



## Whitesboro Central School District

**Pupil Personnel Services Office**  
6000 State Route 291 • Marcy, NY 13403  
Telephone: 315.266.3240 • Fax: 315.768.9848

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the benefits and opportunities for your child(ren) to participate in advanced coursework.

While advanced coursework provides an opportunity for your child to gain skills and demonstrate competencies at a higher level, advanced coursework provides other benefits as well. Other benefits of participation in advanced coursework may include:

- Improving a student's self-confidence and image of self
- Demonstrating a student's preparedness for college-level coursework
- Earning college credit(s) prior to graduation
- Reducing future costs for higher education
- Reducing the amount of time that the student must spend in post-secondary school

The advanced courses offered in middle and high school at Whitesboro Central Schools include:

- Regents Living Environment and Regents Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Honors English classes in grades 9-11 and Global History in grade 9
- Honors Earth Science in grade 9
- Advanced Placement (AP) courses in: Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science, Human Geography, Psychology, Statistics, U.S. History & Gov't, and World History
- Dual Credit Courses through Mohawk Valley Community College, Herkimer County Community College, Tompkins-Cortland Community College, and Syracuse University, such as: American Sign Language, American National Government, Chinese, Computer Aided Design, Digital Applications, English, Financial Accounting, Fitness Center, French, Spanish, Algebra and Statistics, Music Appreciation, Sociology, U.S. History, Economics, Government, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Issues and Ethics in Science, Introduction to Computer Science, and Forensic Science
- Project Lead the Way courses through the Rochester Institute of Technology: Introduction to Engineering Design, Digital Electronics, Principles of Engineering, Computer Integrated Manufacturing, and Engineering Design and Development
- Students also have the ability to bridge with MVCC, HCCC, Utica University and Hamilton College



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To be eligible for these courses, students must prepare by maintaining a high overall academic average in all courses in middle school and high school, have an interest in taking courses that are more challenging, faster-paced, rigorous and include a more in-depth study of course topics, are academically inquisitive, and are self-motivated. Dual credit courses are typically offered in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, and are bona-fide college courses that are identical to the courses offered on campus. Many students graduate high school with enough credits to be considered sophomores in most colleges.

The following supports are provided by your child's school to help students succeed in advanced courses:

### *Academic Supports*

- Most math and science courses include an extra lab period either to provide time to complete science labs, or provide additional instructional time
- All students have access to Academic Intervention Services (AIS) for all core courses

### *Non-academic Supports*

- School counselors work with students to develop an individually tailored four-year plan for high school, college and career planning, and direct students and parents to financial aid resources

Financial aid available to your child includes fee reductions for AP exams based on income, and all dual credit courses are at no cost to the student with the exception of Syracuse University courses.

This information can also be found on our website at <https://www.wboro.org/Page/8717>. Questions related to your child's participation in advanced coursework may be referred to your child's school counselor.

Sincerely,

Christopher O'Neil  
Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
Whitesboro Central School District