

Rising 10th-12th Curriculum Night



Academic Advising/Course Selection 25-26

Tonight's Agenda

- Advanced Academics (Dr. Weech)
- Understand graduation requirements
- 2025-26 course registration process
- Learn about the various Advanced Academic opportunities at WPHS
- Factors and inputs to consider to select required and elective courses next year.



Student Services Staff



WEST POTOMAC HIGH SCHOOL



Advanced Academics
January 14, 2025

What is the Advanced Academics Program?

- ★ Provides challenging and creative learning experiences to uncover and develop learners.
- ★ Academic exploration and knowledge beyond the standard course of study.
- ★ Requires time and effort outside of class.
- ★ Open access to all students.

College preparatory (Honors), College-level (AP) courses, Dual Enrollment(DE)



HONORS

- Use to prepare students for AP Courses or where a comparable AP course does not exist
- Provides foundation for AP success
- Have a +0.5 weighted grade overall.

VS

AP

- College-level courses offered in high school. Covers content taught in introductory college courses.
- AP Exam in May or June
- Students are allowed to take up to 6 AP exams at no cost.
- Have a +1.0 weighted grade overall (upon successful completion of the course and AP exam.)

What are the benefits of Advanced Classes?

- ★ Rigor of high school curriculum is linked to success in college
- ★ Expand a student's ability to *read, write, and think critically*; analyze and solve problems; and build 21st century skills.
- ★ Advanced Academics courses can bolster a HS transcript and improve college acceptance.
- ★ Many colleges grant credit for courses in which students earn a qualifying score on AP examinations.



Requisites for for Success in Honors and AP Classes

- ★ Effort and preparation.
- ★ Able to manage time
- ★ Organized
- ★ Fast-paced and more comprehensive in scope and depth.
- ★ More time outside of class studying and completing tasks.
- ★ Students must or be willing to:
 - think critically
 - analyze and synthesize facts and data
 - Read and write extensively
 - Work independently and/or collaboratively



What West Potomac Offers Students To Help Them Succeed?

- ★ **Strong Professional Learning Staff and Team Culture:** Working collaboratively, teachers can structure common activities, interventions, and instruction based on analysis of assessments.
- ★ **Diverse Instructional Approaches:** Project-based learning (PBL), Blended learning, Hands-on and other strategies that encourages student collaboration
- ★ **Silver Day Rotation:** Remediation/intervention period on every Silver day during which student can visit teachers.



What West Potomac Offers Students To Help Them Succeed?

- ★ **Mastery Learning Policies:** Opportunities to relearn and show mastery of material already covered.
- ★ **WICOR Strategies:** WICOR strategies stem from AVID philosophy and are becoming a mainstay of West Potomac instructional culture
- ★ **Peer Tutoring:** NHS student tutoring program provide after school tutoring support

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Graduation Requirements

Differences between Diploma Types

- Number of credits
 - Core classes
- World Language sequence
 - 3 credits or 2+2
- Which one? Impact on FCPS transcript vs. college application process
- All students start out on the Advanced Diploma track. We do not change diploma types without consulting with the student/family.

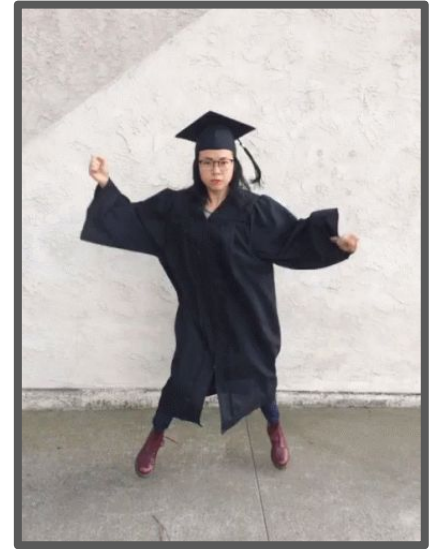
Graduation Requirements

Advanced Diploma		Standard Diploma	
Content Area	Credits	Content Area	Credits
English	4	English	4
History	4	History	3
Math	4	Math	3
Science	4	Science	3
Health and PE	2	Health and PE	2
World Language	3 or 2+2	Fine Arts OR CTE OR World Language	2
Fine Arts OR CTE	1	Electives (including sequential)	4
Electives (including sequential)	3	Economics and Personal Finance	1
Economics and Personal Finance	1		
TOTAL	26	TOTAL	22

Graduation Requirements (cont.)

ALL diplomas also require:

- 5 verified credits (SOLs)
- AP/IB/HN course OR CTE credential
- First Aid/CPR/AED
 - Typically through HPE 9
- Virtual course
 - Economics and Personal Finance satisfies this requirement
- What about service learning?
 - It is NOT a separate graduation requirement
 - Students CAN pursue special recognition (cord, civics seal, etc.)



New in 2025-26

10th Grade English Requirement

- English 10 / English 10 HN
- English 10 HN Humanities
- AP Seminar: English 10

10th Grade Social Studies Requirement

- World 2 / World 2 HN
- World 2 HN Humanities
- AP World History
- AP Human Geography



Verified Credits = SOL Credits

SOL requirements for both Standard and Advanced Diplomas

English	2
Math	1
Science	1
History	1
Total	5



Academic Advising 25-26

What to consider...

- **Graduation Requirements**

- Standard vs. Advanced

- **Interests**

- Which courses are you excited/passionate about?

- **Input**

- Talk to your current teachers - what do they suggest?
- Ask your school counselor - students will meet with their HS counselor to discuss their class selections

- **Balance**

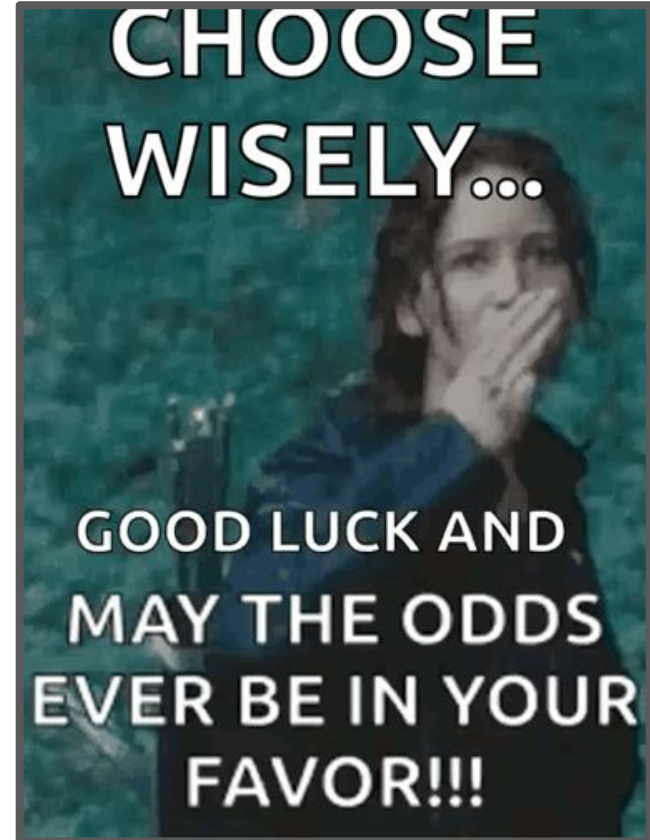
- Consider schoolwork, activities, work and/or other commitments

Academic Advising

- **What is it?**
 - Process to select your 7 classes for 2025-26
- **Where do students select classes / parents view course requests?**
 - StudentVue and ParentVue
- **Why is it important?**
 - Determines staffing at WPHS to ensure you get the classes you select
- **As of June 11, 2025, all course selections for 25-26 SY are FINAL, so take time to make these important decisions!**

Academic Advising

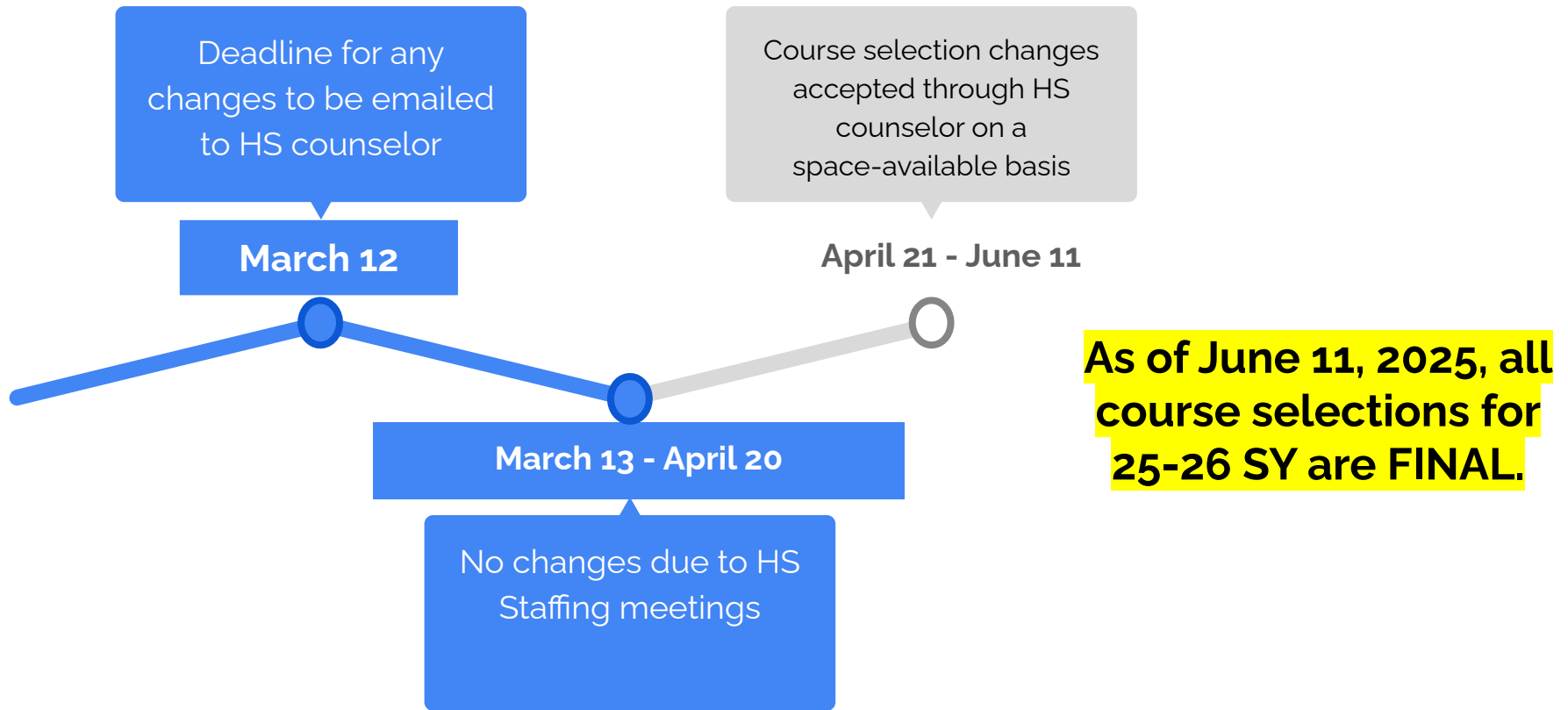
- **Individual Meetings with School Counselors**
 - Rising 12th (via English 11) - **Jan 21 - Feb 7**
 - Rising 11th (via PE 10) - **Feb 10 - Feb 21**
 - Rising 10th (via PE 9) - **Feb 24 - Mar 7**
- **Academy Priority Registration Deadline - 3/7/25**



Online Course Selection

- Course selection in StudentVue for 2025-26 is now live and can be accessed under “Course Request.”
- Directions posted on WPHS Academic Advising website
- Course selection cannot be done through the app – it must be via a computer web browser.
- After student meeting with counselor course selections will be “locked.” Any changes would need to go through HS alpha counselor.
- Parents/Guardians can see course selections in ParentVue.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES



Academy Courses

- **Academy options to consider primary in your junior and senior year:**
 - West Potomac Academy
 - Health/Medical Science classes, Criminal Justice, TV Production, Music Production, Dance, Welding and more!
 - Edison Academy
 - Automotive, Cyber classes, Culinary, Cosmetology, HVAC, Electrical, Construction, Vet Science, and more!

Priority deadline is March 7th!

Dual Enrollment (DE)

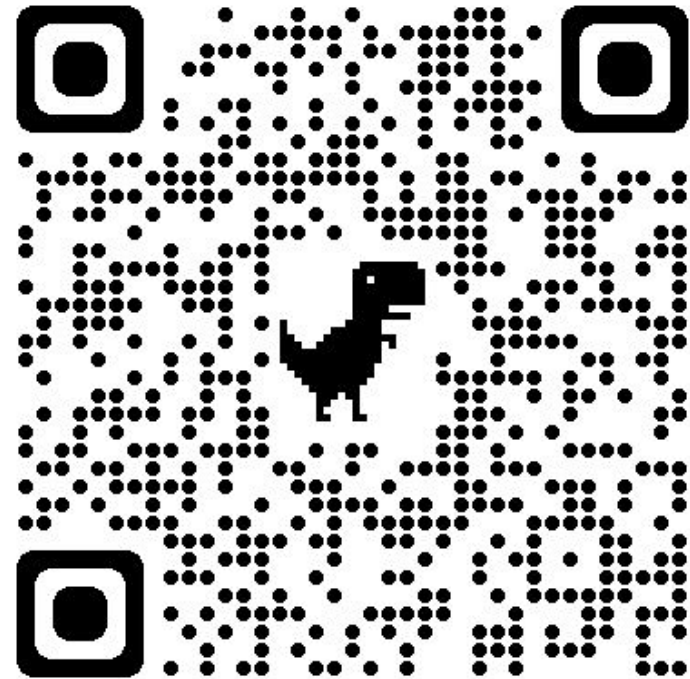
- Dual Enrollment allows students to earn high school and college credits at the same time. Students earn college credit through NOVA.
- Students must meet GPA requirements to qualify, as well as complete the Dual Enrollment registration process through NOVA by the deadline.
- AP vs. DE

For more information on DE, Mr. Gaffney will be hosting a breakout session **TONIGHT in room 322!** Or, you can visit the WPHS Academic Advising website (Dual Enrollment tab-coming soon).

Additional Course Options

- **FCPS Online Campus (summer and school year)**
 - Open to all grades - you may take up to two FCPS online courses during the school year.
 - Any school year courses beyond 7 credits will cost tuition; all summer courses cost tuition
 - Cost: \$680, Reduced: \$340, Free: \$68
- **Self-Directed Online Econ & Personal Finance (6120SD)**
 - 8th course, fee required, summer options available, counselor approval required
 - Cost: \$130, Reduced: \$65, Free: \$13
 - Pass/Fail only
 - Registration for 25-26: Jan 6-May 23, 2025

Academic Advising Website



Save the Dates!

Electives Fair (for students)	Tuesday/Thursday, January 14 and 16
Academic Advising Student Lesson	For grade 8: First week of January at SMS, For grades 9-11: Friday, January 10th (during Advisory classes)
Edison Academy Open House	Saturday, February 1st 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. (at Edison HS)
WP Academy Open House	Wednesday, February 20th 6-8 p.m.

Next Steps

- **Electives Open House** - 7:10-8:10pm Cafeteria
- **Breakout Sessions**
 - 7:10pm
 - 7:35pm
 - 8:00pm
- All sessions are available on handouts outside theatre - please take a picture of handouts on table.
- Rooms are mostly upstairs quander - go through new connector and up atrium staircase

Breakout Session Schedule

Topic	Department	Teacher Presenting	Room
English - 9th Grade Diploma Requirement Options	English	Symone Jenkins	416
English - 10th-12th Diploma Requirement Options	English	Colin O'Grady	434
Social Studies - 9th-10th Grade Diploma Requirement Options	Social Studies	Heather O'Grady	433
Social Studies - 11th-12th Diploma Requirement Options	Social Studies	Dan Baldwin	410
HN Econ/Personal Finance & AP Econ	Social Studies	James Dahlgren	404
Math - 9th Grade Diploma Requirement Options	Math	Marcus Johnson	604
Math - 10th-12th Diploma Requirement Options	Math	Linda Graziani	610
Science - 9th Grade Diploma Requirement Options	Science	Garrett Hubbard	706
Science 10th Grade Diploma Requirement Options	Science	Brian Valentine	710
Science - 11th-12th Diploma Requirement Options	Science	Moira Mazzi	705
AP World Languages - Spanish, Latin, French, German	World Language	Yamalie Rodriguez Figueroa	454
AVID	AVID	Dana Hubbard	324
Northern Virginia Community College Dual Enrollment Information	NOVA	Tom Gaffney, NOVA Dual Enrollment Coordinator	322

Plan for Tonight

- **Break Out Sessions - three sessions**

- Learn more about specific content area
- **300 rooms**
 - Through new connector, past cafeteria
- **400 / 700 rooms**
 - Through new connector and up atrium staircase
- **600 rooms**
 - Past 300 rooms lower level new addition

- **Electives Open House - Cafeteria**

Thank you and Go Wolverines!!

