



WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Marie D. Morse, Ed.D
Assistant Superintendent of
Teaching and Learning

P 508-799-3644
E morsem@worcesterschools.net

Dr. John E. Durkin
Administration Building
20 Irving Street
Worcester, MA 01609-2493

Proposed Classes Update:

Astronomy- Submitted by Doherty High School. The school has two Physics teachers qualified to teach an Astronomy course. To begin, one section would be needed in the first year or two of offering the course. This class is listed as an Honors class and is a full year. It relates to the study of the sky and planets and builds on our innate sense of curiosity and wonder about the universe we live in from the near and relatively new to the very distant and old. The roots of Astronomy (and Planetary Sciences) lie in the observations made by our distant ancestors who first noticed and then used patterns that exist all around us. Over millennia, humans have used the process of science to understand the underlying causes of these patterns – and each new understanding led to more questions and deeper study. The experiences in this class will enable students to understand the interdependent relationships we have with the natural world and connect us with the experiences of and knowledge learned by those who have come before us.

AP African American Studies- Submitted by Dan St. Louis (AP Coordinator) At this moment Burncoat and North have expressed interest in teaching it and have a teacher prepared to teach it. We would like to grow and expand this class to all high schools.

Portuguese- Submitted by Michelle Huaman, it will be at Worcester East Middle. It is part 1 of the class and is offered for a semester. It includes the study of the Language and Literature as it relates to Portuguese culture and language. Ideally, they would start Level 1 Part 1 in the fall of 2024 for grade 7 at WEMS and then the next year add Lev 1 Part 2 for grade 8 and the year after move up to North with Level 2. We currently have a teacher at WEMS teaching World Language Portuguese. She has five sections of Portuguese Level 1 Part 1. Currently, at WEMS there are three World Language teachers in total (1 Portuguese, 2 Spanish)