

# SMS PTSA Overview



## Welcome Class of 2027

*excellence is a tradition*



## Introductions:



Kevin McMahon  
Director of Student Services

## West Potomac Student Services



# Academic Advising Overview

- **Graduation Requirements**
- **Things to consider when selecting classes**
- **How/Where do I select classes**
- **Resources/Timeline**



# Graduation Requirements

## Standard Diploma:

English	4
History	3
Math	3
Science	3
Health and PE	2
Fine Arts OR CTE*, World Language	2
Electives (including sequential)	4
<u>Econ and Personal Finance</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>

\*AP/IB/HN or CTE Credential

\*First Aid/CPR/AED

\*Virtual Course

## Advanced Diploma:

English	4
History	4
Math	4
Science	4
Health and PE	2
World Language	3 or 2+2
Fine Arts OR CTE	1
Electives (including sequential)	3
<u>Econ and Personal Finance</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>

\*AP/IB/HN or CTE Credential

\*First Aid/CPR/AED

\*Virtual Course

- More information available via graduation requirements section of our online course catalog

# Verified Credits = SOL Credits

SOL requirements for both Standard and Advanced Diplomas

- English 2
  - Math 1
  - Science 1
  - History 1
- Total 5**



## Things to consider when selecting courses...

- **Graduation Requirements**
  - Standard vs. Advanced
- **Interests**
  - Which courses are you excited/passionate about?
- **Input**
  - Talk to your current teachers - what do they suggest?
  - Ask your school counselor - students will meet with a MS and HS counselor to discuss their class selections
- **Balance**
  - Consider schoolwork, activities, other commitments

## 9th Grade Sample Schedules

### Sample #1

- English 9
- Algebra 1
- Biology
- World History & Geo 1
- Health & PE 9
- Spanish 1
- Studio Art 1

### Sample #3

- Honors English 9
- Geometry
- Biology
- HNs World History & Geo 2
- Health & PE 9
- French 2
- Guitar 1

### Sample #2

- Honors English 9
- Honors Algebra 2
- Honors Biology
- HNs World History & Geo 2
- Health & PE 9
- Spanish 2
- Advanced Band

## Academic Advising / Course Selection 2023

- **Summary**

- What is it?
  - Process to select your 7 classes for 2023-24
- Why is it important?
  - Determines staffing at WPHS to ensure you get the classes you select
- **In September there are no guaranteed class changes! So take time to make these important decisions**



## Online Course Selection

- Course selection in StudentVue for 2023-24 is now live and can be accessed under “Course Request.”
- Directions posted on Virtual Curriculum website
- Course selection cannot be done through the app – it must be via a computer web browser.
- After student meeting with counselor course selections will be “locked.” Any changes would need to go through HS alpha counselor.
- Parents/Guardians can see course selections in ParentVue.

# Resources

- West Potomac Student Services Advising Website
  - WPHS Online Course Catalog - Live
  - Elective Videos/Resources - Live
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Offerings Sheet - Posted
  - Directions on how to select classes in StudentVue - Posted
  - HS Counselor Contact Information - Posted
  - Recorded Video Presentation - Seen in advising classes at SMS - Posted
- Rising 9th Course Selection Meetings at SMS
  - 1/12, 1/13, 1/23, 1/24

# IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Deadline for any changes emailed to HS counselor.

Course selection changes accepted via HS counselor on a space available basis as staffing has concluded. No changes after May 13, 2022

**March 13 - April 14**

**March 10**

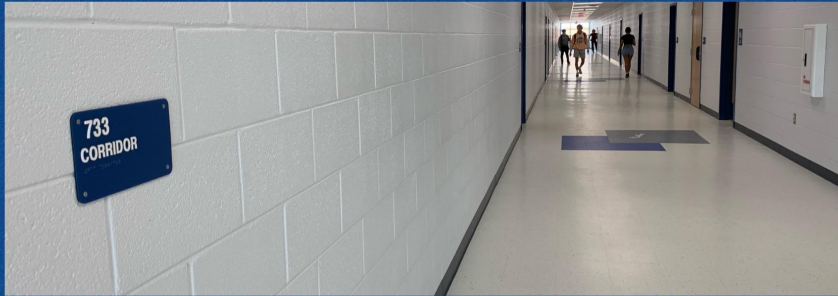
**April 17 - May 12**

No changes due to HS Staffing meetings.

# Reminders

- **Planning to participate in a Marching Band or a Fall sport?**
  - Practices/Tryouts start early August – for some the first week. Plan your summer accordingly!
- **Athletics – a physical dated after May 1 2023 with VHSL physical paperwork.**
- **More information available at <https://www.westpotomacsports.net/>**
- **Know someone new to FCPS exploring WPHS for 9th grade?**
  - **New FCPS Family WPHS Open House - 1/25 - 2pm**
    - **Contact Kevin McMahon for more information.**

# So much to be excited about!



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