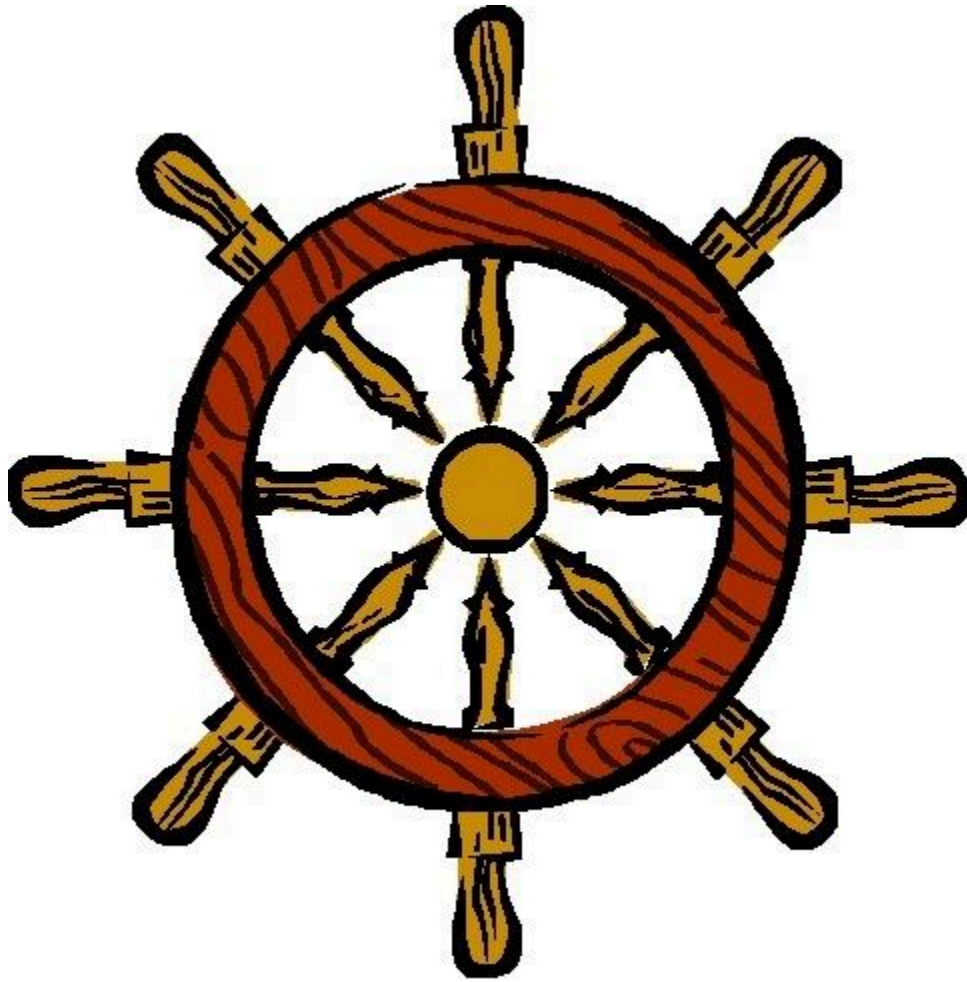


# **Deer Isle-Stonington High School**



## **Program of Studies 2017-2018**

# CSD 13: Deer Isle-Stonington Schools

## **Mission**

Deer Isle-Stonington Schools: launching lifelong learners and responsible citizens able to keep our island community vital.

## **Vision**

Every student on the Deer Isle-Stonington campus is engaged in the excitement of learning. Impassioned and committed teachers develop in students a hunger for understanding and teach them the skills for navigating the complexities of the world. Students participate in the governance of the school, working alongside educators and community members to create a deep sense of ownership. All decisions are based on the belief that students come first.

Our schools value and promote the unique strengths and heritage of our island: the natural environment, the marine trades and the arts. The community values the role our schools play in creating a thriving future for everyone. Our students exhibit and deepen those qualities characteristic of our island community--such as ingenuity, independence, and entrepreneurship—which are needed for them to prosper on land and on sea. Students are exposed to a variety of options, and are fully prepared to succeed at whatever they choose.

Individual educational plans prepare students for college, work, and community life. The plans also foster high aspirations, teamwork, and respect for a diversity of people and ideas. Students are surrounded by adults who inspire them to achieve, and encourage them to take positive risks and to learn from their mistakes. The schools are a magnet for students and families interested in developing these unique strengths and values, and the success of our students builds and sustains the future of the island community.

## **Affirmative Action Statement:**

It is the intent of the Deer Isle-Stonington School District that no discrimination shall occur in any of its educational or co-curricular programs. Discrimination against and harassment of student because of race, color, religion, disability, sex, age, national origin, ancestry or sexual orientation is prohibited. This affirmative action policy will apply, but not be limited to, assignment to classes, co-curricular activities, grading, awards, scholarships, as well as other educational opportunities for students. Inquiries can be made directly to the Affirmative Action Coordinator through the Union 76 Superintendent's Office, the Affirmative Action Officer at the Maine Department of Education, or the Maine Human Rights Commission.

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## **Courses That Are Not Part Of DISHS's Regular Program**

DISHS firmly believes that students should be provided with multiple pathways to a high school diploma. While upholding rigorous standards, DISHS seeks to honor “anytime, anywhere

learning” and will support students seeking to personalize their education. As staffing, budgetary resources, and equity allow, credit/demonstration of proficiency may be awarded for learning experiences outside the program of studies with prior permission of the principal and pending successful student demonstration of essential learning standards.

Students in the graduating class of 2018 taking correspondence, independent study, summer school, AP4ALL or any other course approved by the school but not taught in our classrooms will earn a P/F on their transcript. These courses will not affect GPA. Only classes taken as part of DISHS’s regular program count toward a student's GPA.

For students in the graduating class of 2019 and subsequent classes, all learning experiences for which a certified DISHS teacher is assigning a proficiency score on at least one standard will count towards a student’s GPA. Other learning experiences may be included in a student’s GPA if they are part of the student’s personal learning plan and have received prior approval from the principal.

### **Advanced Placement Courses**

Advanced Placement or “AP” courses are college-level courses for high school students, usually taught at the student's high school by a member of the school's faculty. Students take the AP exam as part of the AP course and can earn college credit if they score high enough on the AP exam. AP courses allow students to get a head start on college-level work, improve writing and problem-solving techniques, and develop study habits necessary for success in post-secondary education.

Deer Isle-Stonington High School will offer one AP course in the 2017-18 school year: Calculus AB (see specific course description in the appropriate section of this document). If scheduling permits, we will try to offer AP Literature and Composition and AP Statistics. Students seeking the AP designation on their transcript must take the AP test. DISHS will pay for AP tests of students enrolled in AP courses.

In the past, DISHS students have taken additional AP courses on-line through a free program called [AP4ALL](#). [AP4ALL](#) is a joint venture between the Maine DOE, UMS/ITS, the Maine Distance Learning Project, and high schools in Maine. Any high school student in Maine can take one or more AP courses through [AP4ALL](#), free of charge. However, [AP4ALL](#) has not always been offered due to state budget reductions; we are hopeful that the program will continue in 2017-18. If [AP4ALL](#) does not return, DISHS will explore additional distance learning option to provide its students with a wide range of Advanced Placement opportunities.

If you have questions about AP courses, please speak with the Guidance Counselor for more information.

### **Early College Courses**

The community college system and the University of Maine system have opportunities for juniors and seniors to take college courses either for free or at reduced cost. Students can take these courses on campus, at the Ellsworth higher education center or online. Students must have a B

average and be recommended by the principal and/or guidance counselor. These are actual college courses which result in a college transcript and are often transferable to other colleges. In addition to college credits, each three credit college course will count as one high school credit/learning experience.

### **Correspondence Courses**

There are several options for taking correspondence or online courses in order to experience courses not offered at Deer Isle-Stonington High School or to make up credits/standards for failed courses. The cost of these courses is the responsibility of the student/family. See the guidance office for more information.

For students in the Class of 2018, up to three credits will be accepted towards graduation. There is no limit on the number of correspondence/online courses students in the Class of 2019 and subsequent classes can take, as long as the course is described in the student's Personal Learning Plan, including how the experience satisfies both graduation requirements and expected cross-curricular and content-area standards. The correspondence course must be approved, reviewed, certified, and documented by administrators, teachers, and staff at Deer Isle Stonington High School.