedded within other courses. No additional course is required. The 1.0 credit is not included in the 26-credit total.*	

COURSE LIST	CREDIT	COMPLETED *Gr/Yr & Semester*	COURSE TITLE/COMMENTS
Electives - *(could be fulfilled with year-long (1.0 credit) or semester-long (0.5 credit) courses)*			
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________
Elective: ____________________	0.5	☐ ____________________	________________________________

TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED: 26.0

TOTAL CREDITS EARNED: _____

TOTAL CREDITS REMAINING: _____

For a student to qualify for a Portage diploma, they must complete 26* credits required for graduation, have full-time attendance for four years** and complete all sections of the Michigan Merit Exam***.

** A student's parent/guardian may request a personal modification to the core credit requirements as outlined by MDE. Contact your counselor about eligible waivers, substitutions, or alternate courses available to fulfill specific requirements.*

*** A student may be eligible to graduate in fewer than four years if the requirements for early graduation or grade-level promotion are met. Students planning to graduate in 6 semesters must submit their request by June 1 of their sophomore year. It may be more appropriate for this student to be considered for Grade-level Promotion. Students planning to graduate in 7 semesters must submit their request by December 1 of their junior year. Contact your counselor for more information.*

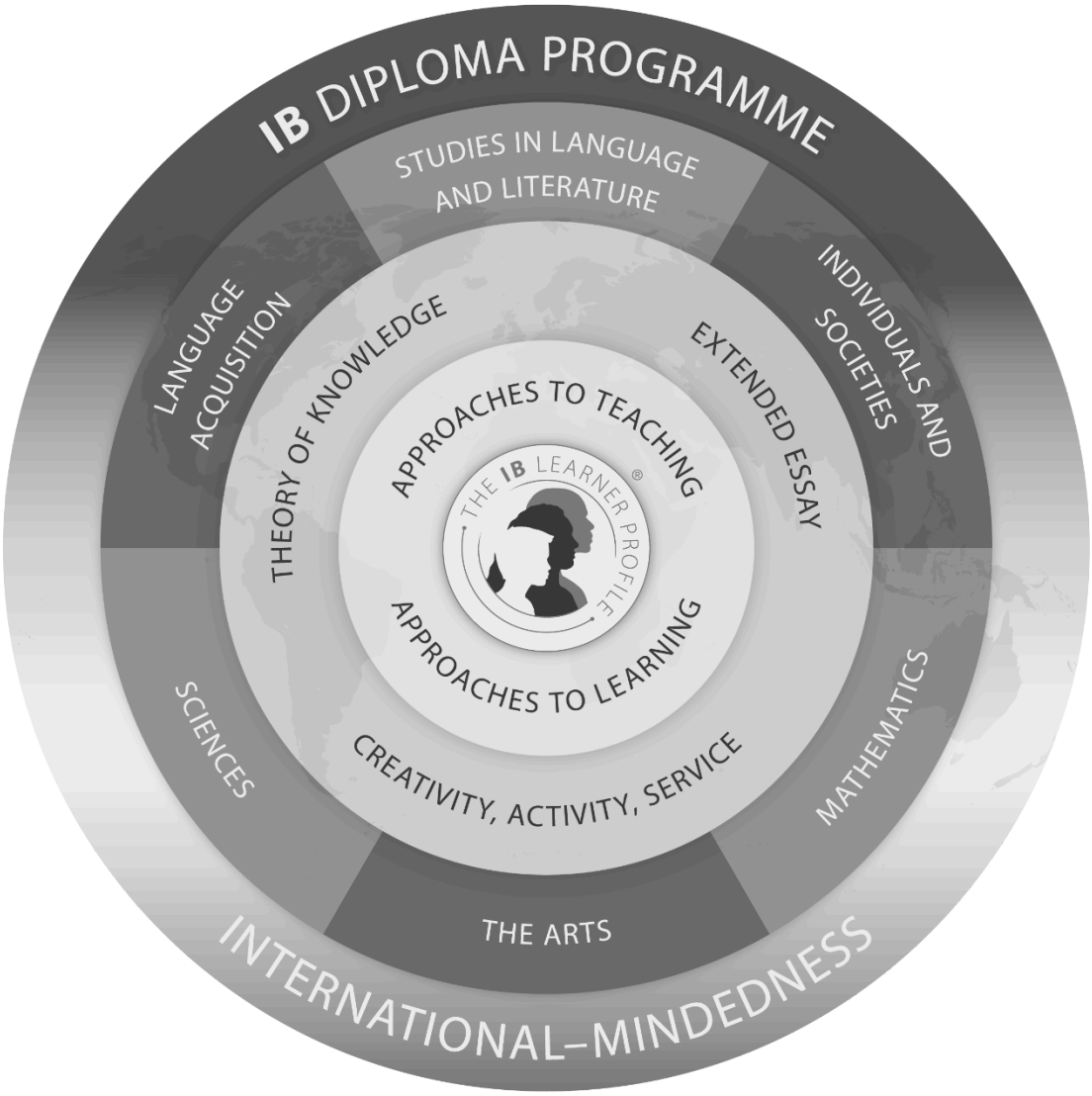
A student enrolled in Early Middle College will remain enrolled for five years to graduate with a high school diploma and a post-secondary degree or certificate. Contact your counselor for more information.

**** Students who transfer to the District after the testing window will be granted special consideration.*

^ Algebra 2: This may be fulfilled through a formal CTE program that covers Algebra 2 assessed benchmarks.

^^ World Language: This may also be fulfilled by two credits of an equivalent learning experience in Grades K-12; ***or*** *one credit of an equivalent learning experience* ***AND*** *one credit from the completion of an approved CTE course or an additional VPAA course.*

IB Program Offerings



Studies in Language & Literature: English A Literature HL
Language Acquisition: Spanish B SL/HL, French B SL/HL
Individuals and Societies: History SL/HL, Psychology SL/HL, Business Management SL
Sciences: Biology HL, Chemistry HL, Physics HL, Environmental Systems & Societies SL, Sports Exercise and Health Science SL, Computer Science SL
Mathematics: Applications & Interpretation SL, Analysis & Approaches SL/HL
The Arts: Visual Arts SL/HL, Music SL/HL, Theater SL/HL

Educational Pathway:
Portage Public Schools Michigan Diploma

Grade 9			Grade 10			Grade 11			Grade 12		
	Course	Cr		Course	Cr		Course	Cr		Course	Cr
*	English *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	*	English *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	*	English *(IB or Core)*	1.0	*	English *(IB or Core)*	1.0
*	Math *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	*	Math *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	*	Math *(IB,AP, or Core)*	1.0	*	Math or Math related course	1.0
*	Chemistry *(Honors or Core)*	0.5	*	Biology *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	*	Earth Science *(IB or Core)*	1.0	**	Science elective	1.0
	Physics *(Honors or Core)*	0.5									
*	Modern Amer. Hist. *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	*	Government *(AP or Core)*	0.5	*	World History *(IB or Core)*	1.0	**	Social Studies elective	1.0
										Personal Finance A	0.5
*	Health	0.5	*	Economics *(Honors or Core)*	0.5		Elective	3.0		Elective	2.5
**	Physical Education	1.0	*	Physical Education	0.5		** World Language			** World Language	
*	World Language 1 or 2	1.0	**	World Language 2 or 3	1.0						
	Elective *(if not enrolled in Health or Phys. Ed.)*	0.5	*	VP & Applied Arts	1.0						
				Elective	0.5						
	TOTAL	7.0		TOTAL	7.0		TOTAL	7.0		TOTAL	7.0

In accordance with state law, all students in Michigan are required to complete an online or integrated technology experience in order to graduate. This requirement may either be taken in a stand-alone course or integrated into one or more of the required credits for graduation.

Courses may be a combination of general, Honors, IB, CTE, EFA, KAMSC and dual enrollment. Direct any questions or requests for further information to one of the high school counseling departments (Portage Central High School, 323-5283 or Portage Northern High School, 323-5475).

Modifications to the required credits must follow the Michigan Department of Education Guidelines.

* – Board of Education requirement
** – Strongly recommended
*** – IB requirement

Educational Pathway:
International Baccalaureate Diploma Program

Grade 9			Grade 10			Grade 11			Grade 12		
	Course	Cr		Course	Cr		Course	Cr		Course	Cr
*	English *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	*	English *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	***	IB English 1 HL	1.0	** *	IB English 2 HL	1.0
*	Math *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	*	Math *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	***	World Lang. 3 or IB 4 SL/HL 1	1.0	** *	IB WL 4 SL/HL 1 or 5 HL 2	1.0
*	Chemistry *(Honors or Core)*	0.5	*	Biology *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	***	IB Mathematics or Math	1.0	** *	IB Mathematics or Math	1.0
	Physics *(Honors or Core)*	0.5									
*	Mod. Amer. Hist. *(Honors or Core)*	1.0	*	Government *(AP or Core)*	0.5	***	IB Science or Science	1.0	** *	IB Science or Science	1.0
*	Health	1.0	*	Economics *(Honors or Core)*	0.5	***	IB 20th Cent. W. Hist. SL	1.0	** *	IB Social St. or Business	1.0
**	Physical Education	1.0	*	Physical Education	0.5	***	IB Theory of Knowledge (CHS)	0.5	** *	IB Theory of Knowledge (NHS)	1.0
** *	World Language 1 or 2	1.0	** * *	World Language 2 or 3	1.0				** *	IB Theory of Knowledge (CHS)	0.5
			*	VP & Applied Arts	1.0	***	IB elective	1.0	** *	IB elective(CHS)	1.0
									*	Personal Finance A	0.5
				Elective	0.5		Elective (NHS)	1.0		Elective (CHS)	1.0
							Elective (CHS)	0.5		Elective (NHS)	0.5
	TOTAL	7.0		TOTAL	7.0		TOTAL	7.0		TOTAL	7.0

All IB Diploma candidates are **required** to complete at least three higher-level (HL) (two-year) courses and three standard-level (SL) (one-year) courses during their junior and senior years. IB Diploma candidates can sit for exams in up to 2 SL courses during the junior year. All IB HL exams must be taken the same year.
Available IB courses and electives are listed below. For descriptions of specific IB course offerings, see appropriate pages by department. IB courses are offered based on student enrollment. If an IB course is not offered in a student's high school, students may have the option to take the course at the other high school.
Direct any questions or requests for further information to either of the two high schools' IB Coordinators. (323-5274 for CHS and 323-5474 for NHS).

Course	Cr.
Art	
IB Visual Arts SL	1.0
IB Visual Arts HL	2.0
Business/Computers	
IB Business Management SL	1.0
Mathematics	
IB Applications & Interpretation SL	1.0
IB Analysis & Approaches SL	1.0
IB Analysis & Approaches HL	1.0
Music	
IB Music SL/HL	1.0/2.0
Science	
IB Chemistry 1 HL	1.0
IB Chemistry 2 HL	1.0
IB Physics 1 HL	1.0

Course	Cr.
IB Physics 2 HL	1.0
IB Biology 1 HL	1.0
IB Biology 2 HL	1.0
IB Environmental Systems & Societies SL	1.0
IB Sports, Exercise and Health Science SL	1.0
IB Computer Science IB	1.0
Social Studies	
IB 20th Century World History SL	1.0
IB History of the Americas HL	1.0
IB/AP Psychology 1 SL	1.0
IB Psychology 2 HL	1.0
IB Business Management SL	1.0
World Languages	
IB French 4 SL/HL 1 or 5 HL 2	1.0
IB Spanish 4 SL/HL 1 or 5 HL 2	1.0
Other Courses	
IB Theory of Knowledge	1.0

Courses by Department

Art	GRADE(S)	CR.
Ceramics & Sculpture 1	10 11 12	0.5
Ceramics & Sculpture 2	10 11 12	0.5
Art 1	9 10 11 12	1.0
Art 2	10 11 12	1.0
IB Visual Arts SL/HL	11 12	2.0
Jewelry & Metalsmithing 1	10 11 12	0.5
Jewelry & Metalsmithing 2	10 11 12	0.5
Technology, Engineering, & Creativity (TEC)	9 10 11 12	0.5

Business/Computers	GRADE(S)	CR.
Accounting/Finance 1 (CTE)	9 10 11 12	1.0
Accounting/Finance 2(CTE)	10 11 12	1.0
Accounting/Finance 3 (CTE)	11 12	1.0
Business Law	9 10 11 12	1.0
IB Business Management SL	11 12	1.0
Computer Applications	9 10 11 12	0.5
Entrepreneurship (CTE) (CHS)	9 10 11 12	1.0
Introduction to Business	9 10 11 12	0.5
Keyboarding	9 10 11 12	0.5
Marketing 1 (CTE)	9 10 11 12	1.0
Advanced Marketing 2 (CTE)	10 11 12	1.0
Advanced Marketing 3 (CTE)	11 12	1.0
IB Business Management SL	11 12	1.0

English	GRADE(S)	CR.
English 9	9	1.0
Honors English 9	9	1.0
Reading Skills	9	0.5
English Prep 10	10	1.0
English 10	10	1.0
Honors English 10	10	1.0
English Prep 11	11	1.0
English 11	11	1.0
IB English 1 1 HL	11	1.0
IB English 1 SL	11 12	1.0
English Prep 12	12	1.0
English 12	12	1.0
IB English 2 HL	12	1.0
Creative Writing	11 12	0.5
Dramatics 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
Dramatics 2	10 11 12	0.5
Forensics 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
Forensics 2	10 11 12	0.5
Journalism 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
Journalism 2	9 10 11 12	0.5
Journalism 3	11 12	0.5
TV Internship 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
TV Internship 2	9 10 11 12	0.5
Yearbook 1	9 10 11 12	1.0
Yearbook 2	10 11 12	1.0

Family & Consumer Science/Health	GRADE(S)	CR
Child Development and Parenting	9 10 11 12	0.5
Health	9 10 11 12	0.5
Interior Design	9 10 11 12	0.5
Living in Today's World	11 12	1.0
Foods 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
Foods 2	9 10 11 12	0.5

Mathematics	GRADE(S)	CR.
Algebra 1	9	1.0
Geometry	9 10	1.0
Honors Geometry	9 10	1.0
Algebra 2	10 11	1.0
Honors Algebra 2	10 11	1.0
Pre-Calculus	11 12	1.0
Algebra 1A/1B	9	1.0
Algebra 1C/Geometry A	10	1.0
Algebra 2A/2B	11	1.0
Geometry B/Algebra 2C	12	1.0
AP Statistics	11 12	1.0
IB Math Applications & Interpretation SL	11 12	1.0
AP Calculus	11 12	1.0
IB Math Analysis & Approaches SL	11 12	1.0
IB Math Analysis & Approaches HL	12	1.0
Statistics in Our Community	12	1.0
Mathletics	12	1.0

Music	GRADE(S)	CR.
Chamber Music	9 10 11 12	1.0
Chamber Music: Strings	9 10 11 12	1.0
Concert Choir	9 10 11 12	1.0
Dance/Color Guard	9 10 11 12	0.5
IB Music SL	11 12	1.0
Orchestra	9 10 11 12	1.0
Songleaders/Chamber Singers	9 10 11 12	1.0
Symphonic/Concert Band	9 10 11 12	1.0
Treble Ensemble	10 11 12	1.0
Wind & Percussion/ Ensemble	9 10 11 12	1.0

Physical Education	GRADE(S)	CR.
Aquatics	9 10 11 12	0.5
Fitness for Life	9 10 11 12	0.5
Individual & Dual Sports	9 10 11 12	0.5
Phys. Fit. & Adv. Basketball	9 10 11 12	0.5
Phys. Fit. & Adv. Football	9 10 11 12	0.5
Weight Training	9 10 11 12	0.5
Women's Weight Training	9 10 11 12	0.5
Team Sports	9 10 11 12	0.5

Science	GRADE(S)	CR.
Chemistry 1	9	0.5
Honors Chemistry	9	0.5
Physics 1	9	0.5
Honors Physics	9	0.5
Biology	10	1.0
Honors Biology	10	1.0
Earth Science	11 12	1.0
Anatomy	11 12	0.5
Astronomy	11 12	0.5
Computer Science Principles	9 10 11 12	1.0
IB Biology 1 HL	11 12	1.0
IB Biology 2 HL	12	1.0
Chemistry 2	10 11 12	0.5
IB Computer Science SL	11 12	1.0
Ecology & Environment	11 12	1.0
Forensic Science 1	11 12	0.5
Forensic Science 2	11 12	0.5
IB Environ. Systems & Societies SL	11 12	1.0

SCIENCE (CONT.)	GRADE(S)	CR.
IB Sports, Exercise and Health Science SL	11 12	1.0
Physics 2	10 11 12	0.5
IB Physics 1 HL	11 12	1.0
IB Physics 2 HL	12	1.0
IB Chemistry 1 HL	11 12	1.0
IB Chemistry 2 HL	12	1.0

SOCIAL STUDIES	GRADE(S)	CR
Modern American History	9	1.0
Honors Modern American History	9	1.0
Economics	10	0.5
Honors Economics	10	0.5
Government	10	0.5
AP US Government and Politics	10	0.5
Eastern World Studies	10 11 12	0.5
Comparative World Religions	10 11 12	0.5
Contemporary International Studies	11 12	0.5
Ancient World History	10 11 12	0.5
European History	10 11 12	0.5
IB 20th Century World History SL	11 12	1.0
IB History of the Americas HL	12	1.0
IB Psychology 1 SL	11 12	1.0
IB/AP Psychology 1 SL	11 12	1.0
IB Psychology 2 HL	12	1.0
IB Theory of Knowledge	11 12	0.5
Psychology	10 11 12	0.5
Sociology	10 11 12	0.5
Student Council	9 10 11 12	1.0
Student Senate (NHS)	9 10 11 12	1.0

TECHNOLOGY & APPLIED SCIENCE	GRADE(S)	CR
Engineering in Wood Technology	9 10 11 12	.5/1.0/2.0
Engineering in Wood Technology (CTE)	9 10 11 12	.5/1.0/2.0
Robotics	9 10 11 12	1.0

WORLD LANGUAGES	GRADE(S)	CR
French 1	9 10 11 12	1.0
French 2	9 10 11 12	1.0
French 3	10 11 12	1.0
IB French 4 SL/HL 1	11 12	1.0
IB French 5 HL 2	12	1.0
Spanish 1	9 10 11 12	1.0
Spanish 2	9 10 11 12	1.0
Spanish 3	10 11 12	1.0
IB Spanish 4 SL/HL 1	11 12	1.0
IB Spanish 5 HL 2	12	1.0

OTHER COURSES	GRADE(S)	CR
College Success Strategies	10 11 12	0.5
Peer to Peer	9 10 11 12	0.5
Seminar	9 10 11 12	0.5
You and the Law	10 11 12	0.5
Work-Based Learning	11 12	1-3
Personal Finance A	11 12	0.5
Personal Finance B	11 12	0.5
Mentor Teaching and Learning	11 12	0.5

Art

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
Ceramics & Sculpture 1	10 11 12	0.5
Ceramics & Sculpture 2	11 12	0.5
Art 1	9 10 11 12	1.0
Art 2	10 11 12	1.0
IB Visual Arts	11 12	2.0
Jewelry & Metalsmithing 1	10 11 12	0.5
Jewelry & Metalsmithing 2	10 11 12	0.5
Technology, Engineering, & Creativity (TEC)	9 10 11 12	0.5

-All art courses are eligible for Visual Performing and Applied Arts (VPAA) credit.

Art 1 (SMR) Full year/1.0 credit
This course is intended for the student who wants to gain a basic appreciation of art. Students will be exposed to a variety of art experiences such as drawing, painting, ceramics, metal and fiber projects. Students who discover a strong interest in art but do not wish to take one of the advanced courses may repeat this class. Students are expected to show growth in the areas studied.

Art 2 (SMR) Full year/1.0 credit
This course is for the student who has a serious interest in art. It is not a general survey class but offers concentrated work using two-dimensional and 3-dimensional materials such as pencil rendering, pastel drawing, painting in acrylic, and watercolor, and ceramics. Students in Art 2 are given more independence to create work of personal significance to them, and are asked to create higher quality work in return. **Prerequisite:** Art 1**.**

Ceramics & Sculpture 1 (SMR) 1 semester/0.5 credit
This course's aim is advanced production of three-dimensional projects. Emphasis will be placed on hand-built and wheel-thrown functional clay projects and both additive and subtractive sculptural methods using select media such as wax, plaster and wire. Evaluation emphasis is on craftsmanship and good design in three-dimensional art. All projects are dependent on available materials.

Ceramics & Sculpture 2 (SMR) 1 semester/0.5 credit
This course expands students' skills in advanced three-dimensional art production. Students will refine their hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques to create more complex and concept-driven functional clay pieces. They will further explore additive and subtractive sculptural methods using a wider range of media, including wax, plaster, and wire, with an emphasis on developing personal artistic voice. Greater independence in planning, designing, and executing projects will be expected. A passing grade in Ceramics 1 or instructor approval is required to enroll.

IB Visual Arts (SMR) 2 Full years/1.0 credit/yr.
These courses are offered for those interested in enhancing their portfolios by encouragement of continuing a more sophisticated concentration of study. The open-ended student- and teacher-directed units will be designed to challenge each artist/student in fields such as philosophy, anatomy, psychology, music, history and culture. Students will develop a sophisticated critical attitude toward all forms of visual experience supported by extensive research. **Recommended:** A strong B average or better attained in a *minimum* of one year of previous study in high school art. Please talk to your guidance counselor about the SL vs. HL IB art sections available at your specific high school.

Jewelry & Metalsmithing 1 (SMR)1 Semester/0.5 credit
In this semester-long student-directed studio class, students will be taught a variety of skills essential for jewelry production. This includes but is not limited to cutting sheet metal, soldering, enameling, wire-wrapping, chain maille, and other nontraditional media. Students will use these skills to design and create unique pieces of jewelry. Students will have the opportunity to develop a portfolio of work and to display their work. No prerequisites are required for this course. This class may be taken multiple times for credit.

Jewelry & Metalsmithing 2 (SMR) 1 Semester/0.5 credit
This is an advanced studio course that builds on foundational jewelry-making skills. Students will refine and expand techniques such as metal cutting, soldering, enameling, wirework, chain maille, and the use of nontraditional materials. Greater emphasis is placed on design development, craftsmanship, and problem-solving as students plan and create more complex, self-directed projects. Students will produce a cohesive body of work suitable for a portfolio and may participate in exhibitions or displays of their work. A passing grade in Jewelry & Metals 1 or instructor approval is required to enroll.

Technology, Engineering, and Creativity (TEC) (SMR)
1 Semester/0.5 credit

In this inquiry-based, interdisciplinary course, students will engage in a variety of activities revolving around experimentation and creative problem-solving. Students will gain exposure to, and experience with, a variety of tools and materials, including numerous power tools and other advanced technology like 3-D modeling and printing. Students will learn how to draw for engineering and manufacturing, and will use the Design Thinking Process for designing and creating projects. Students will explore projects based on student needs, interests, and real-world issues, as well as be free to explore their own passion projects. The course is a natural pathway to many of the CTE, EFA, and EMC courses offered through KRESA. Students may take this class again with instructor's permission.

KEY:

CTE	Career and Technical Education	**HL**	Higher Level
CHS	At Central High School	**SL**	Standard Level
NHS	At Northern High School	**IB**	International Baccalaureate
VPAA	Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit	**W**	Weighted GPA Course
		SMR	Senior Math Related Credit

Business/Computers

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
Accounting/Finance 1 (CTE)	9 10 11 12	1.0
Accounting/Finance 2 (CTE)	10 11 12	1.0
Accounting/Finance 3 (CTE)	11 12	1.0
Business Law	9 10 11 12	.5
IB Business & Management SL	11 12	1.0
Computer Applications	9 10 11 12	0.5
Entrepreneurship (CTE)	9 10 11 12	1.0
Introduction to Business	9 10 11 12	0.5
Keyboarding	9 10 11 12	0.5
Marketing 1 (CTE)	9 10 11 12	1.0
Advanced Marketing 2 (CTE)	10 11 12	1.0
Advanced Marketing 3 (CTE)	11 12	1.0

Accounting/Finance 1 (CTE) (W) (SMR) (VPAA)
Full year/1.0 credit

Accounting is an essential aspect of every business and organization; it is the "language of business!" Students will track the financial progress of a business by using an online accounting software program to process business transactions and update financial records. Students will become proficient in using Excel. Personal finance is explored in the 2nd quarter; covering topics such as: saving and investing, the use of credit and the importance of your credit score, along with an introduction to taxes and insurance. Employability skills are a big focus; too. Students will develop a professional resume, as well as prepare for a mock interview. Career Exploration is also covered through the Xello program where students will build their personality profile and skills inventory. This course prepares students for studying business at the college-level and for entering the work world.

**Potential for articulated credit with KVCC, Baker College, Davenport University, and Ferris State University*

**Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit and 4th Related Math Credit.*

**Personal Finance 0.5 credit*

**See counselor for possible 3rd Science and/or 2nd World Language Credit*

**This is an Early/Middle College eligible program*

Accounting/Finance 2 (CTE) (W) (VPAA) (SMR)
Full year/1.0 credit

Students who enroll in the second year become proficient in computerized systems, advanced application, analysis, and financial decision making. Competencies include departmentalized accounting procedures, completing payroll, budgeting, and financial analysis.

**Potential for articulated credit with KVCC, Baker College, and Davenport University.*

** 4th Related Math Credit.*

**See counselor for possible 3rd Science and/or 2nd World Language Credit*

** This is an Early/Middle College eligible program*

Accounting/Finance 3 (CTE) (W) (VPAA) (SMR)
Full year/1.0 credit

Students who wish to continue their deep dive into accounting can take an independent study, 3rd-year course (see counselor to get an independent study form). Students will work independently, with teacher support and facilitation. Topics include: Financial statement analysis, acquiring capital for growth, depreciation, inventory, international sales, and more. Students will have the opportunity to take the Intuit Bookkeeping Professional Credential Test.

Business Law **1 semester/0.5 credit**

This course provides students with a foundational understanding of business law and the legal system as it relates to the business world, as well as its impact on businesses, communities, families, and individuals. Students will explore topics such as torts, contracts and agreements, product liability, consumer, employment, and property law, landlord and tenant agreements, business organization and legal basics, and wills. Learning is applied through real-life case studies, readings, worksheets, projects, presentations, and tests to help students develop practical skills in analyzing and solving legal problems that arise in both professional and personal settings.

IB Business Management SL (W) (VPAA)
Full year/1.0 credit

This course explores how and why individuals form organizations, their types, problems, and life cycles using business case studies. Although the course centers around business organization, the principles can be extended to other forms of organizations. The principles and skills involved are focused on the decision-making process. The course will also look at the role of individuals and groups within organizations. The five modules are business organizations, marketing, human resources, finance, and business operations. This class counts for Economics and Social Studies credit.

Computer Applications (VPAA) **1 semester/0.5 credit**

This course is recommended for ALL high school students! Using technology is an essential skill for home, college and work applications. Employers tell us using Microsoft Office is imperative. Students will utilize Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, in addition to Internet resources and apps. Students will create PowerPoint presentations, Excel spreadsheets and business documents using Word, along with various Google apps. This course prepares

students to format and design work that is used in the home, school and office environments.
**Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit.*

Entrepreneurship (CTE) (W) (SMR) (VPAA)
Full year/1.0 credit
This course is designed to prepare those students with career goals in business, either in management or as a business owner. During this year long course, students will be exposed to the various types of business ownership through project-based activities that all businesses participate in, along with the various types of management and leadership styles. Students will also complete projects in Entrepreneurship preparing them for opening up their own business. *Potential for articulated credit with KVCC, Baker College, Grand Rapids Community College, and Davenport University*
**Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit and 4th Related Math Credit.*
*See counselor for possible 3rd Science and/or 2nd World Language Credit

Introduction to Business (VPAA) 1 semester/0.5 credit
This course enables the student to develop an understanding of our American business system and its role in our economy by studying such topics as: finance, business management, business organizations, marketing, and entrepreneurship. Also, we will discuss your place as a consumer in today's global market. This is a great course to take to see what other business courses interest you.

Keyboarding (VPAA) 1 semester/0.5 credit
The course provides students with the opportunity to learn touch control of the computer alpha/numeric keyboards. Touch-typing skill focuses on speed and accuracy. The skill building phase of the course concentrates on improving speed and accuracy, and the application phase emphasizes introduction to basic word processing formats such as letters, memos and tables. Keyboarding is a foundation for personal and professional use.

Marketing 1 (CTE)(W)(SMR)(VPAA)
Full year/1.0 credit
This course is recommended for those students interested in the promotional side of the business world. It is a yearlong course which will expose students to those techniques businesses use to persuade consumers to buy products or use services. The class is project-oriented. Units covered include advertising, display, sales, global marketing, design, social media, sports and entertainment marketing, ethics, and employability skills (including creation of a resume). This class can be a two-year program, offering an advanced level the following year. The class provides opportunities for students to participate in DECA.
**Potential for articulated credit with KVCC, Baker College, and Davenport University.*
**Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit and 4th Related Math Credit.*
**See counselor for possible 3rd Science and/or 2nd World Language Credit*
**This is an Early/Middle College eligible program.*

Advanced Marketing 2 (CTE) (W) Full year/1.0 credit
This course provides students with the opportunity to operate the school store during lunch periods**.** This is a project-based class exploring advanced marketing functions. Units covered include Marketing Research, Entrepreneurship, Pricing, Promotion, Employability Skills, and Business Operations. Students may participate in DECA. **Prerequisite:** Marketing 1
**Potential for articulated credit with KVCC, Baker College, and Davenport University*
**Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit and 4th Related Math Credit.*
**See counselor for possible 3rd Science and/or 2nd World Language Credit*

Advanced Marketing 3 (CTE) (W) Full year/1.0 credit
This year long class is a hands-on "lab" experience. The students will operate the Huskie Den school store. The students will be involved in all aspects of running a brick and mortar retail business such as: inventory, pricing, purchasing, promotions, sales, customer service, visual merchandising, displays, cleaning, making slushies and popcorn. Independent study is available for this class.
Prerequisite: Marketing 1 and 2
**Potential for articulated credit with KVCC, Baker College, and Davenport University*
**Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit and 4th Related Math Credit.*
**See counselor for possible 3rd Science and/or 2nd World Language Credit*

KEY:

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VPAA	Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit	**SMR**	Senior Math Related Credit

English

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
English 9	9	1.0
Honors English 9	9	1.0
English Prep 10	10	1.0
English 10	10	1.0
Honors English 10	10	1.0
English Prep 11	11	1.0
English 11	11	1.0
IB English 1 SL	11	1.0
IB English 1 HL	11	1.0
English Prep 12	12	1.0
English 12	12	1.0
IB English 2 HL	12	1.0

Electives	Grade(s)	Credit
Creative Writing	11 12	0.5
Dramatics 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
Dramatics 2	10 11 12	0.5
Forensics 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
Forensics 2	10 11 12	0.5
Journalism 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
Journalism 2	10 11 12	0.5
Journalism 3	10 11 12	0.5
Reading Skills	9	0.5
TV Internship 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
TV Internship 2	9 10 11 12	0.5
Yearbook 1	9 10 11 12	1.0
Yearbook 2	10 11 12	1.0

English 9 **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course integrates the study of literature, composition, grammar, vocabulary and speech. Students can expect to read literary works of varying lengths including novels, short stories, nonfiction, essays, drama and poetry. Literary terms and literary analysis will both be a vital part of the study of literature. Students will write a variety of reflective, narrative and analytical essays. This course is designed to prepare students for meeting an assortment of future challenges.

Honors English 9 (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course incorporates and extends the same study areas as English 9. It will move at a faster pace. Many of the literary works are complex and require a deep analysis. In addition, students will be required to complete summer reading before the school year begins in order to maintain the pace of the course. This course creates a challenging environment which is intended to prepare students for Honors English 10 and the International Baccalaureate program.

English Prep 10 **Full year/1.0 credit**

This one-year course meets the same requirements as English 10. The program integrates writing, speaking, and listening, providing experiences necessary for meeting the standards of the SAT. Compositions will give continued practice using the writing process. The speech portion will offer students practical instruction in the fundamentals of oral communication and active listening. This course also incorporates activities to develop students' skills in writing, speaking, listening and group work to prepare them for college and the workplace.

English 10 **Full year/1.0 credit**

This one-year course integrates the study of literature, composition, grammar, vocabulary and speech. Literary selections will provide students with the background to recognize literary allusions, complete studies of characterization and identify structural choices made by the author. Course work will focus on argumentative and persuasive writing, research and presentations in various formats. These will provide context for references students will encounter both in future literature study as well as in the real world. In addition, this course will continue practice in the writing process as students work to improve their composition skills in preparation for assessments they will encounter in upper level classes and on the SAT tests .

Honors English 10 (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**

This one-year integrated course extends the core of English 10. It is especially designed to give students the skills needed to succeed in IB English Literature A HL courses in the 11th and 12th grades. Students can expect increased rigor in reading, writing, and public speaking. Students will study topics in greater depth and complexity. In addition, students will be required to complete summer reading before the school year begins in order to maintain the pace of the course. This course creates a challenging environment which is intended to prepare students for the International Baccalaureate program.

English Prep 11 **Full year/1.0 credit**

This one-year course meets the same requirements as English 11. The program integrates writing, speaking, listening, and problem solving, providing experiences necessary for meeting the standards of SAT. The literary selections incorporate a view of literature with an emphasis on American literature, both past and present. Writing and organizational skills will be addressed in all portions of the course. The program also incorporates activities to develop students' skills in writing, speaking, listening, and group work to prepare them for college and the workplace.

English 11 **Full year/1.0 credit**

This college preparatory course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening, and problem solving. It incorporates a historical view of literature with an emphasis on American

literature, both past and present. Students can expect to write several argumentative essays in preparation for the SAT writing test. In addition, students will write reflective pieces, culminating in a personal narrative that could be used as a college admissions essay. This course will provide students with opportunities to develop language arts skills needed for college and career readiness

IB English Language and Literature 1 SL (W) Full year/1.0 credit
This standard-level IB English course is appropriate for all learners and explores the ways that meaning is conveyed through a variety of media and forms from different periods, styles, and cultures. Students will develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, and presenting while they interpret, evaluate, and analyze literary and non-literary texts and bodies of work. This is year one of a two year course, which culminates in the option to take the IB test for potential college credit. The course is comparable to E11 in terms of difficulty, but has a larger, more global scope as well as more open interpretations of what constitutes a text, expanding beyond novels to include digital media and other mediums as well.

IB English Literature 1 HL (W) Full year/1.0 credit
The IB English 1 HL course is for motivated students who are prepared for a challenging English language arts curriculum. Students are required to read at least six major works of literature by different authors. Course work will focus on narrative techniques and literary elements. Writing assignments will include literary comparisons and analyses of the works studied. This course, when followed by IB English 2 HL, leads to the IB English test. This course includes a major formal oral assessment that is assessed by the International Baccalaureate Organization. *Successful completion of Honors English 9 and 10 is strongly recommended for enrollment in this course.*

English Prep 12 Full year/1.0 credit
This one-year course meets the same requirements as English 12. The program integrates activities with writing, speaking, listening, problem solving, and formal analytical research using MLA documentation. It incorporates a global view of literature with an emphasis on British literature, both past and present, and its interrelationship with literature from around the world. Writing emphasizing the integration of personal and research evidence will be used. This course also incorporates activities to develop students' skills in writing, speaking, listening, and group work to prepare them for college and the workplace.

English 12 Full year/1.0 credit
This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening, problem solving and formal analytical research using MLA documentation to prepare them for their future. It incorporates a global view of literature, both past and present. Writing assignments will emphasize the integration of personal and research evidence. This course will provide students with opportunities to develop language arts skills needed for college or future careers.

IB English Literature 2 HL (W) Full year/1.0 credit
The IB English 2 HL course is for motivated students who have successfully completed IB English 1 HL. Course work will include in-depth study of poetry and Shakespearean text and the analysis of authors' style and voice. Literary explication and commentary of prose and poetry, both studied in class as well as read outside of class, form the basis of writing assignments. Completion of this course prepares students to take the IB English test offered in the spring.

ELECTIVES

Creative Writing (VPAA) 1 semester/0.5 credit
This course is for those who wish to express themselves creatively and imaginatively in poetry, fiction and creative nonfiction. The student should be reading at the 11th or 12th grade level, should be producing quality writing and have the ability to analyze the written word. Continued reading, as well as the keeping of journals, will be done as sources of ideas for expression. Rather than teaching how to write, the emphasis will be on teaching students how to teach themselves to write. This course is not focused on college-preparatory academic writing, but it will help students improve skills in writing and revision, as well as to educate them about writing for commercial and entertainment purposes post-secondary.

Drama 1 (VPAA) 1 semester/0.5 credit
This course provides students with instruction in the academic, technical, and performance aspects of drama. Components of the course include the history of drama, dramatic genres, acting and improvisation, stage movement, and theatrical production. Students will experience drama both as literature and as one of the fine arts.

Drama 2 (VPAA) 1 semester/0.5 credit
This course is for students who wish to continue Dramatics at a more advanced level. This course focuses more in depth on the aspects of Dramatics 1 while also focusing more on directing and technical aspects of the business of theatre.

Forensics 1 (VPAA) **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course offers participation in individual speech events as well as preparation, practice and competition in forensics events and tournaments for those that wish to further participate in the activity extracurricularly. Students will experience public speaking events: extemp, impromptu, sales, oratory, informative speaking, and broadcasting. Students will also experience and learn about interpretive events: drama, prose, poetry, duo, multiple and storytelling.

Forensics 2 (VPAA) **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is for students who wish to continue Forensics at a more advanced level.

Journalism 1 **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is for students who see anticipate becoming part of the advanced journalism course (Journalism 2), which is responsible for producing the high school newspaper. Journalism 1 introduces students to the role newspapers play in a free society and First Amendment issues. Units covering interviewing, lead writing, straight news writing, feature writing and sports writing are introduced. Proofreading, copy-editing, and cutting-edge graphic design skills are emphasized. Some articles produced by Journalism 1 students may be published in the school newspaper. Students learn the fundamentals of newspaper layout and design. *Students who complete this course are not automatically eligible to take Journalism 2.*

Journalism 2 **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is centered on the production of the school newspaper, including its writing, editing, layout, and publication. Students may be placed in various positions depending on their strengths– writing, editing, photography, etc. Some students will be given editorial responsibilities. The journalism teacher approves the admission of students who have not taken Journalism 1. **Recommended**: Journalism 1.

Journalism 3 **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This an advanced, leadership-focused course centered on the production and publication of the school newspaper. Students assume increased responsibility in writing, editing, design, photography, and digital layout, with many serving in editorial or section leadership roles. Emphasis is placed on advanced journalistic practices, ethical decision-making, collaborative newsroom workflows, and meeting publication deadlines. Students are expected to mentor less-experienced staff members and contribute to the overall vision and quality of the publication. Journalism teacher approval is required. **Recommended**: Journalism 2.

Reading Skills **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is designed to teach students who struggle with reading comprehension how to read grade level texts with increased proficiency through the independent application of comprehension strategies. Students will practice strategies with literature, science, and social studies texts. This course is also designed to improve the oral reading fluency of students to improve their reading ability and self-confidence. In addition, weekly vocabulary studies of prefixes and root words are designed to improve students' ability to decode difficult vocabulary. *This course is intended for ninth grade students who have been recommended for the course by middle school staff. This course is taken in conjunction with English 9.*

TV Internship 1 (VPAA) **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course offers students an introduction to the art of Broadcasting for Television. Students learn the skills necessary to produce a school news show. All facets of public speaking, camera operation, and technical skills will be addressed on a basic level. Students will also learn the basics of video editing and production. Students are introduced to several software applications that when used together can produce professional quality digital media.

TV Internship 2 **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is centered on the production of digital media for the school's Television Channel. Students may be placed in various positions depending on their strengths- anchoring, editing, filming, writing, photography, etc. Students will continue to develop the broadcasting and editing skills obtained in TV Internship 1. The emphasis is on editing and post production areas. Students will have the opportunity to create more in depth feature pieces and explore the elements of digital storytelling. The TV Internship teacher approves the admission of students who have not taken TV Internship 1.

Yearbook 1 (VPAA) **Full year/1.0 credit**
Applications for this course are made directly to the advisor in each building during the winter. Students interested in advertising, design, writing, photography, typing and being part of a team working to present the best yearbook possible are urged to visit with present staff to investigate the possibilities. Secure an application from the yearbook advisor or your counselor.

Yearbook 2 (VPAA) **Full year/1.0 credit**

This an advanced, application-based course focused on leadership and high-level production of the school yearbook and related publications. Students assume primary responsibility for planning, decision-making, and execution, including editorial leadership, advanced layout and design, photography direction, advertising management, and meeting production deadlines. Emphasis is placed on professional standards, collaboration, and mentoring newer staff members. Enrollment is by advisor approval, with applications submitted during the winter. **Recommended**: Yearbook 1

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Family & Consumer Science

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
Child Development and Parenting	9 10 11 12	0.5
Health	9 10 11 12	0.5
Interior Design	9 10 11 12	0.5
Living in Today's World	11 12	1.0
Foods 1	9 10 11 12	0.5
Foods 2	9 10 11 12	0.5

Child Development and Parenting (VPAA)
1 semester/0.5 credit

This course provides exposure to the basic skills, knowledge and attitudes to become responsible care-givers, and will help prepare individuals wanting to work with children in their future careers. Building strong and healthy family dynamics is a major focus of the class. Students will gain an understanding of pregnancy and the birth process, along with social, emotional, physical and intellectual development of children at various developmental stages through many different activities. The "Baby Think It Over" simulation is a major project that is included in the course, which will help students understand the needs and responsibilities involved in being a parent.

Health **1 semester/0.5 credit**

This course is designed to help students lead a healthy life. It covers the 3 components of health: physical, mental/emotional & social. Topic areas include health skills (goal setting, decision making, etc.) social & emotional health, nutrition & physical activity, safety & CPR, alcohol, tobacco & other drugs and human growth & development.

Interior Design (VPAA) (SMR) **1 semester/0.5 credit**

Interior Design is a course designed to teach students the basics of decorating a personal living space. Students will acquire skills in selecting furnishings, light fixtures, textiles, flooring, window treatments and accessories. A big focus of the class is learning and knowing how to use the elements and principles of design. In addition to selecting materials, students will learn the basics of floor plans, traffic patterns and scale drawings. Students will learn about the career field of Interior Design, and will complete many hands-on activities within each unit. Some of the projects may include creating their own piece of furniture, creating a style board, creating an accessory piece and designing a dream home for themselves or a client.

Living in Today's World (VPAA) **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course is essential for developing a perspective on the general life cycle from birth to death. It will help students to effectively manage their personal life and career after high school. The course will encompass personal values, understanding differing family structures and increasing employability skills necessary for success in today's world. Units of study include: teamwork, tips for living independently, personal growth, global perspectives, problem-solving, coping with stress, avoiding and handling personal crises, dealing with death and the importance of building strong and healthy relationships. . Information is considered from three perspectives: the individual, the family and society.

Foods 1 (VPAA) (SMR) **1 semester/0.5 credit**

This course gives students the opportunity to gain skills in basic food preparation, and evaluate or improve their day-to-day food choices. Topics taught include: food safety/sanitation, kitchen safety, cooking methods and proper measuring, along with buying, preparing and storing food (such as proteins, fruits, vegetables, grains and dairy products). Hands-on food labs and demonstrations are a major part of the overall experience, which will provide students with many lifelong benefits. Emphasis is placed on teamwork skills, cooperative learning and completing various kitchen duties during labs.

Foods 2 (VPAA) (SMR) **1 semester/0.5 credit**

The art of cooking from scratch and creative cookery is the main theme throughout the course. Advanced Foods is a great choice for students who have an interest in preparing and serving meals with visual and taste appeal and for those who want to refine their cooking skills. Food categories such as eggs, pies, cake decorating, sauces, etc. are covered in this course, along with meal planning, budgeting for food, disease prevention, special diets, and career exploration. Competition labs are a fun and required element of this hands-on class as well. **Prerequisite**: Nutrition/Foods

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		SMR	Senior Math Related Credit

Mathematics

Course	Grade(s)			Credit
From Math 8				
Algebra 1	9			1.0
Geometry		10		1.0
Algebra 2			11	1.0
Pre-Calculus or Math Elective, Including IB Math			12	1.0
From Math 8 (by teacher recommendation only)				
Algebra 1A/1B	9			1.0
Algebra 1C/Geometry A		10		1.0
Algebra 2A/2B			11	1.0
Geometry B/Algebra 2C			12	1.0
From 8th Grade Plus (if appropriate)				
Geometry, Honors Geometry	9	10		1.0
Algebra 2, Honors Algebra 2		10	11	1.0
Pre-Calc, IB Analysis & Approaches SL			11 12	1.0
AP Calculus, IB Analysis & Approaches HL			12	1.0
International Baccalaureate (IB) Mathematics				
IB Applications & Interpretation SL (teacher rec. only)			11 12	1.0
IB Analysis & Approaches SL			11 12	1.0
IB Analysis & Approaches HL (prereq: A&A SL)			12	1.0
Other Mathematics Courses				
Statistics in Our Community			12	.5
Mathletics			12	.5
AP Statistics			11 12	1.0

All high school graduates are required to successfully complete three credits chosen from the offerings of the mathematics department and one math related course in their senior year. Completion of course content equivalent to Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2 is required. The mathematics department strongly recommends that courses be taken in sequential order and that a grade of "C-" or better be obtained at each level before advancing to the next level. Students following teacher recommendations and taking courses in the proper sequence tend to perform better than students taking courses out of order. College bound students should take 4 years of algebra-rich mathematics.

Algebra 1 **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course builds upon a number of key algebraic topics developed in the middle grades, namely a deep knowledge of linear patterns of change and familiarity with non-linear patterns such as exponential and quadratic. It is expected that students entering Algebra 1 are fluent in basic arithmetic skills involving fractions, decimals and whole numbers (without a calculator) and are able to recognize and solve mathematical and real-world problems involving linear relationships and to make sense of and move fluently among the graphic, numeric, symbolic, and verbal representations of these patterns. This course includes ideas from the areas of algebra, geometry, probability, and statistics. Problem-solving techniques continue to be developed and applied. Some of the specific topics to be considered include: properties of real numbers; solutions of linear equations and inequalities in one and two variables; solutions to quadratic equations; uses of the Cartesian plane; solving systems of linear equations and inequalities; solutions of absolute value equations and inequalities; set theory; ratios, proportions and percentages; square root and related properties; exponents, powers and related properties; transformational geometry; simplifying sums, differences, products and quotients of polynomials; factoring polynomials; recursive formulas; linear regression; and elementary counting techniques.

Geometry **Full year/1.0 credit**

Geometry builds on a number of key topics such as relationships between angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, and simple three-dimensional figures that have been developed in the middle grades. It is expected that students beginning geometry are able to recognize and classify properties of simple geometric shapes, know and apply basic similarity and congruence theorems, understand simple constructions with a compass and straightedge and find area and volume of basic shapes. Students should also be able to solve algebraic equations involving one variable.

This course includes ideas from the areas of algebra, geometry, trigonometry and vector analysis. Some of the specific topics to be considered include: graph theory; two- and three-dimensional figures; if-then statements; transformational geometry; polygons and circles; congruence; measurement; surface areas and volumes; coordinate geometry; similarity; formal logic; basic proofs; deductive reasoning; right triangle trigonometry; and vectors. Problem solving will be a unifying theme throughout the course. **Prerequisite:** Algebra 1 or Math 8+

Honors Geometry (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course will prepare students for Honors Algebra 2. Honors Geometry is structured to build a deeper understanding of key topics such as relationships between angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, and three-dimensional figures that have been developed in the middle grades. Students in honors geometry are expected to proficiently recognize, classify, analyze and apply properties of geometric shapes, know and apply similarity and congruence theorems, understand constructions with a compass and straightedge and find area and volume of shapes. Students should also be able to solve algebraic equations involving one or more variables. The students will produce in-class and research projects applying geometry concepts that include written explanations.

This course includes ideas from the areas of algebra, geometry, probability, trigonometry, and vector analysis. Some of the specific topics to be considered include: graph theory; two- and three-dimensional figures; if-then statements; transformational geometry; polygons and circles; congruence; measurement; surface areas and volumes; coordinate geometry; similarity; formal logic; proofs; deductive reasoning and indirect reasoning; right triangle trigonometry; unit circle; and vectors. The interrelationships between algebra and geometry will be emphasized and it is critical that connections are made from algebraic reasoning to geometric situations. Problem solving will be a unifying theme throughout the course. **Prerequisite**: Semester grade of A- or higher in Algebra 1 or Math 8+ and teacher recommendation.

Algebra 2 **Full year/1.0 credit**
The goal of Algebra 2 is to build upon the concepts taught in Algebra 1 and Geometry while adding new concepts to the students' knowledge of mathematics. Algebra 2 extends the study of families of functions from linear, quadratic and exponential functions to also include logarithmic and rational. Some specific topics to be covered include: linear functions, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, radical functions, rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, an introduction to statistics, and an introduction to trigonometry. Problem solving will be ongoing throughout the course. **Prerequisite**: Algebra 1 and Geometry.

Honors Algebra 2 (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course is intended for students pursuing upper level mathematics courses such as IB Math AA SL/HL, AP Calculus, and AP Statistics. Students will be required to complete at least two semester projects where emphasis will be placed on problem solving and technical writing. Students will be challenged to persevere and think critically on a daily basis. The topics from Algebra 2 will be included along with an extended unit of trigonometry, linear programming, linear regression, probability distributions, rational inequalities, end behavior, area under a curve, and mathematical induction**. Prerequisite:** Students must earn at least a B- for each semester grade and on the final exam in Honors Geometry, or, students must earn at least a B+ for each semester grade and on the final exam of Geometry, and have a teacher recommendation. Students coming from 8+ / Algebra 1 and planning to double up: Students must earn at least an A- for each semester grade and on the final exam of Algebra 1, and have a teacher recommendation.

Pre-Calculus **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course is designed to be a transition from Algebra 2 to AP Calculus. Topics include but are not limited to: trigonometric functions and applications; conic sections; polynomial functions; rational functions; parametric equations; polar coordinates; complex numbers; and logarithms. **Highly recommended:** Strong performance in an Algebra 2 course with a B- or better.

Algebra 1A/1B **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course will cover approximately the first two semesters of a three semester Algebra 1 course. (The content of the Algebra 1 course has been previously described). The third semester of Algebra 1 will be completed during the first semester of the following year in a full year course to be named Algebra 1C/Geometry A (this course would consist of the third semester Algebra 1 and the first semester of Geometry). **Enrollment in this course is by Teacher Recommendation only.**

Algebra 1C/Geometry A **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course consists of the third and final semester of a three semester Algebra 1 course followed by the first semester of a Geometry course. It is designed primarily for those students who have completed Algebra 1A/1B or for students who have not mastered Algebra 1 **and have a teacher recommendation to take this course.** Upon completion of the required Algebra topics, students will then continue on with the first semester of Geometry. (Please see descriptions for Algebra 1 and Geometry for details of course content.) The second semester of Geometry will be completed during the first semester of senior year in a full year course named Geometry B/Algebra 2C. This course consists of the second semester of Geometry followed by the third and final semester of a three semester Algebra 2 course.

Algebra 2A/2B **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course consists of approximately the first two semesters of a three semester Algebra 2 course. (The content of the Algebra 2 course has been previously described). It is designed primarily for those students who have completed Algebra 1A/1B and Algebra 1C/Geometry A courses **or** for students that may need additional support with Algebra 1 and Geometry content **and have a teacher recommendation to take this course.**

Geometry B/Algebra 2C **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course will cover approximately the second semester of a Geometry course and the third semester of a three semester Algebra 2 course. (The content of the Geometry and Algebra 2 courses have been previously described). **Enrollment in this course is by Teacher Recommendation only**.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MATHEMATICS AND AP MATHEMATICS

Potential IB Diploma and Certificate students: Please discuss IB Mathematics options with your school's IB coordinator before making your choices.

A Note on IB exams:

In Applications and Interpretation SL, Analysis and Approaches SL and Analysis and Approaches HL, IB candidates are expected to have access to a graphic display calculator throughout the course. If this is not possible, please speak with your schools IB Coordinator. Calculators with any form of the following facilities or features are not allowed in IB Diploma exams:

- Symbolic manipulation (algebra or calculus)
- External communication (such as infrared links to other machines)
- Data bank
- Dictionary
- QWERTY keyboard
- External storage media (card, tape, plug-in module, etc.)

The TI-89 and TI-92 are examples of calculators that do not comply with IBO regulations. See your IB coordinator for a complete list or assistance, if needed, obtaining a qualifying calculator.

IB Math Applications and Interpretation SL (W)

Full year/1.0 credit

This course is designed to build confidence and encourage an appreciation of mathematics in students who do not expect mathematics to be a major component of their university studies. The syllabus is organized giving greater emphasis to developing students' mathematical reasoning; to enhance critical thinking; solving mathematical problems embedded in a wide range of contexts; using the calculator effectively. Each student completes a project based on their own research; this is guided and supervised by the teacher. Topics covered in this course include: Number and Algebra; Functions; Geometry and Trigonometry; Statistics and Probability; Calculus. **Prerequisite**: Algebra 2 and teacher recommendation.

IB Math Analysis & Approaches SL (W)

Full year/1.0 credit

IB Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches at SL and HL is appropriate for students who enjoy developing their mathematics to become fluent in the construction of mathematical arguments and develop strong skills in mathematical thinking. They will also be fascinated by exploring real and abstract applications of these ideas, with and without the use of technology. Students who take Mathematics: Analysis & Approaches will be those who enjoy the thrill of mathematical problem solving and generalization. This subject is aimed at students who will go on to study subjects with substantial mathematics content such as mathematics itself, engineering, physical sciences, or economics for example.

In this course, students will complete their preparation for the IB Mathematics Analysis and Approaches SL exam, and/or begin their preparation for the IB Mathematics Analysis and Approaches HL exam. It consists of the study of mathematical topics that include but are not limited to: numbers and algebra; functions; geometry and trigonometry; statistics and probability; and calculus. Graphing calculators and computers will be used in the exploration of ideas to facilitate problem solving. Important issues in the use of technology will be addressed, including limitations and cautions.

The internal assessment will be woven into normal classroom teaching and not be a separate activity conducted after a course has been taught.

The internal assessment is an individual exploration. The mathematical exploration offers an opportunity to investigate the usefulness, relevance and occurrence of mathematics in the real world. The emphasis is on communication by means of mathematical forms (for example, formula, diagrams, graphs and so on) with accompanying commentary. This is a piece of written work that involves investigating an area of mathematics. It is assessed with IB criteria.

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 grade of B+ or better and teacher recommendation.

IB Math Analysis and Approaches HL (W)

Full year/1.0 credit

This course focuses on students with a strong background in mathematics who are competent in a range of analytical and technical skills. These students expect to include mathematics as a major component of their university studies either as a subject in its own right or within courses such as physics, engineering, and technology. Others may take this subject because they have a strong interest in mathematics and enjoy meeting its challenges and engaging with its problems.

The nature of this course is such that it focuses on developing important mathematical concepts in a comprehensible and coherent way. This is achieved by a carefully balanced approach: students are encouraged to apply their mathematical knowledge to solving problems set in a variety of meaningful contexts while, at the same time, being introduced to important concepts of rigor and proof. Internal assessment is an integral part of the course and is compulsory for all students. It enables students to demonstrate the application of their skills and knowledge, and to pursue their personal interests without the time

limitations and other constraints that are associated with written examinations. The internal assessment will be woven into normal classroom teaching and not be a separate activity conducted after a course has been taught.

The internal assessment is an individual exploration. The mathematical exploration offers an opportunity to investigate the usefulness, relevance and occurrence of mathematics in the real world. The emphasis is on communication by means of mathematical forms (for example, formula, diagrams, graphs and so on) with accompanying commentary. This is a piece of written work that involves investigating an area of mathematics. It is assessed with IB criteria.

This course requires students to study a broad range of mathematical topics including, but not limited to: number and algebra; functions and equations; circular functions and trigonometry; geometry; statistics; probability; and further calculus through a number of different approaches and to varying degrees of depth. **Prerequisite**: IB Mathematics Analysis & Approaches SL and teacher recommendation.

AP Calculus (W) Full year/1.0 credit
This course will prepare students for the AP Calculus AB exam. The course will explore a network of fundamentally important ideas. Numerical, analytical and geometric means will be employed to aid in the development of important concepts, both in practical and theoretical ways. Two major concepts will be pursued: that of the derivative and that of the definite integral. The concept of the limit will be studied in detail. Graphing calculators and computers will be used in the exploration of ideas to facilitate problem solving. Important issues in the use of technology will be addressed, including limitations and cautions**. Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus or IB Math AA SL.

AP Statistics (W) Full year/1.0 credit
This course will prepare students for the AP Statistics exam. It introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students will work on four major themes: exploratory analysis; planning a study; probability; and statistical inference. A statistics-capable calculator (such as a TI-84) will be used on a daily. The course is designed as a twelfth-grade elective. **Strongly recommended:** A strong performance in Algebra 2.

Statistics in Our Community 1 semester/0.5 credit
This semester-long class will focus on how statistics can be used to inform decision making within the geographical communities to which our students belong (Michigan, Kalamazoo County, City of Portage). Using data collected from organizations within these communities, students will explore basic concepts related to data display, descriptive statistics, and inferential statistics. Students will hear from and interact with a variety of guest speakers throughout the class, use Google applications to assist in the collection and analysis of data sets, and apply their skills by participating in a project requiring them to collect and analyze data from the community. **Prerequisite:** Algebra 2

Mathletics 1 semester/0.5 credit
This semester-long class will give students a chance to further develop their Algebra skills while also offering them a chance to explore a variety of new topics in mathematics. Topics of study include linear equations, Voronoi diagrams, matrices, solving quadratic equations, conics, rational functions and expressions, radical functions, and an introduction to vectors. Interactive games will be incorporated throughout the course in order to provide students with a fresh new way to practice both new and review concepts. Skills learned in this course will help students prepare to enroll in an entry level mathematics course at a college or university.
Prerequisite: Algebra 2

KEY:

CTE	Career and Technical Education	**HL**	Higher Level
CHS	At Central High School	**SL**	Standard Level
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VPAA	Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit	**W**	Weighted GPA Course
		SMR	Senior Math Related Credit

Music

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
Band		
Winds & Percussion	9 10 11 12	1.0
Symphonic/Concert Band	9 10 11 12	1.0
Choir		
Concert Choir	9 10 11 12	1.0
Treble Ensemble	10 11 12	1.0
Songleaders/Chamber Singers	9 10 11 12	1.0
Orchestra		
Orchestra	9 10 11 12	1.0
Chamber Music	9 10 11 12	1.0
Chamber Music: Strings	9 10 11 12	1.0
Dance/Color Guard	9 10 11 12	0.5
IB Music SL	11 12	1.0

☆All music courses are eligible for Visual Performing and Applied Arts (VPAA) credit

Chamber Music **0.5 credit**

This course is designed to give any wind instrument player or percussionist an opportunity to learn about and perform in a variety of Chamber Music ensembles. Students use composition, ear training and music theory software to enhance their individual skills. This course meets during first semester only. This provides wind and percussion students who do not wish to participate in the marching band with an opportunity to continue playing during first semester. *Students who enroll in Chamber Music should enroll in second semester Band (5th hour).* All Chamber Music students perform in the NHS Music Department's annual Holiday Collage Concerts.

Chamber Music: Strings **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course is open to a select number of high school string players who have demonstrated superior ability, dedication and proficiency on their instrument. Students must audition/have teacher approval to be placed in this course. Students will perform literature representative of the chamber string orchestra genre and will participate in concerts, festivals and special events. Students may also have the opportunity to perform in smaller chamber ensembles such as quartets and trios.

Concert Choir **Full year/1.0 credit**

Any student who is interested in singing may register for Concert Choir at NHS/CHS. Previous experience and an audition are not required. The selected literature for this ensemble is representative of a comprehensive choral music curriculum. Students will have the opportunity to perform in concerts, festivals and other special events.

Dance/Color Guard (NHS) **1 semester/0.5 credit**

This course will focus on the skills of dance including but not limited to modern, jazz, lyric and classical styles. These are the basic skills which form the foundation of a performance medium such as color guard. This course will include skills of equipment manipulation including flag and associated props similar to those found in marching band, winter guard and rhythmic gymnastics. Instruction will also include skills and concepts associated with planning, designing and realizing their own performances in this creative art form. The curriculum will be designed with the National Standards of Arts Education and the Winter Guard International Sport of the Arts Educational Foundation Guidelines in mind.

IB Music SL (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course fulfills the Group 6 elective requirement for the IB Diploma and is open to students in grades 11 and 12. It helps students acquire knowledge and understanding of music from a variety of cultural, historical and stylistic perspectives. It also develops basic musical literacy through the study of music theory and musical notation. Students will study the musical traditions of Western society from 1700 to the present, as well as of aboriginal Indian or Inuit society. Additional study will focus on African aboriginal music, Arabian or Jewish musical traditions, classical and traditional music of India and music of the Pacific Rim. In addition, students will choose one of two options, performance or composition, through which they will demonstrate their knowledge of the subject. The course assumes prior musical experience and seeks to allow students to develop their full potential as musicians, both personally and collaboratively. IB Music may be taken a second time at HL (higher level).

Orchestra **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course offers enriched and varied musical experiences. Students qualified for this organization will enjoy opportunities to play in concerts, festivals, assemblies and competitive festivals. Students who play a string instrument or who are interested in learning to play should contact the orchestra director. Instruction is available for all levels. The main objectives of this course are: (1) personal satisfaction gained from playing in a fine musical organization; (2) increased appreciation of good music; (3) a chance to participate in school affairs, concerts, festivals and special programs; (4) preparation for a career in music. The selected literature for this ensemble is representative of a comprehensive strings/orchestra curriculum. Audition and teacher recommendation is expected as part of the entrance procedure into the course.

Songleaders/Chamber Singers **Full Year/1.0 credit**
This advanced-level mixed ensemble consists of a select number of students who must demonstrate superior skills in the areas of vocal production, music literacy and seriousness of purpose in order to be considered for membership in this ensemble. The selected literature for this ensemble is representative of a comprehensive choral music curriculum. Students will have the opportunity to perform in concerts, festivals, and other special events. Audition with the director is required.

Symphonic/Concert Band
Full year/1.0 credit
This course provides wind and percussion students with extensive performance opportunities across marching band, concert ensembles, chamber groups, jazz band, theater orchestra, and indoor percussion. After marching band season, students audition for placement in either the Symphonic Band or Concert Band. The Symphonic Band is the most advanced ensemble, enrolling students who demonstrate superior technical skill, musical proficiency, and dedication. The Concert Band serves students who meet strong performance expectations but are still developing toward the highest level. Additional audition-based opportunities include participation in the Symphony Orchestra wind and percussion sections, Jazz Band, and various chamber ensembles. Audition and teacher recommendation are required for course entry.

Winds & Percussion **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course consists of students in grades 9-12. Students will be exposed to a comprehensive array of music literature while being offered a variety of experiences including full band, small ensembles, and sectionals throughout the year. This band develops, strengthens and prepares the individual musician for future high school ensembles. Winds & Percussion does not have any marching band responsibilities. They perform 3 formal concerts per school year and are part of the combined 9th-12th grade bands at Graduation. Tenth through twelfth grade band students wanting to learn a secondary instrument may sign up for this ensemble in addition to Symphonic/Concert Band. KAMSC students should contact the director for special scheduling information. Teacher recommendation is expected as part of the entrance procedure into the course.

Treble Ensemble **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course consists of a select number of treble voices grades 10-12 who have shown outstanding qualities in choir through previous choral experience. Students must demonstrate their skills in the areas of vocal production, music literacy and seriousness of purpose in order to be considered for membership in this ensemble. The selected literature for this ensemble is representative of a comprehensive choral music curriculum. Students will have the opportunity to perform in concerts, festivals and other special events. Audition/permission of the director required.

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Physical Education

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
Aquatics	9 10 11 12	0.5
Fitness for Life	9 10 11 12	0.5
Individual & Dual Sports	9 10 11 12	0.5
Phys. Fit. & Adv. Basketball	9 10 11 12	0.5
Phys. Fit. & Adv. Football	9 10 11 12	0.5
Team Sports	9 10 11 12	0.5
Weight Training	9 10 11 12	0.5
Women's Weight Training	9 10 11 12	0.5

Aquatics **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course will emphasize water polo, water safety, advanced swimming techniques and diving.

Fitness for Life **1 semester/0.5 credit**
The fundamental purpose of this course is to help all learners become informed, independent decision-makers capable of planning for enjoyable lifetime fitness and physical activity while at the same time achieving personal fitness and activity goals for students interested in learning additional skills and knowledge in a variety of common adult life individual, dual, and recreational sports, some sports may include disc golf, badminton, pickleball, ultimate Frisbee, yoga, volleyball, and others. Students will also have the opportunity to increase their knowledge of strength training techniques for basic functional fitness and personal strength training. This class will ultimately prepare the student for an active lifestyle after high school.

Individual & Dual Sports **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is designed for beginning and advanced students interested in learning additional skills and knowledge in a variety of individual and dual sports. The course will focus on skill development, strategy and rules. Units of study may include golf, tennis, badminton, pickleball and volleyball. Fitness Training will also be emphasized.

Physical Fitness & Adv. Basketball
1 semester/0.5 credit
This course emphasizes the development of health-related physical fitness and advanced basketball skills. Available grade levels may vary depending on semester. See your counselor for details.

Physical Fitness & Adv. Football **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course emphasizes the development of health-related physical fitness and advanced football skills. Available grade levels may vary depending on semester. See your counselor for details.

Weight Training **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is an intense physical training elective designed for students interested in athletics and lifelong fitness. Students with a positive attitude and a strong work ethic are encouraged to enroll. The course emphasizes all major components of physical fitness, including strength, speed, quickness, power, endurance, flexibility, balance, agility, and coordination, while also addressing mental skills such as sportsmanship, goal setting, visualization, and the importance of rest and nutrition. Enrollment may be limited due to space and equipment, and the course may be repeated multiple times.

Team Sports **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is designed for beginning and advanced students interested in learning additional skills and knowledge in a variety of team sports. The course will focus on skill development, strategy and rules. Units of study may include volleyball, basketball, soccer, flag football, speedball and softball. Fitness Training will also be emphasized.

Women's Weight Training
1 semester/0.5 credit
This course emphasizes key components of physical fitness, including strength, flexibility, and endurance, and is designed for students interested in both athletics and lifelong fitness. Through a focus on free-weight training, students learn health-related and skill-related fitness concepts while developing proper weight-room safety practices and lifting techniques. After an initial safety and technique orientation, students follow a personalized six-week training program based on their current strength levels, then reassess and adjust their program to continue improving strength, endurance, balance, and coordination. By the end of the semester, students create their own individualized training plan using the lifts and skills learned in class.

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Physical Education Waiver of Credit – The Physical Education graduation credit requirement can be met by successfully completing a particular course, program, or activity within the school or community.

1. The student must complete an application for waiver and submit it to his or her guidance counselor no later than one semester prior to the proposed course waiver.
2. A course, program, or activity considered for a waiver must be sponsored by or offered through a school district or through a recognized community organization or institution.
3. If an application is rejected by the student's school counselor, the student may appeal to the high school principal.
4. A student applying for a course waiver must be a full-time student (i.e., he or she must carry seven credited hours per year for his or her entire high school career), both before and after the granting of a waiver. If the student fails to carry seven credited hours, the waiver is null and void and may not be used as a graduation credit.
5. The student must present to his or her high school counselor a document of completion, signed by the instructor or coach of the course, program, or activity, which attests to the student's fulfillment of course, program, or activity requirements. Failure to do so will result in loss of credit for the waiver.
6. Courses, programs, or activities that meet the requirements for waivers for Portage Public Schools' physical education courses must involve a minimum of 60 hours of physical activity. Such courses, programs and activities may include sports teams sponsored by Portage Public Schools; high school marching band; full-semester dance classes taught in area dance studios; YMCA/YWCA aerobics, swimming, judo, karate or similar classes; or appropriate courses, programs or activities sponsored by or offered through recognized community organizations or institutions and supervised by an instructor.

Science

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
Chemistry 1	9	0.5
Honors Chemistry 1	9	0.5
Physics 1	9	0.5
Honors Physics 1	9	0.5
Biology	10	1.0
Honors Biology	10	1.0

Electives	Grade(s)	Credit
Anatomy	11 12	0.5
Astronomy	11 12	0.5
IB Biology 1 HL	11 12	1.0
IB Biology 2 HL	12	1.0
Chemistry 2	10 11 12	0.5
IB Chemistry 1 HL	11 12	1.0
IB Chemistry 2 HL	12	1.0
IB Computer Science SL	11 12	1.0
Computer Science Principles	9 10 11 12	1.0
Earth Science	11 12	1.0
Ecology & Environment	11 12	1.0
Forensic Science 1	11 12	0.5
Forensic Science 2	11 12	0.5
IB Environ. Systems & Societies SL	11 12	1.0
IB Sports, Exercise and Health Science SL	11 12	1.0
Physics 2	10 11 12	0.5
IB Physics 1 HL	11 12	1.0
IB Physics 2 HL	12	1.0

-Elective courses formatted in **bold** fulfill the 3rd science grad. req.
-Courses designated for SMR credit are only eligible for SMR if not being used to meet a science credit for graduation.

NOTE: The 12th grade year is elective for all students, as only 3 credits are required for graduation, and no electives are required to graduate.

Some students looking to take more science classes than required choose to "double up" in their 10th grade year by taking other science electives concurrent with Biology or Honors Biology. Students may also choose more than 1 credit of science in their junior or senior years if they are interested in more science electives, and their schedule allows.

While students may customize and move in between pathways, the following chart represents the two most common patterns.

Pathways

	General Pathway	IB Pathway
Gr. 9	Physics 1 0.5 Chemistry 1 0.5	Honors Physics 1 0.5 Hon. Chemistry 1 0.5
Gr. 10	Biology 1.0	Honors Biology 1.0
Gr. 11	Earth Science 1.0 - OR - IB Environmental Systems & Sciences	Any IB 1 HL course 1.0 - OR - IB Environmental Systems & Sciences
Gr. 12	Any IB Science course or Elective Science	Any IB 2 HL course or Electives

Chemistry 1 **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is designed to illustrate and compare the physical, chemical, and nuclear properties of matter. Students will investigate essential chemistry concepts including: good laboratory practices, atomic theory, periodicity, chemical bonding, changes in matter, conservation of mass, energy transformations, and scientific communication. Students will be encouraged to develop a questioning attitude and to have a better understanding of the role chemistry plays in each person's life. Laboratory experience and engineering practices will play a significant role in developing each student's understanding of the key scientific principles presented and provide practice with laboratory equipment, technique and safety.

Honors Chemistry 1 (W) **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course will address the same essential concepts as those in Chemistry 1 but to a greater depth of understanding. The course is designed for students who are strongly considering pursuing an IB science course or other advanced science coursework in their upperclassmen years and, as such, will introduce students to the expectations and grading criteria used in those courses for class and laboratory work. Students in the honors course should expect significantly more independent work and should be self-motivated in addition to having strong communication and mathematical skills. **Prerequisite:** Solid understanding of algebra.

Physics 1 **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course deals with the study of matter and energy in its various forms related to course topics; how they are observed and how one interprets and communicates what is observed. Students will complete numerous labs to

enhance learning. Topics include waves, electrostatics, heat and temperature, and force and motion.

Honors Physics 1 (W) **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course will address the same essential concepts as those in Physics but to a greater depth of understanding. Students in the honors course should expect significantly more independent work and should be self-motivated in addition to having strong communication and mathematics skills. **Prerequisite:** Thorough understanding of algebra.

Biology **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course develops essential biological concepts and theories through experimentation, observation, lecture presentations, and discussion. Emphasis is placed upon the ability of the students to solve problems using laboratory and field experiences. Topics to be covered include cell processes - cell reproduction, cellular respiration and photosynthesis; basic biochemistry - classification and reactions of organic compounds of the body, ecology, molecular genetics- DNA replication, transcription and translation; genetics, classification and evolution. This course meets the Michigan Science Standards requirements for Biology 1. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry 1, Physics 1.

Honors Biology (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course will address the same essential concepts as those in Biology but to a greater depth of understanding. The course is designed for students who are strongly considering pursuing any IB science course or other advanced science coursework in their upperclassmen years and, as such, it will introduce students to the expectations and grading criteria used in those courses for class and laboratory work. Students in the honors course should expect significantly more independent work and should be self-motivated in addition to having strong communication skills. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry 1, Physics 1.

ELECTIVES

Anatomy **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course focuses on human biological systems and is particularly appropriate for students interested in medical-related fields. Major topics include organization of the body and body systems. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry 1; Physics 1; Biology.

Astronomy **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This semester course follows the Earth Science 1 course. It will ask students to employ skills and knowledge learned in earlier science coursework to explore astronomical phenomena, both within and outside our solar system. Major topics include our night's sky, the solar system, star properties/evolution, black holes, galaxies, and the expanding universe. **Prerequisite:** Physics 1, Earth Science.

IB Biology 1 HL (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This is the first course of the two-year IB HL biology curriculum. It provides excellent premedical preparation and will increase comprehension of major biological principles as well as create awareness of the interrelationship between one's self and the world in which one lives. Topics are explored through classroom discussion, individual and group projects, laboratory investigations and computer-enhanced activities. The objectives of the course are to: produce students knowledgeable in the world of biology on a personal and global level; provide a sound knowledgebase for college and the workforce; provide opportunities for personal investigations of biological questions; and develop students' appreciation of their world and of the role science plays in its development. IB certification will be by external and internal examination.
Prerequisite: Honors Biology or Biology

IB Biology 2 HL (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This is the second course in the two-year IB higher level biology curriculum. Upon completion, students will be prepared for the IB Biology HL exam. This course meets the Michigan Science Standards requirements for Life Science. **Prerequisite:** IB Biology 1 HL.

Chemistry 2 (SMR) **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This semester course builds on the foundation established in the Chemistry 1 course. The course addresses the mathematics involved in Chemistry and moves at a college preparatory pace. Students in Chemistry 2 are assumed to be capable of using applied algebra without difficulty which allows more time for pursuing required topics to a greater depth of understanding. The course includes the following key topics: stoichiometry, equilibrium systems, acid/base chemistry, solution concentration, kinetics of reactions, thermodynamics, and oxidation/reduction reactions. Together with Chemistry 1, this course provides a full year of comprehensive college-preparatory chemistry and meets the Michigan Science Standards for Physical Science. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry 1, Physics 1, capable of using applied algebra.

IB Chemistry 1 HL (W) (SMR) **Full year/1.0 cr.**
This is the first course in the two-year IB HL chemistry curriculum. It is designed for students with an interest in an in-depth study of chemistry. It includes subject matter from all five branches of chemistry. It will expand on such topics as stoichiometry, atomic theory, periodicity,

bonding, states of matter, energetics, kinetics, equilibrium, acids and bases, oxidation and organic, among others. Students will learn to understand and apply scientific facts and concepts, techniques, and methods of presenting scientific information. Students will construct, analyze and evaluate scientific explanations. Problem solving through investigation will be fostered with the goals of precision, accuracy and safety as top priorities. This course meets the Michigan Science Standards requirements for Physical Science.

IB Chemistry 2 HL (W) (SMR) Full year/1.0 cr.
This is the second course in the two-year IB HL chemistry curriculum. Upon completion, students will be prepared for the IB Chemistry HL exam. IB certification will be by external and internal examination. This course meets the Michigan Science Standards requirements for Physical Science. **Prerequisite:** IB Chemistry 1 HL.

Computer Science Principles (SMR) Full year/1.0 credit
This course is a full-year, rigorous, entry-level course that introduces high school students to the foundations of modern computing. The course covers a broad range of foundational topics such as programming, algorithms, the Internet, big data, digital privacy and security, and the social impacts of computing. This course seeks to provide knowledge and skills to meaningfully participate in our increasingly digital society, economy, and culture. Students will learn both online and offline as they work individually and with other classmates to accomplish learning standards. **Prerequisite:** Algebra 1.

IB Computer Science SL (W) (SMR)
Full year / 1.0 credit
Computational thinking involves the ability to think procedurally, logically, concurrently, abstractly and recursively. In this class students will utilize an experimental and inquiry-based approach to problem solving, develop algorithms and express them clearly, and appreciate how theoretical and practical limitations affect the extent to which problems can be solved computationally. Students will develop an understanding of the ethical, economic, and social impact of computer science, while also understanding threats to computer systems and countermeasures. During the course students will learn and use the PythonLanguage to design, prototype, program and test proposed solutions.
Prerequisite: Computer Science Principles recommended but not required

Earth Science Full year/1.0 credit
This course is designed to illustrate concepts in resources, conservation and environmental issues, human impact, earth processes, global climate change, and plate tectonics. Students will investigate essential earth science concepts including the carbon cycle, earth materials and surfaces, ocean currents and greenhouse gases. Students will be encouraged to develop a questioning attitude and will acquire a better understanding of the role earth science plays in each person's life. Laboratory experience will play a role in developing each student's understanding of the key scientific principles presented and provide exposure to laboratory equipment, technique and safety. This course meets the requirement for the Michigan Science Standards. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry 1, Physics 1.

Ecology & Environment Full year/1.0 credit
In the first semester of this course, students will acquire knowledge of the components of nature through an in-depth study of ecology, with particular emphasis on the ecosystems of Portage and Michigan. Laboratory components and fieldwork will be included. Students will develop techniques for collecting and interpreting data. The second semester uses this base of knowledge to study the effects humans have on ecosystems and to discuss possible solutions to environmental problems. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry 1, Biology, & Earth Science.

Forensic Science 1 (SMR) 1 semester/0.5 credit
In this course, students will learn to apply science principles and techniques learned in their previous science coursework to the field of forensic science. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and problem solving skills as they relate to crime scene analysis. Students will foster these skills within a cooperative framework, as there will be extensive group work. Topics include DNA analysis, analysis of physical evidence, forensic anthropology, fingerprinting, analysis of trace evidence, blood typing and introduction to blood spatter analysis. Additional topics may be included at instructor's discretion. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry 1, Physics 1, Biology.

Forensic Science 2 (SMR) 1 semester/0.5 credit
In this course, students will continue the application of science principles and techniques learned in Forensic Science 1 and their science coursework to the field of forensic science. **Students enrolled in Forensic Science 2 should have completed Forensic Science 1 prior to enrollment.** Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and problem solving skills as they relate to crime scene analysis. Students will foster these skills within a cooperative framework, as there will be extensive group work. Topics include analysis of documents and forgery, toxicology, advanced glass analysis, forensic engineering, impression evidence, and advanced blood spatter analysis. Additional topics may be included at the instructor's discretion. **Prerequisite:** Forensic Science 1. **Strongly**

recommended: Anatomy and Physics 2 (or IB Science coursework).

IB Environmental Systems and Societies SL (W)
Full year/1.0 credit

This course fulfills the IB Group 4 Experimental Science requirement. The primary focus of this course is to provide students with a coherent, holistic perspective on the environment with emphasis on local ecosystems. A substantial amount of fieldwork will be included. Students will develop techniques for collecting and interpreting a variety of data. They will be required to evaluate and compare various components within an ecosystem and discuss their interrelationships. They will also evaluate and compare various ecosystems and examine how they interrelate. Students will explore not only the scientific aspects of environmental issues, but also ethical and political aspects. They will examine global environmental issues as well, especially as they relate to local ecosystems. IB certification will be by external examination.

IB Sports, Exercise and Health Science (SEHS) SL
Full year/1.0 credit

The SEHS class is an IB Science SL course. The SEHS class has a comprehensive curriculum that provides excellent preparation for university courses, including those specifically related to the science of sports and exercise. The course incorporates the traditional disciplines of physics, anatomy, physiology, biomechanics, psychology, and nutrition. These are studied in the context of force and motion, sport, exercise, and health. Students will cover a range of core and option topics as well as carry out scientific investigations in both laboratory and field settings. This will provide an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and understanding necessary to apply scientific principles and critically analyze human performance. When relevant, the course will also address issues of international dimension and ethics by considering sport, exercise, and health relative to the individual and in a global context. The SEHS course follows the group 4 SL curriculum model; students are required to spend 40 hours on practical/investigative work. This is a multidisciplinary elective course that does not meet the PE or Science requirements.

Physics 2 (SMR) **1 semester/0.5 credit**

This course builds on the foundation established in Physics 1. Major topics may include momentum, light and electromagnetism, technology, forces, static electricity, current electricity, electromagnetic induction, geometric optics, and wave applications in optics. Students in the honors course should expect significantly more independent work and should be self-motivated in addition to having strong communication and mathematics skills. Students should be capable of applying algebra without difficulty. The Physics 2 course will pursue topics at a college preparatory pace. Together with Physics 1, this course provides a full year of comprehensive college-preparatory chemistry and meets the Michigan Science Standards for Physical Science. **Prerequisite:** Physics 1, thorough understanding of algebra and geometry

IB Physics 1 HL (W) (SMR) **Full year/1.0 credit**

This is the first course in the two-year IB HL physics curriculum. It is recommended for students who intend to pursue science at the college level. The course will include in-depth examination of themes involving laws of physics, and experimental skills. Basic features of the natural world will be explained in terms of interactions between matter and energy. Students will hypothesize, design, and carry out investigations and theorize models. Topics will include measurement, mechanics, thermal physics, oscillation and waves, electricity and magnetism, circular motion and gravitation, atomic, nuclear, and particle physics, and energy production. The course will be complemented with extensive laboratory work and individual and small-group research projects. The course objectives include advanced problem solving in physics, in-depth study of the basic principles of physics, improvement of critical thinking skills through problem solving, and sharpened laboratory skills. This course along with IB Physics 2 meets the Michigan Science Standards requirements for Physical Science.

IB Physics 2 HL (W) (SMR) **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course completes the two-year IB higher level physics curriculum. Topics include wave phenomena, fields, electromagnetic induction, quantum, and nuclear physics. The instructor will also determine an additional topic amongst the following: relativity, engineering physics, imaging, or astrophysics. Upon completion, students will be prepared for the IB Physics HL exam. IB certification will be available by external and internal examination. **Prerequisite:** IB Physics 1 HL.

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Social Studies

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
American History Options		
Modern American History	9	1.0
Honors Modern American History	9	1.0
Economics Options		
Economics	10	0.5
Honors Economics	10	0.5
Government Options		
Government	10	0.5
AP US Government and Politics	10	0.5
World History Options		
Eastern World Studies	10 11 12	0.5
Contemporary International Studies	11 12	0.5
European History	10 11 12	0.5
IB 20th Century World History SL	11 12	1.0

Electives	Grade(s)	Credit
Comparative World Religion	10 11 12	0.5
Ancient World History	10 11 12	0.5
IB History of the Americas HL	12	1.0
IB/AP Psychology 1 SL	11 12	1.0
IB Psychology 2 HL	12	1.0
IB Theory of Knowledge	11 12	0.
IB Business & Management SL	11 12	1.0
Psychology	10 11 12	0.5
Sociology	10 11 12	0.5
Student Council (CHS)	9 10 11 12	1.0
Student Senate (NHS)	9 10 11 12	1.0

***12th Grade elective courses beyond requirements*:** Student Council (CHS 1.0); Psychology 0.5; Sociology 0.5; Student Senate (NHS 1.0); IB/AP Psychology 1 1.0; IB Psychology 2 SL/HL 1.0 or 2.0; IB 20th Century World (SL) 1.0; IB History of the Americas HL 1.0; Eastern World Studies 0.5; Comparative World Religions 0.5; European History 0.5; Ancient World History 0.5; Contemporary International Studies 0.5.

Pathways

3 Credits required for graduation

	General Pathway	IB Pathway
Gr. 9	**Modern Amer. History** *(Core or Honors)*	**Honors Modern Amer. History** *(Core or Honors)*
Gr. 10	**Government** *(Core or AP)* **& Economics** *(Core or Honors)*	**AP U.S. Government** *(Core or AP)* **& Honors Economics** *(Core or Honors)*
Gr. 11	**World History** Contemporary International Studies and one semester of a second World History elective or IB 20th Century World	**IB 20th Century World** *Prerequisite.:* Honors Economics & Government /AP US Govt. - OR - Government & Economics and Contemporary International Studies

Modern American History **Full year/1.0 credit**

This course continues the study of American history from middle school. The themes, units of study, and materials will focus on the post-Civil War period of American history to present-day. Students will study the core democratic values, geography and economics of America. The benchmarks stressed in the course coordinate with the standards and benchmarks of the State of Michigan. There is a 5 hour community service requirement, per semester.

Honors Modern American History (W)

Full year/1.0 credit

This challenging elective course extends the core Modern American History curriculum. Students can expect topics to be studied in greater depth than in the core course. (See Modern American History for a description of course content.) There is a 5 hour community service requirement, per semester. In addition, students will be required to complete summer reading before the school year begins.

Economics **1 semester/0.5 credit**

In this course, students will focus on the economic way of thinking, circular flow, economic growth and stability, monetary and fiscal policies and international trade. It is recommended that this course be taken in grade 10.

Honors Economics (W) **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This challenging course extends the core Economics curriculum and also incorporates a strong geographic component. (See Economics for a description of the core Economics curriculum.)

Government **1 semester/0.5 credit**
In this course, students will build upon their knowledge and understanding gained in earlier grades of civics, government and the process of governing. Students will develop a better understanding of the functions of American government and be encouraged to be responsible, active participants in the decision making process of American society. It is strongly recommended that this course be taken in grade 10.

AP US Government (W) **1 semester/0.5 credit**
AP United States Government and Politics gives students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific case studies and examples. This challenging course extends the core Government curriculum. (See Government for a description of the core Government curriculum.) As preparation for AP Government, students will be required to complete summer reading before the start of the school year.

Eastern World Studies **1 semester/0.5 credit**
Through an interdisciplinary approach, the course will examine the major influences on the development of Eastern Hemisphere Civilizations. With a focus on WHG Era 4-6, students will examine the impact of geography, significant people, economic and political forces, religions, folk traditions, science and technology on the development of selected Eastern Hemispheric Civilizations. Critical thinking and written expression are emphasized in this course.

Comparative World Religions **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course will examine the wide variety of religious and cultural traditions found in our world today. By gaining a working knowledge of Christianity, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and other important traditions, students will have the opportunity to broaden their understanding of the global human experience.

Contemporary International Studies
1 semester/0.5 credit
This course will examine the modern world from a variety of historical and cultural perspectives. With a focus WHG Era 7, major themes such as nationalism, modernism, revolution and mass movements will be examined. This course will also allow students to investigate the historical roots of contemporary issues. This course incorporates strong geographic component.

Ancient World History **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course presents ancient civilization from western and non-western perspectives. Students will study primary sources in learning about peoples and events of past eras. Critical thinking and oral and written expression are emphasized.

European History **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course presents European history beginning with the Middle Ages and the Renaissance and concluding with the end of the nineteenth century (WHG Eras 4-6). Students will study primary sources in learning about peoples and events of past eras. Critical thinking and oral and written expression are emphasized.

IB 20th Century World History SL (W)
Full year/1.0 credit
This course is an advanced, fast-paced, highly rigorous elective for motivated students who are looking for a challenging social studies curriculum. It is designed to prepare students for the International Baccalaureate Organization's (IBO) final assessment in social studies. The IBO curriculum determines the course outline and scope. This course is the first of a two-course IB history sequence. The student will study the global history of the 20th century, focusing on the causes and effects of war, the rise and rule of Authoritarian states the Cold War, and selected prescribed subjects. In addition, the student will be required to undertake an in-depth historical investigation. This course meets the district's World History requirement.

ELECTIVES

IB History of the Americas HL (W) Full year/1.0 credit
This course is an advanced, fast-paced elective that is the second course in the two-year IB history sequence. (See IB 20th Century World History SL for details of the first course.) This course consists of rigorous study, comparison and evaluation of the histories of Latin America, Canada and the United States, investigating from the opposing ideologies of the U.S. Civil War in 1860 and continuing through the emerging independence of the Western Hemisphere in the 1990s.

IB Psychology 1 SL W **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course is the first year of the two-year IB Psychology sequence. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the IB Psychology SL exam.

IB/AP Psychology 1 SL (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course approaches the study of human behavior through biological, cognitive and learning perspectives. The course also gives careful attention to cultural variables in the study of diversity of human behavior. Students will design and implement their own research. This course is not only for students interested in an IB Diploma or Certificate, but also for any student who would like an advanced-level psychology curriculum. At the conclusion of the course, students will be prepared to take the AP Psychology exam or IB Psychology SL exam

IB Psychology 2 HL (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course is the second year of the two-year IB Psychology sequence. Students will study three required areas; biological level of analysis, cognitive level of analysis and the social cultural level. Students will also engage in further guided research and study two additional 'optional' areas of psychology. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the IB Psychology HL exam.

IB Theory of Knowledge (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
Two semesters /1.0 credit
This course is required of all International Baccalaureate Diploma candidates and affords them the opportunity to reflect upon their learning experiences inside and outside the classroom. Candidates will explore the challenges typically encountered in evaluating assertions or "knowledge claims," as well as how specific "problems of knowledge" are an inherent component of various academic disciplines. Classroom activities will provide preparation and practice for IB-mandated oral presentations as well as a 1,400-1,600-word essay on a topic that the student selects from an IB-prescribed list.
** At Central High School, this course consists of one .5 credit semester course in the junior year and one .5 credit semester course in the senior year.*

Psychology **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This survey course is designed to introduce the student to the science of psychology. Students are exposed to a broad array of psychological concepts in this course. Students will study the History of Psychology, Major Theoretical Perspectives in Psychology, Research, Neuroscience, Consciousness, Learning, Memory, and Psychological Disorders (Abnormal Psychology). This course is a great foundation for those students interested in any of the IB or AP Psychology classes offered.

Sociology **1 semester/0.5 credit**
This course is the study of people and their activities in social groups. The course is concerned with the way the "group" shapes children to fit group life, the unique behavior of different groups, and the problems which arise when people live together in groups. Students will study the rules, organizations and value systems which enable people to live together. Sociology is concerned with social institutions, problems and all aspects of human behavior.

Student Council (CHS) (VPAA) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course deals primarily with leadership within varied organizations and settings, with a special emphasis placed on group dynamics, social norms and their acceptable and creative alternatives, event planning and current issues. Specifically unique to this course is that these foci are then put into proactive use in various events throughout the year during which the student leaders have hands-on experiences, and thereby learn to problem-solve, implement solutions and execute final events. Post-event recap and evaluation are also analyzed and used to hone future events. Requirement: Election by the student body or appointment by faculty.

Student Senate (NHS) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course deals primarily with leadership within varied organizations and settings, with a special emphasis placed on group dynamics, social norms and their acceptable and creative alternatives, event planning and current issues. Specifically unique to this course is that these foci are then put into proactive use in various events throughout the year during which the student leaders have hands-on experiences, and thereby learn to problem-solve, implement solutions and execute final events. Post-event recap and evaluation are also analyzed and used to hone future events. Requirement: Election by the student body or appointment by faculty.

KEY:

CTE	Career and Technical Education	**HL**	Higher Level
CHS	At Central High School	**SL**	Standard Level
NHS	At Northern High School	**IB**	International Baccalaureate
VPAA	Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit	**W**	Weighted GPA Course
		SMR	Senior Math Related Credit

Technology & Applied Science

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
Engineering in Wood Technology (NHS)	9 10 11 12	0.5/1
Engineering in Wood Technology (CTE)	9 10 11 12	2.0
Robotics	9 10 11 12	1.0

Engineering in Wood Technology - (NHS) (VPAA) (SMR)

1 Semester or Full year/0.5/1.0 credit

This hands-on course introduces students to the world of woodworking and modern maker technology. Students will learn safe and effective use of traditional woodworking tools and machines, explore CNC routing, laser engraving, CAD (Computer-Aided Design), and graphic design. Emphasis is placed on safety, craftsmanship, and creativity as students apply design principles to bring their ideas to life. Through project-based learning, students will develop leadership, problem-solving, and collaboration skills while exploring career pathways in woodworking, design, engineering, and related trades.

Engineering in Wood Technology (CTE) (NHS) (VPAA) (SMR) **Full year/2.0 credits**

This hands-on CTE course follows Michigan's state standards for general woodworking and gives you the chance to become proficient in traditional woodworking, cabinetry, and cutting-edge technology, including CNC machines, laser engraving, 3D printing, CAD, and more. You'll build a strong foundation of STEAM skills while learning safe, industry-standard practices aligned with Woodworking Career Alliance standards. This class is where you can take charge of your learning, designing and completing your own projects once you've demonstrated your ability to use the tools and machines. You will explore careers in woodworking, construction, and manufacturing through guest speakers, field trips, and real-world work-based learning opportunities. By the end of this course, you'll have the skills, experience, and confidence to turn your ideas into real projects while preparing for future careers in woodworking, design, and the skilled trades.

**Students will earn wood working certificates through the Wood Working Career Alliance*

**Potential for articulated credits with Michigan Career & Technical Institute*

**4th Related Math and Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit*

**See counselor for possible 3rd Science and/or 2nd World Language Credit*

Robotics **Full year/1.0 credits**

This course is designed for high school students who are curious, creative, and motivated to explore engineering, technology, and teamwork. Ideal participants enjoy designing, building, and programming mechanical systems, thrive in team-based projects, are motivated by innovation and competition, and want to develop leadership, communication, and collaboration skills by developing a robot to compete in the FIRST Robotics Competition. Students will be expected to participate in a minimum of two district competitions in March and April.

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		SMR	Senior Math Related Credit

World Languages

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
French 1	9 10 11 12	1.0
French 2	9 10 11 12	1.0
French 3I	10 11 12	1.0
IB French 4 SL/HL 1	11 12	1.0
IB French 5 HL 2	12	1.0
Spanish 1	9 10 11 12	1.0
Spanish 2I	9 10 11 12	1.0
Spanish 3	10 11 12	1.0
IB Spanish 4 SL/HL 1	11 12	1.0
IB Spanish 5 HL 2	12	1.0

French 1 **Full year/1.0 credit**
This introductory French course provides the new generation of language students with the opportunity to communicate successfully in a variety of realistic situations. The students will develop basic speaking skills, but also systematically develop listening, reading and writing skills within the varied contexts of the French-speaking countries. Students engage in a variety of interactive listening activities. Additionally, the course explores the geography, the lifestyles and other cultural aspects of French-speaking countries.

French 2 **Full year/1.0 credit**
This second-year French course reviews language concepts from the first year. Further vocabulary and grammar study will enable students to communicate more effectively and accurately in written and oral forms. Practice with vocabulary related to everyday living and cultural situations, provides opportunities to develop proficiency in the spoken language. Students engage in a variety of interactive activities that improve listening and reading comprehension and speaking skills. Authentic reading materials will also develop students' reading skills. A variety of resources will be used to increase understanding of and appreciation for French-speaking culture. **Recommended:** C average in French 1 or recommendation of the instructor.

French 3 **Full year/1.0 credit**
In this third-year French course students will refine language skills through various activities. Emphasis will be placed on acquisition of core grammar concepts and practical application of reading and writing skills, along with speaking and listening. Authentic audio and video resources expose students to a variety of native French speakers, improving their listening comprehension. Studies of cultural topics are reflected in vocabulary study. In preparation for upcoming IB levels, most activities will be conducted in French, and students are expected to communicate in the target language. **Recommended:** C average in French 2 or recommendation of the instructor.

IB French 4 SL/HL 1 (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course is the first year of the two-year IB HL French program, which focuses on language acquisition and refinement. It meets the needs of students who have studied French for three or four years immediately prior to the beginning of this course; it is not designed for students with an established level of proficiency. Students will use the language appropriately in a range of situations and contexts for a variety of purposes. All four language skills (listening, reading, writing, and speaking) will be developed equally through authentic texts, literary works, authentic audio and video resources, and a variety of interactive activities. This course is conducted primarily French. Students are expected to communicate in the target language. This course can also be taken as a one-year SL course in which students may be eligible to complete the IB SL exam. These students should consult their teacher for more information. **Recommended:** C average in French 3 or recommendation of the instructor.

IB French 5 HL 2 (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This is the second year and culminating IB course in the IB HL French program, and is designed for students with four or more years' previous experience in the language; it is not designed for students with an established level of proficiency. The course focuses on acquisition and development of the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills at increased levels of sophistication. These skills are developed through the study of a wide range of audio and video resources and authentic written and spoken texts, extending from everyday oral exchanges to literary excerpts from the target culture. Refinement of expression will be emphasized throughout the year. The goal is appropriate use of the language in a wide variety of situations and purposes. Students will strive for effective communication, understanding the subtleties of vocabulary, analysis of written and spoken material and the discussion of abstract ideas. To accomplish this, students will learn to refine their language to include appropriate register, style and sensitivity to the culture(s) of the target countries. The course is conducted in French.
Recommended: C average in IB French 4 SL/HL or recommendation of the instructor.

Spanish 1 **Full year/1.0 credit**
This introductory Spanish course provides the new generation of language students with the opportunity to function successfully in a variety of realistic situations. The students will not only develop speaking skills, but also systematically develop listening, reading and writing skills

within the varied contexts of the Spanish-speaking world. Authentic audio and video resources expose students to a variety of native Spanish speakers, improving their listening comprehension. Additionally, the course explores the geography, the lifestyles and other cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking countries.

Spanish 2 **Full year/1.0 credit**
In this course, second-year Spanish students review language concepts from the first year. Students will develop skills that will enable them to communicate more effectively and accurately in both written and oral forms in Spanish. Practice with vocabulary related to everyday living situations provides opportunities to develop proficiency in the spoken language. Authentic audio and video resources expose students to a variety of native Spanish speakers, improving their listening comprehension. Authentic reading materials will also develop students' reading skills. A variety of resources will be used to increase understanding of and appreciation for cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. **Recommended:** C average in Spanish 1 or recommendation of the instructor.

Spanish 3 **Full year/1.0 credit**
In this course, third-year Spanish students will refine language skills through various activities. Emphasis will be placed on acquisition of verb tenses and practical application of reading and writing skills along with speaking and listening. Authentic audio and video resources expose students to a variety of native Spanish speakers, improving their listening comprehension. Studies of cultural topics are reflected in vocabulary study. In preparation for the upcoming IB levels, most activities will be conducted in Spanish and students are expected to communicate in the target language. **Recommended:** C average in Spanish 2 or recommendation of the instructor.

IB Spanish 4 SL/HL 1 (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This course is the first year of the two-year IB HL Spanish program, which focuses on language acquisition and refinement. It meets the needs of students who have studied Spanish for three or four years immediately prior to the beginning of this course; it is designed for students who are acquiring a second language. Students will use the language appropriately in a range of situations and contexts for a variety of purposes. All four language skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking) will be developed equally through authentic texts, literature pieces, authentic audio and video resources, and a variety of activities. This course is conducted primarily in Spanish. This course can also be taken as a one-year SL course in which students may be eligible to complete the IB SL exam. These students should consult their teacher for more information. **Recommended:** C average in Spanish 3 or recommendation of the instructor.

IB Spanish 5 HL 2 (W) **Full year/1.0 credit**
This is the second year and culminating IB course in the IB HL Spanish program and is designed for students with four or more years previous experience in the language; it is designed for students who are acquiring a second language. The course focuses on acquisition and development of the listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills at increased levels of sophistication. These skills are developed through the study of a wide range of audio and video resources and authentic written texts, extending from everyday oral exchanges to literary excerpts from the target culture. The goal is use of the language in a wide variety of situations and purposes. This course is conducted primarily in Spanish. **Prerequisite:** C average in IB Spanish 4 SL/HL or recommendation of the instructor.

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		SMR	Senior Math Related Credit

Other Courses

Course	Grade(s)	Credit
College Success Strategies	10 11 12	0.5
Mentor Teaching and Learning	10 11 12	0.5
Peer to Peer	9 10 11 12	0.5
Personal Finance A	11 12	0.5
Personal Finance B	11 12	0.5
Seminar	9 10 11 12	0.5
You and the Law	10 11 12	0.5
Work-Based Learning	11 12	0.5

College Success Strategies (VPAA) 1 semester/0.5 credit
The College Success Strategies (CSS) course is a semester course designed to focus on high school, college, and career success. Students will learn study habits, professional and personal goal-setting techniques, note taking, communication skills, academic reading comprehension, research method, and career exploration, and they will develop other skills in preparation for college success. Preparation for PSAT, SAT, and ACCUPLACER is also part of the course. The College Success Strategies course also includes connections with guest speakers in career areas. *This course is a required prerequisite for the EMC program.

Mentor Teaching and Learning 1 semester/0.5 credit0
This course is a one-on-one mentoring program in which upperclassmen are mentors to the freshmen students to whom they are paired. The mentors are responsible for assisting freshmen with their homework and assignments. Both freshmen and mentors receive one-half credit for each semester that is successfully completed. Upperclassmen must be approved for mentorship prior to selecting this course. Students interested in becoming mentors should see their guidance counselors. Incoming ninth graders should see their guidance counselors concerning enrollment in this course.

Peer to Peer (VPAA) 1 semester/0.5 credit
Peer to Peer is an elective course designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of autism and other disabilities through direct instruction, meaningful relationships, and lived experiences. Neurotypical and neurodiverse students work together in an integrated, positive environment to promote socialization, independence, and strong friendship bonds that last throughout high school and beyond. Students will enhance their problem-solving, communication, and leadership skills, preparing them to be leaders and effective advocates in their school community. The curriculum includes reflective journaling activities, multi-media content related to disabilities and inclusion, pre-/post-assessments, classroom participation with peers, and a final project. Time outside of the classroom may be required. This course can be taken for all 8 semesters, with a different curriculum for each semester.

Prerequisite: None. Student must fill out an application form and if selected goes through a short interview process to determine an appropriate fit for a peer.

Personal Finance A (SMR) 1 semester/0.5 credit
This semester-long course covers all the essential personal finance topics necessary to become a financially capable student. Topics include budgeting and saving, consumer awareness, credit and debt, investing and retirement, the role of insurance, income and taxes, career readiness and more. By the end of this course, students will have a thorough understanding of personal finance topics and be prepared to handle the financial responsibilities that exist after graduation.
**Visual Performing & Applied Arts ½ Credit and 4th Related Math ½ Credit.*
**See counselor for possible replacement of ½ World Language Credit*

Personal Finance B (SMR) 1 semester/0.5 credit
This semester-long course builds upon the foundations laid out in Personal Finance A and will help students understand the financial activities they will encounter in life after high school. Real-world topics covered include college planning, financial services, housing and real estate, consumer skills, global economics and more. This course will provide an in-depth understanding for making informed personal financial decisions. **Prerequisite**: Personal Finance A.
**Visual Performing & Applied Arts ½ Credit and 4th Related Math ½ Credit.*
**See counselor for possible replacement of ½ World Language Credit*

Seminar 1 semester/0.5 credit
This elective course is designed to be an educational extension of a student's regular schedule of classes. Seminar provides opportunities for enrichment, encouragement, remediation and reinforcement of concepts taught in a student's other courses.

You and the Law 1 semester/.5 credit
This course is designed to acquaint students with their rights and responsibilities in our legal system. When possible local law enforcement agencies and judicial agencies will be used as resources.

Work-Based Learning **Full year/1-3 credits**

Work-Based Learning is sustained and progressively intensive interactions with employers or community professionals in real workplace settings, to the extent practicable, or simulated environments at an educational institution that foster in-depth, first-hand engagement with the tasks required of a given career field, that are aligned to curriculum, instruction, and Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program standards.

KEY:

EFA	Education for the Arts	**HL**	Higher Level
CTE	Career and Technical Education	**SL**	Standard Level
CHS	At Central High School	**IB**	International Baccalaureate
NHS	At Northern High School	**W**	Weighted GPA Course
VPAA	Visual Performing & Applied Arts Credit	**SMR**	Senior Math Related Credit

Off-Site Course Offerings

Academically Talented Youth Program (ATYP):

A student taking and mastering Academically Talented Youth Program (ATYP) Math or English Language Arts will receive the appropriate Michigan Merit credit. ATYP is designed so that the pupil will complete four years of math or ELA during two years of ATYP delivery. Advance Placement (AP) courses are available during a third year of ATYP should students elect to continue in the program.

Students and families should research college admission requirements to determine if ATYP is accepted.

ATYP classes taken during middle school years will be transferred to the student's high school transcript to fulfill the high school graduation Math/ELA requirements, but will not impact the high school GPA.

ATYP courses taken during the high school years will impact the GPA. Some ATYP courses are weighted in accordance with administrative guidance. For more information see: https://wmich.edu/precollege/atyp

Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center (KAMSC):

KAMSC offers a curriculum in accelerated mathematics, science, and computer technology to high school students. It educates the scientific and technical leaders of tomorrow in a nurturing environment focused on the technical and intellectual needs of advanced math and science students. Students attend the KAMSC program for one-half of each school day and take math, science and technology courses. All remaining courses are taken at their own high school. Acceptance into KAMSC is based upon application, teacher recommendation, the results of the School and College Ability Test (SCAT), and a timed impromptu writing activity.

Some KAMSC courses are weighted in accordance with administrative guidance. For more information, see https://kamsc.org/.

Dual Enrollment

Students are eligible to attend courses at local colleges or universities, in addition to their own high school, in an effort to meet students' needs and interests. This is called "dual enrollment." We assist students in paying tuition and fees for courses at Michigan colleges and universities, if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The student must have earned sufficient credits to be in grades 9 - 12.
2. The student should meet college readiness standards on an approved assessment as listed here: https://ppsurl.me/dualscores and is also available from the school counselor.
3. The student/families have read and signed the Post-Secondary Dual Enrollment Guidelines/Procedures form.
4. The requested course is not offered at either high school site, resolves a scheduling conflict, OR is of a higher level than what is offered in the district (courses and course content will be verified by a counselor, department chairperson, or with the Curriculum Department if there is a question of eligibility).
5. The course is not a repeat of courses already taken in high school or college.
6. The course is not a vocational, recreational, hobby, P.E., theology, divinity, or religious education.
7. The counselor has completed the Post-Secondary/Dual Enrollment Eligibility Verification Form.
8. The student has indicated that this course is to be for high school credit, post-secondary credit, or both.
9. The course description(s) from the college catalog is included with the Post-Secondary/Dual Enrollment Eligibility Verification Form.
10. The student is enrolled in both the district and the post-secondary institution during the district's regular academic year and is in full attendance in at least one high school class.

For a student who first enrolls in:

- 9th grade – not more than two courses per year in 9th, 10th and 11th grade, and not more

than four courses in grade 12
- 10th grade-not more than two courses in 10th grade, and not more than four courses in 11th and 12th grade
- 11th and 12th grade – not more than six courses per year

Students are no longer eligible when all high school graduation requirements have been met.
A student in a dual enrollment course as a part of their high school schedule will have their course grade and course title entered on their transcript and the course grade will impact the student's grade point average.
Only dual-enrolled courses listed as a part of the student's regular high school schedule will be included on the high school transcript.
School districts are required to pay the lesser of (a) the actual charge for tuition and fees, or (b) the students' state school aid foundation allowance, adjusted to the proportion of the school year they attend the district.
The student must follow the District guidelines for dropping dual enrollment courses and be aware of the potential impact on transcripts. The student is also responsible for following the college/university guidelines for dropping a course if his/her circumstances change. If the student fails to do so, he/she will be responsible for the tuition charges.
Students in this program should be aware that the college/university calendar is different than the district calendar and should plan accordingly.

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN DUAL ENROLLMENT SHOULD SEE THEIR COUNSELORS. DUAL ENROLLMENT PAPERWORK IS DUE TO COUNSELORS BY DECEMBER 1 AND JUNE 1 FOR THE FOLLOWING SEMESTER.

KALAMAZOO RESA
Career Connect



2026-27 HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES & PROGRAMS

Career & Technical Education (CTE)
CTE Work-Based Learning (WBL)
Education for the Arts (EFA)
Early/Middle College (EMC)

KALAMAZOO RESA

Career Connect

Kalamazoo RESA's Career Connect team is leading a new, innovative approach to career development in Kalamazoo County, providing K-12+ learners with a robust continuum of world-class programs and services. From career exploration, to work-based learning, to hands-on training and specialized high school classes, Career Connect helps learners cultivate in-demand skills while gaining a competitive advantage. Read on to explore all the offerings and learn about the new Career Connect Campus, which opened to the first class of students in fall 2025. Make this the year you get career connected!

Vision

A community transformed by empowered learners building fulfilling careers.

Mission

To provide learners with transformative experiences, skills, relationships, and resources needed to support lifelong career development.

Table of Contents

Career & Technical Education

Career and Technical Education (CTE) offers a wide range of cutting-edge, hands-on career preparation programs to high school students across Kalamazoo County. CTE courses emphasize real-world application and maintain the rigorous requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum, as well as state, national, and industry technical standards. CTE students have the opportunity to earn marketable, industry-recognized credentials through their CTE courses.

CTE programs are held at multiple locations across the county: at the Career Connect Campus, at local high schools, on college campuses and business, and at industry work sites. Courses are year long and typically two hours per day, five days per week.

CTE Career Connect Campus + Satellite Programs

High school students have the opportunity to participate in programs at the newly opened Career Connect Campus (CCC). Students at the Career Connect Campus engage in hands-on learning with industry experts in a new, state-of-the-art facility at 3500 Vanrick Drive in Kalamazoo.

Students additionally have opportunities to participate in classes at satellite locations, including the Kalamazoo Nature Center, The Air Zoo, and Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

All satellite locations are noted by the course title.

- **Who can participate?** Classes taught at the Career Connect Campus and satellite locations are open to students from across the county.
- **What kinds of classes are offered?** A wide range of courses are available across a variety of career pathways. All Career Connect Campus and satellite programs are aligned to in-demand, well-paying fields in Kalamazoo County.
- **What about transportation?** Transportation is provided to the Career Connect Campus and satellite locations.

Skills for Success: In addition to cultivating technical skills, all enrolled students work on developing "Skills for Success" in their courses - critical skills required for success in work and life. By cultivating mastery in the areas of collaboration, communication, critical thinking, personal management, and problem-solving, students grow their skills and gain a competitive advantage as learners, in the job market, and beyond.

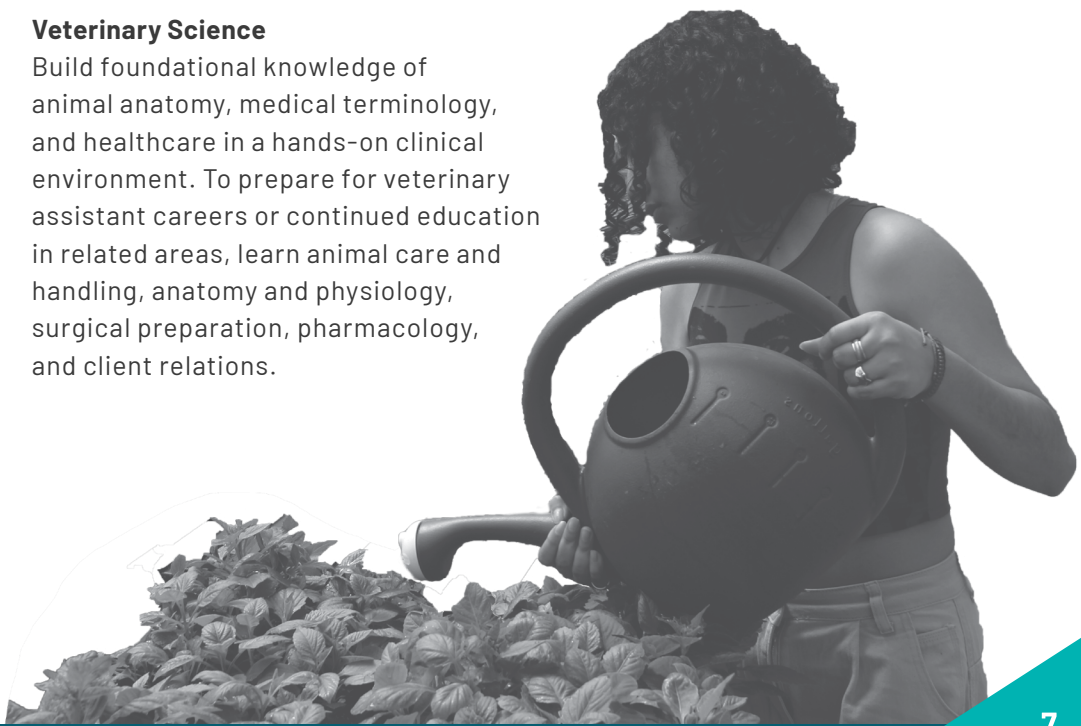
AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCES CAREER PATHWAY

Do you love nature? Are you curious about plants and animals?

Conservation Biology (held at the Kalamazoo Nature Center)
Examine ecological and applied biological science through classroom, lab, and field work outdoors at the Kalamazoo Nature Center. Major units of the class include: biodiversity, forestry, climate change, soil, water, wildlife, and human impacts on the natural world. Interact with natural resource conservationists and wildlife biologists to gain the necessary skills for employment in this field.

Horticulture
Engage in every aspect of plant production, from crop selection to final sale. Learn plant biology, taxonomy, soil science, and modern production techniques while building a professional portfolio of work. This program prepares students for continued education or employment in the horticulture industry.

Veterinary Science
Build foundational knowledge of animal anatomy, medical terminology, and healthcare in a hands-on clinical environment. To prepare for veterinary assistant careers or continued education in related areas, learn animal care and handling, anatomy and physiology, surgical preparation, pharmacology, and client relations.



ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES CAREER PATHWAY

Do you enjoy building things? Are you curious about what happens in homes and buildings to make them work?

Construction Trades
Build hands-on skills in the construction industry. Learn hand and power tool use, blueprint reading, design, and basic carpentry skills to support successful careers in residential and commercial construction. This course provides a foundation to pursue a wide variety of construction pathways, including related apprenticeships, residential building, and commercial construction careers.

Electrical Technology
Engage in hands-on electrical installations ranging from residential wiring to commercial building projects. To prepare for apprenticeships and residential, commercial, and industrial electrical careers, the course focuses on electrical theory, electrical code, installation, troubleshooting, sustainable energy, and project management.

Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
Engage in hands-on layout design, installation, and service of residential and commercial HVAC-R systems. Learn blueprint design and reading, tools and equipment, residential installation, troubleshooting, and project management. This course prepares students for continued learning in related apprenticeships and careers in residential and commercial sales, service, and maintenance careers.

Plumbing
Gain skills in the design, installation, and maintenance of both residential and commercial plumbing systems. Learn blueprint design and interpretation, foundational tools and equipment, plumbing code, project management, and work with fittings, valves, and fixtures. This course prepares students for plumbing apprenticeships, residential and commercial sales, service, and maintenance careers.

CULINARY ARTS CAREER PATHWAY

Do you like to bake or cook? Are you curious about what it takes to succeed in a professional kitchen?

Culinary Arts
Step into a commercial kitchen setting with hands-on instruction and practical learning. Learn cooking principles, sanitation, food safety, management, and culinary skills. This program prepares students for occupations within the restaurant, baking, and catering industries.

DESIGN CAREER PATHWAY

Do you like to create and innovate? Are you interested in making things work better for people?

Design
Explore various careers in design, develop creative thinking skills, and understand the design process used by professionals. Create projects across multiple design fields, including: graphic design, fashion accessory design, interior and landscape design, product design, and more. Collaborate in design teams, present and discuss work, and build a professional portfolio to prepare for success in a variety of design careers.

"This class has challenged me to be my best self as an artist, go outside my comfort zone and try new things."

— Mariah Crenshaw
Design Student

HEALTH SCIENCE CAREER PATHWAY

Do you enjoy caring for others? Are you interested in exploring a range of possibilities in the healthcare industry?

Dental Assisting (held at Kalamazoo Valley Community College)
Acquire the fundamental knowledge and skills of dental anatomy, physiology, terminology, dental materials, chairside assisting, sterilization, radiology, laboratory, and clinical procedures. This course prepares students to work in a dental office as a dental assistant.

Emergency Medical Technology (held at Kalamazoo Valley Community College)
Get prepared to work in an out-of-hospital setting as an entry level Emergency Medical Technician. Emphasis is placed on mastery of CPR, simple pharmacology for common medical emergencies, patient assessment, bandaging and splinting, and vehicle extrication. The course introduces the clinical component of EMT education which is the minimum level of training required for work on a transporting ambulance.

Medical Laboratory Science
Engage in comprehensive training in essential laboratory skills and ethical practices. Understand and implement safety protocols, master the art of drawing blood, gain skills in handling and preparing specimens for analysis, and perform diagnostic tests in a simulated clinical setting. Prepare for successful careers in both medical laboratory settings and phlebotomy.

Patient Care Technician
Explore healthcare communication and terminology, anatomy, physiology, clinical skills, ethics, and confidentiality in a simulated clinical setting. Learn skills ranging from basic patient care to phlebotomy and EKG. Get prepared for patient care technician, nursing, and related healthcare careers.

Pharmacy Technician
Gain a comprehensive understanding of the roles and responsibilities of pharmacy technicians within the healthcare system. Dive into a range of topics, including

pharmacology, medication management and regulations, anatomy, physiology, prescription processing, personal and workplace safety, healthcare communication and terminology, math skills and hands-on learning to be prepared to enter a pharmacy technician or related pharmaceutical research/development career.

Exercise Science and Rehabilitation
Explore a range of therapy fields, from basic physical therapy to occupational therapy, injury prevention, and rehabilitation, in a hands-on environment mimicking a functioning therapy clinic. To prepare for physical therapy, occupational therapy, athletic training, and related sports medicine careers, learn personal and workplace safety, healthcare communication and terminology, anatomy/physiology, injury care assessment/skills, and rehabilitation.

HUMAN SERVICES CAREER PATHWAY

Are you compassionate and understanding?
Are you motivated to improve the lives of others?

Criminal Justice & Public Safety (held at Kalamazoo Valley Community College)
Through a close partnership with local law enforcement agencies and Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC), gain the skills and ethical perspectives needed to become a successful police or fire academy recruit. Develop a foundation for additional careers in criminal justice. Explore topics such as criminal law, patrol procedures, fire ground operations, safety and first aid, ethics, defensive tactics, crime scene investigation, and communication skills.

Educator Academy
Cultivate foundational skills for a successful career in the field of education. Learn the fundamentals of child development, from early childhood through adolescence, and principles of effective teaching through classroom instruction and internships. Work directly with young learners in an educational setting, while preparing for work as a paraprofessional, childcare professional, or continued education as a teacher.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAREER PATHWAY

Are you interested in computers?
Do you like to solve problems using technology?

Computer Programming
Explore real-world scenarios to gain knowledge of professional software creation, design, and deployment. Understand device cross-platform development. Learn User Experience (UX), User Interface (UI), and responsive design while preparing for careers in the computer programming field.

Computer Networking
Learn to implement and manage high-performance, reliable, and scalable computer networks that connect devices, systems, and users across organizations or even globally. Gain insight into concepts such as performance and reliability, scalability, security, network architecture, network management, collaboration and convergence, standards, and troubleshooting, while preparing for careers in the computer networking field.

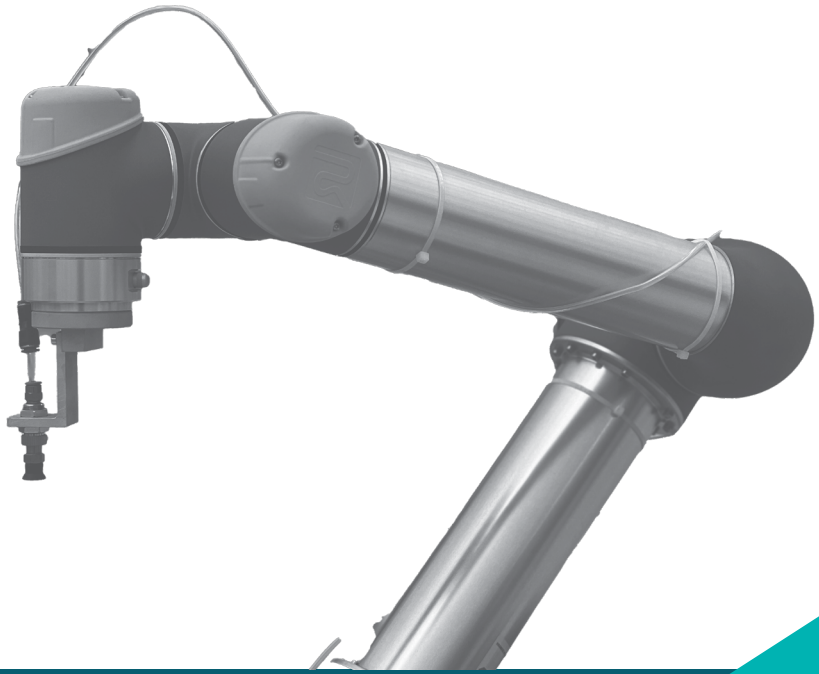
Cybersecurity
Prepare for a future in cybersecurity through hands-on, real-world scenarios. Students will learn to protect operating systems (Windows, Linux, macOS), networks, and data from cyber threats. The course covers essential topics including cryptography, coding, documentation analysis, network integrity and both hardware and software for strengthening cybersecurity. Students will explore cybersecurity careers, examine today's top cyber threats, and work toward industry-recognized certifications such as Tech+ and Security+. This course builds a strong foundation for further study and careers in the cybersecurity field.

MANUFACTURING CAREER PATHWAY

Do you enjoy using tools and gadgets?
Are you curious about the way things work?

Machine Tool and Engineering
Get immersed in machine tool technologies, from basic to advanced. Learn the stages of manufacturing from idea to creation, including: the use of CAD/CAM software, CNC, mills, lathes, and other industry-related equipment. Build a solid foundation of manufacturing skills, including precision machining, problem solving, design, and quality inspection, to prepare for engineering and machining careers.

Mechatronics: Robotics and Automation
Dive deep into the use of robotics for processes that combine mechanical, electrical, computer, and automation technologies. Build a solid foundation of skills including electrical theory, robotics, CAD/CAM, hydraulics/pneumatics, and project management to prepare for machining and engineering careers.



Supply Chain
Explore the flow of materials from raw material to finished product and delivery to customers. This foundational course introduces key concepts such as global supply chains, warehouse location, contingency planning, and in-sourcing and out-sourcing decisions. Learn how professionals optimize resources and establish physical networks, while gaining real-world experience by operating the Career Connect Campus warehouse.

Welding
Get immersed in hands-on welding processes using professional equipment, applying various techniques to design and fabricate professional-grade metalwork. Gain expertise in safety, metalworking theory, welding techniques/tools, cutting/torches, automation, and quality inspection.

TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION AND LOGISTICS CAREER PATHWAY

Are you interested in cars and diesel equipment? Do you like to fix things?

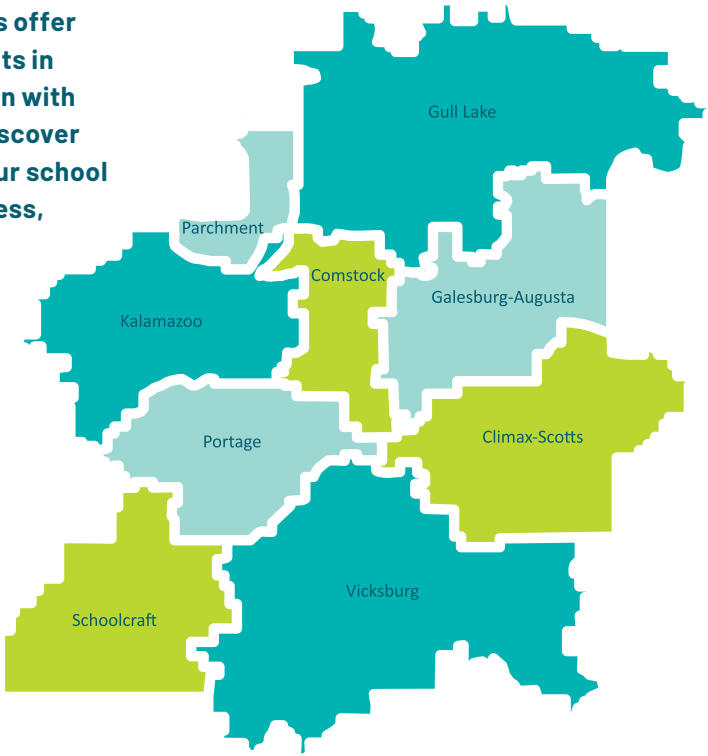
Automotive Technology
Engage in hands-on learning in a simulated model of a fully functioning auto service center. To prepare for occupations within the rapidly evolving auto service industry, learn safety, engine repair, automatic transmission and transaxle, manual drive train and axles, suspension and steering, brakes, electrical/electronic systems, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, engine performance, and foundational tasks of auto maintenance and repair.

Aviation Technology (held at the Air Zoo)
Develop an understanding of the aviation industry, including airplane evolution, commercial aviation, flight operations and regulations, weather, airspace, navigation, and more. Interact with industry experts and visit leaders in the field of aviation while cultivating skills with drone technologies.

Heavy Equipment Maintenance
Engage in hands-on training in the maintenance, repair, and operation of off-road diesel equipment, in partnership with AIS Construction Equipment. Explore heavy machinery used in construction, trucking, agriculture, and material handling industries. Learn engine, hydraulic, powertrain, and electrical systems, as well as maintenance fundamentals. Work with industry-standard equipment and tools, and gain valuable practical experience and prepare for careers as a heavy equipment technician, diesel mechanic, construction equipment operator, and a agricultural equipment mechanic.

CTE Local High School Programs

Many local high schools offer CTE classes for students in their buildings. Check in with your local district to discover options available at your school like Accounting, Business, Marketing, and more.



CTE Work-Based Learning

Take hands-on learning to the next level. Gain real-world experience and career skills through formalized learning in partnership with a local employer.

CTE Work-Based Learning experiences include job shadows, mock interviews, internships (paid and unpaid), industry and talent tours, and so much more!

Work-Based Learning Capstone
Primary WBL Experience for CTE Students
The WBL Capstone is a structured, high-impact work-based learning experience designed for students who have successfully completed a CTE course in a countywide program. This capstone offers students the opportunity to deepen their career readiness through internship experiences tailored to their CTE pathway, which may include single-site placements or rotation opportunities with multiple business partners.

Students participate in WBL during their regular CTE course time (AM or PM session), with time spent on campus for continued instruction, reflection, and progress monitoring with Career Connect CTE staff.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Completion of a CTE course
- 90%+ attendance
- Proficiency in Skills for Success

Work-Based Learning Internship
Flexible Option for Independent WBL Engagement
The WBL Internship remains an available option for 11th and 12th grade students who have completed at least a trimester or semester of a CTE course. This model allows students to earn credit and receive a grade through a paid or unpaid work experience with an approved employer. Internships typically occur during release time outside of the regular CTE schedule and are often student-initiated placements.

This option offers flexibility for students with existing jobs or unique scheduling needs but may not include the structured support and career-aligned rotations provided in the WBL Capstone.

Note: Personal transportation may be required, as internship sites vary and may not align with school transportation routes.

Education for the Arts

Excellence in the Arts is Education for the Arts' (EFA) suite of high school courses offering arts-intensive classes in disciplines such as theatre and dance as well as visual, literary, and media arts. Classes are taught by professional artists and educators in artistic environments, including studios and institutions like the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. Open to all Kalamazoo County high school students, these courses typically run for 90 minutes daily throughout the school year. Transportation is provided.

DANCE

Dance Studio (Semester/Trimester)
Learn the basic elements and discipline of formal dance techniques, exploring classical modern dance, ballet, jazz, hip-hop, and dance styles from around the world. Exploration of dance-related genres and subjects will include movement improvisation, movement composition, dance history, and strategies for developing stronger spatial awareness. Students gain performance skills, learn how to choreograph their own dances, and participate in an EFA dance concert at the end of each term. They will have the opportunity to take field trips to see live dance concerts and attend master classes. Students will work with professional dance educators and guest artists, helping expand their knowledge of careers in the dance world.

Intermediate Dance Studio
Intermediate Dance is for students who have completed a semester-long EFA Dance Studio class, have previous dance/movement experience, and are committed to a full year of dance instruction. Students will further their training through in-depth instruction and structured small-group student exploration in formal dance techniques, classical modern dance, ballet, jazz, hip hop, and additional forms from around the world. Exploration of dance-related genres and subjects will include movement improvisation, movement composition, dance history, and strategies for developing stronger spatial awareness.
Students will gain experience with performance, composition, and choreography, and cultivate observation, analytical, critical thinking, and reflection skills. Performance opportunities such as dance workshops, pep assemblies, and school concerts are included within the course structure. This class includes field trips to professional dance concerts and work with master guest artists to expand students' exposure to the world of professional dance.

World Dance Origins & Movement
Dance is considered a universal language as it is used around the world as a way to express emotions, share stories, and connect people. World Dance provides students with an opportunity to view popularized dance forms from around the globe beyond the movement. Students will experience a wide variety of dance forms and their influences on contemporary dances of today. This course combines elements of a traditional dance class with a deep analysis of the cultural and historical contexts of dance through videos, readings, and lectures.

LITERARY ARTS

Comics, Manga, and Graphic Novel Arts
Learn to write and produce compelling, artistic, inventive comics or manga, and graphic novels. Research the history of comics, study the elements of story, plot, and character development, and the productive use of imagery, layout, and composition. Work individually and collaboratively on projects and develop projects by manipulating and editing found media and open-source graphics.

Creative Writing (ONLINE, Semester/Trimester)
Gain mastery as a creative writer while cultivating valuable time-management skills and learning how to provide and respond to critique. Through literary analysis and weekly writing assignments, students will learn the craft of problem-solving as a writer, considering options and perspectives before putting pen to paper. Students will gain experience with a wide range of genres, including written and spoken-word poetry, personal narrative, creative nonfiction, short stories, and flash fiction. In addition to creative forms, students will develop professional writing skills and create a resume as part of an online portfolio.

MEDIA ARTS

Digital Design & Media Production (KVCC Dual-Enrolled) - 1st Year
Step into the world of professional design and media with this year-long digital design course that bridges high school creativity with college-level skill development. This dual-enrolled course introduces students to the principles of graphic design, branding, and digital communication using industry-standard tools and technologies. Students will learn how to create compelling visual content across various formats, including logos, posters, digital ads, social media graphics, product packaging, and web-ready designs. Emphasis is placed on the design process—from research and concept development to execution and presentation—preparing students for both college-level coursework and real-world creative careers.

Animation Design (KVCC Dual-Enrolled) - 2nd Year
After students take Digital Design & Media Production, unlock creativity and bring ideas to life in this dynamic, year-long animation course designed for high school students ready to take their skills to the next level. This dual-enrolled course will have students explore the fundamentals of 2D animation, character design, storyboarding, motion graphics, and visual effects using industry-standard software. Emphasis will be placed on both the technical and artistic aspects of animation, with projects that mirror real-world studio workflows. Throughout the year, students will learn the

history of animation, collaborate on team-based productions, and learn about career pathways in animation, film, and game design.

Intro to 3D Animation
This year-long 3D Animation course introduces high school students to the foundational skills and techniques used in the animation and digital media industry. Students will explore the creative and technical processes of 3D animation, from concept development to final production, using industry-standard software. This hands-on course will also have opportunities to create digital works that can contribute to a student's creative portfolio.

Creative Game Design
This project-focused course will teach students the fundamentals of game design. Through practice and study students learn to craft powerful stories through in-person, real-time games. Students create board games, card games, role-playing games, and video games, and explore adjacent forms of interactive media. Students develop storytelling and graphic design skills while gaining a greater understanding of the nature of play.

StoryLab: The Creator's Newsroom
Step into StoryLab: The Creator's Newsroom, where journalism meets the creative economy. Students learn how to discover, research, verify facts, and produce multimedia stories for video, podcast, and social platforms. Students will gain hands-on experience using the tools of today's news creators to produce stories that inform, inspire, and strengthen our community. Students' completed projects will be featured on Public Media Network's platforms, reaching real audiences across Greater Kalamazoo. Along the way, students build strong communication, collaboration, and critical-thinking skills preparing learners for college, careers, and civic life in today's digital world.

Digital Photography (First Semester/Trimester)
Hybrid: in-person class meeting one evening per week + asynchronous web-based instruction
This class will introduce, enhance, and refine students' abilities to express themselves with the aid of digital cameras. Students will learn proper photographic techniques, computer enhancement of photos, printing, and

professional presentation techniques. Participants develop skills through projects ranging from those focused on core photography fundamentals to immersive pieces of personal expression. Students end the course with the beginnings of a portfolio and the knowledge to expand their work in the future.

Digital Illustration (Second Semester/Trimester)
Hybrid: in-person class meeting one evening per week + asynchronous web-based instruction
This class introduces students to the basics of drawing and painting using digital means, as well as the basics of digital imaging using Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. The course is built around the core elements of visual art, such as line, shape, value, and color, with an additional emphasis on learning and using imaging software tools. Students leave with a skillset valuable across a variety of professional contexts including arts, communications, media-based industries, and beyond.

Film & Video Production
Want to learn how to make amazing videos? From short films to viral content, this class teaches students how to plan, film, and edit like a creative pro. Using HD cameras and Adobe Premiere Pro, students will explore storytelling, action, editing, and much more through engaging, hands-on projects. Whether students are new to filmmaking or just love creating, this class helps learners build creativity, confidence, and real-world skills that translate to a variety of media and communications roles.

VISUAL ARTS

Visual Arts Exploration (Mornings at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts)
Further develop art-making skills by creating sculpture, photography, jewelry, painting, and more at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. Students will work alongside practicing professional artists, benefitting from the depth of their expertise while cultivating mastery. This class is ideal for juniors and seniors who have taken drawing and some foundational high school art classes and are interested in expanding their art comprehension and artistic skills.

Advanced Visual Arts Studio (Afternoons at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts)
Take advantage of the professional facilities, equipment, and experience of master guest artists at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. This studio class offers advanced study in a variety of disciplines, including sculpture, oil painting, jewelry, photography, welding, printmaking, ceramics, and other related arts. Develop a Visual Arts Portfolio and learn presentation skills to apply for college scholarships, student art shows, and public art opportunities. This advanced class is designed for juniors and seniors who possess strong artistic skills and wish to explore their style in greater depth, while considering how creativity will be applied in their future endeavors.

THEATRICAL ARTS

Improv & Scriptwriting
More than just theatre without a script, improvisational theater equips learners of all stripes with tools and skills to become better communicators and develop a positive mindset. Interested students be warned: while learning this valuable skillset and art form, expect to laugh. A lot. Alongside the study of improv and its underlying principles and techniques, students will strengthen their voices and perspectives by learning how to create stories for the stage and craft their own scripts. Students will be challenged to grow in their practice as improvisers, performers, and collaborators during this engaging, hands-on class. No previous performance or theatre experience is expected.

Advanced Musical Theatre
For students interested in a career in the performing arts, this course provides an in-depth look at musical theatre through acting techniques, private voice lessons, and weekly dance classes. Students will experience the study of musical theatre history and enhance their appreciation of the genre while improving their practical performance skills in acting, voice, and dance. This course includes mentoring by professional theatre, vocal, and dance educators and guest artists. Students will also learn audition techniques, build a resume and portfolio, and have opportunities to create and perform in two end-of-the-semester showcases.

Early/Middle College

The Early/Middle College (EMC) program is an opportunity for students to earn an associate's degree or certificate along with their high school diploma. Students save both time and money as they pursue a college degree and access support services designed to enhance their success as they work towards achieving their educational goals.

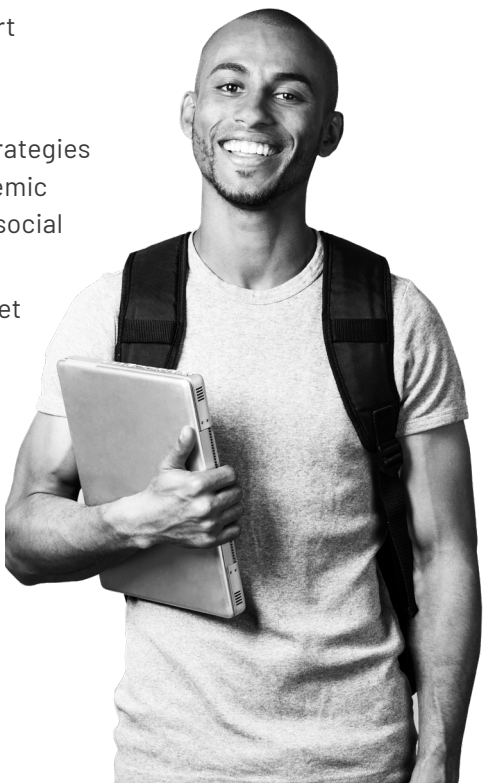
How does EMC work?
Students are enrolled in a focused program of study at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. Students have an additional 13th year of high school for program completion. The local school district pays the tuition and fees up to an allocated amount.

The EMC program is structured so that students gradually increase their exposure to college courses over a five-year span:

- Initially (9th/10th grades), the bulk of the student schedule will be comprised of traditional high school classes.
- As the student progresses through their educational plan, they will be engaged in more and more college courses.
- By the time they reach 13th grade (or 5th year), all of their coursework will be through Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

What additional supports are available to student to help them succeed in EMC?
Students who participate in EMC receive support services to assist them in their transition from high school to college:

- All EMC students take a College Success Strategies Course in 10th grade to enhance their academic preparation, study skills development, and social maturity skills.
- All EMC students have a coach that they meet with regularly to discuss challenges, celebrate successes, and make plans to support successful program completion.



What programs are available?
Most EMC programs begin with attending a CTE class in 11th grade at the Career Connect Campus or a satellite location. The CTE class includes college credit and/or credentials.

Students need to complete the CTE application for consideration. A seat in a CTE class is not guaranteed.

The General Education/Liberal Arts program does not include attending a CTE class. Students attend KVCC courses in 11th grade at the Career Connect Campus. The focus is typically on completing the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) and taking additional courses towards a transfer degree.

PROGRAMS

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Horticulture
- Veterinary Science

Architecture & Construction Trades
- Electrical Technology
- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration

Business
- Accounting
- Business Management
- Marketing & Entrepreneurship

Culinary Arts
- Culinary Arts

Design
- Graphic Design

General Education/Liberal Arts
- General Education/Michigan Transfer Agreement

Health Science
- Dental
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Patient Care Technician

Human Services
- Criminal Justice & Public Safety
- Educator Academy

Information Technology
- Computer Programming
- Computer Networking
- Cybersecurity

Manufacturing
- Machine Tool & Engineering
- Welding

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
- Automotive Technology
- Aviation Technology

KALAMAZOO RESA

Career Connect

To learn more about Career Connect and how to enroll in these programs, visit our website at **kresa.org/careerconnect**.

You can also follow us on social media to stay updated on the latest news and events.

Career Connect is a program of the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (KRESA), which serves nine local school districts in Kalamazoo County. KRESA exists to transform lives by inspiring educational excellence. We provide a continuum of educational services and support to students, families, school districts and communities.

WAYS TO CONNECT

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CAREER CONNECT
A NEW VISION FOR EDUCATION

KRESA Career Connect is a continuum of career education programs that empowers the next generation of learners to explore career pathways and develop real-world skills. Whether students are interested in arts, automotive, technology, health, business, or anything in between, Career Connect has something to offer.

Career Connect offers a variety of classroom-based and out-of-school programs designed to support academic preparation and help young people achieve their career goals. Learners can start their career exploration journeys as early as kindergarten and continue until they graduate from high school and into young adulthood.

CAREER CONNECT'S PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- **Career Awareness & Exploration (CAE)**
  Programs, tools, and experiences that help you learn about yourself and potential career pathways including Xello
- **Work-Based Learning (WBL)**
  Gain on-the-job experience and career skills in a mutually beneficial employer partnership
- **Career & Technical Education (CTE)**
  Hands-on career preparation courses that develop professional skills and offer industry experience.
- **Education for the Arts (EFA)**
  Arts exploration for students of all ages, with hands-on arts classes at the high school level
- **Early/Middle College (EMC)**
  Dual-enrollment with KVCC to simultaneously complete a high school diploma and an associate's degree.
- **Career Coaching**
  Career pathway planning services including academic enrichment, workforce readiness, and social skills development
- **MyCITY**
  Seasonal youth employment program that serves as the gateway to paid internship and work experience
- **CareerNOW**
  Paid career preparation program in healthcare and skilled trades with connection to short-term training, apprenticeships, and employment opportunities
- **2Gen**
  Paid summer career exploration and pathway planning program for Kalamazoo families

Kalamazoo RESA Career Connect

Career & Technical Education (CTE)
CTE Work-Based Learning (WBL)
Education for the Arts (EFA)
Early / Middle College (EMC)

www.kresa.org/apply

KALAMAZOO RESA | Transforming Futures

Notice of Non-Discrimination: It is the policy of Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency that no discriminating practices based on gender/sex, sexual orientation, race, religion, height, weight, color, age, national origin, disability, genetic information or any other status covered by federal, state or local law be allowed during any program, activity, service or in employment. The following positions at Kalamazoo RESA have been designed to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy: Assistant Superintendent Mindy Miller. Contact information: (269) 250-9200, 1819 E. Milham Ave. Portage, MI 49002.

Portage High Schools

Central High
8135 S. Westnedge Ave.
Portage, MI 49002
269-323-5200

Northern High
1000 W. Milham Ave.
Portage, MI 49024
269-323-5400

Community High
1010 W. Milham Ave.
Portage, MI 49024
269-323-6769