

Rising 9th Grade Family Presentation



Welcome Class of 2028

Introductions:



Kevin McMahon
Director of Student Services

West Potomac
Student Services



Introductions:



Jessica Statz
Principal

Learning Targets

Following this presentation I will:

- Understand my graduation requirements
- Know the 2024-25 course registration process.
- Know the factors and inputs to consider to select required and elective courses next year.



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.

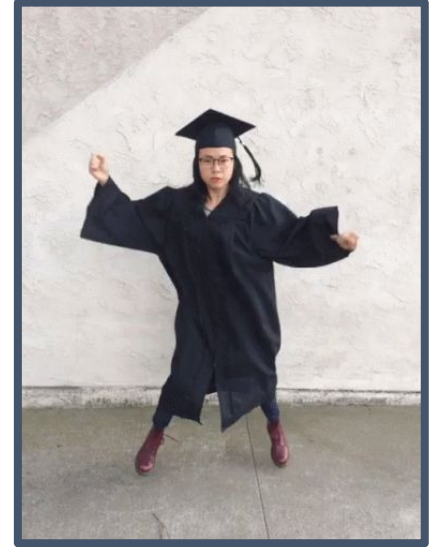
Graduation Requirements

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.)



Verified Credits = SOL Credits

SOL requirements for both Standard and Advanced Diplomas

English	2
Math	1
Science	1
History	1
Total	5



Things to consider when selecting courses...

- **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 a MS and HS counselor to discuss their class selections
- **Balance**
 - Consider schoolwork, activities, other commitments

9th Grade Sample Schedules

Sample #1

- English 9
- Algebra 1
- Biology
- World History & Geo 1
- Health & PE 9
- Spanish 1
- Studio Art 1

Sample #2

- Honors English 9
- Honors Algebra 2
- Honors Biology
- HNs World History & Geo 1
- Health & PE 9
- Spanish 2
- Advanced Band

Sample #3

- Honors English 9
- Geometry
- Environmental Science
- HNs World History & Geo 1
- Health & PE 9
- French 2
- Guitar 1

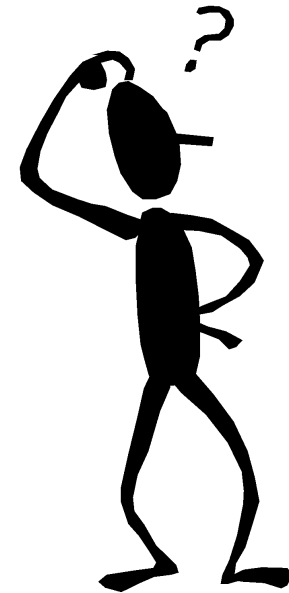
Academic Advising/Course Selection 2024

- **Summary**

- What is it?
 - Process to select your 7 classes for 2024-25
- Why is it important?
 - Determines staffing at WPHS to ensure you get the classes you select
- **In September there are no guaranteed class changes! So take time to make these important decisions**

Electives

- **Provide Two Alternate Elective Options**
 - If there is a conflict in your schedule, the alternative course(s) will replace your first-choice elective(s).
- **Example:**
 - 1st Choice: Art 1
 - Alternative Options
 - Photography
 - Creative Writing



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: \$375, Reduced: \$187.50, Free: \$37.50
- **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
- **Academy options to consider primary in your junior and senior year:**
 - West Potomac Academy
 - Edison Academy
 - Registration deadline March 6

Online Course Selection

- Course selection in StudentVue for 2024-25 is now live and can be accessed under “Course Request.”
- Directions posted on 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.

Directions posted on Academic Advising website

Directions for Entering Course Requests in SIS StudentVUE

(You must use a computer to enter Course Requests. You cannot use your phone.)

Course requests will not be finalized until the day of your scheduled Academic Advising meeting with your counselor. Any changes to course selections after your meeting must be made through your counselor by March 11, 2022.

Download the Course Selection Sheet with Course ID numbers on the WPHS Academic Advising Site:

<https://westpotomachs.fcps.edu/student-services/academic-advising>



Log on to SIS StudentVUE	http://sisstudent.fcps.edu Enter Username (student ID) & Password								
Course Requests <u>Search for Courses by Course ID number only. Use the whole Course ID number to make sure you enter the correct course.</u> In this section, you will enter your course requests (7 credits total). <i>Note: Some elective classes are 2 credits.</i> Rising 10th Grade students: Health & PE 10 has already been added to your course requests.	<p>Use your mouse pointer and keyboard to enter Course Requests. Do Not Use the "Enter" key or it will lock your Course Requests.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">On the left side bar, select Course RequestTo enter course requests: Click here to change course requestsAll available courses will be shown on the screen. Search for each course using Course ID. <div><input type="text"/> Search Courses <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Course ID</th><th>Course Title</th><th>Credits</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>10</td><td>10</td><td>10</td></tr></tbody></table></div>Select Add Request next to the Course you wish to request.All Course Requests will be listed at the top of the screen. <div>Selected Course Requests</div>			Course ID	Course Title	Credits	10	10	10
Course ID	Course Title	Credits							
10	10	10							
Alternate Elective Requests <u>Search for Courses by Course ID only.</u> All students must select at least 2 alternate electives. Enter your Alternate Electives in the order you would want them. <i>(For example - if your first-choice alternate is Creative Writing, make sure it has a 2 next to it.)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Search for each Alternate Course using Course ID in the order of preference. <div><input type="text"/> Search Courses <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Course ID</th><th>Course Title</th><th>Credits</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>10</td><td>10</td><td>10</td></tr></tbody></table></div>Select Add Alternate next to the Course you want to request as an alternate.Alternate Course Requests will be listed at the top of the screen. <div>Selected Alternate Course Requests</div>Be sure your alternate courses are listed in order of preference. <div>1 2 3 4</div>			Course ID	Course Title	Credits	10	10	10
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10	10	10							
Counselor Meetings Rising 9th - 1/12-1/19 Rising 12th - 1/24-2/4 Rising 11th - 2/7-2/18 Rising 10th - 2/21-3/4	Rising 10th Grade English Social Studies/World History 2* Math Science Health & PE 10 (pre-selected) World Language* Elective * = 2 needed for Advanced Studies Elective	Rising 11th Grade English Social Studies/US History Math Science World Language* Elective Elective * = 2 needed for Advanced Studies Elective	Rising 12th Grade English Social Studies/Government Math* Science* World Language* Elective Elective * = 2 needed for Advanced Studies Elective						

* = if needed for Advanced Studies diploma

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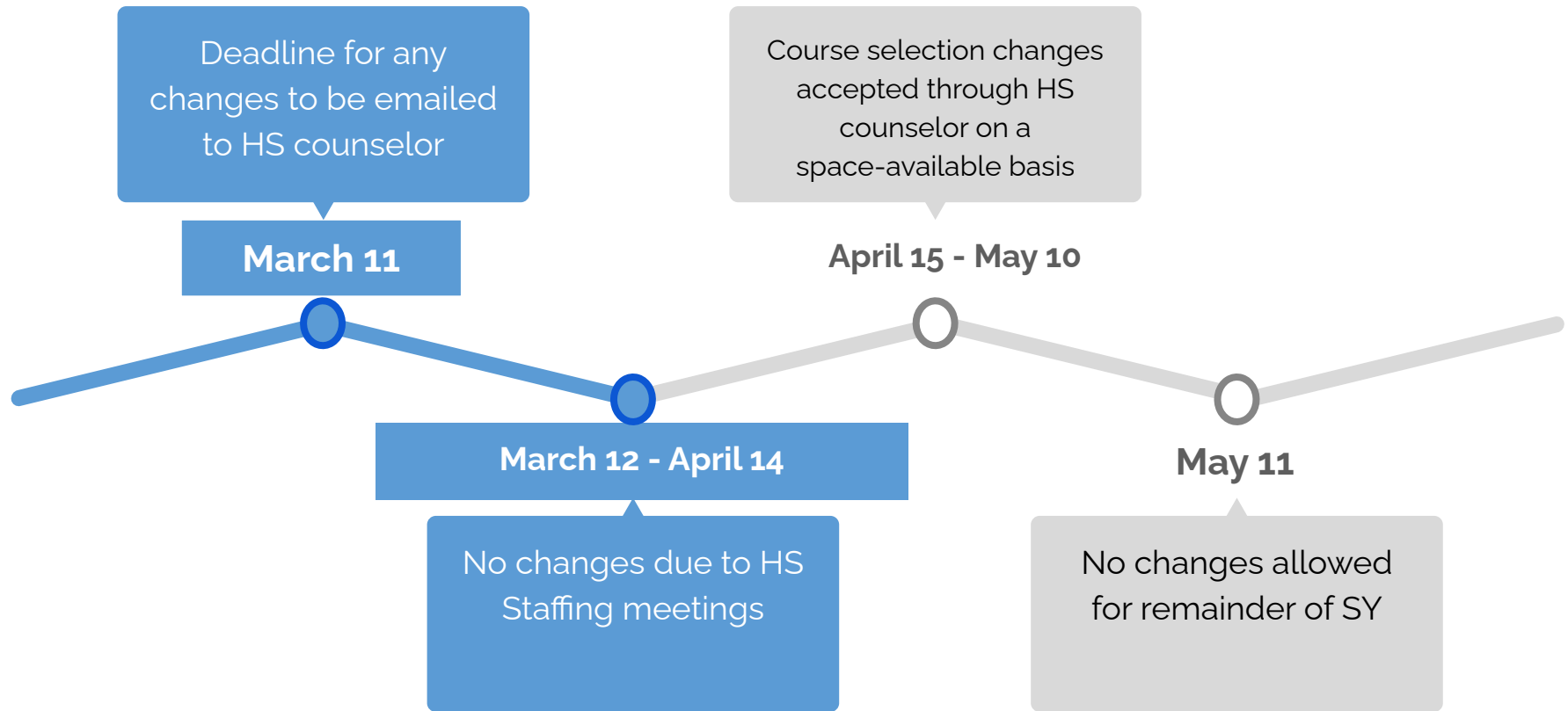
Course Requests Locked? Email your counselor directly.



Resources

- West Potomac Student Services Advising Website
 - WPHS Online Course Catalog - Live
 - 9th Grade Course Offerings Sheet - Posted
 - Directions on how to select classes in StudentVue - Posted
 - HS Counselor Contact Information - Posted
 - Recorded Video Presentation - Seen in advising classes at SMS - Posted
- Rising 9th Course Selection Meetings at SMS
 - January 16-19

IMPORTANT DEADLINES



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Advanced Academics

January 9, 2023

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 Courses

- ★ 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.



Advanced Placement (AP)

- ★ College-level courses offered in high school. Reflect what is taught in top introductory college courses
- ★ AP Exams- standardized exams that measure how well students have mastered college-level course work, taken in May.
- ★ 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.



Expectations for Success in Honors and AP Classes?

- ★ Demands greater effort
- ★ Fast-paced and more comprehensive in scope and depth
- ★ More time outside of class required.
- ★ Strong expectation for students to:
 - think critically
 - analyze and synthesize facts and data
 - Read and write extensively
 - Work independently and/or collaboratively

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When Considering Advanced Academics:

- ★ Advanced Academics is for the PREPARED
- ★ Rigor ≠ More work...BALANCE is key
- ★ Time Management and organizational skills
- ★ Play to strengths and interest areas when selecting courses

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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.

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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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Reminders

- **Planning to participate in a Marching Band or a Fall sport?**
 - Practices/Tryouts start early August – for some the first week. Plan your summer accordingly!
- **Athletics – a physical dated after May 1 2024 with VHSL physical paperwork.**
- **More information available at**
<https://www.westpotomacsports.net/>
- **Know someone new to FCPS exploring WPHS for 9th grade?**
- **New FCPS Family WPHS Open House - 1/25 - 2:00pm**
 - Contact Kevin McMahon for more information.

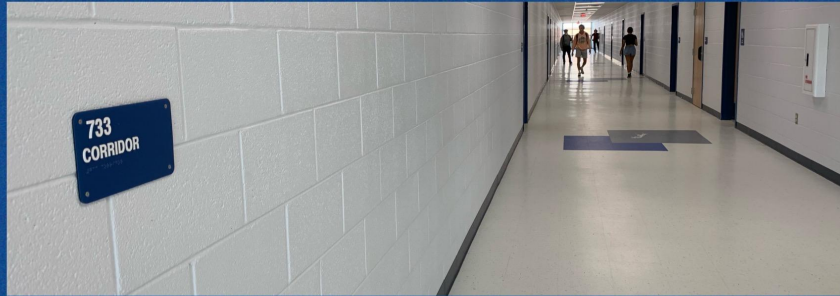
Next Steps

- **Electives Open House** - 6:50-8:15pm Cafeteria
- **Breakout Sessions**
 - 7-7:20pm
 - 7:25-7:45pm
 - 7:50-8:10pm
- 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

Plan for Tonight

- **Break Out Sessions - three sessions**
 - Learn more about specific content area
 - **300 rooms**
 - Through new connector, past cafeteria
 - **400 rooms**
 - Through new connector and up atrium staircase
 - **600 rooms**
 - Past 300 rooms lower level new addition
- **Electives Open House - Cafeteria**

So much to be excited about!



PIC•COLLAGE



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Thank you and Go Wolverines!!



Academic Advising Website

