

Maple Grove Senior High School - Registration FAQs



How do I know what classes I should take?

Graduation requirements are listed on pages 5 of the [Registration Handbook](#). Be sure to ask questions if you are unclear about any of the requirements. Ask questions if you are unclear about any of the requirements. The Handbook includes course descriptions, graduation requirements, and more in-depth information about course offerings. The catalog can be found electronically on the MGSJ homepage (under “Academics” tab, then click “Registration”).

How can I fit everything in?

To fit everything in, use the Graduation Planning Worksheet (current MGSJ students received a hard copy in their Foundations class; it is also available on the MGSJ Registration website) to map out your high school course requirements and preferences. Note any zero hour classes you plan to take, as these classes will free up space during the school day.

Should I take High Performance (HP), Advanced Placement (AP) or regular classes?

This is an individual decision that only you can make. Take time to gather information and make the right decision for you. Registration is **final** and you will not be able to change your courses after you have completed registration. Talk to your current teacher(s) in the subject area(s) and consider the following: Do you love the subject area? Are your test scores in math and/or reading at or above your grade level? Are you willing to put in additional time and effort outside of school to be successful in the class? If you answered yes, then you could consider taking advanced coursework.

What's the difference between HP and AP?

High Performance classes are Osseo Area Schools specific curriculum delivered at an accelerated pace, whereas Advanced Placement (AP) is a nationally standardized, college-level curriculum. Students in HP classes will do more reading, writing and analysis than their peers enrolled in the regular course of that subject area. Students taking an AP course can expect more homework and out of class time dedicated to coursework than an HP course. Also, AP courses are awarded additional honor points with a C or above, for weighted GPA.

What is AP and can I take it?

Advanced Placement (AP) is a national college level curriculum that students can self-select to take in high school. Be sure you've done your research and are prepared to dedicate outside of class time to complete coursework because you will have to stay in the class all year if you register for it. For every AP course, there is an exam at the end of the school year, with additional cost, which can be used for college credit if your score is high enough. In general, more selective colleges like seeing an AP course (or more than one) on your transcript because it shows you are challenging yourself and they know what the course entails. If you have any questions about whether an AP course is a good fit for you, see a teacher in the subject area or your counselor.

How many AP/HP courses should I take?

Again, this is an individual decision. Talk to your teachers and family to decide what level of rigor makes sense for your capabilities and extracurricular/out of school involvements. Taking multiple AP and HP courses will increase your amount of outside of class coursework and will have an impact on you. School life balance is important, as well as your mental health. Make sure that whatever decision you make allows you to maintain a healthy balance in and out of school.

What classes do colleges require?

Every college is different. Colleges require different courses than are required for high school graduation. Check college websites for their admission requirements. However, it is typically advised to go “above and beyond” their minimum admission requirements to strengthen your chances of being admitted. In general, it’s safe to plan on four years of core subjects, show an upward trend with your GPA, and demonstrate that you’ve challenged yourself with the appropriate rigor level for you. You can email college admission officers with any questions; they are usually prompt with replies. In addition, you may view the [MGSH Career Resource Center](#) website for additional assistance (or call 763-391-8761).

I heard that colleges require a minimum of 2 years of World Language. Can I do one year of one language and then one year of a different one?

It is important to note that taking a World Language class is not a high school graduation requirement to earn your diploma. However, some 4 year colleges require a minimum of two years in the *same* language. Please research college entrance requirements to see if you have to take a World Language to be admitted.

I don’t think I can fit in all of my required classes and the electives I want to take. Can I get a class waived?

No. You must fulfill all graduation requirements, which are set by the state and school district, to earn your high school diploma. We offer zero hour Health and Life Fitness which can help free up some space in your schedule if desired. It is a great idea to lay out a tentative 4 year plan to make sure you account for all the courses you need and want to take.

Can I change my classes after registration?

Make sure during the registration process that you gather information, ask questions, and make the decisions that are best for you. Registration is **final** and you will not be able to change your classes after you have completed registration.

What if I have more questions?

- Talk to your current teachers regarding their recommendations and details about specific course offerings.
- Reference the online Registration Handbook.
- Check out the MGSH Registration Website by entering the URL below into a web browser: <https://rb.gy/n0k817>.
- Reach out to your [counselor](#) or visit the [MGSH Counseling website](#).