

HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The curriculum is designed to provide each student with a program of study that's academically rigorous, intellectually challenging, and leads to college and career readiness.

ENGLISH

English instruction provides advanced study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language skills. The Common Core Illustrated Texts, the Great Books, and the Advanced Placement Literature course are just some of the reading lists used when developing text selections for courses.

MATH

Mathematics instruction follows a progression of quantitative skills and mathematics concepts that students should master in order to be successful in college level work. Courses offered typically include Grade 7 Math, Grade 8 Math, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, and AP Statistics.

SCIENCE

Science instruction promotes scientific thinking, data analysis, and inquiry-based learning. Courses such as Grade 7 Science, Grade 8 Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Human Anatomy not only focus on the mastery of essential concepts, but also prepare students for AP Chemistry, AP Biology, and AP Environmental Science.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social studies courses, such as World History, U.S. History, World Geography, and Civics and Economics, present students with a rigorous study of the world using historical, geographical, civic, cultural, and economic perspectives. Students are encouraged to engage in inquiry, public discourse, decision making, and good citizenship. This coursework prepares students for success in AP World History, AP U.S. History, AP Government, and AP Economics.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Our language curriculum explores the structure and function of world languages, in addition to respective cultural norms. Studying a foreign language provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to function in a global community and workplace.

MUSIC

Participation in our music program provides students with vast opportunities to develop individual musicianship and experience a life well lived. Courses include Choir and AP Music Theory. Our music curriculum provides students with music discrimination training, music theory and history, and an avenue for healthy self-expression.

VISUAL ARTS

The art department provides a comprehensive and challenging visual art curriculum, including Foundational Art, 2D/3D Art, Media Design, AP Art Studio, and AP Art History. Students who complete our series of art courses are prepared to enter college and life with real design and organizational skills. They will also develop a sense of personal aesthetics.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We offer Health, Physical Education, and Advanced Physical Education. Physical Education is an activity-based class where all students are expected to participate daily. Physical activity has been shown to help students think more clearly, breathe better, and be relaxed in a way conducive to overall excellence in all areas of their education. While students will remain physically active in Advanced PE, they will also delve into the science behind movement.

MORAL FOCUS

A Moral Focus virtue is assigned to each month of the school year. Lessons are taught in advisory class and interwoven into every classroom's instruction. Students are required to create a Moral Focus artifact that exhibits their understanding and how it relates to their lives. In the classroom, teachers discuss the virtue with students, model it, and encourage students to demonstrate it.

COLLEGE ADVISORY

Students are arranged into advisory classes by grade level. Students explore subjects such as: The High School Experience, College Awareness, Career Exploration, College Exploration, College Research and Planning, and Financial Aid.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Each year, students are required to complete a service-learning project. Our graduates complete a minimum of 60 hours with many completing over 100 hours.

SENIOR PROJECT

Beginning in 9th grade, students build a digital portfolio that outlines and details the key aspects of their high school journey. In 11th grade, students begin exploring ideas for a Senior Project. This project encompasses the Four Rs of our curriculum: rigor, relationships, relevance, and responsibility.

COLLEGE-LEVEL RIGOR & ACCESS

We are committed to equity and access to college-level rigor for all our students. We offer an EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM with partner colleges across the state, and Advanced Placement opportunities to help families financially and help students make the transition from high school to college. These courses allow them to adjust to the intellectual rigor of college-level work, while still in the supportive environment of our high school.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Passing grades must be a C- or higher
- Graduation requirements are more rigorous than the standard Michigan Merit Curriculum, we expect 22 credits to graduate.
- Students are expected to take a minimum of two Advanced Placement courses or College-Level courses to graduate.

