



# **PCHS Academics**

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**DIPLOMA PATHS  
REQUIREMENTS  
GRADUATION PATHWAYS**

# **WELCOME!**

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High School Guidance Counselors:  
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Deena Gibson, Director

# DIPLOMA PATHS

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- Core 40 (40 credits)
- Academic Honors (47 credits)
- Technical Honors (47 credits)

# **What is a credit?**

## **How do I obtain credits?**

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- Pass a one-semester class = earn 1 credit
- Can earn 7 credits per semester = 14 per year
- You must obtain credits in progression in order to advance to next grade level.

# Core 40 Requirements

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- **English (4 years):** English 9, 10, 11, 12
- **Math (min. 3 years):** Must earn **6** math credits during high school despite math credits earned at PCMS: Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, Trigonometry, Probability & Statistics, AP Calculus

# Core 40

## Requirements (cont.)

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- **Social Studies (3 years):** World History, US History, Government/Economics
- **Science (3 years):** 1 year of Biology, 1 year of Chemistry, Physics, or ICP, and 1 additional year of any science class offered
- **Foreign Languages:** Not required but highly recommended to take one or two years for better college preparation.

# Academic Honors

## (Requirements in addition to the Core 40)

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- 47 credits, Minimum GPA 3.0, earn C- or higher in all required classes
- Earn 2 additional math credits
- Earn 6 credits in a foreign language or 4 credits in two different languages (8 credits)
- Earn 2 fine art credits
- Obtain 1 of the following: 6 dual credits, 4 AP credits, 3 dual credits and 2 AP credits, 26 score on ACT, or 1250 score on SAT

# Technical Honors

**(Requirements in addition to the Core 40)**

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- Can be paired with Academic Honors
- Earn 6 Career-Technical Credits in addition to required courses for Core 40 or AH track (\*6 CTE credits must be in an approved CTE pathway)
- Earn 6 CTE Dual Credits from approved list (need 12 if also on AH path)  
OR earn an industry-based certification
- Must achieve a “C-” or higher in each course
- 47 Credits required & must achieve a “B”(3.0) overall GPA
- 2 credits in Foreign Languages recommended

# Tech Honors Helpful Tips

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- If you are interested in possibly pursuing a career that is industrial/technology based, you may want to enroll in one of the following as freshman:
  - Introduction to Machine Tools ( 2 periods/one semester); dual credit
  - Intro. to Agriculture or Ag. Power Structures & Tech.; dual credit
  - Intro to Communication, Construction, and/or Transportation (each 1 semester)
  - Intro to Engineering (dual credit)
  - Intro to Manufacturing
  - If interested in 4T, take a technical course.
- Also, consider taking Spanish or Latin if you have room in your schedule and/or have not yet decided you are going to do Academic Honors.

# Required for all students

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- PE (2 semesters); 1 PE credit can be earned with 1 season of a sport or marching band
- Health (1 semester)
- Speech (1 semester)
- Preparing for College & Careers (1 semester – taken at PCMS)

# Example of 9<sup>th</sup> grade Core 40 Schedule

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- Algebra
- Concert Band
- English 9
- Biology
- PE/Health
- Into to 2D Art/Intro to 3D Art
- Intro to Engineering

# **EXAMPLE OF 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ACADEMIC HONORS SCHEDULE**

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- Geometry (Honors or Regular)
- English 9 (Honors or Regular)
- Biology
- Principles of Biomedical Science
- Health/PE
- Spanish I or Latin 1
- Intro to Art

# Example of 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Tech Honors Schedule

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- Algebra
- English 9 (Honors or Regular)
- Biology
- Spanish I
- Term 1: Intro Machine Tools, 2 period class for 1 semester
- Term 2: Intro to Communication/Intro to Construction
- PE/Strength

# Example of Band with AH or TH Schedule

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- English 9 (Honors or Regular)
- Geometry (Honors or Regular)
- Biology
- Health/PE
- Latin I
- Concert Band (Counts as Fine Arts Credit)
- Introduction to Agriculture

# Honors Weighted grades (0.01 add-on)

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- After GPA is computed each semester, students in the following classes will earn 0.01 add-on credit each semester to compute their weighted GPA
- English 9 Honors
- English 10 Honors
- English 11 Honors
- Advanced Composition, English Literature (Eng. 12 Honors), Adv. Speech
- Geometry Honors, Algebra II Honors, Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry Honors
- Economic Honors, Government Honors
- Anatomy & Physiology, Chemistry II

# AP Weighted Grades (0.02 add-on)

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- After GPA is computed each semester, students in the following classes will earn 0.02 add-on credit each semester to compute their weighted GPA
- AP Biology
- AP Language
- AP Literature
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP US History
- AP Spanish
- Organic/Biochemistry

# Graduation Pathways

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- 3 steps to meet requirements
  1. Earn a high school diploma
  2. Learn and demonstrate employability skills
  3. Satisfy postsecondary-ready competencies

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**DIPLOMA**

- Core 40
- Academic Honors
- Technical Honors
- General
- Same credit requirements as in the past

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**EMPLOY-  
ABILITY**

- Work experience (80 hrs)
- Volunteer experience (40 hrs)
- Extra-curricular activities (1 season or year of membership)
- Student-directed extensive class service project
- Rating scales from supervisor
- Self-reflection from student

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**POST-  
SECONDARY  
READY**

- ASVAB (31)
- AH or TH Diploma
- SAT (480 EBRW/430 Math)
- ACT (18 Eng/22 Rdg/22 Math/23 Sci)
- Industry Credential
- Apprenticeship
- 3 AP Classes (C avg)
- 3 Dual Credit Classes (C avg)
- CTE Concentrator/Pathway (C avg)

# **YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELORS ARE HERE TO HELP!**

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- Mrs. Peterson (students with last names A-J)
- Mrs. Engelbrecht (students with last names K-Z)
- Mrs. Montgomery, Youth First Social Worker
- Mrs. Gibson, Director of Guidance

# FOLLOW US!

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- <http://ngsc.k12.in.us/guidance-department>
- Facebook: "PCHS Tigers School Counseling Department"
- Remind app: Text @b8fa4c to 81010 to receive 9<sup>th</sup> grade remind alerts on your phone  
(other grade level invite codes will be sent home with students)

