



Pembroke High School

Program of Studies Presentation

**February 27, 2025
6:00 PM**

Presentation Agenda

- Introductions
- Program of Studies - What, where, why, how
- Graduation Requirements
- Course Selection Process and its Importance
- Grade Point Average - What's new?
- Pathways Program
- Breakout Sessions (in cafeteria)



Introductions - Tonight's Key Players

- Mrs. Robin Conathan, Mr. Jim Shannon, and Mrs. Ruthie Lydon - ***Guidance Counselors***
- Mrs. Maryellen Gates - ***Pathways Coordinator***
- Dr. Mark N. Galligan, ***K-12 Humanities (ELA and Social Studies) Curriculum Coordinator***
- Mr. Jonathan Shapiro, ***K-12 STEM (Math and Science) Curriculum Coordinator***
- Ms. Saviz Safizadeh, ***7-12 World Language Curriculum Coordinator***
- Mrs. Gwynne Chapman, ***K-12 VPA Curriculum Supervisor***
- Ms. Kristen Kelley, ***Assistant Principal (9, 11)***
- Mr. David Rix, ***Assistant Principal (10, 12)***



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How?



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Welcome to Pembroke High
School!



TITANS TALK



WEEKLY UPDATE



INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTIFICATIONS



Presentation

Agenda



Introductions



Program of Studies - What is it, where is it, and how to use it

- Graduation Requirements - What's new for Class of 2029
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Graduation Requirements

- All students must earn total of 88 credits, earn a Competency Determination, perform 40 hours of community service
- Schedule has room for 7 credit-bearing classes
 - Full year course - 4 credits
 - Half year course - 2 credits
 - potential to earn a max. of 28 credits per year - if no study hall
 - must be scheduled to earn min. of 24 credits - if study hall
 - must earn a min. of 22 credits each year for promotion
- Most students graduate in excess of 88 (112 possible).



Graduation Requirements

- Grades 10-12 Graduation Minimum Requirements
 - **English:** 4 years/16 credits
 - **Mathematics:** 4 years/16 credits (Geometry and Algebra II)
 - **Science:** 3 years/12 credits (Biology and either Chemistry or Physics)
 - **Social Studies:** 3 years/12 credits (World History, US History I, and US II)
 - **Physical Education/Wellness:** 4 Semesters/8 credits
 - 64 out of 88 credits are prescribed
- Competency Determination
 - Class of 2025 and 2026 - Passing Biology, ELA, and Mathematics MCAS
- 40 Hours of Community Service
 - Think 10 hours a year for pacing
 - NHS - A commitment to service means students should be exceeding the minimum.



Graduation Requirements

- Graduation Minimum Requirements - Beginning with Class of 2029
 - **English:** 4 years/16 credits
 - **Mathematics:** 4 years/16 credits (Geometry and Algebra II)
 - **Science:** 3 years/12 credits (Biology and either Chemistry or Physics)
 - **Social Studies:** 3 years/12 credits (World History, US History I, and US II)
 - **Physical Education/Wellness:** 4 Semesters/8 credits
 - **World Language:** 2 years/8 credits (consecutive, same language)
 - **Visual and Performing Arts:** one semester/2 credits
 - 74 of 88 credits prescribed
 - 40 Hours of Community Service



Graduation Requirements

- NEW Competency Determination starting with the Class of 2029
 - for ANY student that has not yet earned it by passing all three MCAS exams
 - successful completion of 10th grade coursework in courses to which MCAS was previously aligned:
 - Grade 10 ELA
 - Algebra I and Geometry
 - One of the following science courses: Biology, Chemistry, or Physics



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Course Selection Process

- Teachers have been making course recommendations throughout February.
- Window closes tomorrow
- Teachers try to balance ability vs. current performance
- For core courses - can only select a course for which they've recommended.
- Disagree with recommendation? Have conversations with the teacher ([Empowered Learners and Effective Communicators](#))
- Still no agreement?
 - Select the course for which you are recommended
 - Fill out Level Override Form by ***Friday, April 11***



Course Selection

- Students will select their courses during Guidance Scheduling Seminars during TT
 - Juniors: March 4 - 8
 - Sophomores: March 11 - 15
 - Freshmen: March 18 - 21
 - 8th Graders: March 21-28 (21st Century)
- Each grade's course selection portal will close on Friday of the following week (ex. Junior portal closes 3/15)
- Students should review their course selection with their parents.



Course Selection – Must Do's

- When selecting courses:
 - Must select a total of 28 credits - enough for seven periods
 - Can do so using a combination of full and half year courses
 - Must select a Physical Education - Grades 10-12 have choices:
 - One of our courses
 - Bona Fide MIAA Team Sport*
 - All freshmen select one semester of Grade 9 Health and Wellness
 - Students in Grades 10-12 may select up to 2 Directed Studies per semester)



Course Selection – Must Do's

- When selecting courses:
 - Select 3 elective alternates that are different from their primary elective choices
 - All duplicate requests will be deleted. They don't increase your chances
 - Course Selection is NOT first-come, first-serve.
 - We use numbers to determine which classes (and how many) to run.



Course Selection – Find the Right Balance

- Please select courses with care
 - Read course descriptions and level requirements.
 - Know what is expected.
 - Communicate to your teachers
 - Effective Communicators do so with an open mind.
- Find the balance between realistically challenging and creating a program for success.
- Courses that the students select will determine:
 - The master schedule
 - Number of sections that will be offered of each class
 - Class sizes
 - Teacher workload/equity
- Changes to student schedules can be difficult to accommodate due to scheduling restrictions.



Schedule Changes – The Placement Review Process

- When possible, schedule changes are made upon request in June & the week prior to the first day of school when the Guidance Counselors return.
- Once school starts, requests for schedule changes are entertained primarily if a **student is misplaced : The Placement Review Process**
- Two windows to review placement:
 - After Term 1 Progress Reports (4 weeks)
 - After Term 1 Report Cards (8 weeks)
- Schedule changes occur when stakeholders agree that student is “misplaced.” The student is doing everything possible to achieve success but is still not meeting with success.
 - Making an earnest effort daily
 - Turning in all assignments
 - Consistently seeks extra help (before/after school & during Titan Time)



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Grade Point Average - What's New?

Grade	AP	HONORS	CP I	CP II
A+	5.3	4.8	4.3	4.05
A	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.75
A-	4.7	4.2	3.7	3.45
B+	4.3	3.8	3.3	3.05
B	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.75
B-	3.7	3.2	2.7	2.45
C+	3.3	2.8	2.3	2.05
C	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.75
C-	2.7	2.2	1.7	1.45
D+	2.3	1.8	1.3	1.05
D	2.0	1.5	1.0	.75
D-	1.7	1.2	0.7	.45
F	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

- A weighted grade point average will be calculated for all Pembroke High School students.
- The grade point average is calculated by converting grades to their corresponding numerical equivalent according to the GPA chart.
- This PHS GPA will be used for all things PHS (NHS, Val., Sal. Top 10% and other deciles)
- Students/Families will also receive a Core GPA
 - Colleges will calculate GPA differently
 - This GPA more accurate reflects that.
 - Five core subjects and any AP classes are factored in.



What Else is New? - New Courses

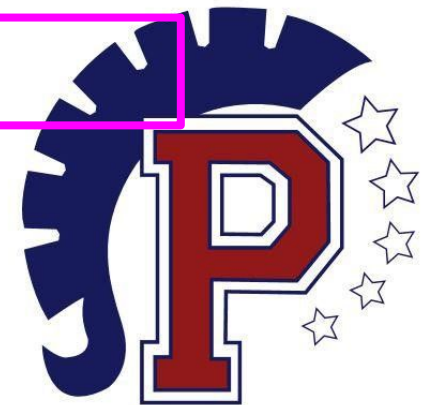
- New AP courses
 - AP Seminar - Can be taken as 10 grade English Credit or Elective Credit for 11th and 12th grade
 - AP Pre-Calculus - Can be taken as 11th grade (or a very rare 10th grade) Mathematics Credit
- New Pathway courses:
 - Computer Integrated Manufacturing (third course in the Engineering Pathway)
 - Medical Interventions (third course in the Biomedical Science Pathway)
- New Electives: Semester-Based Performing Arts classes
 - Music Technology
 - Rock Band
 - Concert Choir
 - Concert Orchestra
 - Concert Band
 - Ninth Grade Choir
 - Ninth Grade Band



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Pathways Program

- Students who participate in a pathway experience an in-depth look at a specific career field of interest, engage in career planning activities, and enhance their experience through an industry-focused internship or certification during their senior year. Students have the opportunity to choose from the following pathways:
 - **Business and Entrepreneurship**
 - **Computer Science**
 - **Digital Arts**
 - **Biomedical Science**
 - **Engineering and Manufacturing**
 - **Music**
 - **Global Citizenship & Learning**
 - **Information Technology**
- [Pathways Program Presentation](#)



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