



Propel High Schools Course Catalog

2023-2024

**Deeper Learning
Scholar Empowerment
Unique Opportunities**

Propel Schools

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Propel High School Curriculum Program

Mission

Propel's mission is to catalyze the transformation of public education so that all children have access to high performing public schools.

Propel High Schools

Propel high schools are dedicated to achieving post-secondary success for all scholars. Through deeper learning, scholar empowerment, and unique opportunities, scholars are prepared for college and career training. We are committed to the following goals:

- 100% scholar graduation rate
- 100% of scholars graduate with a reviewed and approved post-secondary plan
- 100% of scholars accepted into college
- 100% of graduates attend either college or career training

Community Values

Each high school has a specific set of community values that seek to build the habits and mindsets that scholars need to be successful in high school and beyond Propel. Though the specific habits vary at each school, all habits include the following concepts:

- Being engaged and prepared
- Treating oneself and others with respect
- Demonstrating self-discipline
- Offering compassion and empathy

Academics

Overall Approach

- Deeper Learning: Learning in all classrooms emphasizes authentic, real-world learning experiences. Classrooms employ inquiry-based strategies while developing collaboration, critical thinking, communication, and creativity skills.
- Scholar Empowerment: Scholars are leaders of their own learning. Through citizenship, voice, and leadership, Propel High Schools instill confidence and critical engagement for scholars to interact within various communities. Scholars possess the agency to positively impact self and society. Self-reflection and revision of work are concepts valued within our schools and beyond.
- Unique Opportunities: Propel Schools know that closing the achievement gap also includes closing the opportunity gap. Learning experiences extend well beyond the traditional classroom. Scholars gain confidence and transferable knowledge by leaving their comfort zones. Through these opportunities Propel redefines school and our scholars defy expectations.

Graduation Requirements

This chart outlines the required credits to meet graduation requirements. Beginning with the class of 2023, scholars have the option of pursuing Career Pathways, including Nursing. Scholars who elect a Nursing Career Pathway will also pursue up to 30 college credits. Should a scholar withdraw or be withdrawn from the Nursing Career Pathway, the scholar would need to meet the General Graduation Requirements. Scholars pursuing other Career Pathways, such as IT, Culinary Arts, or Chemical Laboratory Technician, must complete the General Graduation Requirements.

	General Class of 2027 and beyond	General Class of 2026	General Class of 2025	General Class of 2024
English Language Arts	4	4	4	4

Social Studies	4	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	4	4	4
Science	3	3	3.5	4
World Language	2	2	2	2
Computer Science	1	1	1	1
Health and PE	1	1	1	1
Electives	5	5	5	4
Crew	0	0.5	1	1.5
Total	23	24.5	25.5	25.5

All credits earned or failed previously, either within Propel or outside of Propel, will be mapped to these graduation requirements. Should a scholar or family wish to request an additional review of courses to determine graduation requirements, the scholar or family must next reach out to the principal. Additional recourse includes the Senior Director of Academics.

Additional Graduation Requirements

- Successful completion of approved and documented 10 hours of Service Learning Project.

Pennsylvania Graduation Requirements

Beginning in the 2022-23 school year, the Act 158 statewide graduation requirement will apply together with Propel graduation requirements. Keystone Exams are the statewide assessment that Pennsylvania uses to comply with accountability requirements in the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Scholars can meet the Act 158 statewide graduation requirement through the following pathways:

- Keystone Proficiency Pathway: Scoring proficient or advanced on each Keystone Exam - Algebra I, Literature, and Biology. Non-numeric proficiencies earned as a result of the 2019-20 assessment waivers count in this pathway.
- Keystone Composite Pathway: Earning a composite score of 4452 on the Algebra I, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams (while achieving at least a proficient score on at least one of the three exams and no less than a basic score on the remaining two). Non-numeric proficiencies earned as a result of the 2019-20 assessment waivers do not count in this pathway.
- CTE Pathway: For Career and Technical Education (CTE) Concentrators, successful completion of locally established grade-based requirements for academic content areas associated with each Keystone Exam on which the scholar did not achieve proficiency and attainment of an industry-based competency certification related to the CTE Concentrator's program of study or demonstration of a high likelihood of success on an approved industry-based competency assessment or readiness for continued meaningful engagement in the CTE Concentrator's program of study.
- Alternate Assessment Pathway: Successful completion of locally established grade-based requirements for academic content areas associated with each Keystone Exam on which the scholar did not achieve proficiency and one of the following:
 - Attainment of an established score on an approved alternate assessment (SAT, PSAT, ACT, ASVAB);
 - Gold Level on the ACT WorkKeys Assessment;
 - Attainment of an established score on an Advanced Placement Program or an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program exam in an academic content area associated with each Keystone Exam on which the scholar did not achieve at least a proficient score;
 - Successful completion of a concurrent enrollment course in an academic content area associated with each Keystone Exam in which the scholar did not achieve at

- least a proficient score;
- Successful completion of a pre-apprenticeship program; or
- Acceptance in an accredited 4-year nonprofit institution of higher education and evidence of the ability to enroll in college-level coursework.
- Evidence Based Pathway: Successful completion of locally established grade-based requirements for academic content areas associated with each Keystone Exam on which the scholar did not achieve proficiency and demonstration of three pieces of evidence consistent with the scholar's goals and career plans, including
 - One of the following:
 - Attainment of an established score on the ACT WorkKeys assessment, a SAT subject test, an Advanced Placement Program Exam, or an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program Exam;
 - Acceptance to an accredited nonprofit institution of higher education other than a 4-year institution and evidence of the ability to enroll in college-level coursework;
 - Attainment of an industry-recognized credential; or
 - Successful completion of a concurrent enrollment or postsecondary course; and
 - Two additional pieces of evidence, including one or more of the options listed above, or: satisfactory completion of a service learning project; attainment of a score of proficient or advanced on a Keystone Exam; a letter guaranteeing full-time employment; a certificate of successful completion of an internship or cooperative education program; or satisfactory compliance with the NCAA's core courses for college-bound scholar athletes with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0.

Academic Curriculum and Course of Study

The chart outlines the recommended course of study for various content areas, consistent with the graduation requirements previously described. Each course has prerequisites, though some may include co-requisites, as described in each course description.

	<u>Required Courses - 18 credits</u>	<u>Elective Courses - 5 credits*</u>
ELA	English 9 - 1 credit English 10 - 1 credit English 11 or AP Language - 1 credit English 12 or AP Literature - 1 credit	Creative Writing - 0.5 credits Public Speaking - 0.5 credits Literature by and about African Americans - 0.5 credits Literature by and about Women - 0.5 credits
Social Studies	Civics and Government - 1 credit US History or AP US History - 1 credit Financial Literacy - 1 credit World Cultures - 1 credit	Psychology - 0.5 credits African-American Studies - 0.5 credits Film Studies - 0.5 credits
Math	Algebra I - 1 credit Geometry - 1 credit Algebra II - 1 credit	Pre-Calculus - 1 credit AP Calculus - 1 credit
Science	Biology I w/ Lab - 1 credit Biology II w/ Lab - 1 credit Chemistry w/Lab - 1 credit	Anatomy and Physiology - 1 credit Physics - 1 credit Zoology - 0.5 credits Forensic Science - 0.5 credits Environmental Science - 1 credit
World Language	Spanish I - 1 credit Spanish II - 1 credit	American Sign Language I - 0.5 credits

Computer Science	Digital Literacy - 1 credit	3D Printing Fundamentals and Design - 0.5 credits AP Computer Science Principles - 1 credit Digital Marketing - 0.5 credits Broadcasting - 0.5 credits
Health and Physical Education	Fitness - 0.5 credits Wellness - 0.5 credits	
The Arts		All courses in The Arts section
Scholar Enterprise		All courses in Scholar Enterprise section
Academic Support		All courses in Academic Support section
Dual Credit		All courses in the Dual Credit section

* Note that not all elective courses are available at all Propel High Schools. Please review course descriptions for more information.

Exceptions to the Course of Study

1. Scholars who meet a performance level of “Proficient” or “Advanced” on the Algebra I Keystone Exam during their 8th grade year will be placed directly into Geometry in their 9th grade year, and the scholar will be granted 1 earned credit for Algebra I.
2. Scholars may elect to take Geometry and Algebra II in the same year (concurrently).
3. All transcripts will be reviewed by the College and Career Counselor to determine how transferred credits apply.
4. All other exceptions will be reviewed by the administration.

Grading System and Promotion Requirements

Propel high schools utilize a standards-based grading system.

To receive credit for a course taken at a Propel High School, a scholar must earn a “C” or higher in a traditional grading system and a 2 or higher in a standards-based grading system. Additionally, all honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and dual credit courses receive a weighted calculation in the scholar’s GPA. Honors, AP, and dual credit courses also receive a 0.5 addition to their GPA when a scholar earns credit in these courses. This bump is not reflected in the grade on the report card or transcript, but rather factored into the scholar’s GPA. The 0.5 addition is omitted if the scholar does not earn a passing grade in the course. The scholar must earn a grade of a “C” or higher to gain credit. If a scholar does not earn this grade, whether in an honors or AP course, then the scholar will NOT earn credit for that class. For dual credit courses, Propel Schools will honor the institution of higher education earned credit policy and award Propel credit if the scholar earned IHS credit.

Please see the grading scale for both traditional and standards-based grading below:

Standards Based Grading Scale	Letter Scale	0-100% Scale	Grade Point Average (GPA) Scale
3.75-4.0	A+	95-100	4.25 (0.25 addition for mastery)
3.5-3.74	A	90-94.9	4.0
3.25-3.49	B+	85-89.9	3.5
3.0-3.24	B	80-84.9	3.0

2.5-2.99	C+	75-79.9	2.5
2.0-2.49	C	70-74.9	2.0
1.5-1.99	D	60-69.9	1.0
1.0-1.49	F	0-59.9	0.0

Transcripts will still have letter grades, but report cards and progress reports will be on a 4-3-2-1 scale, as listed below. The following scale gives a general description of scores under a standards-based grading system:

- 4- Exceeding Expectations
- 3- Meeting Expectations
- 2- Approaching Expectations (threshold needed to earn credit for the course)
- 1- No Evidence of Scholar Learning

In order for a scholar to be promoted to the next grade, they must have earned enough credits to be on track to graduate within the course of study offered at Propel High Schools during the school day. It is important to understand that these promotion requirements are set based on the scholar passing all of their subsequent coursework with a complete schedule each year. It is also important to note that scholars will not be placed in concurrent classes if one is a prerequisite for the other. The scholar's Crew will be commensurate with their grade-level.

If a course is failed, the course credit will need to be recovered over the summer -- through either Propel's Credit Recovery Program or through a pre-approved 3rd party credit recovery program. Credit recovery must be documented and provided to the principal no later than the final add/drop day each year. If a scholar wishes to double up on a certain subject in order to take advanced coursework, the scholar will need parent, teacher, school counselor/College and Career Counselor, and principal approval. Still, all prerequisites are required.

Grade-Point Averages (GPA) are updated at the point of determination of credit. This will typically occur at the end of the first and second semesters. This only includes grades for the courses that have concluded. Credits recovered over the summer will be updated by the end of the add/drop period the following year.

By earning credit in a course, scholars demonstrate that they have satisfactorily learned the content and skills of that course. There are some courses that cannot be retaken for an additional credit once it has been earned. Courses that cannot be taken for an additional credit include all core ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies courses. Scholars are discouraged from retaking any course that they have previously passed, but allowances are made for elective courses, including fitness, music, and art courses. Please be advised that many post-secondary institutions are reviewing transcripts and want to see a transcript that has challenged the scholar and increased in rigor over time. College admissions, in most cases, will not look favorably at a course appearing twice on a transcript.

During the 2019-2020 school year, Propel Schools made allowances in our grading scale, given the unprecedented pandemic. Scholars had the opportunity to take each class as either Pass/Incomplete, which would then not impact their GPA, but would still impact graduation requirements. Please reach out to your Crew Leader and College and Career Counselor if you have questions about this after final grades are distributed. As for the 2020-2021 school year, we will maintain our regular grading system, but will always work toward making sure grades are an accurate reflection of the knowledge and skills that scholars have demonstrated.

Credit Recovery Overview

If a scholar fails to earn a passing grade during the school year, then scholars are expected to recover the credit by August 15th of the summer following. Credit recovery is offered at all Propel High Schools. Please read below for important information regarding course grades and GPA related to credit recovery:

- The grade of the recovered credit must be a C or higher.
- The final course grade will be replaced by a C once credit is recovered.
- GPA calculations will be updated by the end of the add/drop period the following year.
- All documentation of recovered credits must be submitted to Principals and school counselor/College and Career Counselor, by the end of the add/drop period for a scholar to progress to the next course, according to the course of study above. If a scholar does not provide this documentation by the end of the add/drop period, then the scholar will remain in the previously failed course for the entire length of the course.
- It is the scholar's responsibility to show documentation of recovered credit.

Course Selection Process

Scholars have the opportunity to select certain courses as part of their Propel High School Experience. Propel High Schools have a large number of required courses to ensure that scholars have access to a well-rounded education and are exposed to a variety of content, including a Fully Valued Arts Program. The following is the course selection process that all Propel high schools follow:

Spring

- Review transcripts and graduation map
- Review Summer Credit Recovery Options (if necessary)
- Scholar review of Course Catalog
- Crew Leader lesson(s) on advising scholars on required next courses and prerequisites
- Scholars complete course requests through Skyward
- For scholars interested in applying to any Scholar Career Pathway:
 - Application materials for pathways starting in the Summer Semester due March 31
 - Application materials for pathways starting in the Fall Semester due May 31

Summer

- Schools develop personalized schedules for scholars
- Schools adjust scholar schedules based on recovered credits
- All courses are balanced and class size minimized to create optimum learning environments
- Families will be contacted to set up a time for a meeting with each scholar's Crew Leader to review schedules.

Fall

- All scholars follow their given schedule. Scholars should always follow their most recent printed schedule.
- Add/Drop period is for the first 2 weeks of school ONLY. This is an opportunity for parents and scholars to request a course change. Not all requests will be able to be satisfied.
- The last day for add/drop for the 2023-24 school year is Friday, September 1, 2023.

Advanced Placement (AP) Requirements

Each school offers an Advanced Placement Program. Every course is College Board approved and counts for college credit at many colleges and universities should the scholar earn a score of a 3 (and in some cases a 4) or higher on the end-of-course exam or portfolio presentation.

Dual Credit Courses

Each school also offers dual credit courses in accordance with Propel's Dual Credit Policy.

Empowering Scholars

Scholars are leaders of their own learning. Through citizenship, voice, and leadership, Propel High Schools instills confidence and critical engagement for scholars to interact within various communities. Scholars possess the agency to positively impact themselves and society. Self-reflection is a trait valued within our schools and beyond.

Crew

The structure of crew allows for relationship building, academic progress monitoring, and character development. Crew allows scholars to build positive connections with their peers and with their crew leader. Crew advisors strategically plan crew to address and assess these multiple goals. The crew leader serves as the primary advocate for each of their scholars and as the point person for communication with parents on the growth and development of their scholar. Crews will also explore post-secondary options through the Naviance platform to ensure all scholars are prepared to take the right steps Beyond Propel.

Crew is one way that scholars find their authentic voice. In a group, scholars who meet daily, Crew serves as a sort of advisory program that addresses multiple purposes.

Scholar Leadership and Scholar Voice

Each school has a specific group of scholar leaders who work to co-create their school through democratic principles of participation, activism, voice, collaboration, citizenship, and tolerance. Through this group, scholars build their leadership and communication skills to create a strong school culture. The team plans school spirit activities and community-building events, participates in leadership training programs, and meets regularly with school leaders. The group plays an important role in developing High School programming, as well.

Scholar-Led Conferences

High School scholars and parents are required to attend three conferences over the course of the school year, typically in August, November, and February. Please see the school year calendar for the actual dates. Parents are notified a few weeks prior to each conference of time slots and asked to sign up in advance for a conference time. Families are asked to select a time slot in advance of the conference days.

- In the August conference, parents meet their child's Crew Leader. Initial introductions are followed by a review of the Scholar and Family Handbook. Scholars and parents commit to uphold the Propel commitments and values by signing the Scholar and Family Handbook agreement. Crew Leaders will also go over the scholar's schedule.
- In November and February, scholars lead the conference. Scholars share initial assessments, discuss particular strengths and weaknesses, and share their academic and social learning goals for the school year. A short progress report with information about the scholar's habits of work, academic performance, and social skill is also distributed in addition to all other data points such as discipline and attendance reports.
- If needed, a conference will be held in April to discuss academic concerns that may require credit recovery during summer months.

It is required that every high school scholar attends all conferences. Scholars must attend each conference, along with a parent or guardian, or the conference must be rescheduled.

Standards-Based Grading

Standards-Based Grading is one component of building scholar ownership over their own learning. Propel Schools have high levels of expectations for scholars and being able to meet grade-level standards is principle among them. Standards-Based Grading requires all scholars to adopt a growth mindset. The purpose of education is to learn, not get good grades. Grades are meant to be an accurate reflection of scholar learning. As such, scholars are encouraged to continually revise and reflect on their work in order to continually improve. Though work completion is important, scholars are required to demonstrate deep learning of all material.

Through Standards-Based Grading, all scholar work is assessed on Learning Targets that are aligned to Pennsylvania Core Standards, provided by the state which all scholars are required to meet. By assessing on Learning Targets, parents and scholars can see how much learning has been demonstrated on specific learning outcomes. This is different from a traditional form of grading that assigns grades to particular categories not aligned to standards (i.e. classwork, homework, tests, quizzes, etc.).

Scholars are continually required to reflect on their learning and provide evidence of their growth through student-led conferences, passage portfolios, and academic check-ins in classes and Crew. This approach not only leads to scholars who reach deeper levels of learning and who are better prepared for college and career, but allows scholars to become leaders of their own learning.

Scholar Opportunities

Propel Schools know that closing the achievement gap also includes closing the opportunity gap. Learning experiences extend well beyond the traditional classroom. Scholars gain confidence and transferable knowledge by leaving their comfort zones. We are committed to ensuring scholars are prepared for success through a number of pathways. We serve all scholars to ensure success beyond Propel. Through these opportunities Propel redefines school and our scholars defy expectation.

Scholar Career Pathways

The goal of the Scholar Career Pathways program is to provide Propel high school scholars with a set of fully-mapped out and aligned career options that promote better decision-making and prepares scholars for future success in select, high opportunity occupations. High Priority Occupations (HPO's) are identified, approved and recognized by the PA Department of Labor, PA Department of Education, PA Careerlink and Partners4Work (formerly Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board). HPO's are occupations that are in demand by employers, have higher skill needs and provide family sustaining wages.

Each pathway will consist of a variety of experiences both during and outside of the school day that build scholar exposure, knowledge, and career training in the selected fields. Some of the activities that scholars can expect to participate in include job shadowing, summer work experiences (paid/unpaid), internships, mock interviews, resume building job skills training, career days and more.

The following Scholar Career Pathways are available through the Community College of Allegheny County for 2023-2024: Nursing and Manufacturing. Scholars also have the opportunity to participate in the Early College Program, which offers pathways in Computer Information Technology, Business Management, and Accounting.

Nursing Career Pathway Coursework (Community College of Allegheny County)

Scholars who successfully complete this pathway and pass the TEAS exam will be admitted into CCAC's Nursing Program upon High School Graduation. Scholars can continue on to an Associate of Science in Nursing from CCAC and sit for the NCLEX-RN examination to assume an entry-level position as a Registered Nurse (RN).

Manufacturing Career Pathway Coursework (Community College of Allegheny County)

Upon successful completion of the first six credits, scholars will choose their own courses for the following Summer, Fall and Spring semesters. Courses will be chosen based on their specific interests, allowing them to earn an additional 9 college credits. Scholars will also be eligible to sit for the MSSC Certified Production Technician Certification, which is an Industry Based Credential.

Early College Program (Community College of Allegheny County)

Track Options:

- Computer Information Technology
- Business Management
- Accounting

Scholars choose the track option they are most interested in. The course trajectory for each track is outlined by CCAC. After successful completion of specific courses, as outlined by CCAC, scholars can sit for Industry Based Credentials.

Service Learning

The purpose of service learning is to create learning experiences that teach civic responsibility and strengthen communities. Scholars complete a variety of service learning components throughout their high school years with Propel, both within and outside of the school day.

In order to graduate with a Propel diploma, each scholar must complete 10 hours of service learning/community service that is logged and approved by the school. When community service is completed, the site supervisor must complete the Propel Community Service form. There is both a single-use community service form and an ongoing community service form. Signed forms must be turned into the scholar's Crew Leader who works in conjunction with the school counselor and College and Career Counselor to track the hours. These hours will be updated and shared at scholar-led conferences to ensure that scholars are making progress toward this graduation requirement.

Extraordinary Opportunities

Propel High School Scholars have the opportunity to go beyond the traditional classroom setting and learn how to align decision-making with real-world career options. Scholars can apply in the spring of their rising 9th-12th grade years for college immersion experiences, leadership-building experiences and educational trips abroad. Through Extraordinary Opportunities, Propel scholars are encouraged to get outside of their comfort zone and rethink their learning perspective.

Dual Credit

High school scholars in 11th or 12th grade Propel Schools have the opportunity to earn college credits through Dual Enrollment/College in High School. Through these programs, scholars can earn high school and college credit with the cooperating accrediting college or university. Scholars may take up to 4 credits per semester. Dual Enrollment requirements involve a scholar GPA of 2.5 or higher, regular attendance and are able to demonstrate the ability to balance both their regular high school course load with their college course(s). Propel covers the cost of tuition for dual enrollment courses, bus transportation, books and fees. Propel Schools Dual Enrollment Policy (will be added)

Rites of Passage

Rites of Passage are ceremonies and/or experiences that mark important transitional periods in a scholar's life. At each transition, we celebrate achievements and developmental milestones. They may vary -- from adventure trips to passage portfolios to traditions that scholars are expected to participate in as part of the Propel Experience. Propel High School scholars can expect to participate in some or all of the following rites of passage: national/international travel, obtaining a passport, post-secondary plan development, college tour, prom, graduation and more.

Career and Technical Education

Propel High Schools have a partnership with the local Career and Technology Centers. They are Parkway West Career and Technology Center, Forbes Road Career and Technology Centers, and Steel Center for Career and Technical Education. Scholars who choose to attend a Career and Technology Center attend half day at their Propel High School and half day at their Career and Technical School to learn and develop the knowledge, skills, work habits and aptitude necessary for entry into and advancement within various levels of employment in occupational areas of technology,

business, marketing and distribution, health and medical, and trade and industry for participation in postsecondary education, training and employment.

Description of Courses

Crew

Crew

Grade	9 - 12; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0
Course #	00001	PIMS Code	22999
Course Description	Scholars begin the day with Crew before their first period course. The structure of crew allows for relationship building, academic progress monitoring, and character development. Crew is a time for scholars to build positive connections with their peers and with their crew leader.		

English Language Arts

English 9

Grade	9; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	01001	PIMS Code	01001
Course Description	ELA 9 provides ninth grade scholars with a strong foundation to continue their study of English. Each unit begins with a compelling question such as "What does it mean to be American?," "How can words inspire change?," or "Do we determine our own destinies?" Through whole-group, small-group, and independent learning opportunities, scholars will read texts from a variety of genres (including multimedia) in order to broaden and deepen their perspectives on each unit topic. At the end of each unit, scholars will pull together the content knowledge, process skills, and academic habits they have acquired and demonstrate their learning through a performance-based assessment. These performance-based assessments include everything from podcast productions to non-fiction narratives to dramatic readings. Throughout the year, scholars are given increasing responsibility for their learning as they set goals, self-assess, and monitor and reflect on their progress.		

English 10

Grade	10; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	English 9	Credits	1.0
Course #	01002K 01003H - Honors course	PIMS Code	01002

Course Description	<p>ELA 10 continues building on the core proficiencies of scholars' freshmen year. Each unit begins with a compelling question such as "What is the allure of fear?," "What is the relationship between power and freedom?," or "Why do people acquire more than they need?" Through whole-group, small-group, and independent learning opportunities, scholars will read texts from a variety of genres (including multimedia) in order to broaden and deepen their perspectives on each unit topic. At the end of each unit, scholars will pull together the content knowledge, process skills, and learning habits they have acquired and will demonstrate their learning through a performance-based assessment. These performance-based assessments include everything from podcast productions to multimedia presentations to explanatory essays. Throughout the year, scholars are given increasing responsibility for their learning as they set goals, self-assess, and monitor and reflect on their progress.</p> <p>*For scholars who wish to challenge themselves, this course is available as an honors section at BHHS.</p> <p>Scholars enrolled in this course take the Keystone Literature assessment in the Spring.</p>
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English 11

Grade	11; required if not taking AP English Language and Composition		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	English 10	Credits	1.0
Course #	01004	PIMS Code	01003
Course Description	<p>In ELA 11, scholars use the core proficiencies built in their freshman and sophomore years and apply them to historical periods in US history. Each unit begins with a compelling question such as "What role does individualism play in American society?," "In what ways does the struggle for freedom change with history?," or "What is the relationship between literature and place?" Through whole-group, small-group, and independent learning opportunities, scholars will read texts from a variety of genres (including multimedia) in order to broaden and deepen their perspectives on the unit topic. At the end of each unit, scholars will pull together the content knowledge, process skills, and learning habits they acquired and will demonstrate their learning through a performance-based assessment. These performance-based assessments include everything from personal narratives to informative essays to panel discussions. Throughout the year, scholars are given increasing responsibility for their learning as they set goals, self-assess, and monitor and reflect on their learning.</p>		

AP English Language and Composition

Grade	11; required if not taking English 11: Global Perspectives in Literature		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	English 10	Credits	1.0
Course #	01005A	PIMS Code	01005

Course Description	Advanced Placement English Language and Composition is a study of the English language in all forms and is designed to improve scholar proficiency in college-level reading and writing. Scholars will engage in close reading and critical analysis, exploring texts through various critical lenses, and will hone writing skills. Scholars will deepen their understanding of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry while focusing on rhetoric and rhetorical analysis, author's purpose, reader's expectations, and genre conventions. Close reading of this nature involves interpreting, justifying, and evaluating literature utilizing critical evidence. Scholars should expect an intensive writing experience, honing inquiry, analysis, and interpretation skills. Course writing will include analytical essays, personal essays, comparison essays, synthesis essays, open genre essays, and research papers. Scholars will be required to keep a reading and writing journal throughout the course. This course in particular will greatly assist those scholars preparing for careers in history, law, medicine, engineering, business, and the sciences. This course requires summer assignments. Coursework supports scholar success on the A.P. Language and Composition Exam to be administered in May, as well as in post-secondary academic courses and careers.
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English 12

Grade	12; required if not taking AP English Literature and Composition		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	English 11 or AP English Language	Credits	1.0
Course #	01006	PIMS Code	01004
Course Description	In their capstone ELA course, scholars explore topics and texts related to historical periods in British and World History. Each unit begins with a compelling question such as "What makes a hero?," "What factors lead people to criticize their society rather than simply accept it?," or "How do our attitudes toward the past and future shape our actions?" Through whole-group, small-group, and independent learning opportunities, scholars will read texts from a variety of genres (including multimedia) in order to broaden and deepen their perspectives on the unit topic. At the end of each unit, scholars will pull together the content knowledge, process skills, and learning habits they acquired and will demonstrate their learning through a performance-based assessment. These performance-based assessments include everything from reader's theater productions to reflective narratives to explanatory essays. Throughout the year, scholars are given increasing responsibility for their learning as they set goals, self-assess, and monitor and reflect on their learning.		

AP English Literature and Composition

Grade	12; required if not taking English 12		
School	ASHS, BHHS		
Prerequisites	English 11 or AP English Language	Credits	1.0
Course #	01007A	PIMS Code	01006
Course	The AP English Literature and Composition course is designed to engage		

Description	<p>scholars in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature by using a critical lens approach, similar to the one used in English 12. Through close reading of selected texts, scholars deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, scholars will consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Such close reading involves the experience of literature, the interpretation of literature, and the evaluation of literature. Writing to understand a literary work may involve writing response and reaction papers along with annotation, free-writing, and keeping a reading journal. Writing to explain a literary work involves analysis and interpretation, and will include writing brief focused analyses on aspects of language and structure. Writing to evaluate a literary work involves making and explaining judgments about its artistry and exploring its underlying social and cultural values through analysis, interpretation, and argument. All coursework supports success on the AP Literature and Composition Exam in May.</p>
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EL 9: English Language Arts for English Language Learners

Grade	9		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	01008	PIMS Code	E01001
Course Description	<p>This course is for scholars new to the English Language. The course focuses on the preproduction of language acquisition through early production. The course focuses on building fluency to enable scholars to communicate basic needs.</p>		

EL 10: English Language Arts for English Language Learners

Grade	10		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	EL 9	Credits	1.0
Course #	01009	PIMS Code	E01002
Course Description	<p>This course is for scholars who are still relatively new to the English Language, but possess a base level of knowledge. This course focuses on speech emergence to enable scholars to ask and answer questions and produce simple sentences.</p>		

EL 11: English Language Arts for English Language Learners

Grade	11		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	EL 10	Credits	1.0
Course #	01010	PIMS Code	E01003

Course Description	This course is for intermediate language learners who are working toward fluency. This intermediate fluency course seeks to build communicative approaches that enable scholars to give full answers to questions that include multiple sentences, among a set of strategies to build deeper fluency.
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EL 12: English Language Arts for English Language Learners

Grade	12		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	EL 11	Credits	1.0
Course #	01011	PIMS Code	E01004
Course Description	This course builds toward advanced fluency. Scholars are asked to retell a story with appropriate amounts of detail. Scholars will also ask and answer conditional questions, while building their ability to communicate using all four domains.		

Creative Writing

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	01012	PIMS Code	01104
Course Description	In this class, students will write, write, write, and write some more. The course will cover a variety of genres, including short stories, poems, comics, and more. Most importantly, the class will investigate where ideas come from and how to turn those ideas into compelling and original writing. To be writers, we will learn to think like writers and how to act like writers, whether in class or not.		

Public Speaking

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	01013	PIMS Code	01151
Course Description	Public Speaking is an elective course that focuses strongly on the speaking and listening Pennsylvania standards. Students will demonstrate an understanding and application of the techniques used in formal public speaking including listening skills, speech preparation and research methods. Activities involve preparing speeches to inform, entertain and persuade as well as panel discussions and oral interpretation of literature.		

Literature by and about African Americans

Grade	10-12; elective		
School	BHHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	01014	PIMS Code	01064
Course Description	The course would provide an examination of the connections between historical eras and events and the formation of narrative and an exploration of concepts of race, racism, and racialization as they inform the creation of African American literature.		

Literature by and about Women

Grade	10-12; elective		
School	BHHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	01015	PIMS Code	01064
Course Description	The purpose of studying women's literature is to categorize and create an area of study for a group of people marginalized by history and to explore through their writing their lives as they were while occupying such a unique sociopolitical space within their culture.		

Social Studies

Civics and Government

Grade	9; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	02001	PIMS Code	04161
Course Description	The class aims to increase awareness of the conflicts, compromises, interactions, and struggles throughout the establishment of the American Government and its relationship with the governments of the world. The content, instruction and resources that you acquire will increase one's ability to become an active citizen and critically analyze the world. Scholars will be immersed in topics such as ideas of rebellion; fundamental American documents and their application; the electoral process; legal obligations; public policy and political participation; and your legal rights and responsibilities. Scholars will learn how to participate in the legal system, advocate for their values and beliefs and be positive, proactive contributors to society. The course will also delve into the history of Pennsylvania.		

US History: Power Struggles

Grade	10; required if not taking AP US History		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Civics and Government	Credits	1.0
Course #	02002 02003H - Honors course	PIMS Code	04101
Course Description	<p>This course offers scholars an opportunity to examine our nation's usage of power through the lens of race, class, and gender. 20th and 21st century history is applied to contemporary US issues. With a focus on social justice, scholars will investigate topics related to our nation's founding, race, economics, and war. Much of our nation's history has been told from the position of power. This course will seek to understand that power, how it is wielded, and to what degree it has been used to exploit those with less power.</p> <p>*For scholars who wish to challenge themselves, this course is available as an honors section at BHHS.</p>		

AP US History

Grade	10; required if not taking US History: Power Struggles		
School	MHS, ASHS		
Prerequisites	Civics and Government	Credits	1.0
Course #	02004A	PIMS Code	04104
Course Description	<p>Study the cultural, economic, political, and social developments that have shaped the United States from c. 1491 to the present. You'll analyze texts, visual sources, and other historical evidence and write essays expressing historical arguments. Skills You'll Learn include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Evaluating primary and secondary sources ■ Analyzing the claims, evidence, and reasoning you find in sources ■ Putting historical developments in context and making connections between them ■ Coming up with a claim or thesis and explaining and supporting it in writing <p>This Advanced Placement course takes the place of US History.</p>		

Financial Literacy

Grade	11; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Civics and Government, U.S. History	Credits	1.0
Course #	02005	PIMS Code	19262

Course Description	This course is designed to teach scholars about different aspects of personal finance and entrepreneurship. This course will engage scholars in activities relevant to their lives today and in the future. We will begin with a basic foundation of economic reasoning and thinking. The course will teach scholars the basics of saving and investing, building wealth, credit and debt management, financial responsibility and decision making skills, insurance and risk management, characteristics and roles of entrepreneurs in our economy, and the relationship between income and careers.
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World Cultures: Current World Lenses

Grade	12; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Financial Literacy	Credits	1.0
Course #	02006	PIMS Code	04062
Course Description	Current World Lenses examines how through the study of culture we can come to understand current world challenges. Scholars will gain an understanding of how history has unfolded through an understanding of culture. Scholars will come to learn and respect cultures both similar and different from their own. The course builds on the critical-thinking skills learned in ninth grade, but requires scholars to perform rigorous, quality tasks. Scholars will utilize these skills to strengthen their understanding on the rise of humanity through the study of different cultures, belief systems, trade and interaction between various societies and civilizations. The central themes focus on culture and its impact on all aspects of society throughout the course. This allows them to develop a global perspective through which to interact as a citizen of the world. Current World Lenses has an overall interdisciplinary approach which will touch upon: religion, arts, geography, government, philosophy, history, economics, sociology and anthropology.		

Psychology

Grade	11, 12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	US History: Power Struggles	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	02007	PIMS Code	04254
Course Description	<p>The purpose of the Psychology course is to introduce scholars to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings. Scholars are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomenon associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science practice. The following units will be explored: Methods, History, Biology of Behavior, Sensation and Perception, Learning, Motivation and Emotion, Development, and Psychological disorders.</p> <p>Scholars must pass US History: Power Struggles with a 2.5+ as a prerequisite.</p>		

African-American Studies

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	02008	PIMS Code	04149
Course Description	In this course, scholars will analyze, discuss and create projects based on the social, cultural and historical topics of African and African American experiences. Scholars will study how race structures notions of identity and meaning of blackness in relation to class, gender, and sexuality.		

Film Studies

Grade	10-12; elective		
School	ASHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	02009	PIMS Code	05203
Course Description	Film has been one of the most popular forms of media in America for the past century. While the vast majority of the movie-going population attend the theater for pleasure or escape, this course would look to teach students to view film with a critical eye. Rather than being passive movie-watchers, students would learn to be active participants in the viewing experience, analyzing film much like they would a novel in their English class. Film, especially in the current political age, is often a reflection of the society in which it is made. As a result of this class, students would learn to be acutely aware of both the historical context of film, as well as the ways in which directors manipulate audience expectations, emotions, and vulnerabilities to leave an impression and make a statement to their audience. This class is designed to focus and strengthen the way that students consume film. During this course, students will watch and analyze a multitude of films from several different genres in order to more deeply understand filming techniques and film theory. Students will closely analyze short and long sections of film to first notice, then comprehend, then analyze techniques that may often go unnoticed to casual moviegoers. Students in this course will learn not to simply take films at face value, but to analyze them for their technique and artistic merit, similar to the way they would a novel.		

Mathematics

Algebra I

Grade	9; required (unless earned placement in Geometry)		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0

Course #	03001K	PIMS Code	02052
Course Description	<p>In Algebra I, scholars learn the concepts and habits of mind necessary to solve algebraic problems. Major topics include Relationships Between Quantities and Reasoning with Equations and Their Graphs, Descriptive Statistics, Linear and Exponential Functions, Polynomial and Quadratic Expressions, Equations, and a Synthesis of Modeling with Equations and Functions. Emphasis is on using algebraic techniques to represent situations and solve problems.</p> <p>Scholars enrolled in this course take the Keystone Algebra I assessment in the Spring.</p> <p>Note: This is a required Year-long course for all incoming 9th graders unless placed into Geometry (see Course Progressions)</p>		

Geometry

Grade	9, 10, 11; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Algebra I	Credits	1.0
Course #	03002	PIMS Code	02072
Course Description	<p>This course presents content and topics such as Congruence, Proof, and Constructions, Similarity, Proof, and Trigonometry, Extending to Three Dimensions, Connecting Algebra and Geometry Through Coordinates and Circles With and Without Coordinates. All of these topics are built upon a scholar's successful understanding of Algebraic concepts and apply many of these concepts in real-life settings.</p>		

Algebra II

Grade	10, 11, 12; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Algebra I and Geometry (may be taken concurrently with Geometry)	Credits	1.0
Course #	03003	PIMS Code	02056
Course Description	<p>In this Algebra course, scholars build on and deepen their understanding of Algebra 1, learning mathematical habits of mind and skills in the context of more advanced topics. These topics include Polynomial, Rational, and Radical Relationships, Trigonometric Functions, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions and Inferences and Conclusions from Data.</p>		

Pre-Calculus

Grade	11, 12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Algebra I, Geometry; Algebra II	Credits	1.0

Course #	03004	PIMS Code	02110
Course Description	This course integrates geometric and algebraic concepts and previews calculus work. Content and topics included throughout the year are Complex Numbers and Transformations, Vectors and Matrices, Rational and Exponential Functions, Trigonometry and Probability and Statistics.		

AP Calculus AB

Grade	12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS		
Prerequisites	Pre-Calculus	Credits	1.0
Course #	03005A	PIMS Code	02124
Course Description	AP Calculus AB is primarily concerned with developing the scholars' understanding of the concepts of calculus and providing experience with its methods and applications. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. The connections among these representations also are important. Through the use of the unifying themes of derivatives, integrals, limits, approximation, and applications and modeling, the course becomes a cohesive whole rather than a collection of unrelated topics. These themes are developed using linear, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, inverse trigonometric, and piecewise-defined functions. All scholars who take AP Calculus are required to take the AP Calculus Exam in the spring. Scholars who pass the exam can receive college credit for the course.		

Science

Biology I with Lab

Grade	9; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	04001	PIMS Code	03051
Course Description	NEW: Biology I with Lab provides the fundamental concepts of life and life processes. This course includes (but is not restricted to) such topics as cell structure and function, general plant and animal physiology, genetics, and taxonomy. Laboratory experiments are an integral part of the Biology course.		

Biology II with Lab

Grade	10; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		

Prerequisites	Biology I w/ Lab	Credits	1.0
Course #	04002K	PIMS Code	03052
Course Description	<p>The Biology II course covers biological systems in more detail. Topics that may be explored include cell organization, function, and reproduction; energy transformation; human anatomy and physiology; and the evolution and adaptation of organisms. Laboratory experiments are an integral part of this course.</p> <p>Scholars enrolled in this course take the Keystone Biology assessment in the Spring.</p>		

Chemistry with Lab

Grade	11; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Biology II w/Lab	Credits	1.0
Course #	04003	PIMS Code	03101
Course Description	<p>Chemistry is the study of matter. In chemistry scholars will explore the structure, properties, and interactions between atoms. Scholars will master an understanding of atomic theory, bonding, gas laws, stoichiometry, and energy as it pertains to matter. Scholars will use critical thinking skills and scientific problem solving in laboratory investigations to learn how chemistry is part of their daily lives.</p> <p>Laboratory experiments are an integral part of this course.</p>		

Anatomy and Physiology

Grade	11, 12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS		
Prerequisites	Biology I, Biology II, Chemistry	Credits	1.0
Course #	04005	PIMS Code	03053
Course Description	<p>In the Anatomy and Physiology course, scholars will be introduced to human biology and the science of medicine. Drawing upon basic biological and chemical concepts, scholars explore the intricate anatomical and physiological mechanisms underlying normal human function. Scholars then investigate homeostatic imbalances that cause diseases. In learning about diabetes, for example, scholars gain an in-depth understanding of the endocrine system, the pancreas, the metabolism of sugar, and the biochemical effects of glucose. Lab work covers techniques in histology, anatomy and physiology (including dissections), and biochemistry. Additionally, scholars learn to read critically and respond to articles in scientific journals and the popular media.</p>		

Physics

Grade	11, 12; elective		
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School	ASHS, BHHS		
Prerequisites	Biology I, Biology II, Chemistry	Credits	1.0
Course #	04006	PIMS Code	03151
Course Description	Physics is an advanced level science class that satisfies the high school graduation requirement of a science class. The physics curriculum includes interactions of matter and energy, velocity, accelerations, force, energy, momentum and charge. This class will be run like a college course and will help prepare scholars for university level science courses.		

Zoology

Grade	11, 12; elective		
School	BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Biology I, Biology II	Credits	0.5
Course #	04007	PIMS Code	03061
Course Description	Zoology is the study of animal life. The course will be an introduction to zoology, with emphasis on the anatomy & physiology, interrelationships, genetics, habitats, and distributions of both vertebrates and invertebrates. In addition, scholars will extend their knowledge in ethology (animal behavior), evolution, and human ecology. Scholars will survey the nine major phyla of the kingdom Animalia.		

Forensic Science

Grade	11, 12; elective		
School	MHS		
Prerequisites	Biology I, Biology II, Chemistry	Credits	0.5
Course #	04008	PIMS Code	03214
Course Description	Forensic Laboratory Science courses involve the application of biological, chemical, and physical science principles to data and physical evidence related to evidence collection and analysis. The courses focus on the application of scientific knowledge and scientific principles to collect, preserve, and analyze evidence. Topics may include but are not limited to entomology, forensic anthropology, serology, and fingerprinting.		

Environmental Science

Grade	11, 12		
School	MHS		
Prerequisites	Integrated Science/Biology I, Biology II	Credits	1.0
Course #	04009	PIMS Code	03003

Course Description	Environmental Science examines the mutual relationships between organisms and their environment. In studying the interrelationships among plants, animals, and humans, these courses usually cover the following subjects: photosynthesis, recycling and regeneration, ecosystems, population and growth studies, pollution, and conservation of natural resources.
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World Language

Spanish I

Grade	10 or 11; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	05001	PIMS Code	24052
Course Description	<p>The purpose of Spanish I is to equip scholars with the basic skills to communicate with Spanish speakers and understand the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Scholars will begin by learning basic skills such as greeting others, telling the time, and likes/dislikes. An emphasis will be made on distinguishing parts of speech and comparing them to examples in English. Scholars will build on their Spanish vocabulary by using it as a foundation to formulate dialogues and more complex sentences that include details. Grammatical study will include the present tense including irregular verbs, the informal and formal command forms, and direct object pronouns. Study of pure language skills will be accompanied with area studies of the Spanish-speaking world.</p>		

Spanish II

Grade	11 or 12; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Spanish I	Credits	1.0
Course #	05002	PIMS Code	24053
Course Description	<p>The purpose of Spanish II is to directly build on what scholars learned the previous year in Spanish I. Scholars use their ability to create Spanish sentences in order to engage in higher order activities in Spanish such as providing and obtaining information, expressing feeling and emotions, and exchanging opinions. Special emphasis will be placed on the mastery of the preterite and future tense and scholars will receive an introduction to the present subjunctive. Spanish II scholars will further their ability to read and write in Spanish. Further development of reading and writing skills are developed through the context of cultural, historical, and literary studies. Scholars will be asked to read increasingly difficult essays, stories and newspaper articles from and concerning Latin America and Spain.</p>		

American Sign Language I

Grade	10, 11, 12; elective		
School	MHS		
Prerequisites	NA	Credits	0.5
Course #	05003	PIMS Code	24852
Course Description	<p>This American Sign Language course acts as an introduction to the following areas: Language, Culture, and Deaf Awareness. Scholars will be asked to immerse themselves into "Deaf space" while in the classroom and focus on understanding this language through rigorous practice and vocabulary. Scholars will also focus on some of the social issues surrounding the Deaf population.</p>		

Computer Science

Digital Literacy

Grade	9; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	06001	PIMS Code	10010
Course Description	<p>In this course scholars will be empowered to create, demonstrate and engage the relevance of computer science to the world. Foundational computer science skills will be established in basic programming concepts, general technology skills, internet safety/digital citizenship, software, networking and physical computing. Scholars will deepen their computational thinking experience using use-modify-create-test-analyze and refine model while working with computational artifacts. Scholars will become efficient and effective with computer skills and be prepared to explore career options that apply.</p> <p>The course will culminate with scholars taking the IT Fundamentals Pro certification from Test Out, which will count as an industry recognized credential toward Act 158 graduation requirements.</p>		

3D Printing Fundamentals and Design

Grade	10-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	06002	PIMS Code	11199

Course Description	In this course scholars will learn about the application of 3D printing, printer setup, maintenance, design and implementation. Using computer-aided software (CAD), scholars will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the product design process to create marketable products. Scholars will build their critical thinking and problem solving skills as they create a product from start to finish. They will be responsible for monitoring, maintaining, repairing the 3D printer while their product is under production.
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AP Computer Science Principles

Grade	11-12; elective		
School	ASHS		
Prerequisites	Digital Literacy, Applied Computer Science and Computer Literacy	Credits	1.0
Course #	06003A	PIMS Code	10019
Course Description	<p>AP Computer Science Principles introduces scholars to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. There will be a deep dive into how the internet works and the social impacts of computer science. In addition, scholars will engage in programming, coding, and app development to prepare them for school and work 21st century learning communication, creativity, critical thinking and collaboration.</p> <p>From the time you wake up in the morning, until you go to sleep at night, technology is all around you. We take it for granted. The food on your table came from a farm that may be using the latest in GPS technology to help the farmers maximize the yields of their crops. The text-messaging app you use with your friends utilizes complex code to make it work. The car you ride in has computers determining the optimal mixing of fuel and oxygen to maximize fuel economy, as well as sensors which keep your brakes from locking up if you hit the pedal too hard. Technology is everywhere: roller coasters, elevators, traffic signals, and even refrigerators. The fact that everything works may seem like magic. But, the "magic" is performed by the programmers who write the code. Computers are simple. They do only what you tell them. This course will help you learn to talk to computers. During the course, you'll learn more about programming, create programs of your own using Python, and have a lot of fun along the way. And, who knows . . . you may end up writing the next big thing! Happy coding!</p>		

Digital Marketing

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	BHHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	06004	PIMS Code	12169
Course Description	Digital Marketing is a semester-long course designed to give scholars an opportunity to explore the field of marketing, design, and social media advertising. In this course, scholars will study logos and ad campaigns and		

	evaluate their effectiveness, design their own business branding, learn product photography, and online digital advertising. Successful scholars will have an interest in social media, entrepreneurship or art and design. This course will provide project-based learning in logo and branding design, product design, product photography, copywriting, and online marketing.
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Broadcasting

Grade	10-12; elective		
School	BHHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	06005	PIMS Code	11103
Course Description	<p>This course appeals to those who have an interest in creating video content. Successful scholars will feel comfortable working behind and in front of the camera. Scholars will explore the field of Broadcasting and become creators and producers of video content. Scholars will learn pre-production skills including story development, storyboarding, script writing, production skills including camera, lighting, and audio techniques, and post-production skills including editing and special effects. During this course, scholars will produce commercials, short films, documentaries, news reports and interviews. Scholars will be responsible for creating content for a weekly school broadcast as well as capturing school activities with video to publish on our school's social media sites.</p>		

Health and Physical Education

Fitness

Grade	9-12; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5
Course #	07001	PIMS Code	08001
Course Description	<p>Physical Education courses provide scholars with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in more than one of the following sports or activities: team sports, individual/dual sports, recreational sports, and fitness/conditioning activities.</p> <p>Fitness is a graduation requirement for Pennsylvania and Propel Schools.</p>		

Wellness

Grade	9-12; required		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5
Course #	07002	PIMS Code	08051

Course Description	Topics covered within Health Education courses may vary widely, but typically include personal health (nutrition, mental health and stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid) and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health, personal development, and/or community resources. Health is a graduation requirement for Pennsylvania and Propel Schools.
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The Arts

In order to include a variety of course offerings in our Arts programming, we follow a 3 year course plan.

Visual Art		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Visual Portfolio I ■ Visual Portfolio II <i>(Prerequisite)</i> ■ 3D Sculpture and Installation ■ Multimedia Art ■ Ceramics (ASHS, BHHS) ■ AP Studio Art <i>(Prerequisite)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Visual Portfolio I ■ Visual Portfolio II <i>(Prerequisite)</i> ■ Multimedia Art ■ 2D Drawing and Design ■ Ceramics (ASHS, BHHS) ■ AP Studio Art <i>(Prerequisite)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Visual Portfolio I ■ Visual Portfolio II <i>(Prerequisite)</i> ■ 2D Drawing and Design ■ 3D Sculpture and Installation ■ AP Studio Art <i>(Prerequisite)</i>

The following courses will be offered during the 2023-24 School Year.

Visual Portfolio I

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	08001	PIMS Code	05170
Course Description	Scholars will experiment with two-dimensional (such as pencils, paints, charcoal, printing, and pastels) and three-dimensional mediums (such as cardboard, clay, wire, plastic, fabric, and found objects) to create unique works of art. Scholars will learn about various artists and art movements to inspire and influence their work. They will be expected to keep a sketchbook to compile research, notes, rough sketches, and brainstorming throughout the year. All scholars will complete a visual portfolio with accompaniments involving the artist, the artist's influences, and the work's meanings.		

Visual Portfolio II

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Visual Portfolio I	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	08002	PIMS Code	05170

Course Description	Scholars will continue to explore two-dimensional and three-dimensional mediums to further develop and hone their artistic talent. Similar expectations exist as Visual Portfolio I. This course ends in a presentation of scholar visual portfolios.
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3D Sculpture and Installation

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	08003	PIMS Code	05158
Course Description	<p>Scholars explore passion in 3D art. Scholars build creative thinking, brainstorming, and public speaking skills. Scholars will explore three-dimensional art materials to build and create sculptural and functional art. Scholars will use a variety of materials such as found objects, cardboard, plaster cloth, and clay.</p> <p>Topics covered: Sculpture, Installation Art, Wearable Art, Functional Art, Ceramics, Recycled Art</p>		

AP Studio Art: 2D Design

Grade	10-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Previous HS art classes, teacher approval	Credits	1.0
Course #	08004A	PIMS Code	05174
Course Description	<p>AP 2-D Art and Design courses are designed for students with a professional or academic interest in two-dimensional art. These courses focus on a variety of concepts and approaches in drawing and 2-D design, enabling students to demonstrate a range of abilities and versatility with media, technique, problem solving, and scope. Such conceptual variety can be demonstrated through the use of one or several media. Students refine their skills and create a cohesive body of work to submit via a portfolio to the College Board for evaluation.</p> <p>Note: This is an Advanced Placement course that may result in earned college credits.</p>		

AP Studio Art: 3D Design

Grade	10-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Previous HS art classes, teacher approval	Credits	1.0
Course #	08005A	PIMS Code	05175

Course Description	<p>AP 3-D Art and Design courses are designed for students with a professional or academic interest in three-dimensional art. These courses focus on a variety of concepts and approaches in 3-D design and creation, enabling students to demonstrate a range of abilities and versatility with media, technique, problem solving, and scope. They can demonstrate such conceptual variety through the use of one or several media. Students refine their skills and create a cohesive body of work to submit via portfolio to the College Board for evaluation.</p> <p>Note: This is an Advanced Placement course that may result in earned college credits.</p>		
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AP Studio Art: Drawing

Grade	10-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Previous HS art classes, teacher approval	Credits	1.0
Course #	08006A	PIMS Code	05172
Course Description	<p>AP Drawing is designed for students with a professional or academic interest in the art of drawing. These courses focus on a variety of concepts and approaches in drawing, enabling students to demonstrate a depth of knowledge of the processes, and a range of abilities, and versatility with media, technique, problem solving, and scope. They can demonstrate such conceptual variety through either the use of one or the use of several media. These courses enable students to refine their skills and create a cohesive body of work to submit via portfolio to the College Board for evaluation.</p> <p>Note: This is an Advanced Placement course that may result in earned college credits.</p>		

Ceramics

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	08007	PIMS Code	05159
Course Description	<p>Scholars will learn about 3D techniques in Ceramics (handbuilding, wheel throwing, glazing, kiln firing). Scholars will be expected to explore different uses and applications of Ceramic exploration, including decoration and functional work. Scholars will learn about various artists, art movements and cultures to inspire and influence their work. They will be expected to keep a sketchbook to compile research, notes, rough sketches, and brainstorming throughout the year. All scholars will complete a visual portfolio with accompaniments involving the artist, the artist's influences, and the work's meanings.</p>		

Multimedia Art

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	MHS, ASHS, BHHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; Semester
Course #	08008	PIMS Code	05169
Course Description	<p>Multimedia Art courses emphasize applying the fundamental processes of artistic expression for the purpose of creating multimedia productions that explore contemporary social, cultural, and political issues. These courses include the history and development of multiple forms of media including a combination of text, audio, still images, animation, video, and interactive content. These courses provide students with the opportunity to develop foundational skills and knowledge while they also become more adept in cinema, video, digital live production, and electronic time-based media. Students engage in critique of their multimedia work, that of others, and the multimedia video, digital, and live production work of artists for the purpose of reflecting on and refining work for presentation.</p>		

In order to include a variety of course offerings in our Arts programming, we follow a 3 year course plan.

Music		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Band ■ Choir ■ Mixed Ensemble ■ Musical Theater ■ Intro to Guitar & Ukulele ■ Percussion Ensemble 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Band ■ Choir ■ Mixed Ensemble ■ Intro to Keyboarding ■ Music Production and Technology ■ Percussion Ensemble 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Band ■ Choir ■ Mixed Ensemble ■ Music Appreciation

Band

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A - Previous experience/ teacher approval recommended.	Credits	1 - Year
Course #	08009	PIMS Code	05101
Course Description	<p>Scholars study a variety of styles of music literature, emphasizing full band, solo, and ensemble performance. Scholars continue to develop good tone, intonation, articulation, and style. While band is offered to all scholars with previous experience on a traditional band instrument, scholars who have a desire to learn an instrument can have the opportunity to grow and develop their skills. Continued emphasis is given to the development of musicianship and basic skills through a large repertoire of appropriate level band literature. Scholars without instrumental experience are welcome if they are interested.</p>		

Percussion Ensemble

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	08010	PIMS Code	05106
Course Description	This course will examine the creation and performance of modern percussion/instrumental music using such models as The Blue Man Group, STOMP as well as other mainstream performing groups. The course will include teaching rhythm and basic composing. The class will allow for the creation of a drumline that will be featured at a variety of school events. The class will perform at concerts throughout the year as an ensemble, and individual percussionists will be chosen from this class to play with the band as needed.		

Introduction to Guitar and Ukulele

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	BHHS, MHS, ASHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	08011	PIMS Code	05108
Course Description	Guitar courses provide scholars an introduction to, and refine the fundamentals of, music and guitar literature and techniques, such as strumming and chords and may offer instruction in more advanced techniques. These courses may include electric bass, ukulele and other plucked string instruments. Formal and informal performances are typically included as well as experiences in creating and responding to music.		

Choir

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1 - Year
Course #	08012	PIMS Code	05110
Course Description	This is a year-long course offered to scholars from grades 9-12. Chorus courses develop scholars' vocal skills within the context of a large choral ensemble in which they perform a variety of styles of repertoire. This course is designed to develop students' vocal techniques and their ability to sing parts and include experiences in creating and responding to music.		

Mixed Ensemble

Grade	9-12; elective		
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School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites		Credits	.5; Semester
Course #	08013	PIMS Code	05106
Course Description	This course will teach scholars to play, perform, improvise and compose using popular genres that the scholars themselves select. All genres can be represented, including rock, pop, Latin, rap, R & B—and any other popular styles as they emerge. We will use collaborative techniques to support all scholars and skill levels that are interested in creating and responding to music through hands-on application.		

Musical Theater

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	08014	PIMS Code	05052
Course Description	This course will focus on the study and performance of drama in its many forms, including musical theater, drama, technical theater, and comedy. These courses review a wide range of scripted materials (such as plays, screenplays, teleplays, readers' theater scripts); dramatic criticism; techniques for creating original dramatic works; hands on experience for set building and sound and lighting techniques; and the role of dramatic arts in society. Theater Arts courses typically require scholars to perform collaboratively, be involved in the critique of dramatic works, and learn methods for self-expression.		

Scholar Enterprise

Business Enterprise

Grade	10-12; elective		
School	BHHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1; year
Course #	09001	PIMS Code	12998
Course Description	<p>The class will develop a business plan and implement that plan including market research, finance, supply chain and sales. Scholars will have the opportunity to hear from various local entrepreneurs to build their networks within the community. Ideally the course will lead to the development of additional business plans that will become scholar enterprises in the future.</p> <p>This course may also introduce skills that develop, test, and launch a business plan, all while gaining skills around communication, collaboration, design practice and problem solving. Scholars will develop an entrepreneurial mindset in a variety of settings that include classroom work, on the job experiences and regional business competitions. Career experiences and exploration of business occupations will be explored as well.</p>		

Beekeeping: Asenath Apiary Enterprise

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	ASHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	09002	PIMS Code	18148
Course Description	<p>In the Beekeeping course, scholars will continue to build on our long-standing beekeeping program. We will be working to expand and build our operation into a real business. In addition to learning the full range of beekeeping skills, scholars will be researching and creating a business plan, expanding the apiary and honey production, developing new hive products, developing marketing strategies and tools, and building a social media presence for our operation. Scholars will also work on honeybee-related research and create presentations to help educate classmates, schoolmates, and outside groups.</p> <p>Course topics include: Bee biology, behavior; Practical hive care and maintenance (including creating new hives, pest control); Hive products (honey, lotion bars, lip balm, others to be developed); Business planning; Marketing; Social media strategies.</p>		

Family Consumer Science

Grade	9-12; elective		
School	BHHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	0.5; semester
Course #	09003	PIMS Code	19251
Course Description	<p>This course will help students develop proficiency in problem solving, interpersonal skills, citizenship, and leadership, while balancing work and family. It will be designed to combine life-skills and general education students to give both the opportunity to engage with one another and develop skills needed for post high-school success. Some skills that we will work on include advocating a healthy lifestyle through teaching skills for coping and stress management; physical fitness and adequate sleep; ensuring food safety and security through food preparation and training in the kitchen; demonstrating personal financial literacy (basic banking skills, budgeting); nurturing and caring for children through simulations and the study of child care theories and practices; resume, cover letter and job interview practice; basic sewing skills; car maintenance (changing a tire, checking oil, switching windshield wiper blades); and first aid skills.</p>		

Academic Support Foundations A

Grade	9-12
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS

Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	10001	PIMS Code	22254
Course Description	<p>In this class, students will build, develop and increase their problem solving and literacy foundational skills utilizing all content curriculums. Students will have the opportunity to develop and apply positive academic behavior skills to increase their success in high school and beyond. Students will develop better test taking strategies, note taking skills, self-advocacy skills, organizational skills, self-determination skills and other identified skill areas. Students will engage in weekly goal setting and goal progress monitoring in order to develop a deeper understanding of the connection between their learning and studying habits with their school performance. Throughout the course, students' positive academic strategies and career development activities will assist in becoming college and career ready for a global society.</p>		

Foundations B

Grade	9-12		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	10002	PIMS Code	22253
Course Description	<p>In this class, students will build, develop and increase their problem solving and literacy foundational skills utilizing all content curriculums. Students will have the opportunity to develop and apply positive academic behavior skills and social/emotional skills to increase their success in high school and beyond. Students will develop better test taking strategies, note taking skills, self-advocacy skills, organizational skills, self-determination skills and other identified skill areas. Students will engage in weekly goal setting and goal progress monitoring in order to develop a deeper understanding of the connection between their learning and studying habits with their school performance. Throughout the course, students' positive academic strategies and career development activities along with their social/emotional development will assist in becoming college and career ready for a global society.</p> <p>Additionally, the course will provide support to students in constructing a positive academic and social identity while developing skills to build positive relationships between their peers and adults within the school and their community. Students will build their interpersonal skills in the domains of communication, collaboration and conflict resolution.</p>		

Transition to Life: Literacy Skills

Grade	9-12		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	10003	PIMS Code	S01037
Course	The focus of transition to life literacy is on accuracy and creativity in the		

Description	following areas: Spelling, Journaling, Photo Journals, Grammar, Punctuation, Creative Writing, and Vocabulary Words of the Day. Students will develop creative writing and grammar skills through the use of graphic organizers and editing checklists. Students will use online technology such as Prezi, PhotoPeach, and Youtube to create various writing projects.
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Transition to Life: Social Dynamics

Grade	9-12		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	10004	PIMS Code	S04305
Course Description	Through community, classroom and social activities, interactions and experiences, students will develop a sense of self and community with a connection to the world around them on a global level. The students will participate in video conferencing with other countries and states and gain powerful knowledge connecting them to students in other cultures around the world. Students will discuss and delve into current events, our heritage, our great City of Pittsburgh, World Cultures, American and World History, geography and more.		

Transition to Life: Consumer Mathematics

Grade	9-12		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	10005	PIMS Code	S02002
Course Description	This Mathematics course focuses on functional skills needed to make it in today's consumer rich lifestyle. Students focus on consumer math, shopping, salaries, budgeting, balancing bank accounts, and using ATMs, debit cards, and credit cards. Students will also focus on higher-level math skills necessary for life success.		

Transition to Life: Science Interactions

Grade	9-12		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1.0
Course #	10006	PIMS Code	S03239
Course Description	In this course, the students will gain an understanding of the foundational concepts of the four areas of Science: Nature of Science, Biological Science, Physical Science and Earth and Space Science. Students will compare and contrast the four areas of science and identify how they each relate to the world. This course is designed to give the students the basic skills of scientific		

	method, critical thinking, safety and organization in addition to learning science concepts. Additionally, this course will reinforce Reading and Writing in Science and Technology along with exploring careers in Science. Students will be required to journal their scientific observations in and out of the classroom.
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Transition to Life: Career and Workplace Readiness

Grade	9-12		
School	ASHS, BHHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	N/A	Credits	1
Course #	10007	PIMS Code	S19257
Course Description	<p>This course combines a coordinated set of classroom instruction and activities with authentic community-based practice of learned skills. Students will complete career and transition assessments in order to identify their strengths and areas of interest. Instruction will support the student's transition into post secondary education and/or training, employment and independent living.</p> <p>Students will develop self-awareness, self-advocacy, self-determination and soft skills for the workplace by learning and practicing in a classroom setting and then have the opportunity to practice in authentic settings. Students will participate in various hands-on activities, guest speakers, presentations, role-play, and non-paid community based transition experiences.</p>		

Dual Credit

College Algebra

Grade	11-12		
School	ASHS, MHS		
Prerequisites	Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2	Credits	1.0
Course #	11001D	PIMS Code	02990
Course Description	<p>This college-level algebra course includes the study of linear, polynomial, rational, radical, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions and their graphs. Other topics include inequalities, factoring, systems of equations, complex numbers, and applications. Students enrolling in this course should have a background in college preparatory algebra, including high school Algebra I and Algebra II or equivalent.</p> <p>(Aligned with Point Park University; the final exam will need to be facilitated by their faculty for college credit to be awarded.)</p>		

All other Dual Credit Courses will be added to each scholar's transcript according to the Dual Credit Policy.

Scholar Course Selection Form 2023-24 School Year

Please use this form to draft what you need and would like to take next year. Please be sure to check your graduation requirements and any course prerequisites to ensure you request the right courses. Reference the Propel High School Course Catalog and the Student and Family Handbook for course offerings and graduation requirements. You will submit your requests via Skyward.

Course Content	Current Course 2022-23	Course Request 2023-24	Credits 2023-24
ELA			
Social Studies			
Math			
Science			
World Language			
Computer Science			
CREW			
Physical Education			
Elective 1			
Elective 2			
Elective 3			
Elective 4			
Elective 5			
Total Credits Credits requested should equal 6 unless fewer are needed for graduation.			

Scholar Signature _____
 Parent Signature _____
 CREW Leader Signature _____