

Academic Programs and Pathways

February 2026

A dark blue, diagonal graphic element that starts from the bottom left corner and extends towards the top right corner, covering the lower half of the slide.

Reduction of Academic Levels

How do we ensure that Penncrest students are enrolled in rigorous courses that reflect their abilities?

Leveling Changes

- Old system offered AP, Accelerated, Honors, College Prep
- New system offers AP, Honors, College Prep, Adapted
- Data driven course recommendations
- Presented to the School Board in Fall, 2023
- *Teaching Learning Succeeding* (TLS) provided support to teachers during this process
- 9th grade reduced a level in '23-'24
- 10th grade reduced a level in '24-'25
- 11th grade reduced a level in '25-'26

The Change to Block Scheduling

Scheduling Changes

- Changes to Intervention & Enrichment (I/E) were first discussed in Winter 2023
- Internal discussions about the change began January, 2023
- Meetings with Central Administration and Building Coordinators in April '23
- School visits Spring '23 and Fall '24
- Professional development focused on block lesson planning and instructional practices Fall '24 to August '25
- TLS Support 2025-2026 included a partnership with district Instructional Coaches

English Pathways

Grade Level	College Prep Placement	Honors Placement	Advanced Placement
9	English 9	Honors English 9	
10	English 10	Honors English 10	AP Seminar
11	English 11	Honors English 11	AP Language and Composition
12	English 12	Honors English 12	AP Literature and Composition

Math Pathways

Grade 9	Foundations of Algebra	Algebra 1A and Algebra 1B	Honors Algebra I	Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry
Grade 10	Algebra IA	Geometry or Algebra II	Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra II	Honors Algebra II and Honors Precalculus
Grade 11	Algebra IB	Geometry or Algebra II	Honors Precalculus or AP Precalculus	Honors Calculus or AP Calculus
Grade 12	Geometry or Algebra II	Functions, Statistics, Trig	Honors Calculus or AP Calculus or AP Statistics	Honors Statistics or AP Statistics and/or Honors Linear Algebra

Science Pathways

	College Prep Placement	Honors Placement	Advanced Placement
Grade 9	Environmental Science	Honors Environmental Science	
Grade 10	Biology	Honors Biology	Honors Biology with AP Biology
Grade 11	<u>Choices</u> Chemistry Chem Theory Integrated Science Science and Technology Forensic Sciences	<u>Choices (1 or 2)</u> Honors Physics I Honors Chemistry Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology	<u>Choices</u> AP Biology AP Physics I Honors with AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science
Grade 12	<u>Choices</u> Chemistry Chem Theory Integrated Science Science and Technology Forensic Sciences	<u>Choices (1 or 2)</u> Honors Physics I Honors Chemistry Honors Human Anatomy & Physiology	<u>Choices</u> AP Biology AP Physics I, 2, or C AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science

Social Studies Pathways

Grade Level	College Prep Placement	Honors Placement	Advanced Placement
9	Global Studies	Honors Global Studies	
10	Western Civilization	Honors Western Civilization	AP European History
11	US History	Honors US History	AP US History
12	Government	Honors Government	AP Government and Politics

AP/IB Enrollment (Graduating Class) 2022 vs. 2025

Conestoga	83.5%
Harriton	83.3%
Lower Merion	78.6%
Radnor	77.2%
Haverford	71.4%
Strath Haven	65.5%
Springfield	56.9%
Marple-Newtown	55.1%
Garnet Valley	54.9%
Penncrest	52.3%
Ridley	34.1%

Harriton	85.1%
Conestoga	84.7%
Lower Merion	80.7%
Radnor	77.7%
Garnet Valley	71.5%
Strath Haven	71.4%
Haverford	65.2%
Springfield	59.8%
Penncrest	56.2%
Marple-Newtown	51.3%
Ridley	28.5%

Advanced Placement Scores

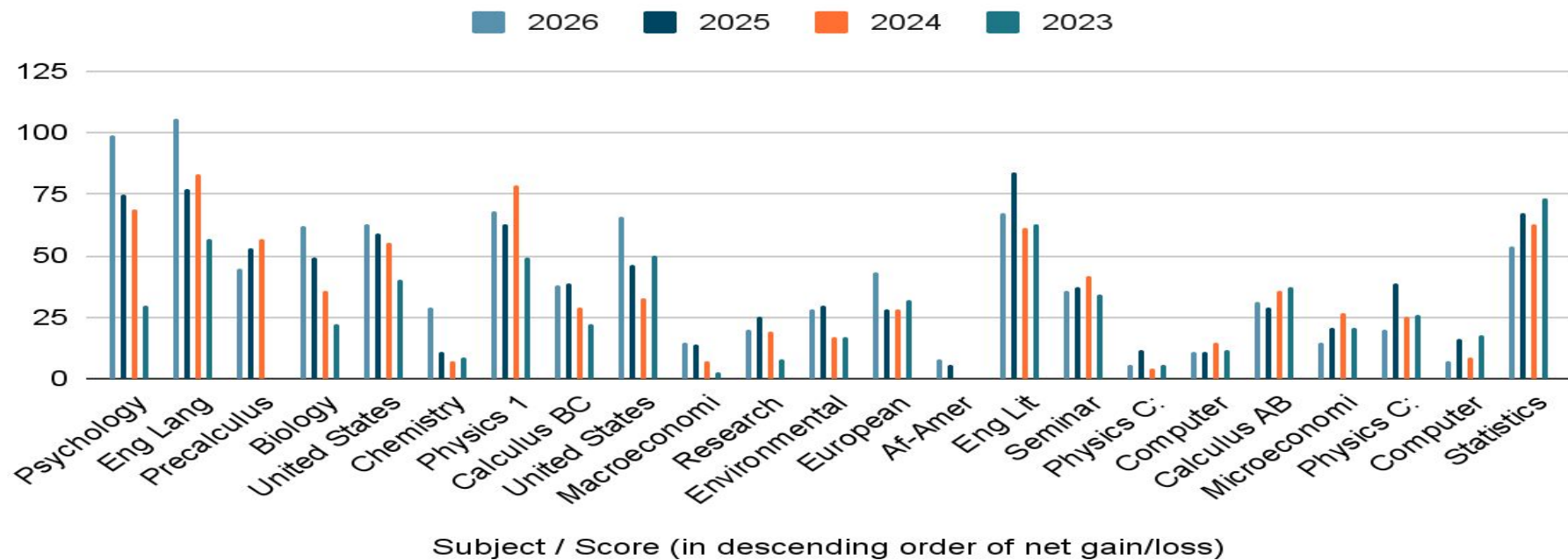


SCHOOL SUMMARY

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total AP Students	292	319	305	372	390
Number of Exams	577	680	683	862	958
AP Students with Scores 3+	209	256	262	309	356
% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+	71.58	80.25	85.90	83.06	91.28

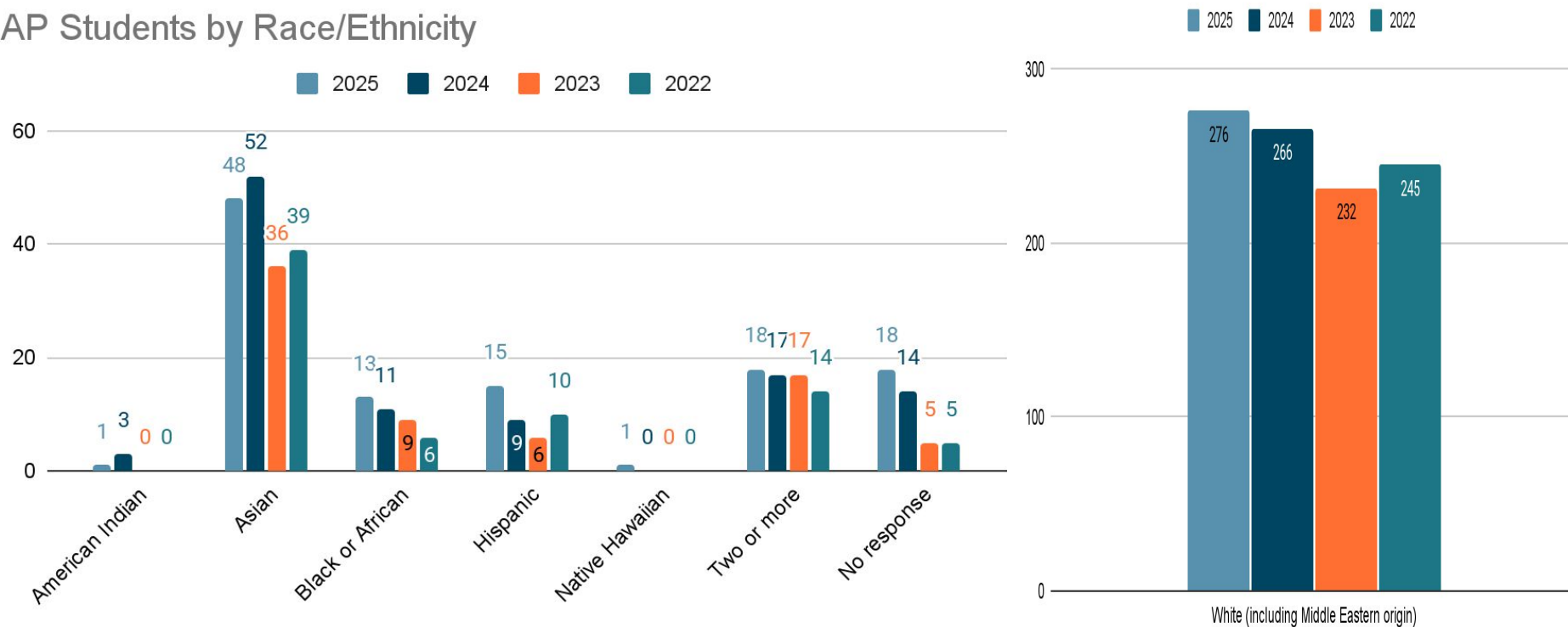
308 More “Core 4” AP Course Enrollments than ‘22-’23

Enrollment Since 2022-2023



AP Enrollment by Race (# of Students)

AP Students by Race/Ethnicity



Advanced Placement Growth



SILVER

AP 2025 School Honor Roll

Penncrest High School

In 2025, Black students took 26 exams in 16 different courses. In 2022, Black students took 12 exams in 8 courses.

In 2025, Hispanic students took 36 exams in 17 different courses. In 2022, Hispanic students took 21 exams in 12 courses.

In 2025, students granted fee waivers took 71 exams in 25 different courses. In 2022, students granted fee waivers took 25 exams in 13 different courses.

AP Enrollment by Gender at Penncrest

Top AP Courses for Female Students:

- English Literature
- Psychology
- English Language
- Physics 1
- Biology
- Spanish Language
- Statistics
- US History

More Female Enrollment than Male Enrollment:

- Psychology
- Environmental Science
- Spanish Language
- Research
- English Literature
- Biology

Top AP Courses for Male Students:

- Statistics
- English Literature
- English Language
- Physics 1
- US History
- Precalculus
- Physics C: Mechanics
- Psychology

More Male Enrollment than Female Enrollment

- Physics C: Mechanics
- Statistics
- Computer Science A
- European History
- US History
- Precalculus

Next Steps

The new academic levels and block schedule allow for increased academic opportunities. Our focus now narrows to refining our instructional practices and evaluating our course offerings, requirements, and pathways.

We will see a significant increase in the percentage of graduates who take an AP class (8% increase from Class of '25 to Class of '26)

Continued analysis of course enrollment, including where students “double up”

Analysis of data after semester AP courses

Discussion of current course pathways and requirements in English, Science, Social Studies, and elective areas

Investigate how to better recognize the community service provided by our students

Increased dual enrollment opportunities with local partners and specialized programs

Considerations

Any changes to our course offerings and pathways must be made with many factors in mind.

What options exist for the wide array of post-secondary options our students will pursue?

What ripple effects result from any individual changes?

How is course selection impacted by the block schedule? By new state requirements? By the feedback we get from college admissions officials?

How to best vertically align our curriculum to meet state standards and student needs?

How do we balance student choice with the benefits of exposure to subjects they would not choose to enroll in unless they are required?