



TRANSITION TO GRISWOLD HIGH SCHOOL

A guide for 8th grade students and parents

Differences between Middle School and High School

- Students may have several tests & quizzes on the same day, different classes every day-Time Management is key.
- Students are expected to be more independent and responsible
 - Students need to use an agenda to keep track of their assignments, complete work on time and use the online portal to check their progress.
 - There will be daily homework in most classes.
- Students earn credits in order to meet graduation requirements

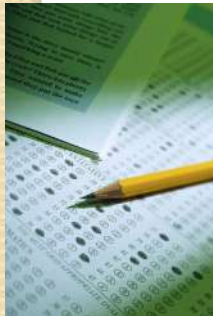


Course Recommendations:

Teachers will make recommendations for English, Math, Science, Social Studies & World Language

Teacher recommendations are based on:

- Test/quiz/writing scores & ability
 - This may not be equal to the student's grade in the course
- Assessment scores
- Work Ethic



Minimum Graduation Requirements

Humanities: 10 Credits

English	4.0
Social Studies (including civics)	3.0
World Language	1.0
Art/Music/Electives	2.0



Science, Technology, Engineering & Math: 9 Credits

Mathematics	(4 recommended)	3.0
Science		3.0
Technology & Electives		3.0

PE & Wellness: 1 Credit

Health & Safety Education: 1 Credit

CAPSTONE: 1 Credit

Electives: 2 Credits

Community Service 1 Credit (10 hours each year)

TOTAL CREDITS **25**

1 credit = full year course

High School Courses

Mathematics

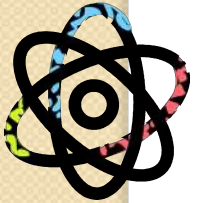
<u>CURRENT MATH CLASS IN GRADE 8</u>	<u>POTENTIAL GRADE 9 MATH</u>
Remedial Math	General Algebra I
Pre-Algebra	General Algebra I
Algebra I	CP Algebra I or CP Geometry
H Geometry	CP or H Algebra II

**Course levels may be changed from original recommendations based on final grades and the score on the final exam.



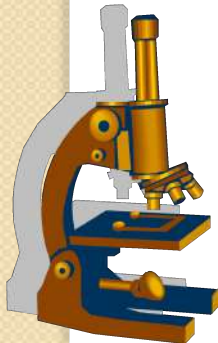
Essentials & CP Level Courses

- Provides a solid framework for further education beyond high school
- Academic independence and homework is expected from all students
- Students do not need to be in the same level for all courses
- Students may change levels from year to year based on teacher recommendations and academic progress.

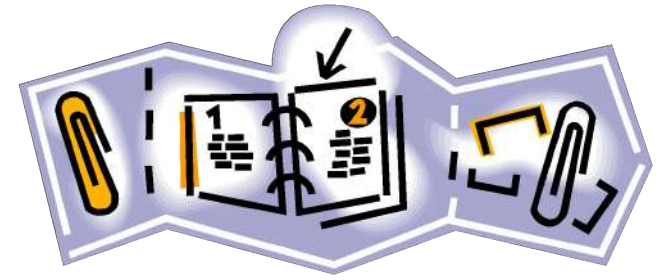


Honors Level Classes

- This level is designed for students with an intellectual curiosity and superior ability as evidenced by demonstrating 'higher level' thinking skills in the classroom through class discussion, strong test scores & writing ability that includes synthesizing information
- More rigorous and in depth course work than the CP level
- ***AP/ECE courses offered Sophomore, Junior and Senior year for advanced students***



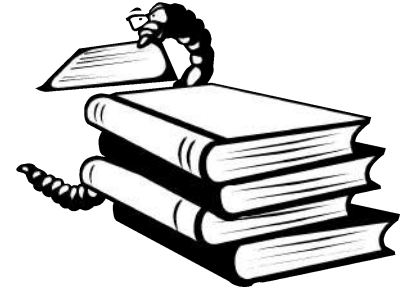
Homework



- In addition to study hall time that may be available during the day, students should spend at least one hour per night on homework, reviewing notes and organization at the college preparatory level.
- Honors level students should plan on at least **2 *hours per night (sometimes more)***.
- Parents/students should check academic progress online a minimum of once a week.
- Teachers are available for extra help before & after school.



English



- Sequence:

- Grade 9: English I or Honors English I
- Grade 10: English II or Honors English II
- Grade 11: English III or Advanced English
 - (AP/ECE English Seminar in Academic Writing)
- Grade 12: English IV or Advanced English
 - (AP/ECE English Literature & Composition)



E.A. Poe



Shakespeare



Social Studies

- Sequence:
 - Grade 9: World History
 - Grade 10: Modern World History/American Government or AP Human Geography
 - Grade 11: US History
 - AP US History
 - Grade 12: Electives:
 - AP US Government & Politics
 - CP Sociology (½ credit)
 - CP Psychology (½ credit)



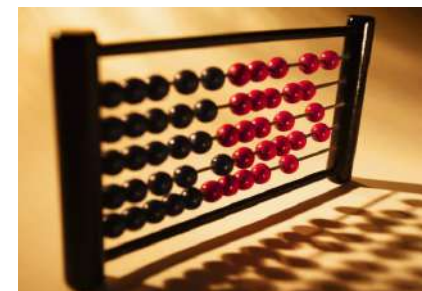


Mathematics

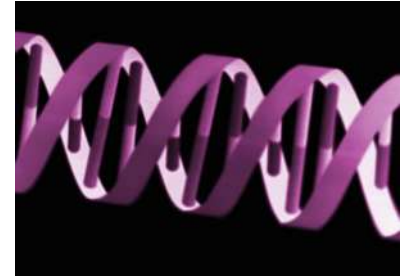


- Sequence:

- Grade 9: General Algebra I, Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II
 - Grade 10: Geometry, Algebra II or Precalculus
 - Grade 11: Algebra II (G or CP), Precalculus, or Calculus
 - Grade 12: College Algebra, Pre-calculus, Calculus, Linear Algebra or Statistics
- **CP Algebra II or higher needed for most technical or college programs**



Science



- Sequence
 - Grade 9: Earth & Space Science
 - Grade 10: Biology
 - Grade 11: Chemistry or Environmental Studies
 - Grade 12: CP or ECE Physics, ECE Biology,
 - Electives (11&12): CP or H Anatomy & Physiology, Microbiology, Medical Terminology



World Language



- Grade 9: Essentials of Spanish, Spanish I or Spanish II
- Grade 10: Spanish II or III
- Grade 11: Spanish III or IV
- Grade 12: Spanish IV or V
- Students planning to go to a competitive 4 year college (UConn) need to complete 3 to 4 years of World Language
- Students applying to other state colleges (Eastern, Western, Southern or Central) should complete a minimum of 2 years at the CP Level

Career Pathways

-all students select a career pathway

- Web & Digital Communications
- Business Management/Banking
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Health Sciences
- Education & Training
- Engineering/Manufacturing & Design



High School Transcript



- Freshman year begins the high school transcript that post-secondary schools will use as part of their admission decision.
- All final grades appear on the transcript.
- Class rank is released at the end of each year
 - This is a student's weighted grade point average in comparison to his/her classmates
 - Honors & AP courses receive additional weight



Preparing for After High School

- Students should plan to take the most challenging courses available to them ***based on their ability to be successful***
- In addition to the scholastic record, extracurricular activities (especially leadership & community service) are very important for college applications as well as National Honor Society membership
 - National Honor Society looks at character, leadership, scholarship & community service when evaluating applications.
 - Students are invited to apply for National Honor Society during the Junior year based on their GPA at that time.
 - Students will begin developing a resume freshman year and add to it each year.



“Typical” 9th grade Schedule

- 1 English
- 2 World History
- 3 Earth & Space Science
- 4 Algebra I / Geometry or Algebra II
- 5 PE (1/2 credit) Health (1/2 credit)
- 6 Essentials of Spanish or Spanish I/II
- 7 Pathway Elective Course(s)
- 8 Study Hall or Elective (full year or ½ year)



Elective Courses

- Students should select elective courses based on their interests
- Please note that some courses have prerequisites
- Select alternative courses just in case the first choice elective does not fit into the schedule
 - Once pathways course(s) are chosen students may pick any other courses as electives
 - Please list course #'s in order of preference

Extracurricular Activities

- Athletic Activities

- Fall

- Football
 - Soccer
 - Cross-country
 - Volleyball
 - Cheerleading



- Winter

- Wrestling
 - Fencing
 - Indoor Track & Field
 - Basketball
 - Cheerleading



- Spring

- Lacrosse
 - Baseball
 - Softball
 - Outdoor Track & Field
 - Golf



Athletic Eligibility

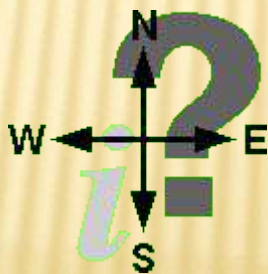


- Eligibility based on previous quarter's grades
- Students must pass a minimum of 4 courses
- If your plan is to play Division I or Division II sports in college, you **MUST** be in CP classes or higher and have a minimum grade point average





QUESTIONS???



EXPO Project

- There is a link on the Library webpage for the EXPO manual.
- The research paper was due 1/23! Some students have not yet submitted a final paper but should make it a priority.
- EXPO Group presentations April 3rd - students will present their poster board and research topic in an 8-10 minute presentation. Many of our students are in this phase.
- EXPO Day/Night April 8th 6pm-7pm BEST PART! Dress nice. Larger props/presentation additions, students should speak with their Expo coach prior to Expo Day

*****GMS LIBRARY WEBSITE***** Contains info on step by step EXPO directions and photos of sample EXPO boards from years prior.