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NAME _____

HOMEBASE TEACHER _____

It is the policy of the Muhlenberg School District not to discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, gender, or national origin in its education programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquiries regarding compliance should be directed to the Office of the Assistant Superintendent, 801 Bellevue Avenue, Laureldale, PA 19605, telephone 610-921-8000, or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, Washington, DC.

I. PURPOSE OF THIS MANUAL

This guide to the educational programs available at Muhlenberg Middle School shows that approximately two-thirds of the courses selected each year are required, while the other third of the courses are elective. The elective courses should reflect a student's academic abilities, achievements, interests, and educational or career goals. The faculty and School Counseling Department will assist students in making course selections. Careful consideration by students and their parents, together with this assistance from the faculty and School Counseling Department, should result in a program that satisfies the student's needs.

II. PLANNING A PROGRAM

The students, parents, teachers, and counselors should all be involved in the planning of a sound educational program. This program, as it unfolds and develops from year to year, should result in an enjoyable, successful, and profitable school career. The students' ability to continue their education or their readiness for employment will determine how successful this program has been. In planning this program, students should:

1. Establish personal goals.
2. Evaluate personal interests, aptitudes, and needs.
3. Learn career entrance requirements as soon as possible. If post-secondary education is required, find out about the entrance requirements as soon as possible.
4. If college is anticipated, visit as many colleges as possible during grades 11 and 12.
5. Consult with parents, teachers, and counselors in order to benefit from their experience and the information they can make available.
6. Be prepared to modify the program as their interests change.
7. Make sure all graduation requirements are met.

Because the scheduling process is an important commitment, the school requires that parents sign the course selection sheet to note their agreement with the courses to be scheduled for next year. If there are any questions, the counselor should be contacted immediately. The student will receive a completed schedule at the end of the school year. After this time, making schedule changes will be very difficult and only the following reasons will be considered valid for such changes:

1. The course is beyond the academic ability of the student.
2. A major career change makes other courses more important in the student's schedule.

III. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A. For a student to be eligible for graduation, the student shall:

1. Demonstrate mastery of academic standards as defined by Chapter 4, "Curriculum" from the State Board of Education Regulations, PA School Code.
2. Complete a minimum number of credits as defined below.
3. Complete all other requirements developed in conjunction with PA Dept. of Education regulations or as approved by the Muhlenberg School District and presented in district publications.
4. Pass all state required Keystone Exams. These include, but are not limited to, Algebra 1, Biology, and Literature.

The process for fulfilling the above requirements is as follows:

- (a) Academic Standards – Students must successfully master the content embedded in the high school planned courses, which are developed in accordance with the Pennsylvania academic standards approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Education. Course descriptions are obtainable from the Educational Planning Guide revised on a yearly basis and made available in the Middle School Guidance Office and on the school district website.

(b) Course/Credit Requirements – Students shall accumulate a minimum of 23.83 credits to be eligible for graduation:

<u>Full-Time Muhlenberg Students</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Career & Technology Students</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English	4.00	English	4.00
Social Studies*	4.00	Social Studies*	4.00
Mathematics	4.00	Mathematics	4.00
Science**	4.00	Science**	3.00
Arts/Humanities	2.00	Arts/Humanities	1.00
Wellness Education***	2.08	Wellness Education***	2.08
Driver Education	0.25	Driver Education	0.25
Family & Consumer Science	0.25	Family & Consumer Science	0.25
Career Exploration	0.25	Career Exploration	0.25
Electives	3.00	Electives	5.00

*Students shall complete at least one credit of Economics/Government as part of the Social Studies curriculum

** Students shall complete at least one credit in Physical Sciences and one credit in Life Sciences

*** Students must successfully complete a Physical Education/Wellness Education course each year, grades 9-12.

9th GRADE ARTS/HUMANITIES OPTIONS

Spanish I	Discovery in Studio Arts
Spanish	Engineering Principles
Latin I	Exploring Music
German I	Planning Ahead

OTHER 9TH GRADE ELECTIVE OPTIONS

AFJROTC	Internet Applications
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Note: Children with disabilities who satisfactorily complete a special education program developed by an Individualized Education Plan team under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and in conjunction with graduation requirements stipulated in Chapter 4 shall earn and be issued a regular high school diploma. This section also applies if the special education program of a child with an Individualized Education Plan related to disability does not otherwise meet all requirements of Chapter 4 but the child completes goals for graduation requirements established by the IEP team.

B. Standards Assurance

The Assistant Superintendent/ Designee will insure that the curriculum of Muhlenberg High School meets the requirements of Chapter 4.

IV. PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

In 9th grade, students earn credits for each course passed with the goal of reaching the appropriate number of credits for graduation. **A 9th grade student must earn a minimum of 5 credits prior to the start of the following school year to be considered a 10th grade student. Students who do not earn this minimum number of credits may be retained in the Middle School and will, therefore, be required to repeat the entire 9th grade curriculum.**

V. RANKING

Students in grades 9 through 12 will be ranked at the end of the academic year by using final course grades. Ranking will be based on all subjects carried, with the exception of chorus/band and any Pass/Fail courses. The students with the highest grade point averages based upon final grades only will be ranked first, etc.

Procedure for selecting commencement speakers: After the third quarter of the senior year, the rank of the top 10 students will be figured by using final grades from grades 9, 10, and 11, and the average of the first three quarters of grade 12. The students will be ranked by order of highest grade point average to the lowest. The honor graduates (commencement speakers) will be the highest-ranking seniors at the end of the third quarter senior year.

VI. ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Students who wish to enroll in advanced placement course must meet the following criteria before the course is scheduled:

1. The student must have an overall GPA of 3.0 for the year prior to enrolling in the course and at least a 90% average in the major subject area for the previous year for which the student is enrolling. Teacher recommendation may also be used to determine eligibility for AP classes in lieu of the required 90% average **and/or 3.0 GPA. Final determination of eligibility will rest with the middle school principal.** It is strongly recommended that the student has previously taken Honors-level courses in the subject area of the AP course in which he/she is enrolling.
2. Prior to the close of school in the current year, the student must make an appointment with the teacher responsible for the course to determine possible summer reading or project requirements. All students requesting these courses **must** complete the Summer Assignments Policy at the time of course selection. This document can be found on page 23.
3. All students enrolled in the AP courses are encouraged to take the AP exam at the student's expense. ****Beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, students will be required to register and pay for the AP exams by October. Any student that adds or cancels an AP exam after the October deadline will incur a \$40 fee. These changes have been set forth by the College Board to all schools participating in the AP program.**
4. An AP course will be weighted only when the student takes the midterm exam and either the AP exam or the final exam for that AP course.
5. Any AP class with an enrollment of nine or less students may be cancelled.

In order to receive college credit for an AP course, students must take the AP exam associated with each course. A score of 3 or better -- on a scale of 1 to 5 -- is usually required to receive college credit.

VII. POLICY: MEETING COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students may schedule no fewer than six major subjects (a major subject is any course that meets every day of the cycle; two one-semester courses that meet each day are the equivalent of one major subject). Students are encouraged to take a seventh full-time subject.

Students may not drop or add courses during the school year except by permission of the principal. In granting such permission, recommendations of teachers, reasons for such a change, test scores, past records, and personal and/or career goals are considered in rendering a judgment. Students who receive permission to drop courses may do so with the following notations placed on their permanent record:

Full Year Courses

1. If dropped before the start of the second marking period, no notation of having entered the course will be placed on the permanent record.
2. If dropped after the end of the first marking period, the notation WP for “withdrew passing” or WF for “withdrew failing” will be placed on the permanent student transcript.

Semester Courses

1. If dropped before the twenty-third day of the course, no notation of having entered the course will be placed on the permanent student transcript.
2. If dropped after the twenty-third day of the course, the notation WP for “withdrew passing” or WF for “withdrew failing” will be placed on the student transcript.

VIII. SUMMER SCHOOL

Students may repeat failed courses at a recognized summer school program with approval of the middle school principal. Students can enroll in a maximum of two summer school courses.

Students must enroll in Muhlenberg’s Summer School Program if the course they failed is offered here. Courses repeated in summer school will be recorded as the grade earned and credit for the course will be given. Summer school courses taken at Muhlenberg Middle School will be included in a student’s grade point average (GPA) once those courses have been passed.

Students should understand that permission to enroll in summer school courses may not be granted if circumstances indicate that minimum or no effort was exhibited by the student in the failed course during the school year.

IX. COURSE AVAILABILITY

The courses described in this guide are offered if sufficient enrollment numbers are reached. Courses may be cancelled if minimum enrollments are not met.

SPECIAL NOTE: Some courses may be offered in a variety of patterns (i.e. a ½ credit course may be offered for six days per cycle during one semester or for three days per cycle for the entire school year). The decision on how to offer each course will be based on the pattern that will allow the most students to schedule a particular course.

X. COMPUTING YOUR GPA

Numerical Range	Letter Equivalent	Quality Points
97-100	A+	4.00
93-96	A	4.00
90-92	A-	3.75
87-89	B+	3.50
83-86	B	3.00
80-82	B-	2.75
77-79	C+	2.50
73-76	C	2.00
70-72	C-	1.75
67-69	D+	1.50
63-66	D	1.00
0-62	F	0.00

COURSE	GRADE	QUALITY POINTS	X	CREDIT	=	TOTAL CREDIT
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
			X		=	
				TOTAL A		TOTAL B

Write the titles of all your courses in the first column. In the “grade” column, write the grade you received for the course. The “quality point” column is for the weight of the grade you received; the quality point(s) for a course can be obtained from the chart above. In the “credit” column, write the amount of credit you will receive when you complete the course. Multiply the “quality points” column by the “credit” column and record your answer in the “total credit” column. Total the “credit” column (A) and the “total credit” column (B). Divide total B by total A. The resulting number is your GPA. Chorus & Band will not be calculated in the GPA.

****The final course/final year GPA is weighted for students who have earned passing grades in Honors and/or Advanced Placement (AP) courses. To calculate a weighted GPA:**

1. Calculate the final year GPA as described above (using final course grades).
2. To the GPA obtained in step one:
 - * Add .1 for each 1 credit AP course the student has passed and when the student has taken the midterm exam for that course and either the AP exam or the final exam for that course.
 - * Add .133 for each 1.33 credit AP course the student has passed and when the student has taken the midterm exam for that course and either the AP exam or the final exam for that course.
 - * Add .035 for each 1 credit Honors course the student has passed.
 - * Add .04095 for each 1.17 credit Honors course the student has passed.
3. The resulting number is the student’s weighted GPA.

SUGGESTED 4-YEAR PROGRAM
COLLEGE PREPARATORY

GRADE 9	CREDIT	GRADE 10	CREDIT	GRADE 11	CREDIT	GRADE 12	CREDIT
English 9 College	1.0	English 10 College	1.0	English 11 College	1.0	English 12 College	1.0
American Cultures 9 College	1.0	American Cultures 10 College	1.0	World Cultures College	1.0	Gov't/Economics College	1.0
Biology College	1.0	Chemistry College, Advanced Biology or Gen Physical Science	1.0	AP Physics 1, Chemistry College, General Physical Science, Environmental Science College, or AP Biology	1.0, 1.17, or 1.33	Environmental Science College, Human Anatomy, AP Biology, AP Physics 1 or 2, AP Env Science, or Astronomy & Meteorology	1.0, 1.17, or 1.33
Algebra 1 College	1.0	Algebra 2/Geometry College or Advanced Algebra 1/Geometry	1.0	Precalculus College, Advanced Algebra 2, or Algebra 2/Trigonometry	1.0	Calculus Honors, Advanced Algebra 2, Precalculus College, Probability & Statistics, Prob & Stats Sports, or Cons Math	1.0
World Language	1.0	World Language	1.0	World Language	1.0	World Language	1.0
Physical Education	.5	Wellness Education	.5	Wellness Education	.5	Wellness Education	.5
Health I	.25	Driver Education	.25				
Career Exploration	.25	Family & Consumer Sciences	.25				
Elective	1.0	Elective	1.0	Elective	1.0	Elective	1.0

SUGGESTED 4-YEAR PROGRAM
HONORS PROGRAM

GRADE 9	CREDIT	GRADE 10	CREDIT	GRADE 11	CREDIT	GRADE 12	CREDIT
English 9 Honors	1.0	English 10 Honors & American Cultures 10 Honors, AP Euro History, or World Cultures Honors/College	2.0 1.0	English 11 Honors & World Cultures 11 Honors/Coll, or AP World History	2.0 1.0	English 12 Honors or AP English	1.0
AP US History	1.0					Gov't/Economics Honors or AP Government	1.0
Biology Honors	1.0	Chemistry Honors or Gen Physical Science	1.17	AP Chemistry, AP Biology, or AP Physics 1	1.33	AP Chemistry, Human Anatomy, AP Biology, AP Physics 1 or 2, or AP Env Science	1.17 or 1.33
Algebra 1 Honors	1.0	Algebra 2/ Geometry Honors or Precalculus Honors/College	1.0	Precalculus Honors/College, Calculus Honors, or AP Calculus AB	1.0	Calculus Honors, AP Calculus AB, Prob & Stats Appl, Prob & Stats Sports, AP Statistics, or AP Calculus BC	1.0
World Language	1.0	World Language	1.0	World Language	1.0	World Language	1.0
Physical Education	.5	Wellness Education	.5	Wellness Education	.5	Wellness Education	.5
Health I	.25	Driver Education	.25				
Career Exploration	.25	Family & Consumer Sciences	.25				
Elective	1.0	Elective	1.0	Elective	1.0	Elective	1.0

SUGGESTED 4-YEAR PROGRAM
CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

GRADE 9	CREDIT	GRADE 10	CREDIT	GRADE 11	CREDIT	GRADE 12	CREDIT
English 9 Coll/Hon	1.0	English 10 Coll/Hon	1.0	English 11 Coll/Hon	1.0	English 12 Coll/Hon	1.0
Algebra 1 Coll/Hon	1.0	Algebra 2/Geometry College or Advanced Algebra 1/Geometry	1.0	Algebra 2/Trigonometry, Precalculus College, or Advanced Algebra 2	1.0	Calculus Honors, Math for the Workplace, Advanced Algebra 2, Precalculus College, Probability & Statistics, or Cons Math	1.0
Biology Coll/Hon	1.0	Advanced Biology or Chemistry College	1.0 or 1.17	Concepts in Physics, Chemistry College, Environmental Science College, General Physical Science, or Advanced Biology Astronomy & Meteorology	1.0 or 1.17		
Am Cultures 9 Coll or AP US History	1.0	CTC Social Studies Coll/Hon	1.0	CTC Social Studies Coll/Hon	1.0	Govt/Economics Coll/Hon	1.0
		CTC Shop	2.0	CTC Shop	2.0	CTC Shop	3.0
Physical Education	.5	Wellness Education	.5	Wellness Education	.5	Wellness Education	.5
Health I	.25	Driver Education	.25				
Career Exploration	.25	Family & Consumer Sciences	.25				
Arts /Humanities Elective*	1.0						
Elective	1.0						

* Ninth grade students intending to pursue a CTC program in grades 10–12 should complete their required Arts/Humanities credit during grade 9. Courses that meet that requirement are listed on pg. 2 of this Planning Guide.

XII. COURSE OPTIONS

Course #	Name	Grade	Per Cycle	Credits	Prerequisite(s)
AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC PROGRAM (AFJROTC)					
9390	AFJROTC1	9-12	6	1 cr	
ART					
9370	Discovery in Studio Arts	9	6	1 cr	
BUSINESS / COMPUTERS					
9337	Internet Applications	9	6	1 cr	
9270	Career Exploration	9	3	1/4 cr	
ENGLISH					
9001	English 9 Honors	9	6	1 cr	Students who have achieved high scores in prior English courses & who have been recommended by their teachers.
9003	English 9 College	9	6	1 cr	
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES					
9310	Planning Ahead	9	6	1 cr	
MATHEMATICS					
9111	Algebra 2/Geometry Honors	9	6	1 cr	Students taking this course must come from Algebra 1 Honors in grade 8.
9109	Algebra 1 College	9	6	1 cr	
MUSIC					
9353	Exploring Music	9	6	1 cr	
9355	Chorus 9	9	2	1/3 cr	
9357	Band 9	9	3	1/2 cr	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH					
9403	Physical Education	9	3	1/2 cr	
9404	Strength and Conditioning	9	3	1/2 cr	90% or better in Phys. Ed. 8
9440	Health I	9	3	1/4 cr	
SCIENCE					
9150	Biology Honors	9	6	1 cr	Students who have achieved high scores in prior science classes & have been recommended by their teacher.
9151	Biology College	9	6	1 cr	
SOCIAL STUDIES					
9087	AP US History	9	6	1 cr	Students who have achieved high scores in prior social studies classes & have been recommended by their teacher.
9051	American Cultures 9 College	9	6	1 cr	

Course #	Name	Grade	Per Cycle	Credits	Prerequisite(s)
SPECIAL EDUCATION*					
9003LS or 9003ES	English 9*	9	6	1 cr	
9003CT	English 9 College Co-Taught	9	6	1 cr	
9531LS or 9531ES	Pre-Algebra 9*	9	6	1 cr	
9109LS or 9109ES	Algebra 1*	9	6	1 cr	
9109CT	Algebra 1 College Co-Taught	9	6	1 cr	
9151CT	Biology College Co-Taught	9	6	1 cr	
9009LS	Reading 9*	9	6	1 cr	
9550	Advocacy I*	9	6	1 cr	This course is designed for emotional support students & must be recommended in order to take.
9525	Transition I*	9	3	1/4 cr	

****Students will be provided with a curriculum that parallels the curriculum in regular education classes. Each course addresses the students' individual goals and is taught with modifications that address instructional pace, format, and presentation techniques.***

TECHNOLOGY

9328	Engineering Principles	9	6	1 cr	
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WORLD LANGUAGES

9211	German I	9	6	1 cr	
9212	German II	9	6	1 cr	70% or better in German 1
9232	Spanish I	9	6	1 cr	
9233	Spanish II	9	6	1 cr	70% or better in Spanish 1

READING MUHLENBERG CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER
Grades 10-12
(for future planning)

am/pm				
712/738	Ad Design/Commercial Art	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
712/740	Auto Body Repair	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
713/741	Automotive Technology	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
714/742	Baking/Pastry Arts	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
715/743	Bricklaying	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
716/744	Building & Property Maint	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
718/746	Carpentry	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
719/739	Computerized Drafting Technology	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
720/748	Cosmetology	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
721/749	Culinary Arts	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
722/750	Diesel Truck Technology	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
723/751	Early Childhood Development	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
724/752	Electrical Technology	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
786/767	Engineering/Automation Tech	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
787/794	Health-Dental Occupations	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
783/791	Health-Medical Professions	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
784/792	Health-Medical Careers	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
785/793	Health-Nursing Careers	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
788/795	Health-Sports Medicine/Rehab	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
727/755	Horticulture	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
700/702	Information Technology Appl	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
704/706	Information Technology Web	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
728/756	3-D Manufacturing Technology	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
729/757	Motor/Marine/Small Engine Tech	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
731/758	Painting and Decorating	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
732/759	Plumbing and Heating	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
733/760	Printing and Graphic Comm.	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
734/761	Public Safety & Security	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
709/707	Service Occupations Education	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
736/763	Sewing/Clothing Manufacturing	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
782/766	Welding/Metal Fabrication	10-12	12-15	2-3 cr
640/641	Am History Honors	10-12	6	1 cr
642/643	Am History College	10-12	6	1 cr
644/645	Am History*	10-12	6	1 cr
649/650	World St – Honors	10-12	6	1 cr
651/652	World St – College	10-12	6	1 cr
653/654	World St*	10-12	6	1 cr
657/658	AP World History	10-12	6	1 cr

XIII. ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS & DUAL ENROLLMENT

Students who demonstrate high levels of learning and mastery of skills at RMCTC often decide to pursue further education at a college, university, or technical school. Graduates may get a head start on post-secondary education by taking advantage of articulation and dual enrollment agreements.

Articulation and dual enrollment agreements are cooperative arrangements between secondary schools, such as RMCTC and post-secondary schools concerning admission and the granting of college credits to students who are interested in continuing their education. Benefits of articulation agreements may include automatic or priority admission, advanced placement, and/or college credit for mastery of material learned in high school. Reading Muhlenberg CTC has established articulation agreements with a number of post-secondary schools.

SOAR PROGRAM

Students Occupationally & Academically Ready (SOAR) is the Bureau of Career and Technical Education (BCTE) career and technical Program of Study educational plan that coordinates the secondary career and technical programs to the postsecondary certificate, diploma, or degree programs. Students who successfully complete a program at Reading Muhlenberg CTC may be eligible to earn college credits. Participating colleges and credits awarded by CTC program are listed on the SOAR website at www.collegetransfer.net.

WORK BASED LEARNING / INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

Students at RMCTC are eligible to participate in Job Shadowing, Internships, and Work Based Learning opportunities with local business and industry while still attending High School. Such experiences will enhance learning while building a resume to increase employment potential, and will be beneficial to any post-secondary school application.

Through earning of Industry Certifications, RMCTC students are able to gain college credit and/or advanced placement at some post-secondary schools. Also, these Certifications are recognized by industry and often portable from State to State. Industry certifications are invaluable to the student when entering the job market and can provide an advantage to obtaining the job

AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC PROGRAM (AFJROTC)

The Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) is a program designed to develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community. Each AFJROTC class consists of three components: aerospace science, leadership education, and a wellness program. Citizenship and character education, the heart of the curriculum program, is primarily embedded in the leadership education series of courses, while sense of service and education in science and technology related aerospace science is primarily found in the aerospace science series of courses. To reinforce what is taught in the classroom, students participate in many outside activities such as field trips to military bases, aerospace facilities and industries, museums, and other areas related to aerospace education. Students are also offered the opportunity to participate in co-curricular activities to include drill and ceremonies, summer leadership school, and honorary academic groups. Community service projects are a major part of the AFJROTC experience and help to instill a sense of civic pride and citizenship. Students are required to meet Air Force dress and appearance standards and wear the Air Force uniform once a week as well as participate in the wellness portion of the curriculum. Course offerings include Aerospace 100 "A Journey into Aviation History," Aerospace 200 "The Science of Flight," Aerospace 220 "Cultural Studies," Aerospace 300 "Exploring Space," and Aerospace 400 "Management of the Cadet Corps." Courses will be taught on a rotating basis and no cadet will repeat a course. **There is no military obligation for students enrolled in AFJROTC.**

9390 AFJROTC

Grade 9

1 Credit

Courses will be taught on a rotating basis, and no cadet will repeat a course. Please refer to the links below for specific course curriculum.

[AS 220: Cultural Studies: An Introduction to Global Awareness](#)
[Leadership Education 200: Communication, Awareness, and Leadership](#)
[Wellness Program](#)
[Drill and Ceremonies: Drill Curriculum \(Cumulative\)](#)

ART

The art curriculum, 9-12, offers a variety of activities through its various courses. Course work is designed to meet the individual interests, talents, and abilities of students. Whether the student is a craftsman, fine artist, or a person who simply enjoys art, there is a program of study to meet his/her interest. Students are encouraged to develop according to their talents and abilities, but all students taking art courses will find their creative problem solving skills challenged and their sense of personal identity encouraged.

The 9th grade elective program provides foundation experiences for the high school art program and should be taken by any student wishing to continue their art education at the high school level. In grades 10-12, students will have the choice of enrolling in an Art Major track (either Fine Arts or Crafts) -- which will prepare them for a career in art -- or the Art Elective track -- which will provide multiple opportunities to enjoy art in either a two-dimensional or three-dimensional format.

9370 DISCOVERY IN STUDIO ARTS

Grade 9

1 Credit

Do you like the idea of expressing your creative ideas through different materials and techniques? Do you want to explore all that the fine arts have to offer while developing deep knowledge and skill in different styles? This 9th grade elective course introduces studio practices while identifying important aspects of western art history innovations. Students will receive a broad exposure to painting/drawing, printmaking/book arts, sculpture, material studies, and other design processes with the flexibility to develop an individual studio practice. Your unique ideas will drive the work that you do – from traditional painting techniques to other two-dimensional and three-dimensional processes and formats. Within Introduction to Fine Arts, students are exposed to historical innovations while recognizing how they impact current art making. Students will develop their style and technical skills with many different materials while looking closely at historical approaches to art making. This course consists of an intense and immersive studio experience coupled with inspiration from critically examining both historic and contemporary art.

BUSINESS / COMPUTERS

9337 INTERNET APPLICATIONS

Grade 9

1 Credit

In this 9th grade elective, students will use the Internet as an educational research tool and will utilize online productivity tools. Online safety as well as legal and ethical use of the Internet will be discussed. The class will look at the past, present, and future of the Internet and its influence on society and the business world. Web design and application software will be utilized to create, enhance, and add multimedia to web pages. Through class projects, students will explore graphic design, animation, cascading style sheets, HTML, and introductory programming.

9270 CAREER EXPLORATION

Grade 9

1/4 Credit

Career Exploration is a required semester course for all ninth grade students. The students will gain a better understanding of themselves and how they relate to the world of work and their role in it. The students will explore various occupations and occupational trends through personal contact with individuals in different career fields. Students also will explore various occupations and colleges using Career Cruising, a career software program accessible through the internet. Students will learn various ways to conduct occupational research. In addition, students will self-assess their values, personality traits, attitudes, skills, aptitudes, knowledge, learning-style preferences, and interests and how they relate to making a career choice. All students are required to complete a career portfolio through this class.

ENGLISH

Lifelong readership, independent learning, and effective communication are the desired objectives of the English program. The four years of required English are structured to provide students with sequential instruction and reinforcement in reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students in all levels are expected to read and demonstrate satisfactory comprehension on a minimum of eight novels in grades 9-12.

9001 ENGLISH 9 HONORS

Grade 9

1 Credit

Students will write for a variety of authentic purposes and audiences in the three modes of writing: narrative, persuasive, and informative. Students will gain exposure to a variety of literary genres and their respective characteristics. *Prerequisite(s): Students who have achieved high scores in prior English courses and teacher recommendation.*

9003 ENGLISH 9 COLLEGE

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course is required for all college-bound high school freshmen not enrolled in 9 Honors. Students will write for a variety of authentic purposes and audiences in the three modes of writing: narrative, persuasive, and informative. Students will gain exposure to a variety of literary genres and their respective characteristics.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE EDUCATION – ESL

9590 ESL—ENTERING/BEGINNING

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course provides new Second Language students with the basic English vocabulary and skills needed for speaking, understanding, reading, and writing in school and outside of school. An important goal of this course is oral communication in English. Students are also given an introduction to American culture and customs.

9591 ESL—DEVELOPING

Grade 9

1 Credit

In this course students will continue to build their skills in English through vocabulary development, reading, and writing activities. Students will read a variety of text including fiction, nonfiction, biographies, and poetry. There is a continued focus on writing strategies and the expansion of oral communication skills.

9592 ESL—EXPANDING & BRIDGING

Grade 9

1 Credit

The focus of this course is on student competency in both the academic and practical areas of English. Expanded vocabulary development along with the application of reading and writing strategies are emphasized. The English language activities included in this course build critical thinking skills, communication skills, and comprehension skills.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

The curriculum of the Family and Consumer Sciences Department, designed to help students meet the challenges of life, includes the study of food, nutrition, interior design, housing, sewing, consumerism, child development, parenting, and independent living. Consumerism, foods, and sewing lab work provide the students with the tools necessary to develop skills for daily living. Nutrition, fitness, and personal development contribute to positive self-concepts as students explore individual priorities and goals; learn more about themselves, others, and their environment; and recognize the importance of their role within the family unit. Communication, problem solving, and decision-making are integral components within the curriculum, since these life management skills are essential to self-actualization, regardless of life or career directions.

9310 PLANNING AHEAD

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course is designed to prepare students for future experiences in parenting, childcare and housing and home decisions. It will help students to understand why children think, feel, and act the way they do. By understanding the typical behaviors of children, students will be better equipped to respond to children in a more appropriate manner. Students will learn about the importance of care-giving in terms of emotional, social, physical, and intellectual growth. Students will also explore the origins of housing and how its use has evolved over time. By studying various architectural styles and features, they will be able to make connections with local examples and use of materials. In their understanding of their community they will learn about the use of facilities and land. Students will also be introduced to consumer decisions and basic design specifically with its relationship to the interior of homes.

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Department has designed its courses to meet the needs of our students according to their individual preferences. In the academic area, we feel our graduates are prepared to pursue mathematics or any mathematics-related area beyond high school. In the trades and/or consumer area, our courses give our students a firm background to handle the mathematics of the high-tech workforce and everyday living.

9111 ALGEBRA 2/GEOMETRY HONORS

Grade 9

1 Credit

The principles of this course design -- problem-based lessons, collaborative student work, and spiraled practice -- are based on the methodological research for teaching mathematics that leads to conceptual understanding. Through this course, students will gain mastery in working with and evaluating mathematical expressions, equations, and graphs. Students will also become adept at making and testing conjectures about geometric relationships and using theorems and properties to justify their reasoning. Topics include: real numbers, equations, functions, linear equations and inequalities, solving systems of linear equations and inequalities, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations, and rational expressions, congruent and similar polygons, and probability and statistics. Additionally, students will be encouraged to develop positive behaviors in the area of classroom preparation and task completion. *Prerequisite(s): Students must be proficient on the Algebra 1 Keystone exam. Students taking this course must come from Algebra 1 Honors in grade 8.*

9109 ALGEBRA 1 COLLEGE

Grade 9

1 Credit

Through this course students will gain mastery in working with and evaluating mathematical expressions, equations, and graphs through the use of a task-based approach that leads to skill and efficiency in mathematics by first developing understanding. Students will begin by confronting an engaging problem and then being allowed time to grapple with solving it. Topics include: real numbers, equations, functions, linear equations and inequalities, solving systems of linear equations and inequalities, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations and rational expressions.

MUSIC

The Music Department offers a program of studies for the student who plans to enter a music or music-related field as well as the student who wants to gain an understanding of the fine art of music. The department also provides the opportunity for each student to attain instrumental and vocal performing competence through a variety of performing organizations.

9353 EXPLORING MUSIC

Grade 9

1 Credit

Music Explorations is ideal for students who have a sincere interest in music. Students will explore music theory, musical theater, guitar, and digital music. Basic music terminology and theory will be taught through aural theory, sight-singing, and music syllables (do re mi!). Concepts of musical theater such as improvisation, skit-writing, and pantomime will be studied. Students will learn chords and play songs on the guitar while singing. In addition, basic digital music programs on the computer will be explored. This class will prepare students for music electives that are offered in the high school. This course is highly recommended for students in band and/or chorus, but anyone who loves music is encouraged to take this class.

9355 CHORUS 9

Grade 9

1/3 Credit

The MMS Chorus is a non-select chorus which rehearses twice a cycle during school hours. Sectional rehearsals are required and will be scheduled by the chorus director. Some out-of-school rehearsal time may be required. This chorus prepares and performs a variety of three-part music with emphasis on improving music reading skills and vocal production. The MMS Chorus will have a minimum of three school performances throughout the year in which students are required to participate. Auditions are required to place students in their appropriate voice part.

9357 BAND 9

Grade 9

1/2 Credit

The MMS Band is a non-select band which rehearses three times a cycle. Sectional rehearsals are required and will be scheduled by the band director. This band will help students develop: music reading skills, intonation, articulation, tone production and breathing, technique and knowledge of multi-cultural music. Students are required to play a short audition yearly for chair placement. The MMS Band will have a minimum of three school performances throughout the year in which students are required to participate.

NON-CREDIT EXTRA-CURRICULAR MUSIC ACTIVITIES

***MHS Marching Band** - Ninth graders are also eligible for the MHS Marching Band. Mr. Luckenbaugh, the high school band director, will be giving a short informational program about the MHS Marching Band to the students soon. The Marching Band performs at all football games and local parades. Students are required to attend a one-week band camp held at the high school the first full week in August and evening rehearsals throughout the season. ALL 9th GRADE BAND MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN!

***Jazz Band** - The Jazz Band is a select group which requires an audition. The group will rehearse outside the school day at the director's discretion. This group will focus on developing the jazz style and beginning improvisation with students. The MMS Jazz Band will perform at a minimum of three school concerts as well as various festivals and concerts in and out of the district. Students may be required to purchase specific attire for their performances.

***Gold Tones** – Gold Tones is an audition-required group. The group will rehearse outside the school day at the director's discretion. This group performs three- and four-part music with an emphasis on vocal production and proper singing technique. Gold Tones will perform classical repertoire as well as modern pieces. The group will have a minimum of three school performances throughout the year and may be required to purchase specific attire for the performances.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

9403 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grade 9

1/2 Credit

Physical Education enables students to participate in team and individual sports activities. Physical training techniques and physical fitness tests are utilized to help each student determine their level of fitness. The introduction to sports with a high degree of carry-over value in lifetime fitness is emphasized. Skill development, tournament play, and competition will be available to students who have mastered the basic skills in certain lifetime sports.

Team Sports Activities

Soccer	Track & Field
Flag Football	Floor Hockey
Speedball	Modified Lacrosse
Basketball	Ultimate Frisbee
Volleyball	Recreational Games
Softball	Handball

Individual Sports Activities

Aerobic Exercise
Tennis

9404 STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

Grade 9

1/2 Credit

The weight-training program is designed for the student who is interested in improving his/her physical condition. Strength will be enhanced by a program centered around endurance, strength, flexibility, and an understanding of fitness development. Students will keep a record of quarterly attainment, which will provide an over-all picture of improvement in their level of weight training fitness. Students who sign up for this course will automatically be placed into Phys. Ed. 9 if this course does not run or if the course does not fit into the student's schedule. *Prerequisite(s): Students must have achieved a minimum of a 90% final grade in Phys. Ed. 8.*

9440 HEALTH 1

Grade 9

1/4 Credit

This required course taken in Grade 9 provides basic information in the attitudes and pattern of human behavior. Emphasis is on healthy lifestyle choices. Topics include the danger of addictive diseases, how to avoid unhealthy relationships, and the benefits of choosing abstinence. Other topics include appropriate physical fitness and nutrition choices, teen pregnancy risks, and the problems associated with sexually transmitted diseases.

SCIENCE

The science program is designed to provide each student with the opportunity to take the fundamental courses in each area of science. In addition, the science program provides electives in the biological, chemical, and physical sciences for those students who are interested in a scientific career. The science program is mostly lab-oriented with emphasis on discovery as a means of learning. Students enrolling in lab sciences often need to miss one day per cycle of an elective course in order for that lab science to be scheduled. Students are responsible for work that is missed in such situations.

9150 BIOLOGY HONORS

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course is designed to make students aware of and comprehend the significance of the interrelationships between living things and their environment. The course covers the main elements of fundamental biology: molecular and cell biology, genetics, reproduction, evolution, and the classification of organisms. The approach is practical to all, yet can be modified to meet individual special interests. Accompanying dissections may include the earthworm, clam, starfish, grasshopper, crayfish, and frog. Research projects are assigned quarterly. *Prerequisite(s): Students who have achieved high scores in prior science classes and teacher recommendation.*

9151 BIOLOGY COLLEGE

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course is designed to make students aware of and comprehend the significance of the interrelationships between living things and their environment. The course covers the main elements of fundamental biology: molecular and cell biology, genetics, reproduction, evolution, and the classification of organisms. The approach is practical to all, yet can be modified to meet individual special interests.

SOCIAL STUDIES

A day doesn't pass in our lives when we are not involved with some aspect of the social studies. Our use of money; our relations with family, friends, and associates; and our rules and regulations all borrow from the broad field known as social studies. By understanding the systems in which we live, the societies and cultures in which others live, and the history of man, we should be better able to live more effectively in our society.

9087 AP US HISTORY

Grade 9

1 Credit

Advanced Placement U.S. History covers American history from pre-Columbian times up to the present. The course is presented chronologically and emphasizes major themes that connect each of the nine time periods as defined in the A.P. U.S. History Curriculum Framework. Students will learn both factual knowledge and practice historical thinking skills used by historians to evaluate key events and issues in United States history. Students will be exposed to an immense variety of primary and secondary sources to engage in many different class activities. Summer reading and writing assignments will be required of students enrolling in this course. Selection of students is based upon teacher recommendations, past performance, and student interest. This class will be taught in accordance with the A.P. U.S. History Curriculum Framework, and is designed to prepare students for the A.P. U.S. History Exam. ***Students may choose to take the AP exam at the student's expense.*** *Prerequisite(s): See page 3 – AP criteria.*

9051 AMERICAN CULTURES 9 COLLEGE

Grade 9

1 Credit

The American Cultures 9 course begins with the period of colonization and follows the development of America to industrialization---the late nineteenth century. Some of the topics of study include: Colonization, the American Revolution, an overview of the Constitution, the Federalist Era, the Ages of Jefferson and Jackson, Reforms, Sectionalism, Manifest Destiny, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the Winning of the West.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

9003LS ENGLISH 9* **Grade 9** **1 Credit**
9003ES ENGLISH 9*
9003CT ENGLISH 9 COLLEGE Co-Taught

This course is designed to parallel the general education English class by addressing the same Standards and essential questions. Students will write for a variety of authentic purposes and audiences in the three modes of writing: narrative, persuasive, and informative. Students will gain exposure to a variety of literary genres and their respective characteristics. Students will receive individualized instruction based on their specific writing needs.

9531LS PRE-ALGEBRA 9* **Grade 9** **1 Credit**
9531ES PRE-ALGEBRA 9*

This class is designed to parallel the general education Pre-Algebra class. Students will receive individualized instruction based on their specific math needs.

9109LS ALGEBRA 1* **Grade 9** **1 Credit**
9109ES ALGEBRA 1*
9109CT ALGEBRA 1 COLLEGE Co-Taught

This class is designed to parallel the general education Alg 1 class. Through this course students will gain mastery in working with and evaluating mathematical expressions, equations, and graphs through the use of a task-based approach that leads to skill and efficiency in mathematics by first developing understanding. Students will begin by confronting an engaging problem and then being allowed time to grapple with solving it. Topics include: real numbers, equations, functions, linear equations and inequalities, solving systems of linear equations and inequalities, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations and rational expressions. Students will receive individualized instruction based on their specific math needs.

9151CT BIOLOGY COLLEGE Co-Taught **Grade 9** **1 Credit**

This course is designed to parallel the general education Biology class by addressing the same Standards and essential questions. This course is designed to make students aware of and comprehend the significance of the interrelationships between living things and their environment. The course covers the main elements of fundamental biology: molecular and cell biology, genetics, reproduction, evolution, and the classification of organisms. The approach is practical to all, yet can be modified to meet individual special interests. Students will receive individualized instruction based on their specific science needs.

9550 ADVOCACY I* **Grade 9** **1 Credit**

This course is designed to improve students' social and emotional skills, boost academic achievement, and facilitate supportive relationships among students and teachers. An emphasis is placed on developing self-advocacy skills through self-awareness and self-management while students learn about their role in successful decision making and conflict resolution. Students learn how to speak up for themselves, make their own decisions, and recognize their rights and responsibilities. Curriculum is a two year program.

Prerequisites: This course is designed for emotional support students and must be recommended in order to take.

9525 TRANSITION I* **Grade 9** **1/2 Credit**

This required 9th grade course is designed as an introductory class for the student transition experience from high school to post-secondary adult life. A primary emphasis of the course is to provide students with the necessary skills to be a self-advocate. This curriculum will additionally emphasize educating students on understanding personal disabilities; how disabilities impact learning; how to advocate for personal needs; and development of self-determination skills. Students will also have the opportunity to explore career options, participate in skill assessments/surveys, and role play IEP meeting participation and job interviews. Success in adult life beyond the high school experience occurs when a student develops the skills and abilities to be a self-advocate and transfer the learning strategies from high school to everyday living in a post-secondary educational or work environment. The SSTEPS course introduces the acquisition of these skills and begins the transition process.

9009LS READING 9* **Grade 9** **1 Credit**

This course is offered for those students who demonstrate a need for improvement in basic reading skills. It will focus on the use of reading strategies to increase proficiency in decoding, fluency, and vocabulary and text comprehension. This course is taught at a variety of levels based on individual student need.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

The Technology Education program is an integral part of general education, providing all students with the opportunity to combine tool and material manipulation, critical thinking, and problem solving. The program is designed to provide a broad content base and extended opportunity for experiences with tools and materials. In addition, the course will educate students about the integration of science, math, and technology to solve real-world problems. The concept of “learning by doing” is utilized whenever possible.

9328 ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES

Grade 9

1 Credit

The Engineering Principles course is an elective course for 9th graders that will give students the opportunity to explore the world of design and construction on many different levels. Students will create hand-drawn blueprints, computer-designed blueprints, and three-dimensional models using computer programs. Students will also learn the processes involved in conceiving, designing, and constructing various structures and other objects. Students will learn to use safe manufacturing technologies, such as hand and power tools to produce a finished product. The course will require the students to learn and apply science, math, computer, technology, and engineering standards through a combination of written, computer-based, and hands-on activities. At the completion of the course, students will be better prepared to continue with any additional technology education course offered by the district.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Dramatic growth in international commerce and travel has increased the need for Americans to communicate with other nations. Government, business, and industry all need people with world language skills. The study of another country and its language broadens cultural insights. Students gain a better perspective of our language and heritage. The World Language Department offers four-year sequences in German, Spanish, and Latin. Students may elect to take more than one language.

9232 SPANISH I

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course is designed to be an introductory course for non-Spanish speaking students. In this first-year course, students are exposed to the Spanish language and the culture of those who speak it. Listening and speaking skills necessary for conversation are developed. Grammar is introduced, and students begin to read and write in the target language. Basic vocabulary is learned to enable students to communicate with Spanish speakers. Students will be expected to do oral presentations in Spanish as they learn the language.

9233 SPANISH II

Grade 9

1 Credit

Students continue to build upon skills attained in Spanish I. More complicated grammar structures, including the past tenses, are presented. Students are expected to produce more of the target language with a higher degree of accuracy. The study of the culture of Spanish-speaking countries is also furthered.

Prerequisite(s): Spanish I (70% or better).

9211 GERMAN I

Grade 9

1 Credit

Students acquire basic skills in understanding and speaking German through dialogs, phrases, and conversational practice. Reading and writing skills are begun through the study of sentence structure, paragraphs, and reading selections. Life in German speaking countries is discussed via current events and text references, as well as through modern videos. A study of the PA German influence in the Berks County area, a study of the capital city Berlin, both divided and reunited, as well as some insights into the German resistance that went on during WW2 is included. Films, as well as travel information, are used to enrich these subject areas.

9212 GERMAN II

Grade 9

1 Credit

Building upon the basics of German I, students become more aware and capable of using the grammatical structures of the German language. Spoken German is emphasized with the situations becoming increasingly more appropriate to real life. Written and reading exercises gradually increase in both length and cultural awareness. Videos create an awareness of all aspects of German culture.

Prerequisite(s): German I (70% or better).

XV. SAMPLE SCHEDULE

After selecting your courses for next year, use this worksheet to plan your time. Don't worry about what periods your classes will be, but rather how many periods per cycle each course uses in your schedule.

	Period MI	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Period 7
Day 1	MUHL INTERVENTION							
Day 2								
Day 3								
Day 4								
Day 5								
Day 6								

YOUR FOUR-YEAR PLAN

Use this worksheet to plan your program for grades nine through twelve. In the space provided, list the courses, levels, and credits for the courses you are taking this year and plan to take in the future. As you plan your program, be sure to consider your future career and educational goals as well as the graduation requirements.

YEAR	GRADE 9 ____ - ____	CREDIT	GRADE 10 ____ - ____	CREDIT	GRADE 11 ____ - ____	CREDIT	GRADE 12 ____ - ____	CREDIT
ENGLISH								
SOCIAL STUDIES								
MATHEMATICS								
SCIENCE								
ARTS & HUMANITIES								
PHYSICAL EDUCATION								
CAREER EX								
HEALTH 1 / WELLNESS								
DRIVER ED / FCS								
ELECTIVE								
ELECTIVE								
ELECTIVE								
ELECTIVE								
BAND/CHORUS								
TOTAL CREDITS/YEAR								

