Valley View High School

Curriculum Guide

2025-2026

VALLEY VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

One Columbus Drive, Archbald, PA 18403

(570) 876-4110

Dear Student,

This curriculum guide has been compiled in an attempt to provide you with the information that you will need in planning your educational program of studies at Valley View High School.

We urge you to carefully review this handbook and discuss its contents with your parents before you make a final decision. In addition, it is strongly recommended that you review your career plans with your counselor and that you seek their guidance prior to selecting your program of studies.

Please keep in mind that the decision which you are about to make will affect your remaining years at Valley View High School and it may well have a direct bearing on your career plan for the future.

This curriculum guide is presented to you with the hope that your academic experiences at Valley View High School are both rewarding and enjoyable.

Lawrence Pegula
Principal

SEX EQUITY

The Valley View School District, an equal opportunity employer, will not discriminate in employment, educational programs, or activities based on race, sex, handicap, or because a person is a disabled veteran. The policy of non-discrimination extends to all other legally protected classifications in compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Title IVC and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquiries should be directed to the Valley View School District Superintendent of Schools and Affirmative Action Officer at (570) 876-5080.

High School Profile

GENERAL INFORMATION

Valley View High School is a modern educational complex, which houses grades 9 through 12. The school serves the communities of Archbald, Blakely, and Jessup. It is approximately nine miles north of Scranton, Pennsylvania.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

There are sixty (60) full time professional staff members. This includes teaching personnel, guidance, and administration.

ENROLLMENT

There are 800 students in grades nine through twelve. Approximately 80% continue their studies beyond high school.

ACCREDITATION

Pennsylvania Department of Education,

INTRODUCTION

The Course Selection Guide provides information for students and parents to help prepare and plan the student's secondary school program. It contains information concerning the educational opportunities offered at Valley View High School which will enable students to plan programs of studies best suited to their terms of interests, aptitudes, abilities, needs, and educational and career goals.

Students and parents are responsible for selecting courses that enable students to meet their plans for the future. Teachers and counselors are available to assist the student and parents in the selection process. Students will meet with guidance counselors to finalize their course selections.

Counselors can be contacted by calling (570) 876-4110 to arrange an appointment. Appointments can be scheduled during the regular school day (8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.). Students are assigned to counselors as listed below:

Last Name	Counselor	Ext.	E-mail
A - G	Mrs. Mia Wascura	ext 1612	mwascura@valleyviewsd.org
H - O	Mrs. Renee Berry	ext 1613	rberry@valleyviewsd.org
P – Z	Mrs. Lori Kelley	ext 1611	lkelley@valleyviewsd.org

MASTER SCHEDULE CONSTRUCTION

Students are presented with course information as well as selection of course requests during February and March of each year. Based upon course request information, the administration builds the master schedule. This schedule reflects the interests of the students. Course sections are determined by the initial requests and teacher availability. Adjustments are made to reduce scheduling conflicts and to help students to take as many of their selected courses as possible.

The entire process takes about four months. The objective is to fulfill as many students' course requests as possible. **It is not the purpose of this master schedule process to accommodate course change requests after the initial sign-up period.** Therefore, it is strongly suggested that careful consideration to course selection be given during the initial sign-up phase of the process. The listing of a course does not guarantee that the course will be taught. Courses are offered only if enough students have signed up for the course, and there is availability of staff to teach the course.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

CAREFUL ATTENTION TO COURSE SELECTION IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL. **There will be NO schedule changes without cause.** The following are circumstances under which schedule changes may be made:

- Alteration, without knowledge, to facilitate scheduling
- A computer error
- Class enrollments are disproportionate
- To meet the requirements of a vocational program at the Career Technology Center
- To meet the requirements of a special program (Learning Support and English as a Second Language ESL)
- To meet graduation requirements when courses are failed only in the senior year.
- Dual Enrollment

A student is expected to remain in a selected course for its full term.

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Valley View offers a broad program of subjects, which allows students to select courses, based on his/her abilities, achievements, and goals. All Valley View courses empower students with the resources and abilities needed to: become contributing members of the changing society, access and critically process information into useful lifelong learning skills, develop critical thinking and leadership skills and promote responsible citizenship. Minimum requirements for all students are the following: four credits of mathematics, three credits of social studies, three credits of sciences, and four credits of English. Students are recommended to take four credits of academic or advanced mathematics, four credits of academic sciences, four credits of academic or honors/AP English and three credits of modern languages (two years must be consecutive of the same language), . In Grade 10, the Career Technical Center Program becomes an additional student option.

PLANNING YOUR FUTURE

Entrance into high school is an important step. You will have many important choices of courses to make. Here are some suggested steps for you to follow:

Think carefully of your interests, abilities, and goals. Learn about different careers to find out what high school subjects will best prepare you for your choice. Study our high school course offerings. Consult your guidance counselor, your teachers and your parents. Read everything and ask questions before you make your decisions.

As you complete **ninth** grade, evaluate your current high school program to determine: .

Are you finding the courses too difficult or too easy?

- If you plan to go to college, are your courses recommended for admission to many of the colleges?
- Take the SAT practice test.
- Remember, the final grades for ninth grade become a part of your permanent record and are sent to colleges and employers upon your request.
- If necessary, consider selecting a different program of study for your sophomore year.

In the **tenth and eleventh** grades:

- If you plan to work after graduating, attempt to get a summer job in the area of your interest to give you some experience and make you more employable.
- If you plan to join the Armed Services, read the Service material in the guidance office, take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test (ASVAB), and attend the discussion groups when the recruiters come to school.
- If you are considering college (including trade and technical, nursing or business schools), take time to speak with the appropriate representative when they come to school.
- If you hope to attend one of the Service Academies or enroll in a ROTC scholarship program, you should plan to initiate the entrance process by the spring and summer. Contact the colleges for information and visit the campuses with your parents.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT Test in October and the SAT Reasoning Test or ACT Tests in the spring.

• Reevaluate your goals and your progress toward accomplishing these goals.

• Meet with your guidance counselor to discuss your plans.

In the **twelfth** grade your plans should be nearing completion:

• Schedule an appointment with your counselor to discuss your plans and answer your questions. The counselors are here to assist you; however, the decisions concerning your life plans and the courses you take to accomplish these plans are yours and your parents.

• If you are college-bound, take the tests you need and send applications in on the schedules set up by the individual colleges.

• If you are planning to join the Armed Services, follow the schedule set up by the recruiter.

• Financial aid for higher education is available from many sources in the form of grants, loans, scholarships and work-study programs. Application procedures for these programs vary; check the Guidance web page.

• Please visit our website, http://valleyviewsd.org (high school-guidance-scholarships) for information on financial aid and scholarships. If you do not have internet access, a hard copy is available upon request

MARKING SYSTEM

The school marking system is based on numerical grades with any grade below seventy (70) failing. The following format is used.

GPA Conversion Table

Alpha Grade*	Numeric Grade	GPA Conversion
A	100	4.00
A	99	3.95
A	98	3.90
A	97	3.85
A	96	3.80
A-	95	3.75
A-	94	3.70
A-	93	3.65
B+	92	3.60
B+	91	3.55
B+	90	3.50
B	89	3.45
B	88	3.40
B	87	3.35
B	86	3.30
B-	85	3.25
B-	84	3.20
B-	83	3.15
C+	82	3.10
C+	81	3.05
C+	80	3.00
C	79	2.95
C	78	2.90
C	77	2.85
C-	76	2.80
C-	75	2.75

D+	74	2.70
D+	73	2.65
D	72	2.60
D	71	2.55
D	70	2.50
F	69	2.45

** used only for Dual Enrollment Courses Conversion*

Multipliers: *In order to reward and encourage Valley View High School students to take enriched and rigorous courses, a numerical multiplier will be used to calculate a weighted GPA. Numeric averages will be converted to a 4.0 scale for college applications. Courses will be weighted for the purpose of calculating an average that is utilized to determine honor roll and Class Rank. This is an incentive to reward students that take a more challenging course of study. All courses will be used in the calculation of GPA. Class rank is calculated on a class by class basis by adding each individual class and dividing by the credits attempted.*

Class	***Multiplier***	***Max Numerical Percentage***	***Maximum Percentage with Multiplier***	***Maximum Weighted GPA***
Academic	*1.0*	*100*	*100*	*4.0*
Honors	*1.063*	*100*	*106.3*	*4.3*
Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment	*1.125*	*100*	*112.5*	*4.5*

(1.125)
All Dual Enrollment Courses (attended on the college campus)

AP Biology
AP Calculus
AP Composition
AP English
AP Government
AP Physics C: Mechanics (must have taken Physics/Honors Physics)
AP Psychology
AP Spanish
AP U.S. History II
AP Computer Science

(1.063)

Honors English 9
Honors English 10
Honors English 11
Honors English 12
Honors Algebra II
Exploring Probability and Statistics
Calculus
Honors Trig/Pre-Calculus
Honors Geometry
Anatomy/Physiology
Honors Chemistry
Honors Physics
All Level IV Languages
Introduction to Engineering Design
Principles of Engineering
Civil Engineering & Architecture

HONOR ROLL

The following is the Honor Roll procedure for Valley View High School:

- Regular Honors: 3.50 (90%) Quarter GPA with no quarter grade lower than an 85% (3.25 GPA)
- Distinguished Honors: 3.70 (94%) Quarter GPA with no quarter grade lower than a 90% (3.50 GPA)

HONORS COURSES

Students who take the following honors courses are required to maintain a set cumulative average:

- Accelerated Math: Cumulative Average of 80% (3.00 GPA)

REPORT CARDS AND ACADEMIC WARNING NOTICES

The school year is divided into two semesters of eighteen (18) weeks duration and report cards are issued at the end of each nine weeks. Fairly early in each marking period, academic warning notices may be sent home by the teachers to notify the student and parent that the student is deficient or in danger of failing. Students and parents are urged to contact the teacher if further information would be helpful. ***Student progress can also be viewed on the Student Portal and Parent Portal at any time.***

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Students must make up incomplete grades before the end of the semester. Students must contact the teacher to make the necessary arrangements to complete this work. All incomplete grades, which are not made up, will become a zero (0).

GRADE LEVEL POLICY

Any ninth grade student who earns four or more credits prior to grade ten will be registered as a grade ten student. Any tenth grade student who earns eleven (11) or more credits prior to grade eleven will be registered as a grade eleven student. Any grade eleven student who can meet the Valley View High School graduation requirements during grade eleven or during summer school immediately after grade eleven will be registered as a grade twelve student.

INDEPENDENT STUDY POLICY

Independent study course requests will be examined on a case by case basis by the individual teacher and the guidance office.

National Honor Society

Selection to the National Honor Society is based on **scholarship, leadership, service, and character**. To be eligible for membership consideration, students must have a **cumulative UNWEIGHTED GPA of 94.** Leadership and service are based on a student's participation in school and community activities and elected or appointed leadership positions. Character is measured in terms of integrity, behavior, ethics, and cooperation with both students and faculty. Therefore, any student who has been suspended during the current school year will not be eligible to apply.

In order to be eligible to apply for admission to the National Honor Society, students must meet the following requirements: **Tenth (10th) grade: a student will need a cumulative UNWEIGHTED GPA of 94, a total of 4 school based activities, and a total of 10 hours of community service along with no disciplinary actions during the school year.**

Eleventh (11th) grade: a student will need a cumulative UNWEIGHTED GPA of 94, a total of 6 school based activities, and a total of 15 hours of community service along with no disciplinary actions during the school year.

Twelfth (12th) grade: a student will need a cumulative UNWEIGHTED GPA of 94, a total of 8 school based activities, and a total of 20 hours of community service along with no disciplinary actions during the school year.

Selection for membership is done by a faculty committee. In order to remain a member of the National Honor Society once inducted, students must not be suspended and must attend all meetings and complete all National Honor Society responsibilities in a timely fashion. Failure to do so will result in immediate dismissal.

Freshmen should take advantage of the opportunities, such as membership in many clubs and organizations, athletics, student government, etc. which are available to students at Valley View High School pursuant to membership in the National Honor Society. A listing of these clubs can be found on the high school's web site at www.valleyviewsd.org.

COLLEGE COURSES

ALL COLLEGE COURSES TAKEN MUST BE APPROVED BY THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT. Valley View High School is participating in a statewide program known as Dual Enrollment wherein high school students take college courses while they are still in high school. Students who meet the necessary criteria will have the opportunity to take college level courses at participating colleges (Lackawanna College, Marywood University, Penn State/Worthington, The University of Scranton, Keystone College, and Johnson College). The grade will be converted using the high school marking system and be included in the student's cumulative rank.

SUMMER SCHOOL POLICY

Students will be required to attend summer school to correct any failures in the following subjects: English, Social Studies, Mathematics or any other subject required for graduation. **Students who fail Algebra I, Science 9, and/or Biology will be rescheduled the following year at Valley View since these are Keystone Tested Courses.** No student will be allowed to reschedule a failing course from a previous grade level during their senior year unless that course is failed in the fall semester of their senior year (see Senior Failures). Therefore, any missed credit must be made up during summer school.

SENIOR FAILURES

Seniors who fail a subject in the first term of grade 12 that is required for graduation **MAY** repeat that subject in the second term of the senior year, if the subject is offered in the second semester and seats are available in the class. The Guidance Office will make every attempt to reschedule that subject, if possible. Attendance may play a role in the rescheduling process.

WITHDRAWALS

All students in grades 9 through 12 must carry a full schedule. No schedules will be changed after the start of school in August or at the beginning of the second semester in January. There will be no withdrawals from classes.
However, if there is an error in a schedule, it will be corrected after examination on a case by case basis by the Guidance Department.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students will be required to complete **25 credits**. Due to various schedule options, exceptions may exist. Students who have not satisfactorily completed all graduation requirements by June of their senior year will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony or any other school sponsored program related to graduation.

Students in grade 12 who have completed 25 credits, including those in the required areas, will receive a Valley View High School Diploma. Students may also receive College Preparatory Certification. Health is a required course in grade 10.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

4 credits ….. English
4 credits ….. Social Studies *(3 credits beginning with the Class of 2028)*
3 credits ….. Science
4 credits ….. Math
2 credits ….. Practical Arts/or Humanities
.6 credit ….. Health
.4 credits ….. Physical Education
7 credits ….. Electives *(8 credits beginning with the Class of 2028)*
25 credits

A grade of "Proficiency" or above on Keystone exams in Algebra I, Biology, and Literature.

College Preparatory Certification:

English	4 credits
Social Studies	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	4 credits
*Foreign Language	3-4 credits
Health	1 Planned Course
Physical Education	1 Planned Courses
Practical Arts/Humanities	1 credit

Multimedia Technology	1 credit
*Electives	2 credits

Selective courses taken at Valley View High School or through Dual Enrollment per dual enrollment agreements (Lackawanna College, Marywood University, Penn State/Worthington and The University of Scranton) will count for elective credit.

KEYSTONE EXAMS

Valley View High School participates in the Keystone Exams in the areas of Algebra I, Biology, and Literature, and must demonstrate Proficiency as a state mandated graduation requirement.

Keystone Exams are meant to be an "end of course" exam. With that in mind, students in any grade who are enrolled in a Keystone related course (Algebra I, Biology, English 10) will participate in that Keystone Exam at the end of course. For example, students typically take Biology during the sophomore year of high school. The student will take the Biology Keystone Exam at the end of the course whether in the fall or spring semester.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TEST INFORMATION

Many colleges and universities require that the applicant take the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) or the ACT (American College Testing). Each college requiring admissions tests will indicate which test is preferred. The use of the scores for admission purposes varies with the college, each setting its own standard for the minimum individual scores and their relative importance in the admissions decision. The chart below provides information concerning SAT and ACT testing programs as well as the SAT Subject Test, a series of separate subject area tests required by some colleges. To improve SAT/ACT scores, students can:

- Take the PSAT in both the sophomore and junior year
- Take advantage of SAT prep offerings, SAT elective course, SAT prep courses offered
- Check collegeboard.com

TEST	WHEN TAKEN	CONTENT	VVHS TEST DATES
PSAT	October Grades 10 & 11	Evidence –Based Reading & Writing, Math,	October
ACT	October – Grade 12 April – Grade 11 June - Grade 11	English 25% Math 25% Reading 25%	October – Grade 12

		Science Reasoning 25%	
SAT Reasoning Test	March – Grade 11	Equal Parts Evidence – Based Reading & Writing, Math, & Essay	March – Grade 11 May – Grade 11 October – Grade 12
SAT Subject Test	October -November-December-January Grade 12	Subject Area Tests (3 Maximum)	March – Grade 11 May – Grade 11 October – Grade 12

Registration materials are available in the **GUIDANCE OFFICE** or online.

NCAA ACADEMIC STANDARDS

A student who wishes to participate in athletics as a freshman in college must meet NCAA academic standards. Students must apply for NCAA certification before graduation. For information regarding these standards and the application procedure, see your counselor or visit www.eligibilitycenter.org on-line.

The NCAA initial-eligibility rules have changed. For students entering any Division I college or university, beginning with the class of 2013, your NCAA initial eligibility will be evaluated under the new 16 core-course rule. Ten of the 16 required core courses must be completed before the beginning of the seventh semester (senior year).

The NCAA Divisions I and II require 16 core courses. Students must complete **three** years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher), and **four** years of additional core courses. The additional core course may be taken in any area: English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, foreign language or non doctrinal religion/philosophy. The breakdown of the requirements is listed on the following page.

DIVISION I	**DIVISION II**
16 Core-Course Rule	2018 and after
16 Core Courses	**16 Core Courses**
4 years of English	3 years of English
3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)	2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school)	2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school)
1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science	3 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science
2 years of social science	2 years of social science
4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy)	4years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy)

NCAA has adopted new legislation that will require prospects who intend to enroll at NCAA

Division I and Division II institutions to supply ACT or SAT scores to the Clearinghouse directly from the testing agencies. Test scores on an official high school transcript will no longer be usable for NCAA purposes.For more information regarding the new rule, please go to www.eligibility center.org. Click on "Student-Athletes and Parent" in the "Custom Home Pages" section.

CAREER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Career technology education supplements and complements the educational program offered at Valley View High School. The Career Technology Center must utilize a broadly organized curriculum to meet current and anticipated needs in our society. Thus, a three tract educational program, namely, a technical level, a skilled level, and an operational level is offered. Each of the three levels offers various options to students. They may find employment upon graduation, pursue post-secondary vocational and technical training, or go on to college depending upon the program and courses they have chosen.

A student must have satisfactorily completed the ninth grade to apply for admission to the Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County.

Students who are admitted to the Career Technology Center programs will spend a half-day at their home school and a half-day at the Career Technology Center with transportation provided by the home school. Academic subjects will be taught in the home school while the Career Technology Center will provide instruction in career technology practice and techniques. Grade ten students who are in vocational shops will receive one credit of mathematics, which will be taught at the Career Technology Center. Students who are in technical shops will receive three credits of technical math – Geometry, Algebra II/ Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus – which will be taught at the Career Technology Center in grades ten, eleven, and twelve. Computer Systems Technology has a prerequisite of Algebra I. The student must have satisfactorily completed Algebra I before they can apply.

*****Students who sign up to attend the Career Technology Center must attend for the entire year. No students will be allowed to drop CTC at the end of the first semester.**

CAREER TECHNOLOGY COURSE OFFERINGS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

THREE (3) YEAR DURATION:

Automotive 1

Building Mechanics

Carpentry

Child Development

Collision Repair

Cosmetology 1

Creative Communications, Digital Communications

Creative Communications, Illustration & Design

Creative Communications, Print Production Technology

Culinary Arts 1

Electrical Construction and Maintenance

Health Occupations 1

HVAC

Information Systems Technology-Computer Networking Infrastructure

Information Systems Technology-Cyber Security

Masonry

Plumbing and Heating

Protective Services

Welding

COURSE SEQUENCE

Grade 9

COLLEGE PREP	REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS
English 9 Or *Honors English – Accelerated Program World Cultures Algebra I Or *Honors Algebra II Science 9 Language I Or Language II – Accelerated Program Multimedia Technology Practical Arts/Humanities Elective	English 9 World Cultures *Pre-Algebra or Algebra I Science 9 Elective Practical Arts/Humanities Elective
*Course as recommended by teacher and counselor.	

COURSE SEQUENCE

Grade 10

COLLEGE PREP	REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS
Honors English – Accelerated Program Or English 10 US History I *Algebra II or *Honors Geometry Biology Language II or III Health Physical Education Optional Elective – 1	English 10 US History I *Algebra I or *Algebra II Biology Health Physical Education Optional Elective - 3
*Course as recommended by teacher and counselor.	

COURSE SEQUENCE

Grade 11

COLLEGE PREP	REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS
*Honors English Accelerated Program or English 11 US History II or *AP US History *Geometry *Trig/Algebra III Chemistry * Honors Chemistry or Physics or *Honors Physics or Anatomy/Physiology or *AP Biology Language III or IV or AP Optional Electives – 2	English 11 US History II Intro to Algebra II or *Geometry Energy Education or Environmental Science Chemistry, Physics or Anatomy & Physiology Optional Electives - 3
*Course as recommended by teacher and counselor.	

COURSE SEQUENCE

Grade 12

COLLEGE PREP	REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS
*Advanced Placement English Or *Honors English Or English 12 Government & Economics or *AP Government *Trigonometry & Pre-Calculus OR *AP Calculus or *Calculus Physics for *Honors Physics or Anatomy & Physiology or Chemistry or *Honors Chemistry, or *AP Biology Language IV or *AP Selected Electives in place of 4th year language *Course as recommended by teacher and counselor.	English 12 Government & Economics Electives – 5 *Mathematics

CAREER TECHNOLOGY COURSE SEQUENCE

The following subjects are taken at Valley View High School.

Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
*English *Mathematics US History I Biology Health Physical Education	*English *Mathematics US History II Science	*English *Mathematics Government & Economics Science
*Course as recommended by teacher and counselor.		

DEPARTMENTAL OFFERINGS

English (113, 123, 132, 133, 143) – 1 CREDIT

English is a required course each year for all students at Valley View High School. In the 2012-2013 school year, the curriculum of all grades 9-12 was revised according to the Pennsylvania Department of Education Core Standards for English Language Arts to help ensure that all students are college and career ready in regards to literacy skills. All students will be exposed to various genres of fiction and non-fiction, and emphasis is placed on developing reading comprehension and writing skills while exposing all students to complex text structures.

Honors English (115, 125, 135, 145) – 1 CREDIT

To become eligible for the Honors program, all eighth grade students will be assessed in reading comprehension and writing skills. The students who score among the top ranked scores on the program entrance examination will be eligible to enroll in the ninth grade honors course, provided they earn at least a 93% cumulative average in both English and language classes (if applicable), score proficient on most recent reading PSSA, and are recommended by their eighth grade English teacher. Beyond ninth grade, a teacher, or a student/parent, can recommend testing on an individual basis in order to become eligible to enroll in the Honors English course for the subsequent school year.

Please note that the Honors English courses are also aligned with the Pennsylvania Department of Education Core Standards. However, these advanced courses are designed to delve deeper into topics and themes and therefore often include additional and/or more complex reading selections.

AP Language and Composition 11 (137) - 1 CREDIT

AP English Language and Composition is an introductory college-level composition course. Students cultivate their understanding of writing and rhetorical arguments through reading, analyzing, and writing texts as they explore topics like the rhetorical situation, claims and evidence, reasoning and organization, and style.

AP Literature and Composition 12 (147) – 1 CREDIT

AP English Literature and Composition is an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students cultivate their understanding of literature through reading and analyzing texts as they explore concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and literary analysis in the context of literary works.

Mysteries and Suspense (151) – 1 CREDIT (Elective)

In this elective course, mystery and suspense will be examined through various genres of writing including novels, short stories, poetry and drama. Many classical mystery writers will be introduced and students will also be required to write and present original mystery stories.

Journalism (153) – 1 CREDIT (Elective)

Students in this course assume the responsibility of the writing, layout and publication of the Valley View High School newspaper. Students receive instruction in the tenets of responsible and ethical journalism, and the writing of various news forms. In addition, in light of today's digital world, students receive training and practice with various computer programs and applications.

Journalism II (154) – 1 CREDIT (Elective)

Students in this course assume the leadership roles associated with the layout and publication of the Valley View High School newspaper. Students also receive advanced instruction in analyzing how digital news stories are reported, produced and distributed on various digital platforms. Students will learn what it takes to create high-quality, innovative, multi-platform stories while adhering to the traditional standards of news judgment, accuracy, fairness and truth.

Creative Writing (155) – 1 CREDIT (Elective)

Students will study professional writing samples in various genres and create original works of both fiction and non-fiction. Writing assignments may include various forms of poetry, short stories, drama, comic strips, children's books, memoirs, satire, and/or other types of writing that express creativity. Students will participate in writer's workshops, engage in peer review and edit drafts to create a final course portfolio.

Introduction to Public Speaking (156) 1 CREDIT (Elective)

This course is an introduction to speech communication which emphasizes the practical skill of public speaking, with a focus on language, delivery, and persuasive techniques. Additionally, students will learn about effective ways to manage speaker anxiety and the use of visual aids to enhance speaker presentations. Students will prepare for success in a variety of typical public speaking situations and will explore the basic principles of organization and research needed for effective speaking and presentations.

SOCIAL STUDIES

World Cultures (212) - 1 CREDIT (Requirement for Graduation)

World Cultures presents a narrative of our world from the earliest civilizations to modern times. The course traces the influence of various cultures in different parts of the world with integration of a number of themes that form the patterns of civilization. Among these themes are political change, economic development, the influence of geography on cultures, the growth of science, the influence of technology, the effect of social contact between cultures, and creativity in the arts. Students will be given an insight as to how significant cultures in history have led to the development of western civilization. All students take this course in their freshmen year.

United States History (222) – 1 CREDIT (Requirement for Graduation)

United States History I is a course designed to broaden students' understanding and mastery of facts, concepts, and interrelationships from the exploration and settlement of America to its emergence as a modern state in the world. Students will be aided in strengthening their knowledge of the facts of history and their ability to evaluate and interpret interrelationships among social sciences. The course teaches students to analyze how historical concepts relate to modern day events.. All students take this course in their sophomore year.

Advanced Placement United States History II (233) – 1 CREDIT (Grade 10)

AP United States History II presents an in-depth and comprehensive study of the political, economic, cultural and social aspects of US History. This advanced level course will place emphasis on the use of primary source documents and developing analytical skills necessary for successful completion of the Advanced Placement Exam. Acceptance into this course is based on the academic achievement, high level of interest, and teacher recommendation. **Please Note**: Students taking this course are required to take the AP History Exam. A teacher recommendation is required for admittance into this course.

Economics and United States Government (242) – 1 CREDIT (Required for Graduation)

The United States Government course presents the basic principles of our government. It is designed to promote citizenship education through the dimensions of knowledge, basic intellectual skills, and participation skills. In order for effective citizenship to be a reality, these three dimensions must be explored, learned and practiced. The course involves learning about the structure and function of government as well as about the operation of political groups. It teaches basic intellectual skills and it gives students the opportunities to learn and practice key participating skills. All students take this course in their senior year.

Economics is an introduction to learn how the economic system works. One of its goals is to help students for linkages between economic issues and their own lives. The course focuses on the following interrelated content areas: basic economic principles, the American business structure, economic performance, and personal economics. The course stresses the active role of the individual and provides, whenever possible, practical techniques that students can use to relate economics to their own lives. All students take this course in their senior year.

Advanced Placement United States Government (244) – 1 CREDIT

This Advanced Placement course is designed to give an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. The goal is to encourage students to examine and interpret how our government was designed, its institutions and processes, and its application in historical and contemporary settings. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with various theoretical perspectives and how government in the United States has evolved due to the impact of certain institutions, groups, beliefs, ideas, and policies that constitute U.S. Politics. **Please Note**: Students taking this course are required to take the AP Government exam.

Critical Media Analysis (250) – 1 CREDIT - (Elective)

Critical Media Analysis is the expansion of the traditional view of literacy. It is a course designed to make students more comfortable, more critical, and more conversant in various methods of communication. The course contains a variety of activities exploring the popular culture and ethics of a variety of sources including sports, news, soap operas, cartoons, docudramas, advertisements, movies, and other media formats. Emphasis will be placed on the critical viewing of television by helping the student to recognize, appreciate, and value good television.

Psychology (251) - 1 CREDIT (Elective)

Psychology is an introductory course providing a basic foundation into the brain, the mind, and human behavior. The course will also explore the influence of various theorists and their contributions to the field of psychology such as psychoanalytic theory, behaviorism, and humanism. Areas that will be discussed include the functions of the brain and body on thinking and behavior, sensation and perception, personality, intelligence, consciousness, and various mental disorders as emphasized in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, including their basic causes and acceptable methods of treatment.

AP Psychology (252) - 1 CREDIT (Elective)

AP Psychology is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. Content areas will include History and Approaches, Research Methods, Biological Bases of Behavior, Sensation and Perception, States of Consciousness, Learning, Cognition, Motivation and Emotion, Developmental Psychology, Personality, Testing and Individual Differences, Abnormal Behavior, Treatment of Abnormal Behavior and Social Psychology. Students will be prepared to take the AP Psychology Exam at the end of the course.

Street Law (255) – 1 CREDIT (Elective)

Street Law is a course designed to provide students with a comprehensive overview of the criminal justice system, including crime, criminal law, and constitutional implications. Students will be aided in the examination of the major institutional components of law enforcement:

police, courts, and corrections. This course will allow students to develop an understanding about the correlation between American history, the judicial system, and the criminal justice system. Critical thinking skills will be emphasized.

Global Studies (256) – 1 CREDIT (Elective)

Global Studies is a course designed to address major world issues that have a historical root, but which are likely to remain significant concerns for the foreseeable future. This course prepares the student to refine citizenship skills and think critically about issues as he/she confronts policy issues made around the world. This course has been broken into five major areas of focus: Tradition and Change in Asia/Southeast Asia, Global Security and the Middle East, Human Behavior and Genocide in Eastern Europe, Human Rights Issues in Latin America, Poverty and Disease in Africa. Students who select Global Studies will be required to write research papers using MLA format, perform oral presentations, efficiently work in groups, participate in daily debate and in-depth topic discussions and write position papers. (Not being offered this school year)

Sociology (257) - 1 CREDIT (Elective)

Course Description: Sociology will be an elective course centered on the behavior of people in groups. It is the study of society and human behavior and holds a significant value in preparing students for the complexities of the modern world. Topics include socialization, institutions, social interactions, social change, collective behavior, and competition in society. The activities will include group projects, simulations, research projects, as well as typical lecture and discussion.

MATHEMATICS

Pre- Algebra (311) – 1 CREDIT

Pre-Algebra places more emphasis on problem solving than theory. There will be an understanding of the basic structure of algebra, i.e., the real number system. Some of the objectives of this course will involve the basic operation, solving equations, linear equations, factoring polynomials, and graphing functions.

Algebra I (312, 313) – 2 CREDITS (full year)

In this course, students should develop the skills and strategies necessary to solve problems related to everyday life. Real number equations and inequalities, operations on polynomials, and the extensive use of functions will be introduced and developed. Topics involving calculator use programs will be included. This course will prepare students for the Algebra I Keystone Exam.

Introduction to Algebra II (321) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course is an extension of Algebra. The student gains an understanding of the essential concepts of Algebra II with emphasis on the Common Core. Scientific calculators are used throughout the course.

Algebra II (322) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra I

The student continues to study the topics introduced in Algebra I. The student gains an understanding of the structure of the system of complex numbers, comprehends the function concept and its importance in mathematics, and acquires a facility in applying algebraic concepts and skills. Graphing and scientific calculators are used throughout the course.

Honors Algebra II (323) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Algebra I

Honors Algebra II is a course for students who have successfully completed 8th grade Algebra I. The students continue to expand their Algebra knowledge by working with rational and exponential, as well as, polynomial, and exponential functions. The course introduces the structure of the system of complex numbers, the functional concept and the importance in mathematics. As students encounter more and more varied mathematical expressions and functions, general principles they encountered in Algebra I remain relevant, unifying the material in the course. Graphing calculators are used throughout the course.

Fundamentals of Geometry (331) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course should provide the essentials for those students who are not exposed to geometry concepts in any other course. Since one of the Pennsylvania Mathematics Standards specifically addresses geometric concepts, all students should leave high school with some background in the subject.

Geometry (332) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Algebra II

Geometry combines topics from plane and spatial geometry. Each student will study the use of definitions, terms and properties, and proofs of plane figures, as well as, develop an understanding of the nature of deductive reasoning and become aware of the relationship of geometry to the other branches of mathematics. Computers are used for the plane and spatial concepts.

Honors Geometry (333) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Algebra II (323)

Students in Honors Geometry expand their repertoire by working with plane and special geometric figures. The course is intended for the student who has the mathematical ability to assimilate and apply new material at a faster pace. Points, lines, and planes are used as the building blocks of geometric figures, and as the basic models from which to reason. Emphasis is placed on formal proofs and problem solving involving algebraic skills. Geometric concepts will include points and lines, parallelism, similarity, congruence, basic trigonometric concepts, an introduction to solid geometry and circles and will be studied in depth and applied to problem solving situations.

Honors Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus (341) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra II (323) and Geometry (333)

This course is specifically designed for students who have successfully completed Honors Algebra II and Honors Geometry. It will provide an in-depth study of all topics essential to the study of Calculus and it will help prepare students for the SATs. Students will be actively engaged in problem solving, reasoning, connecting, and communicating mathematically as they explore families of functions. Special emphasis will be on the Exponential, Logarithmic, Logistic, Trigonometric and Inverse Trigonometric functions from numerical, graphical, and algebraic approaches.

Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus (343) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra II and Geometry

Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus is offered to seniors in the four-year mathematics program. It includes the study of trigonometric and circular functions and their application, polar coordinates and exponential functions. Students use scientific calculators in addition to tables. Linear relations and function, the solution and graph of polynomial equations in one variable including the use of derivative, sequence and series, the relationship between straight lines and conics are reviewed and expanded upon.

Advanced Placement Calculus – AB (355) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus

An Advanced Placement Course in Calculus is offered to students in the five-year mathematics sequence. It introduces such principles as differential and integral calculus, maxima and minima, the advanced study of straight-line principles, and related topics comparable to courses in colleges and universities. This course is intended to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination. Participating colleges grant credit and/or appropriate placement to students who have done well on the examination. **Please Note**: Students taking the AP Calculus course are required to take the AP test in the Spring.

Calculus (356) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Trig/Pre-Calc or Honors Trigonometry/ Pre-calculus

This course is offered for seniors who plan on entering a school of higher education upon graduation. It introduces such principles as differential and integral calculus, maxima and minima, the advanced study of straight-line principles, and related topics comparable in college and universities.

Exploring Probability and Statistics (344) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Statistics introduces frequency distributions and graphs, measures of central tendency and variation, counting techniques, probability, binomial distribution, normal distribution, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, and an introduction to correlation and regression. Emphasizes are given to practical applications. Students may opt to use this course for dual enrollment credits in conjunction with Lackawanna College.

SCIENCE

Science 9 (412) – 1 CREDIT

Students will explore the web of life and its connections to the environment.This course examines the dynamics of ecosystems, including population changes and human impacts. Throughout the class there will be a focus on energy flow, food webs, biodiversity, and organismal interactions. Recognizing the threats to ecosystem stability, the course puts an emphasis on sustainability by exploring the flow of matter and energy within living systems and their environments.Through hands-on learning and inquiry-based critical thinking, students will develop the necessary skills needed to understand and address scientific challenges while creating a deep appreciation for the delicate balance that supports life on Earth.

Biology (422) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Science 9

This course is intended to promote an appreciation, awareness, and general understanding of biology. An emphasis is placed on a deeper understanding and student mastery of scientific concepts and skills necessary to meet state mandated science standards. Students will explore biological science as a process, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution and classification, and the diversity of living organisms. All students are responsible for participating in class discussions, group work, independent study, laboratory activities and internet/computer-based assignments. Students will take the PA Biology Keystone Exam at the conclusion of the course.

Forensics (424) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Biology

Students will be introduced to full-scale "Criminal Investigations", learning about modern biological, chemical and physical evidence, and testing techniques. Following the correct scientific procedures, students will learn how to use electrophoresis, serology, and toxicology to gather and analyze hair, blood, fingerprinting and DNA evidence used in law enforcement.

Environmental Science (428) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Biology

This is an introductory course in environmental education. It treats environmental science as an interdisciplinary study, to present a general idea of how nature works and how living communities are interconnected. This study of connections in nature examines how the environment is being used and abused by individuals and the population, and to access current information and data on environmental issues, especially in Pennsylvania and our community.

Anatomy and Physiology (429) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Biology with a grade of 85 minimum

*Must have teacher recommendation

Anatomy is designed primarily for students intending to enter the fields of medicine, nursing, lab and x-ray technology, or paramedical fields such as: public health, physical therapy, and nutrition. Its main objective is to familiarize students with the parts of the human body and the coordinated functions of the body systems that allow the human body to function. Actual hands-on lab dissections are mandatory, including the dissection of the fetal pig.

Chemistry (432) – 1 CREDIT

Chemistry is a lab-oriented science course designed for the college bound student. This course covers topics in general inorganic chemistry with an emphasis being placed on problem solving and connections to everyday life. Students learn how to work safely in the laboratory, how to perform basic

laboratory operations, how to organize and interpret data, and how to draw conclusions from experimental results.

Honors Chemistry (433) – 1 CREDIT

*Must have teacher recommendation

Honors Chemistry is a lab-oriented science course designed for the college bound student. This course covers topics in general inorganic chemistry with an emphasis placed on problem solving and connections to everyday life. Students learn how to work safely in the laboratory, how to perform basic laboratory operations, how to organize and interpret data, and how to draw conclusions from experimental results. This course covers these topics in greater depth and with more rigor than Chemistry 432 and is appropriate for students seeking to enter a science or medical field of study.

Physics (441) – 1 CREDIT

Physics is the study of matter and energy and their interaction. It provides a systematic understanding of the fundamental laws that govern physical, chemical, and biological processes. Conceptual study of laws of motion, forces, energy and momentum, heat and thermodynamics, wave motion, sound, light, electricity and magnetism, and nuclear physics. This Physics course is designed to: instruct students in physics concepts, prepare students to exist in an increasingly technological society, develop the students' analytical, problem solving, and laboratory skills and integrate math, science, and technology.

Honors Physics (442) – 1 CREDIT

*Must have teacher recommendation

Honors Physics is the study of matter and energy and their interaction. It provides a systematic understanding of the fundamental laws that govern physical, chemical, and biological processes. Conceptual study of laws of motion, forces, energy and momentum, heat and thermodynamics, wave motion, sound, light, electricity and magnetism, and nuclear physics. This Physics course is designed to: instruct students in physics concepts, prepare students to exist in an increasingly technological society, develop the students' analytical, problem solving, and laboratory skills and integrate math, science, and technology. This course covers these topics in a greater depth and with more rigor than Physics 441 and is appropriate for students seeking to enter a science or an engineering field of study.

Advanced Placement Physics (443) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Honors Physics or Physics

*Must have teacher recommendation

Advanced Placement Physics is an advanced placement course modeled after a first year college physics course for engineering or physics majors. It is a calculus based physics course which will address concepts of the laws of motion, forces, energy, momentum, electricity, and magnetism. Lab work is designed to supplement the course material and to aid in preparing for the AP Physics Exam. **Please Note**: Students taking the AP Physics course are required to take the AP test in the Spring.

Advanced Placement Biology (451) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Biology and Anatomy & Physiology

*Must have obtained a grade of 92 or above in both classes

Advanced Placement Biology is an advanced placement course and is modeled after a college introductory biology course, which is usually taken as a first course for college biology majors, or as a science elective for other majors. Areas of study include an introduction to molecular biology and cells, energy relationships, genetics, and evolution. Lab work is designed to supplement the course material and aid those students who are preparing for the AP Examination. **Please Note:** Students taking AP Biology course are required to take the AP test in the spring. A teacher recommendation is required for admittance into this course.

Energy Education (430) – 1 CREDIT

The energy education program is open to students in 11th or 12th grades. The course is designed for individuals with an interest in entering energy related industries. Students will explore energy sources and methods of energy production, including the workforce, educational, economic, and environmental impacts of the energy industry. Emphasis will be placed on industries in Pennsylvania and how to efficiently and responsibly utilize energy resources in the future. (Not being offered this school year)

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

In the College Preparatory Program, each student must take three years of a language and two of those years must be consecutive of the same language. Each student must take at least a Level II of a language.

Spanish I (511) – 1 CREDIT

Spanish I is designed for the students who wish to use Spanish as a means of communication, both oral and written. Since Spanish is a spoken language, emphasis is placed on the pronunciation and building of a practical vocabulary so that the cultural life of the Spanish-speaking world can best be understood. Special emphasis is given to the basic elements of language learning: auditory skills, speaking, reading, writing, comprehension and culture.

Spanish II (521) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Realizing the importance of complete mastery of verb forms in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish, emphasis is placed on a review of all the verb forms presented in Spanish I. The study of Spanish grammar is also continued. Selected readings and conversation broaden the students' knowledge of the Spanish language through a study of sentence structure and style. Emphasis is placed

on oral and written expression. The study of the culture, history, and geography of Spanish speaking countries is continued.

Spanish III (531) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Spanish II

Spanish III places emphasis on an intensive review of the grammar taught in the previous two years in order to develop the students' oral and written communication skills. The study of culture including history, geography, literature and art are also strongly emphasized.

Spanish IV (541) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Spanish III

The main focus of this course is the understanding of the various genres of literature written by the most famous Spanish and Hispanic authors. Written and conversational skills continue to be developed and strengthened. The study of art and history is continued. A teacher recommendation is required for admittance into this course.

Advanced Placement Spanish (551) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Spanish IV

Advanced Placement Spanish is a course designed for highly motivated students. The goal of the AP Spanish course is to prepare students for success on the AP Spanish exam. Students will complete a thorough review of grammar, conjugations, and will build their proficiency in the areas of speaking, listening, reading, writing, vocabulary, and culture. Course content might best reflect intellectual interests shared by the students and teacher (the arts, history, current events, literature, culture, sports, etc.)

Students are also encouraged to move beyond language acquisition to language application in real life scenarios, to make language learning a lifelong endeavor. Students should expect to complete independent work as assigned. A teacher recommendation is required for admittance into this course.

Italian I (513) – 1 CREDIT

Italian I is designed to provide ample opportunity for the student to converse in the language, as well as to read and write it. It aims to equip the student with the essentials of grammar in developing a solid foundation in Italian. Italian heritage and culture are also a part of the curriculum, as well as certain aspects of the history and geography of Italy.

Italian II (523) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Italian I

Italian II is structured similarly to Italian I. It has as it aim that of helping the student acquire, step by step, the essentials for understanding, speaking, reading, and writing the Italian language. Italian history, the actual Italian achievements in the fields of literature and folklore are discussed in greater detail than in the previous course.

Italian III (533) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Italian II

Italian III places an emphasis on an intensive review of the grammar taught in the previous two years in order to develop the students' oral and written communicative skills. The study of culture including history, geography, literature and art are also strongly emphasized. (Not being offered this school year)

STEM EDUCATION

Power (601) – 1 CREDIT

Power Shop I is a course in basic electricity providing the necessary experience for an understanding of electricity. The student will be exposed to simple circuitry and experimentation, hand tools, and good safety practices. Projects for the course will include an electronic project, carbon dioxide powered cars, and various house wiring projects.

Manufacturing & Production I (602) – 1 CREDIT

Manufacturing and Production I is a basic introduction to working with wood. Students will learn to use the following machines: miter saw, jointer, planer, band saw, drill, and table saw to construct several hands-on projects.

Manufacturing & Production II (603) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Manufacturing & Production I

In the second course of Manufacturing and Production, the student will continue to build on their wood construction skills. Instruction will be given in the use and safety of power

machines such as the jigsaw, belt sander, band saw, miter saw, planer, table saw, drill press, abrasive machines, and jointer. Students will use these skills to construct several hands-on projects.

Introduction to Architecture (610) – 1 CREDIT

This course introduces students to the basic principles of architectural drafting. Students will learn sketching and traditional hand drafting techniques in the first half of this course. At the conclusion of the hand drafting lessons, students will be introduced to computer aided design and drafting (CADD) using AutoCAD software. Concepts covered include multi-view, auxiliary, sectional, isometric and scale drawings. This class is ideal for students interested in careers related to drawing and design, including architecture and engineering.

Architectural Drawing (CADD) (611) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Introduction to Architecture

This course will reinforce sketching techniques and basic AutoCAD software skills from Introduction to Architecture as students will focus on the advanced features of AutoCAD software. Students will continue more advanced work in multi-view, auxiliary, sectional, isometric and scale drawings along with exploring floor plans, wall sections, footers, roof types and house details. This class is ideal for students interested in careers related to drawing and design, including architecture and engineering.

Advanced Architectural Applications (613) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: PLTW Civil Engineering and Architecture

Advanced Architectural Applications will continue the study into the drawing of advanced detail and assembly drawings, pencil and ink tracings, and making of blue prints will be covered. Advanced drawings will be completed with the computer. House floor plans will be turned into scaled wooden structures. (Not being offered this school year)

App Programming (620) – 1 CREDIT

This course will introduce students to the world of programming through the development of Android and iOS apps. Students will gain an understanding of the processes that are involved in designing and developing apps and will become familiar with introductory Android and iOS development tools. This course focuses on the development of logical-mathematical thinking, reasoning and problem solving skills.

Computer Science I (621) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

This course will introduce students to the field of computer science and the fundamentals of computer programming. Computer Science I is specifically designed for students with no prior programming experience. This course will touch upon a variety of fundamental topics within the field of Computer Science and will use Microsoft Visual Basic to demonstrate those principles. The course will cover basic programming terminology and concepts such as variables, conditionals, loops, functions and procedures, arrays and matrices. The capstone project at the end of the course is programming a video game. At the conclusion of this course, students should have a strong understanding of the fundamentals of computer science and the Microsoft Visual Basic programming language. This course will lay the groundwork for a strong education in Computer Science and a successful career devoted to implementing the principles they will learn as they progress through the CS discipline.

Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century (622) – 1 CREDIT

This course is designed to allow students to explore the dynamics of business practices in a global economy. Topics include the areas of business ownership, business management, human resource management, marketing, social media marketing, accounting, global business, ethics, and finance. By introducing and exploring these concepts, students can understand their importance and implementation not only in our overall economy, but also in their field of interest.

Accounting (623) - 1 Credit

This course builds the foundation for accounting by introducing basic accounting practices and procedures. Students will learn to analyze, record, and summarize financial transactions, adjust and close the financial records at the end of the accounting cycle, and prepare financial statements. The course will emphasize generally accepted accounting principles and practices, the fundamental equation of accounts and the accounting cycle. Students will understand basic federal laws regarding financial record keeping and reporting. The class will also provide an opportunity for students to explore career opportunities in the field of Accounting.

Web Design (624) – 1 CREDIT

This course is a comprehensive introduction to implementing a website on the Internet. Students are introduced to web design using HTML (Hypertext Markup Language), CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) and JavaScript. The course does not require any prior knowledge of HTML or web design. Throughout the course students are introduced to planning and designing effective web pages, implementing web pages by writing HTML, CSS and JavaScript code, enhancing web pages with the use of page layout techniques, text formatting, graphics, images, multimedia, and producing a functional, multi-page website.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have a good foundation in web design and will be prepared to study more advanced web design and computer science topics. (Not being offered this school year)

Personal Finance (625) - 1 CREDIT (Elective)

This course is designed to prepare students for their financial future. Using practical applications, students will gain a strong knowledge of the various financial topics needed for future success. Topics discussed include banking, loan options and amortization, managing and building credit, balancing a checkbook, tax terminology and filing of taxes, student loan options and different types of needed insurance. Students will gain an understanding of automobile leases and loans and real estate mortgages. Students will also be taught how to manage money and budget their expenses and will gain an understanding of the stock market and the importance of saving for the future. (*This course will be a mandatory course for the Class of 2028 in their Senior Year)*

PLTW Introduction to Engineering Design (650) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 (can be taken concurrently)

Following the guidelines for Project Lead The Way, students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3-D modeling software, and use an engineering notebook to document their work.

PLTW Principles of Engineering (651) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Introduction to Engineering Design

Continuing with Project Lead the Way sequence, through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, and automation. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation. (Not being offered this school year)

PLTW Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA) (652) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Architectural Drawing (CADD) or Introduction to Engineering Design

This course introduces students to important aspects of building and site design and development. They apply math, science, and standard engineering practices to design both residential and commercial projects and document their work using 3D architectural design software. Students will progress from completing structured activities to solving open-ended projects and problems that require them to develop planning, documentation, communication, and other professional skills. Through both individual and collaborative team activities, projects, and problems, students will solve problems as they practice common design and development protocols such as project management and peer review. Students will develop skill in engineering calculations, technical representation and documentation of design solutions according to accepted technical standards, and use of current 3D architectural design and modeling software to represent and communicate solutions.

PLTW Cybersecurity (657) -- 1 CREDIT

Cybersecurity introduces the tools and concepts of cybersecurity and encourages students to create solutions that allow people to share computing resources while protecting privacy. Nationally, computational resources are vulnerable and frequently attacked; in Cybersecurity, students solve problems by understanding and closing these vulnerabilities. This course raises students' knowledge of and commitment to ethical computing behavior. It also aims to develop students' skills as consumers, friends, citizens, and employees who can effectively contribute to communities with a dependable cyber-infrastructure that moves and processes information safely.

PLTW AP Computer Science A (659) -- 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Computer Science 1

PLTW AP Computer Science A focuses on further developing computational-thinking skills and an in-depth understanding of computer programming concepts. Students will study object-oriented design and learn to code using the Java programming language. This course will allow students to become familiar with the theory and application of object-oriented programming (OOP) techniques and will focus on providing students with good programming practices. Students will learn to use and implement commonly used algorithms and data structures to solve problems. This course provides hands-on lab time for students to fully develop programming skills. This course aligns with the Advanced Placement Computer Science A course.

ART

All art elective courses incorporate Art History into the curriculum by relating projects to various periods of Art. The classes are introduced to artists, styles, and cultures. Various media and techniques will be explored.

All students taking art electives have to complete weekly sketchbooks. Projects are mandatory work that must be completed in school due to the variety of materials utilized and the teacher/student interaction, which is critical in any studio course focusing on learning skills and techniques and applying them creatively.

Art & Graphics (950) -- 1 CREDIT

Students will learn the foundations of many visual art processes as well as design and creative strategies. The purpose of this course is to learn the fundamental concepts of art, how to create art using traditional media and design original graphics using computer software. The Fine Art portion of this course will focus on basic drawing skills, color theory, and Art in everyday life. The Graphic Art portion of this course will be divided between learning Adobe Illustrator and Adobe Photoshop. Students will then be challenged to combine art concepts using digital art making methods in Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop.

Art II (951) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: 950

The Art II curriculum is a more advanced course that incorporates the knowledge and skills acquired in Art I and integrates them with assignments that challenge the students to develop artwork that is much more creative and original. Students in this course are expected to demonstrate a heightened level of expertise and unique, personal style. Critical thinking is essential to the students' ability to design work that reflects growth and exploration of the media.

MakerArt (952) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisites: 950, 951

This course will remove the artificial line that exists between art and technology giving students a different view of traditional subjects. Students will learn how to create art with technology through the use of makerspace equipment. Students will explore artistic career options as they experience an environment made for innovators. The goal of MakerArt is to empower students to collaboratively create, innovate, and discover a new aspect of art class.

Art III(953) - 1 CREDIT

Prerequisites: 950, 951

This course is designed for the **SERIOUS ART STUDENT**. It focuses on developing works that demonstrate advanced expertise and qualify for portfolio acceptance. Students at this level are **expected** to explore and experiment with more specialized mediums that demand strong critical thinking skills and creativity along with the ability to design pieces that reflect a sense of self-expression and thorough understanding of the mediums.

Portfolio Preparation and Presentation (954) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisites: 950, 951, (952 or 953)

This course is only for students serious about furthering their education in Art on a college level, with a need to prepare a portfolio for presentation. The course will be LIMITED and include instruction in the following: Drawing, painting, mixed-media, and culminating in creating a quality art portfolio.

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE

Nutrition and Foods (810) – 1 CREDIT

This course examines the fundamental relationships between food, nutrition, and healthy living. Kitchen and food safety, demonstrations, hands-on food labs, guided instruction and cooperative learning are used throughout the course. Students will learn how to read and interpret nutrition labels and dietary recommendations. Students will explore a variety of different diets and human conditions in order to determine the macro and micro nutritional needs of different people. Students will also explore the intersections of nutrition, health, disease, and how nutritional needs change throughout the life span. The course will familiarize students with the various origins of food, how it is produced, processed, marketed, and shipped to different areas all around the world, and how this process influences various locavore movements throughout society. Finally, students will be provided the opportunity to gain the skills necessary to plan, to purchase, to prepare, and to evaluate nourishing meals that will improve their day-to-day food

choices for a healthy lifestyle.

Farm to Table (811) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisites: 810

In this course students have two classrooms---a culinary lab and a garden. Students will plant and maintain the Cougar Crop garden, which includes an indoor herb garden and an outdoor garden/greenhouse. The garden will be utilized to grow produce for training, demonstrations, and hands-on food labs. Students will also gain a better understanding of local food production and will incorporate these products whenever possible into the preparation of various cuisines. The Farm to Table course examines the broader view of agriculture and food production methods, including the cultural, political, and economic forces influencing food systems. Topics such as industrial vs. small scale food systems, public health, environmental impacts of agriculture, and food equity issues will also be explored to provide students with a rich understanding of how these systems support one another. Students will learn how to be educated food consumers; to learn how to make healthy food choices; and to understand the physiological and psychological impacts of their food purchasing decisions.

Baking and Pastry (812) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisites: 810

This course is designed to educate students in the art of Baking and Pastry Arts. Students will learn basics such as mixing, shaping, and baking of baked goods such as yeast raised breads, quick breads, cakes, pastry doughs, mousses, sauces, glazes, cookies, candies, and confections. Highlights will include plated desserts, international baked goods, chocolate work, and decorated cakes. Students will manipulate fondant and learn how to operate an edible 3D printer. Students will be able to price out the cost of items being made as well as learn in a well-equipped, modern kitchen and also prepare food for school functions. This course includes classroom instruction and practical group lab work where students will learn how to be a Baker, Pastry Chef, and Assistant Pastry Chef.

Food Science (813) - 1 CREDIT

Prerequisites: 810, (811 or 812)

In this Food Science course, you will explore the intricate science behind food, delving into concepts that encompass food preparation, selection, nutrition analysis, and more. You will develop essential skills in problem-solving and critical thinking, enabling you to make informed food choices and address real-world food science challenges. This comprehensive study will not

only enhance your culinary expertise but also deepen your understanding of the nutritional and health impacts of your dietary decisions, benefiting you both now and in the future. (Not being offered this school year)

Child Development I (831) – 1 CREDIT

Child Development Level One is a course designed to introduce students to the growth and development of children from birth to age five. It will teach students the foundational understanding of children's development and learning processes. Students will develop an understanding of the physical, cognitive, emotional, social, and moral development of preschool children. For twelve weeks out of the semester, the students will work with preschool children (ages 3, 4, 5) and create lesson plans and activities to teach to them. This is a class for students who may be interested in careers working with children after high school.

Child Development II (832) – 1 CREDIT

Prerequisite: Child Development I

Child Development Level Two is a continuation of the Child Development One course. It includes an in-depth study of the child from birth through the preschool years. The students will study children's developmental characteristics and needs in learning domains including physical, cognitive, social, emotional, language, and moral development. Students will gain specific knowledge about developmental disabilities, sensory impairments, physical disabilities, health problems, and learning and behavior disorders. Students will plan lessons and create activities incorporating the PA Early Learning Standards into their lessons. Students will work with children between the ages of 3 and 5 in our preschool program for twelve weeks and they will explore a variety of careers working with children.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education (920) .4 CREDIT for Grade 9
1 CREDIT for Grades 10th, 11th, and 12th

Physical Education is required of all 9th grade students. Team sports, individual and dual sports, body control, physical fitness activities, and lifetime sports.

Health (925) - .6 CREDIT

Health is required of all 9th grade students. The course is planned to help students develop an appreciation for physical, social, and emotional well being. Course content will include units of study on the human body, nutrition, fitness, mental health, drug education, the harmful effects of alcohol and tobacco, AIDS, sexuality and family living, environmental health, first aid, and CPR. All classes will be geared to the development of positive attitudes toward all aspects of healthful living.

MUSIC

Band (970) – 1 CREDIT

Students (grades 9-10-11-12) who select band as an elective will be in both marching and concert band activities. Other performing groups such as jazz band and small ensembles, may be available from time to time. Emphasis will be placed on the performance aspect of music education, which is included in the overall grade. This is a two-semester course.

Chorus (971) – 1 CREDIT

Students will be given the opportunity to properly develop their singing skills emphasizing the technical aspects. The student will be required to participate in all scheduled concerts. This is a two-semester course.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Transition Seminar (1020) – 1 CREDIT

Transition Seminar is designed for students with Individualized Education Plans. The main goal of this course is competitive employment. The course provides real-life work experiences combined with training in employability and independent living skills to help a student with disabilities make successful transitions from school to adult life.