



West Essex High School 8th Grade Orientation Night

January 11, 2024

Overview

- ❑ Principal's Introduction
 - ❑ Assistant Principals: Ms. Hoebee & Dr. Westervelt
- ❑ Guidance
- ❑ Advanced Placement
- ❑ Department Supervisors
- ❑ Athletics
- ❑ Questions & Answers

Benefits of Attending WEHS

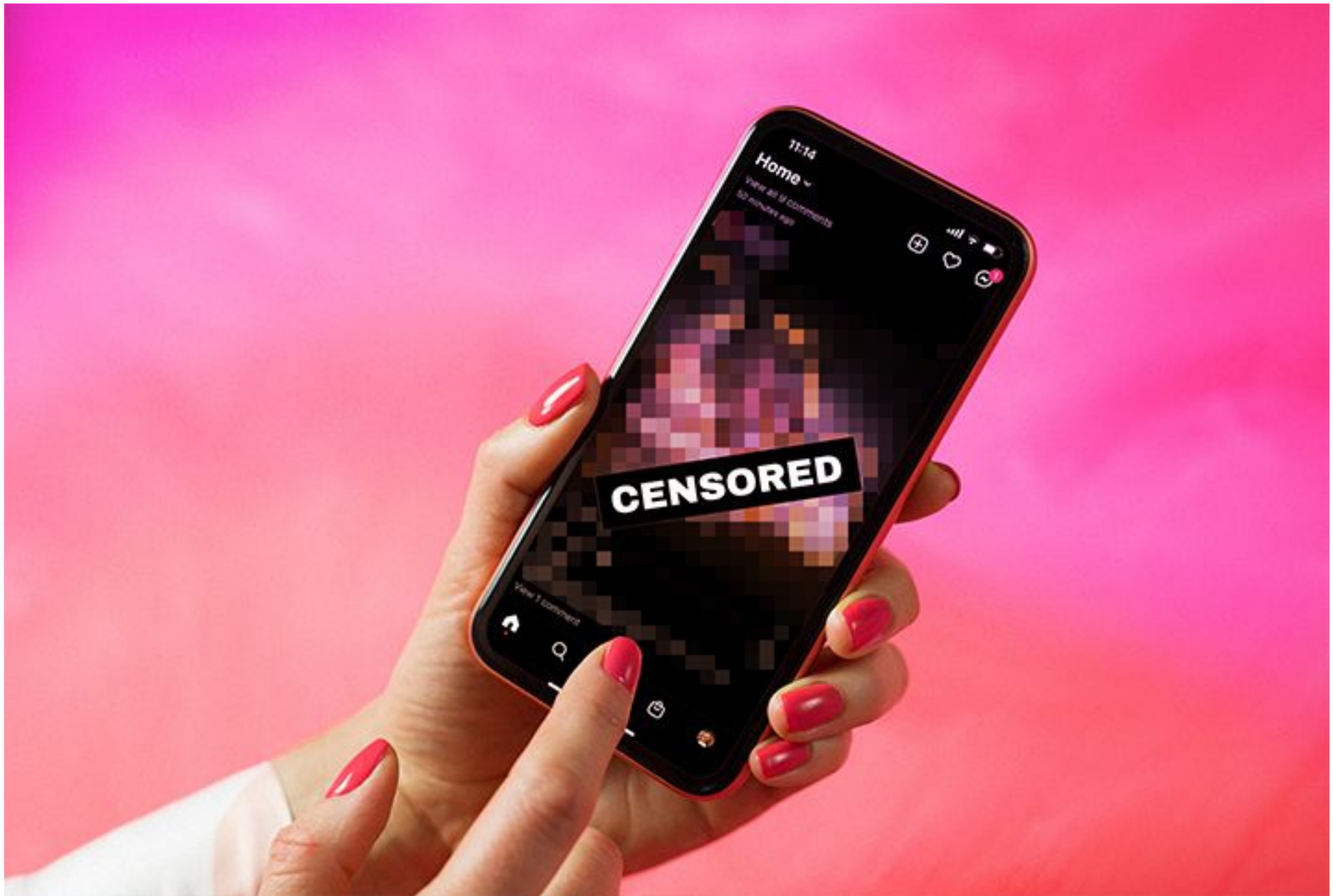
- ❑ Academics
- ❑ Support
 - ❑ Counselors
 - ❑ Peer Leader Program - UKnight
 - ❑ Freshman Orientation & Club Fair - Wednesday, August 21
 - ❑ Academic tutoring
- ❑ Athletics
- ❑ Arts & Music
- ❑ Clubs, Honor Societies, Academic Leagues
- ❑ 1100 Students
- ❑ School Spirit

Preparedness for College and Careers

- ❑ Individualized course of study and high interest electives
- ❑ AP courses
 - ❑ Annually approximately 200+ students take 800+ AP exams across 27 subjects
- ❑ Courses offered for dual credit in association with Syracuse University and Rutgers
- ❑ Off campus vocational programs and cooperative education programs
- ❑ **Highly qualified, passionate faculty and staff**

Major Differences Noticed on Day 1

- ❑ Freedom
- ❑ Higher Expectations
 - ❑ Encourage students to advocate for themselves
 - ❑ Independence
 - ❑ Time management is critical





Everything you post or text is PUBLIC and PERMANENT.

Guidance Department

Lisa Hulse, Director

The Guidance Team

Counselor
Mrs. Kimberly Greulich
Ms. Jessica Pratt
Ms. Samantha Rhinesmith
Mr. Jon Sibilis
Mrs. Crystal Tremaroli

Student Assistance Counselor	Mr. Anthony Emering
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Jessica Curran
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Patty Smith

The Guidance Department keeps you informed



@ wehs_guidance

Make sure to read our monthly newsletters for information, upcoming events, updates, and much more!

Program of Studies 2024-2025

- ❑ Board of Education approved informational booklet for parents and students to reference
 - ❑ Policies and procedures
 - ❑ Course level recommendation procedures
 - ❑ Add/Drop dates and withdrawal procedures
 - ❑ Summer school for remediation and acceleration procedures
 - ❑ Course level change and waiver procedures

Graduation Requirements

4 years of English (Language Arts Literacy) - 20 credits

3 years of Mathematics - 15 credits

3 years of Science (Biology and two additional lab sciences) - 18 credits

3 years of Social Studies: U.S. History - 10 credits, World History - 5 credits

1 year of World Language - 5 credits

1 year of Visual or Performing Arts - 5 credits

1 year of 21st Century Life and Careers - 5 credits

4 years of Health/Physical Education – 20 credits

½ year Financial Literacy - 2.5 credits

Total of 135 Credits

Note: Only courses taken from September of 9th grade through 12th grade count towards high school graduation

NJGPA- New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment: ELA and Math

The Course Selection Process

January

- 8th grade science class visits: **January 22nd and 24th** to discuss the PROGRAM of STUDIES.
- Select elective requests via Course Selection Sheet

February

- Receive an invite for date/time of scheduling conference via USPS mail
- Scheduling Conferences: **February 6th – February 12th**
- 8th grade students & their parents will meet with HS Counselor at the Middle School to discuss course selections.

June

- Students receive their 2024-2025 class schedule on **MOVE UP DAY - Friday, June 7th**
- 8th grade students visit the high school to follow their schedule for upcoming year.

Advanced Placement Program

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program provides motivated students the opportunity to pursue college-level studies while still in HS.

AP students take an end-of-course exam in May to demonstrate college level proficiency and potentially earn college credits.

WEHS offers 27 different AP Courses

9th Grade- 1 AP offering - AP Computer Science Principles

Benefits of AP Courses

College-Ready

- ❑ Transition smoothly to college-level rigor/expectations
- ❑ Earn college credits and/or test out of introductory courses
- ❑ Complete college degree early

Build Skills and Confidence

- ❑ Dive deep into the subjects students love
- ❑ Learn time management and study skills needed at the college level

Strengthen College Application

- ❑ Weighted courses improve GPA
- ❑ Colleges recognize the rigorous schedule

Considerations

Academic interests

Schedule

- ❑ Academic
- ❑ Extracurricular

Consultation with guidance counselor

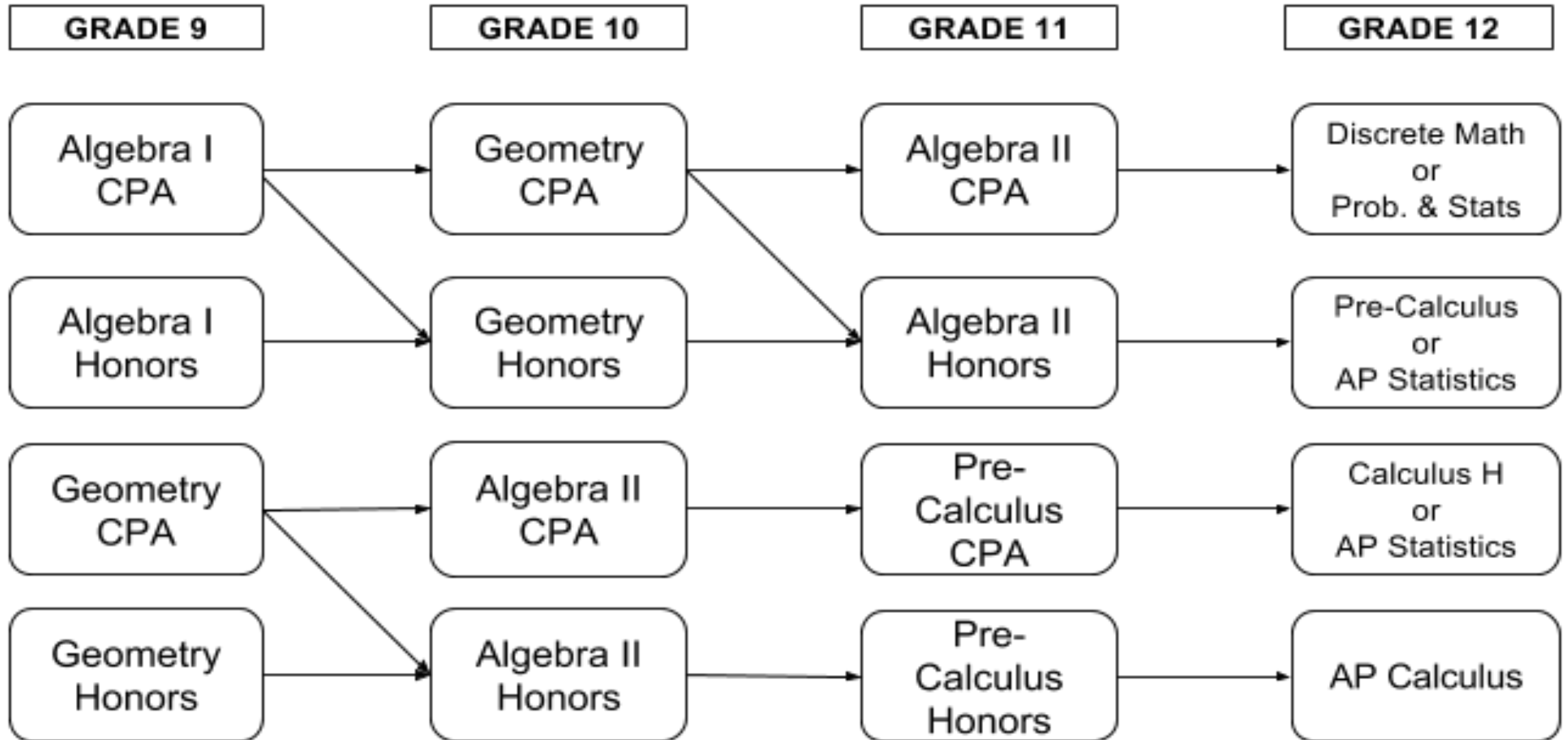
Questions regarding specific AP courses should be directed to the content area supervisors



Mathematics & Business Departments

Greg Aschoff, Supervisor

Math Course Sequence



Mathematics & Business Electives

❑ Mathematics Electives

- ❑ *Intro to Computer Science*
- ❑ *Cybersecurity*
- ❑ *Animation and Game Design*
- ❑ Probability and Statistics
- ❑ SAT Prep (with English)

❑ AP Electives

- ❑ AP Calculus AB
- ❑ AP Calculus BC
- ❑ AP Computer Science A
- ❑ *AP Computer Science Principles*
- ❑ AP Statistics
- ❑ Calculus III (through Syracuse U.)

❑ Business Electives

- ❑ Business Law
- ❑ Business Management
- ❑ *Entrepreneurship*
- ❑ *Digital Marketing and Social Media*
- ❑ Financial Accounting I and II
- ❑ *Introduction to Business and Business Applications*
- ❑ *Personal Finance*
- ❑ *Sports and Entertainment Marketing*
- ❑ Sport Management (through Syracuse U.)

English, Reading, & Libraries

Department

Stacy Casais, Supervisor

English Courses

❑ Required Courses

- ❑ *English I-IV* CPA or Honors

❑ AP Courses

- ❑ AP Language and Compositions (Grade 11)
- ❑ AP Literature and Composition (Grade 12)

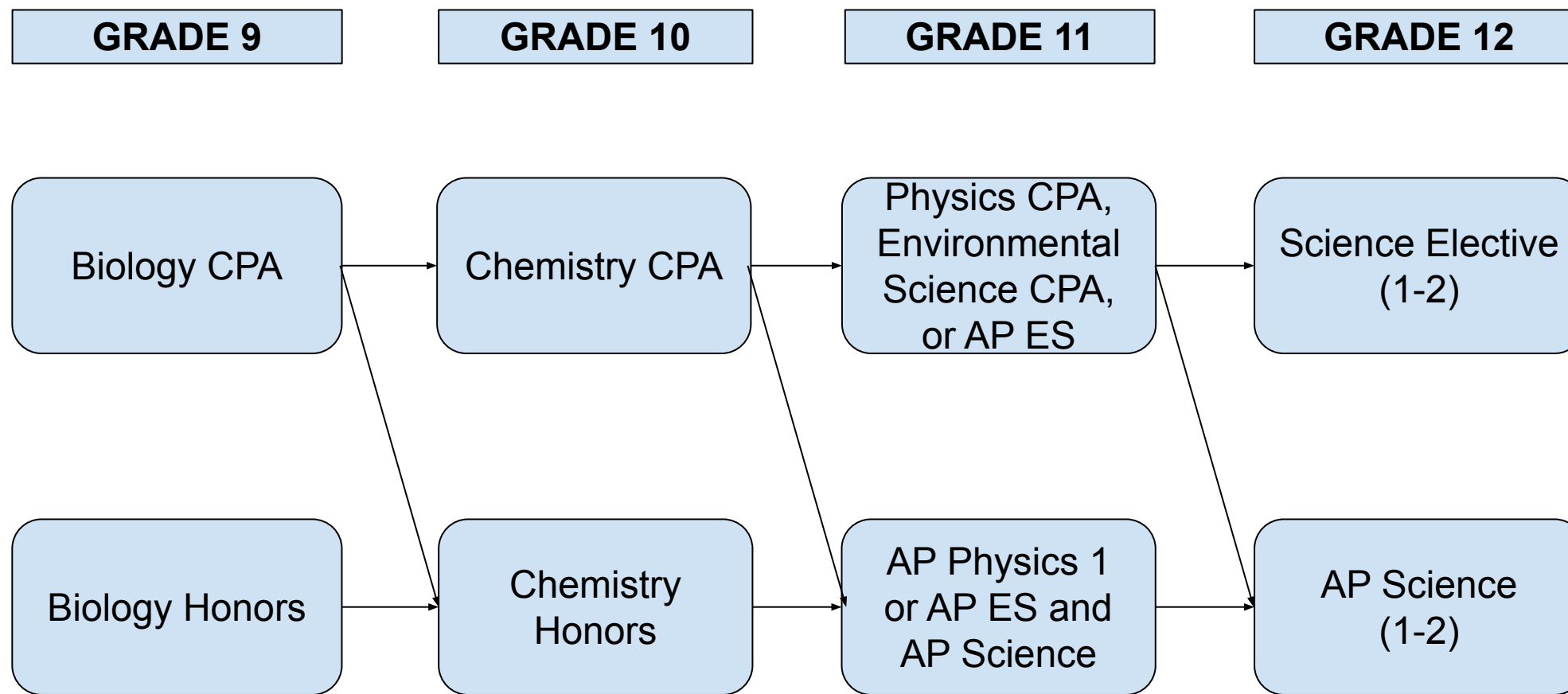
❑ Electives

- ❑ *Creative Writing I and II*
- ❑ *Film Review*
- ❑ *Journalism I, II, III/IV*
- ❑ *Public Speaking*
- ❑ True Crime in Literature and Media Honors
- ❑ SAT/ACT Prep (with math)

Science Department

Jason Lerner, Supervisor

Science Course Sequence



Science Electives

☐ **CPA Electives**

- ☐ Astronomy
- ☐ Forensic Science
- ☐ Marine Science
- ☐ Sports Medicine

☐ **AP Electives**

- ☐ AP Biology
- ☐ AP Chemistry
- ☐ AP Environmental Science
- ☐ AP Physics 1
- ☐ AP Physics 2

☐ **Honors Electives**

- ☐ Anatomy & Physiology
(through Rutgers U.)
- ☐ *Big History*
- ☐ Biotechnology
- ☐ Forensic Science
(through Syracuse U.)

Sample Schedule

	A		B	C	D
Block 1	English I		Personal Finance	Biology	Algebra I
Block 2	Algebra I		English I	Personal Finance	Biology
Block 3	Biology		Algebra I	English I	Personal Finance
Unit Lunch	Lab	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Block 4	Italian I		World History	PE/Health	Computer Graphics I
Block 5	Computer Graphics I		Italian I	World History	PE/Health
Block 6	PE/Health		Computer Graphics I	Italian I	World History



Social Studies & World Languages Departments

Laura Drago, Supervisor

Social Studies Courses

❑ Required Courses

- ❑ *World History CPA & Honors*
- ❑ US History I CPA, H, & AP
- ❑ US History II CPA, H, & AP

❑ AP Electives

- ❑ American Government & Politics
- ❑ European History
- ❑ Human Geography
- ❑ Macro/Micro Economics
- ❑ Psychology

❑ Electives ½ year

- ❑ Constitutional Law
- ❑ *Global Studies*
- ❑ Holocaust & Genocide Studies
- ❑ Pop Culture in American History
- ❑ Social Psychology

World Language Courses

❑ CPA and Honors Courses

- ❑ Chinese I-IV
- ❑ French I-IV
- ❑ Italian I-IV
- ❑ Spanish I-IV

❑ AP Courses

- ❑ Chinese
- ❑ French
- ❑ Italian
- ❑ Spanish

Fine, Performing, and Practical Arts Department

Lisa Swanick, Supervisor

Visual & Performing Arts Courses

Visual Arts

- ❑ *Graphic Design I-II* CPA, III Honors
- ❑ *Digital Photography* CPA
- ❑ *Studio Art I-II* CPA, III-IV Honors
- ❑ Yearbook CPA
- ❑ AP Art History
- ❑ AP Art and Design

Performing Arts

- ❑ *Band* CPA/Honors
- ❑ *Choir (Concert Choir/Treble Choir)* CPA/Honors
- ❑ *Guitar* CPA
- ❑ *Orchestra* CPA/Honors
- ❑ *Theater Arts* CPA
- ❑ *Music Technology* CPA
- ❑ AP Music Theory

21st Century Life & Careers Courses

Technology Education

- ❑ Architectural Design Honors
- ❑ Engineering Design and Robotics Honors
- ❑ *Foundations of Engineering and Architectural Design CPA*
- ❑ Engineering Graphics Honors: 3D Modeling and Rapid Prototyping
- ❑ *Multimedia Design CPA*
- ❑ *Woods Technology I-II CPA, III-IV Honors*

Family and Consumer Science

- ❑ Culinary Arts I-II CPA
- ❑ Culinary Arts II Honors
- ❑ *Fashion Design I CPA*
- ❑ Fashion Design II Honors
- ❑ Food and Sports Nutrition CPA



Physical Education, Health, & Athletics Department

Anthony Minnella, Director

Physical Education

Individual Activities

- Weight Room Levels I-IV
- Aerobic Fitness
- Yoga Levels
- Tennis Levels
- Dance
- Ping Pong
- Pickleball
- Badminton

Team Activities

- Pillo Polo
- Adventure Education
- Football
- Handball
- Basketball
- Frisbee
- Boccer
- Volleyball
- Floor Hockey
- Soccer
- Backyard Games

Health Education

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
MP IV	MP I	MP III	MP II
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alcohol & Substance Abuse• Suicide Prevention• Cyber Bullying• Human Sexuality• Physical Fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NJ Motor Vehicle Driver's Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nutrition• American Red Cross: AED & CPR Certification• Mental Health Disorders• Stress Management & Mindfulness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health & Media Literacy• Adulthood & Personal Care• Independent Living Project

Athletics

West Essex High School offers a variety of sports for boys and girls.

Athletic Experience

- ❑ Winning/Losing
- ❑ Commitment/Responsibility
- ❑ Self-Discipline
- ❑ Self-Confidence

Coaches

- ❑ Instruction
- ❑ Strategy
- ❑ Fitness
- ❑ Sportsmanship

Upcoming Transitional Events

- ❑ Move up Day – Tentatively June 7, 2024
- ❑ Freshman Orientation – Wednesday, August 21, 2024
 - ❑ Freshmen meet peer leaders and peer groups



Questions?