



Dear MHS Families,

We encourage all our students to academically challenge themselves in high school to prepare them for the demands of higher education and the workforce. Higher-level coursework such as advanced placement, dual credit, and honors courses. These classes provide students with a rigorous academic experience, resulting in stronger critical thinking, executive functioning, reading, writing, and math skills.

Reasons to Enroll in an Advanced Placement Course (AP)

- Advanced Placement courses in high schools offer students the opportunity to earn college credit upon achieving a passing score on the end-of-year AP exam.
- Students who receive a passing score of 3, 4, or 5 on an AP exam can possibly receive college credit, saving families thousands of dollars in college tuition. Public colleges and universities in Illinois are now required to provide college credit for passing AP exam scores.
- 85% of selective colleges and universities consider whether a student has taken AP courses in their admissions decisions (www.collegeboard.org).
- Taking AP courses in high school enhances scholarship opportunities and competitiveness in the admissions process at selective colleges and universities.
- MHS students taking AP courses receive an additional point on their GPA.

Reasons to Enroll in a Dual Credit Course

- MHS students can start taking free college courses and earning college credit before high school graduation through the dual credit partnership with the College of Lake County (CLC).
- Dual credit classes will appear on both MHS and CLC transcripts.
- CLC's dual credit classes transfer to most other colleges and universities across the country.
- Dual credit students experience college classes and expectations during high school, easing their transition to further education.
- Dual credit course takers receive an extra GPA point.
- Learn more about credit transfer at www.transferology.com.

Reasons to Enroll in an Honors Class

- Challenging coursework that will better prepare you to take an Advanced Placement or Dual Credit course
- Students who take honors courses are much more competitive in the college admissions process and other educational and training programs after school.
- Students are more likely to earn scholarships when honors classes are on their transcripts.
- Receive an additional .5 on students' GPA

As your high school students continue to challenge themselves in advanced courses, they will have access to a wide range of academic supports to aid in their success. Our Literacy Center and Math Lab are open to students before and after school, as well as throughout the school day. Additionally, we have implemented peer tutoring and study groups designed specifically to support students enrolled in AP (Advanced Placement), dual credit, and honors courses. To learn more about our peer tutoring program, please visit the following link: <https://www.d120.org/activities/peer-tutor/> or go to www.d120.org - academics - academic resources -Advanced Placement (AP).



Core Departments

Department	Earned Honors (.5)	Honors (.5)	Advanced Placement (1)	Dual Credit (1)
English	English 1	English 2, 3, 4	Language Literature	English Composition
Math	Geometry and Construction	Geometry Algebra 2/Trig	Statistics, Pre-Calculus, Calculus AB, Calculus BC	
Science	Biology Applied Scientific Methods	Chemistry, Physics Anatomy	Biology, Chemistry Physics C, Physics 2 Environmental Science	Chemistry
Social Studies	World Studies		Human Geography, Psychology, European History, Economics, U.S. History, U.S. Government, Comparative Government	

Electives

Honors (.5)	Advanced Level Credit (1.0)	Dual Credit (1.0)
PLTW - Digital Electronics Spanish 3, 4, 5 Heritage Learners Spanish 3, 4 French 3, 4 Spanish Language Arts 3, 4 Honors- Business Incubator Honors Theater Studio	Advanced Placement Art, Spanish, French Computer Science A Computer Science Principles Music Theory Advanced Credit PLTW - Principles of Engineering PLTW - Computer Integrated Manufacturing	Music Appreciation Broadcast Media Pathway: Beginning Media and Advanced Media ASPIRE Educational Pathway: Foundations of Development, Introduction to Teaching, Educational Internship Lake County Tech Campus

All individual course descriptions can be found at this link on the D120 website: [Course Guide Link](#). Please reach out to your student's [school counselor](#) or Tom Buenik, School Counseling Department Chair (tbuenik@d120.org) with any questions.

Sincerely,

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