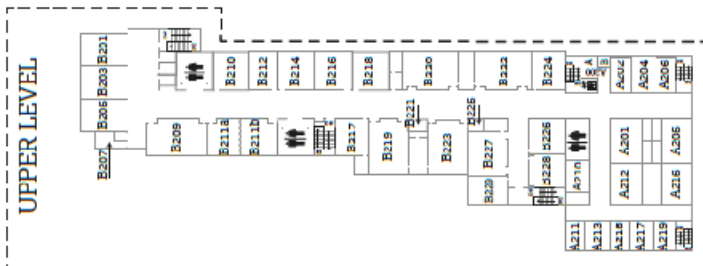
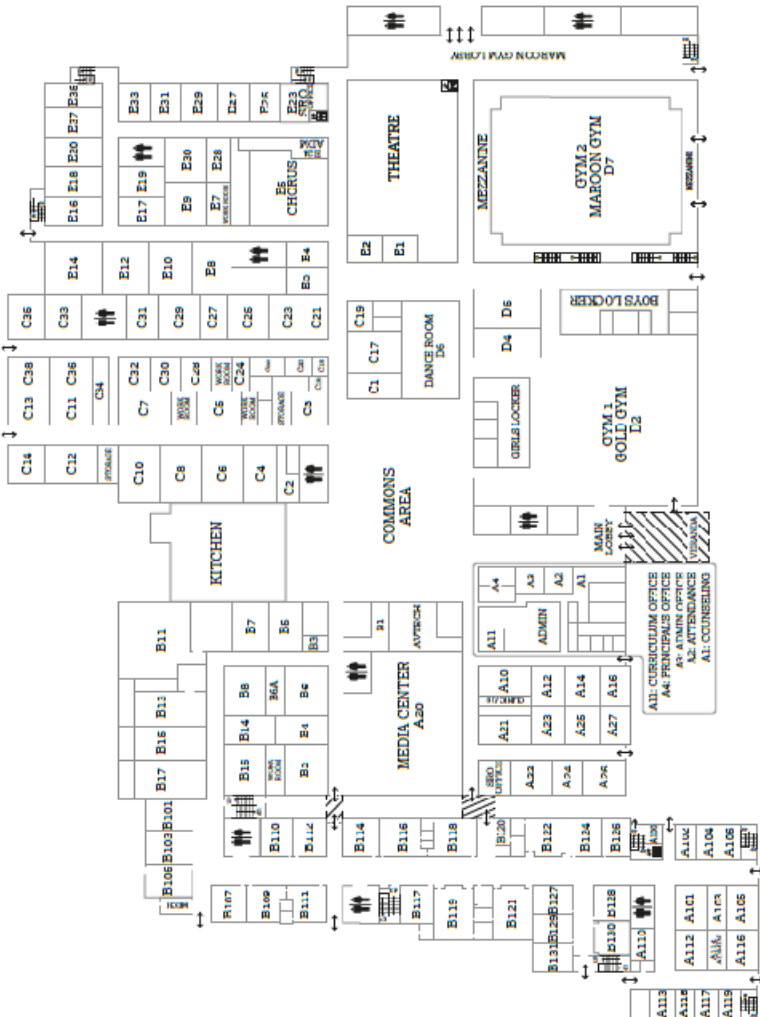
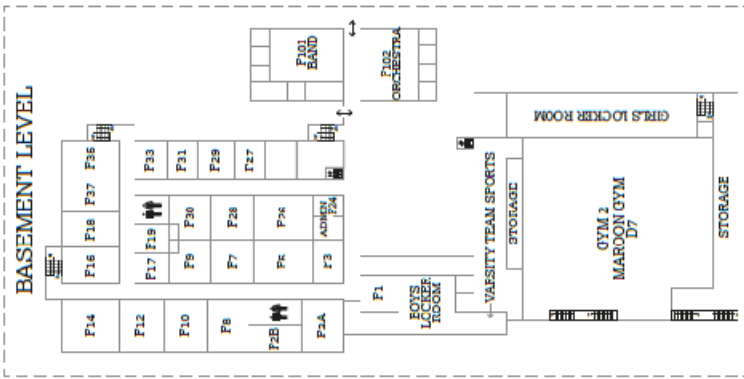


Brookwood High School

Class of 2028



**Rising 9th Grade
Guidebook**



Welcome to Brookwood High School!

*This booklet provides information for rising 9th graders entering
Brookwood High School for the 2024-2025 school year.*

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Rising 9th Grade Registration in a Nutshell

The process of registration for Rising 9th Graders is a multi-step process over the course of several months.

1. In January, the 8th grade teachers register their students for core courses. The middle schools will then send home via email the students' 9th Grade Core Course Registration along with an electronic form to make elective choices as well as information about the Rising 9th Grade events that are planned to help aid in the transition to high school. (A listing of core and elective offerings for 9th graders can be found on Brookwood High School's website under Academics: 2024-2025 Registration.)
2. Brookwood High School will have a Rising 9th Grade Parent Night so parents/guardians can learn more about the courses offered at Brookwood High. **Parents are encouraged to use this Guidebook, the Rising 9th Grade events information, and the 9th Grade Core Registration recommendations during the Rising 9th Grade Parent Night.**
3. After Rising 9th Grade Parent Night, students and parents with additional questions may attend the *Rising 9th Grade Registration Q&A Open Forum* at Brookwood High School for more information from subject experts.
4. After having the opportunity to carefully consider the course recommendations made by the 8th grade teachers and to ask any clarifying questions of the middle school or high school personnel, parents are requested **to note any changes on the online 9th Grade Registration Form, select electives, sign the form, and submit it by the required deadline.**
5. Once Brookwood High School receives the **9th Grade Registration Form submissions**, approximately 6 weeks are needed to build the school schedule based on course requests from rising 9th- 12th grade students.
6. Before Spring Break, Brookwood High School will push out **Course Verifications** to parents via the student's homeroom teacher. Brookwood High requests that parents look carefully at the courses listed and if any changes need to be made, please complete the course change request form located on the Brookwood High School website under Academics: 2024-2025 Registration. **No course request change forms will be accepted after May 31st.**
7. The week before school begins, students will be invited to Orientation where they will have an opportunity to meet their teachers and receive supply lists.

****For students enrolled in schools not within the Brookwood Cluster and Gwinnett County Public Schools, a modified registration process will occur at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year once the student is eligible to enroll at Brookwood High School. Please contact the Brookwood High School Counseling Office for more information about enrollments.**

For which courses must a rising 9th grade student be registered?

Math	1 Unit (.5 each semester)
Language Arts	1 Unit (.5 each semester)
Biology	1 Unit (.5 each semester)
Health & Personal Fitness*	0.5 Units Each (1 course taken each semester)
Elective	1 Unit (.5 each semester)
Elective	1 Unit (.5 each semester)
TOTAL	6 Units

*Some students choose to take these single semester courses during the summer before the 9th grade year in order to accommodate an additional elective in the 9th grade year. These courses are offered through the Brookwood Community School at a cost - refer to page 23 for more information. Gwinnett County Public Schools also offers these two courses online which may be a better solution if your schedule does not permit face-to-face meetings. Find more information at www.gwinnettonlinecampus.com.

Middle School to High School: Making the Transition Easier

The transition to high school is an important period in a student's educational life. High school comes with a rigorous academic environment and a variety of extracurriculars such as athletics and clubs. Ninth grade is an especially critical year. It is a time when students learn new ways to succeed. Most ninth-grade students enjoy the new level of freedom they experience in school, but they are often unaware of the responsibilities that come with it. In high school, students own the primary responsibility for their success in school. Students will need to be organized and self-motivated. Some students may need to develop additional study habits and skills that support their independence and academic success. Although high school students are responsible for the grades they earn, they will still need support from school and home to do well. Parents play a critical role in a student's development of the skills needed to succeed in high school.

High School Can Be Different from Middle School

- Students are assigned homework almost every night. It is important to study and review each night, even if no assignment is given.
- Students are working toward a semester grade that includes 18 weeks of work. A grade is earned for each semester of a course.
- The late work and reassessment procedures are different for each course.
- Students are expected to take on a larger role in keeping parents informed of their progress.
- Keeping up with assignments is the key to maintaining high grades.
- Students are expected to stay with the course schedule they select in February of their 8th grade year. Schedule changes are permitted only for legitimate reasons such as the student already has credit for the course or is missing the prerequisite.
- Progress Reports are available after the 6th and 12th week each semester and semester Report Cards are mailed home in mid-January and mid-June.

Academic Support at Brookwood High School

- Academic Intervention
- Teacher Office Hours
- List of outside tutors available

Ways Parents Can Help

- Set a regular time and a quiet and comfortable location for homework and study.
- Allow your student to study with other students if that helps.
- Read over the Student/Parent Handbook and Brookwood Student Agenda Book and take note of important dates and phone numbers.
- Read all information that comes home from the school.
- Supervise your student's regular use of the Agenda Book.
- Check your student's homework, study materials, and eClass pages on a regular basis.
- Check the Parent Portal for updates on your student's grades.
- Communicate often with your students' teachers. The use of e-mail is a particularly effective method, but feel free to call and leave a message for the teacher or to schedule a parent-teacher conference through the Counseling Office.
- Know the course requirements to earn a diploma in Georgia.
- Sign up for communication tools such as the weekly *Saddle Up* email newsletter.

Carnegie Units in 8th Grade

Some high school courses are offered at the middle school level, and, in some cases, high school Carnegie Unit credits may be awarded to students who successfully complete the courses. The Brookwood cluster offers several courses eligible for Carnegie Units in the 8th grade.

A teacher who is certified grades 6-12 in his/her specific content area must teach these courses. If the course requires a Georgia Milestones End of Course assessment, the student is required to participate in the assessment in order to earn the Carnegie Unit.

During the month of May, parents will receive Carnegie Unit Credit information. At that time, parents must indicate if they want the course to count for a Carnegie Unit towards high school graduation or not, AND the form must be submitted by the required deadline. If the parent accepts the credit to count as a high school unit, each semester's passing grade will be replaced with a "P." "P" represents a passed course that meets high school graduation requirements but does not count in GPA calculations. Each semester's "P" grades will equal 0.5 earned credit toward graduation, or a 1.0 credit total.

In some cases, the acceptance or decline of the Carnegie Unit will affect course registration. For example, students who accept the Algebra I Carnegie Unit in the 8th grade may not repeat this course during high school. Instead, those students will be moved to the next course in the sequence, Geometry. This same principle applies to all Math courses, Spanish I, Latin I, and Biology. In the case of Physical Science and Foundations of Energy Technologies, the Carnegie Units will be earned for an elective credit.

When deciding whether to accept the Carnegie Unit, it is important to consider if the student has shown mastery of the AKS in the course. The student must have mastery of the material to successfully move on to other high school classes that follow those courses.

Graduation & Promotion Requirements

GRADUATION <i>(to receive a diploma)</i>	
Subject	Units Required
Language Arts (Must include 9 th Grade LA and 11 th Grade LA)	4
Math (Including Algebra Concepts & Connections (C&C), Geometry C&C, and Advanced Algebra C&C)	4
Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and required Science Elective)	4
Social Studies (World History, US History, Economics/ American Government)	3
Health/ PE	.5/.5
Required Electives (Any combination of Fine Arts, Career & Technical Education, or Modern/ Classical Language**)	3
Additional Electives	4
TOTAL UNITS	23

**2 units of Modern/ Classical Language are required for university admission in the state of Georgia.

PROMOTION <i>(to move to the next grade level)</i>	
Grade	Units Required
9 th to 10 th	5
10 th to 11 th	11
11 th to 12 th	17
GRADUATION	23*

*Students must meet graduation rules and standardized assessment requirements as determined by state and district policies.

HOPE Scholarship Information

Since 1993, the Georgia Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally (HOPE) program has provided billions in financial assistance to millions of students to allow them to pursue postsecondary educational studies at eligible Georgia institutions. The Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) governs the HOPE program.

HOPE consists of six different aide programs:

- HOPE Scholarship
- HOPE Grant
- Zell Miller Scholarship
- Zell Miller Grant
- HOPE GED Grant
- HOPE Career Grant

The HOPE programs have various requirements for eligibility, but include factors such as the following:

- Minimum cumulative HOPE high school GPA in all academic classes (all courses attempted in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and modern and classical languages, including both required and elective courses in these subjects)
- Credits earned in advanced courses
- Enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution
- Meet Georgia residency requirements
- SAT or ACT requirements for Zell Miller Scholarship

Additional information that may be of interest to you:

- The HOPE GPA is based on a 4.0 scale and requirements established by the GSFC. The HOPE GPA is not calculated by Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) and does not appear on the student's report card, official transcript, or on the Parent Portal.
- In determining the HOPE GPA, the 10 points added by GCPS for any AP class will be subtracted from the numerical grade by the GSFC and the "unweighted" numerical grade will be converted to a 4.0 scale. Next, 0.5 points will be added to the converted score. No grades higher than a 4.0 will be awarded.
- Students will not receive direct notification of their HOPE eligibility status. Students and/or parents may create an account on www.GAfutures.org to check their status.
- In order to view your transcript and HOPE GPA in GAFutures, you must enter your Social Security Number in your GAFutures profile. Additionally, Brookwood High School must have your Social Security Number in their Student Information System. If you are unsure whether Brookwood has your SSN on file, please contact the counseling office.
- Typically, the HOPE Scholarship award covers the bulk of a student's tuition costs, but does not cover fees, books, room, or board. With that said, the HOPE Scholarship Program remains a significant source of funding for many Georgia families. The state's top students may qualify for the full-tuition Zell Miller Scholarship. The private school award for both HOPE Scholars and Zell Miller Scholars is a set amount, regardless of hours enrolled.

For specific information on the Georgia HOPE Scholarship programs, including eligibility, application procedures, what the scholarship covers, how students can maintain the scholarship, and approved postsecondary institutions, please visit www.GAfutures.org.

Dual Enrollment Information

In April 2020, the state of Georgia passed a law (HB 444) that streamlined the existing dual-credit programs in which high school students may earn high school course credits while taking college courses. HB 444 placed new restrictions on the Dual Enrollment Program that are listed below.

Dual Enrollment –Facts

- The Dual Enrollment program provides aid for postsecondary tuition, mandatory fees, and books. • In some cases, students may be expected to purchase course-related fees, supplies, or equipment.
- Eligible students may participate part-time or full-time at multiple postsecondary institutions.
- Any Georgia student in grades 11-12 is eligible for the Dual Enrollment program.
- 10th grade students are only eligible for Dual Enrollment under two conditions: they have taken the SAT or ACT and earned Zell-eligible scores OR they are only taking approved CTAE classes at a technical college. **HB 444 Change**
- 9th grade students are not eligible for the program. **HB 444 Change**
- Students are eligible to take Dual Enrollment courses over the summer
- College courses must be selected from the approved Dual Enrollment Course Directory.
- The Dual Enrollment program will pay a maximum of 15 semester hours per semester or 12 quarter hours per quarter per student. There is a new limit of 30 funded credit hours for all students. If students want to take more than 30 credit hours, they will have to pay for the extra credits themselves. **HB 444 Change**
- If a student has met all graduation requirements by December and chooses to graduate, he/she may do so; however, he/she will be allowed to continue in the program until his/her graduation date in May.
- Once a student graduates, he/she may no longer participate in the program.

Dual Enrollment - Quick Points to Remember

Below are a few points of interest to help understand the Dual Enrollment dual-credit program.

- The eligible student should attend a required Dual Enrollment advisement session with the Dual Enrollment Coordinator to discuss the program options.
- Completion of the Dual Enrollment GSFC application is required for each school year.
- The student must apply and be accepted to a participating eligible postsecondary institution (University System of Georgia, Technical College System of Georgia, or private institutions).
- The student and parent/guardian must electronically sign a Participation Agreement on Gafutures.org.
- Students cannot take **more** than 6 classes each semester between the high school and college.
- Eligible students may participate in high school competitive and other extracurricular events.
- Courses do not count against any maximum hourly caps for the HOPE scholarships or grants.
- The Georgia Student Finance Commission will manage funding and payments to the postsecondary institutions provided by annual state appropriations.
- The Dual Enrollment program is not available for coursework exempted or given credit by examination, testing, training, or prior experience.
- Dropping a course or not following program rules and regulations may result in students losing credit, receiving a failing grade and/or being removed from Dual Enrollment; thus, affecting their high school graduation requirements.
- Students are not eligible to retake a class once they have taken it through Dual Enrollment. **HB 444 Change**
- If a student withdraws from two classes, he/she will be unable to continue with the program. **HB 444 Change**
- Students must make satisfactory annual academic progress towards graduation and completion of their Individual Graduation Plan to participate in the Dual Enrollment program.
- Students are expected to maintain full-time status by taking at least 4 classes (12 credit hours) at the college each term or by taking 6 classes between the college and Brookwood High School.
- Students participating in the program should be on campus only when they have a class.
- Students may not take math at the college until they have completed Advanced Algebra or its equivalent.
- A 5th year senior may not participate in this program.

More details about the Dual Enrollment program may be found at www.gafutures.org. For more information regarding other dual-credit programs, including articulation, please contact the Georgia Department of Education at the following web address: www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/Transition-Career-Partnerships.aspx.

Each year, Brookwood High School offers an information session and fair so parents can learn more about the college credit options available to them, including Dual Enrollment and Advanced Placement. We encourage you to attend to learn more.

Gifted Program Information

The Brookwood High School Gifted Program offers students gifted-level courses in some subjects as well as Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Gifted courses are available for most 9th-12th grade Science, Math, Social Studies, and Language Arts courses.

Gifted students may choose which gifted classes to take, but they should carefully consider the potential impact of rigor of schedule on their college transcripts in order to be fully competitive for the college admissions process and scholarship applications. The only confirmation of gifted placement on transcripts is enrollment in gifted classes. Colleges have access to each high school's course list and prefer that students take the most demanding classes available in a specific school.

The procedures for identifying and placing students in the state-funded gifted program are governed by rules and regulations that are mandated by the Georgia Department of Education. Referrals to the gifted program may come from teachers, parents, students, or as a result of system-wide testing.

Those wishing to refer a student for gifted placement should email the student's name and student number to Chris Michael (gifted program coordinator). If the referral team recommends the student for gifted evaluation, the school's eligibility team will review the student's mental ability, achievement, creativity, and motivation results. Private evaluations or testing may not be substituted for test data generated at the local school.

The gifted referral and placement process will take two to six weeks depending on the needed test/evaluations. Placement in the gifted program does not necessarily mean an immediate schedule change into gifted classes but more likely a schedule change for the following semester and/or school year depending on the timing of the process and the availability based on class sizes.

Students must attend classes at Brookwood High School before they can be referred or evaluated for the gifted program. According to DOE policy, students transferring from private or out-of-state schools must be referred and re-tested, even if they were previously in a gifted program. The only reciprocal transfers are for public schools within Georgia if the student's transfer documents include a copy of the eligibility placement form with the required test scores.

For more information, please contact Chris Michael at Chris.Michael@gcpsk12.org.

English as a Second Language (ESOL) Program Information

English Learners come to Brookwood High School uniquely equipped with valuable knowledge, skills, and experience rooted in their home countries, languages and cultures. Our ESOL Program seeks to

- Learn about the students' country of origin, home language, length of time in the USA, length of time in GCPS, family and school background, and life experiences. These important factors have formed who they are and will continue to influence how they learn and develop.
- Honor and leverage the knowledge, skills, and experiences the students bring to help them learn English and master rigorous academic content.
- Provide instruction that engages and challenges the students during the school day.

Vision and Mission of the ESOL Program

Our vision for our English Learners is that they attain proficiency in English, meet or exceed grade level AKS expectations, and graduate from GCPS prepared to enter college or begin their careers as responsible individuals in a representative democracy that operates on the global stage.

Our mission as teachers, leaders, and staff is to recognize and build upon the strengths of each unique English Learner to provide effective instruction that leverages her or his strengths and provides explicit instruction in areas of weakness. Once they have attained proficiency in English, we provide the support and encouragement needed in order for them to continue to develop and to meet or exceed grade- level AKS content standards.

Instruction and Assessment

Brookwood High School has ESOL-certified teachers who provide services to English learners in both ESOL and regular classroom environments. English language learners in need of support may receive either daily direct instruction in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing from an ESOL teacher or instructional interventions in the regular classroom as planned by the regular classroom teacher with consultation from the ESOL teacher.

In the spring semester of each year, all directly served ESOL students participate in the ACCESS test, which measures how well students are able to handle academic language tasks across content areas of language arts, math, science, and social studies. Scores are used to measure student progress and placement throughout the year, as well as to determine when English language learners no longer need language assistance. Once direct services are no longer needed, students are monitored for a two-year period to assure that their academic language progress continues.

For more information, contact:

ESOL Lead Teacher: Ernest Cantrell *Ernest.Cantrell@gcpsk12.org*

ESOL Assistant Principal: Kristin Chelko *Kristin.Chelko@gcpsk12.org*

Special Education Program Information

The Brookwood High School Special Education Department has one of the largest special education departments in the Gwinnett County Public School System. They are the largest department in the school with over 40 teachers and over 25 paraprofessionals.

We serve many students through a variety of programs:

- Specific Learning Disabilities
- Other Health Impaired
- Autism
- Emotional/Behavioral Disorders
- Speech/Language Impairments
- Mild Intellectual Disabilities
- Moderate Intellectual Disabilities
- Orthopedically Impaired
- Severe Intellectual Disabilities
- Profound Intellectual Disabilities
- Hearing Impaired
- Traumatic Brain Injury

Every student is assigned to a case manager upon entering high school. The case manager is an advocate for your student within the school. He/she will be a contact person and a resource for you as well. The case manager will schedule and hold annual Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings and 3-year re-evaluations as well as monitor progress on IEP goals/objectives and grades.

For more information, please contact Kerrie New at Kerrie.New@gcpsk12.org.

Language Arts Course Information

Brookwood's 9th Grade Language Arts course supports the language development, critical reading skills, and writing skills of all students. Each semester will have a balance of composition, applied grammar, and various genres of literature. The development of vocabulary, speaking, listening, researching, and test-taking skills will be an integral part of the curriculum, as dictated by the county's standards-based guidelines.

The instructional expectations for this course are as follows:

- Varied instructional methods are used, often within a single class period.
- Class structure will be both teacher and student centered, depending on the activity.
- New material is broken down into small segments and then reviewed in greater depth, to allow for content reiteration and facilitate student comprehension.
- Homework is assigned on a regular basis.
- Students will write in-class and out of class analytical literary essays.
- Instructions and directions are given orally, in writing, and digitally.
- The students are reminded frequently of organizational and study skills.

Honors/Gifted levels

HONORS: Honors students follow all the above guidelines but move at a much faster pace and are expected to be more self-directed, motivated students.

GIFTED: Students enrolled in the Gifted curriculum have satisfied the criteria established by the State of Georgia to qualify for Gifted Education services, and all that the Gifted certification entails. Gifted Language Arts classes will be taught by teachers who have had special training and state certification as Gifted Program educators.

Language Arts Elective Course – Yearbook

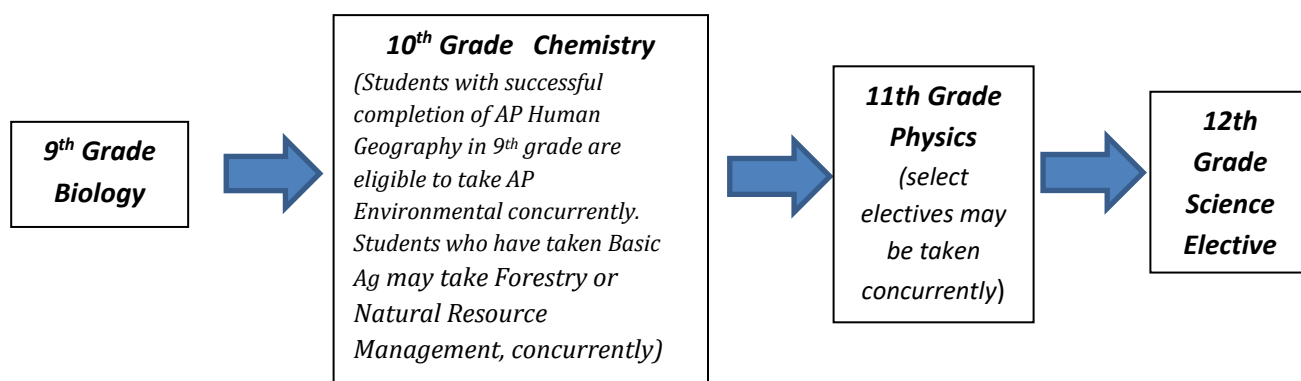
Yearbook is a yearlong elective course, and the main objective of the class is to successfully publish the yearbook for Brookwood High School. As such, students demonstrate mastery of photography, copy writing, and layout/design. Because of the rigor required for the course, application, try-outs, and teacher recommendations are required.

Science Course Information

The overall goals of our Biology course include, through inquiry based learning, teaching students about life, from molecular organization and functions to organismal interactions. We strive to prepare students for advanced science coursework in high school and college, and to provide success in local, state, and national tests through self-motivation and responsibility with their academic duties.

Based on their 8th grade Science most 9th graders take Biology, but some take Chemistry (if they took Biology in 8th grade and accepted the Carnegie Unit). Students are placed in the level of Biology (standard, honors, or gifted) based on teacher recommendation. Teachers look at current test scores, motivation, and current academic success. Science course levels are re-evaluated yearly.

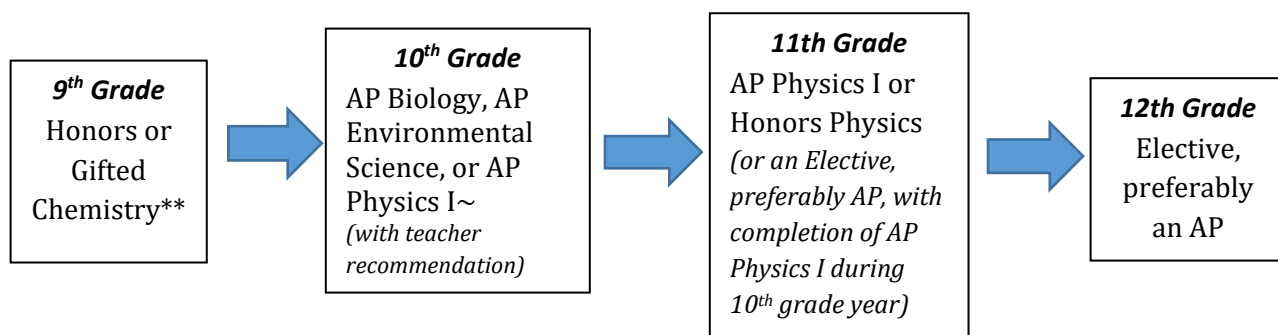
Standard Science Course Sequence



**Students must have 4 units of science to graduate*

Recommended Course Sequence for Students Enrolled Simultaneously in 8th Grade Biology and Physical Science

(Requires 8th Grade Biology Teacher's Recommendation)



******If a student does not successfully complete the 8th grade Biology course and accept the Carnegie Unit for high school credit, that student should take Biology in the 9th grade at Brookwood High School and follow the standard course sequence (see above).

~AP Physics I has a co-requisite or prerequisite of Algebra II, Accelerated Pre-Calculus, or Calculus AB/BC.

Potential Science Electives *(based on course offerings and availability)*

- **AP choices**- Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics I, Physics C
- **Non-AP choices**- Anatomy & Physiology, Biotechnology, Energy & Power Technology, Forensic Science, Forestry, Natural Resource Management (Aquaponics), Sports Medicine, & Robotics
- Other courses that may count toward the four-unit science requirement are *AP Computer Science Principles and AP Computer Science A*.

All science electives require completion or concurrent enrollment in Physics.

**Exceptions-see dual STEM/CTAE/ Pathways*

Energy Systems Pathway Course Sequence

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Course</u>
8th Grade	<i>Foundations of Energy Technologies</i> This is the introductory course for the Energy Systems pathway; provides an overview of energy technology and engineering literacy; students will complete project-based activities using an engineering design process
9th Grade	<i>Biology</i> (stand-alone course) <i>PLUS Appropriate & Alternative Energy Technologies with Integrated Physics Semester 1 (single period)</i> The students will develop an understanding and research the differences between nonrenewable and renewable energy to include regional implications and economic, environmental, and sustainability issues; students will research and develop an alternative energy system to demonstrate their understanding of a unique, as well as appropriate, approach to energy generation. (While this course is designed as a second-year course after completion of the Foundations of Energy Technologies course in the 8th grade, it is appropriate for a student to join this course even without the Foundations course.) <i>Energy Systems Course Series Integrated with Physics (Please note: This option is a two-year commitment.)</i>
10th Grade	<i>Chemistry</i> (stand-alone course)
11th Grade	<i>Energy & Power Technology with Integrated Physics Semester 2 (single period)</i> The principles of electrical and mechanical power systems will be applied while studying the characteristics, availability, conversion, control, transmission, and storage of energy and power. Students will research renewable, non-renewable resources, and conservation efforts, and develop an awareness of the many careers that exist in energy and related technologies and their related safety regulations.
12th Grade	<i>Science elective strongly recommended but not required</i>

Students will earn 4-5 science credits & 3 career/ technology elective credits by completing this pathway

Natural Resource Management-AgSTEM Pathway Course Sequence

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Course</u>
9th Grade**	<u>Biology</u> (stand-alone course) PLUS <u>Introduction to Agriculture</u> (stand-alone course) Basic Agriculture Science is the prerequisite course is for all AFNR/agriculture pathways; it introduces students to a variety of agri-science technologies and uses project-based learning through a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) that explores the applicable practices within both the science and agriculture industries.
10th Grade**	<u>Chemistry</u> (stand-alone course) PLUS *<u>Forestry</u> (stand-alone course) In this project-based course we learn about how to be employable while working outside studying the environment around us. Students work on our Food Forest that incorporates edible landscaping and nature trails to develop a more worldly learning experience. Topics in our course include tree physiology, forest fire suppression/history, forest economics, invasive species and ecology, and GIS.
11th Grade**	<u>Physics</u> (stand-alone course) PLUS *<u>Natural Resource Management (Aquaponics)</u> (stand-alone course) NRM is an apex course that connects the gaps between environmental science, sustainable agriculture, engineering, and economics. Students demonstrate leadership and agricultural awareness on topics such as sustainability, community outreach, GIS-systems, technology (including probeware and programming drones), and project-based learning with a focus on the engineering design process and entrepreneurship.
12th Grade**	<i>AgSTEM internship (optional)</i>

**Counts as a 4th year science course to complete required Carnegie units.*

Students will earn 3 science credits & 3 career/technology elective credits by completing this pathway.

Basic Agriculture Science is the pre-requisite for Forestry and NRM, if students want to take the End of Pathway Assessment. It is recommended there isn't a gap in the sequence, however shifting Forestry to 11th and Natural Resource Management to 12th is an option if not interested in the internship opportunity.

****Students will participate in FFA!**

FFA:

What is FFA? From the national website:

"FFA is a dynamic youth organization that changes lives and prepares members for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. FFA develops members' potential and helps them discover their talent through hands-on experiences, which give members the tools to achieve real-world success. Members are future chemists, veterinarians, government officials, entrepreneurs, bankers, international business leaders, teachers and premier professionals in many career fields. FFA is an intracurricular student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership. It is one of the three components of agricultural education. The official name of the organization is the National FFA Organization. The letters "FFA" stand for Future Farmers of America. These letters are a part of our history and our heritage that will never change."

Social Studies Course Information

World Geography for 9th Graders: Geography in 9th grade provides a foundation for all Social Science courses, especially 10th grade World History. Geography offers students the opportunity to develop an understanding of cultures, resources and global economics and is a good foundation for future history classes. It also encourages critical thinking as it asks the students to analyze how the physical geography of a region affects the culture, politics, and economics of that region and how those factors differ among regions.

Geography is not required for graduation and is considered an academic elective course for 9th grade registration. Brookwood offers 3 Geography electives for 9th graders:

World Geography CP

World Geography provides an excellent introduction to the academic routine of high school. Classes are a mixture of class discussion, lecture, and assignments that may be textbook-based or involve independent research. Throughout the year, students work on research and academic writing skills.

Honors/Gifted World Geography *(availability based on course offerings)*

For those students who are not taking AP Human Geography in the 9th grade but have the potential to pursue AP World History in the 10th grade or have an interest in history or social studies, the 9th grade Honors/Gifted World Geography course will provide students with an in-depth study of the physical and human characteristics of places and regions throughout the world. The course's focus on the interconnectedness of these physical characteristics of a place along with human identities and cultures will prepare students for the three-year required Social Studies sequence. In addition, the class will provide students with a foundational knowledge for a potential AP World History class in 10th grade. This course is appropriate for students who are recommended for Honors or Gifted Language Arts and those who have an interest in social studies.

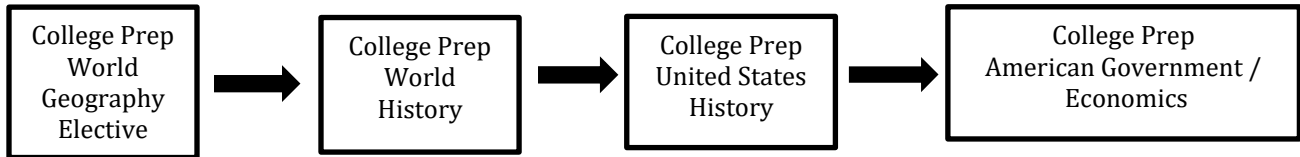
AP Human Geography

AP Human Geography is a college-level course that is promoted by the College Board and taught to a select group of rising ninth grade students who have demonstrated exceptional reading and writing skills. In addition, upperclassmen who did not take the class in 9th grade are welcome to take it in 10th-12th grade. Students taking this course will take a College Board national exam in the spring and can receive college credit if they pass the Advanced Placement (AP) test. Students must be motivated, have very good work habits, and be able to work independently. Students are expected to submit a writing sample based on the writing prompt and to be recommended by a teacher. This opportunity is a great starting point for the Advanced Placement program at Brookwood High School.

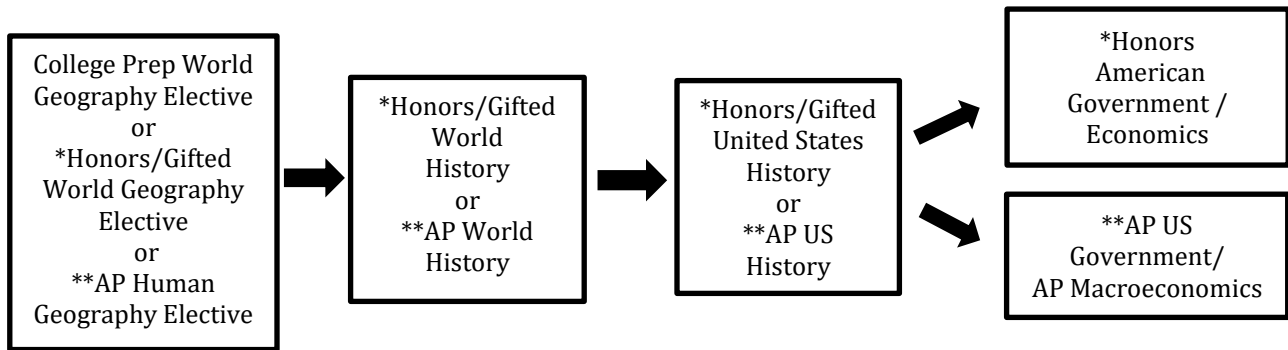
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Recommended Social Studies Course Sequence

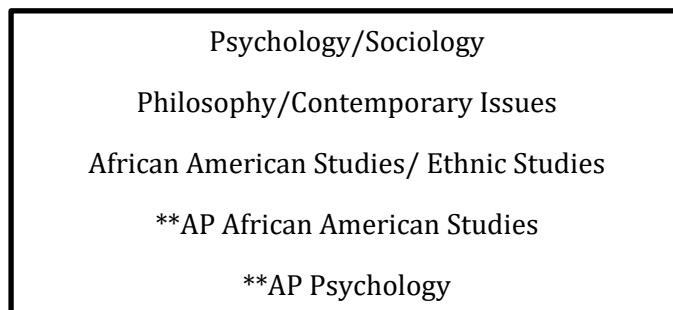
College Prep Sequence



Honors/Gifted/AP Sequence



Potential ELECTIVES for Juniors and Seniors (based on course offerings):



**Honors classes require concurrent Honors/Gifted/AP Language Arts*

***AP courses require concurrent Honors/Gifted/AP Language Arts enrollment and teacher recommendation*

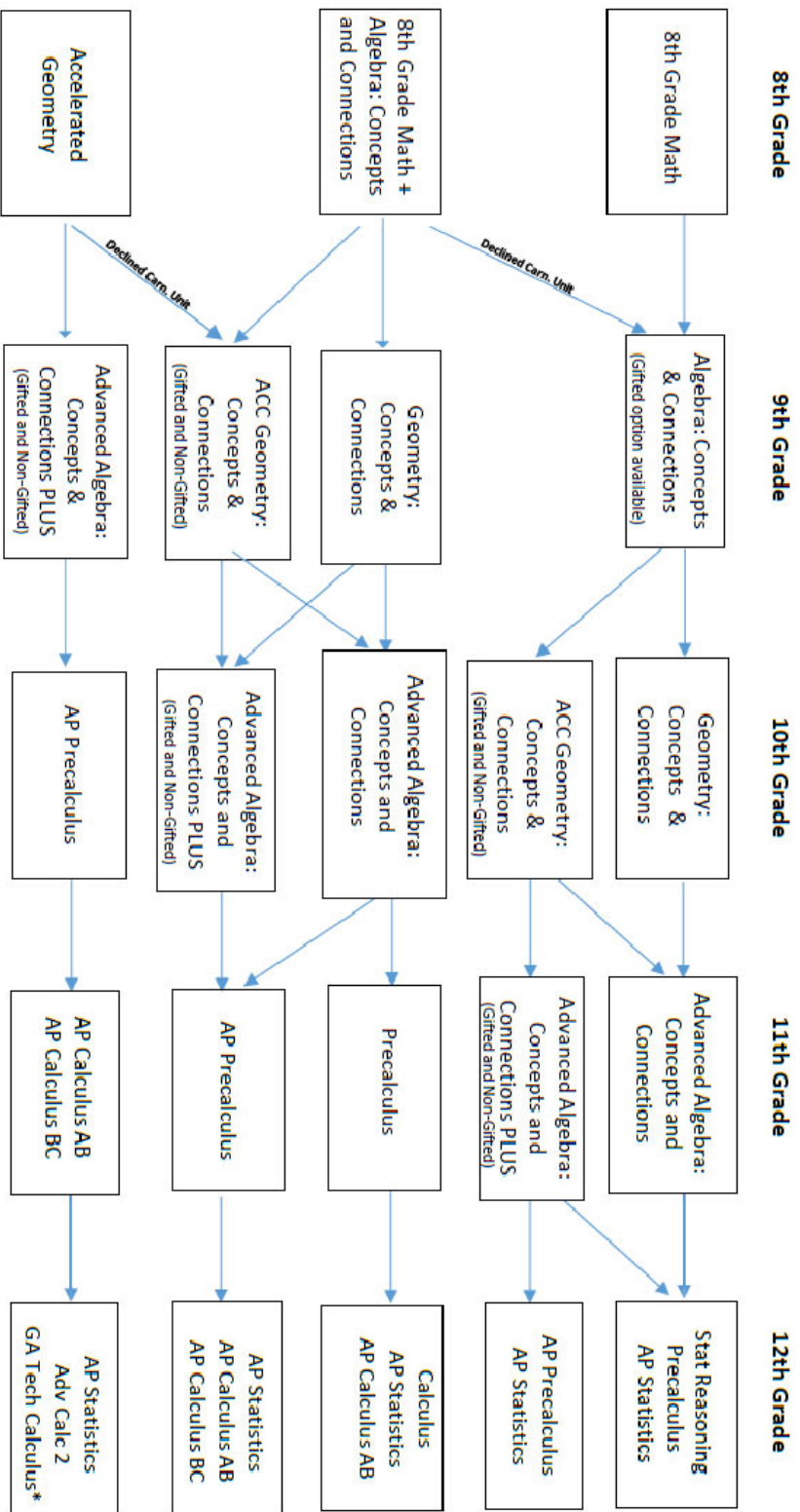
Mathematics Course Information

9th grade math placement is based on a number of different factors and should be decided based on each student's needs. This guide, along with the Brookwood Cluster Recommended Mathematics Sequences, can be used as a generalized overview.

Registration Information	Carnegie Unit Information
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Brookwood Cluster Mathematics Sequences chart serves as a generalized guide, but keep in mind that there can be movement between different sequence pathways based on the needs of the individual student. 2. The transition from 8th to 9th grade provides the best opportunity for movement between math sequences. Once in high school, the earning of mandatory Carnegie Unit credits makes movement difficult. 3. Consider how the math placement fits with all of the other courses the student is taking as well as the social and extracurricular rigors of high school. Keep in mind not just next year's placement but also the desired end of the math sequence based on the student's interest/ability. At least one Advanced Placement (AP) Math is possible for many students, no matter the course taken in 9th grade. 4. If a student takes a course in the 8th grade, chooses to decline the Carnegie Unit, and takes the same course in 9th grade, this "enriched" course will expose the student to an even stronger math foundation as well as an opportunity for extension and enrichment. 5. Math content builds with each consecutive semester and course. 6. General Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teacher recommendation ▪ How does the student tend to perform on the first try on tests? ▪ Performance on tests that are the same for the cluster, county, or state ▪ Current and past math grades ▪ Student motivation and interest in math ▪ Culmination of math in high school- Does the student want to take any AP math classes in high school? One? Two? Georgia Tech Calculus? ▪ How heavily dependent on math are the intended college and career goals of the student? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The decision on whether to accept the Carnegie Unit for eligible 8th grade Math courses is a complex decision with many factors. 2. 8th grade students may earn a Carnegie Unit for the following courses if the course is taught by a teacher who is certified in their content area: Accel Algebra I, Accel Geometry, Algebra I. These units are optional if the course was taken in Middle School. If an End of Course/Milestones test is mandated by the state, the students must take it to earn the Carnegie Unit. 3. In May, parents will return a form indicating if they want the 8th grade math class to count for a high school credit or not. Students who opt to accept the unit in middle school may not retake the same course in high school. 4. If parents accept the Carnegie Unit for a course in middle school, the course grade will be replaced with a "P" to represent a passed course that fulfills a graduation requirement. 5. When in high school, Carnegie Units are automatically earned (not optional) when students pass the class. 6. General Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does the student have a strong foundation of knowledge and skills that will allow him/her the greatest chance for success in the next four math courses? ▪ Has the student shown true mastery of all the AKS of the course? ▪ Does the student need a "safety net" or the option to go back to the course that was taken in the 8th grade and take it while in the 9th grade to get a stronger foundation? ▪ How did the student do during 2nd semester of the 8th grade year when exposed to content that is required for the next math course? ▪ What score did the student make on the county or state tests or other common assessment? How does that score correlate with the student's grade in the math class? ▪ Performance on the High School Screener Evaluation 7. We strongly encourage you to attend the Carnegie Unit Information Session at BHS in mid-May.

Brookwood Cluster Schools Recommended Mathematics Sequences

The pathways provided below are generalized mathematics sequences. Many students will transition horizontally in a sequence as they move to the next consecutive grade. However, there are alternative course registrations available as indicated by the arrows. Student course recommendations are based on a combination of individualized factors such as course success, common assessment performance, end goal of the math sequence, and teacher recommendation.



- This sequence chart is subject to change. For the most current information, please contact the Brookwood High School Math Department Chairs.
- Please note that once in high school, movement between sequences is much more challenging due to the units earned when students successfully pass courses. These units are not optional.
- Four units of mathematics are required for graduation and must include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II or their equivalents.
- Special Education students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) should discuss math sequence with their counselor and caseload manager.

Key:
*This course is application-based and is taught by Georgia Tech faculty. It is considered a dual enrollment through Georgia Tech.

Updated 10/23/2023

Health and Physical Education

Course Information

Personal Fitness (PE)

This single-semester course is a graduation requirement and a prerequisite to all advanced PE electives. The course provides the students with a sound, basic knowledge and understanding of how to obtain a healthy level of physical fitness. It is recommended that this course be taken in the 9th grade.

Health

This single-semester course is a graduation requirement and a prerequisite to all advanced PE electives. This class is designed to offer a practical approach to health topics that concern adolescents and covers knowledge and skills necessary for personal health/well-being and the prevention and treatment of injury. It is recommended that this course be taken in the 9th grade.

Advanced PE Electives

Based on course offerings, advanced PE electives may include:

- **Weight Training**

This class represents a series of courses that provide a student with the opportunities to develop muscular strength and endurance with weight training and conditioning principles.

- **Body Sculpting**

This weight training course includes intense weightlifting that will increase in difficulty throughout the year. This class may include power training exercises, stretching, calisthenics, running for speed development/conditioning, stations to develop quickness, and plyometrics.

- **Team Sports**

Students will have an opportunity to learn the history, rules, and basic skills of two to three of the following team sports: basketball, volleyball, soccer, speedball, touch or flag football, field hockey, floor hockey, ultimate Frisbee, and softball. As the course progress, students will have an opportunity to experience team play, strategy development, and officiating techniques.

- **General PE I (Walking)**

The purpose of this course is to increase cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and flexibility. Students demonstrate and understand how to take heart rate, access cardiorespiratory intensity level, and calculate their personal target heart rate zone. The ability to fitness walk a specific amount of time and/or distance will increase as the class progresses.

- **Recreational Games**

This course provides students with the basic knowledge and understanding of recreational games such as Frisbee games, pickleball, spike ball, table tennis, cornhole, chess, checkers, and a wide range of board games.

PE Uniforms

All PE students will be required to dress out (t-shirt, shorts, athletic shoes).

The PE department will have PE gear available for purchase. Shirts and shorts will be designed with a Brookwood PE logo. Cotton T-shirts will be \$6.00, shorts will be \$10.00, and a Dri-fit shirt will be \$15.00 (all price may be subject to change).

Summer Health & PE

Brookwood Community School is a year-round support program that provides non-traditional learning enrichment for the Brookwood Cluster. You may have heard of us through programs such as our athletic summer camps for kids, Driver's Education, SAT test prep, as well as programs for adults. The Community School Office is in the Brookwood Counseling area in Room A1 at the front of the school.

Each summer, the Brookwood Community School offers the Health and Physical Education courses for rising 9th graders through the GCPS School Plus program. These classes are designed to meet all the requirements for high school credit towards graduation. These classes will be virtual, with some scheduled face to face meetings.

The benefits of Summer Health and PE include the ability for students to

- take an additional elective as a 9th grader.
- choose electives such as Band, Orchestra, and other Fine Arts for all four years.
- take Advanced Placement courses during senior year.
- choose more physical education classes like advanced weight training or other electives as early as the 9th grade year.

The Brookwood Community School program offers these summer classes as an opportunity to provide each student an easy transition from middle school to Brookwood High School. The learning environment is focused and engaged. Our Crews and Five Forks students earn scores that are generally higher than the scores earned during the traditional school year, for any online program, or any off-campus program.

For more information including cost, dates of registration, and specific course dates, please contact the Community School Office in one of the following ways:

Email: *David.Cashman@gcpsk12.org*
Phone: (770) 978-5064
Office: Brookwood High School, A-1

Career & Technical Education Information

Career and technical education (CTE) is the practice of teaching skills-based careers to students in middle school, high school, and post-secondary institutions. Unlike past years, many CTE programs now focus on areas typically associated with associate or bachelor's degrees, such as engineering or business, meaning they are more academically rigorous than those of a previous generation. All of this is done while providing students with hands-on learning that allows them apply academics to real-world problems.

Our CTE department at Brookwood currently offers eleven CTE pathways for students. If a student successfully completes the three-course series for a pathway, they are eligible to take a state-approved end of pathway assessment. Most end of pathway assessments will offer an industry-recognized credential if passed. Students may also have the opportunity to earn a CTE Pathway Seal or a CTE Pathway Distinguish Seal on their high school diploma by completing a CTE pathway and passing the designated end of pathway assessment.

Our courses available to Rising 9th Graders include content in pathways in Agriculture, Business, Energy, Marketing, Computer Science, Gaming, Web Development, AVTF, Engineering, and Entrepreneurship.

CTE Single Course Descriptions

Introduction to Business and Technology - This project-based course is the foundational course for the Business Accounting Pathway and provides an overview of the knowledge of business principles, the impact of financial decisions, and technology proficiencies demanded by the business world. Emphasis is placed on developing proficient fundamental computer skills, working in a business environment, marketing and management, financial operations, and entrepreneurship.

Introduction to Software Technology – This is an integrated course within AP Computer Science Principles and Computer Science Principles designed for students to understand, communicate, and adapt to a digital world as it impacts their personal life, society, and the business world. Exposure to foundational knowledge in programming languages, software development, app creation, and user interfacing applications are all taught in a computer lab with hands-on activities and project-focused tasks. This is the foundational course for both the Computer Science and Game Design pathways.

Audio, Video, Technology, and Film I - This is the introductory course for the Audio, Video, Technology, and Film Pathway. With film production being one of the fastest growing industries in Georgia, AVTF I students are taught the process of creating effective and professional video productions. Students are instructed in the basics of visual composition, scripting, storyboarding, camera movement, and video editing. They are also responsible for working as a team in our television studio to produce Brookwood's morning show. This class can be taken alone as an overview of the process or as a foundational course in preparation of completing the three-year AVTF pathway.

Foundations of Engineering & Technology - This introductory course is for the Engineering and Technology Education Pathway. This STEM-driven course provides an overview of engineering and technology fundamentals. Students will be introduced to using industry-grade equipment and demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have learned through various project-based activities.

Basic Agriculture Science - This is the introductory course for the Forestry/Natural Resources Management Pathway. This course introduces students to animal science, plant science, soil/water conservation, and various agri-science topics. Students in this course participate in project-based learning through their supervised agricultural experience that explores the applicable practices within both the science and agriculture industries. There are also a variety of field trips to explore agriculture around Georgia as well as outdoor class experiences for hands-on learning! ****[To join FFA, you MUST be enrolled in an agriculture class at Brookwood]**

CTE Education – Integrated Course Descriptions

What is an integrated course? An integrated course is when we combine two CTE courses with very similar AKS OR combine CTE courses with core academics (to improve relevancy and encourage applied learning) into one focused learning experience.

How many credits will I earn? Depends. Some integrated opportunities earn two class credits in one period while others earn three course credits in two periods. Program-specific course credit information is below.

Do students have assignments for each class? Yes, there will be individual grades given in each integrated course. However, many of the assignments overlap and may count in more than one course.

Why should I consider taking an integrated course? Students who take an integrated course may earn more course credits during the school year, which makes room in their schedule for additional academic/elective classes.

9th Grade Lang Arts, Marketing Management, & Marketing Principles (Integrated Entrepreneurship Program)

This “foundational year” of the Brookwood Integrated Entrepreneurship Program sets students on the path to becoming an entrepreneur while developing an entrepreneurial mindset and essential communication skills needed for a successful future. ***Students earn 3 units of course credit in 2 class periods*** – including their 9th grade core language arts, which will be taught through an entrepreneurial lens. For more information on this program, ***please refer to the next page.***

Appropriate and Alternative Energy Technologies Integrated with First Semester Physics

Students will develop an understanding of the differences between nonrenewable and renewable energy sources and how these energy sources affect their world. Alternative energy sources will be researched to include regional implications and economic, environmental, and sustainability issues. Students will explore future trends of energy, power, and transportation, and will develop, through research, an alternative energy system. While this course is part of the Energy Systems Pathway and designed as a second-year course after completion of the Foundations of Energy Technology course that some students take in the 8th grade, it is appropriate for a student to join this course even without the Foundations course. ***Students earn 1.5 units of course credit in one class period; the AAE class will satisfy their required 4th science credit for graduation.***

Food, Travel, and Sports Marketing (with Integrated Marketing Principles)

This project-based course allows students to explore the hospitality, tourism, and recreation industries from a marketing mindset. Students will examine food and beverage operations, travel destinations, modes of transportation, event planning, and types of recreational sports. This course is integrated with Marketing Principles, which address the basic marketing functions. ***With the integrated class, students can earn 2 units of credit for this one class period.***

Introduction to Fashion, Merchandising, and Retailing Essentials (with Integrated Marketing Principles)

This project-based course is the foundational course for the Fashion, Merchandising, and Retailing Pathway. Students will develop fundamental skills in fashion design, economics, and marketing while exploring careers in the fashion industry. This course is taught integrated with Marketing Principles, which addresses the basic marketing functions. ***Students earn 2 units of credit in 1 class period.***

The Brookwood Entrepreneurship Program

...an integrated credit pathway

The Brookwood Entrepreneurship Program offers students an opportunity to earn Language Arts and Career and Technical course credits in a non-traditional format while learning to launch their very own small business by the end of their 10th grade year. This co-curricular classroom includes a unique approach to language arts instruction. Students will develop all the skills of a standard language arts class in a non-traditional project-based, technology-rich learning environment. Critical thinking and reading skills, communicative arts, and research techniques relevant to all entrepreneurs in the business world will be employed throughout the program.

Our program's philosophy of fostering an entrepreneurial mindset has a history of success. Not only will students develop essential communication and literacy skills, but they will also develop crucial soft skills necessary for a successful future. With support from the City of Snellville, the Brookwood Entrepreneurship Program has awarded to its students over 40 business licenses, nearly \$40,000 in student business venture funding, and has claimed the title of Best Young Entrepreneur of the Year by the city of Snellville in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2023..

During the first two years of the program, students will have an opportunity each year to earn three units of course credit during a two-period block course. In other words, students who successfully complete the first two years of the program will have earned six units of course credit in four class periods. Students will also be considered Career & Technical Education Pathway completers. If desired, the last two years of the program provide the opportunity to complete the final two years of core Language Arts credit and, along with Natural Resource Management, will complete the required 4th-Science elective both taught through an entrepreneurial lens.

The program course layout for each year is outlined below:

9th GRADE YEAR

Focus: Building Foundational Knowledge

The three course credits included are

- Honors or CP 9th Grade Language Arts
- Marketing Principles
- Marketing Management

= 3 units of credit in 2 class periods

10th GRADE YEAR

Focus: Launching a Business

The three course credits included are

- Honors or CP 10th Grade Language Arts
- Marketing & Entrepreneurship
- Oral/Written Communications (Lang. Arts elective)

= 3 units of credit in 2 class periods

11th and 12th GRADE OPTIONS

Focus: Philanthropy and Leadership

Honors or CP 11th and 12th Grade Language Arts (*both courses taught through an entrepreneurial lens in a single class period*)

Students are encouraged to continue operating their business through Work-Based Learning OR practice business operations through one of the following school-based enterprises: Hoof Prints (print shop), Bronco Stampede (school store), or Aquaponics/Natural Resource Management (a STEAM-related enterprise—counts as 4th science elective credit)

Fine Arts

Band

There are 5 separate band classes currently offered at Brookwood. For freshmen registration, simply sign up for the “Band” class offering. Based on the recommendation of the middle school and high school band directors, you will be placed in the appropriate level of band.

The band classes that Brookwood offers are

- Maroon and Gold Band (Level 4 Band) - Most freshmen will be placed in this band.
- Concert Band (Level 4/5 Band)
- Symphonic Band (Level 5/6 Band)
- Symphonic Winds (Level 6 Band)
- Percussion Class- This first-semester only course involves marching percussionists. Students will be placed in one of the other band classes for second semester. Percussion students not in Marching Band will be in Maroon and Gold Band the first semester.

You do not have to be a member of the marching band, but we highly encourage you to try it! All instrumentalists in the Marching Band **must** be enrolled in a band class. Color Guard members do not have to be enrolled in a band class, but if Color Guard members are instrumentalists, they are encouraged to continue playing their instrument in a band class. If you decide not to be in marching band, you are considered a non-marching student, meaning you will have no regular after school rehearsals.

You will receive more information about the Brookwood Band Program from your middle school. In addition, more detailed information about the band program, including important orientation meeting and audition dates, can be found at www.brookwoodband.org. For more information, contact Dr. Laura Stanley at Laura.Stanley@gcpsk12.org.

Orchestra

There are 6 different orchestra classes offered at Brookwood High School. Current orchestra students may sign up for the “Orchestra” class offering. You will be placed in the appropriate ensemble level based on the recommendation of the middle school directors as well as auditions. Those who do not audition will be placed into the Maroon or Gold Orchestra. Students without prior orchestra experience should speak to the director about scheduling options.

The specific class levels are

- Maroon Orchestra (Level 3/4 String Orchestra) – no audition required
- Gold Orchestra (Level 3/4 String Orchestra) – no audition required
- Concert Strings (Level 3/4 String Orchestra) – audition required
- Symphonic Strings (Level 4/5 String Orchestra) – audition required
- Philharmonic Orchestra (Level 5 String and Full Orchestra) – audition required
- Chamber Orchestra (Level 6 String and Full Orchestra) – application and audition required

More information about the Brookwood Orchestra Program and specific audition materials will come from your middle school directors. Please visit www.brookwoodorchestra.com or contact Mrs. Kendall at megan.kendall@gcpsk12.org or Mr. Marcacci at matt.marcacci@gcpsk12.org.

Chorus

There are four levels of Chorus classes offered at Brookwood High School. For freshmen registration, simply sign up for the “Chorus” class offering and students will be placed into a specific class based on their voice part. Mr. Still will contact the middle school Chorus teachers to arrange auditions if necessary. Students in all classes have the opportunity to audition for GMEA Honors and All State Choruses, audition for extracurricular ensembles, and letter in chorus. All classes present 4-5 concerts per year and participate in GMEA LGPE. The specific classes are:

- Beginning Chorus (no audition required – all freshmen are placed at this level)
- Intermediate Chorus (audition/interview required)
- Advanced Chorus (audition/interview required)
- Mastery Chorus (audition/interview required)

Visit ***brookwoodchorus.com*** for more details or contact Mr. Carter Still with any questions at *Carter.Still@gcpsk12.org*.

Music Technology

Introduction to Music Technology is a yearlong course offered for all grades. The course utilizes computers, music software, and electronic keyboards to explore musical concepts. Students will learn composition and recording techniques while completing intricate projects. Prior musical experience is not required. Essential skills needed for success include the ability to work independently, strong organizational skills, multistep process understanding and execution, and a creative spirit.

For more information, contact Dr. Chris Costigan at *Chris.Costigan@gcpsk12.org*.

Jazz Ensemble

The Jazz Ensemble meets Tuesday afternoons starting second semester. This group features typical big band instrumentation and focuses on composed arrangements. Participation is by audition.

For more information, contact Dr. Chris Costigan at *Chris.Costigan@gcpsk12.org*.

Theatre

Brookwood High School offers a variety of theatre classes. For freshmen registration, simply sign up for the “Fundamentals of Theatre” class offering. This is the yearlong prerequisite class for all other advanced theatre classes. You do not have to audition for this class.

We offer the following advanced theatre classes, all with the prerequisite of Fundamentals of Theater:

- Acting
- Advanced Acting- acting prerequisite required
- Stagecraft/Technical Theatre- interview and application required
- Advanced Production (Play Class)- audition required
- Musical Theatre- audition required

Students who are transferring from another school and have had completed a theatre class should see Mrs. Lindahl or Mr. House prior to registering for correct class placement.

For more information, contact Ms. Laura Lindahl at *Laura.Lindahl@gcpsk12.org* or Brian House at *Brian.House@gcpsk12.org*.

Dance

Dance is offered as a Fine Arts elective, and all dance placements require audition. Our students dance on a daily basis with 2-3 concert performances per school year. They are exposed to guest choreographers from the ATL Dance community and beyond while studying multiple genres of dance and technique as well as yoga and conditioning. Student input is valued, and the Dance Director is responsive to dances of interest of the students.

Students are eligible for the Governor's Honors Program in Dance, as well as lettering in Dance and membership into the National Honor Society for Dance Arts. Students also have the opportunity to attend County Dance Day, a one-day festival celebrating the dance programs of Gwinnett County, and the Kennesaw State University Dance Festival.

Our Dance instructor also is the Head Coach for the Broncos Dance Team, now an official winter varsity sport in Georgia. The Broncos Dance Team performs at basketball games, community events, and competes at least 3 times per season. Auditions for the Dance Team are held in April/May for the following school year.

For more information on Dance as a Fine Arts elective or the Broncos Dance Team, contact Ms. Ellen Tshudy, at Ellen.Tshudy@gcpsk12.org.

Visual Arts

Brookwood offers a number of visual arts courses with the goal to help students become well-rounded artists with the option to specialize in certain skills. Beginning art students may take either foundation course (Visual Arts Comp I or II) during the Fall Semester, finishing the sequence Spring Semester with the other course. After successfully completing the two foundation courses, students will be eligible to take year-long art courses.

Foundation Courses

- **Visual Arts Comp I**- Students create a variety of 2-dimensional artworks such as drawings, paintings, collages, and printmaking with an emphasis on composition using the elements of art and the principles of design. This class has no prerequisites and is offered every semester.
- **Visual Arts Comp II**- Students create a variety of 3-dimensional artworks such as pottery, sculpture, and architectural structures with an emphasis on composition using the elements of art and principles of design. This class has no prerequisites and is offered every semester.

Sample Advanced Courses (based on course offerings)

Photography	Sculpture
Jewelry & Metalworking	Drawing & Painting
Graphic Design	Advanced Placement Art and Design
Ceramics	Advanced Placement Art History (no prerequisite required)
Printmaking	

For more information, contact Chris Vigardt, Loria Crews, or Elizabeth Debban at Christopher.Vigardt@gcpsk12.org, Loria.Crews@gcpsk12.org, or Elizabeth.Debban@gcpsk12.org.

Modern & Classical Languages

Brookwood High School offers Spanish, Latin, German, and French

What are the requirements?

Students who are planning to attend college should successfully complete a minimum of two years (four semesters) of the SAME foreign language. Two years are required if a student is planning to enter or transfer into a University System of Georgia institution. Successful completion (with a grade of 70+) each semester is a prerequisite to continue on to the next semester of study. Please note that this is a minimum requirement. We highly encourage students to take three or more years of the same language. We also have increasing numbers of students who take two or more languages. In the state of Georgia, students must take a total of 3 units (years) of Foreign Language and/or Fine Arts and/or Career and Technical Education courses in order to receive a diploma.

Who should take Foreign Language in 9th Grade?

- Students who are mature and can handle a heavy academic load
- Students who are organized and self-motivated
- Students who do not have to be reminded to complete homework or study
- Students who would like to have AP foreign language as an option in their senior year
- Students who are currently taking Spanish I at Crews or Five Forks Middle, or Latin 1 here at Brookwood (as an additional class), who also intend to accept the Carnegie unit credit. (If the Carnegie unit is accepted, the student **must** take Spanish 2 or Latin 2 in the 9th grade.)
- NOTE: There are no co-taught foreign language courses, so students who benefit from this teaching environment with two teachers will not have this option, as they do in their core content classes.

Who should not take Foreign Language in 9th Grade?

For some students, postponing foreign language study until 10th grade is a better option. A student who is struggling academically may find a load of 5 or 6 academic classes stressful. The adjustment to high school is taxing on all students, and it is suggested that careful consideration be given toward whether to include foreign language in the 9th grade schedule.

What Foreign Language should a student take?

Ask a student if she or he has a particular interest in a language. This should be the principal guide, since motivation is a key factor for success. One language is not “better,” “preferred,” or “required.” What is important is the long sequence.

What if students are heritage or native Spanish speakers?

For students whose primary language at home is Spanish, Brookwood offers a course entitled Spanish for Native Speakers. It is a challenging, academic course for students who are planning to attend college. Spanish speakers who are mature, well-organized, have good attendance, and are serious academic students are eligible to take this class as a freshman. Some students may choose to wait to begin this class in 10th grade. Students who sign up for the Spanish for Native Speakers class will be tested for proper placement in August at the start of the semester.

Students Currently Enrolled in Foreign Language in 8th Grade

For students who are currently enrolled in a level 1 Carnegie Unit class as an 8th grader (French, German, Latin or Spanish), the 8th grade Foreign Language teacher will make a recommendation of whether the student should continue in the language at high school. Students who are recommended by their teacher to continue in the next course may take standard College Prep (CP) or Honors/Gifted level 2 as a 9th grader. Students who are not recommended for level 2 as a 9th grader may begin the same language (level 1) again in the 9th or 10th grade or may choose to begin a different language.

Which language is best for me? Careers and Fields to Consider

<u>French</u> customer service, diplomatic relations, education (teaching), international business, interpreter (spoken word), linguistics, marketing, sales, tourism, translator (written word)	<u>Latin</u> art, education (teaching), history, law, linguistics (Latin is the gateway to learning all Romance languages), literature, philosophy, scientific fields (all), theology
<u>German</u> architecture, computer industry, education (teaching), engineering, linguistics, marketing, international business, sales, scientific fields (all), technological fields, tourism	<u>Spanish</u> banking, customer service, education (teaching), healthcare (doctors, nurses), international business, interpreter (spoken word), linguistics, marketing, retail, tourism, translator (written word)

Georgia's Seal of Biliteracy

On May 3, 2016, HB 879 was signed into law establishing a Seal of Biliteracy for the state of Georgia. The Seal of Biliteracy is now available for graduating high school students.

- The Georgia Seal of Biliteracy was put into place to recognize high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English.
- To qualify for the Georgia Seal of Biliteracy, a high school graduate must meet the following criteria:
 - a) Completion of all English language arts requirements for graduation with an overall grade point average of 3.0 or above in those classes; and
 - b) Proficiency in one or more languages other than English, demonstrated by passing a foreign language advanced placement (AP) examination with a score of 4 or higher or an international baccalaureate (IB) examination with a score of 5 or higher.

This means that most students must start a foreign language sequence in middle school or ninth grade to get the coursework in to be eligible for an AP course.

Helpful Information

Student Check IN/Check OUT

Check – In*: Students arriving to school following the 7:20 AM tardy bell will report to the Attendance Office (A2). *Parents are not required to come inside to check their child in.* Parent notes (stating the date, reason for the lateness, and a parent phone number) will be accepted for six (6) check-ins or tardies per semester. After six check-ins or tardies, formal medical documentation will be required. Check-ins will be regarded as tardies and may have discipline consequences.

Check- Out*: Students who need to leave campus during the day must check out through the Attendance Office (A2). *Parents are not required to come inside for students if verification has been made*— students may bring a note with information (date, student's first and last name, student number, check out time, reason for the check out, if the student will be picked up or drive, parent signature) and a parent phone number for verification. No student will be released until contact with parent is made. Check-outs will be considered unexcused until the Attendance Office has been provided with approved documentation. Students are not allowed to check-out after 1:45 p.m. or during final exams.

Complete information and much more details on our check-in/check-out procedures can be found on our school website under the *General Information/Attendance* tab.

Tardies - TAP - Tardy Accountability Program

All students are expected to be in school and/or in class on time. Students are considered tardy to school after the first (1st) period tardy bell sounds (7:20AM) * or if they arrive to a class period after the bell rings to start class. Students arriving to school late or to any class after the tardy bell are sent to the Attendance Office (A2) for a TAP (Tardy Accountability Program). Tardies to school are classified as excused or unexcused according to the state guidelines for absences. Excessive tardies may have discipline consequences.

Complete information and much more details on our tardy procedures can be found on our school website under the *General Information/attendance* tab.

**All policies and procedures are subject to change from year to year.*

Lockers and valuables

Students may purchase lockers at the beginning of the school year for a nominal fee. Purchasing a locker is strongly recommended – it gives extra space to help secure books, school supplies, and other valuables. When not using your phone, tablet, ear buds, or other personal and valuable equipment, put them in your locker or book bag. Students should always keep their book bag with them; do not leave it unattended in the school.

During PE classes or after school sports practice, lock up all valuables in a gym locker (bring a combination lock from home). Do not take valuables into the gym or on the practice field.

School Communications

Communication is essential to remaining updated and aware of all the happenings at school. Information is sent to both students and parents, therefore it is a MUST for students to check their school email account! Various communications, updates, and important information will be sent via your school email.

Correct parent/guardian email addresses, telephone numbers, and mailing addresses on file with the school are vitally important – please verify and update ALL parent/guardian information to ensure you receive communications and can be contacted in case of an emergency.

Our *Parent Portal* account allows for current updates on student information along with various parent resources. Parents who have a GCPS parent portal account set up already for their 8th grader do not need to reapply for a portal account. It will transfer within the GCPS system from middle school to high school.

Students and parents/guardians can also sign up to receive newsletters from the school and follow school happenings on our various social media accounts as noted in the *STAY CONNECTED* section of this booklet. *

**All policies and procedures are subject to change from year to year.*

Stay Connected!

BROOKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
WWW.BROOKWOODHIGHSCHOOL.NET

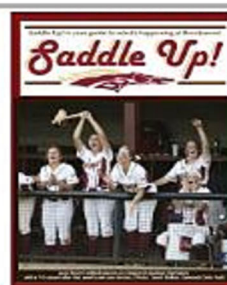


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