

# ACPS TALENTED AND GIFTED (TAG) AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

Presented to TAGAC

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# What does TAG look like at TC?

# Honors, AP and DE Classes

## **TAG in High School is Made up of advanced course offerings**

- Advanced Placement (AP)
- 33 courses across core and elective subjects
- Correspond to a standardized AP exam, which determines eligibility for college credit
- Open Enrollment

## **Dual Enrollment**

- Students are dual enrolled with NOVA Community College (NVCC)
- Students receive college credit based upon grade in the class
- Requires general placement test

## **Honors**

- Honors equivalent for virtually all Science, English, and Social Studies courses
- Open Enrollment
- Teachers expected to accelerate ACPS general education curriculum for TAG students

# Some Available AP/DE Courses

## English:

AP English Language and Composition  
AP English Literature and Composition

## Arts:

AP Art History  
AP Music Theory  
AP Studio Art: Drawing  
AP Studio Art: 3-D Design

## Math/Computer Science:

AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC  
AP Computer Science A  
AP Computer Science Principles  
AP Statistics

## Science:

AP Biology  
AP Chemistry  
AP Environmental Science  
AP Physics II (C)

## Social Studies:

AP Comparative Government  
AP Economics  
AP European History  
AP Psychology  
AP United States Government  
AP United States History  
AP Human Geography  
AP World History

## World Languages:

AP Chinese Language and Culture AP  
French Language and Culture  
AP German Language and Culture AP  
Latin  
AP Spanish Language and Culture AP  
Spanish Literature and Culture

## AP Capstone:

AP Seminar  
AP Research

# Online Courses

**Students may enroll in dozens of ACPS online courses.**

- Can be taken during school, after school (“8th block”), during summer break (fee required)
- Can be used to move ahead in a subject area
- Can be used to take courses not offered by the school due to low enrollment

**Non-ACPS resources:**

- Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
  - Coursera
  - TED ed
  - edX
- External vendors
  - Some can be accepted for ACPS credit
  - Cost to be paid by family

# Extracurricular Activities

**Clubs/academic teams are an opportunity for enrichment outside of the classroom.**

- National, Math, and English Honor Societies
- Debate, It's Academic, Model UN, Youth and Government
- Robotics, Physics club, Women in Stem
- HOSA, DECA, Entrepreneurship, Marketing
- Superintendent's Student Leadership Committee, School Board Committees

**Programs external to ACPS for TAG students during the academic year:**

- Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (Online Programs, Family Academic Programs)
- Education Program for Gifted Youth (Stanford)

# Summer Opportunities

## **Governor's School**

- Open only to TAG-identified students in VA
- 3-week, application based residential intensive at college campuses
- Performing Arts, Agriculture, Humanities, Mathematics, Science and Technology, World Languages, Life Sciences and Medicine, Marine Science, Engineering

## **University and TAG-focused Courses**


- Many colleges offer “pre-college” programs for academic enrichment: Google
- John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth summer classes

## **Exchange Programs**

- National/International organizations offer exchange programs
- AFS, Rotary international, Dept. of State, etc.

## **Internships**

- College Career center have some contacts with local leaders for internships
- Rely on your own connections, Google



**Customizing your advanced academic experience is possible: but is it universally available to students and families without extensive self-advocacy?**



# **Vision for the Future**

# Communication

## **Aggregation of TAG resources into a central webpage/datapage.**

- Quarterly newsletters advertising resources sent to TAG students, parents, and counselors

## **Direct outreach to TAG families about opportunities.**

- Large physical presentation
- Targeted outreach to identified families

## **Communicate to all high school students.**

- Entering ACPS from non-ACPS systems about
- TAG identification and TAG pathways



# Flexibility

## **9th and 10th grade Honors Courses (esp. English) have no AP/DE equivalent**

- Could AP Seminar be counted as an English credit?

## **Better Awareness of online options**

## **Success should not depend upon parent advocacy**

- Informing parents/students about options to increase flexibility (25th hour, PE online, waiver for sex ed., etc.)



# Clarity

**There is still a lack of clarity about the purpose and target of the STEM academy**

- Many parents are seeing it as a TAG track, efforts to get “Governor’s school certificate for STEM Academy seen as a TJ-like school.

**Need to actively communicate to TAG parents actual purpose and target**



# Immediate Asks

## **Aggregate all HS TAG resources**

- Course guide
- Extracurricular and summer opportunities

**Direct contact** to rising 9th grade families (and all others in the long term) informing them of opportunities.

**Regular communication** (quarterly newsletter, archiving information at TAG-specific website) with TAG parents, TAG students, and counselors.

**Clear information** conveyed to all high school students entering ACPS from non-ACPS school systems.