GOC 9th-12th Grade
Electives and their description if not self-explanatory

Spanish I
- Yearlong assessment

Spanish II
- Yearlong assessment

Spanish III
- Yearlong assessment

Spanish IV
- Yearlong assessment

Chorus Choral: music courses emphasize the development of vocal techniques and performance skills using a variety of choral literature. Students develop music-reading skills. Courses further develop students' skills in vocal performance. Additional vocal techniques development is emphasized, including breath control, diction, and vocal production. Yearlong assessment

Orchestra/Band: Students develop skills in fundamental strings instrument techniques. Music theory skills include notation of pitch and rhythm, scales, and intervals. A variety of literature for the string ensemble is studied and performed. Students refine music-reading skills as well as performance skills, including more advanced bow techniques. Students acquire knowledge in music theory and history as they relate to orchestral literature. Students acquire performance and music reading skills. As courses progress, students continue to develop appropriate tone, quality, intonation, balance, precision, phrasing, and technique. Students are expected to consistently demonstrate sight-reading skills and respond appropriately to expression marking in the musical score. Yearlong assessment

AP Music Theory: Students examine rhythm and pitch notation. Listening skills and analysis of style characteristics and emphasized. Students learn advanced music theory. Emphasis is placed on developing students' sight-singing, music dictation, and analysis skills. The highest level being the AP Music Theory course offered by College Board.

Visual Art I: Visual Art I is a course exploring two-dimensional art concepts through various techniques like drawing, printmaking, lettering, painting, and collage. It's a foundational course, often required as a prerequisite for more advanced visual art courses. The course focuses on developing technical skills, understanding the elements and principles of design, and exploring the history and contemporary development of art.

Visual Art II: Visual Art Comp I and II (2D/3D) form a year-long introductory studio art course. Visual Art Comp I focuses on 2D art, including drawing, painting, and collage, while Visual Art Comp II focuses on 3D art, including pottery, sculpture, and plaster carving.

Advanced Personal Fitness: Course will provide students with the opportunity to learn more about aerobic exercise, as well as the use of free weights and body resistance exercises to tone and strengthen the body.

Courses will focus on nutrition and a variety of aerobic activities. Aerobic Dance and Rhythmic fall under the series of electives. The course builds on the 9th grade Personal Fitness course, which is a prerequisite.

Introductory Recreational Games: This focuses on a variety of recreational activities that are non-competitive in nature, such as table tennis and billiards.

Body Sculpting: courses will focus on personal fitness and well-being, using free and machine weights and body resistance exercises to tone and strengthen the body. A combination of aerobic exercise, anaerobic exercise, and conditioning, using a variety of activities, will be used to tone the body, with an emphasis on good nutrition and regular exercise. Students will learn how to develop their own training program, evaluate their fitness levels, and set short- and long-term goals for their own personal fitness. Students also will learn the basics of fitness anatomy and physiology. Courses in this section would include Body Sculpting and Exercise and Weight Control. Yearlong assessment

Controversial Issues: This class is designed for mature, upper-level students who are able to confront controversial issues in an analytical manner. The readings and subject matter are at a high level and will challenge students to use a studious approach to investigate views on issues that are controversial in nature. No particular viewpoint or agenda is taught. Rather, the students has the opportunity to develop and employ critical-thinking skills when considering his or her personal evaluation of current events and issues of social relevance.

Law: This course develops an understanding of the basic components of the legal and criminal justice system in the United States. Students are offered an overview of civil and criminal law in the country as well as an examination of various legal institutions and processes, for example, the police, the courts, rehabilitation system, etc.

Sociology: This course helps students understand and appreciate people as independent agents in cooperative activities with others. Topics to be covered are the organized way people fulfill basic needs (institutions); the setting of social rules and their enforcement (social control); and the possessions people have, the way they think, and their actions as members of society (culture). Students will use the social scientific method as a mode of research.

Psychology: This class introduces students to basic psychological concepts and principles as well as the rules, laws, and theories of psychology. Topics of study include: determiners or personality (heredity and environment), theories of the development of intelligence, and testing characteristics to basic needs. A study of self-concept (theories of development) also is included. With this knowledge of themselves and others, students should be able to make informed decisions that are affected by changing environments and situations.

Ethnic Studies: emphasizes a multitude of experiences and perspectives in history. Instruction will focus on discussing various social and political movements led by various ethnic and racial groups to achieve change. Students will analyze how various movements may have influenced their own lives and identities. In addition, this course examines the major contributions diverse groups of people have made to our global community. Groups studied will include but are not limited to African American/Black, East Asian, Hispanic/Latinx, Middle Eastern, Native American/indigenous, and South Asian. Through an examination of race, ethnicity, nationality, and culture, students will be equipped with a critical lens to see the world and their place in it.

Business and Technology Pathway- prepares students with computer skills for future college and career plans. Cluster skills include planning, organizing, directing, and evaluating, as well as owning and operating, a successful business. Yearlong assessment
      1) Introduction to Business & Technology
      2) Business and Technology
      3) Business Communication

Computer Science Pathway- In this pathway, students will learn several different programming languages, which will assist to prepare them for future careers in software development. Students that complete this pathway have the opportunity to take the Java SE7/SE8 Certified Associate exam.
      1) Computer Science Principles or AP Computer Science Principles (embedded credit: Introduction to Software Technology)
      3) AP Computer Science A (Java Programming)

Cybersecurity Pathway- In this pathway, students will learn networking basics and the protection of internet-connected systems from cyberattacks. Students that complete this pathway will have the opportunity to take the Security+ certification exam.
      1) Introduction to Hardware Technology
      2) Introduction to Cybersecurity
      3) Advanced Security

Financial Services Pathway- focuses on money management, including planning, investing, and spending. Students will gain career development skills for the finance world with opportunities that go beyond basic business skills into financial literacy, banking, investing, insurance, and risk management. Yearlong assessment
      1) Introduction to Business & Technology
      2) Financial Literacy
      3) Banking, Investing & Insurance

Marketing and Management Pathway- includes a focus on marketing strategy, advertising and promotional techniques, business communication, and business development. Yearlong assessment
      1) Marketing Principles
      2) Marketing Management
      3) Marketing Entrepreneurship

CTE Pathway Foundation Course Descriptions:

Marketing Principles: This year-long course is the foundational course for the Marketing and Management Pathway. Marketing Principles addresses all the ways in which marketing satisfies consumer and business needs and wants for products and services. Students develop a basic understanding of Employability Skills, Foundational and Business Administration skills, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Financial Analysis, Human Resources Management, Information Management, Marketing, Operations, Professional Development, Strategic Management, and Global Marketing strategies. *Eighth Grade students have the option to use this course for Carnegie high school credit.*

Introduction to Business Technology: This year-long course is the foundational course for the Business & Technology, Business Accounting, and Financial Services pathways. IBT provides an overview of business and technology skills required for today's business environment. Topics include Employability Skills, Digital Citizenship, Word Processing, Communication Skills, Marketing, Entrepreneurship, Leadership/Management,

Financial Literacy, Risk Management, Human Resources, and Accounting. *Eighth Grade students have the option to use this course for Carnegie high school credit.*

Introduction to Hardware Technology: This year-long course is the foundational course for the Cybersecurity pathway. IHT students will explore the following topics through interactive labs and activities: Information Technology Basics, Computer Hardware, Computer Software, Internet Technologies, Networking, Databases, Programming, Information Systems and Cybersecurity.

Introduction to Cybersecurity is designed to provide students the basic concepts and terminology of cybersecurity. The course examines how the concept of security integrates into the importance of user involvement, security training, ethics, trust, application of cybersecurity practices and devices, and best practices management. The fundamental skills cover internal and external threats to network security and design, how to enforce network level security policies, how to protect an organization's information, and a broad range of other topics. It is recommended that students successfully complete Introduction to Digital Technology prior to taking this course.

Introduction to Software Technology: This year-long course is the embedded course for Computer Science and AP Computer Science pathways. Students will explore the following topics through interactive lab experiences: Digital Citizenship & Cyber Hygiene, Programming in JavaScript using Graphics, Computing Basics, Operating Systems and Software, IT Professional exploration, Web Design, Web Development, and Computer Science Careers.

Introduction to Hardware Technology: This year-long course is the foundational course for the Cybersecurity pathway. IHT students will explore the following topics through interactive labs and activities: Information Technology Basics, Computer Hardware, Computer Software, Internet Technologies, Networking, Databases, Programming, Information Systems and Cybersecurity.

JUNIOR ROTC Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC)- is a four-year progressive program that is open to all students in grades 9-12. In 2018-19, GCPS offers JROTC units at 13 locations- Air Force units at Collins Hill High, Dacula High, Meadowcreek High, North Gwinnett High, and Shiloh High; Army units at Berkmar High, Discovery High, Grayson High, Norcross High, and South Gwinnett High; a Marine unit at Parkview High; and Navy units at Duluth High and Peachtree Ridge High. Students who complete three years of JROTC fulfill the Health and Physical Education requirement for graduation.

For AP Course descriptions, please see our school website.