NORWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Advanced Placement

Information & Testing Report

October 26, 2026

Why Offer AP Courses at NHS?

The AP program is an important part of our academic offerings. Providing students with opportunities to challenge themselves academically, engage in rigorous, college-level coursework, and explore potential college and career interests in greater depth.

Why Offer AP Courses at NHS?

- **College Readiness:** Develop the academic skills, habits, and practices needed for success in college.
- **College Credit, Placement, and Access:** Expand access to college-level coursework and provide opportunities to earn college credit or advanced placement, depending on exam scores and college policies.
- **Subject Exploration:** Allow students to pursue areas of academic interest in greater depth.
- **Comprehensive Curriculum:** Provide rigorous academic opportunities for students with different interests, strengths, and goals.
- **College Selection Process:** Results in improving our school's and students' standing in the competitive college selection process

NHS AP Philosophy

- **Access:** Encourage students to pursue AP coursework based on their interests, academic goals, and willingness to challenge themselves while maintaining balance.
- **Student Growth:** Providing access to academic risk-taking in areas of strength.
- **Student Support:** Provide guidance and support as students navigate the expectations and demands of AP coursework.

NHS AP Course Offerings

21 AP courses across a wide range of disciplines

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
English Language	Computer Science	World History
US History	English Literature	Government
French	Psychology	Spanish
Calculus AB	Latin	Studio Art-Drawing
Calculus BC	Statistics	Studio Art-2D
Environmental Science	Economics: Micro & Macro	Studio Art-3D

How Are AP Courses Selected at NHS?

AP course offerings are determined by considering several factors:

- **Curricular Alignment:** How a course complements existing offerings and supports students' academic and postsecondary goals.
- **Program Development:** Opportunities to expand or strengthen academic pathways based on student needs and interests (course request process).
- **Challenge of Staffing and Resources:** Teacher qualifications, staffing availability, and scheduling considerations. Reduction of five teaching positions in the last three years (25 year-long sections)

NHS Graduation Requirements

AP courses fulfill the same graduation requirements as non-AP courses

30 Credit per year **Full Year:** 5 credits **Half Year (Semester):** 2.5 credits **Term:** 1.25 credits	
4 YEARS REQUIRED	**English** **Math** **Social Studies (2 US History)** **Science (Bio, Chem, Physics)**
3 YEARS REQUIRED	**World Language** **(2 years minimum at NHS)**
Unified Arts & Wellness REQUIRED	**1 Term Health in grades 9 & 10** **1 Term PE in grades 11 & 12** **4 semesters Unified Arts**
Students are required to be enrolled in a minimum of 30 credits per year - 6 Periods*	

Building A Student Schedule

Students fill seven periods - combination of required courses, electives & potentially, study blocks

Semester 1	Semester 2
English	
Math	
Social Studies	
Science	
World Language	
PE/Wellness	Elective - Arts
Elective - Tech Ed	Elective or Study

Building A Senior Schedule

AP courses fulfill the same graduation requirements as non-AP courses

Semester 1	Semester 2
English ⇨ AP Lit *or* Semantics	
Math ⇨ AP Calc AB *or* Honors Calc	
Social Studies ⇨ AP Psych *or* Sociology	
Science ⇨ AP Physics *or* Bio Tech.	
World Lang. ⇨ AP Spanish *or* Arabic I	
PE	Pathways
Elective ⇨ AP Drawing *or* Art II	

How Are AP Courses Scheduled?

Student Course Requests: Students select courses based on graduation requirements, academic interests, college application process, and future goals.

Course Offerings: Student course requests are reviewed administratively and courses with insufficient student requests are eliminated from the schedule, requiring students to select an alternative course.

Scheduling Considerations: AP courses are scheduled alongside all other NHS courses, balancing graduation requirements, student needs, class sizes, and available resources.

How Are AP Courses Staffed?

- **Teaching Assignments:** NHS full-time teachers have five classes. AP and non-AP courses each count as one class within a teacher's regular teaching assignment.
- **AP Course Preparation and Authorization:** Teachers participate in AP professional development and complete the College Board's Course Audit process, which includes an approved syllabus.
- **AP Program Expenses - Self Funded:** Students pay a fee to take AP exams. NHS uses funds retained from AP exam administration to support AP teacher professional development.

Current Average Class Size By Level

Level	Sections	Total Students	Avg. Students
AP (includes AP/H)	34	628	18.47
CP	48	758	15.79
H	60	1142	19.03
H/CP	35	683	19.51
Non-leveled	83	1572	18.94
All sections	**260**	**4783**	**18.4**

**AP combines every section whose level contains "AP" (31 AP sections + 3 AP/H Latin sections)*

Current AP Class Sizes at NHS

Current enrollment by class section | 34 sections

Course	Students
AP English Language & Composition	27
AP English Literature	24
AP U.S. History	21
AP U.S. History	21
AP U.S. History	19
AP U.S. History	20
AP World History	26
AP Psychology	19
AP Psychology	23
AP American Government	23
AP American Government	22
AP Economics	20
AP Economics	13
AP Statistics	24
AP Statistics	18
AP Calculus AB	20
AP Calculus BC	23

Course	Students
AP Biology	25
AP Biology	19
AP Chemistry	26
AP Physics	13
AP Environmental Science	17
AP Environmental Science	18
Latin V H/CP/AP	11
Latin V H/CP/AP	14
Latin VI H/SUPA	11
Spanish V (SUPA)	14
Spanish V (SUPA)	14
AP Spanish	16
French V (SUPA)	20
AP French	15
AP Studio Art	7
AP Studio Art	12
AP Computer Science Principles	13

Includes combined-level Latin and SUPA courses as listed in the current schedule.

Understanding AP Courses and Staffing

159 senior English course enrollments • 7 sections

CURRENT ENGLISH CLASSES	
Creative Writing	21
Creative Writing	22
The Sea in Literature	23
AP Literature	**24**
Semantics	26
Semantics	23
A Reader's Life	20
7 sections • 159 enrollments	

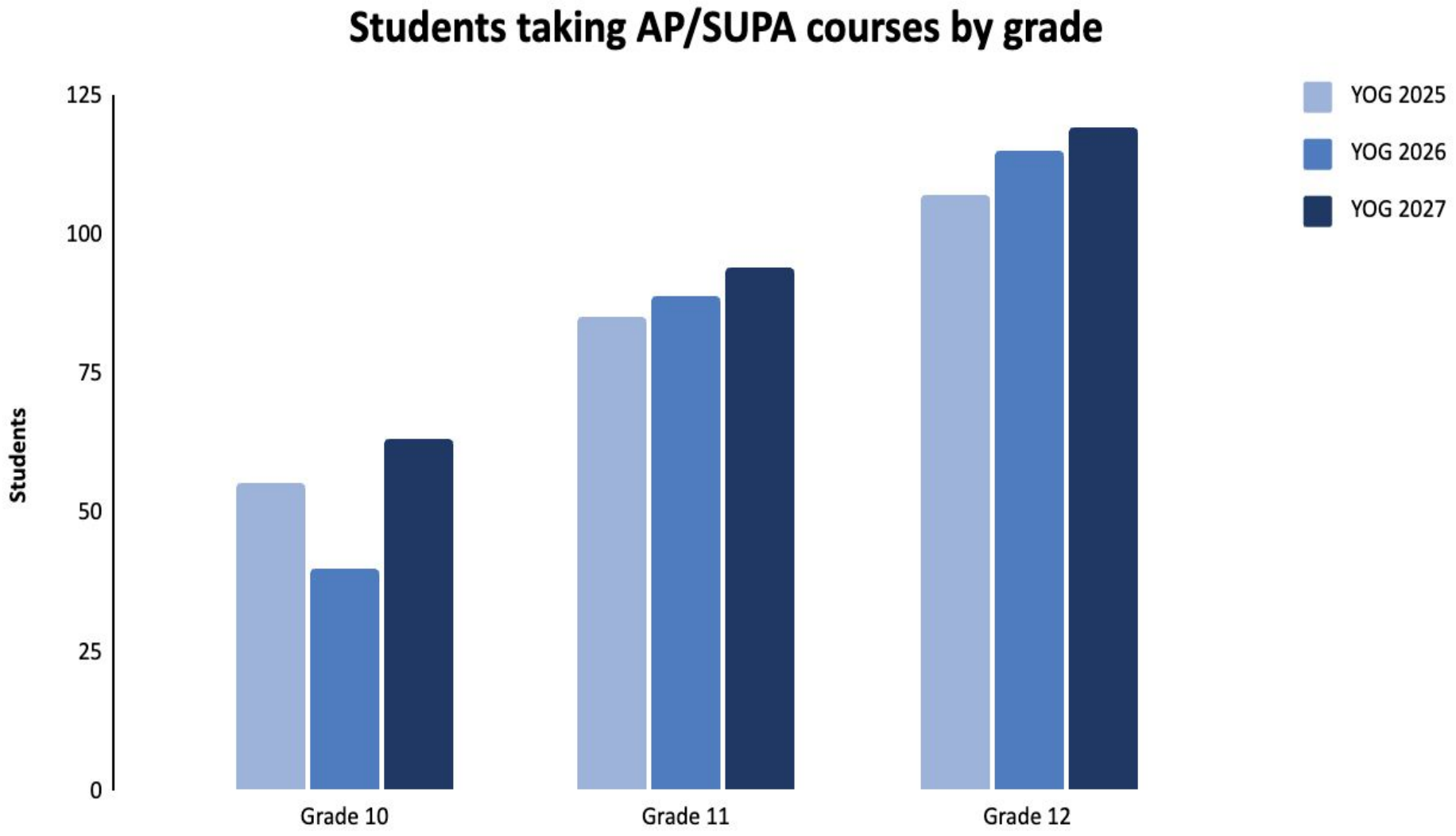
WITHOUT AP LIT	
Creative Writing	21
Creative Writing	22
The Sea in Literature	23
Semantics (replacement)	**24**
Semantics	26
Semantics	23
A Reader's Life	20
7 sections • 159 enrollments	

Removing AP Literature would not eliminate the need for an English section.
Reminder - Each section is 1 of 5 sections in a teacher course load

Participation in AP or SUPA (By Year of Graduation)

Measure	YOG 2025	YOG 2026	YOG 2027
Students participation AP and/or SUPA	**115**	**119**	**126**
Graduating class size	150	139	153
Percent of class participation	76.67%	85.61%	82.35%
Total courses taken	461	483	589
Courses per student			
1 course	19	20	25
2–4 courses	53	54	37
5–7 courses	32	33	39
More than 7 courses	11	12	25
Total	**115**	**119**	**126**

AP/SUPA Participation by Grade

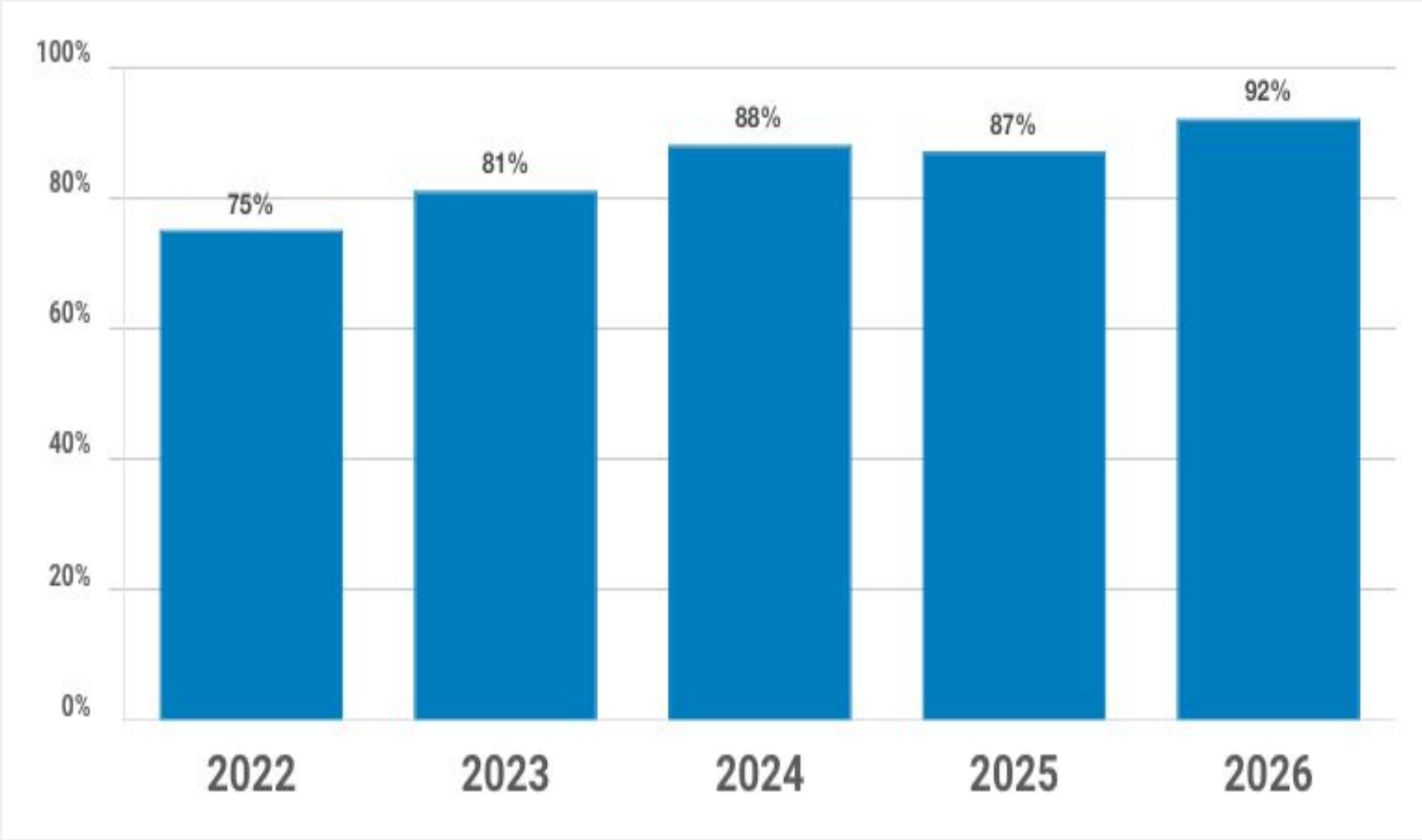


2025-2026 AP School Summary

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total AP Students	282	252	234	253	279
Number of Exams	456	431	443	431	534
AP Students with Scores 3+	211	204	205	219	258
% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+	74.82	80.95	87.61	86.56	92.47

*Screenshot from the College Board

% of AP Students Scoring 3 or Higher



AP Scores / Class Grades

AP Scores	Total Count per score	% of AP Scores	Average Grade
1	9	1.69%	87.20
2	48	9.01%	84.91
3	129	24.20%	86.51
4	227	42.59%	90.09
5	120	22.51%	94.07
2026 Average AP Score @ NHS	3.75		

Grades vs. AP Scores

	5	4	3	2	1	Total
A	72	56	10	2	1	141
A-	43	83	28	11	2	167
B+	2	47	28	7	1	85
B	1	30	36	8	3	78
B-	0	9	16	16	2	43
C+	1	2	7	2	0	12
C	0	0	2	2	0	4
C-	0	0	0	0	0	0
D+	0	0	0	0	0	0
D	0	0	0	0	0	0
D-	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Class	1	0	2	0	0	3
TTL	120	227	129	48	9	533
%	22.5%	42.6%	24.2%	9.0%	1.7%	

AP Tests Taken & Average Scores

Subject	Tests Taken 2022	Tests Taken 2023	Tests Taken 2024	Tests Taken 2025	Tests Taken 2026	Average Score 2022	Average Score 2023	Average Score 2024	Average Score 2025	Average Score 2026
2-D Art and Design	8	14	7	12	8	4.0	3.2	3.6	3.5	3.6
3-D Art and Design	0	0	1	1	0			2.0	4.0	
Biology	39	28	41	40	44	3.5	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.6
Calculus AB	28	31	29	22	23	2.7	3.1	3.6	3.6	4.0
Calculus BC	10	10	22	7	16	2.9	2.9	3.2	2.3	2.7
Chemistry	7	16	12	22	27	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3
Computer Science A	7	2	NA	2	0	1.7	4.5		3.5	N/A
Computer Science Principles			18	10	21			3.6	2.8	3.4
Drawing	9	12	14	12	10	3.8	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.4
English Language & Composit	31	31	17	19	27	3.5	4.1	4.4	3.8	4.1
English Literature	14	17	22	12	21	4.1	4.1	4.5	4.0	4.2
Environmental Science	9	19	37	31	38	3.9	3.4	3.9	3.7	3.4
European History	54	51	25	39	0	2.4	3.0	2.5	2.7	N/A
French Language & Culture	7	8	9	6	1	3.7	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.0
Latin	15	8	9	10	11	3.4	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.2
Macro Economics					23					2.9
Micro Economics					23					3.3
Physics C: Mechanics	12	8	10	10	6	3.0	4.3	3.1	2.5	2.8
Psychology	64	45	57	43	50	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.9
Spanish Language & Culture	16	4	15	5	13	3.5	4.5	3.9	4.4	4.2
Statistics	16	21	9	16	22	3.8	4.3	4.3	3.9	4.1
US Government & Politics	20	18	25	49	43	3.6	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.9
US History	90	87	64	61	72	2.6	3.1	3.9	3.8	3.9
World History:Modern					34					3.9
Total	**456**	**430**	**443**	**429**	**533**					

NHS AP Program - Overview

- NHS offers 21 AP courses across a wide range of disciplines, providing students with opportunities to challenge themselves academically and explore their interests.
- AP courses are part of the regular NHS academic program, following the same scheduling and staffing practices as non-AP courses.
- AP teachers do not teach AP exclusively—the majority of their schedule consists of non-AP courses.
- AP class sizes are consistent with the schoolwide average.

NHS AP Program - Overview

- Students are encouraged and supported to take academic risks, students take advantage of these opportunities, and achieve at a high level

- Student participation in AP courses remains strong, with the number of AP exams taken increasing by more than 100 over last year while the he percentage of AP exams receiving scores of 3 or higher has also increased.

- These results are a testament to the hard work of our students and teachers, as well as the ongoing reflection and adjustments our teachers make to their curriculum and instructional practices.