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## Agenda

- SHS Schedule System and Credits
- Graduation Requirements
- Finding Balance & Selecting Courses
- Required 9th Grade Courses
- Course Recommendation Process
- Elective Choices
- Next Steps

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## New to SHS? What to Expect...

Students are building their future from the moment they enter SHS on the first day of school.

For the first time in their academic careers, classes and grades will impact their future graduation and post high school plans.

Ninth grade is a year of adjustment. Students are adapting to a larger school and more responsibilities.

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## Freshmen Crews

- Core content teachers dedicated to teach 9th graders (English, Math, Science and History)
- Collaborate and implement interventions focused on supporting all students through common planning time
- Develop relationships to improve connections
- LIFT (Learning Is Fun Together) after school program

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## SHS Schedule System

- Unlike Gates, the high school is on a semester system. NOT a trimester system.
- A full year class runs first and second semesters.
- A semester class runs either first semester or second semester.
- PE/Health classes run 1 quarter each, making up one semester.

1 quarter + 1 quarter = 1 semester

1 semester + 1 semester = full year

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## Credits

- A credit is a number assigned to the LENGTH of a course.
- A full year class = 4 credits
- A Semester class = 2 credits
- PE/Health = 1 credit
- Students will enroll in 28 credits each year, the equivalent of 7 courses each semester.
- Students must earn a minimum of 96 credits over 4 years to graduate.

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## Sample 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Schedule

Semester 1- (Quarter 1 & 2)	Semester 2 (Quarter 3 & 4)
English 9 (4 credits)	→
Math (4 credits)	→
Biology (4 credits)	→
World History (4 credits)	→
World Language (4 credits)	→
PE/Health (2 credits)	← Additional Course (2 credits)
Additional course/ SUPPORT CLASS (2 credits)	← additional course/ SUPPORT CLASS (2 credits)

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## SHS Graduation Requirements

Students are required to earn 96 credits which must include the following:

A full year class = 4 credits, semester class = 2 credits; PE/Health = 1 credit

English	16 credits
World Language	8 credits
Social Studies	12 credits
Math	16 credits
Science	12 credits
Health and PE	8 credits (4 in Health, 4 in PE)
Fine Arts & Music	4 credits
Additional Courses	20 credits



Every final grade and class counts in a student's GPA.

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## SHS Graduation Requirements

Students must also complete 50 hours of community service.

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Pass the ELA, Math, & Science MCAS tests.

Science (Biology) 9<sup>th</sup>

ELA and Math 10<sup>th</sup>

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## Selecting Courses

1. Students should review the *Scituate High School Program of Studies 2024-2025*. (Students have reviewed elective choices with the SHS School Counselors during their 8<sup>th</sup> grade Wellness classes.)
2. Students should choose courses that are consistent with their needs and goals and the school's expectations, and are strongly encouraged to select a varied program each year from all departments.
3. Read course descriptions carefully as they are the best guide to the subject matter presented and pay attention to the course prerequisite and recommendations that follow each description.

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## Keep In Mind....

*This is the course selection process only. Once selections are made, the master building schedule is built. Once the building schedule is finalized, the students are scheduled into classes. It is important that students make every effort to make their course selections carefully. Please note that all efforts are made to accommodate selections but there is no guarantee that all course requests will be fulfilled.*

Scituate High School reserves the right to withdraw any course due to insufficient enrollment.

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## Keep in Mind, too...

**Students will enter course requests through their STUDENT Aspen portal**

**so**

*It is important to do this together.*

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## What is Required for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Students?

All 9<sup>th</sup> Graders must take the following subjects:

- English 1 (4 credits)
- Mathematics (4 credits) - Geometry
- Biology (4 credits)
- World History (4 credits)
- World Language (French, Mandarin, Spanish) (4 credits)
- Health (#950) and Physical Education (#900) (These classes will automatically be scheduled.) Physical Education and Health classes are quarter classes (1 credit).
- Academic Strategies and support classes (if recommended by teachers) (2 or 4 credits).
- Students will be able to choose up to three electives. Most electives are half-year (2 credit) courses. Refer to the Course Planning Sheet or Program of Studies.

Students must carry 28 credits (7 courses each semester).

SPS has recommended the appropriate course and level for each of their students (Honors or College Preparatory) for core academic classes. These are based on available academic data to best promote academic growth and success for the student.

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## Levels of Instruction

- College Preparatory (CP)
  - Honors (Hon)
- Advanced Placement\* (AP)

\*AP Seminar and AP Computer Science Principles - open to 9th graders

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## Course Level Recommendations

Students have been recommended for the appropriate level for the next year's classes in the core academic subjects.

Students must select these core courses in Aspen if they are a required course for graduation.

Parents/Caregivers wishing to discuss a level are instructed to reach out to the appropriate Department Chair, who will follow up with School Counseling to ensure the correct course is assigned in Aspen.

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## Selecting Courses in Aspen

- Students will choose courses recommended in core academic classes and support classes.
- Students will choose 2-3 electives.
- Students will also choose 3-5 alternates (in rank order).
- Students can add "Notes to Counselor".

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# Setting Realistic Goals

What are my academic & personal goals?

What are my academic strengths and areas of interest?

What are my work habits?

What levels were I recommend for? Why?

What are my extra curricular activities and obligations?

What is realistic for me?




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## 9th Grade Elective Choices

**Electives Available To 9th Grade Students**  
 \*\* Please see the [LMS Program of Study](#) for all course descriptions \*\*

Name of Course	Course #	Credits
Businessment & Event Marketing	332	2
Sports Marketing	305	2
Public Marketing & Merchandising	333	2
Management & Event Management	347	2

Name of Course	Course #	Credits
Public Speaking & Devotional Presentations	194	2
Items to Narration	197	2

Name of Course	Course #	Credits
Experimental Foods	500	2

Name of Course	Course #	Credits
Items to Art* Recommended entry point	802	2
2D Art I* After completing Items to Art	824	2
2D Art I* After completing Items to Art	820	2

Name of Course	Course #	Credits
Chemical	860	4
Biophysics: Basic - Chicago Prep (CP)	850	4
Biophysics: Basic - Illinois	851	4
Music Performance (Alternative between Chorus and band, instrumental - Illinois)	846	4
Music I-III	878	2
Music Technology I	875	2
Music Technology	873	2

Name of Course	Course #	Credits
AP Seminar	667	4

Name of Course	Course #	Credits
AP Computer Science Principles	275	4
2D Computer Engineering	250	2

Name of Course	Course #	Credits
Fundamentals of Technical Drawing and Modeling	592/593	2
PLTW Intro to Engineering Design	581	4
Robotics 1: Mechatronics	590/596	2
Robotics 2: Automation	591	2

Name of Course	Course #	Credits
Spanish - Level, Novice Level	427	4
French - Level 1, Novice Level	401	4
Italian - Level, Novice Level	400	4

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## Next Steps:

- Review [Program of Studies](#) and [Course Planning Sheet](#) with your student.
- Consider course level placements and discuss levels with Department Chairs, if applicable.
- Work with your student to enter course selections in ASPEN - core and elective choice options (2-3 elective choices) as well as 5 alternate choices.
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## What's the timeline?

<b>March 4- March 15</b>	<b>Students enter requests through Aspen.</b>
<b>May 15</b>	<b>SHS tours for students</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Course Lists Released</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>Schedules Released</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>9th Grade Orientation</b>

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