East Allegheny
Junior Senior High School

Program of Studies

High School: Grades 9 -12
Junior High School: Grades 7 & 8

2025 - 2026

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Introduction

Dear East Allegheny Junior/Senior High School Students and Families,

Welcome to East Allegheny High School! It is with great pride and excitement that I introduce our Academic Program of Studies for grades 7–12. This guide has been carefully designed to provide you with all the information necessary to navigate your high school journey, plan for your future, and achieve your academic and career goals.

Inside the Program of Studies, you will find:

- Comprehensive Course Descriptions: A detailed overview of the wide variety of classes we offer, designed to challenge and inspire students at all levels.
- Career Planning Resources: Tools and information to help you identify your interests, strengths, and potential career paths.
- Pathways to Graduation: A roadmap to ensure you meet all academic requirements while preparing for college, vocational training, or the workforce.

At East Allegheny High School, we are committed to providing a supportive and rigorous learning environment where every student can thrive. Whether you are interested in STEM, the arts, humanities, or career and technical education, our goal is to equip you with the knowledge and skills you need to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

We encourage you to review this guide together as a family and reach out to our teachers, counselors, or administrative team with any questions or for additional guidance. Your success is our top priority, and we are here to support you every step of the way.

Thank you for being an essential part of the East Allegheny Junior/Senior High School community. Together, we can make these high school years an enriching and transformative experience.

Warm regards,

R.J. Long
East Allegheny High School Principal

Career Planning in High School

- As you enter high school, follow and adjust your career plan to include the required courses in addition to career specific electives that are of interest to you based on your career pathway.
- Use the course selection sheet as you plan when you would schedule specific courses.
- Consider transition activities as a capstone to your career pathway, such as work based learning experiences, internships, pre-apprenticeship, dual enrollment opportunities, etc. that are related to your career pathway.

Suggestions for Planning Your Courses of Study

- Become familiar with the courses offered and what the courses are designed to teach. Also, know the category of the courses offered and the appropriate selection for your past performance and ability. It is better to challenge yourself while not feeling overwhelmed. Your teachers and school counselor will advise you in this area.
- Select subjects that fulfill requirements for graduation and support your career path. If in doubt about career goals, it is wise to select a broad base of academic subjects.
- For students interested in careers that require college training, such as health-related professions, engineering, science, mathematics, or education, a strong academic background is necessary**.**

- If you plan to continue their education at the college level, you should begin to make plans early in your high school career. The following are important steps to ensuring a smooth transition to your college or university training:
    - Enrollment in academic, honors, or AP classes as well as taking the PSAT (grades 10 and 11) and SAT (grades 11 and 12).
    - Knowledge of entrance requirements for the college or university of one's choice.
    - Consultation with the School Counseling Department regarding college plans.

- For those interested in entering the job market immediately after high school, a firm foundation in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies is needed. Computer courses are strongly recommended.

- Always consult with teachers, counselors, administrators, and your family for advice and guidance when selecting your program of study to ensure it supports your career goals.

Career Clusters, Job Possibilities, & High School Courses

- The following pages have the descriptions of careers and courses that correspond with the major career clusters. It is okay to be unsure what you want to do for the rest of your life. Use the Career Cluster information you have learned and speak with your school counselor, principal, or trusted adults if you have questions.

Career Cluster	What do these careers do?	Job Possibilities in this Career Cluster	EA Courses to take in Grades 9-12
Agriculture **Food** **Natural Resources**	The production, processing, marketing, distribution, financing, and development of agricultural commodities and resources including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products/resources.	**Occupations Requiring Postsecondary Education** • Agricultural Chemical Dealer Aquaculturist • Bank/Loan Office • Environmental Compliance Assurance Manager • Equine Manager • Farm Manager • Health and Safety Sanitarian • Meat Cutter-Meat Grader • Park Manager • Produce Buyer • Recycling Technician • Wildlife Manager **Occupations Requiring Bachelor's Degree** • Agricultural Educator • Botanist • Ecologist • Environmental Engineer • Fish and Game Officer • Plant Pathologist	• Statistics • Personal Finance • Biology • Environmental Science • Physics • Chemistry • Anatomy & Physiology • Computer Science
Architecture & Construction	Careers in designing, planning, managing, building and maintaining the built environment.	• Carpenter Code Official • Concrete Finisher Construction • Engineer Construction • Foreman/Manager • Construction Inspector • Contractor Design Builder • Drywall Installer Electrician • Electronic Systems Technician • Equipment and Material • Manager General • Contractor/Builder Heating, • Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Mechanic • Mason Painter Paperhanger • Plumber Project Estimator • Project Inspector Project • Manager Roofer Safety Director • Sheet Metal Worker Specialty • Contractor Superintendent • Tile and Marble Setter	• Algebra 1 • Algebra 2 • Geometry • Trig/Pre-Calculus • Calculus • Statistics • Personal Finance • Computer Science • Tech Ed I • Tech Ed II • Tech Ed II • CAD • Architectural Drafting • Physics • Chemistry • Robotics • Forbes Road CTC

Career Cluster	What do these careers do?	Job Possibilities in this Career Cluster	EA Courses to take in Grades 9-12
Arts **Audio/Visual Technology** **Communication**	Designing, producing, exhibiting, performing, writing, and publishing multimedia content including visual and performing arts and design, journalism, and entertainment services.	• Actor • Audio-Video Designer and Engineer • Broadcast Technician • Commercial Artist • Computer Animator • Curator/Gallery Manager • Director and Coach • Fashion Designer • Journalist • Lithographer • Musician • Printing Equipment Operator • Telecommunication Technician • Videographer • Web Page Designer	• English 1-4 • AP Literature • French 1-4 • Spanish 1-4 • Computer Science • Tech Ed I, II, III • Fine Arts • Studio Arts • Band • Choir • Orchestra • Piano • Music Technology • Stagecraft • Graphics I, II, III
Business Management Administration	Business Management and Administration careers encompass planning, organizing, directing and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations. Business Management and Administration career opportunities are available in every sector of the economy.	• Administrative Assistant • Advertising Sales Person • Auditor • Business Consultant • Certified Public Accountant • Corporate Trainer • E-Commerce Analyst • Entrepreneur • Facilities Manager • Finance Director • Human Resources Manager • Investment Executive • Marketing Analyst • Medical Transcriptionist • Office Manager • OSHA/ADA Compliance Officer Personnel Recruiter • Public Relations Manager • Sales Representative • Wholesale and Retail Buyer	• English 1-4 • AP Literature • Algebra 1 • Algebra 2 • Statistics • Personal Finance • Economics • Psychology • Computer Science • Graphics I, II, III
Education & Training	Planning, managing and providing education and training services, and related learning support services.	• Administrator • Assessment Specialist • Career & Tech Administrator • Child Care Worker • Clinical Psychologist • Coach • College/University Faculty • Counselor • Curriculum Developer • K-12 Teacher • Principal • Speech-Language Pathologist	• AP Literature • AP History • African American History • Statistics • Biology • Chemistry • Physics • Anatomy & Physiology • Psychology • French 1-4 • Spanish 1-4

Career Cluster	What do these careers do?	Job Possibilities in this Career Cluster	EA Courses to take in Grades 9-12
Finance	Planning, services for financial and investment planning, banking, insurance, and business financial management.	• Accountant • Actuary • Banker • Bill and Account Collector • Credit Analyst • Debt Counselor • Economist • Financial Planner • Insurance Broker • Internal Auditor • Loan Officer • Non-Profit Manager • Tax Examiner • Treasurer • Trust Officer • Underwriter	• Algebra 1 • Algebra 2 • Geometry • Trig/Pre-Calculus • Statistics • Calculus • Personal Finance • Economics • Computer Science
Government & Public Administration	Executing governmental functions to include Governance; National Security; Foreign Service; Planning; Revenue and Taxation; Regulation; and Management and Administration at the local, state, and federal levels.	• Ambassador • Bank Examiner • City Manager • Combat Control Officer • Commissioner • Cryptographer • Election Supervisor • Elected Official • Foreign Service Officer • Immigration Officer • Intelligence Analyst • Internal Revenue Investigator • Lobbyist • National Security Advisor • Planner • Policy Advisor • Tax Policy Analyst	• AP Literature • AP History • African American History • Statistics • Biology • Chemistry • Physics • Anatomy & Physiology • Psychology • French 1-4 • Spanish 1-4
Hospitality & Tourism	Hospitality & Tourism encompasses the management, marketing and operations of restaurants and other food services, lodging, attractions, recreation events and travel related services.	• Baker/Pastry Chef • Bartender • Caterer • Hotel Management • Event Planner • Executive Chef • Facilities Manager • Museum Director • Reservations Manager • Restaurant Owner/Manager • Sports Promoter • Theme Park Manager • Tour and Travel Guide • Travel Agent	• Statistics • Personal Finance • Economics • Psychology • French 1-4 • Spanish 1-4 • Computer Science • Graphics I, II, III • Forbes Road CTC

Career Cluster	What do these careers do?	Job Possibilities in this Career Cluster	EA Courses to take in Grades 9-12
Health Sciences	Planning, managing, and providing therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development.	**Jobs Requiring Less than Bachelor's Degree** • Dental Assistant/Hygienist • EMT/Paramedic • Health Information Coder • Home Health Aide • Lab Technician • Radiology Technician • Registered Nurse • Veterinarian Technician **Jobs Requiring a Bachelor's Degree** • Athletic Trainer • Biochemist • Biostatistician • Nutritionist • Occupational Therapist • Physician (MD/DO) • Physician's Assistant • Psychologist • Radiologist • Research Scientist • Speech/Language Pathologist • Toxicologist • Veterinarian	• Algebra 1 • Algebra 2 • Geometry • Trig/Pre-Calculus • Statistics • Calculus • Biology • Physics • Chemistry • Anatomy & Physiology • Psychology • Health • Physical Education • Computer Science • Forbes Road CTC
Human Services	Preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs.	• Buyer • Certified Financial Planner Community Service Director Consumer Advocate • Cosmetologist • Director of Childcare Facility Emergency and Relief Worker Esthetician • Funeral Director • Licensed Professional Counselor • Market Researcher • Massage Therapist • Personal Fitness Trainer • School Counselor • Psychologist • Small Business Owner • Social Worker	• English 1-4 • AP Literature • Statistics • Personal Finance • Biology • Chemistry • Anatomy & Physiology • Economics • Psychology • French 1-4 • Spanish 1-4 • Health • Physical Education • Computer Science • Forbes Road CTC

Career Cluster	What do these careers do?	Job Possibilities in this Career Cluster	EA Courses to take in Grades 9-12
Information Technology	Building Linkages in IT Occupations Framework: For Entry Level, Technical, and Professional Careers Related to the Design, Development, Support and Management of Hardware, Software, Multimedia, and Systems Integration Services.	• Animator • Database Administrator • Data Systems Designer • E-Business Specialist • Game Developer • Information Technology Engineer • Media Specialist • Network Administrator • Cyber Security • PC Support Specialist • Programmer • Software Engineer • Systems Administrator • Telecommunications Network Technician • Virtual Reality Specialist • Web Designer	• Algebra 1 • Algebra 2 • Geometry • Trig/Pre-Calculus • Statistics • Calculus • Personal Finance • Computer Science • Graphics I, II, III • Physics • Music Technology • CAD • Architectural Drafting • Forbes Road CTC
Law **Public Safety** **&** **Security**	Planning, managing, and providing legal, public safety, protective services and homeland security, including professional and technical support services.	• Attorney • Bomb Technician • Corrections Officer • Court Reporter • Criminal Investigator • EMT • Federal Marshall • Firefighter • Gaming Surveillance Specialist Hazardous Materials Responder Loss Prevention Specialist Paralegal • Park Ranger • Police and Patrol Officer Probation/Parole Officer • Public Information Officer Security Officer • Youth Services Worker	• English 1-4 • Spanish 1-4 • French 1-4 • AP Literature • Statistics • Forensics • Government & Economics • American History • African American History • Computer Science • Psychology • Chemistry • Physics • Forbes Road CTC

Career Cluster	What do these careers do?	Job Possibilities in this Career Cluster	EA Courses to take in Grades 9-12
Manufacturing	Planning, managing and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products and related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering.	• Assembler • Boilermaker • Design Engineer • Environmental Engineer • Freight, Stock and Material Mover • Industrial Machinery Mechanic • Inspector • Labor Relations Manager Logistician • Manufacturing Technician • Mechanic • Production Manager • Quality Control Technician • Safety Engineer • Tool and Diemaker • Traffic Manager • Welder	• Algebra 1 and 2 • Geometry • Statistics • Personal Finance • Economics • Computer Science • Tech Ed I, II, III • Robotics • CAD • Architectural Drafting • Pre-Apprenticeship • Forbes Road CTC
Marketing **Sales** **&** **Service**	Planning, managing, and performing marketing activities to reach organizational objectives.	• Copywriter/Designer • E-Commerce Director Entrepreneur • Field Marketing Representative • Forecasting Manager • Interactive Media Specialist • Inventory Manager/Analyst • Logistics Manager • Merchandise Buyer • On-line Market Researcher • Public Relations Manager Promotions Manager • Real Estate Agent • Retail Marketing Coordinator • Sales Executive Shipping/Receiving Clerk Telemarketer • Warehouse Manager • Webmaster	• English 1-4 • Spanish 1-4 • French 1-4 • Algebra 1 • Algebra 2 • Statistics • Personal Finance • Economics • Psychology • Computer Science • Graphics I, II • Fine Arts • Studio Arts • Music Technology

Career Cluster	What do these careers do?	Job Possibilities in this Career Cluster	EA Courses to take in Grades 9-12
Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics	Planning, managing, and providing scientific research and professional and technical services (e.g., physical science, social science, engineering) including laboratory and testing services, and research and development services.	• Aerospace Engineer • Agricultural Engineer • Analytical Chemist • Anthropologist • Architectural Engineer • Astrophysicist • Biomedical Engineer • CAD Technician • Civil Engineer • Computer Programmer • Ecologist • Geologist • Geothermal Engineer • Math Teacher • Mathematician • Metallurgist • Statistician • Survey Technician • Zoologist	• Algebra 1 and 2 • Geometry • Trig/Pre-Calculus • Statistics • Calculus • Personal Finance • Biology • Environmental Science • Physics • Chemistry • Anatomy & Physiology • Health • Computer Science Principles • Ted Ed I, II, III • CAD • Architectural Drafting • Forbes Road CTC
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics	Planning, management, and movement of people, materials, and goods by road, pipeline, air, rail and water and related professional and technical support services such as transportation infrastructure planning and management, logistics services, mobile equipment and facility maintenance.	• Airplane Pilot/Co-Pilot • Air Traffic Controller • Avionics Technician • Cargo and Freight Agent • Customs Inspector • Environmental Manager • Facility Engineer • Industrial Equipment Mechanic • Logistics Specialist • Locomotive Engineer • Marine Captain • Port Manager • Safety Analyst • Storage and Distribution Manager • Transportation Manager • Truck Driver • Urban and Regional Planner Warehouse Manager	• Algebra 1 and 2 • Geometry • Trig/Pre-Calculus • Statistics • Calculus • Personal Finance • Economics • Computer Science • Tech I, II, III • Physics • Chemistry • Forbes Road CTC

Pathways to Graduation: Act 158 of 2018

PATHWAYS TO GRADUATION

Based on Act 158 of 2018

Beginning with the class of 2023, students must meet statewide graduation requirements in one of five pathways.

Pathway 1: Keystone Proficiency

- Proficient or Advanced in Algebra I, Biology, and Literature

Pathway 2: Keystone Composite

- At least 1 Keystone score is Proficient or Advanced and no score is Below Basic
- Composite Keystone Score is at least 4,452

Pathway 3: Career & Technical Education*

1 Piece of Evidence

- Industry-based competency certification
- Likelihood of industry-based competency assessment success
- Readiness for continued engagement in Career and Technical Education (CTE) Concentrator program of study

Pathway 4: Alternative Assessment*

1 Piece of Evidence

- Attainment of one alternative assessment score or better:
  - ACT (21)
  - ASVAB AFQT (31)
  - PSAT/NMSQT (970)
  - SAT (1010)
- Attainment of 3 or better on AP Exam(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient
- Successful completion of dual enrollment course(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient
- Successful completion of a pre-apprenticeship program
- Acceptance into four year Institution of Higher Education (IHE) for college-level coursework

Pathway 5: Evidence Based*

3 Pieces of Evidence Consistent with Student's Goals

ONE or more of these four bulleted items

- Attainment of 3 or better on any AP Exam
- Successful completion of any dual enrollment or postsecondary course
- Industry-recognized credentialization
- Acceptance into an other-than-four year Institution of Higher Education (IHE) for college-level coursework

AND, no more than TWO of the following

- Attainment of Proficient or Advanced on any Keystone Exam
- Successful completion of a service- learning project
- Letter guaranteeing full-time employment or military enlistment
- Completion of an internship, externship, or cooperative education program
- Compliance with NCAA Division II academic requirements

Minimum Requirements for Graduation

- **<u>**THE MINIMUM REQUIRED CREDITS FOR GRADUATION IS 24.</u>**
- All students must successfully complete, with a passing grade, the required and elective combination of 24 credits at East Allegheny High School. **Students may not participate in the graduation ceremony unless they are receiving a diploma.**
- School counselors will make every effort to support students throughout their high school program of studies, but it is the ultimate responsibility of the student and their families to remain diligent in adhering to the expectations and requirements for graduation. This includes credit recovery in the case that students may need to repeat any courses.
- Credit recovery options, which are the fiscal responsibility of the student and family, will be communicated to students in need of them each year.

Keystone Testing Requirements

- The Pennsylvania Department of Education and the East Allegheny School District require all students to take the Keystone Exams.
- The Keystone Exams will be administered each school year to Algebra, Biology, and English Literature/Comprehension students.

Class Rank and Grade Point Average

At East Allegheny High School, there are two statistics reported on a student's transcript: the student's grade point average, and their class rank. The difference between the two is as follows:

- **Grade Point Average**
  - Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated at the end of each quarter and is shown on students' report cards.
  - ALL courses, including elective and Physical Education courses, are included in GPA and class rank calculation.
  - Final grades are used to calculate the GPA that is shown on the students' transcript.
  - The GPA is **"unweighted"** in that all grades that are used to calculate this average use the same scale, regardless of whether the class is on the Academic level, Honors level, or AP level, using this scale:
    - **A (100% - 90%) 4.0**
    - **B (89% - 80%) 3.0**
    - **C (79% - 70%) 2.0**
    - **D (69% - 60%) 1.0**
    - **F (59% - 40%) 0.0**
    - **Q (No credit) 0.0**

- **Class Rank**
  - To distinguish between students who have taken Academic courses and those who have taken Honors or AP courses, class rank is used.
  - The class rank, therefore, is **"weighted"** to reflect the difficulty level of students' particular schedules. The following weights are utilized in this calculation starting with the class of 2028:
    - AP Classes: A = 5.0, B = 4.0, C = 3.0, D = 2.0, F = 0
    - Honors Classes: A = 4.5, B = 3.5, C = 2.5, D = 1.5, F = 0
    - Academic Classes: A = 4.0, B = 3.0, C = 2.0, D = 1.0, F = 0
    - ***Note: All elective courses, including Forbes, will receive "Academic" weight.***
  - As an example, a student who took courses in 9th grade and achieved final grades of straight A's would have a 4.0 GPA. Another student with Honors courses in 9th grade who achieved straight A's would also have a 4.0 GPA. However, to indicate that the student with the Honors courses had a more difficult schedule, he or she would earn a higher class rank than the student who took the Academic courses.

Unsuccessful Class Completion & Failures

- If a student fails an academic class in a year, the student has the option to enroll in Credit Recovery Courses, at the expense of the student and their family, in order to ensure credit accumulation. These courses can take place during the summer, and in some cases, during the school year. Credit recovery requests should be directed to Ms. Emilia Mattucci in the school counseling office.
- Please refer to the Student Handbook for information on the school district's retention policy.
- ***It is the student's responsibility to see your counselor for credit evaluation and credit recovery options.**

Definitions of Course Categories

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

- Students enrolled in AP Environmental Science, AP Statistics, AP English, AP Computer Science Principles, and AP U.S. History are required to take the AP exam in their respective subject areas, and The District will cover the cost of the tests. These exams are typically scheduled during the month of May.
- The scores on the AP Exams range from 1 to 5. Generally, colleges will accept a score of 3 or above to substitute for college credit. It is the student's responsibility to contact his or her prospective college to determine which scores they will accept.

Honors Courses

- Students who qualify for Honors Courses at East Allegheny High School will be expected to follow an intensive study program, which will delve into challenging areas of academic pursuit.
- The entry window for Honors Courses will be prior to the beginning of the school year. No schedule changes to an Honors Course will be made after the first day of school.

Academic Courses

- These courses are primarily designed to offer a challenging curriculum to those students who have demonstrated both an aptitude and a desire to attend a four-year college, technical school, or enter the workforce upon graduation.

General Courses

- For the 2025-2026 school year, we are not having general level courses. Students will continue to be provided with appropriate supports in either the honors, academic, or learning support pull-out classrooms, based upon demonstrate student need and learning goals.

Elective Courses

- These courses are offered to students as a means of enhancing the basic academic course offerings. We offer a wide selection of courses in the areas of the arts, music, family and consumer sciences and technical offerings. Students are encouraged to explore these classes as a means of gaining a well-rounded education.

College in High School Program

- The **College in High School Program** provides an opportunity for juniors or seniors to earn college credits while still in high school. Students must demonstrate exceptional academic performance and attendance to be approved for dual enrollment. The student and their family are responsible for meeting all financial obligations for the dual enrollment program.
- Currently, East Allegheny High School participates in College in the High School program through Carlow University and Seton Hill University. Through this program, the East Allegheny School District is able to offer college credits, in addition to high school credit, for certain courses within the curriculum.
    - The courses currently offered for dual enrollment through the College in the High School program are:
        - College Algebra
        - Honors Government
        - Honors Psychology
        - Honors Calculus (4 credits)
        - Introduction to Literature
        - AP US History (two CHS courses offered)
        - AP Environmental Science
- When a student enrolls in one of these courses, they will be given the option to take the course for college credit. If they choose this option, they will be required to complete a registration form and pay the fee at the beginning of the school year.
- The current fee for courses through Carlow University is $75/credit ($225 for a 3-credit course) and is subject to change by Carlow University.
- The current fee for courses through Seton Hill University is $230 for a 3 credit course and is subject to change by Seton Hill University.
- College credits will only be granted to students earning a grade of ‘C’ or higher. If a student chooses not to take the course for college credit, they will still earn one high school credit toward graduation, if a grade of ‘D’ or higher is earned.

Scheduling Process

- Students should exercise extreme care in the selection of their courses. They should take advantage of every possible source of assistance and guidance.
- Teachers make course recommendations for all academic subjects. Course recommendations are determined based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, teacher recommendation as well as work ethic and motivation displayed in class - **all intended to ensure student success.**
- In selecting courses, students should give serious thought to such matters as prior success and failures, pre-requisites, special interests and aptitudes, and future college and career plans.
- Course selections should be firm decisions, thoughtfully made after careful consultation with parents, teachers, and counselors.
- It is our goal to have all schedules completed prior to the close of the current school year.
- Certain courses at East Allegheny Jr/Sr High School have prerequisites or other academic guidelines that are made to assure student success in the course. Course recommendations are determined based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, teacher recommendation as well as work ethic and motivation displayed in class - **all intended to ensure student success.**
- If a parent believes that a student can be successful in a course for which the student is not recommended, he/she may submit a waiver request to the building principals for review. Submission of an Academic Waiver Request does not guarantee the class will be added or changed. Requests will be reviewed by an administrator, and you will be required to meet with your child's counselor and administrator prior to a decision. **Only completed waiver requests will be considered.**

Schedule Changes

- Schedule changes will be made only within the first two weeks of the school year for year long classes or the first two weeks of the semester for semester long classes.
- Once the school year has started, the only class changes that will be made are those initiated by a teacher, who has amassed data to support that the student cannot be academically successful in their current placement (i.e., failing at the interim time of the first marking period). Therefore, a parent who wishes to request a schedule change for a student should contact the teacher directly to discuss the schedule change.
- These teacher-initiated class changes must be received in the school counseling office by the interim of the first marking period. The school counselor, in consultation with the principal, will make the final determinations regarding schedule change requests.
- Elective courses will not be changed. Upon selecting, be sure you know what the course entails and your responsibility for that course.
- The School Counselors and Administrators will make the final determinations regarding course placements based upon prerequisite completion and standardized testing data.

National Honor Society

- Students who excel in academics may consider joining the National Honor Society.
- Any student in grades 10 through 12 will be considered for membership if:
    - A teacher recommends them
    - They nominate themselves for membership.
- The following are the qualifications for membership:
    1. All prospective members must have a 3.7 or better GPA, based on a 4.0 scale.
    2. All grades that a student earns will be included in the average.
    3. Student's cumulative grade point average will include all grades from the previous four nine weeks grading periods.
    4. To be eligible for membership in the National Honor Society, the prospective member must have at least two (2) Honors/AP courses.
    5. Any prospective member who has a "D" or lower in any course during the previous four nine weeks will not be eligible.
    6. Any prospective member who has been suspended out of school or in-school in the previous four nine weeks will not be eligible.
    7. Once a student has been nominated and it has been determined that he or she is eligible for membership, an application **must** be completed and submitted for review.
    8. All prospective members must agree to abide by the NHS Chapter By-Laws.

NCAA Academic Eligibility Requirements

- A student who is planning to attend a Division I or Division II college and participate in athletics must meet eligibility requirements.
- It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of and meet these requirements. The fee is also the responsibility of the student. A student must graduate from high school.
- The minimum grade point average acceptable is 2.00. Students must also take either the SAT or ACT exam. Information regarding these tests is in the School Counseling Office or at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

DIVISION I Qualifier Requirements: Athletics aid, practice, and competition

- 16 core courses: Ten (10) core courses completed before the start of the seventh semester. Seven (7) of the 10 must be in English, math, or natural/physical science.
- "Locked in" for core-course GPA calculation.
- Corresponding test score (ACT sum score or SAT combined score) and core course GPA (minimum 2.300) on Sliding Scale B.
- Graduate from high school.

DIVISION I – Academic Redshirt Requirements *Athletics aid and practice (no competition)

- 16 core courses: No grades/credits "locked-in" (repeated courses after the seventh semester begins may be used for initial eligibility).

- Corresponding test score (ACT sum score or SAT combined score) and core-course GPA (minimum 2.000) on Sliding Scale B.
- Graduate from high school.

DIVISION II - Academic Eligibility Requirements

- English: 3 years
- Mathematics (Algebra I or higher): 2 years
- Natural or Physical Science (minimum of one lab course): 2 years
- Additional courses in English, Math, or Science: 3 years
- Social Science: 2 years
- Additional Academic Courses in the above areas or foreign language, computer science, philosophy, or non-doctrinal religion

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN FALL ATHLETICS

- Students with 20 or more excused absences in the 2nd semester may not be eligible to participate in fall athletics of the 2025-2026 school year.

High School Course Descriptions

English Core Courses

ENGLISH 1..... 1 Credit
This course, designed for students who possess satisfactory language arts ability, focuses on reading and analyzing the literature of various genres. Throughout the year, students will read poems, short stories, novels, and plays from classical and contemporary writers. Students will enhance their reading comprehension, writing, grammar, communication, and vocabulary skills. Students will also complete a research project and write multi-paragraph compositions.

ENGLISH 1 HONORS..... 1 Credit
This course, which focuses on studying literature of various genres, is designed for students who possess superior language arts ability. Throughout the year, students will read and analyze poems, short stories, novels, and plays from classical and contemporary writers. Students will enhance their reading comprehension, writing, grammar, communication, and vocabulary skills. Students will also complete a research project and write multi-paragraph compositions. **Completion of the summer reading component is mandatory.**
Prerequisites:

- A grade of 90% or higher in the student's current English and Reading course.
- Students must achieve a score of "Advanced"/" Proficient" on 8th grade PSSA Reading Test
- Students must maintain a grade of 85% or higher to remain in Honors English the next year.
- A reading comprehension score "on" or "above" grade level on district assessment
- Students who do not meet this grade requirement may be admitted at the discretion of the teacher.

ENGLISH 2..... 1 Credit
Using literature as a focus, students will improve and enhance comprehension, critical thinking, vocabulary, and grammar skills. A variety of texts will be read and discussed as a class through whole group instruction and assessment. Constructed response writing will be emphasized and evaluated in preparation for the Keystone Literature Assessment.
Prerequisites:

- Passing grade in English 1

ENGLISH 2 HONORS..... 1 Credit
This course is designed for students who possess superior language arts abilities. Students will refine comprehension, critical thinking, vocabulary, and grammar skills while reading a variety of literature. In preparation for the Keystone Exam, texts will be assigned, read independently, discussed, and assessed during the school year. Writing skills will also be emphasized through constructed responses and multi-paragraph compositions. Finally, this class entails a summer reading component that is mandatory and must be completed and turned in on the first day of school.
Prerequisites:

- A grade of 90% or higher in English 1 or a grade of 85% or higher in Honors English 1.
- A score of Advanced or Proficient on the 8th grade PSSA Reading Test
- A reading comprehension score "on" or "above" grade level on district assessment
- Students who do not meet this grade requirement may be admitted at the discretion of the teacher

ENGLISH 3..... 1 Credit
Through the study of American literature, the student's comprehension, and ability to critically analyze literary works are further developed. In addition, vocabulary study, grammar, and usage review reading out-of-class novels, and multi paragraph compositions are components of the course.

- Passing grade in English 2

ENGLISH 3 HONORS..... 1 Credit
This course is designed for those students who have a sound and thorough knowledge of the language arts. This course will focus on selected readings in American literature, with an emphasis on analytical techniques. **Completion of the summer reading component is mandatory.**
Prerequisites:

- A grade of 90% or higher in English 2 or a grade of 85% or higher in Honors English 2. .
- Advanced or Proficient on the Keystone Literature Exam (if available) or 8th grade PSSA Reading Test.
- Students who do not meet this grade requirement may be admitted at the discretion of the teacher.

ENGLISH 4..... 1 Credit
Students will improve and enhance comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills. A variety of texts will be read and discussed as a class through whole group instruction and assessment. Students will be expected to complete several multi-paragraph compositions and complete independent reading assignments. Speaking skills, vocabulary and grammar skills will also be components of the course.

- Passing grade in English 3

ENGLISH 4 HONORS..... 1 Credit
This course is designed for those students who have a sound and thorough knowledge of the language arts. Students will improve and enhance comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills. A variety of texts will be read and discussed as a class through whole group instruction and assessment. Students will be expected to complete several multi-paragraph compositions and complete independent reading assignments. Speaking skills, vocabulary and grammar skills will also be components of the course.
Prerequisites:

- A grade of 90% or higher in English 3 or a grade of 85% or higher in Honors English 3.
- Advanced or Proficient on the Keystone Literature Exam
- A reading comprehension score "on" or "above" grade level on district
- assessment
- Students who do not meet this grade requirement may be admitted at the discretion of the teacher.

AP LITERATURE.....1 Credit, 3 Carlow Credits
Introduction to Literature will match the rigor and scope associated with the AP program, following the suggested unit breakdown of course objectives and topics. Students may choose to take the AP English exam at the end of the year, or they register for the College in the High School program through Carlow University. Many colleges offer credit for a score of "3" or above on the exam. The class will focus on the analysis of modern and classical literature through discussion and writing. Emphasis will be placed on refining students' oral and written communication skills. Students should possess a love of reading, as they will be required to read widely and deeply, with an emphasis on the works of American and British authors. Students should expect homework every night; therefore, exemplary study skills are essential. Students will need to devote a substantial amount of time to this course to be successful. ****The completion of the summer reading component is mandatory.**

- College Credits for this course are through Carlow University and are $75 a credit (subject to change by Carlow) (3 credits = $225)

Prerequisites:

- 85% or higher in Honors English 3
- A score of Advanced or Proficient on the Keystone Literature Exam
- A reading comprehension score "on" or "above" grade level on the district assessment
- Students who do not meet this grade requirement may be admitted at the discretion of the teacher.

ESL ENGLISH 9-12 ..... 1 Credit
This course for English Language Learners (ELLs) is designed to parallel the relevant English course. A focus is placed on the four domains of language: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will read and respond to level-appropriate story selections and work to develop oral and written competence in English. Students will participate in a "process over product" approach to writing in which students will receive guided practice across each step of the writing process. Content will be made comprehensible through a variety of theory-based strategies for ELLs, including the use of scaffolding through images, gestures, technology, and inquiry-based learning.

English Elective Courses

JOURNALISM 9-12 ..... .5 Credit
This elective course explores careers in journalism while developing skills needed in the profession. Students will learn various journalistic writing styles to compose hard news, various features, critical reviews, editorials, columns, etc. for class and for school media. Students will use various research techniques such as observation, interviews, and Internet searching. They will be responsible for creating content for the Wildcat Crier student media accounts. Students may take this course more than once.

FILM ANTHROPOLOGY 9-12 ..... .5 Credit
This course will challenge students to look at the social, political, and economical influences of both contemporary and classic American films. Units will be organized by genre: epic, western, musical, crime, science fiction, horror, comedy, action, adventure, and drama. Assessment will be determined by student movie reviews. Students will learn editing and revising skills in addition to MLA formatting.

CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY 10-12 ..... .5 Credit
This course will introduce the student to major Greek and Roman myths. Students will understand how these myths shaped and were shaped by the cultures of classical antiquity. Students will be able to recognize the importance of mythology in literature and art. Student's performance will reflect their outcomes for four major exams, regular quizzes on assigned sections, and positive classroom participation.

CREATIVE WRITING 10-12 ..... .5 Credit
A course designed for those who want to express and finesse their creative sides in writing. Although this course is predominantly a writing course, students will also read some literature to use as models. Students will observe what other authors do well to strengthen their own creative writing abilities. They will write short stories, poems, plays, and creative essays.

CRIME FICTION 10-12 ..... .5 Credit
This course will introduce the student to crime fiction. A crime is a violation of the laws of society: however, most crimes have a direct impact upon a single person or a limited number of persons. A detective is brought in to solve crimes, especially mysterious crimes. The student will focus on the relationship between the criminal, the victim, and the detective. Students will be graded on short answer quizzes, essay tests, and positive classroom participation. Independent reading is required.

Social Studies Core Courses

AMERICAN CIVICS 9..... 1 Credit
This course approaches Civics in a theoretical, academic, and practical nature. Students will be introduced to the federal, state, and local governments. The students will gain the knowledge to become productive citizens. The students will also learn to appreciate their civic duties. The curriculum will include written and oral exercises, quarterly projects, reading assignments, current event activities, discussion skill exercises, map, table, and graph reading activities.

AMERICAN CIVICS HONORS 9..... 1 Credit
Honors Civics is an honors level course for freshmen designed to challenge students to develop an understanding of various concepts and involvement in citizenship and government. Students will be introduced to federal, state, and local governments, gain knowledge of citizenship duties and responsibilities, as well a survey of Pennsylvania History and current events in this full-year course. Students will engage in various activities designed to apply rigorous written and oral skills that go beyond the text and are relevant to their civic duties. Students can expect to participate in the following curriculum-based activities: written examinations, oral presentations, use of primary source documents, writing document-based essay questions, discussion/debates, technology-based projects, historical film studies, WebQuests, map, table, and graph activities.
Prerequisites:
- 90% in 8th Grade History
- Teacher recommendation (HS or MS)
- **An 85% grade average must be maintained to continue in the Honors track**

WORLD CULTURES 10..... 1 Credit
Students will study the history of major world cultures. As the world grows more interdependent, it is imperative that people understand each other. The growth of civilization will be emphasized in a series of activities designed to promote an understanding of present-day events. Students will examine, compare, and contrast the geographical and cultural aspects of civilizations in a historical context. They will also investigate political, economic, and social aspects of world cultures. The activities will include written and oral reports, projects, and reading assignments including primary and secondary source material, discussion, map, table, and graph reading activities.

WORLD CULTURES HONORS 10..... 1 Credit

World Cultures is an honors-level course that strives to develop an appreciation of the world we live in based on its historical and cultural foundations. This course, designed to make students life-long learners, increases an appreciation of how cultures develop by implementing an interdisciplinary approach to learning. The World Cultures curriculum is intricately tied to both the literature/arts and the process skills component of the sophomore level of the Scholars' Center for the Humanities. It is designed to prepare students to link historical events to literature, art, architecture, philosophy, poetry, and the politics of a wide variety of cultures from the start of the earliest civilizations to the present day. This course prepares students to develop higher-level critical thinking skills, incorporate primary source readings, use analytical discussion to predict possible outcomes, and manipulate a wide range of research techniques to aid in presentation skills within the classroom. This student-centered course is aimed at grooming students to be able to discern pertinent information in the formulation of cogent projects to understand and compare cultures. World Cultures is an honors-level course for sophomores dealing with the historical and cultural foundations of civilization. Students will be engaged in various activities designed to display the link between the past and present. Activities are designed to challenge students to go beyond the text and discern important concepts of themes within each unit. Students can expect to participate in the following activities: oral presentations, written examinations, debates, role-playing technology-based projects, historical film studies, document-based questions, and primary sources.

Prerequisites:

- 90% in Academic Civics class and teacher recommendation
- 85% in Honors Civics class and teacher recommendation

AMERICAN HISTORY 11..... 1 Credit

This course is designed to examine the history of the United States (1865 to the present) starting with the Reconstruction Era, Gilded Age, and Western Expansion. Much of the class will emphasize the 20thCentury by investigating how the American Economic, Political and Social systems have changed during the history of the United States. The student will be able to recognize the roots of today's society, political system, and economy in the study of the American past. The student must be a self-motivated learner willing to follow a rigorous course of study that will be evaluated through oral discussions, objective tests, and written essays.

U.S. HISTORY HONORS 11..... 1 Credit

American History is an accelerated and enriched study of American History from the beginning of Reconstruction (with a review of the Civil War) to the present. It will prepare students for college-level History classes and learning at an accelerated pace with less review. Major social, political, and economic events are discussed in relation to America's role in the larger world. The class will focus on analyzing and comparing parts of American History through discussion, independent research, classroom presentations, and writing. Students should expect homework nightly; therefore, Honors American History is intended for accelerated and self motivated students. Students will need to devote time to reading and studying to be successful.

Prerequisites:

- 90% or higher in the student's current academic Social Studies course
- 85% or higher for students in 10th grade Honors World History

AP U.S. HISTORY……2 Credits, 3 Carlow Credits

Advanced Placement U.S. History (APUSH) is a rigorous, college-level course that explores the political, economic, social, and cultural history of the United States from its beginnings to the present. Students will develop critical thinking, analytical writing, and historical reasoning skills through the examination of primary and secondary sources, historical debates, and thematic connections. This course prepares students for the AP U.S. History Exam in May and offers an opportunity to earn college credit through **Carlow University's College in the High School program.**

- College Credits for this course are through Carlow University and are $75 a credit (subject to change by Carlow) (3 credits = $225)

Semester 1: Beginnings to 1865

This semester covers the foundational development of the United States, from pre-Columbian societies through the Civil War. Topics include:

- Native American societies and European exploration
- Colonial America and the Atlantic world
- The American Revolution and the creation of the U.S. Constitution
- Early republic and expansion
- Sectionalism, reform movements, and slavery
- Causes and consequences of the Civil War (1861-1865)

Semester 2: 1865 – Present

This semester examines Reconstruction through modern America, focusing on industrialization, social movements, foreign policy, and political changes. Topics include:

- Reconstruction and the Gilded Age
- The Progressive Era and U.S. expansion
- World War I and the Great Depression
- World War II and the Cold War
- Civil Rights and social change movements
- Contemporary U.S. history and global interactions

Assessment & Expectations:

Students will engage in historical writing, primary source analysis, and discussions while preparing for the **AP U.S. History Exam in May.** Those enrolled for college credit will complete additional assessments aligned with Carlow University's standards. This course is designed for students seeking a **challenging and rewarding experience** that strengthens historical understanding, critical thinking, and college readiness

GOVERNMENT & ECONOMICS IN AMERICA 12…… 1 Credit

The Academic 12th Grade Social Studies Course is divided into two parts. The first part will be a comprehensive study of the American Government and citizenship. The following subjects will be included in the course: the use of newspapers to explain current political problems in our society; the United States Constitution; equal protection under the law; how Congress and State Legislatures make laws; State and Federal Court systems; voting procedures in the United States; the function of the President and governors; and the function of counties, municipalities, and school districts in local government. The final part will be a comprehensive study of Economics focusing on theoretical and practical aspects of this discipline. Students will be engaged in the theoretical aspects of supply, demand, price, and the business cycle, plus the practical aspects of credit, investing, and consumer spending. The application of theory to the practical is an important aspect of this course. The student will participate in a series of economic labs to ensure that the application of theory to practical uses will be maximized.

HONORS GOV'T & ECONOMICS IN AMERICA 12.... 1 Credit, 3 Carlow Credits
This College in the High School curriculum is divided into two parts. The first part will be a comprehensive study of the American Government and citizenship. The following subjects will be included in the course: the use of newspapers to explain current political problems in our society; the United States Constitution; equal protection under the law; how Congress and State Legislatures make laws; State and Federal Court systems; voting procedures in the United States; the function of the President and governors; and the function of counties, municipalities, and school districts in local government. Students will be required to complete semester projects and to do extensive outside readings and written work.The second part will be a comprehensive study of Economics focusing on theoretical and practical aspects of this discipline. Students will be engaged in the theoretical aspects of supply, demand, price, and the business cycle, plus the practical aspects of credit, investing, and consumer spending. The practical application of theory is an important aspect of this course. The student will participate in a series of economic labs to ensure the application of theory to practice.

- College Credits for this course are through Carlow University and are $75 a credit (subject to change by Carlow) (3 credits = $225)

Prerequisites:

- A 90% or higher in the previous academic social studies class taken.
- An 85% or higher in the previous honor's social studies class taken.
- A recommendation from the 11th grade social studies teacher

ESL SOCIAL STUDIES 9-12 ..... 1 Credit
This course accommodates ESL students as they become familiar with American culture, as well as the school culture. Culturally relevant pedagogical practices will enable students to share aspects of their native culture and compare them to American culture. Students will further develop their English communication skills in relation to the Social Studies topics of civics, citizenship, history, and geography. Close attention will be paid to students' ongoing development of academic language. Cross-curricular connections will be made to ESL-English.

Social Studies Elective Courses

HONORS PSYCHOLOGY 11-12..... 1 Credit, 3 Carlow Credits
This is a College in the High School Course taught through Carlow University. This course is designed for students who plan post secondary training in fields that involve human behavior such as business, medicine, sales, law, or education. Human behavior is studied with emphasis on personality development, mental health, emotional growth, learning theories, as well as dreams, and ESP. Students will be asked to keep a notebook of personal investigation as well as an academic notebook. Human behavior will be studied on both a personal as well as an academic level. Students will be required to complete semester projects and to do extensive outside readings and written work.

- College Credits for this course are through Carlow University and are $75 a credit (subject to change by Carlow) (3 credits = $225)

Prerequisites:

- A 90% or higher in the previous social studies class taken.
- A recommendation from the previous social studies teacher

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES 10-12..... 1 Credit
This course will examine the accomplishments and struggles of Black Americans from roots in Africa through the Civil Rights Era of the 20thCentury. Scholars, entertainers, athletes, businessmen, and ordinary people have stories to tell. Students will engage in activities that are designed to understand present events in their historical context. Activities will include biographical investigations, written and oral reports, projects, computer research, class discussion, reading assignments, and homework.

Mathematics Core Courses

PRE-ALGEBRA 9..... 1 Credit

Pre-Algebra is a program designed to build and solidify foundational skills and conceptual understanding necessary to be successful in Algebra I. It provides explicit instruction in math skills, problem-solving and key concepts. The program is specifically designed to prepare students for success in Algebra I. Units of study will include foundations of Algebra, Operations with Fractions, Positive and Negative Numbers, Ratio and Proportionality, Showing Relationships with Graphs, and Expressions, Equations and Exponents.

Prerequisites:

- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

LINEAR ALGEBRA..... 1 Credit

The critical areas, called units, deepen, and extend understanding of linear relationships by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include Foundations of Algebra, Solving Equations, Solving Inequalities, Introduction to Functions, Linear Functions, Systems of Equations, and Inequalities. This course is designed for the student who is preparing for their future career.

Prerequisites:

- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

NON-LINEAR ALGEBRA..... 1 Credit

The critical areas, called units, deepen, and extend understanding of non-linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include Exponents and Exponential Functions Equations, Polynomials and Factoring, Quadratic Functions and Equations, Radical Expressions and Equations, Rational Expressions and Functions, Data Analysis and Probability. This course is designed for the student who is preparing for their future career.

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Linear Algebra Course
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

ALGEBRA I HONORS..... 1 Credit

Algebra I is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards. The critical areas, called units, deepen, and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend, and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include Foundations of Algebra, Solving Equations, Solving Inequalities, Introduction to Functions, Systems of Equations and Inequalities, Exponents and Exponential Functions Equations, Polynomials and Factoring, Quadratic Functions and Equations, Radical Expressions and Equations, Rational Expressions and Functions, Data Analysis and Probability. This course is designed for the student who is preparing for college and/or the workforce.

Prerequisites:

- 85% or higher in Honors Math 8
- 90% or higher in Math 8
- MAP Score of 235 - an indicator of Algebra readiness
- 8th Grade PSSA Score of 935 - an indicator of Algebra readiness
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors (as indicated above) including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

GEOMETRY..... 1 Credit

Geometry is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards. Students will explore complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, moving toward formal mathematical arguments. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include Tools of Geometry, Reasoning and Proof, Parallel and Perpendicular Lines, Congruent Triangles, Relationships within Triangles, Polygons and Quadrilaterals, Similarity, Right Triangles and Trigonometry, Transformations, Area, Surface Area, and Volume, and Circles.

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Linear Algebra AND Non-Linear Algebra or Algebra I Honors
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

GEOMETRY HONORS ..... 1 Credit

Geometry is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards. Students will explore complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, moving toward formal mathematical arguments. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and together with the content standards, prescribe that a student's experience of mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include Tools of Geometry, Reasoning and Proof, Parallel and Perpendicular Lines, Congruent Triangles, Relationships within Triangles, Polygons and Quadrilaterals, Similarity, Right Triangles and Trigonometry, Transformations, Area, Surface Area, and Volume, and Circles. This course is designed for students who are preparing for college and/or the workforce.

Prerequisites:

- 85% or higher in Algebra I Honors
- 90% or higher in Non-Linear Algebra
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

ALGEBRA II HONORS..... 1 Credit

Algebra 2 is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards. It builds on the students' work with linear, quadratic, and exponential functions by introducing polynomial, rational, and radical functions. Students work closely with the expressions that define the functions and continue to expand and hone their abilities to model situations and solve equations, including solving quadratic equations over the set of complex numbers and solving exponential equations using the properties of logarithms. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities, Functions,, and Graphs, Linear Systems, Quadratic, Polynomial, Radical, Exponential, Logarithmic, and Rational Functions. This course is designed for the student preparing for college.

Prerequisites:

- 85% or higher in Honors Geometry.
- 95% or higher in Academic Geometry.
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

ALGEBRA II..... 1 Credit

Algebra 2 is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards. It builds on the students' work with linear, quadratic, and exponential functions by introducing polynomial, rational, and radical functions. Students work closely with the expressions that define the functions and continue to expand and hone their abilities to model situations and to solve equations, including solving quadratic equations over the set of complex numbers and solving exponential equations using the properties of logarithms. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities, Graphs, Linear Systems, Quadratic, Polynomial & Exponential. This course is designed for the student who is preparing for college.

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Linear, Non-Linear Algebra & Geometry OR Honors Algebra I & Geometry

STATISTICAL REASONING IN SPORTS..... 1 Credit
Statistical Reasoning in Sports introduces the principles of statistical reasoning using a student-friendly approach that emphasizes the entire statistical process, all in a motivating sports context, making it a unique and powerful way to learn about statistics.

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Algebra 2

ALGEBRA III..... 1 Credit
Algebra 3 is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards. The planned instruction includes quadratic functions, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, & rational functions. Graphing calculators will be an integral part of the course. This course is designed for the student who is preparing for college.

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Algebra 2

TRIGONOMETRY/PRE-CALCULUS HONORS..... 1 Credit
Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus is offered to provide the background necessary to pursue mathematics and related areas at the collegiate level. The student selecting this course should have achieved a high level of success in previous academic mathematics studies. A strong emphasis will be placed on the study of the algebraic functions, trigonometric functions, matrices, sequences, conic sections, and analytic concepts of the function and its importance in mathematics.

Prerequisites:

- 85% or higher in Honors Algebra 2.
- 90% or higher in Algebra 3
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

CALCULUS HONORS..... 1 Credit, 4 Carlow Credits
This course consists of a full academic year of work in calculus and related topics comparable to courses offered at the university level. Calculus is offered for the mathematically able students who have a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including Algebra I and II, Geometry, Trigonometry, and some analytical geometry (equations and graphs, lines, and conics). Topics covered will include elementary functions, differential calculus, and integral calculus.

- This course may be offered for college credit through Carlow University's College in the High School Program. Course credits currently are $75 a credit (subject to change by Carlow) (4 credits = $300). College credits will only be granted to students earning a grade of “C” or higher.

Prerequisites:

- 85% or higher in Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

COLLEGE ALGEBRA..... 1 Credit, 3 Carlow Credits

This yearlong course is intended for the student who plans to attend college. The main objective of this course is to teach students the skills necessary to successfully complete a college algebra class. Topics of study will include linear functions, polynomial functions, rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and systems of equations and inequalities.

- This course may be offered for college credit through Carlow University's College in the High School Program. Course credits currently are $75 a credit (subject to change by Carlow) (3 credits = $225). College credits will only be granted to students earning a grade of "C" or higher.

Prerequisites:

- 75% or higher in Algebra 3 or successful completion of Pre-Calculus.
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

AP ELEMENTARY STATISTICS.....2 Credits

AP Statistics is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based, college course in statistics. The purpose of the AP course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data and preparing for the Advanced Placement Statistics Exam. Exemplary study skills and a substantial amount of time are required for students to be successful. Students rigorously engage with the material in four conceptual themes:

- *Exploring Data*: Describing patterns and departures from patterns.
- *Sampling and Experimentation*: Planning and conducting a study.
- *Anticipating Patterns:* Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation.
- *Statistical Inference:* Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses.

Important components of the course include the use of technology, projects and laboratories, cooperative group problem solving, and writing, as a part of concept-oriented instruction and assessment. Students with the appropriate mathematical background are encouraged to take both AP Statistics and Calculus in high school.

Prerequisites:

- 85% or higher in Honors Algebra 2 or Pre-Calculus is required.
- Computer Applications are strongly suggested for the use of spreadsheets.
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

PRACTICAL MATHEMATICS ..... 1 Credit

In this course, students will explore the application of mathematics in the real world. Topics will include arithmetic, algebraic and geometric thinking patterns. This course uses an application-based learning approach encouraging students to be actively involved in applying mathematical ideas to their everyday lives and their future careers.

Prerequisites:

- Algebra 1 (Honors or Linear and Non-Linear Algebra)

INTEGRATED MATH..... 1 Credit

This course is dedicated to educating high school seniors about personal finance. Course topics include personal financial planning, budgets, and balance sheets, careers, and education, paying taxes, understanding insurance, economic plans, personal credit and credit cards, personal loans, banking procedures, and methods of saving and investing.

Prerequisites:

- Course is open to students in Grade 12

Science Core Courses

INTEGRATED SCIENCE 9..... 1 Credit
This introductory course is based on the fundamental concepts of various fields of science. Through the incorporation of Science and Engineering Practices and Cross-cutting concepts students will investigate the Disciplinary Core Ideas of topics such as basic chemistry, biochemistry, cell structure, natural selection and ecology.

BIOLOGY I..... 1 Credit
Students will integrate the science and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts(cause & effect, patterns, system models, etc.) and disciplinary core ideas (course content) aligned to the Pennsylvania life science STEELS standards. The disciplinary core ideas include biochemistry, cell structure and function, ecology, DNA, genetics, heredity, natural selection, and evolution. There will be multiple opportunities for students to engage in modeling, asking questions, analyzing and interpreting data. **Students enrolled in this course are required to take the Biology Keystone Exam.**
Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Integrated Science

BIOLOGY I HONORS..... 1 Credit
This advanced pace biology course is tailored to meet the Pennsylvania life science STEELS standards through immersion in 3-dimensional learning. The course content (disciplinary core ideas) includes: Photosynthesis, Respiration, Cell Structure and Function, DNA, Genetics and Heredity, Environment and Ecology, and Evolution and Natural Selection. The course is designed to build critical thinking and engineering skills using performance assessments in addition to traditional multiple-choice tests. Goals of the course include building important skills: discussion, asking questions, designing experiments, building models, developing arguments with evidence, and reading and producing graphical information. **Students enrolled in this course are required to take the Biology Keystone Exam.**
Prerequisites:

- A 90% average or higher in 8th grade science (for 9th graders)
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

CHEMISTRY I..... 1 Credit
This course is designed to give students a fundamental understanding of chemistry. By incorporating science and engineering practices (SEPs) such as developing models, analyzing data, and using mathematical and computational thinking; students will focus on both the conceptual and mathematical views of chemistry. Through a mixture of laboratory and course work, this class will cover a wide range of disciplinary core ideas (DCIs) including: measurement and the metric system, atomic theory, the periodic table, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, and kinetic molecular theory. A strong background in algebra is highly recommended for this course.
Prerequisites:
· Successful completion of Biology

CHEMISTRY I HONORS..... 1 Credit

This course is designed to give students a fast-paced, in-depth understanding of chemistry. By incorporating science and engineering practices (SEPs) such as developing models, analyzing data, and using mathematical and computational thinking; students will focus on both the conceptual and mathematical views of chemistry. Through a mixture of laboratory and course work, this class will cover a wide range of disciplinary core ideas (DCIs) including: measurement and the metric system, atomic theory, the periodic table, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, and kinetic molecular theory. Students will need a strong background in both math and science to be successful in this course.

Prerequisites:

- A 90% in Biology I or 85% in Honors Biology I
- 85% in Honors Algebra I or 90% in Non-Linear Algebra
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

PHYSICS I..... 1 Credit

This course is designed to serve as a broad foundation of the principles and theories of physics in the everyday world. Students will engage in phenomena to make sense of the physical world. Students will develop models, analyze and interpret data, and use math and computational thinking to build critical thinking and engineering skills. This course is designed for the student who has a strong background in science and math. The course content (disciplinary core ideas) includes: Forces and Motion, Types of Interactions, and Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer. Enrollment in this course requires data to support a proficient understanding of supporting concepts.

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Chemistry
- Successful completion of Algebra I or Non-Linear Algebra

PHYSICS I HONORS..... 1 Credit

This course is designed to give students a strong working foundation in the principles and theories of physics by engaging students in phenomena to make sense of the physical world. Students will utilize the science and engineering practices of developing models, analyzing and interpreting data, and using math and computational thinking to build critical thinking and engineering skills. The course content (disciplinary core ideas) includes: Forces and Motion, Types of Interactions, and Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer. Successful completion of Algebra I is recommended. Enrollment in this course requires data to support a proficient understanding of supporting concepts.

Prerequisites:

- A 90% in Biology I or 85% in Honors Biology I.
- An 85% or better in Geometry.
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

PHYSICS II HONORS..... 1 Credit

This course is designed as the second year of a two-year sequence in the study of physics and picks up where Physics I left off. Students will continue to use phenomena to make sense of the content. Students will be immersed in the science and engineering practices of developing models, analyzing and interpreting data, and using math and computational thinking to build critical thinking and engineering skills. The course content (disciplinary core ideas) includes: Types of Interactions, Definitions of Energy, Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer, Wave Properties, and Electromagnetic Radiation. Completion of Physics I is required as well as a strong background in mathematics. Enrollment in this course requires data to support a proficient understanding of supporting concepts.

Prerequisites:

- A 90% in Physics I or 85% in Honors Physics I.
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

BIOLOGY II HONORS..... 1 Credit

Honors Biology II is a rigorous course involving a deeper, more detailed examination of the topics seen in a college freshman biology course. Students will study the following themes: structure, function, and biochemistry of the cell, photosynthesis and cellular respiration, DNA and RNA structure, Transcription and Translation, genetics, natural selection, population genetics, classification of organisms, and ecology. This course takes advantage of and extends a student's prior knowledge in biology and chemistry. Students will be expected to complete reading and writing assignments, lab reports, and analyze data and literature to further understand the topics.

Prerequisites:

- A 90% in Biology I and Chemistry I or 85% in Honors Biology I and Honors Chemistry I.
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

CHEMISTRY II HONORS..... 1 Credit

This course is intended for science-oriented students. This is a fast-paced and challenging course that requires students to utilize the information that was acquired in first-year chemistry. Through the use of laboratory work, lecture, and independent study; students will learn about more advanced topics in chemistry. These topics include: concentration of solutions, thermochemistry, reaction rates, acids and bases, organic chemistry, and electrochemistry. Strong math skills are needed.

Prerequisites:

- A 90% in Biology I and Chemistry I or 85% in Honors Biology I and Honors Chemistry I.
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY..... 1 Credit

This course provides the student with an in-depth study of the human body and how it functions. All facets of the human body are explored through the cellular, tissue, organ, and organ systems of the body. Genetics, disease, nutrition, and microbiology are approached in terms of the human organism. The planned instruction is designed to stimulate students' involvement in lectures, class discussions, laboratory experiments, and extensive dissection.

Prerequisites:

- A 70% or better in Academic or Honors Biology and Academic or Honors Chemistry.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY HONORS..... 1 Credit

Honors Anatomy and Physiology is a rigorous course that involves a more in-depth examination of the human body. Students will study the human body from the cellular level to the complete organism. The topics of study are as follows, anatomical terms, biochemistry of cells, tissues, integumentary system, skeletal system, muscular system, nervous system, special senses, endocrine system, blood, cardiovascular system, lymphatic system, respiratory system, digestive system, urinary system, and reproductive system. Genetics, disease, nutrition, and microbiology are approached in terms of the human organism. The total program is designed to stimulate students' involvement in lectures, class discussions, laboratory experiments, and extensive dissection. The student will be required to analyze data and literature to complete multiple writing assignments and projects.

Prerequisites:

- A 90% in Biology I and Chemistry I or 85% in Honors Biology I and Honors Chemistry I.
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE.....2 Credits, 3 Seton Hill Credits

AP Environmental science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. Students examine physical and biological processes and phenomenon to make sense of how the natural world interacts, and learn to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. The following major topics (Disciplinary Core Ideas) are part of the AP Environmental Course: Ecosystems, Biodiversity, Populations, Earth Systems and Resources, Land and Water Use, Energy Resources and Consumption, Atmospheric Pollution, Aquatic and Terrestrial Pollution, and Global Change. Science and Engineering Practices (such as developing explanations, modeling, arguing from evidence) and Cross-cutting concepts (such as patterns, cause and effect, and systems) are embedded throughout the course. Enrollment in this course requires data to support a proficient understanding of supporting concepts. The Seton Hill University course is titled, "The Environment: Issues & Choices."

Prerequisites:

- A 90% in Biology I and Chemistry I or 80% in Honors Biology I AND have taken or are concurrently taking either Honors Chemistry I or Chemistry I.
- Students must be in Grades 11 or 12

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, & SOCIETY..... 1 Credit

This course will introduce students to the relationships that exist between science, technology, and society. Emphasis will be placed on how new developments and research impact the choices we make. This course will focus on a review of topical literature, which will be discussed from a scientific perspective and societal impact.

Prerequisites:

- Must have completed 2 prior Science Courses.

Science Elective Courses

STEM 9-12..... .5 Credit
This course involves developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills through a problem-based investigation in which students research, apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate scientific and mathematical concepts and engineering design practices to solve a real-life problem. Students are presented with a problem that prompts them to hypothesize about the science involved in some practical application, process, or technology. Students research the relevant scientific principles and concepts and then construct a prototype device that serves as the basis for further testing and study. Students are then presented with a design challenge that requires them to modify their prototype to meet one or more specific criteria. They must analyze the problem, identify available resources and constraints, brainstorm solutions, and alter the features of their prototype - applying and building upon the knowledge, skills, and insights they have gained. Students will present their findings in a variety of methods such as reports, presentations, videos, brochures, and websites using technology such as Green Screen videos, Google Sites, and Slides. Students will also investigate STEM careers and read, analyze, and discuss STEM-related content through scientific journals.

SCIENCE OF SPORTS 9-12..... .5 Credit
Science, technology, engineering, and math are woven into every sport and athletic competition. The Science of Sports is a semester elective course designed to explore how science and engineering impact your favorite sports. Topics may include the science behind scoring a touchdown, making a slam dunk, scoring a goal, or hitting a home run or hole in one.

Foreign Language Courses

SPANISH I..... 1 Credit
This course is designed for beginning students to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will both work independently and collaboratively to incorporate relevant vocabulary, grammatical constructions, idiomatic expressions, and comprehension to a fundamental understanding of Spanish. Students will discover and explore Spanish culture through a variety of multimedia.

SPANISH II..... 1 Credit
This course is a continuation of Spanish I. Emphasis will be placed upon working toward increasing listening, conversational, and comprehension skills. More cultural experiences will be provided using multimedia. Competencies in reading and writing will be further developed.

SPANISH III..... 1 Credit
Spanish III continues to develop comprehension, listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Advanced grammar constructions will be introduced and practiced. Literary selections will be utilized to promote skills and further cultural understanding. More cultural experiences will be provided using multimedia.

SPANISH IV..... 1 Credit
At this advanced level, communication skills will be emphasized. Survival skills in the target language will be developed. This course will combine all elements of foreign language study to promote a high level of oral proficiency. Students will be expected to work independently with available technology.
Prerequisites:

- 80% in Spanish III and/or receive a teacher recommendation to enroll in this class.

FRENCH I..... 1 Credit
This course is designed for beginning students to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will interact both with each other and the available technology to practice vocabulary, grammatical constructions, idiomatic expression, and comprehension. Students will discover and explore French culture through a variety of multimedia.

FRENCH II..... 1 Credit
This course is a continuation of French I. Emphasis will be placed on working toward increasing listening, conversational, and comprehension skills. More cultural experiences will be provided using multimedia. Competencies in the areas of reading and writing will be further developed.

FRENCH III..... 1 Credit
French III continues to develop comprehension, listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Advanced grammar construction will be introduced and practiced. Literary selections will be utilized to promote skills and further cultural understanding experiences will be provided using multimedia.

FRENCH IV..... 1 Credit
At this advanced level, communication skills will be emphasized. Survival skills in the target language will be developed. This course will combine all elements of foreign language study to promote a high level of oral proficiency. Students will be expected to work independently with available technology.
Prerequisites:
- 80% in French III and/or receive a teacher recommendation to enroll in this class.

Computer Science Courses

COMPUTER SCIENCE I: PYTHON..... .5 Credit
Introduction to CS Python Fundamentals Part 1 is an introductory-level course for students brand new to programming and computer science. In this course, students will learn problem-solving strategies, software design, and the foundations of computer science using two key tools: the Project STEM programming environment and EarSketch, a software package that turns your code into music. Topics include Beginning in Computer Science, Number Calculations and Data, Making Decisions, Repetition, and Loops, Programming in EarSketch.

COMPUTER SCIENCE II: PYTHON..... .5 Credit
Introduction to CS Python Fundamentals Part 2 is an introductory-level course for students brand new to programming and computer science. In this course, students will learn problem-solving strategies, software design, and the foundations of computer science using two key tools: the Project STEM programming environment and EarSketch, a software package that turns your code into music. Not only will this course prepare students for continuing their studies in computer science (for example, by taking AP Computer Science A and AP Computer Science Principles), but it will also teach them how to think like a scientist and solve real-world problems, skills that are important to every 21st-century citizen. Topics include Graphics, Functions, Arrays, 2D Arrays, Programming in EarSketch, Internet
Prerequisite:
- C or higher in Intro to Computer Science 1

CODING WITH DRONES..... .5 Credit
Drones are used in a variety of ways in the commercial industry, from real estate photography to environmental studies to the delivery of packages and will be more commonly used in the future. In this semester course, students will learn about drones, drone regulations, and how drones work. Then students will learn the application of computer programming with blockly and python computer language to control the movements of the drones and learn math, science, engineering, and computational thinking applications through drones.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES..... 1 Credit
AP Computer Science Principles is an introductory college-level computing curriculum that introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. Students learn to design and evaluate solutions and apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students also explain how computing innovations and computing systems—including the internetwork, explore their potential impacts and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical. The curriculum is designed to be equivalent to a first-semester introductory college computing course. The major areas of study in the curriculum are organized around big ideas that encompass ideas foundational to studying computer science. Topics include Creative Development, Data, Algorithms, and Programming, Computer Systems and Networks, Impact of Computing
Prerequisites:
- Algebra II Ready (currently enrolled in Algebra II or higher).
- No prior computer science knowledge or experience is necessary for this course.

Technology Education Courses

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION I..... .5 Credit
The course will introduce the students to measurement, tools, materials, and processes used in the woodworking industry. Students will gain hands-on experience using hand tools and machines to complete woodworking projects.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION II..... .5 Credit
This course is designed to improve the skills obtained in Tech.Ed.l. Emphasis will be placed on students developing their ideas into plans for making new products. Students will work individually and in groups to design, develop, and construct projects in all four areas of technology. Modern techniques of working with wood and wood products will be explored as well as developing the student's ability to become more proficient at problem-solving activities.
Prerequisite:
- Passing Tech Ed. I

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION III: PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT..... 1 Credit
Students will use their skills that were learned in Technology Education I and Technology Education II classes to construct individual projects of their choosing. Various machines will be used and advanced woodworking skills will be taught using safe practices. To complete these projects students will be exposed to research, drawing, measuring, production techniques, and finishing techniques and how to safely operate tools and machines within a manufacturing environment. Additionally, pre-apprenticeship courses and field experiences will be available to interested students through Catalyst Connections.
Prerequisite:
- Requires a passing grade and completion of Technology Education I and Technology Education II classes that supports a proficient understanding of concepts.

ROBOTICS & ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY..... .5 Credit
Robotics Technology: Students will learn about different robots and how they function with hands-on use of various robots and robotic devices. Students will learn basic programming of robots using the VEX robots and programming language. Many robots will be constructed and programmed to complete various tasks and objectives.
Electronics: Students will receive an introduction on working with electrical circuitry and simple house wiring. Students will learn how to solder and understand the basics of reading a wiring diagram.

INTRO TO MECHANICAL DRAWING AND COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING (CAD)..... .5 Credit
This course is designed to introduce the fundamentals of drafting to the beginning student. Various ways to communicate ideas graphically utilizing lines, shapes, symbols, and other conventional indications are studied. The student uses as aids the basic tools of the draftsman and learns about mechanical drafting styles. Students will also be given basic hands-on experience with a CAD system.

GRAPHICS I..... .5 Credit
This graphics design class offers a basic introduction to graphic design techniques and communication through print media. During the first quarter, principles of design will be explored by using real world graphic design software called CorelDRAW to create printed materials. The second quarter will include an introduction to photography and introduction to film production along with additional design projects.

GRAPHICS II..... .5 Credit
Students will continue to study graphic design techniques that were covered in Graphics I and utilize more advanced design techniques for printed media. Various media types will be introduced by using real world tools and machines to create various printed items.
Prerequisite:
- Requires a passing grade and completion of the Graphics I course that supports a proficient understanding of concepts.

GRAPHICS III & IV..... 2 Credits
This third-level course will permit students to practice, apply and utilize their Graphic Arts I and Graphic Arts II skills and experiences through the demands of a production shop and assigned project work. Students will apply previously learned skills to actual school district production jobs. This class will simulate a real work environment permitting students to experience the demands and satisfactions of the graphic arts field. Advanced digital graphic design applications will also be introduced and explored in this class. A portfolio and journal of all work will be maintained in this course.
Prerequisite:
- Graphics I, Graphics II courses required with a C or higher.

Art Courses

FINE ARTS..... .5 Credit
This course is designed for all first-year art students and is the essential step toward future art courses. Basic drawing skills designed to aid in better ways of seeing are stressed with emphasis on eye-hand coordination. Line, value, perspective, and composition are explored in a series of exercises. A wide variety of procedures and approaches are introduced. Fine Arts will cover two-dimensional (drawing, painting) and three-dimensional (sculpture) to encourage experimentation with different media and to learn how to effectively use the natural creativity we all possess.

ADVANCED FINE ARTS..... 1 Credit
Advanced Fine Arts is sequentially organized to allow a progression from Fine Arts to more complex techniques, materials, and projects. This course encourages the development of skills, perception, and visual problem-solving. Process and development of ideas in two and three-dimensional forms will be stressed. Students will develop a portfolio of artwork for entrance into art school and scholarship opportunities.
Prerequisite:

- Fine Arts course required with a grade of C or above or the submission of 4 works of art to be approved by the instructor

DIGITAL ART I ..... .5 Credit
This class is designed to teach students how to use digital media to create unique pieces of art. Students will use design programs similar to Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator to create drawings, paintings, digital collage, and more. Some digital techniques the students will learn include image manipulation, photography and digital drawing tablets. Not only will students be expressing their artistic skills through technology but they will also be building critical thinking and problem solving skills. In the growing age of technology, this course is very relevant for our students. Students will create digital drawings & digital paintings using software programs, create original photo manipulations, create commercial art, and design logos, movie posters

DIGITAL ART II ..... .5 Credit
This course is designed to further explore and expand on skills learned from Digital art I.
Prerequisite:

- The completion of Digital Art I with an 80% grade or higher.

STUDIO ART I..... 1 Credit
Studio is an art college or art school preparatory course with a focus on students attaining the highest levels of skill and creative thinking to produce scholarship-worthy art. All students are required to register for art scholarship competitions. Studio Arts is sequentially organized to allow a progression from skills learned in Advanced Fine Arts to highly creative and complex techniques, materials, and projects. At the end of the first nine-week period, students in Studio II may choose to continue class projects including murals or create a highly individualized learning path in a single art area such as painting. Students are expected to develop a portfolio of work due at the conclusion of the course.
Prerequisite:

- Advanced Fine Arts course is required with a grade of 80% or higher.

STUDIO ART II..... 1 Credit
This course is designed for the student that has completed both fine arts courses and the studio art course (pre-requisites). Students selecting STUDIO II will create a highly individualized learning path in a single art area such as painting. They will further develop and enhance a visual portfolio of works.
Prerequisite:

- Studio Art I course is required with a grade of 80% or higher.

CERAMICS & SCULPTURE I..... .5 Credit
Ceramics and Sculpture explores the capabilities of the uses of clay and its decorative properties as well as sculpture in varied materials from paper mâché, cardboard, plaster, clay, etc. Exploration of various materials will enable students to create three dimensional art forms. This course will focus on developing skills in wheel throwing and hand-building.

CERAMICS & SCULPTURE II..... .5 Credit
Students will use basic techniques, tools, materials, and previously acquired skills to extend and enhance their ability and knowledge of ceramics and sculpture. Solving problems, experimentation, and refinement of forming, throwing on the wheel, and construction of three-dimensional works will be explored in the advanced study. Surface design and glazing experimentation will be emphasized.
Prerequisite:

- Ceramics I course is required with a grade of 75% or higher or submission of three (3) 3D pieces.

CERAMICS & SCULPTURE III..... 1 Credit
Students will be challenged to make technically more difficult 3-D works while being introduced to new materials (slips, stains, metal, and glass). There is a strong focus on the ideals of perfecting a skill, independent work, and professionalism.
Prerequisite:

- Ceramics II course is required with a grade of 80% or higher or submission of six (6) 3D pieces.

CERAMICS & SCULPTURE IV..... 1 Credit
Students will continue to be challenged to make technically more difficult 3-D works while being introduced to additional materials (fabrics, plastics, stains, metal, and glass). There is a strong focus on perfecting a skill, worthy independent projects, and professionalism.

Music & Performing Arts Courses

BAND 9-12..... 1 Credit
This course is both elective and selective. It teaches advanced mechanics and fundamentals of music through rehearsals and performances. This ensemble teaches a strong musical language that provides the student with an advanced understanding of musical concepts, enhancing the student's abilities on the instrument of study. Active participation can direct the student to a vocation in music or related areas. The ensemble does a variety of performances. In the fall, the band supports the Varsity football team at all games and pep rallies. It also participates in community parades and several band competitions. In the winter and spring, the band performs at in and out of school concert events. Active participation will give members additional performance opportunities through PMEA District, Region, and Honors Band. The band is an all-inclusive ensemble. Students are required to participate in *ALL* concert band activities. This includes in/out of school rehearsals and performances. Grading criteria will include participation in rehearsals and performances, playing auditions, and advancement on the instrument of study. If a student has a practice conflict with another East Allegheny extra-curricular sport, the student will be expected to split the practice time as much as possible. If it is a game/performance conflict, alternate plans will be made available. No student will be expected to miss a game for ANY rehearsal.

ORCHESTRA 9-12..... 1 Credit
This offering is both elective and selective. It teaches advanced techniques, mechanics, and fundamentals of music through live performance, to develop the student's playing ability. At the same time, it teaches a musical language which gives the student a deeper understanding of music. Active participation in this course can direct the student to a vocation or avocation in music or related areas. This performing group provides in and out of school concerts and serves as the pit orchestra in the annual musical. *Since the orchestra is a performing group, extra rehearsals are called as needed.*
****Students are required to attend these rehearsals and all performances.**

CONCERT CHOIR 9-12..... 1 Credit
This course is both selective and elective and is intended for students with prior singing experience. Students will work together as an ensemble to develop an appreciation for choral singing, music, and the arts in general. A wide variety of music from various cultures, time periods, and genres will be used to teach students to sing with proper vocal technique and musicality. Additionally, students will focus on mastering the foundations of music theory/literacy and developing aural skills using solfege.
The choir is a performing ensemble and students will be expected to attend a minimum of 4 performances a year: 3 concerts, and Commencement. Students will also be expected to attend a few after-school rehearsals throughout the year in preparation for these performances.
****Attendance at these concerts/performances is mandatory and will comprise the majority of the student's grades. Other grading criteria include individual vocal evaluations, written tests, and daily participation.**

INTRODUCTION TO STAGECRAFT..... .5 Credit
This course is designed to expose students to the foundational elements of technical theater. Students will explore set design, costuming, lighting, makeup, sound design, and publicity. Each unit will include hands-on practical projects. Students will also study script analysis, problem-solving, and team collaboration.

STAGECRAFT PRACTICUM..... .5 Credit
This course is designed as a practical application of the technical theater skills learned in Introduction to Stagecraft. Students will utilize their skills in the areas of sound design, set design/construction, costuming, lighting, and make-up to create a theatrical production in collaboration with the spring musical. Students will also experience aspects of theatrical production such as pre-production planning, post production clean-up, script analysis, problem solving, and team collaboration. Daily hands-on participation is required. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to participate as stage crew for the spring musical (optional.)

Prerequisite:

- Introduction to Stagecraft

DRAMA I..... .5 Credit
This course will offer a basic survey of the art of Drama, covering acting, stagecraft, basic directorial skills, and an exploration of theater history. Students will increase their understanding of characterization, projection, diction, and body awareness and improve their improvisation skills using theater games, scene study, monologues, and skits. Students will also be introduced to basic audition skills and etiquette. Grading criteria will include daily participation, performance tasks, brief quizzes, and written assignments.

DRAMA II..... .5 Credit
This course will offer an intermediate exploration of the art of Drama, covering acting, stagecraft, directorial skills, basic choreography, and theater history including plays, puppetry, and musical theater. Students will develop intermediate to advanced acting skills, focusing on characterization, projection, diction, body awareness, and improvisation through theater games, monologues, and scene study. Grading criteria will include daily participation, performance tasks, and projects.

Prerequisite:

- Drama I or Instructor Permission

PIANO & GUITAR LAB..... .5 Credit
Piano & Guitar Lab is a semester course that examines music through music creation. Students will explore the skills and demands of being a musician by learning to play the piano and guitar. Students will also study aural skills, basic music vocabulary, and music theory in relation to reading music notation. Please note that this course requires active daily participation. Grading criteria will include daily practice, performance tasks, and brief written quizzes.

INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC TECHNOLOGY..... .5 Credit
Examines the fundamental concepts and usage of technologies in music. Using the web-based music studio SOUNDTRAP, students will learn the basics of drum machine loop creation, remixes, vocal recording/autotune, and eventually the creation of original compositions. Students will also learn the basics of chord progressions and song form which will help with understanding how songs are put together. Students will have several projects in class that will lead to producing an original song using all the techniques taught in the course.

ADVANCED MUSIC TECHNOLOGY..... .5 Credit
Uses concepts taught in the Intro to Music Tech Class. This course will go beyond the basics and get into more detailed usage of chord progressions, more complex bassline, and beat pattern creations. Using the web-based music studio SOUNDTRAP, students will learn the basics of drum machine loop creation, remixes, vocal recording/autotune, and eventually the creation of original compositions. Students will also learn the basics of chord progressions and song form which will help with understanding how songs are put together. Students will have several projects in class that will lead to producing an original song using all the techniques taught in the course.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY III..... .5 Credit
Uses concepts taught in the Intro and Advanced Music Tech Class. This course will use those skills to develop our own school year based podcast using the web-based music studio SOUNDTRAP. Students will create real-time, current approved content, create commercials, intro and outro music and do weekly episodes in class. Students work as a team and learn all the jobs that go into creating a podcast.
Prerequisite:

- Completion of Introduction to Music Technology and Advanced Music Technology Courses

Health & Physical Education Courses

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9 ..... .5 Credit
All 9th grade students are required to complete 4.5 weeks of Health along with 4.5 weeks of Physical Education. The curriculum for the health class includes such topics as nutrition, mental health, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and vaping/e-cigarettes. Students will earn a health grade independent of their Physical Education course. The Physical Education Program is designed to provide students with the knowledge to help them acquire a lifestyle that promotes personal health and well-being throughout life. The Physical Education Department understands the importance of instilling in each student the realization that his/her own health depends on the lifestyle choices that he/she makes. This curriculum provides students with the basic knowledge needed to make educated decisions leading to a healthier life. The Physical Education Program at East Allegheny Senior High School is a diversified activity-based program that has been designed to encompass the interest, capabilities, and limitations of all students within the school system.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10-12..... .5 Credit
Students enrolled in Pennsylvania schools are required by school law to participate in courses of instruction in Physical Education. As part of the Physical Education program, all students in grades 10 through 12 will have the opportunity to participate in sports and physical activity units. Sports and physical activity units are typically three weeks long and allow students the opportunity to engage in (up to) three activities per unit. The students will be assigned to an instructor who will teach in the following areas: All PE Courses nine week courses. Students will also be required to participate in a fitness component as included in the regular Physical Education program. The fitness component will include various fitness activities and fitness games as well as setting fitness goal

Forbes Road Career & Technology Center Courses

FIRST SESSION AM (7:15 - 10:00 AM)..... 3 Credits
This session is for students in Grades 10 & 11 attending Forbes for the first time.

SECOND SESSION PM (10:00 AM - 12:30 PM)..... 3 Credits
This session is for students in Grades 10 & 11 that previously attended Forbes.

THIRD SESSION PM (7:15 AM - 1:00 PM)..... 6 Credits
Only for students with special permission from Forbes Road after completing 70% of competencies.

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE CURRENT PROGRAM AND COURSE OFFERINGS

PROGRAMS OF STUDY AT FORBES:

- Advertising Design
- Auto Body
- Automotive Technology
- Building Construction Technology
- Computer Networking Security
- Cosmetology
- Culinary
- Diesel Technology
- Early Childhood Education
- Electrical Technology
- Emergency Response Services
- Health Science Technology
- HVAC
- Landscape Design
- Multimedia Design
- Logistics & Supply Chain Management
- Veterinary Sciences

CLICK HERE TO APPLY TO FORBES FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Junior High Course Descriptions

Math Courses

MATH 8 HONORS
This is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core State Standards. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of the number system and equations. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include The Number System, Expressions & Equations, Functions, Foundations of Geometry, Statistics & Probability.
Prerequisites:

- 85% or higher in Honors Math 7
- 90% or higher in Math 7
- MAP Score of 230, indicating Pre-Algebra Readiness
- 7th Grade PSSA score of at least 968
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses**

MATH 8
This is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core State Standards. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of the number system and equations. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Functions, Foundations of Geometry, Statistics and Probability. In addition to introducing the content standards, strengthening the foundations of mathematics will be a major emphasis. This includes operations with positive and negative integers, fractions, decimals, percentages, and proportions.

MATH 7 HONORS

This course is designed for students who possess excellence in math. Students will enhance their math skills by working on vocabulary, numbers and operations, algebraic concepts, geometry, and measurement, data, and probability. Along with the rigorous academics, students will work on multiple projects and activities. Honors students should exhibit the maturity to work independently and formulate questions. Students should be able to think mathematically and draw from prior knowledge. Students should also be able to construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

Prerequisites:

- MAP Score of 230, indicating Pre-Algebra Readiness
- 6th Grade PSSA score of at least 960
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

MATH 7

In this course, students will gain knowledge of the skills needed to become better in math. Students will learn essential skills such as vocabulary, numbers and operations, algebraic concepts, geometry, and measurement, data, and probability. Students will also complete projects based on the lessons. This will be done with an emphasis on mathematical skills and practices, such as multiplying, dividing, fractions, decimals, integers, etc.

Science Courses

HONORS INTEGRATED SCIENCE 8

Integrated Science 8 Honors includes learning that is three-dimensional and connects disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts. Students will engage in explaining phenomena and designing solutions in the areas of physical, earth and space, and life sciences. Students will take part in laboratory investigations, discussion of current events in science, and will also conduct scientific research. The honors students are expected to participate in outside projects as well as complete an independent research assignment. Students will take the PSSA test at the end of the course.

Prerequisites:

- Proficient PSSA or Proficient (Green) CDT scores
- 90% final grade in Grade 7 Science
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

INTEGRATED SCIENCE 8

Science 8 is an Integrated Science class which includes learning that is three-dimensional and connects disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts. Students will engage in explaining phenomena and designing solutions in the areas of physical, earth and space, and life sciences. Students will take the PSSA test at the end of the course.

HONORS INTEGRATED SCIENCE 7

Integrated Science 7 Honors includes learning that is three-dimensional and connects disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts. Students will engage in explaining phenomena and designing solutions in the areas of earth, physical, and life sciences. Students will take part in student led investigations, discussion of current events in science, and will also conduct scientific research. The honors students are expected to participate in outside projects, as well as complete an independent research assignment. Students will take the PSSA test at the end of the course.

Prerequisites:

- Proficient PSSA or Proficient (Green) CDT scores
- 90% final grade in Grade 6 Science
- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

INTEGRATED SCIENCE 7

Science 7 is an Integrated Science class which includes learning that is three-dimensional and connects disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts. Students will engage in explaining phenomena and designing solutions in the areas of earth, physical, and life sciences.

English Language Arts (ELA) Courses

HONORS ENGLISH 8
This course is designed for students who excel in the areas of writing and grammar and focuses primarily on English language and composition. Writing assignments will include journaling, poetry, fiction and nonfiction narratives, speeches, and text-dependent analysis essays. Students will be challenged to enhance their writing, grammar, communication, and vocabulary skills.
Prerequisites:

- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores including PSSA and MAP assessments, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

ENGLISH 8
This course focuses primarily on English language and composition, with emphasis on writing and grammar. Writing assignments will include journaling, poetry, fiction and nonfiction narratives, a persuasive speech, and text-dependent analysis essays. Students will practice critical thinking skills through multimodal writing and the discussion of multiple topics, as well as the completion of activities that demonstrate the comprehension of new vocabulary words.

HONORS ENGLISH 7
This course is designed for students who excel in the areas of writing and grammar and focuses primarily on English language and composition. Writing assignments will include journaling, poetry, fiction and nonfiction narratives, speeches, and text-dependent analysis essays. Students will be challenged to enhance their writing, grammar, communication, and vocabulary skills.
Prerequisites:

- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores including PSSA and MAP assessments, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

ENGLISH 7
This course focuses primarily on English language and composition, with emphasis on the mastery of writing, speaking, and listening skills. Writing assignments will include journaling, poetry, fiction and nonfiction narratives, and text-dependent analysis essays. Students will practice critical thinking skills through multimodal writing and the discussion of multiple topics, as well as the completion of activities that demonstrate the comprehension of new vocabulary words. The primary focus of the course will be the mastery of writing, speaking, and listening skills.

Reading Courses

HONORS READING 8
This course is designed for students who are advanced readers and possess excellence in analyzing and interpreting literature. Students will sharpen their reading skills by reading various novels and short stories. Along with the literature, the students will have to complete intense reading guides and multiple projects and presentations that support the novel and understanding.
Prerequisites:

- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores including PSSA and MAP assessments, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

READING 8
In this course, students will sharpen reading skills that will help them to become a more successful reader. Students will grow and refine their skills in vocabulary, reading comprehension and interpretations, text organization, figurative language, and the elements of fiction. In addition, students will study and analyze literature through short stories and novels. Students will be required to complete reading guides and projects to support what they have read in class.

HONORS READING 7
This course is designed for students who possess excellence in analyzing and interpreting literature. Students will sharpen their reading skills by reading short stories and novels. Along with these novels, the students will have to complete intense reading guides and multiple projects that support the novel. The students will also be required to do independent reading with projects and presentations.
Prerequisites:

- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores including PSSA and MAP assessments, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

READING 7
In this course, students will sharpen reading skills through both guided practice and modeling to help them become a more successful reader. Students will grow their skills in vocabulary, reading comprehension, text organization, figurative language, and the elements of fiction. In addition, students will study and analyze literature through short stories and novels. Students will be required to complete reading guides and projects to support what they have read in class.

ESL LANGUAGE ARTS, GRADES 7 & 8
This course focuses on the specific needs of English Language Learners (ELLs). Its content is aligned to the English Language Proficiency Standards and develops skills for ELLs in the domains of Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing. ELLs will increase their academic and social language acquisition skills and usage. Students will be exposed to grade-level content and develop necessary skills in English. Students will be given modifications and accommodations necessary for their academic development and success according to their proficiency level. Standardized tests, such as W-APT and ACCESS, will be used for assessment of need and growth.

Social Studies Courses

HONORS AMERICAN HISTORY 8
Students will take a journey through the history of the United States, beginning with Colonial America and ending with the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will examine the essential question of how continuity and change has influenced our country for the past 250 years, and the struggles and triumphs citizens have faced with the changing times. Students at the honors level will be challenged to analyze how our country evolved from the early 1600's to the late 1800's using a variety of resource materials. In addition to our textbook, students can expect to be involved in document based questioning (DBQ's), discuss and debate current events on a regular basis, and understand basic principles of Civics to prepare them to be successful citizens in an ever-changing world. Students will have the opportunity to express themselves creatively with the integration of projects throughout the year.
Prerequisites:

- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores including PSSA and MAP assessments, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

AMERICAN HISTORY 8
Students will take a journey through the history of the United States, beginning with Colonial America and ending with the Civil War and Reconstruction. This course will use a variety of sources to teach content. In addition to our textbook, students will work to interpret video documentaries, and analyze historical documents as primary sources. This course also supports the English/Language Arts standards in 8th grade to prepare students for the PSSA's, especially focusing on non-fiction text. Students will examine the essential question of how continuity and change has influenced our country for the past 250 years, and the struggles and triumphs citizens have faced with the changing times. This course truly is the study of "We, the People."

HONORS GEOGRAPHY 7

In this course, students will explore the five themes of Geography: location, human-environment interaction, place, region and movement. Utilizing prior knowledge and skills, students will be expected to use geographic information to draw conclusions between the physical environment and human existence. At the honors level, students will be pushed to learn the foundations of geography, and then apply them to areas around the world. These areas will include North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. The course will evolve as students gain more knowledge and understanding of other cultures, and are able to see the cultural divisions throughout the world, as well as the political borders. Students will be expected to explore and explain differences between cultures throughout the world. Primary and secondary sources along with maps, charts, and videos will be used to supplement the text book, *World Geography Today*.

Prerequisites:

- Teacher Recommendation for the course based on multiple factors including current and past grades, standardized test scores including PSSA and MAP assessments, **intended to ensure student success based on knowledge and skill development the student displayed in progression of courses.**

GEOGRAPHY 7

In this course students will explore the five themes of Geography: location, human-environment interaction, place, region and movement. Utilizing prior knowledge and skills students will be expected to use geographic information to draw conclusions between the physical environment and human existence. The course will begin with students learning the foundations and big ideas of Geography. After that, we will look closely at a variety of locations, including North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia, and apply the foundational knowledge to the physical locations in the world. As a class, we will take special notice of cultural differences throughout the world as well as the political borders throughout the world. Primary and secondary sources along with maps, charts, and videos will be used to supplement the text book, *World Geography Today*.

Elective Rotation Course Descriptions

Middle School students will have the opportunity to explore elective courses of their interest while in Grades 7 and 8 so that they can better understand which elective courses they may want to take once they reach high school.

Music & Performing Arts Courses

GENERAL MUSIC: GRADES 7/8
This is a music course designed to provide a survey of the evolution of music and how people interact with music in our modern world. Topics to be covered include what music is, ways to describe music, the history of Western Music, and the history of popular music in America. Students will also get the chance to explore modern applications of music in our society. Methods of instruction include reading articles, watching films, listening to audio recordings, and hands-on projects.

MUSIC THEORY: GRADES 7/8
This is a music course designed to provide a focus on understanding the fundamentals of both aural and written music theory in effort to strengthen their skill set as musicians. Topics to be covered include basic rhythmic and pitch notation, major key signatures, solfege, sight-reading, rhythmic performance, and music dictation. Grading criteria will include daily participation, written assignments, performance tasks, and written exams.

CHOIR 8
This course is intended for the advanced to intermediate to singers with prior singing experience. It builds upon the basic techniques, mechanics and fundamentals of music through live performance. The students work together as an ensemble to develop an appreciation for choral singing, music and the arts. A wide variety of music from various cultures, time periods, and genres will be used to teach students to sing with proper vocal technique and musicality. Students will explore the intermediate foundations of music theory/literacy and continue to develop aural skills through the use of solfege. Students will be placed on a developmentally appropriate voice part (soprano, alto, tenor, and bass) and will combine with the 7th grade choir for performances.

- The choir is a performing ensemble and **students will be expected to attend a minimum of 2 performances a year, generally scheduled in December and May.** Students may also be expected to attend a few after school rehearsals throughout the year in preparation for these performances. **Attendance at these concerts/performances is mandatory and will comprise the majority of the student's grade.** Other grading criteria include individual vocal evaluations, written tests, and daily participation.
- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.

CHOIR 7
This course is intended for the beginner to intermediate singer with some prior singing experience. It builds upon the basic techniques, mechanics and fundamentals of music through live performance. The students work together as an ensemble to develop an appreciation for choral singing, music and the arts. A wide variety of music from various cultures, time periods, and genres will be used to teach students to sing with proper vocal technique and musicality. Students will explore the intermediate foundations of music theory/literacy and continue to develop aural skills through the use of solfege. Students will be placed on a developmentally

appropriate voice part (soprano, alto, tenor, and bass) and will combine with the 8th grade choir for performances.

- **The choir is a performing ensemble and students will be expected to attend a minimum of 2 performances a year, generally scheduled in December and May. Students may also be expected to attend a few after school rehearsals throughout the year in preparation for these performances. Attendance at these concerts/performances is mandatory and will comprise the majority of the student's grade. Other grading criteria include individual vocal evaluations, written tests, and daily participation.**
- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.

BAND 7 & 8

This course teaches basic music fundamentals from the beginning to intermediate levels from grades 7-8 on their own specialized instrument. As the student progresses, they will learn a strong musical language that provides them with an advanced understanding of musical concepts, enhancing the student's abilities on the instrument of study. All students will perform at a holiday and spring concert (dates TBA.) All 7th and 8th graders will also have the opportunity to perform with the High School Concert Band at their concerts if they choose.

- All students must be able to get a quality instrument (see Instructor)
- All classes are separated by grade level. Because of this, any new student who was not in the elementary school band will require additional tutoring and/or lessons after school to get caught up with classmates.
- Beginning in 7th grade students are encouraged but not required to participate with the varsity marching band. They would join the band for all summer activities, band camp, dances, Kennywood parade etc. They would help the band support the Varsity football team at all games and pep rallies as well as participate in several band competitions and local Memorial Day services. In the winter and spring, the band performs at in and out of school concert events. Active participation will give members additional opportunities to travel with the band to any and all performances. (***Note: participation for the marching band does require time out of school for rehearsal)***
- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.

ORCHESTRA 8

Eighth (8th) Grade Orchestra meets daily during the school day. The instruments that are taught in this class are: Violin, Viola, Cello and String Bass. In this fifth year of instruction, the students are performing in split sections (Violin 1 and Violin 2) and are playing ensemble selections at rank of Level III. The Middle School Symphony Orchestra involves both 7th and 8th grade students and gives two (2) evening performances, one in the late Fall and one in the Spring. Other performances are also added such as chamber group mini-concerts for meetings and events, Invitational concerts with other schools, and PMEA Jr. Festivals. Students are also

encouraged to supplement their musical study with other community youth orchestras, private lessons, and performance opportunities with the High School Symphony Orchestra. Prerequisites for this class are that each student has a quality instrument of their own for school and regular at-home practice and is committed to daily individual and group success.

- **Since the orchestra is a performing group, Students are required to attend all performances. These performances along with the daily class grade are a part of the students overall grade.**
- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.

ORCHESTRA 7

Seventh (7^{TH}) Grade Orchestra meets daily during the school day. The instruments that are taught in this class are: Violin, Viola, Cello and String Bass. In this fourth year of instruction, the students are performing in split sections (Violin 1 and Violin 2) and are playing ensemble selections at rank of Level II. The Middle School Symphony Orchestra involves both 7^{th} and 8^{th} grade students and gives two (2) evening performances, one in the late Fall and one in the Spring. Other performances are also added such as chamber group mini-concerts for meetings and events, Invitational concerts with other schools, and PMEA Jr. Festivals. Students are also encouraged to supplement their musical study with other community youth orchestras and private lessons. Prerequisites for this class are that each student has a quality instrument of their own for school and regular at-home practice and is committed to daily individual and group success.

- **Since the orchestra is a performing group, students are required to attend all performances. These performances along with the daily class grade are a part of the students overall grade.**

Foreign Language Courses

FRENCH: GRADE 8

This class is an introduction to French vocabulary and culture. The course is separated into several units, focusing on learning the alphabet, everyday expressions, numbers, classroom objects, days of the week, months of the year and the date. Additional units focus on learning body parts, activities, subject pronouns, -er verb conjugation, school subjects, the irregular verb “avoir” and food. This class is intended to expose students to the French language and culture and prepare them for a smooth transition into a high school foreign language class.

SPANISH: GRADE 8

This class is an introduction to Spanish vocabulary and culture. It is separated into five units. The 7th grade class focuses on the alphabet, greeting, numbers and colors, classroom objects and days of the week/months of the year and how to write the date. The 8th grade class focuses on animals, clothing, classes, food and pastimes. This class is intended to expose students to the Spanish language and culture and to prepare them for a smooth transition into a high school foreign language class.

Art Courses

ART: GRADE 7
This course is designed to provide students with a basic understanding and appreciation of art and to meet the needs of students of all artistic ability levels. Students will be expected to participate in the analysis, criticism and production of art. Students will be exposed to as many different media as possible including, but not limited to, drawing, painting, ceramics and printmaking. The course emphasizes skills development and the development of the creative thought process. Art lessons will include the study of art history, artists, digital media, arts elements and concepts and will culminate in the production of original student artworks.

ART: GRADE 8
This course builds on the experiences of Art in Grade 7. Students will be exposed to as many different media as possible including, but not limited to, drawing, painting, ceramics and printmaking. The course emphasizes skills development and the development of the creative thought process. Art lessons will include the study of art history, artists, digital media, arts elements and concepts and will culminate in the production of original student artworks.

Science, Technology, & Computer Science Courses

COMPUTER CODING: GRADE 7
Would you like to learn how to create apps, games, or computer graphics? That's what code is for! Being able to code a computer is an essential skill. It is one of the most needed skills for the job market today and will help you develop important analytical and problem-solving skills. The 21st century skills of collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking will be at the forefront of this class. Students will use a variety of coding platforms including block based programming languages to complete a variety of projects while using tech tools such as Ozobots and Finch robots.

COMPUTER CODING: GRADE 8
This course is a continuation of building on the Computer Science 7 Class. The 21st century skills of collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking will be at the forefront of this class. Students will use a variety of coding platforms including block based programming languages to complete a variety of projects while using tech tools such as Ozobots and Finch robots. Additionally, Artificial Intelligence (AI) will be introduced and explored through activities in this course.

STEM: GRADE 7
In the 7th grade STEM course, students will learn about the engineering design process. Students will then use their knowledge in various STEM challenges. Students will also learn about 3-D printers and TinkerCAD.

STEM: GRADE 8
In the 8th grade STEM course, students will continue learning about the engineering design process. They will then use their knowledge with VEXIQ robots to design, build and program the robots to compete in various classroom challenges.

FUTURE READY: CAREERS & GOOGLE APPS: GRADE 7
This is a dynamic course designed to introduce students to essential digital skills and career exploration. Students will develop proficiency in Google Workspace tools, including Docs, Sheets, Slides, and Forms, to enhance their organization, collaboration, and communication abilities. Through interactive projects and real-world applications, they will also explore various career pathways, assess their interests and strengths, and learn essential workplace skills. This course fosters digital literacy, problem-solving, and critical thinking, preparing students for academic success and future career opportunities.

INTRO TO ENGINEERING & DESIGN: GRADE 7
In the 7th grade Intro to Engineering & Design course, students will continue learning about the engineering design process as it applies to transportation & technology (examples could include aviation, rockets, cars, bridge building) skills to create products using tools and materials.

MULTIMEDIA DESIGN PROCESSES: GRADE 8
In the 8th grade Multimedia Design Processes course, students will continue learning about the engineering design process as it applies to graphics, photography, and hands on woodworking skills to create products using tools and materials.

Health & Physical Education Courses

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: GRADES 7 & 8
This class has been designed to educate the student physically, mentally, and emotionally through participation in various activities. Students are expected to actively participate in a variety of sports, fitness activities, cooperative games, and wellness activities. All 7th and 8th grade students will be required to dress appropriately for physical education class.

HEALTH: GRADE 7
The 7th grade health curriculum is designed to familiarize students with issues they may encounter during their middle school years. This course will educate students in the following areas: drug abuse and violence - causes and effects, making decisions, media influences, coping with anxiety and anger, communication skills, social skills, assertiveness, resolving conflicts, and resisting peer pressure. Student evaluations will be determined through classroom discussions, written, and online assignments and quizzes. Grades earned in the Health Course will be independent of Physical Education grades (and will not be averaged together).

HEALTH: GRADE 8
The 8th grade health curriculum is designed to familiarize students with communicable diseases and how they affect the human body systems and wellness. Student evaluations will be determined through classroom discussions, written, and online assignments and quizzes. Grades earned in the Health Course will be independent of Physical Education grades (and will not be averaged together).