



SHERANDO HIGH SCHOOL

**Rising 9th Grade
Parent Information Meeting
January 2026**

Meet the SHS Administration

- Ms. McCoy Seniors
- Mrs. Grumbacher A-F
- Mr. Combs G-N
- Mr. Fenton O-Z

Meet the SHS Counseling Staff

The Counselors

- Ms. Longoria A-De
 - Mr. Harrison Di-Je
 - Ms. Thompson Ji-N
 - Dr. Bellinger O-Sp
 - Mrs. Mungavin St-Z
-
- Mr. Orndorff Student Support Coach
 - Mrs. Conrad Career Coach
 - Mrs. Rudolph Testing Coordinator
 - Ms. Raybuck Registrar
 - Ms. Solomon Secretary

Sherando HS- Vision Statement

The staff of Sherando HS, believing that all students can learn, will provide a safe and supportive environment that encourages intellectual, emotional, physical, and social growth. We accept responsibility for providing a positive educational atmosphere, encouraging students to maximise their learning opportunities. We will promote the active participation of parents and the community in the educational process.

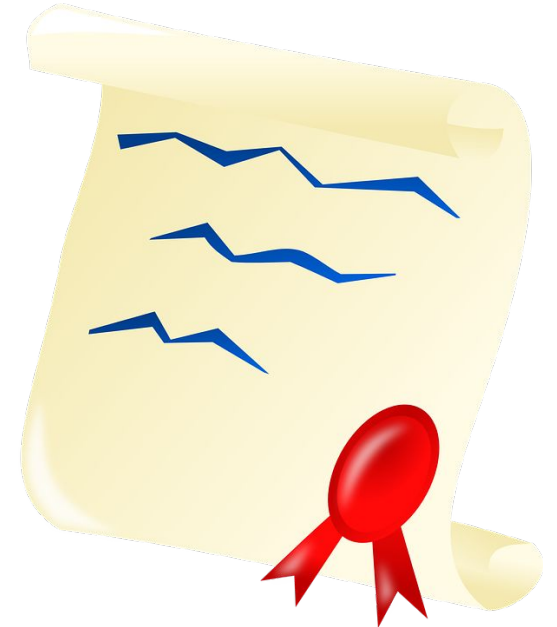
FCPS Strategic Plan

Ignite 2030: Excellence for All- A
Future-Ready Education Community



Agenda

1. Diploma options
2. Overview of the rising 9th grade scheduling process
3. Course selections for 9th grade year



Diploma Options

Credits

- **Standard unit of credit** – passing final grade in the class
- **Verified unit of credit** – standard unit of credit plus passing the end-of-course SOL associated with that class

SOL Courses = Verified Credits

Reading (Eng. 11)

Writing (Eng. 11)

Biology

Chemistry

Earth Science

Algebra 1

Geometry

Algebra 2

World History 1

World History 2

US History

Standard Diploma

22 Credits

<u>Academic Areas</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Verified Credits</u>
English	4	2 (Reading and Writing)
Social Studies	4	1
Mathematics	3	1
Science	3	1
Health/Physical Education	2	
Foreign Language, Fine Arts, or Career & Technical Education	2	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Electives (<i>must include 2 credit sequence</i>)	3	
Honors, AP Course, DE Course, WBL, or CTE Credential	YES	
Virtual Course	YES	
Total	22	5

Advanced Studies Diploma

26 Credits

<u>Academic Areas</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Verified Credits</u>
English	4	2 (Reading and Writing)
Social Studies	4	1
Mathematics	4	1
Science	4	1
Foreign Language	3 or 2 +2	
Health/Physical Education	2	
Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education	1	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Electives (must include sequential)	3	
Honors, AP course, DE Course, WBL, or CTE Credential	YES	
Virtual Course	YES	
Total	26	5

Change in GPA Calculations

4. Beginning with the 2026-2027 academic school year, students of the 2029-2030 graduating class and all succeeding graduating classes will be subject to the following Range and Quality Point Distribution:

Letter Grade	Range	Meaning	Quality Pts General	Quality Pts. Honors	Quality Pts. AP/DE
A+	97-100	Excellent	4	4.5	5
A	94-96	Excellent	4	4.5	5
A-	90-93	Excellent	4	4.5	5
B+	87-89	Very Good	3	3.5	4
B	84-86	Very Good	3	3.5	4
B-	80-83	Very Good	3	3.5	4
C+	77-79	Satisfactory	2	2.5	3
C	74-76	Satisfactory	2	2.5	3
C-	70-73	Satisfactory	2	2.5	3
D+	67-69	Minimum Passing	1	1.5	2
D	64-66	Minimum Passing	1	1.5	2
D-	60-63	Minimum Passing	1	1.5	2
F	0-59	Failing	0	0	0

Additional Graduation Requirements: Demonstration of the 5 Cs & 3E Readiness Framework

Students shall acquire and demonstrate foundational skills in:

- critical thinking
- creative thinking
- collaboration
- communication
- citizenship

in accordance with the Profile of a Virginia Graduate approved by the Virginia State Board of Education.

Measurement of student engagement in Enrollment, Employment, and Enlistment (3E)

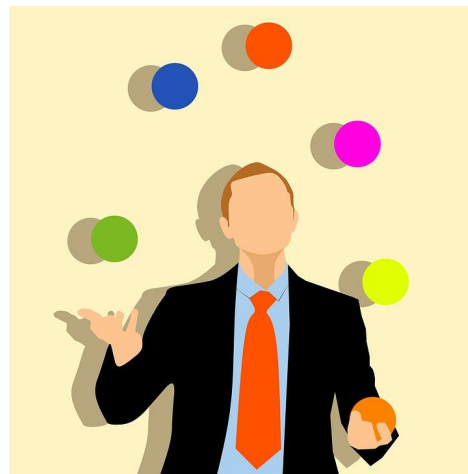
Diploma Seals

VDOE Diploma Seals for Graduation

The Transition to High School

More Responsibility

More Freedom



Teachers Expect More

**Infinite
Campus**

More Homework

ATTENDANCE

More Crowded

Google Classroom



What does the SHS school day look like?

Schedule for 26-27

Day 1

Period - 1

Period - 3

Period - 5

Period -7

Day 2

Period - 2

Period - 4

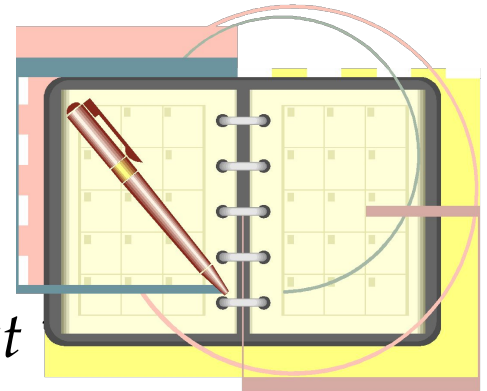
Period - 6

Period - 8



Typical Freshman Schedule

- English 9
 - Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II
 - World History and Geography I
 - Environmental Science or Biology
 - Health & Physical Education I
 - Study Hall / Lunch
 - World Language or Elective
 - Elective
- When making course selections, be sure to select alternates.*



CORE ACADEMIC AREAS

MATH

Algebra I

Geometry

Algebra II

Precalculus or
Prob/Stats

AP Calculus or
AP Stats

Algebra I

Geometry

AFDA or Algebra
II

Math Choice:
Data Science,
AP Computer
Science A

SCIENCE

Environmental
Science

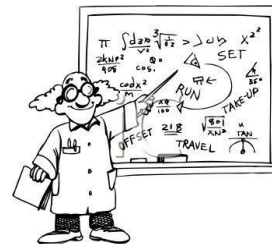
Biology

Chemistry

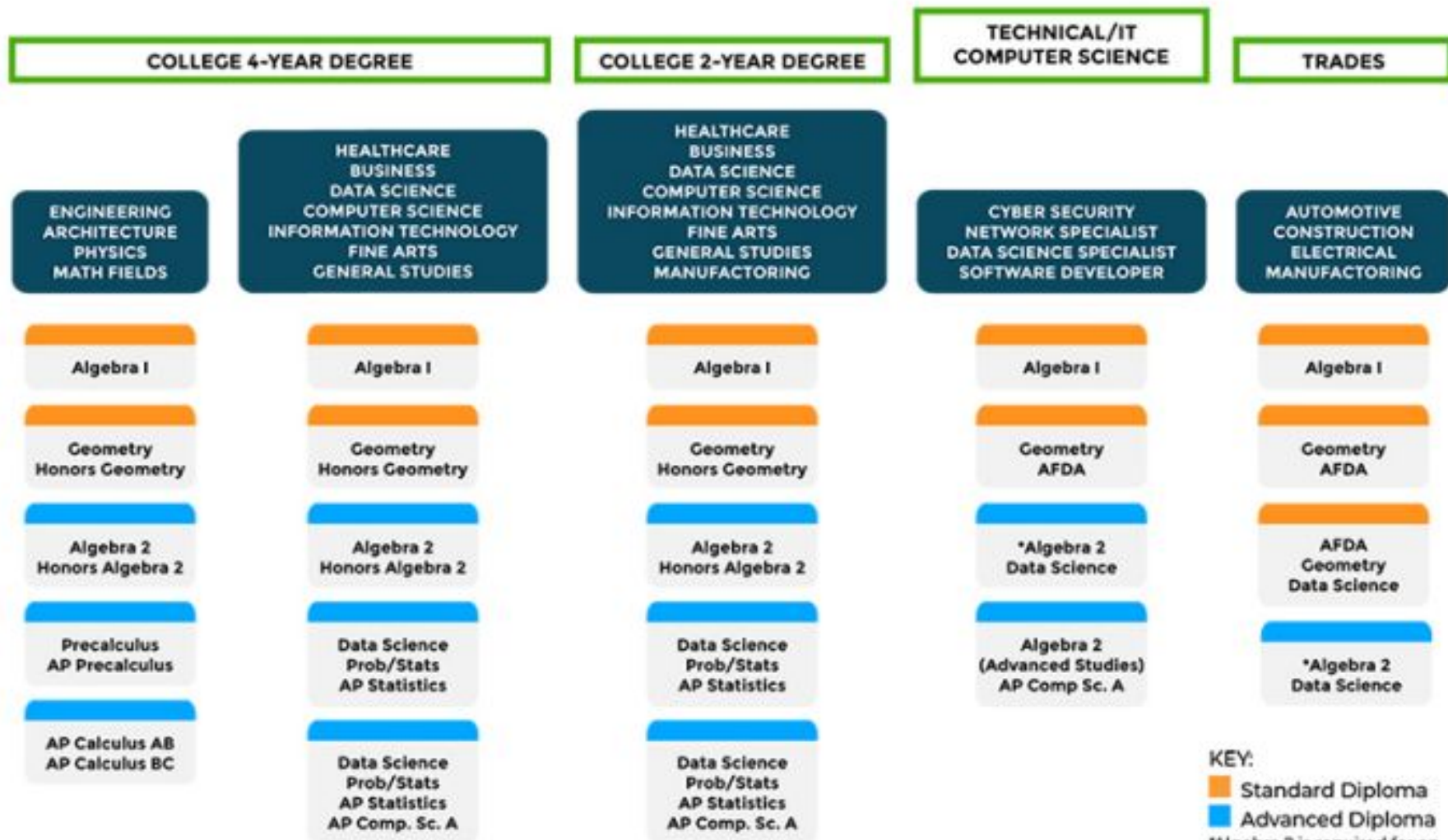
Physics

Earth Science

***MUST COMPLETE 3
OUT OF THE 4 AREAS
FOR ADVANCED
DIPLOMA**



High School Math Pathways

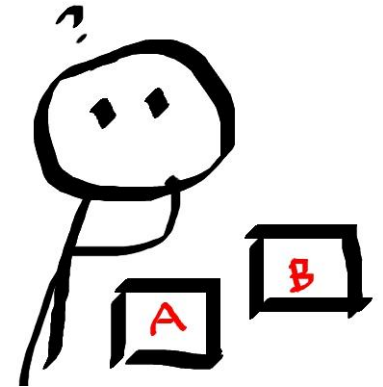


KEY:
■ Standard Diploma
■ Advanced Diploma
 *Algebra 2 is required for an advanced studies diploma.

Selecting Courses

- **Things to consider**
 - Past grades and performance in various disciplines
 - Interests in subject matter
 - Time available for homework and study
 - **Sports**
 - **Extracurricular activities**

1. English
2. Math
3. Science
4. Social Studies
5. Health & PE
6. Elective - (If working toward Advanced Studies diploma, select a world language)
7. Elective
8. Alternate
9. Alternate



Should my son / daughter take an Honors or AP class?

- **Yes, if the student**
 - is currently earning an A or B in that subject
 - is an independent learner, strong writer, and reader
 - loves the subject and wants to go more in depth in this area
 - is a good note taker, self-disciplined, and organized
 - desires an academic challenge
 - desires a faster pace
 - is willing to commit extra time to study outside of class

2026-27 Registration Dates

- Aylor MS: Jan 13th (Snow Date: Jan 16th)
- Byrd MS: Jan 14th (Snow Date: Jan 21st)
- James Wood MS: Jan 15th (Snow Date: Jan 22nd)

The Registration Process

- 1. Middle school counselors will review academic plans, diploma types and course options for next year with rising 9th grade students.**
- 2. High school counselors will guide students through the selection of courses for next year and answer questions regarding high school courses, diploma options, and graduation requirements.**
- 3. Student course selections will be emailed to middle school parents in the form of a verification letter in February.**
- 4. If a change is desired, it should be made on the verification letter and returned to the counseling office by Friday, March 13th.**



Registration Form (2026-27)

Rising 9th Grade Registration Form

Course Catalog

- Courses are searchable by department
- Name of Course / enrollment requirements / credits
- Course descriptions
- Prerequisites and Recommendations

- **AVAILABLE ONLY ONLINE**

(Under the Course Description tab under the Learning section)

[FCPS High School Courses](#)

Reading the Course Catalog

- **Introduction to Animal Systems
8008 (INT ANIM SYS)
Grade: 9–10
1 Credit
Prerequisite: None**
- **Biology I: Theory with Applications
4300 (BIO)
Grades: 9–11
1 credit
Prerequisite: None**

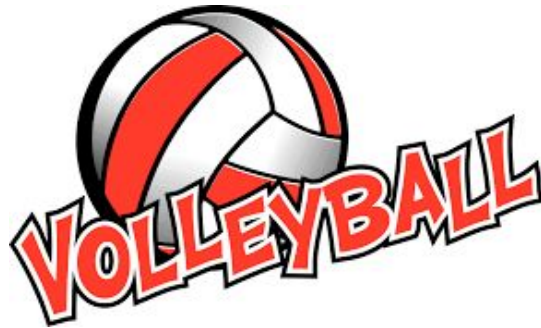
Students develop competencies in each of the major areas of the Animal Systems career pathway including animal nutrition, reproduction, breeding, care, and management. Students learn agricultural mechanics applicable to animal systems.

Biology I is a laboratory course-based course that includes the study of ecology, taxonomy, cellular chemistry, genetics, microbiology, and physiology. These areas are developed within a framework of principal biological theories with an emphasis on critical thinking and science process skills. This course has an associated Standards of Learning (SOL) test. Students will participate in this test to satisfy federal testing requirements.

Programs for Students

- [Dowell J. Howard \(DJH\) Career and Technical \(CTE\) Programs](#)
- [GMU Data Science and Computing Lab School](#)
- [Laurel Ridge Future Educators Academy](#)
- Laurel Ridge Dual Enrollment
- [Mountain Vista Governor's School \(MVGS\)](#)

Getting Involved - Something for Everyone!



Academic Questions

Review the information from the departments on courses and programs during the breakout sessions. Content specialists will also be available for questions following the presentation.



Reminders

- The High School Course Catalog is online!
- Talk with middle school counselors and teachers.
- Finish the school year strong!
- Be sure to select 7 courses and 2 alternate courses.

**We are looking forward to seeing you in
August!!! Go Warriors!!**

**SHERANDO
WARRIORS**