English Language Arts

Reading Literature & Informational Text

- Read & comprehend a variety of grade level texts of appropriate complexity with a continued focus on the characteristics of the different literary genres
- Determine a theme or central idea of a text & analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges & is shaped & refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of a text
- Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, & advance the plot or develop the theme
- Analyze how a character's point of view & actions may signal acceptance or rejection of cultural norms or intellectual ideas of a period or place
- Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text develops the overall effect of the text
- Determine meaning of unknown words & phrases in text
- Compare/contrast important points, elements & key details of two or more texts

Writing

- Produce clear & coherent writing in which the development, organization, & style are appropriate to task, purpose, & audience, including expository, persuasive, & narrative writing
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support written analysis, interpretation, reflection, & research & cite it appropriately
- Develop & strengthen writing using the writing process

Speaking & Listening

- Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions
- Communicate effectively in oral presentations
- Evaluate a speaker's argument & specific claims, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons & evidence from claims that are not.

Language

- Acquire new vocabulary both from reading & from the Sadlier-Oxford Level E vocabulary program
- Use grade-level appropriate conventions in daily writing
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Social Studies

Standards for History & Social Science Practice (PreK-12)

1. Demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, & dispositions.
2. Develop focused questions or problem statements & conduct inquiries.
3. Organize information & data from multiple primary & secondary sources.
4. Analyze the purpose & point of view of each source; distinguish opinion from fact.
5. Evaluate the credibility, accuracy, & relevance of each source.
6. Argue or explain conclusions, using valid reasoning & evidence.
7. Determine next steps & take informed action, as appropriate.

Grade 10: United States History I: Students will use the History & Social Science Practices to explore such focus questions as, "What are examples of continuity & change in the first 150 years of American History?", "How has the definition of what it means to be an American changed over time?" & "How & why have reform movements happened in American history?" Students in Grade 10 will also complete the Civics Project to meet the requirements of Chapter 296 of the Acts of 2018.

World Languages

- Students may take level 1, 2 or 3 of a language
- Level 1 students will be working towards communicating at the Novice Mid proficiency level based on the ACTFL guidelines.
- Level 2 students will be working toward communicating at the Novice High through Intermediate low proficiency level
- Level 3 students will be working toward communicating at the Intermediate low through Intermediate Mid proficiency level
- In all level 1, 2 & 3 language courses, except Latin, students will develop skills in 5 domains: interpersonal writing & speaking, interpretive listening & reading, & intercultural communication. Latin students will focus on developing their skills in interpretive reading & cultural competency.

Math

Mathematics at Westford Academy progresses through Massachusetts State Standards. Specific grade prerequisites as well as scope & sequences for each course can be found on the mathematics page of the Westford Academy website. A strong mathematical foundation & disciplined work habits are critical to success in sequential mathematics classes. For these reasons, students will be recommended to take the level deemed appropriate by their math teacher.

Mathematical Practices

All six standards of mathematical practices are embedded throughout the curriculum daily. In each term some practices are emphasized according to the content/context of the mathematics.

Course Options: based upon prerequisites & recommendations
Mathematics: Geometry, Algebra 2 & AP Statistics
Computer Science: Video Game Programming, Exploring Computer Science (Parts A & B), Honors Java Programming
Teacher recommendations: for Honors & AP courses are based upon "Characteristics of a Successful Student" which can be found on the math website. An overview of the Westford Academy Mathematics Course sequence can be found here. An overview of the Computer Science Course sequence can be found here.

Science & Engineering/Technology

Westford Academy presents a broad science & engineering program designed to develop an awareness & appreciation of the extent of science & its influence on the Earth, & human well being. All courses are laboratory classes & the sequence of courses offered will carry the student through the various phases of science techniques & content. As the student develops a logical approach to problem solving, the aim of the science program is to have each student become a scientifically educated citizen & a lifelong learner. The program is aligned with the Massachusetts Science Frameworks & satisfies the requirements for post high school training in various science fields whether it be medical, engineering, or liberal arts. Students typically enroll in a chemistry course in tenth grade. The options for chemistry include: CP Chemistry or Honors Chemistry. Along with Chemistry, students also have the option to take some science electives. Elective options for sophomores includes: Intro to Engineering, Honors Robotics 1 & 2, CP Robotics 1 & 2. The course students will take is based upon prerequisites & recommendations. More information can be found on the Science & Engineering Technology Course Composites page as well as the Science Course Sequence page.

Chemistry:

- Matter
- Electron Configuration & Periodicity
- Molecular Geometry
- Compounds & Nomenclature
- Chemical Reactions
- Chemical Quantities & Stoichiometry
- Gas Laws
- Phases & Solubility

Health & Physical Education

The Health & Physical Education Program integrates various aspects of wellbeing throughout the K-12 curriculum, directly

impacting a student's health & physical literacy. SHAPE America defines health & physical literacy as follows:

- Health Literacy: An individual's capacity to access information, resources & services necessary to maintaining & promoting health.
- Physical Literacy: An individual's ability, confidence & desire to be physically active for life.

Health Education

Child Development

- Describe the consequences of teen parenting & be aware of the options available to pregnant teens
- Acquire the basic knowledge of the reproductive system, pregnancy & childbirth
- Understand the social, emotional & physical developmental stages of a child from infancy through the school age years.
- Understand the growth & development expectations of the newborn to preschool-aged child

Nutrition & Culinary Consumer Education

- Develop an understanding of food preparation techniques
- Plan & prepare basic nutritious meals
- Assist in value clarification & decision making in relation to personal food choices with an emphasis on healthy alternatives in daily life
- Develop laboratory, writing & critical reasoning skills through measuring, recording & graphing data, predicting & evaluating laboratory results & writing laboratory reports.
- Understand the financial implications of certain food choices through creating budgets
- Analyze nutritional content of foods

Physical Education

Kinesiology of Team Games

- Students will develop individual & team game skills, further their understanding of rules & strategies; with a practical application during individual skill development & gameplay.

Kinesiology of Individual & Dual Games

- Students will develop the knowledge & transferable skills for successful participation in an individual or multiplayer game environment.

Kinesiology of Fitness & Outdoor Pursuits

- Students will gain an understanding of the knowledge & skills necessary for leading a physically active lifestyle, which benefits the life-long healthy development of the whole student.

Kinesiology of Rhythmic Movement

- Students will explore a variety of rhythmic movement patterns & skills. Students will develop an understanding of the importance & value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, & self-expression.

Business / DECA

The Business Department offers a curriculum that facilitates an academic & practical understanding of the scope, function, & nature of business in a free-market society. Course content is supplemented with the study of real-world business examples, using the case study method & in-class discussions on relevant business news articles. Our goal is to provide a well-rounded educational experience that will not only prepare our students for college level business courses, but also to prepare them to become productive citizens. The DECA Business Club prepares emerging leaders & entrepreneurs in the areas of marketing, finance, hospitality, & management in high schools & colleges around the globe. DECA's competitive events directly contribute to every student being college & career ready when they graduate Westford Academy by focusing them on being academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible & experienced leaders. Westford Academy's DECA club is for students (grades 9-12) who have an interest in the business field or want to better prepare themselves for college or career after high school. Our members compete in a program that uses interviews, tests, role plays, & written projects to evaluate their professional skills. WA DECA provides its members with a unique, comprehensive, & time-tested Training Program, which offers a library of online resources, Training Classes & one-on-one instruction are available & adaptable to the students' varied schedules, & practice presentation sessions with a judge all designed to ready the WA members for competition. Members have an opportunity to compete at three qualifying levels (Districts, States, & Internationals) as either individuals or in teams of 2 or 3.

Visual & Performing Arts

Westford Public Schools Visual & Performing Arts education engages every child as a life-long learner through examination, interpretation, & performance. Students analyze & create all of the emotional, cultural, logical, symbolic, intuitive & physical aspects embodied in the arts to understand & share its beauty with their communities. Our curriculum follows the Massachusetts Department of Education 2019 Curriculum Frameworks & adheres to the following criteria:

Guiding Principles for an Effective Arts Education
Standards for Artistic Practice
Please click here to see our Department offerings in the areas of Music, Visual Art & Theater Arts at Westford Academy.

WESTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Curriculum Benchmarks

Grade 10

WESTFORD ACADEMY

"Shaping the future one child at a time"

Visit our website at: www.westfordk12.us