BURGETTSTOWN AREA HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE

2024-2025

Burgettstown Area High School
Course Description Guide
Grades 9 – 12

Introduction

This booklet is designed as a guide for students enrolled in Burgettstown High School. It is essential that students and their parents fully understand the graduation requirements that are outlined below. These requirements will:

1. Assure that the student will graduate on time with the appropriate required courses and sufficient graduation units to meet the Burgettstown Area School District graduation requirements;
2. Insure courses taken as electives will meet future vocational and/or educational needs, and
3. Satisfy the educational challenge for the student.

Students should prepare for course selection by discussing options with parents/guardians, counselors, mentors and teachers. Parents may make arrangements to discuss course selections with either a school counselor, principal or teacher.

Students and parents need to be aware of homeroom assignments. These are made dependent upon the number of units earned prior to the start of each school year.

- To be advanced to a sophomore homeroom, a student must have earned at least 12 units.
- To be advanced to a junior homeroom, a student must have earned at least 26 units.
- To be advanced to a senior homeroom, a student must have earned at least 37 units.

Important Telephone Numbers

Mrs. Beth Roman, School Counselor	(gr. 6-8)	724-947-8106
Mrs. Holly Riley, School Counselor	(gr.9-12)	724-947-8107
Mr. Brian Fadden, Principal		724-947-8100
Mrs. Maria Shaffer, Assistant Principal		724-947-8100

All faculty members can be contacted through email. The address for teachers is:

First initial, last name @burgettstown.k12.pa.us

Example: bfadden@burgettstown.k12.pa.us

I. GRADUATION UNITS

Burgettstown graduates must successfully accumulate 53 units for graduation purposes in accordance with the following requirements:

A Burgettstown Graduation Unit shall be identified as one semester course successfully completed in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12.

A total of 37 units are identified as "required"* courses. A total of 16 additional units shall be selected from an approved list of electives for each curricular area. Required courses and approved elective courses are identified at the beginning of each curricular area. The following 37 units are required:

English- 8 units
Social Studies- 8 units
Science- 6 units
Math- 6 units
Business Ed/Information Technology- 2 units
Family & Consumer Science- 1 unit
Health/Physical Ed- 3 units
Fine Arts- 1 unit

Students must also take 2 additional units from either Math or Science.
*Credit substitutions may be granted on a case by case basis.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All courses are listed as semester courses for the purposes of registration. AP courses require a full year commitment from the student.

III. WEIGHTED COURSES

The following courses are weighted for grade point average purposes and thus present greater academic challenge:

Honors English 9/10/11/12
Advanced Placement English Literature
Advanced Placement English Language
Honors Geometry
Honors Algebra 2
Honors Pre-Calculus
Advanced Placement Computer Science A
Advanced Placement Statistics
Advanced Placement Calculus
Honors Biology
Honors Chemistry
Honors Physics
Advanced Placement Chemistry
Advanced Placement Biology
Advanced Placement German
Honors Economics
Honors Sociology
Advanced Placement U.S. History
Advanced Placement Psychology

IV. ACCUMULATION OF UNITS

A. Students should check with their school counselor on accumulated units to review progress toward graduation.
B. Students must realize that there is limited flexibility for dropping a course without taking another course in its place. Fifty-three graduation units in grades 9-12 leaves limited opportunities for open slots in student schedules.
C. Students attending Western Area Career & Technology Center must maintain a "C" average or better in their vocational classes at Western Area and in their academic subjects at BHS or

attendance at Western Area may be jeopardized. Attendance requirements must be met to maintain membership in the Western Area program.

V. ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Research shows that exposure to rigorous classes in high school is a key indicator of post-secondary success. In addition to preparing students for the rigors of college, challenging coursework like Advanced Placement enables students to dig deeper into subjects that interest them and build analytical and problem solving skills that build confidence and are essential for success in any career path. Advanced Placement courses ensure that more students have access to the challenging classes that will prepare them for future success. In addition, AP students who score a 3 or higher on AP exams are more likely to earn a college degree on time, which can save students and families both time and money. All students who enroll in an AP course are required to take the AP exam in May, and must pay for the exam.

VI. STUDY HALLS

Students will not be permitted to take more than 1 study hall per semester, unless they request and receive permission from the Principal.

VII. REQUESTS FOR SCHEDULE CHANGES

Once schedules for the upcoming school year are released to students within Alma, there will be a limited amount of time to request a course change via a Schedule Change Request form. Information on the process to request a change will be sent via email prior to the start of the school year. This will be the only opportunity to request a change. With the possible exception of extenuating circumstances, which will require administrative review and approval, requests for schedule changes will not be accepted after the start of the first semester. NOTE: There will <u>not</u> be a window to request schedule changes at the start of the second semester. All requests must be submitted before the first day of school. There are no guarantees that requests will be granted as there are limited courses that have space available to add students. In addition, every class is not available every period and may not align with other required courses. Please note that changes will NOT be permitted for purposes of switching a teacher or period, or for dropping a required course.

LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT

In grades 9-12, 8 units of English are required for graduation. All required units are identified. Electives are available for additional units, but they may not be substituted for a required graduation unit.

English (8 identified units required)	**English Electives (0 units required)**
English 9-A (or) Honors 9-A	AP English Literature A & B (year)
English 9-B (or) Honors 9-B	AP English Language A & B (year)
English 10-A (or) Honors 10-A	Video Production
English 10-B (or) Honors 10-B	Speech/Communications
English 11-A (or) Honors 11-A	Yearbook
English 11-B (or) Honors 11-B	Journalism
English 12-A (or) Honors 12-A	Dystopian Literature
English 12-B (or) Honors 12-B	Media Literacy & Analysis

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English 9-A: semester class
Studies in grammar, usage and mechanics help students enhance their sentence construction skills. Writing in the informational, narrative, and persuasive modes, using the PA Common Core Standards, is emphasized. The study of literature emphasizes the recognition of literary elements and devices and the development of vocabulary skills. Projects and a consistent use of technology provide opportunity for hands–on application of understanding in literature units. Vocabulary definitions and contextual use is studied throughout the academic year.

English 9-B: semester class
Studies in grammar, usage and mechanics continue. Literature (which will include essays, poems, nonfiction and *Romeo and Juliet*) is read and discussed critically. Writing in all modes, vocabulary development and projects continue.

Honors English 9-A: semester class
Grammar studies in usage and mechanics help students enhance their sentence construction skills and decode reading. Compositions constructed are through the PA Common Core Standards. Selections across a variety of literary genres assist in critical thinking of literary elements and vocabulary development.

Honors English 9-B: semester class
A further development within grammar studies in usage and mechanics for composing the PA Common Core Standards' written forms. Analyses of literary works continue on a higher level with the employment of literary nomenclature. Increase in usage and understanding of college bound vocabulary.

English 10-A: semester class
This course integrates the study of literature, grammar, vocabulary and composition. During the semester, the literature segment will include a study of a variety of short stories and their elements as well as a play and its elements. Independent/DEAR reading is also emphasized. The grammar segment will include a study of usage and mechanics; the goal of this segment is to assist students in the production of effective, coherent sentences utilizing a variety of structures. The vocabulary segment will include word study from a variety of sources that are content and level appropriate. Writing in the informational, narrative, and persuasive modes, using PA Common Core standards, is emphasized.

English 10-B: semester class
This course continues the study of literature, reading comprehension, grammar, and vocabulary (See English 10-A). The literature segment focuses on both a novel and the drama *Julius Caesar*, their

elements, interpretation and time period, which requires students to employ critical thinking skills. During a further study of other literature genres, the development of critical thinking will continue. Independent/DEAR reading is also emphasized. The grammar segment requires the employment of proper grammatical usage and mechanical skills in sentence and composition writing. The vocabulary segment includes word study from a variety of sources that are content and level appropriate. Writing in the informational, narrative, and persuasive modes, using PA Core standards, is emphasized.

Honors English 10-A: semester class
Building on foundation work from Honors English 9, grammar studies in usage and mechanics continue. Compositions constructed are through the PA Common Core Standards. Selections across a variety of literary genres further evoke critical thinking, vocabulary development, and social connections.

Honors English 10-B: semester class
A further development within grammar studies in usage and mechanics for composing the PA Common Core Standards' written forms. Analyses of literary works continue on a higher level with the employment of literary nomenclature and elicit critical thinking, vocabulary development, and social connections. Increase in usage and understanding of college bound vocabulary.

English 11-A: semester class
This course integrates the study of literature, nonfiction articles, vocabulary, and composition. The study of a variety of literary selections from American literature encourages an understanding of the American literary tradition, literary elements and devices, and, when applicable, the socio-political climate of the works. Vocabulary study is an integral part of the course, and grammar lessons are incorporated as need is evidenced. Independent/DEAR reading and writing in the informative, narrative, and persuasive modes, using the PA Common Core Standards, is emphasized.

English 11-B: semester class
The study of literature continues, culminating in the analytical reading and discussion of an American novel and/or Macbeth. Various individual and group activities will promote critical reading and literacy analysis as a means to enhance communication and critical thinking. Vocabulary study continues, as does writing in the informational and persuasive modes, using the PA Common Core Standards. Independent/DEAR reading is emphasized, and aspects of grammar are taught in conjunction with writing.

Honors English 11-A: semester class
The course primarily studies American literary works in their socio-historic context and engages students in reading, writing, discussing, and presenting. A college prep course and pre-AP course, Honors English 11 focuses on essential research skills as well as critical reading, literary analysis, and vocabulary development as a means to enhance communication. Literature, which is both studied as a class and read independently, will include a selection of works from a range of genres and various periods and will offer critical learning experiences through dynamic discussions, close reading, essential problem solving, and analytical writing. Additionally and significantly, reading and writing opportunities act as vehicles for students to grow as independent, critical thinkers.

Honors English 11-B: semester class
The semester continues the critical reading, discussion, and written analysis of American literature, which includes a selection of short stories, novels, essays, or poetry. Such reading provides additional opportunities for word study and rhetorical analysis, while grammar is taught in conjunction with writing units. The course builds on essential research skills from the previous semester and continues to provide dynamic opportunities for students to grow as critical thinkers, problem solvers, close readers, informed debaters, and well-rounded writers. Honors English 11 is specifically designed for students desiring a more academically rigorous English course as students move at a more accelerated pace, cover a greater breadth and depth of textual study, and

require more independent work. Accordingly, it emphasizes the ability to synthesize information from a variety of sources as they read.

English 12-A: semester class
This course focuses on the study of grammar, essay writing, vocabulary, and British literature. The grammar segment includes a study of usage and mechanics, enabling students to write effective and coherent sentences. Such skills are then applied to essay writing. The vocabulary segment includes word study from a variety of sources that are content and level appropriate. Critical reading and discussion are integral parts of the literature study, which includes the historical Anglo Saxon period and the epic poem, *Beowulf*, as well as other works of fiction. Independent/DEAR reading is also emphasized (minimum of one novel per nine week grading period). Writing in the informational, narrative, and persuasive modes, using the PA Common Core Standards is emphasized.

English 12-B: semester class
This course continues the study of grammar, essay writing, vocabulary, and British literature. The grammar segment requires the demonstration of proper usage and mechanical skills in sentence and essay writing. The vocabulary segment continues to include word study from a variety of sources that are content and level appropriate. Additionally, the literature segment focuses on *Hamlet,* including Elizabethan England, and may include the critical reading of one novel. Independent/DEAR reading is also emphasized (minimum of one novel per nine week grading period). Writing in the informational, narrative, and persuasive modes, using the PA Common Core Standards is emphasized.

Honors English 12-A: semester class
A college prep course, this course focuses on critical reading, literary analysis, and vocabulary development as a means to enhance communication and critical thinking. Literature, which is studied as a class and read independently, will include a selection of novels, short stories, poetry, or drama. The vocabulary segment includes word study from a variety of sources that are content and level appropriate. The semester begins with a College Essay analysis. Critical reading and discussion are integral parts of the literature study, which includes the historical Anglo-Saxon period and the epic poem, *Beowulf*, as well as other works of fiction.

Honors English 12-B: semester class
The semester continues vocabulary study and the critical reading, discussion, and written analysis of American literature, which may include short stories, novels, essays, or poetry. Also, *Macbeth* will be the main focus at the end of the semester. Students must select a novel every nine weeks to read independently or engage in independent DEAR reading. Multi-paragraph essays develop skills necessary for college-bound students. The vocabulary segment includes word study from the literature and other resources and is content and level appropriate. Writing in the informational, narrative, and persuasive modes, using the PA Common Core Standards are emphasized.

Advanced Placement English Literature A & B: year course
This is a college level course for students who have an interest in literature and/or are planning on furthering their education at the postsecondary level. The class is structured such that each unit is scaffolded, which means there are supports in place to assist students with varying levels of experience in an ELA class. Students will engage intellectually to develop conceptual understanding; generate their own ideas, questions, and propositions; interact collegially with one another to solve problems; and employ appropriate resources for inquiry-based learning. Good time management and independent learning skills, reliability in turning work in on time, and full commitment to the class are important for success, as it would be for any class. Through the close reading of selected texts with recognized literary merit from multiple genres, periods, and cultures, students will engage in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. The general approach to such close reading involves the experiencing of literature (subjective dimension of reading and responding),

the interpretation of literature (analysis), and the evaluation of literature (assessment of quality and artistic achievement as well as consideration of their social and cultural values). Students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students will consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as smaller-scale elements such as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Integrated writing assignments will focus on the critical analysis of literature and will include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays. Students taking this course are required to take the AP exam at the end of the year.

AP English Language and Composition A & B: year course
The AP English Language and Composition is a rigorous course appropriate for upperclass students interested in the study of dynamic texts, language, and argument. Structured around the concepts of synthesis, rhetorical analysis, and argument, the course focuses mainly on non fiction and exposes students to a range of texts from various cultures, genres, and time periods. The reading selection models effective argument and dynamic rhetorical choice and also increases students' knowledge of historical and contemporary social issues/problems, which becomes students' evidence in persuasive writing. As the course aligns to introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, students develop evidence-based analytical and argumentative essays and closely consider their own rhetoric as a tool for persuasion as they develop and support a position or evaluate, synthesize, and cite research. AP Language and Composition commonly takes a thematic approach to reading so as to engage students with multiple perspectives and to build a repertoire of texts that enable success on the AP Exam. The reading also offers valuable opportunities for dynamic discussions, critical reading, essential problem solving, and a range of writing experiences. Additionally and significantly, reading and writing opportunities act as vehicles for students to grow as independent, critical thinkers. AP Language and Composition is specifically designed for students desiring a more academically rigorous English course as students move at an accelerated pace and cover a greater breadth and depth of textual study. Students taking this course are required to take the AP exam at the end of the year.

Video Production: semester course
This course will teach the principles of shooting, capturing and cataloging of audio and video for multimedia projects and will focus on the creativity, writing, pre-production planning, editing, collaboration and post-production strategies of digital video for media that reflect the modern responsibilities of those working in the broadcast journalism profession. Students will learn about the history of broadcast journalism and develop the foundations of journalism such as story generation, interviewing, investigation, analysis and writing and then learn to apply these skills by producing projects that can and will appear in a variety of mediums: print and/or online newspapers and magazines as well as web-based video news and entertainment sites.

Yearbook: semester course
This semester-long elective course is designed to provide students with the journalism skills and the ability to apply those skills to the actual production of the Middle/High School yearbook. Units of study include: teamwork, responsibility, brainstorming, content, coverage, concept, reporting, writing, headlines, captions, editing, photography, typography, design, graphics, yearbook campaigns, advertising, and distribution.

Speech/Communications: semester course
This course recognizes the fundamentals of communication and the importance of public speaking in today's society. Early in the semester, students will concentrate on speech basics: using one's voice as a tool to increase engagement, listening to others, improving pronunciation, evaluating the audience, and accepting constructive criticism. In time, the focus will shift to preparing and presenting speeches by refining topics, researching, outlining, documenting, and delivering formal speeches. Thus, students will learn MLA documentation of sources. In addition to delivering informative and persuasive speeches, students will examine noteworthy speeches, participate in a creative communication/speech unit, and deliver impromptu speeches, a speech-type that dramatically improves critical thinking and verbal skills.

Dystopian Literature: semester course
Students will grow as critical thinkers through this project-based class that investigates dystopian themes in literature to recognize how imaginative fiction comments on the current state of society. Students will explore the author's purpose, the combination of the familiar with the new/strange, and the essential questions: could a utopian society ever exist and why do utopian impulses (happiness, progress, stability, etc.) typically backfire and go awry? Students will read a range of dystopian texts (novels/short stories/poetry) and view some dystopian films so as to analyze how dystopian authors scrutinize their own societies. The course aims to provide a deep understanding of the relationship between utopia and dystopia, the dystopian genre, and the world in which students live. The course will also raise discussion on the roles or responsibilities of citizens within their societies.

Journalism: semester course
Students will be introduced to the historical importance of journalism in America. The class will include discussion, workshops, group and individual meetings, writing, revising, and online publishing. They will study the basic principles of print and online journalism as they examine the role of print news media in contemporary society. They will learn investigative skills, responsible reporting, and journalistic writing techniques. In addition to discussing editorial positions, students will read, respond to, and write their own news and feature articles. They will also conduct interviews, research, write, design, produce, and edit their own online newspaper. Voice, tone, syntax, vocabulary, structure, and editing techniques will all be addressed in a writing workshop atmosphere.

Media Literacy and Analysis: semester course
Media Literacy and Analysis is designed to help students develop the critical thinking skills required to be a media literate consumer of all types of digital and print. We will examine, interpret, and evaluate media messages and assess the cultural, personal, and social impact that media and technology can have on our lives. This course exposes the student to the complexities of media literacy through the development of critical thinking skills and provides the methods of analysis necessary to interpret media content, and strengthens critical debate, discussion, and presentation skills. Our *goal* is to study most, if not all, of the topics listed below and our activities and discussions will often take diversions based on timely events in our lives.

- Media Literacy and understanding media messages
- The evolution and analysis of the communication process
- The history, growth, future, and impact of:
    - Advertising
    - Print including books, newspapers, magazines, and other written materials
    - Radio
    - TV and movies
    - Music
    - Video Games
    - The Internet
    - Social Media
    - Media Ownership

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

6 units of Mathematics are required for graduation. All required units are identified. *Please be aware that the mathematics department makes a recommendation to every student on the next course the student should take in the mathematics sequence.* **Students must also take 2 additional units from either Math or Science.**

Mathematics (6 identified units required from the following groupings)

Fundamental Math A
Fundamental Math B
Algebra 1 A
Algebra 1 B
Geometry A
Geometry B
Honors Geometry A
Honors Geometry B
Algebra 2 A
Algebra 2 B
Honors Algebra 2 A
Honors Algebra 2 B
Financial Algebra A
Financial Algebra B
Pre-Calculus A
Pre-Calculus B
Honors Pre-Calculus A
Honors Pre-Calculus B
Advanced Placement Calculus A & B (year long)
Statistics A
Statistics B
Advanced Placement Statistics A & B (year long)

Electives (0 units required)

Introduction to Computer Science A & B
AP Computer Science A (year long)

Fundamental Math-A: semester course
The following topics are studied: operations with exponents and real numbers, data analysis using mean, median, mode, range and scatter plots, operations with rational numbers, theoretical probability, experimental and compound probability, solving multi-step equations, using equations to solve word problems.

Fundamental Math-B: semester course
The following topics are studied: finding and estimating square roots, applying the Pythagorean theorem, solving and graphing inequalities in one variable, graphing relations functions and writing function rules, direct and inverse variation.

Algebra I-A: semester course
In Algebra 1-A the following topics are studied: operations with real numbers, using equations to solve word problems, solving multi-step equations and inequalities, graphing relations and functions, writing function rules, linear equations/inequalities and their graphs.

Algebra I-B: semester course
In Algebra 1-B the following topics are studied: linear equations/inequalities and their graphs, experimental and compound probability, interpreting and creating data displays (mean, median, mode, range, and scatter

plots), systems of linear equation and inequalities, finding and estimating square roots, exponents and exponential equations, and polynomials operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, factoring).

Geometry-A: semester course
In Geometry A the following topics are studied: Measures of angles, midpoint and distance formulas, writing equations of lines; using properties of parallel lines to determine angle measures; using deductive reasoning; proving triangles congruent and similar.

Geometry-B: semester course
In Geometry B the following topics are studied: area, surface area and volume of geometric figures; applying properties of quadrilaterals to find missing sides and angles; defining and using properties of circles to find missing angles, and chords.

Honors Geometry-A: semester course
Honors Geometry A is designed for advanced students. The topics studied are the same as Geometry A, but will be covered at a faster pace and at a more in-depth level. Topics include measures of angles, midpoint and distance formulas, writing equations of lines; using properties of parallel lines to determine angle measures; using deductive reasoning; proving triangles congruent and similar.

Honors Geometry-B: semester course
Honors Geometry B is designed for advanced students. The topics studied are the same as Geometry B, but will be covered at a faster pace and at a more in-depth level. Topics include area, surface area and volume of geometric figures (including three-dimensional figures); applying properties of quadrilaterals to find missing sides and angles; defining and using properties of circles to find missing angles, and chords.

Algebra 2-A: semester course
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry. Algebra 2 A is a first semester course that expands on the topics of Algebra 1, containing concepts and problems which require higher order thinking skills. Topics include solving inequalities, absolute value, linear functions, and linear systems.

Algebra 2-B: semester course
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 A. Algebra 2 B is a second semester course that is subsequent to Algebra 2 A. Topics include quadratic functions, complex numbers, polynomial equations, permutations, combinations, radical expressions, rational exponents, and inverse functions.

Honors Algebra 2-A: semester course
Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry. Honors Algebra 2 A is a first semester course that expands on the topics of Algebra 1. This course differs from Algebra 2 A with respect to pace of instruction, additional topics covered and overall rigor. Topics include solving inequalities, absolute value, linear functions, linear systems, quadratic functions, and complex numbers. A summer assignment will be required for incoming students.

Honors Algebra 2-B: semester course
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Honors Algebra 2 A. Honors Algebra 2 is a second semester course that is subsequent to Honors Algebra 2 A. Topics include polynomials and polynomial functions, combinations, permutations, radical expressions, rational exponents, inverse functions, rational functions, and arithmetic and geometric sequences.

Financial Algebra A: This is a semester course and is recommended as a third or fourth math credit for those students with no intention of applying to college. It can also be an additional elective for those students who plan on attending college. We will study the mathematics used in everyday life. Topics include basics of

employment, banking and interest, and consumer credit and loans. **(Note: this course will not fulfill NCAA math requirements.)**

Financial Algebra B: Prerequisites: Successful completion of Financial Algebra A. This is a semester course and is recommended as a third or fourth math credit for those students with no intention of applying to college. It can also be an additional elective for those students who plan on attending college. Topics for semester 2 will include automobile ownership and insurance, income taxes, planning for retirement, and life insurance. **(Note: this course will not fulfill NCAA math requirements.)**

Pre-Calculus-A: semester course
This course is recommended for students completing Algebra II or Algebra III. This course will cover a large amount of the same material as the Honors Pre-Calculus, but will move at a slower pace, and not quite as in depth. The topics will include: Equations and their graphs, functions,(including domains), combinations of functions, composition of functions, inverse functions, and finding zeros of polynomials.

Pre-Calculus-B: semester course
This course continues from Pre-Calculus A with the topics: rational functions, roots, complex numbers, trigonometric functions, and their graphs, trigonometric identities, trigonometric applications, exponential growth and decay.

Honors Pre-Calculus-A: semester course
This first semester course is a bridge between Algebra II and Calculus. The course will review the main Algebra concepts needed to perform well in Calculus, such as Equations and their graphs, functions (including domains), combinations of functions, composition of functions, inverse functions, finding zeros of polynomials, rational functions, roots and complex numbers.

Honors Pre-Calculus-B: semester course
The course continues from Honors Pre-Calculus A with an in-depth review of trigonometric functions and their graphs, trigonometric identities, trigonometric applications, exponential growth and decay, conic sections including: parabolas, ellipses and hyperbolas, polar coordinates and parametric equations. Upon successful completion of this course the students will receive the necessary foundations to perform well in Calculus.

Advanced Placement Calculus – A & B: year course
The AP Calculus AB course is equivalent to a one-semester college course in Calculus. Calculus builds upon the concepts learned in Algebra II and Pre-Calculus. Advanced Placement Calculus begins with a study of limits, the derivative, differentiation rules, and application of differentiation as they apply to functions. Upon completing differentiation, the focus will be antiderivatives, integrals, rules of integration and applications of integration as they apply to functions. Students who take Calculus must have a strong background in Algebra. Students opting to take this course should have successfully completed Honors Pre-Calculus. AP Calculus AB students are required to take the AP exam at the end of the year.

Statistics-A: semester course
In Statistics students are introduced to the concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Statistics A teaches methods of descriptive statistics. Topics include data collection and description, correlation and regression, with probability. Students will develop an understanding of concepts through the use of technology, investigations and problem solving. Emphasis is placed on numerical analysis and its interpretation. Strong critical thinking skills are important. Students opting to take this class should have successfully completed Algebra 2.

Statistics-B: semester course
The continuation of Statistics-A, this class teaches methods of inferential statistics. Topics include probability distributions, the normal distribution, the Central Limit Theorem, hypothesis testing, and the analysis of

variance and contingency tables. Emphasis is placed on numerical analysis and its interpretation. Students should have completed Statistics-A. Strong critical thinking skills are important.

Advanced Placement Statistics - A & B: year course
The AP Statistics course is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory college course in statistics. Students are introduced to the concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will study the four major topics in AP Statistics: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Students will develop understanding of concepts through the use of technology, investigations and problem solving. Writing to convey understanding will be an integral part of the learning process and in preparation to take the AP Statistics test. Students opting to take this course should have successfully completed Honors Algebra 2 or Algebra 2. AP Statistics students are required to take the AP exam at the end of the year. **Students who are planning to take an AP science course their senior year will benefit greatly from taking AP Statistics during their junior year.**

Introduction to Computer Science A & B: semester course
This is the first course in computer science programming. It is recommended for those students intending to major in computer science in college, and who have not had any previous experience that involves programming in JAVA. This course may also be of interest to students who intend to major in one of the social sciences or humanities. This course would be a prerequisite to any programming in JAVA course. The focus of the course is on problem analysis and the development of algorithms and computer programs in a modern high level language. Students must have completed Algebra I to be eligible for this class.

AP Computer Science A: year course
The AP Computer Science A course embraces problem solving, hardware, algorithms, and perspectives that help people utilize computers to address real-world problems in contemporary life. Students who take the AP Computer Science A course and exam are well prepared to continue their study of computer science and its integration into a wide array of computing and STEM-related fields. The current language studied in this course is Java. AP Computer Science A students are required to take the AP exam at the end of the year.
Prerequisite: Introduction to Computer Science

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

In grades 9-12, 8 units of Social Studies are required for graduation.

Social Studies (8 identified units required)

Grade 9
American Cultures/History-A
American Cultures/History-B

Grade 10
Civics and Government-A
Civics and Government-B

Grade 11
World Cultures-A
World Cultures-B

Grade 12
Economics OR Honors Economics (sem 1)
Psychology AND/OR Honors Sociology (sem 2)

Social Studies Electives (0 units required)

Holocaust and Genocide Studies A & B
Advanced Placement U.S. History A & B (year)
Advanced Placement Psychology A & B (year)

American Cultures/History-A: semester course
Students will study U. S. History from 1890 through present. Students are expected to develop an understanding of American Culture and Society in the world in which we live based upon our recent history. The first semester will cover the years 1890-1945. Students are expected to be proactive in daily classes.

American Cultures/History-B: semester course
This is a continuation of semester one. This course should be taken as a second semester course after completing American Cultures/History II-A. The second semester will cover the years 1945-2008 and will focus on the cold war era as well as the civil rights movement. Additionally, the cultural and historical circumstances surrounding the 1960's and 1970's counterculture in conjunction with the Vietnam War will be studied in depth. Additional topics include, but are not limited to: Watergate, Détente, supply side economics, the Middle East and other contemporary issues.

Civics and Government-A: semester course
Students will study the form and function of Government. Topics that will be emphasized, but are not limited to: the impact of domestic policy, U.S. foreign policy and its global impacts, government role in civil and human rights, characteristics and methods used by government, analyze local, state and federal roles in policy making, the organization and operation of various levels of government, the election process, powers and limitations of government agencies, and interpretation of U.S. and PA Constitutions by the courts.

Civics and Government-B: semester course
Students will study citizenship in modern democracies. Topics that will be emphasized, but are not limited to: civic roles, rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens, factors that make competent and responsible citizens, roles of political parties and special interest groups, methods used to influence the political process, policy and opinions, application of civic principles, arguments for the necessity of government, various components of civic discourse, conflict resolution in society and government, and role of the media in the creation and resolution of conflict in society.

World Cultures A & B: year course
The course investigates the factors that shape civilizations and how different civilizations interact throughout different time periods. Students will study the relationship between historical culture and present day issues to help them to understand the interaction and cultural influences throughout the world. Enrolled students will be expected to read, create, and develop projects independently in addition to utilizing technology when possible.

Honors Economics: semester course
The main purpose of this course is to improve students' understanding of economics by raising their interest in economic issues and by teaching them to reason carefully about economic activity. The content material emphasizes traditional micro economics. A special unit on the stock market has been developed and is used extensively. This is intended to be an advanced level course.

Economics: semester course
This course will be a combination of both micro and macroeconomic principles. The student will be introduced to fundamental economic concepts including financial investments, labor and wages, traditional and market economics, the Federal Reserve System, and Gross Domestic Policy.

Psychology: semester course
This course will offer a brief introduction to the world of Psychology and the impact major current mental health events have on the world. The unit of study will include, but not limited to: historical formation of Psychology, neuroscience and behavior, personal development, as well as, thinking critically, psychological disorders, substance abuse, therapy, motivation, personality formation, and states of consciousness.

Honors Sociology: semester course
Sociology studies human society and social behavior with emphasis on the group. This class explores those classic areas of sociological study. Oral and written presentations are made. The written work includes: individual research papers, research in sociology, results, and graphic presentations. Students would be well served to have experience in the formal organization and writing of a research paper before electing this course. This is intended to be an advanced level course.

The Holocaust and Genocide Studies A & B: semester course
Students will gain insight into the many historical, social, religious, political, and economic factors that cumulatively resulted in the Holocaust and worldwide acts of genocide. Enrolled students will be expected to complete intense reading and writing assignments as well as research independently. Due to the mature nature of the content, this course is best suited for grades 11 and 12 with approval from the instructor. At the discretion of the Burgettstown Area School Board, field trips may be taken to enhance and reinforce course objectives. Holocaust & Genocide Studies A is a prerequisite for Holocaust & Genocide Studies B.

Advanced Placement U.S. History A & B: year course
The Advanced Placement U.S. History course is a challenging course that requires excellent writing skills plus strong student interest in the subject matter. First semester covers Jamestown until the Civil War/Reconstruction period. The second semester covers the end of Reconstruction up to the current year.
* This course is open to both juniors and seniors. Students are required to take the AP exam at year's end to possibly earn college credits.

Advanced Placement Psychology A & B: year course
The Advanced Placement Psychology course is a college level course. The textbook and study guides are standard books for college freshmen in this area. While the work is challenging, it is not impossible. Students need to make a strong personal commitment before electing this class. Students need a very strong foundation in reading, writing and the social sciences to be successful in psychology. Students will briefly be introduced to the APA style of writing and research. The units of study include, but are not limited to: history

and approaches, neuroscience and behavior, personal development, sensation and perception, psychological disorders, therapy, motivation, states of consciousness, social psychology, and cognition.
*It is recommended that a student has taken or is currently enrolled in Anatomy and Physiology. This course is open to both juniors and seniors, with preference being given to seniors. All students will take the AP Psych exam at the year's end to possibly earn college credit, no exemptions. Students are also encouraged to have taken Honors English 9 or 10 and to have taken or be simultaneously enrolled in a Statistics class.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

In grades 9-12, 6 units of Science are required for graduation. Students may select from a list of science electives which are available for additional units. *Please be aware that the science department makes a recommendation to every student on the next course the student should take in the sequence.* **Students must also take 2 additional units from either Math or Science.**

Science (6 identified units required from the following groupings)	**Electives (0 units required)**
Environment and Ecology-A	Oceanography
Environment and Ecology-B	S.T.E.M. Starry Night Astronomy
Biology- A	Genetics
Biology-B	Forensic Science
Honors Biology-A (with lab)	
Honors Biology-B (with lab)	
Chemistry-A	
Chemistry-B	
Honors Chemistry-A (with lab)	
Honors Chemistry-B (with lab)	
Anatomy and Physiology-A	
Anatomy and Physiology-B	
Physics-A	
Physics-B	
Honors Physics-A (with lab)	
Honors Physics-B (with lab)	
Advanced Placement Biology A & B (year long) (with lab)	
Advanced Placement Chemistry A & B (year long) (with lab)	

Environment and Ecology-A: semester course
Environment and Ecology is an exploratory course in the world of complex interactions between organisms and their ecosystems, as well as the impact of humans on the natural world. This course covers the topics of Ecology and how life is organized, populations of animals and their interactions with humans, how human interactions affect the water, air and land, discussions of the uses of the Earth's resources and energy production, and how human health is tied to the health of the world ecosystem. This course provides a foundation in ecological concepts for Biology.

Environment and Ecology-B: semester course
Environment and Ecology-B is a continuation of items that were studied and discussed in Environmental and Ecology-A.

Biology-A: semester course
The course is an introduction to biology focusing on biological principles, development/functions of cells, and genetic factors and structure. Students will perform biological techniques, work with microscopes, and use basic laboratory skills as needed.

Biology-B: semester course
Biology-B is a continuation course to Biology-A focusing on the ecological aspects of biology. Students will be introduced to ecology, populations, the potential of global warming and environmental science.

Honors Biology-A (with lab): semester course
The course is an introduction to biology focusing on biological principles, biochemistry, homeostatic mechanisms, and bioenergetics at an accelerated pace. Students will perform inquiry-based laboratory experiments, utilize biological techniques, work with the microscope, and use graphical analysis and analytical skills in a collaborative structured laboratory environment to explore and enrich the principles and concepts learned in each unit.

Honors Biology-B (with lab): semester course
This course is a continuation course to Honors Biology-A focusing on the development and continuity of life, and macrobiological concepts. Students will be introduced to cell growth and reproduction, genetics, the theory of evolution, and ecology. Students will continue to build on the techniques and skills they learned and developed in semester one while performing in a structured laboratory setting on a regular basis.

Chemistry-A: semester course
Chemistry builds upon skills learned in middle school Physical Science in the chemistry content area. Topics include: structure of the atom, the periodic table, chemical reactions, and carbon based chemistry. Students are scheduled for five periods per week; usually one class period bi-weekly is used as a lab period.

Chemistry-B: semester course
This is a continuation of studying the structure of the atom, the periodic table, chemical reactions, and carbon based chemistry. Students are scheduled for five periods per week; usually one class period bi-weekly is used as a lab period. This course is a continuation of Chemistry-A.

Honors Chemistry-A (with lab): semester course
Chemistry builds upon skills learned in geometry and algebra. Students should have completed Geometry, with a grade of “C” or better. This course is usually required for admission to a four year college or university. Topics include: structure of the atom, bonding, chemical reactions, gasses, and concentrations. If the student does not have a strong math background they should take this course in their junior year instead of the sophomore year.

Honors Chemistry-B (with lab): semester course
This is a continuation of Honors Chemistry-A. Further discussion of structure of the atom, bonding, chemical reactions, gasses, and concentrations occur during the semester. Again math skills are of great importance to the student to be successful in this course.

Anatomy & Physiology-A: semester course
Anatomy & Physiology-A is an exploratory course which focuses on the biological aspects of the human body. Students will study most of the systems of the body by dissecting several preserved specimens to identify and compare the parts as well as perfect their laboratory skills. The course in Anatomy builds upon the concepts that were introduced in Biology-A and Biology-B.

Anatomy & Physiology-B: semester course
Anatomy & Physiology-B is a continuation of the exploration of the biological aspects of the human body that have been introduced in Anatomy & Physiology-A.

Physics-A: semester course
Physics builds upon skills learned in middle school Physical Science class in the Physics content area. Topics include: Mechanics (motion, forces, pressure, work, power machines and energy), Wave Propagation (light, sound), and Electricity and Magnetism. Students are scheduled for five periods a week, usually one class period bi-weekly is used as a lab period.

Physics-B: semester course
This is a continuation of studying Mechanics (motion, forces, pressure, work, power machines and energy), Wave Propagation (light, sound), and Electricity and Magnetism. This course is a continuation of Physics-A.

Honors Physics-A (with lab): semester course
Honors Physics -A is the first part of a complete Physics course that is designed to meet the needs of today's students as well as to satisfy the requirements of a college-prep physics program. Strong emphasis is placed on problem-solving skills and using the scientific method to discover facts and processes while performing experiments. The two main topics of the first semester are kinematics and dynamics**.**
***** Since mathematics is the language of Physics, strong algebra, geometry and trigonometry skills are vital to success in this course. It is required that the student has completed geometry; it is highly recommended that the student has completed Algebra II and takes Pre-Calculus concurrently, or higher.

Honors Physics-B (with lab): semester course
Honors Physics -B is a continuation of the Honors Physics-A course. Rotational kinematics, electric fields, electronics and waves are covered in the second semester. An integration of knowledge and skills is used to complete a research project which is a course requirement. It is highly recommended that the student has completed Algebra II and takes Pre-calculus concurrently, or higher.

Advanced Placement Chemistry - **A & B (with lab):** year course
AP Chemistry is a full year course conducted under the guidelines of The College Board. This course is designed for the student considering college. This is an advanced course in chemistry that introduces students to Thermochemistry, Electrochemistry, Quantum Mechanics and more. Laboratory work is an integral part of the course. This course is recommended for 11^{th} -12^{th} grade students who have completed Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry, and Algebra 2. Students are **required** to take the Advanced Placement Exam offered in May of the school year as a component of this course. Students should have a strong background in chemistry and solid math background before attempting an AP Chemistry course.

Advanced Placement Biology - **A & B (with lab):** year course
AP Biology is a full year course conducted under the guidelines of The College Board. This course is designed for the student considering college. This is an advanced course in biology that introduces students to biochemistry, DNA postulates and genetic probabilities. Anatomy, physiology, morphology, embryology and classification are combined to enable the student to understand current biological principles. Laboratory work is an integral part of the course. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam offered in May of the school year as a component of this course. Summer reading and assignments are required. Failure to complete summer assignments will lead to withdrawal from the course. Students should have a strong background in biology before attempting an AP Biology course.

Oceanography: semester course
The course will provide the opportunity for juniors and seniors to explore and discover exciting findings about the Earth's oceans. Topics to be discussed are plate tectonics, ocean circulation, marine biology, marine ecology and more. In addition, students will be introduced to various careers offered through oceanic studies.

S.T.E.M. Starry Night Astronomy -- Interactive Sky Simulator: semester course
The sky is enormous, distant and filled with mysterious things. Astronomy is a humbling and character building experience that challenges everyone's curiosity of our place in the universe. During your Starry Night interactive sky simulator experience, you will explore the heavenly bodies surrounding our 3rd rock from the Sun, map the sky with an understanding of constellations, experience the life cycle of stars, explore the Milky Way Galaxy and challenge yourself to understand the evolution of the universe. All of this will be completed with interactive computer simulations and physical exploration with hands-on learning.

Genetics: semester course
This course will provide an opportunity for juniors and seniors who are interested in the biological sciences, a chance to examine genetics more in-depth than covered in the Biology and Honors Biology courses. Topics will include transmission of genetics, DNA and chromosomes, population genetics, genetic technology, and the genetics of immunity and cancer. Students will also complete various assignments and projects pertaining to their traits, from whom those traits may have been inherited and the likelihood of them passing particular traits to future offspring.

Forensic Science: semester course
This course will provide insight for sophomores, juniors and seniors into the field of forensic science using tools and techniques that are commonly used in the field of forensics. The course will be a mix of both traditional and project-based learning, as students will be taught concepts in forensics, and use these tools to solve problems to solve fictional crimes. Topics will include an introduction to forensics, crime scene investigation, material analysis of hair, fibers and fingerprints, soil and remains, DNA evidence and analysis, blood pattern analysis, introductions to toxicology, and using markings to identify firearms or weapons. Students will be expected to work with peers to solve problems posed to the group, and must work together in a variety of roles to complete tasks. Collaboration, critical thinking, and communication skills are also essential to success in the Forensic Science course. Chemistry is a prerequisite or corequisite for taking this course.

BUSINESS EDUCATION / INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

In grades 9-12, 2 units of Business Education/Information Technology courses are required for graduation. These 2 units are identified in the left column below. In addition, all students may select from a list of business education electives identified at the right below. Students should consider these electives if future career plans are in business, accounting, management or computers.

Business Ed./IT (2 identified units required)	**Business Ed./IT (0 units required)**
Information Technology (IT)	Accounting 1-A
Career Readiness	Accounting 1-B
	Accounting 2-A
	Accounting 2-B
	Accounting 3-A
	Accounting 3-B

Accounting 1-A: semester course
Accounting 1-A is an introductory course teaching students how to plan, maintain, analyze, and interpret financial records. Students will learn basic accounting theories and practices as well as explore job opportunities in the accounting profession. Students will learn accounting terminology and complete a series of accounting activities to record financial information for a service business organized as a proprietorship. QuickBooks and Microsoft Excel are integrated to reinforce manual concepts and practices. Students will also complete a personal banking simulation requiring them to successfully maintain a personal checking account. *Students who are considering pursuing any business related profession are encouraged to take this course.* Ninth grade students electing this course are required to have taken Algebra I in the eighth grade and passed the course with a grade no lower than a “B”.

Accounting 1-B: semester course
Accounting I-B is a course designed to continue developing accounting concepts and practices as they relate to an accounting system for a merchandising business organized as a partnership. At the end of the course, students will demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the complete accounting cycle by completing a business simulation. The simulation provides the students with activities for one fiscal period that relate to practices used in the business world. *Students who are considering pursuing any business related profession are encouraged to take this course.* Ninth grade students electing this course are required to have taken Algebra I in the eighth grade and passed the course with a grade no lower than a “B”.

Accounting 2-A: semester course
Accounting 2-A is a one-semester sequence course which expands upon the accounting concepts and practices learned in Accounting 1-A and 1-B. Students interested in pursuing a business-related post secondary academic program or an entry-level accounting employment position would benefit from this course. The student will learn the accounting theory and practices involved in corporate accounting. In addition to a more in-depth coverage of concepts and practices introduced in previous Accounting classes, the topics of payroll, notes, taxes, and capital investment will be introduced. Because this class builds upon and integrates the concepts and practices learned in Accounting 1-B, students need to have a strong mastery of these concepts and practices in order to excel in this class. Recommendation for success: “C” or better in Accounting 1-B.

Accounting 2-B: semester course
Accounting 2-B is a one-semester sequence course which utilizes the accounting concepts and practices learned in Accounting 2-A. Advanced features of QuickBooks will be mastered in this course to demonstrate understanding of more in-depth accounting practices learned in Accounting 2-A. Because of the extensive use of computers in the business and academic environment, students who have successfully completed previous

accounting classes will find Accounting 2-B to be beneficial and challenging. At the end of this course, students will use QuickBooks to complete an automated accounting project which simulates the experiences encountered as an entry level accountant in a corporation.

Accounting 3-A: - semester course
Accounting 3-A is an advanced one semester sequence course building on the knowledge obtained in the Accounting 2 course. The first semester course guides students through learning how to evaluate options when acquiring capital for growth and the procedures for acquiring and expensing the costs of plant assets and intangible assets. Various Merchandise Inventory methods will be learned to account for inventory costs to ensure gross profit and net income are reported accurately on the financial statement. Accounting for accruals and deferrals is expanded in this course. Accounting software applications are integrated into each lesson to teach students how technology tools solve real business problems. Recommendation for Success: "B" or better in Accounting 2-A&B
Prerequisites: Accounting 1-A&B; Accounting 2-A&B

Accounting 3-B: - semester course
Accounting 3-B *i*s an advanced one semester sequence course focusing on the end-of-fiscal period work for a merchandising business organized as a corporation and partnership. The second semester course expands in-depth knowledge of financial statements, and a statement of cash flows is presented for the first time. Students will learn how to form and dissolve a partnership, as well as distribute earnings of a partnership and prepare financial statements for a partnership. Students will learn the challenges and accounting for international sales and how to record Internet sales. At the end of the semester, an engaging online simulation providing hands-on, real-world experience in accounting practice will be completed.
Prerequisites: Accounting 1-A&B; Accounting 2-A&B; Accounting 3-A

Career Readiness: semester course
Career Readiness is a Burgettstown Area School District graduation requirement. This course prepares students in constructing a resume, cover and thank you letters, proper interviewing skills, performing in an interview, business etiquette, public speaking, and various other tasks needed to procure a job, including how to properly answer typical interview questions. Students will examine personality types, attitudes and aptitudes, career clusters and pathways, programs/majors in higher education, look at schools/colleges, and personal interests using career planning websites, primarily Smart Futures. Students will also be exposed to entrepreneurship and will write a basic business plan based on a company that they would start up. One of the larger projects in the class is the Job Shadow project. They will set it up, turn in a proposal to the teacher, spend a minimum of 4 hours at the site, and then create and present a slide show based on their experience. The course culminates in a mock interview where students will have the opportunity to go through all phases of a job interview situation. Students will meet the state business and career-ready standards.

Information Technology 9: semester course
Information Technology 9 a BASD graduation requirement. The course will reinforce and master advanced word processing, presentation, and Internet skills. This course is designed to develop and enrich student understanding and applications of various technology skills needed in their academic endeavors. Students will not only master Microsoft Word/Google Docs and document formatting, but learn professional and ethical electronic communication skills (Internet/Social Media safety), researching methods, and presentation software such as Microsoft PowerPoint/Google Slides. They will also spend time with career-based software (Smart Futures) learning about how to plan for careers, career success, and career goals. Students will meet the state business and career-ready standards.

HEALTH / PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

In grades 9-12, 1 unit of Health and 2 units of Physical Education are required for graduation. Health units are identified; Physical Education units may be selected from the list of electives.

Health
(1 identified unit required)
Health - Grade 9

Phys. Education
(2 units required)
Physical Education
Movement Physical Education
Conditioning

Elective
Wellness

Physical Education: semester course
Physical Education is a co-ed course which focuses on individual and team fall/winter sports and provides participants with training in activities for nine weeks and training in the fitness center for nine weeks. The activities may include but are not limited to: flag football, physical fitness, basketball, hockey, volleyball and table tennis. In the fitness center, students will be given a pre-assessment and instruction as to proper technique on each machine.

Movement Physical Education: semester course
Movement Physical Education is a co-ed course that provides an opportunity for students to learn a variety of exercise modes and experience new fitness trends. Movement classes will not play any team sports. Instead, they will focus on health-related physical fitness. Activities will include but are not limited to yoga, pilates, weight training, cardiovascular endurance training and aerobics.

Health: semester course
Health provides an overview of the body systems (anatomy & function). Topics may include intro to Health, Heredity, Diet, Exercise, Fitness, Sex Education, Mental Health, Social Health.

Conditioning: semester course
Conditioning provides students with individual weight training and cardiovascular activities designed to increase the strength, stamina, and physical well-being of the student. Since class size must be limited, scheduling preference will be given to juniors and seniors. Sophomores will be accepted if space is available.

Wellness: semester course
Open only to grades 10, 11, & 12
This course is a health education elective offered to sophomores, juniors and seniors that will include topics such as first aid, impaired driving, prevention of behavior related health problems including substance abuse and STD's and additional timely issues. The regular Health course is a prerequisite for this course**. (This course does NOT count as part of the required physical education units for graduation.)**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

In grades 9-12, there are no units of Foreign Language required for graduation. Elective courses in Foreign Language will count toward the total number of elective units required for the purposes of graduation. Students considering attending four –year colleges after high school graduation are strongly encouraged to take at least two years of the same foreign language to fulfill potential college admissions requirements.

Foreign Language Electives (0 units required)

German 1-A
German 1-B
German 2-A
German 2-B
German 3-A
German 3-B
Advanced Placement German Language A&B
German Literature A
German Literature B

Spanish 1-A
Spanish 1-B
Spanish 2-A
Spanish 2-B
Spanish 3-A
Spanish 3-B

German 1-A: semester course
German 1 is a class for the serious student with good note taking skills, who wishes to master the German language and experience German culture. The objective of German 1-A is to help the students develop a desire to "use" the language and become proficient speakers. For this reason, the class is taught entirely in German beginning with day one. In addition to hearing German spoken every day, students will speak, read and write in German on a daily basis. While studying German 1-A, students will master a number of grammatical points including but not limited to: word order, conjugations of regular and irregular verbs, present tense, nominative and accusative cases and future tense. The textbook used is Deutsch Aktuell (EMC Paradigm Publishing, 1998) Chapters 1-5 will be covered and the following topics will be addressed: basic greetings, family , descriptions, free-time activities, school life, living and reading basic short stories, In addition to daily course work, the students will "use" their German to complete various projects and or reports for each chapter. Due to the communicative nature of this class, a portion of the semester final will include a 5-10 minute oral interview with the teacher. Interview questions are based on vocabulary and themes discussed in each chapter.

German 1-B: semester course
German 1-B is a highly communicative class which builds upon the skills, vocabulary and grammar acquired in German 1-A. Because the objective of this course is to produce proficient speakers of German, the class is taught completely in German. In this course students will enhance their understanding of learned grammatical concepts from the first semester as well as cover the following grammatical points: modal verbs; adjective endings; and accusative prepositions. The textbook used is *Deutsch Aktuell* (EMC Paradigm Publishing, 1998). Chapters 5-10 will be covered and the following topics addressed: weather; traveling; food and dining; state opinions; birthday; athletics; entertainment; shopping and reading short fairy tales. In addition to daily coursework, students will complete a project with each chapter. Also, due to the communicative nature of this course, students are highly encouraged and expected to speak German on a daily basis. Note that all students will be assessed orally at the end of the semester with a five minute conversation with the teacher as well as taking the National German Exam for level one.
Prerequisite: B or better in German 1-A

German 2-A: semester course
German 2 is a class for the serious student with the objective of continuing to build upon the knowledge acquired in first year German. The goal of German 2-A is to help the students develop a desire to "use" the language and become proficient speakers of German and, for this reason, the class is taught entirely in German beginning with the first day. In addition to hearing German spoken every day, students will speak, read and write in German on a daily basis. While studying German 2-A, students will master a number of grammatical points including—but not limited to: nominative, accusative and dative cases; simple past tense, future tense and positive, comparative and superlative adjective forms. The textbook used is Deutsch Aktuell 2 (EMC Paradigm Publishing, 1998). Chapters 1-5 will be covered and the following topics will be addressed: travel plans; youth hostels; transportation; house and surroundings; grocery shopping in Germany; daily routines; In addition to daily coursework, the students will "use" their German as they will complete a project at the end of each chapter. Due to the communicative nature of this class, a portion of the semester final will include a 10 minute oral interview with the teacher. Interview questions are based on the themes discussed in each chapter.
Prerequisite: B or better in German 1-B

German 2-B: semester course
German 2-B is a highly communicative class which builds upon the skills, vocabulary and grammar acquired in German 2-A. Because the objective of this course is to produce proficient speakers of German, the class is taught completely in German. Students will apply all grammatical concepts learned in first semester and master the following grammar points: genitive case, accusative, dative and genitive prepositions, two-way prepositions and simple past tense. The textbook used is *Deutsch Aktuell 2* (EMC Paradigm Publishing, 1998). Chapters 5-10 will be covered and the following topics addressed: Holidays and festivals (Oktoberfest, Weihnachten and Fasching); hospitals, the post office; using the phone and reading various fairy tales. Students will also write a number of essays relating to topics and themes pertaining to the chapters covered. In addition to daily course work, the students will "use" their German as they will complete a project at the end of each chapter. Due to the communicative nature of this class, a portion of the semester final will include a 10 minute oral interview with the teacher. Interview questions are based on the themes discussed in each chapter. Students completing German 2-B are also required to complete the AATG National German Exam.
Prerequisite: B or better in German 2-A

German 3-A: semester course
German 3-A is a class for the very serious and hard-working student. German 3-A is a highly-communicative class in which students will display their German language proficiency acquired from levels I and II. In addition to speaking, reading, and listening to German on a daily basis, students will hone their writing skills by writing lengthy essays and fairy tales in German. Students will read and discuss in German *Die Weisse Rose*—a novel about a group of teenagers and their struggles during WWII. The textbook used is *Deutsch Aktuell 3* (EMC Paradigm Publishing, 1998). Chapters 1-5 will be covered. Students will expand their knowledge of German grammar and gain proficiency by mastering the following grammatical points: active and passive voice, and indicative, imperative and subjunctive moods. In addition to daily course work, the students will "use" their German as they will complete a project at the end of each chapter. Due to the communicative nature of this class, a large portion of the semester final will include a 5 minute oral interview with the teacher, the National German exam and a report. Interview questions are based on the themes discussed in each chapter.
Prerequisite: B or better in German 2-B

German 3-B: semester course
German 3-B is a class for the very serious and hard-working student. German 3-A is a highly-communicative class in which students will display their German language proficiency acquired from levels I and II on a daily basis. In addition to speaking, reading, and listening to German on a daily basis, students will hone their skills even further as they write, read and analyze lengthy essays. Students will read a short book *Mein Onkel Franz*—a story about a child's recollection of his childhood. The textbook used is *Deutsch Aktuell 3* (EMC

Paradigm Publishing, 1998). Chapters 5-8 will be covered. Students will expand their knowledge of German grammar and gain proficiency by using the grammar learned the first semester and mastering the following: subjunctive II, past perfect and future perfect tenses, narration and debating in German. Debatable topics include: das Abitur, Bundeswehr oder Zivildienst und die Regeln in der Schule. In addition, students will again complete the AATG National German Exam with hopes of winning a study abroad trip to Germany. Prerequisite: B or better in German 3-A

Advanced Placement German A & B: Year Course
All Students are required to take the Advanced placement exam in May. German 1 through 3 have provided a solid foundation for success in this class. Students will continue to expand their knowledge of German by studying, analyzing and using such grammatical structures as passive voice, general subjunctive, superlative forms, word order with separable prefix verbs combined with subordinating conjunctions. In addition to these grammar points, the students will read the biographical short story Die Weisse Rose by Inge Scholl. The main textbook used is *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*, New York: Houghton Mifflin Company 2001.

There are three phases of this second semester AP class with an emphasis on preparing our students for the Advanced Placement Exam in May. Students will spend the majority of the semester taking practice tests. The components of the exam include essay writing, speaking, reading, grammar and short answer questions. A second phase is reading, analyzing, comparing and "using" idiomatic expressions in German-this is a reading, writing and speaking strategy used with the intention of enhancing language proficiency. The book used is *German Idioms* Barron's Educational Series 1996. A third phase of second semester AP German is to study German government. Students will compare and contrast our government with that in Germany. Upon completion of this lecture series, students will write a letter to either a German Chancellor or the German president. This has been very successful in the past years as students often receive responses. It is recommended students have an 85% in German 3-B in order to enroll in this course.

German Literature -A (this course may not be offered every year): semester course
Upon completion of the Advanced Placement German Language Exam, students are encouraged to increase their language proficiency with the study of German literature. In this course, the serious student will hone the skills acquired during previous years as they analyze and explore an array of authentic and unabridged German literary works. The texts will be representative of distinct literary periods including but not limited to Romanticism, Classicism, Storm & Stress and literature from the Weimar Era. While studying these masterpieces, students will develop an appreciation and understanding of German culture and way of life during these particular eras. Prerequisite: Completion of Advanced Placement German Exam.

German Literature -B (this course may not be offered every year): semester course
The second semester is a bit more light-hearted as it has students delving into the exciting and enchanting world of the German fairy tale. From the Brothers Grimm to Hoffmann's Der Struwwelpter, students will explore the dark, yet didactic side of tales as they compare and contrast these oral traditions with fairy tales as we know them today. Students will complete a variety of interesting and thought-provoking projects as they gain insight into German culture past and present. Prerequisite: Completion of Advanced Placement German Exam.

Spanish 1-A: semester course
The goal of Spanish 1 A is to introduce the language and culture to the students and develop their skills over the length of the course. Students will become effective communicators as they will be expected to speak Spanish throughout the course. The course will cover but is not limited to the following topics from *Buen Viaje-Glencoe 1* chapters 1-7, greetings, adjectives, numbers, time, classroom objects, food, family, sports. The following grammatical structures will be heavily emphasized: present tense, irregulars, and stem changing verbs. Culture will also be included within the class focusing on major holidays and celebrations that take place in Spanish-speaking countries. Prerequisite: "C" or better in English.

Spanish1-B: semester course
The students will continue to build skills especially in speaking and writing. The class will cover but is not limited to chapters 8-13, health, summer and winter activities, and travel. The grammatical structures will continue focusing on verbs that use an indirect object pronoun, ser and estar, direct object pronouns and the preterite. The students will be given various projects throughout the course where they will be expected to present in front of the class. Culture will remain a focus allowing the students to compare and contrast the Hispanic world to the United States. Prerequisite: "C" or better in Spanish 1 A.

Spanish 2-A: semester course
After reviewing from the first two semesters the students will continue with *Buen Viaje-Glencoe 2*. This course will quickly become an oral communicative classroom environment. The students will be expected to converse and generate opinions and feelings on a variety of topics. The topics covered but not limited to include from chapters 1-6, travel, restaurants, store items, pastimes, and medical emergencies. The following grammatical structures will be heavily emphasized: present tense, preterite and imperfect, irregular verbs, future and conditional tense. Culture will continue to remain a discussion in class. Writing and speaking in the Spanish language will be encouraged throughout the course.
Prerequisite: "C" or better in Spanish 1 B.

Spanish 2-B: semester course
The students will continue to build on the skills of speaking and writing. The importance of conversing within the classroom will be heavily stressed. The class will cover but is not limited to chapters 7-13, country and city atmospheres, highways and professions. The grammatical structures will include direct and indirect object pronouns, imperatives and the subjunctive. The students will have a variety of projects researching various information regarding holidays and celebrations that they will be required to present in front of the class.
Prerequisite: "C" or better in Spanish 2 A.

Spanish 3-A : semester course
After reviewing from the first two years of Spanish the students will continue with *Buen Viaje-Glencoe 3.* The course will be developed into a highly communicative classroom where oral discussions on a variety of topics will occur. The topics covered but are not limited to chapters 1-4, travel, routines, pastimes and ceremonies. The students will be given a variety of projects to complete dealing with Hispanic speakers to country descriptions. All of these projects will be researched and presented to the class. The grammatical structures will be closely redefined from the past two years. The students will read a variety of literature from famous Spanish-speakers exploring plays, poems and excerpts from novels. They will need to be able to analyze the text and have oral discussions. Culture will continue to be presented throughout the course.
Prerequisite: "C" or better in Spanish 2 A.

Spanish 3-B: semester course
The students will display oral comprehension in everyday conversation and discussion. The information that is covered will be chapters 5-8 dealing with successes, values, health and races. They will continue with the grammatical structures of the present perfect, future perfect, present perfect of the subjunctive, and if clauses. Oral communication and comprehension will be heavily addressed as well as their ability to develop answers to analyze designated texts. Culture will continue to be presented throughout the course.
Prerequisite: "C" or better in Spanish 3 A.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
(1 UNIT REQUIRED)

Child Development
Family & Consumer Science
Foods

Child Development: semester course
Students interact with children who live within the school district who are ages 3, 4 and 5, in a lab setting. This course is an introduction to Early Childhood Education. Students are introduced to teaching methods, theories and pedagogy. High School students must be willing to read aloud to preschoolers and lead daily circle time. Good attendance is necessary for success in the class. Students must also sign and comply with a Code of Conduct.

Family & Consumer Science: semester course
This class will engage students with hands-on learning in the area of Family Consumer Sciences. Topics will include: Sewing (students will provide their own fabric), Interior Design, Personal Finance, Mental Health, Pregnancy and Childbirth, Relationships and Dating, Family Relationships, and Career Exploration.

Foods: semester course
This course is a continuation of the food preparation skills learned in middle school. Units covered will include: nutrition & diet, food safety, etiquette, quick breads, yeast breads, fruits, vegetables, grains, proteins, soups & stews, salads, eggs, casseroles, pies & cakes, candy & cookies and international cuisine.

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT
(1 UNIT REQUIRED)

One unit in Fine Arts is required for graduation. Elective courses in Fine Arts will count toward the total number of units required for the purposes of graduation.

Art	Ceramics
Band (7-12) A and/or B	Chorus A and/or B

Art: semester course
This semester's foundations or fundamentals course is designed to provide a basic understanding of the elements and principles of design as emphasized through the production of art, the study of art history, aesthetics, and art criticism. It is a course profoundly based in *doing* - in the experiences of exploring the elements and media presented.

Ceramics: semester course
This class is designed for students who have a strong interest working in the medium of clay. Experiences will include hand-building and wheel throwing techniques, producing functional and sculptural pieces. Good craftsmanship, discipline, and technical skills will be emphasized. Glazing and firing techniques will be explored. Reading and writing assignments are a part of this course. The class will be limited to 12 students.

Band (7-12) A: semester course
Students continue their growth in musical knowledge and performance skills, although prior experience is not required. The students focus on applying advanced executive and expressive skills to grade level appropriate concert literature from a variety of styles and time periods. Students will participate in several public performances throughout the school year, including the annual Commencement Ceremony. This class meets every day, all semester.

Band (7-12) B: semester course
The 2nd semester is a continuation of semester one. Students continue their growth in musical knowledge and performance skills, although prior experience is not required. The students focus on applying advanced executive and expressive skills to grade level appropriate concert literature from a variety of styles and time periods. Students will participate in several public performances throughout the school year, including the annual Commencement Ceremony. This class meets every day, all semester.

Chorus A: semester course
Senior High Chorus should be considered the top performing ensemble at BMHS. This choir is the culmination of years of singing experience in previous grades. Singers in this ensemble perform challenging music at a high caliber. Opportunities to audition for Pittsburgh area choral festivals throughout the year are also offered. Members study advanced singing and performance techniques through a variety of musical styles and genres. Evening rehearsals and concerts held outside of the classroom throughout the year are mandatory and necessary for the success of the ensemble. Students join all performing ensembles with the understanding that performances are a requirement of the course. Students receive regular grades as in required subjects.

Chorus B: semester course
Chorus B is the sequential second semester to Chorus A.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

In grades 9-12, there are no units of Technology Education required for graduation. Elective courses in Technology Education will count toward the total number of units required for the purposes of graduation.

Building Technology
Graphic Communications Technology
Introduction to ESports
STEAM
Stage Technology & Production

Building Technology: semester course
This course will cover the different phases of construction from the footer of a structure to the construction of the kitchen cabinets. Students will test different materials in a scientific manner throughout the course to determine the best product available to them. The final portion of the course will be used to master skills on woodworking machines. The student will also become confident in the use of hand tools and selected machines. Students will use the lathe, band saw, electric arc welder and oxygen acetylene torch. The student will be given an activity to do in each area.

STEAM – Inventionland (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math): semester course
This course is designed for students who want to discover new ideas and respond to real world challenges. This is a team oriented, project based course that will allow students the unique opportunity to participate in the *Inventionland Institute's* 21st Century learning paths. Students of this course will use the 9-step design process to brainstorm, develop, design, create and market their own original invention culminating in a *Shark Tank* style pitch with the owners and inventors at *Inventionland*. Students will work with a variety of materials including but not limited to cardboard, plastic, cloth, wood and metal. Students will also have access to high-tech hardware such as 3D Printers and scanners, and the Laser cutter and high tech software including Autodesk *AutoCAD*, *Inventor* and *3DS Max*, and Adobe *Photoshop, Illustrator,* and *InDesign*.

Graphic Communications Technology: semester course
This course is designed to instruct students in fundamentals of graphic communications through a variety of exercises. Students will generate creative ideas and make use of professional software to create designs. This process will include an exploration of the elements and principles of design such as shape, texture, color, balance, rhythm and harmony while making use of *Adobe Photoshop*, *Illustrator* and *InDesign* to create original works. Items explored in *Photoshop* will include photo resolution, file size, saving formats and image enhancement. Items explored in *Illustrator* will include its application in graphic communication and tools used to create "vector" based files. Teaches basic drawing and tracing techniques, and creating line art and logos.

Stage Technology & Production: semester course
This course will cover the principles and techniques of stagecraft, including stage terminology, theatre architecture, scenic construction, set painting, tool and machine use, set materials, and production organization. Implementation of lighting design including reading a light plot, hanging a show, utilizing lighting instruments, programming computer light boards, programming computer sound boards, and utilizing color theory. Ultimately, all efforts will be centered toward the creation of a functional space, mood, and style for each school production.

Introduction to Esports: semester course
The Introduction to Esports Course is a comprehensive program designed to help learners gain a deep understanding of the Esports community, education, technology, networking opportunities, and industry leadership skills. This course starts with an overview of some of the historical timelines of esports and provides students with a detailed understanding of the industry's evolution. Additionally, learners will explore the various career opportunities available in the Esports industry and gain a more profound understanding of all aspects of Esports.

WESTERN AREA CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Vocational-Technical Program

www.wactc.net

The Burgettstown Area School District, in cooperation with other school districts, offers to all interested students a program in vocational-technical education for students in grades 10 - 12. Those students who select one of the numerous courses will continue to pursue all academic work at Burgettstown High School but will take the vocational-technical training at Western Area Career & Technology Center, 688 Western Avenue, Canonsburg, PA 15317. Transportation to and from the school on a half-day basis will be provided by the school district. Students who are interested in any of the programs listed below should see the School Counselor for additional information concerning the programs.

Students are required to maintain excellent attendance in order to continue a vocational program at Western Area, in addition to maintaining passing grades in all classes and no discipline issues. Both students and parents must sign a WACTC contract regarding these enrollment requirements.

Western Area Career & Technology Center
Three-Year Programs

Auto Mechanics
Automation & Robotics Engineering Technology
Carpentry
Collision Repair Technology
Computer Networking
Cosmetology
Culinary Arts
Electrical Occupations
EMT Protective Services
Health Assistant
Heating and Air Conditioning
Machine Trades
Masonry
Rehabilitation Aide / Sports Medicine
Welding