



Learners • Citizens • Leaders

Middlesex County Public Schools

Recommended Courses for Advanced Academics

	Honors	AP	DE	CBGS	BC	RCC Scholars
6th	English Plus, Math 7					
7th	English Plus, Pre-Algebra or Algebra					
8th	English Plus, Algebra or Geometry, Earth Science					
9th	Honors World History I Honors English 9 Honors Biology Algebra II			VPT Placement Test		VPT Placement Test
10th	Honors World History II Honors English 10 Chemistry Precalculus	AP Environ Science AP Human Geography		Biology DE Algebra II DE Geology DE	VPT Placement Test Personal Finance (recommended)	VPT Placement Test
11th	Honors US/VA History	AP English Language AP US History AP Calculus	DE English III/112 DE Chemistry	Chemistry DE Statistics DE/ Precalculus DE Environmental Science DE	Criminal Justice Culinary Arts Diesel Technology HVACR Nurse's Aide Pre-engineering Web & Game Design	
12th		AP English Lit AP US Government AP Statistics AP Psychology AP Biology	DE English 125/255	Physics DE Calculus DE Marine Science DE	Criminal Justice Culinary Arts Diesel Technology HVACR Nurse's Aide Pre-engineering Web & Game Design	

Our Commitment

Middlesex County Public Schools is committed to excellence in education for all students. All students have the right to an education that challenges them to reach their highest academic potential, is aimed at their instructional readiness, and allows for new and continuous learning. Those students capable of advanced academics are offered instructional opportunities that provide exceptional challenges, often with the use non-traditional learning environments to best address their advanced abilities and educational needs. Programs become more specialized in middle and high school.

This Guide

In our secondary education program, we provide students with a variety of advanced study courses that offer college credit, special endorsements which may reward an Associate's Degree concomitant with their high school diploma. While we encourage students to take advantage of these programs, please note that students must meet the criteria for advanced classes.

This guide provides information on the different opportunities offered through Middlesex County Public Schools. Course requirements and recommendations may change from time to time so please check with the guidance department for more information.

Advanced Placement (AP)

With AP courses, students have the opportunity to dig deeper into subjects that interest them, develop advanced research and communication skills, and learn to tap their creative, problem-solving, and analytical potential. These courses give students access to rigorous college-level work and build students' confidence as they learn the essential time management and study skills needed for college and career success. Eighty-five percent of selective colleges and universities report that a student's AP experience favorably impacts admission decision, and research shows that students who take AP are much more likely to complete a college degree on time (<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap/for-parents>).

- ◆ Highest weight on Grade Point Average (GPA); A=5.0
- ◆ College credit is dependent on AP exam score (highest score = 5, most colleges take scores of 4 or 5).
- ◆ Cost: test fee paid by division. Visit <https://collegeboard.org> for more information on AP program and costs.
- ◆ Open Enrollment available to all who meet criteria.

For more information, contact the Guidance Department at Middlesex High School: 454 General Puller Highway, P.O. Box 206, Saluda, VA 23149, Phone: 804-758-2132, or the division Coordinator of Gifted Education: 2911 General Puller Highway, P.O. Box 205, Saluda, VA 23149, Phone: 804-758-2277

Dual Enrollment (DE)

Dual Enrollment offers students the option to earn college credit simultaneously with high school credit. Chosen carefully, DE courses can lower the duplication of coursework needed for both high school and college as well as reduce the time and cost of a post-secondary education. In these courses, students gain exposure to college academics, and learn from instructors with credentials to teach at the college level. As opposed to AP, college credit is based on academic performance throughout the semester rather than on a single test.

- ◆ School-based DE classes are weighted at the AP/DE level; A= 5.0.
- ◆ College credit is awarded through Rappahannock Community College (RCC) if a C or higher is earned.
- ◆ RCC credit can be transferred to a four year college/university at the discretion of the transfer institution.
- ◆ Students who start at a two-year college can take advantage of the Guaranteed Agreement to transfer to four year college/universities.
- ◆ Cost: MCPS pays most of the tuition cost.
- ◆ Open enrollment, pending a passing score of the Virginia Placement Test
- ◆ Students may chose to complete a General Education Certificate or an Associate Degree in Arts and Science from Rappahannock Community College. For more information on course requirements, please see the guidance office.

Bridging Communities (BC)

Regional Career and Technical Center, Governor's STEM Academy

Juniors and seniors from five counties participate in rigorous workplace-based curriculum that provides access to numerous occupations and creates a link between technical skills and academic skills. All programs provide skills in career clusters focusing on current and future occupational opportunities with many courses linked to post-secondary dual enrollment arrangements. Instructional content for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) is provided in a relevant and rigorous framework.



- ◆ Students must apply and be accepted into this program. Students must also receive a passing score on the Virginia Placement Test.
- ◆ Students have the option to take courses for Dual Enrollment or high school credit.
- ◆ Courses are DE and carry the same weight as DE classes on a student's GPA; A=5.0.

RCC Scholars Program

Rappahannock Community College Scholars (RCC) offers high school students the opportunity to take college evening and weekend classes for credit at a reduced rate of \$10 per credit plus the cost of books. To be eligible for the RCC Scholars Program:

- ◆ Students must be a high school student enrolled in the RCC service region.
- ◆ Students must enroll in evening classes starting after 5 p.m. on weekdays and/or on Saturday.
- ◆ Students must pass the appropriate Virginia Placement Test (VPT) for English and/or math
- ◆ Students must complete the High School Permission Form which must be approved by your principal.

Chesapeake Bay Governor's School (CBGS)

The Chesapeake Bay Governor's School for Marine and Environmental Science provides high-ability students with a rigorous curriculum through enrichment, exploratory, investigative, and career awareness experiences. CBGS offers a community of learners the opportunity to explore connections among the environment, math, science, and technology in order to help develop leaders who possess the research and technical skills, global perspective, and vision needed to address the challenges of a rapidly changing society.



- ◆ Students must apply and be accepted into this program. Students must also receive a passing score on the Virginia Placement Test.
- ◆ College credit is awarded through Rappahannock Community College (RCC) if a C or higher is earned.
- ◆ Students may opt to take AP exams for available courses.
- ◆ Cost: MCPS pays the tuition cost.
- ◆ Students may chose to complete an Associate Degree in Arts and Science from Rappahannock Community College. For more information on course requirements, please see the guidance office.

Summer Regional & Residential Governor's Schools

Summer Regional Governor's School provides identified gifted students in grades 4-7 the opportunity for a week long problem-based learning study in the arts, sciences, or humanities. Students must apply and be selected.

Summer Residential Governor's Schools provide gifted high school juniors and seniors with intensive educational experiences in visual and performing arts; humanities; mathematics, science, technology; or through mentorships in marine science, medicine and health sciences, engineering, or career and technical advancement. During this time, students are involved in classroom and laboratory work, field studies, research, individual and group projects and performances, and seminars with noted scholars, visiting artists, and other professionals. For more information about the application process and deadlines, please see the Coordinator of Gifted Education.