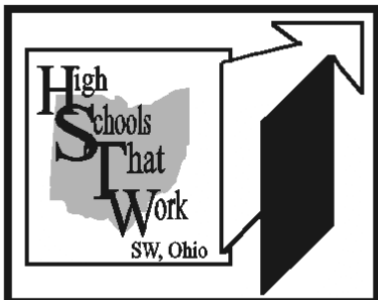


Talawanda High School



Scheduling Guide 2025-2026



**Course Descriptions
Career & College Planning Information**

Talawanda High School

Career Planner & Course Scheduling Guide

2025-26

Introduction

Dear Talawanda High School Parents and Students,

Welcome to academic scheduling and career planning for the 2025-26 school year. The process of planning your academic program is one of the most important tasks you will perform during your high school years. The courses you take are not merely classes required to graduate from high school, but opportunities to prepare yourself for higher learning, the workforce, and success in life. The courses you select should reflect your current interests as well as future goals.

This guide serves two purposes. First, it is a tool to help you identify career goals and plan an academic program of studies to support you in reaching those goals. Secondly, it is the process by which you select and sign up for your classes for next year. It is important that students include their parents to carefully review the contents of this guide and follow the instructions listed below. We have provided many steps along the way for you to ask questions and receive assistance from counselors and teachers as you plan your educational program.

In order to best complete this process, we strongly recommend that you review the current graduation requirements for your graduating class as these change frequently. Be mindful of scheduling timelines and deadlines. Review career clusters as part of your ongoing college/career process and use these clusters as you select your elective courses. Finally, complete the Course Registration Form (handed out separately) and be sure to have a parent/guardian sign off on your selections. This completed form will be used for individual scheduling meetings with your school counselor and kept on file for one year.

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THE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Talawanda High School offers approximately 100 different courses designed to meet the needs of the entire student population. In addition to courses offered at the high school, a wide variety of programs are provided for 10th, 11th and 12th grade students at Butler Technology and Career Development Schools as well as College Credit Plus classes. If you have questions about any of these courses or your graduation requirements do not hesitate to contact your school counselor.

Talawanda High School Course Requirements:

Core Courses:	Unique Requirements:	Electives:
4 English 4 Math 3 Social Studies 3 Science	½ Health Education ½ Physical Education ½ Financial Literacy ½ College & Career Readiness	1 Fine Art 3.0 Elective Credits 20 Total Credits *Minimum*

In addition to Course Requirements, students will be required to Demonstrate Competency (as defined by the Ohio Department of Education), and Demonstrate Readiness (as defined by the Ohio Department of Education). THS School Counselors will work individually with students and families to ensure that these graduation requirements are clearly articulated and that a graduation plan exists for each student.

ACADEMIC OPTIONS

CREDIT FLEXIBILITY

Talawanda School District supports effective educational programs that provide opportunities for students to customize aspects of their learning around their needs and interests. By giving students choice, Credit Flexibility has the potential to increase authentic student engagement. Credit Flexibility is designed to broaden the scope of curricular options available to students, increase the depth of study possible for a particular subject, and allow the tailoring of learning time and/or condition. It removes time from the academic equation and puts mastery as the determining factor for awarding credit.

Credit Flexibility is intended to motivate and increase student learning by allowing:

- Access to more resources, especially real-world experiences.
- Customization around individual student needs.
- Use of multiple measures of learning, especially those where students demonstrate what they know and can do, apply learning, or document performance.

Students may earn initial credit by:

- Completing traditional coursework.
- “Testing out” through a grade of 80% or better.
- Completing an Individually Designed Plan (a course a student designs).
- Pursuing an Educational Option including but not limited to, distance learning, online education, independent study, or correspondence courses. Online learning providers and correspondence course providers must be approved by Talawanda School District. An approved list may be obtained from the Talawanda High School Guidance Office.

PASS-FAIL PROGRAM

The option to take a class on a “pass-fail” basis instead of the traditional A, B, C grading system is offered to students so they can take a course without receiving the traditional grade. Only elective courses can be taken on a pass/fail basis. Students must meet all requirements for such courses including completion of tests/assignments, motivation, self-improvement, attendance, behavior, participation, and earnest effort in the course, as they would be for a graded class. Only one (1) credit or less can be taken on a pass/fail basis.

COURSE AUDIT

Course audit affords an opportunity for students to expand their inquiry into particular areas of the THS curriculum. Only elective courses can be audited during the academic year. Credit is not issued to students in the audit program. Lab or studio courses requiring active participation of students in limited space may not be audited until all students taking the course for credit have been assigned. Student expectations in the areas of completion of tests/assignments, motivation, self-improvement, attendance, behavior, participation, and earnest effort in the course will be the same as for those students in credit courses. Only one (1) credit or less can be taken on an audit basis per academic year.

TALAWANDA-BASED ONLINE COURSES

Online coursework, typically for credit-recovery, is self-directed between the student and Teacher of Record (TOR). Students must schedule a period during the school day for an online class. Only one online class can be taken at a time per period. Online courses may not be used for acceleration or early graduation unless approved by a parent/guardian, school counselor, and administrator.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION OPTIONS

Students who successfully complete two full seasons of interscholastic athletics, marching band, or cheerleading may be excused from the high school Physical Education requirement. The PE Waiver form should be turned into the Talawanda High School Athletic Office after the second full season is completed. Students will not receive PE credit under this option; rather, their transcript will read “PE Waiver” with no letter grade calculating into their GPA.

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS

College Credit Plus is a program designed to promote rigorous academic pursuits and to provide a wide variety of options to students. Eligible students will have the opportunity to earn both high school and college credit through eligible post-secondary institutions, including community colleges, post-secondary career-technical institutions, state universities, and private colleges. A mandatory information session will be hosted by the School Counseling Department. Students must notify their school counselor of their intent to participate by March 30th as well as complete the appropriate application process established by each area college/university in order to apply. PLEASE NOTE: As per current Ohio DOE Guidelines for CCP; these courses will be weighted at the same level as the highest THS course within the same discipline and earn 1.0 credits to be placed on the high school transcript. Also, no more than 30 credit hours total may be earned between CCP and THS courses (including summer) each year.

THE TALAWANDA OHIO TRANSFER 36 CURRICULUM



Talawanda High School

Ohio Transfer 36 Certificate (OTM) Course Schedule

Recommended Honors Track for OT36 Completers	
Grade 9*	ART or MUS Course (either semester)
Grade 10**	HST 111 (American History) HST 112 (American History)
	BIO 111 (Biology: Unity of Life) BIO 112 (Biology: Diversity of Life)
	Language 101
Grade 11	ENG 101 (English Composition) ENG 104 (Technical Writing)
	POL 101 (American Government) ECO 105 (Microeconomics)
	Language 102
Grade 12	MAT 251 or MAT 131
	Literature Option PSY 110 (Intro to Psych)

* Freshman student must have at least one high school level course successfully complete to be eligible for ART/MUS

** Sophomore student must be enrolled in honors English II to be eligible for HST 111/112 and BIO 111/112

NOTE: Many offerings can be flexed to various grade levels. Additionally, AP courses can be used as substitutes in certain areas as well!



OT36 Certificate Requirements
English Composition (2)
Math (1)
Social Sciences (2)
Nat/Phys Sciences (2)
Arts/Humanities (2)
OT36 Electives (3)

CRITERIA FOR DIPLOMA WITH HONORS

The Ohio Department of Education awards a Diploma with Honors to students who complete a rigorous program of studies. The completion of these requirements is optional and not required for graduation from high school. For the updated listing of requirements for each of the five options, click [HERE](#). Please note that the STEM, Arts, and Social Science/Civic Engagement options require a Field Experience and Portfolio (using the Credit Flex process). School counselors will assist families interested in pursuing a Diploma with Honors.

NCAA/NAIA ELIGIBILITY

Students desiring to play interscholastic athletics at the Division I, II, or NAIA levels in college **MUST** be declared eligible through the [NCAA Eligibility Center](#) or the [NAIA Eligibility Center](#). Please visit these websites and see your school counselor for more information.

THS GRADING SCALE

College Prep		Honors		Advanced Placement	
A	4.0	A	4.5	A	5.0
B	3.0	B	3.5	B	4.0
C	2.0	C	2.5	C	3.0
D	1.0	D	1.0	D	1.0

HONORS CRITERIA

At the conclusion of each quarter, Talawanda High School will recognize those students who have achieved at the highest levels of academic achievement. All students earning a weighted 3.50 or higher will be recognized.

For graduation purposes – students, at the conclusion of the 7th semester, will be recognized (as per school board policy/guidelines) as follows:

cum laude: 3.800-3.999; magna cum laude: 4.000 – 4.199; and summa cum laude: 4.200 & above

NOTE: Those students earning the distinction of summa cum laude will be invited to participate in an end of year celebration as part of the graduating class festivities.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Advanced Placement Course- Advanced Placement (AP) courses are similar to Honors, but are designed to prepare students to pass the AP test for college credit. AP courses follow a prescribed AP curriculum.

Credits- Credits are based on Carnegie units of credit. In almost all cases, a course that lasts one full school year (two semesters) will receive one (1) credit. Courses that last one semester are worth one-half credit (.5). The exceptions to this are: Physical Education- The State of Ohio has mandated that one semester of PE shall earn one-quarter credit (.25); therefore, two semesters of PE will be required to meet the graduation requirements of .5 credits.

College Prep Courses- All Talawanda classes are college prep courses, designed to prepare students for a two or four-year, post-secondary course of study.

Elective Course- Elective courses are not necessarily identified as graduation requirements.

Extra Time/Extra Help (ET/EH)- Extra Time/Extra Help is a guided study hall that can be assigned as an alternative to study hall. Students work with academic teachers on homework, test preparation, organizational skills, and general help as needed. Students are assigned on an as needed basis and will be expected to meet certain criteria to remain in ET/EH instead of a study hall. Students who have a study hall can attend ET/EH for academic assistance on an as needed basis.

Honors Course- Honors courses are designed to challenge a student's academic knowledge and abilities. These courses cover much of the same material as regular classes, but more rapidly and with greater depth of understanding.

Required Course- A required course is one that must be successfully completed in order to meet Talawanda and the State of Ohio graduation requirements.

Prerequisites- A prerequisite is a condition that must be met before a student may enroll in a certain course. Prerequisites are listed at the end of each course description. Prerequisites exist to help insure the success of students in selected classes.

Career/Technical Course- A class that is part of a course of study that prepares students to enter the world of work with a specific skill or certification. Courses are offered at Butler Technology and Career Development School campuses as well as Butler Tech programs at Talawanda High School.

SCHEDULING CHANGES AND PROCEDURES

1. Students currently in 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th grade should register for a minimum of six classes each semester. Athletes must be taking and passing with a 2.0 average a minimum of five-1/2 credit classes each semester to remain eligible during their season. Students can register for no more than one study hall/ETEH each semester.
2. Students must meet graduation requirements for any given year before scheduling elective courses.
3. Students should indicate alternative elective courses on their registration sheet. These will be used to complete student schedules if the first-choice elective is unavailable.
4. Policies for changing a student's schedule are listed below. Changes to a schedule must be made by the end of the second week of each semester and may require a parent signature. Students may:
 - A. change their schedule in order to take courses necessary for graduation or college
 - B. change their schedule if the original or alternate course requests were not scheduled correctly
 - C. withdraw from a course after the second week of the semester. However, they will receive a semester grade of "WF" which will be computed in the grade point average (GPA).
 - D. change the academic level (i.e. college prep, honors) of a class after consultation with parent, school counselor, and teacher. This should occur within the first two weeks of the semester.

COURSE LOAD REQUIREMENTS

Full time students are required to take a minimum of six (6) courses per semester, five (5) of which must be .5 credits. Only students enrolled in College Credit Plus, Credit Flexibility or work-study programs may deviate from this requirement.

EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Participation in extracurricular activities provides students with extended experiences beyond the classroom. In addition, they are FUN! If you are not a member of an extracurricular activity we encourage you to investigate the organizations listed below. The admission offices of colleges and universities, technical and vocational schools, all branches of the military, AND employers like to see resumes that show students have been a member of clubs and organizations. This is where you learn important skills such as: teamwork, cooperation in a group setting, and communication skills. A whole new world will open up to you through your involvement in extracurricular activities. We want you to get involved. Your participation and talents are needed at THS!

Clubs

Academic Challenge Team	National Honor Society (NHS)
Diversity Club	Key Club
Chess Club	Mock Trial
Youth Initiative Team (Y.I.T.)	“Fermata Nowhere” A Capella Group
Drama Club	Student Council
The Setting Stone (liberal arts magazine)	THS Talawanda Tribune (newspaper)
Art Club	Best Buddies
Fellowship of Christian Athletes	Project Green

Athletic Organizations

GIRLS

Cross Country (F)
Volleyball (F)
Soccer (F)
Golf (F)
Tennis (F)
Cheerleading (F, W)
Swimming/Diving (W)
Basketball (W)
Bowling (W)
Wrestling (W)
Softball (S)
Track & Field (S)

BOYS

Cross Country (F)
Football (F)
Soccer (F)
Golf (F)
Swimming/Diving (W)
Wrestling (W)
Basketball (W)
Bowling (W)
Tennis (S)
Track & Field (S)
Baseball (S)

Co-Curricular

Jazz Band	Marching Band	Concert Winds
Orchestra	Steel Band	Concert Choir
Show Choir	Vox Femina	Chamber Singers
Talawanda Tribune (Yearbook)	Red Cross Club	National FFA
Families, Careers, & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)		

Butler Technology and Career Development Schools 2025-26

Sophomore 3-Year Programs

D. Russel Lee	<u>10th Grade Career Exploration Academy</u> <u>Aviation: 3-Year Program</u> <u>Engineering: 3-Year Program</u> <u>Information Technology: 3-Year Program</u> <u>Precision Machining: 3-Year Program</u> <u>Welding: 3-Year Program</u>
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Junior 2 - Year Programs

Bioscience Center (4)	<u>Dental Science</u> <u>Exercise Science</u> <u>Healthcare Science</u> <u>Biomedical Science</u>
D. Russel Lee	<u>Automotive Technology</u> <u>Aviation</u> <u>Business</u> <u>Construction</u> <u>Cosmetology</u> <u>Criminal Justice</u> <u>Culinary Arts</u> <u>Digital Media</u> <u>Firefighting Technology</u> <u>Graphic Design</u> <u>Information Technology</u> <u>Mechatronics</u> <u>Welding Technology</u>
Natural Science Center	<u>Equine Science</u> <u>Veterinary Science</u> <u>Green Engineering</u>
School of the Arts	<u>Dance</u> <u>Visual Art & Design</u> <u>Theatre</u> <u>Recording Arts</u>

Senior 1-Year Programs

D. Russel Lee	<u>EMT and Beyond: One-Year Program</u>
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OTC+ Programs

LeSourdsville	Welding State Tested Nurse Aide (STNA) & Phlebotomy Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA)
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All of the above programs are certified College Tech Prep and prepare students for technical occupations of the future. This education option combines secondary and higher education leading to an associate degree or beyond. College Tech Prep curriculum provides advanced competencies in math, science, communication, and technology. It integrates academic, occupational, and employability competencies at all educational levels. The competencies are sequenced to allow a seamless transition from high school to college.

Minimum College Tech Prep Enrollment Recommendations

- Junior standing (or sophomore standing for the 10th grade academy – limited seats)
- 90% attendance rate preferred

Course Descriptions

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Agricultural Education is a state career-technical funded part of our curriculum. In order to receive full credit in an Agricultural Education course a student must: 1) complete both semesters 2) conduct a Supervised Agricultural Experience program (SAE project) involving approval of both the student, their parent/guardian, and their Agricultural Education instructor 3) participate in a minimum of five (5) FFA activities each quarter. Fee: \$25.00 per year. Please note: Industry Credentialing is available! Please see the instructors for the details. This credentialing serves as an alternate pathway towards graduation. Required courses for this pathway: AFNR, Mechanical, & Animal Science

Course Descriptions:

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) (9th) 2 semesters 1.00 credit

This is an introduction course to Agricultural and Environmental Systems. Students will examine principles of food science, natural resource management, animal science & management, plant & horticultural science, power technology, and bioscience. Students will be introduced to the FFA organization and will begin their required Supervised Agricultural Experience project. Throughout the course, students will develop communication, leadership and business skills essential to career success. Fees: \$25 FFA dues.

Prerequisite: none.

Plant & Horticultural Science (10th-12th grade) (CCP) 2 semesters 1.00 credit

This course focuses on the knowledge and skills required to research, develop, produce and market agricultural, horticultural, and native plants and plant products. Students will apply principles of plant physiology and anatomy, plant protection and health, reproductive biology in plants, plant nutrition and disorders to the management of soils and plants. Throughout the course, students will learn communication, leadership, and business management skills reflective of the industry. This course has an opportunity for dual enrollment credit through Cincinnati State. Fees: \$25 FFA dues.

Prerequisite: None

Animal Science (10th - 12th grade) (CCP) 2 semesters 1.00 credit

Students will identify and apply principles and routine husbandry practices to production animal populations. Topics will include principles of nutrition, feed utilization, animal welfare, selection and management of facilities and herd populations. Students will apply knowledge of production animal care to enhance animal growth, selection of breeding stock, and management practices. Throughout the course, students will develop management plans reflecting practices for care and legal compliance. This course has an opportunity for dual enrollment credit through Southern State Community College. Fees: \$25 FFA dues.

Prerequisite: none

Mechanical Principles (11th & 12th grade) 2 semesters 1.00 credit

Students will engage in the mechanical principles utilized in animal and plant production systems. They will learn electrical theory, design, wiring, hydraulic and pneumatic theory, along with metallurgy in relation to hot and cold metals. Students will apply knowledge of sheet metal fabrication applicable to the agricultural industry along with identify, diagnose, and maintain small air-cooled engines. Throughout the course, students will learn critical components of site and personal safety as well as communication and leadership skills. Fees: \$25 FFA dues.

Prerequisite: Completion of at least one Agricultural Education Course

Agricultural Business Management (11th & 12th grade) (CCP) 2 semesters 1.00 credit

Students will examine elements of business, identify organizational structures and apply management skills while developing business plans, financial reports and strategic goals for new ventures or existing businesses. Learners will use marketing concepts to evaluate the marketing environment and develop a marketing plan with marketing channels, product approaches, promotion and pricing strategies. Throughout the course, students will apply concepts of ethics and professionalism while implications of business regulations will be identified. This course has an opportunity for dual enrollment credit through Southern State Community College. Fees: \$25 FFA dues. Prerequisite: none

Agriculture & Environmental Capstone (12th grade) 2 semesters 1.00 credit

Students apply Agricultural and Environmental Systems program knowledge and skills in a more comprehensive and authentic way. Capstones are project/problem-based learning opportunities that occur both in and away from school. Under supervision of the school and through partnerships, students combine classroom learning with work experience to benefit themselves and others. These can take the form of mentorship employment, cooperative education, apprenticeships and internships. Fees: \$25 FFA dues. Prerequisite: Completion of at least one Agricultural Education Course

Food Science & Technology (10th – 12th Grade) 2 semesters 1.00 credit

Students will examine the research, marketing, processing and packaging techniques applied to the development of food products. Learners will examine nutrient content and their chemical makeup, while applying principles of chemistry to the development of food products. They will examine and implement food safety, sanitation, and quality assurance protocols. Government regulations and food legislation will be examined and the implications to food science and technology will be identified. Fees \$25 FFA dues. Prerequisite: none

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) 2 semesters .25 credit

Would you like to learn about agriculture in real-life settings outside the school day? SAE is an opportunity for a yearlong exploration of agricultural careers or fields of interest by conducting hands-on research and/or projects. Through SAE students design their personal program around their interests. Programs may include: Raising animals or plants (at home or in school facility), job placement, conducting research projects, job shadowing, volunteering in the community, computer-based research projects, mentorships, or field trips. Fees: none. Prerequisite: ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AN AG COURSE MUST REGISTER FOR THIS COURSE.

ART

The visual arts provide a rich source of information about our world and us. Art is a mode of inquiry and expression that helps people communicate ideas that cannot be captured in words alone. Students will increase their understanding of historical and cultural influences that have impacted societies, past and present. They will develop their abilities to interpret and communicate visually, thereby, developing their competencies in perceiving, problem solving and technical proficiency. Creativity and the holistic development of the individual are emphasized in all art courses.

Talawanda High School provides students with a variety of course offerings. Study may include a sequential program of up to four years of general art. Introduction to Art is open to students without a prerequisite to meet their Fine Arts requirement. Individuals successfully completing Introduction to Art may continue to intermediate and advanced courses. Admission to the advanced course (Honors Art) is based on junior/senior standing, successful completion of a minimum of two intermediate courses and recommendation from previous art teachers.

Course Descriptions:

Introduction to Art

1 semester 1/2 credit

This course is open to all students without previous art experience. It approaches the study of art as a means for introducing students to the Elements of Art: line, value, texture, shape, color, space and form, and the Principles of Design. Students will work on projects in both 2D and 3D media. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisite: None.

2D Art

1 semester 1/2 credit

This course explores the foundational skill of drawing, painting, and printmaking. Building off knowledge acquired in the beginning art courses, students will further their studies with an in-depth look at the intermediate drawing, painting, and printmaking skills, techniques, and media. Media will include all 2D media, for example all drawing, painting, and printmaking media will be explored. Projects become successively more complex, beginning with simple forms and ending with more complicated studies. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisite: C or better in Intro to Art or Grade 10-12

3D Art

1 semester 1/2 credit

This course explores the foundational skill of building forms three-dimensionally. Building off knowledge acquired in the beginning art course, students will further their studies with an in-depth look at the exploration of 3D media including, but not limited to: clay, cardboard, papier-mâché, fabric, wire, etc. Projects become successively more complex, beginning with simple forms and ending with more complicated studies. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisite: Grade 10-12

Ceramics I

1 semester 1/2 credit

This course explores the foundational skills of building forms 3D in clay. This semester course is an in-depth exploration of clay as a medium for creating functional ceramic forms. Students will learn coil building, pinch and slab construction, and be introduced to wheel throwing, surface decoration, and glazing techniques. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisite: Grade 10-12

Ceramics II

1 semester 1/2 credit

This semester course is a further exploration of the concepts and techniques learned in Ceramics I. Students will spend most of the semester developing their hand building and wheel throwing skills. They will also be introduced to clay bodies and glaze chemistry. In addition, Ceramics II students will take some responsibility for studio maintenance: helping with reclaiming clay, mixing glazes, loading and firing kilns, etc. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisite: C or better in Ceramics I.

Advanced Ceramics

1 semester 1/2 credit

This semester course will allow students to further their understanding of concepts and techniques learned in Ceramics I and II. More individual projects will be completed as students specialize in more advanced artistic methods. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisite: C or better in Ceramics II

Jewelry/Metals I

1 semester 1/2 credit

The course in Jewelry is a concentrated skill-based approach to jewelry design and metalworking. Students will master basic jewelry construction and techniques, including: sawing, wire bending, single and multiple soldering, bezel stone mounting and the finishing processes. Students will create multiple jewelry pieces; among these will be wire necklace, a pendant, band ring, and enameled pieces. A lab fee is required for this course. Jewelry/Metals II may be taken once level I has been successfully passed.

Prerequisite: Grade 10-12

Digital Media

1 semester 1/2 credit

Digital Media is an art class that introduces students to using technology for creating artwork and other productions. A big portion of the class is devoted to digitally drawing, painting, graphic design, and photo editing. The principles of photography such as composition, lighting, and depth of field will be explored. Students need to own or borrow a digital camera, smartphone, or other device that takes digital pictures. A variety of chromebook apps will be used for graphic design, image editing, and creating digital artwork.

Prerequisite: Grade 10-12

AP Studio Art

2 semesters 1 credit

The Honors and AP Studio Art courses are designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art and wish to develop a focus in the concept, composition, and execution of their ideas. All the classes meet during the same class period. All levels work toward the development of a comprehensive portfolio that meet requirements for entry into college-level classes. Students will develop technical skills and familiarize themselves with the functions of visual elements as they create an individual portfolio of work for evaluation. AP Studio Art College Credit from the College Board is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year. In building the portfolio, it should reflect these three areas of concern: quality, concentration, and breadth. Students in AP Studio Art must submit a portfolio to the College Board at the end of the year. A lab fee is required for each semester.

Prerequisite: 11th/12th Grade; Honors/AP Application

AP Studio Art: 2D Design: Students will demonstrate their understanding of the Principles of Design (unity, balance, emphasis, contrast, rhythm, pattern, proportion/scale) through exploring 2D design issues, as they relate to the integration of color, value, line, texture, shape, and space. They will demonstrate mastery through any two-dimensional medium or process including, but not limited to, graphic design, digital imaging, photography, collage, fabric design, fashion design, illustration, painting, and printmaking. As the student creates an individual portfolio of work for evaluation at the end of the course, it includes three sections totaling approximately 24 artworks. Images from sketchbooks and detail images of artworks can also be used for the portfolio.

AP Studio Art: 3D Design: Students will demonstrate their understanding of the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design, through exploring sculptural issues and understanding 3-D design principles as they relate to the integration of depth and space, volume, and surface. They will demonstrate mastery through any three-dimensional approach, such as figurative or nonfigurative sculpture, architectural models, metal work, ceramics, installation, assemblage, and 3-D fabric/fiber arts. As the student creates an individual portfolio of work for evaluation at the end of the course, it includes three sections totaling approximately 24 artworks. Images from sketchbooks and detail images of artworks can also be used for the portfolio.

AP Studio Art: Drawing: Students will demonstrate their understanding of composition and the development and execution of their personal ideas in drawing. Students will explore drawing issues including line quality, light and shade, rendering of form, composition, surface manipulation, the illusion of depth and mark making. Drawing can be addressed through a wide range of media that include, but not limited to, traditional drawing media, painting, printmaking, digital drawing, and combinations of media. Abstract, observational, and nonobjective works may be completed as part of the drawing portfolio. As the student creates an individual portfolio of work for evaluation at the end of the course, it includes three sections totaling approximately 24 artworks. Images from sketchbooks and detail images of artworks can also be used for the portfolio.

Art 110 Introduction to Art (9-12th) (CCP)

1 semester

1 credit

Study of visual artistic expression in Western culture from ancient times to the present. Topics include: examining painting, sculpture, architecture, and other media for their style, function, and relationship to the historical and cultural developments of the period.

Prerequisites: None

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Today's society is rapidly becoming more and more information oriented. To be a successful member of a technological, computerized society students will need to know how to process and store both informational data and financial information in accepted, standardized ways. The business and technology courses offered by Talawanda High School afford our students an introduction to the business social sciences, help prepare them for a job, enrich college bound students, and ensure success in both their future careers and personal lives.

The earliest availability of elective courses would be:

Grade 9

Economics
Broadcast Journalism
Entrepreneurship
Game Design & Programming I
IT Fundamentals ** CCP
Fund of Web Development ** CCP

Grade 10

Game Design & Programming II ** CCP
Digital Publications: Yearbook
Database Management ** CCP
Computer Programming ** CCP
Systems Administration ** CCP

Grade 11 & 12

Financial Literacy
Bus/Tech Capstone (Honors)
Microeconomics **CCP

Course Descriptions:

Broadcast Journalism

2 semesters 1 credit

The focus of this class is to introduce the student to the various methods and practices of video production, with an emphasis on distribution to digital platforms. Producing the Daily News, special segments, and reporting current events are all portions of the class. The students will gain experience with different kinds of audio and video capture equipment along with the supporting hardware and software that goes along with producing and hosting media digitally. The students will be producing different kinds of school and sports media, as well as other Live Streamed community activities using methods and practices they learn in the classroom. Students will develop reporting, interviewing, and storytelling skills and learn how to write and deliver quality news content across platforms. This class will require work outside of regular class hours to meet deadlines or attend events. Prerequisite: Application-based and approval by instructor

Economics

1 semester 1/2 credit

Economics is designed to introduce and provide students with the knowledge of how economics works and its influence on the national, state, local levels, as well as the individual. Units that are covered include: Thinking Like an Economist; Understanding the Markets; Business and Labor; Money, Banking, and Finance; Economic Performance; Government and the Economy; and The Global Economy. Prerequisite: none

Principles of Microeconomics (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

Study of basic concepts of microeconomics. Topics include: supply and demand, equilibrium processes, consumer choice, firm pricing and output behavior, industry structure, government antitrust regulation, externalities, economic welfare, and income distribution. Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II with "B" or better or concurrently enrolled in Algebra II

Entrepreneurship

1 semester 1/2 credit

Entrepreneurship is a course designed to develop an understanding of what it takes to own and operate a business in today's society. Students will learn about foundational aspects of entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship is also taught as a way of thinking and acting. Students are taught to observe the world around them and close in on opportunities that present themselves. Entrepreneurship is designed to know oneself and develop the mindsets and methods to pursue and create something new. Prerequisite: none.

Game Design & Programming I

1 semester 1/2 credit

In this course, the students will focus on issues in the industry that not only relate to our society as a whole, but the issue of games in general - what makes them fun, how they are marketed, the history of games, etc. In addition, the majority of the class will cover programming basic games from the ground up to give the students a rudimentary understanding of programming languages. Starting with Pong style games and eventually working up to side scrollers and mazes. The game engine used is based on a scripting language that builds techniques that can be transferred to any other programming language such as Python, Java and C++. Prerequisite: none.

Game Design & Programming II (CCP)

1 semester 1/2 credit

Students will continue the work they have started in Game Design & Programming I. The majority of the class will cover the extension of programming games from the ground up to give the student an increased understanding of how programming works in three dimensions using the Unity game design engine. The language used is C#, the most widely used introduction into actual industry programming languages in game design. Starting with a game that was built first in GD&P I, this class will redesign that game in 3D and move onto more complicated gaming environments. Prerequisite: B or better in GD&P I

Financial Literacy ** GRADUATION REQUIREMENT**

1 semester 1/2 credit

Financial Literacy is designed to introduce and provide students with the basis for preparing for real-life aspects related to their money. This class will inform students of their rights and responsibilities and present them with real-life situations and how to manage making knowledgeable decisions to be successful with their money. Units covered include: Managing Careers and Money, Managing Credit, Managing Resources, Providing Financial Security, and Risk Management. Students will gain the knowledge to better prepare themselves for what they should be doing now and what they should think and do in the future with their finances. Prerequisite: Grades 11 or 12

Digital Publications: Yearbook

2 semesters 1 credit

Digital Publications involves creating the yearbook for Talawanda High School. Students will be responsible for learning to use and maintaining all photo equipment as well as our photo editing software. The publication software that will be used allows them to manage photo upload to an extensive library, giving them the ability to organize media, and track the inclusion of students in our book. They will be using the online application to assemble all parts of the yearbook, including the cover. They will learn about all the methods that go into creating publications including but not limited to; copy, graphic alignment, color selection, typography, photo effects, and distribution. They will be responsible for selling advertisements to local businesses and pitching our program to generate funds to run the class effectively and pay for expenses incurred while producing the yearbook. Prerequisite: Grade 10-12 with teacher recommendation (Application).

Business/Technology Capstone (Honors)

1 semester 1/2 credit

This course will showcase the student's abilities in critical thinking, planning and implementation, self-discipline, problem solving, and organizational skills developed in previous business and/or technology courses. The goal of the Capstone is for the student to utilize the knowledge gained in their business and/or technology courses and stretch the student to participate in and demonstrate a new area of learning and growth through a project-based activity. Students will need to have access to transportation for a Business/Tech Internship Experience. Prerequisite: B or better in at least one elective business/technology course; Grade 11 or 12

Pathway to University of Cincinnati Information Technology Program ****Courses may be taken for CCP****

IT Fundamentals (CCP) 1 semester ½ credit

This course is an introduction to the field of Information Technology including technology concepts, terminology, hardware components and software applications. Students will be introduced to, and asked to apply basic skills in the core areas of information technology such as programming, database management, networking, systems administration, web development and the basic research, problem solving and decision-making skills required to be successful in this field. The course emphasizes the role of technical communication, project management, languages, tools, models and application architectures within the IT development process. Prerequisite: None

Fundamentals of Web Development (CCP) 1 semester ½ credit

This is a foundation course in Web Technology that covers the underpinnings of the technology and a variety of modern standards. The course covers modern Web standards, well-formed and valid documents, Semantic XHTML/HTML, User-Centered Design of Static Web Sites, Styling and layout of Web documents with CSS, common tools for Web Site development. Emphasis is on coding syntactically correct Web documents using an engineering design perspective focused on functionality over visual design. You will learn HTML5, CSS3, Responsive and user-centric design, XML, SVG, and how to create native apps without coding from web documents. Hands-on active learning required. Prerequisite: None

Computer Networking (offered 26-27) 1 semester 1/2 credit (** CCP)

The Computer Networking course explains, in a theoretical and practical framework, how communication occurs across a network. Students study such topics as computer/network hardware, network media, topologies, protocols, security, network architectures, IP addressing, and the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) model. Hands-on, active learning is required. Students enrolled in this course will also complete a supervised IT experience in addition to the regular course material in a variety of projects and special events including internships with Talawanda IT professionals, community outreach projects, and state competitions in Cybersecurity and Software Development. Prerequisite: C or better in IT Fundamentals and Fundamentals of Web Development

Database Management (offered 26-27) 1 semester 1/2 credit (** CCP)

This is an introductory course to the technology of database design and implementation. Topics include, but are not limited to relational database design and implementation, query formulation with Structured Query Language, application development, etc. Enterprise database management system will be used. Students enrolled in this course will also complete a supervised IT experience in addition to the regular course material in a variety of projects and special events including internships with Talawanda IT professionals, community outreach projects, and state competitions in Cybersecurity and Software Development. Prerequisite: C or better in IT Fundamentals and Fundamentals of Web Development

Computer Programming (offered 25-26) 1 semester 1/2 credit (** CCP)

The course introduces students to procedural computer programming and problem solving. Students will learn about the basic elements of a computer program such as programming logic, data types, basic control structures, and program debugging. Hands-on active learning required. Students enrolled in this course will also complete a supervised IT experience in addition to the regular course material in a variety of projects and special events including internships with Talawanda IT professionals, community outreach projects, and state competitions in Cybersecurity and Software Development. Prerequisite: C or better in IT Fundamentals and Fundamentals of Web Development

System Administration (offered 25-26) 1 semester 1/2 credit (** CCP)

This course will provide the knowledge and hands-on skills necessary to manage a Local Area Network and its resources. Topics covered include directory services, server management, file and print services, and user/client administration in a heterogeneous operating system environment. Students will setup and manage a fully functioning computer network of systems. Hands-on active learning required. Prerequisite: C or better in IT Fundamentals and Fundamentals of Web Development

CAREER BASED INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Career Based Intervention Program

2 semesters 4 credits

The Career Based Intervention Program is a career-technical program designed for students in grades 7-12 who are eligible based on academic and/or economic need. The CBI Program is designed to help students improve academic competence, graduate from high school, develop employability skills, set goals and implement a career plan, and participate in a career pathway in preparing for post-secondary education and future careers.

This course provides students with an opportunity to meet the academic needs for graduation while allowing for students to maintain appropriate employment within the business world. Students must meet the criteria set by the Butler Technology and Career Development Schools for both employment and academic eligibility. The CBI Program primarily uses computer-aided instruction to deliver curriculum materials. Students also earn a half credit of electives each semester in a teacher-led course called Related. This course addresses life and job skills students need for the future.

Prerequisite: Grade 11-12 and acceptance into the program by Butler Tech.

CAREER AND COLLEGE READINESS

Career and College Readiness

1 semester 1/2 credit

Through this required class, juniors will explore future career options and educational paths towards those careers. Career and College Readiness will provide students the chance to sharpen 21st Century Skills and allow for completion of documents necessary for the future. Individual research, guided investigation, personal exploration, and reflection will allow students to create a reasonable educational and professional map for his or her future.

Prerequisite: 11th grade.

ENGLISH

The English program must fit the needs of students who live in a world in which communication is increasingly important. English classes must go beyond basic reading and writing to prepare students for current and future demands of the work place, society, and the individual. In order to participate fully in society and to realize their potential, students must encounter an English program in which reading, writing, listening, and speaking are developed for authentic purposes and audiences. Students are surrounded by language in all forms in an interactive classroom.

To become competent in all the language processes, the processes must be addressed in an integrated fashion. In addition, the English department encourages all teachers in the building to be teachers of English. English I, English II, English III (or AP Language & Composition), and English IV (or either AP option) are required courses for graduation.

The recommended sequence of required courses would be:

<u>Grade 9</u>	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>	<u>Grade 12</u>
English I	English II	English III	English IV or ENG101 (CCP) ENG104 (CCP)
English I Honors	English II Honors	ENG101 (CCP) ENG104 (CCP) AP Language & Comp	AP Literature & Comp or AP Language & Comp LIT240 (CCP) LIT252 (CCP) LIT285 (CCP)

The earliest grade level an elective course would be available:

<u>Grade 9</u>	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>
	Topical Studies in Literature Speech	Creative Writing

Course Descriptions: Required Courses

English I

2 semesters 1 credit

English I is a required course for all 9th graders that emphasizes improving the basic skills the student has previously learned. It focuses on reading, writing, vocabulary, grammar and study skills. This course creates a foundation that enables the student to achieve throughout high school and beyond. The course is designed to prepare students for any state-required assessment. Successful completion of both semesters of this course is necessary to meet graduation requirements. Therefore, summer school is highly recommended for students who do not pass both semesters of English I so they can keep pace with the four year English program.

Prerequisite: none.

English I Honors

2 semesters 1 credit

English I Honors is designed as a pre-Advanced Placement course for the academically gifted student who intends to enroll in the AP English program during his/her 11th and 12th grade years. The curriculum is structured to provide an accelerated, intensive preparation in literary analysis, critical thinking skills, and the writing process. The course is designed to prepare students for any state-required assessment.

Prerequisite: a selection process defined by the Talawanda School District.

English II

2 semesters 1 credit

English II is a required course for all sophomores. The skills of reading comprehension, writing, research, speaking, and listening are appropriately reinforced through the study of short story, novels, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. The course is designed to prepare students for any state-required assessment. Successful completion of both semesters of this course is necessary to meet graduation requirements. Therefore, summer school is highly recommended for students who do not pass both semesters of English II so they can keep pace with the four-year English program.

Prerequisite: successful completion of both semesters of English I.

English II Honors

2 semesters 1 credit

English II Honors is designed as a pre-Advanced Placement course for the academically gifted sophomore who wants a rigorous study of selected works from different genres, periods of literature, and origins (countries). Students will continue to sharpen their literary analytical skills and the discussion of assignments will focus on the critical analysis of all texts we read in class: literature and informational text. Visual media, such as film clips and documentaries, may be used to help support particular areas of study. Student writing will include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays, as well as the maintaining of study guides and purposeful note taking. Students will also be responsible for following a syllabus, reading and writing independently, and participating in group activities and discussions. The course is designed to prepare students for any state-required assessment.

Prerequisite: a selection process as defined by the Talawanda School District

English III

2 semesters 1 credit

English III is a required course for all eleventh graders. This course is designed to strengthen each student's critical reading, thinking, speaking, writing, and research skills through a variety of texts, with an emphasis on American writers, and through writing instruction in a variety of genres. Successful completion of both semesters of this course is necessary to meet graduation requirements.

Prerequisite: successful completion of both semesters of English II.

English III Honors

2 semesters 1 credit

English III Honors is the pre-Advanced Placement course designed for the academically gifted junior who seeks rigorous study. This course, like English III non-Honors, is designed to strengthen each student's critical reading, thinking, speaking, writing, and research skills through a variety of texts, with an emphasis on American writers, and through writing instruction in a variety of genres. There is additional emphasis on literary analysis. Students in Honors English are expected to participate actively and share responsibility with the teacher for shaping class discussions. Successful completion of both semesters of this course (or English III) is necessary to meet graduation requirements.

Prerequisite: a selection process defined by the Talawanda School District.

AP Language and Composition

2 semesters 1 credit

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition is a rigorous, college-level course designed for the highly motivated student who wants to be challenged as a reader and writer. The majority of course readings will be non-fiction, and students will learn strategies to read these complex texts deeply. Students will write often and for a variety of purposes: to persuade, to analyze, and to explain. The course will focus on the process of writing in a wide variety of genres; teacher feedback is emphasized during the entire writing process. The research process, citing sources, and rhetorical awareness will be taught and practiced throughout the course. Students are required to take the AP English Language and Composition test. This course replaces English III for juniors or English IV for seniors. Prerequisite: A selection process defined by the Talawanda School District.

English IV

2 semesters 1 credit

This is the required course for seniors (except those taking AP Literature or Language) who are heading for college, post-secondary training, the military, or the work force. This course will integrate both instruction in writing as well as literary study, covering a broad range of media including poems, plays, stories, letters, essays, interviews, books, magazines, newspapers, and film. Students will examine networks of texts that influence each other, instead of a traditional chronological order. Critical thinking and problem-solving skills will be a vital part of the course, and students will be expected to demonstrate their competence in a variety of ways including tests, compositions, presentations, group collaborations, and a final portfolio. Prerequisite: successful completion of both semesters of English III.

AP Literature and Composition

2 semesters 1 credit

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition is a rigorous course which engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of poetry, drama, and fiction. Through close reading, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. The course includes intensive study of works of literary merit. Writing assignments include analytical and argumentative essays which will increase students' ability to explain clearly what they understand about literature.

Prerequisite: A selection process defined by the Talawanda School District.

Creative Writing

1 semester 1/2 credit

Creative Writing is a workshop course that focuses on three main styles of writing: fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, with the option to explore various other writing styles. The course attempts to approach writing in new, exciting ways, asking students to challenge themselves by exercising writer's craft to create a unique, concrete voice in their writing. By the end of the semester, students will have written one short story, one creative nonfiction story, and multiple poems. Students will receive constructive critiques of their writing from the instructor and fellow students in an effort to continuously revise and improve each piece. Students will also be encouraged to submit at least one of their pieces to Talawanda's Setting Stone Literary Art Magazine for publication, as well as to a professional publication. The course may be taken once each in the 11th and 12th grade years. Prerequisite: 11th and 12th grade only, or by recommendation

Speech

1 semester 1/2 credit

Speech focuses on public speaking, in which students learn to research, organize, write, and deliver various types of speeches including personal narrative, informative, demonstration, persuasive, impromptu speeches, monologues, and debates. Students may also participate in local speech competitions during the semester. The course gives students the opportunity to develop important communication skills and gain a core foundation in college preparatory speech work. The course aims to improve students' confidence in public speaking and gives them valuable tools to speak from memory in front of audiences. In-class participation is essential to the course and students are expected to be present on speech days. This one-semester course is offered once each semester (enrollment pending), and students are allowed to take the course two (2) times during their junior and senior year.

Prerequisite: 10th - 12th grade.

Topical Studies in Lit: Graphic Novels

1 semester 1/2 credit

This course is an exploration into reading, analyzing, and creating graphic novels. In this class you will read a variety of graphic novels, centered around fiction, nonfiction, and memoir, including superheroes, social commentary, nonfiction/memoirs, and genre writing. In addition to in-depth reading, you will create your own short graphic novels/comics based on known pieces of text and of your own experience. Learning how to use storyboarding technology and techniques will be covered as well.

Prerequisites: 10th, 11th or 12th grade

English Composition I ENG 101 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

An introduction to college writing focusing on understanding the writing process. Topics include: identifying audiences; developing a strong thesis; providing sufficient evidence for claims; and writing essays with grammatical, mechanical, and stylistic correctness.

Prerequisites: 11th or 12th grade

English Composition II Technical Writing ENG 104 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

A continuation of ENG 101. Topics include: audience analysis; planning, preparing, and revising technical and professional documents used for reference, persuasion, or instruction; using and reporting on research; and integrating visuals with text.

Prerequisites: ENG 101 or earned 3 or above on the AP Language exam

The Novel LIT 240 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

Introduction to the novel as a literary form, emphasizing critical reading and analysis. Works studied represent a variety of periods, styles, and cultures.

Prerequisites: ENG 101 or earned 3 or above on the AP Language exam

Children's Literature LIT 270 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

Introduction to children's literature, emphasizing critical reading and analysis. Works studied represent a variety of genres, styles, and cultures.

Prerequisites: ENG 101 or earned 3 or above on the AP Language exam

Women Writers LIT 285 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

Study of major themes and forms in women's writing from a variety of periods and cultures, beginning with the 18th century, and including American ethnic women.

Prerequisites: ENG 101 or earned 3 or above on the AP Language exam

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

All students can benefit from Family and Consumer Sciences courses. The classes are designed to meet the needs of all different types of learners. Students will learn skills for managing individual and family needs, problem solving, setting goals, and being a leader. Students will experience a variety of teaching techniques: small group activities, presentations, hands-on projects, classroom discussions, labs, field trips, and community involvement.

Through integrated classroom activities students will be given the opportunity to participate in Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), a youth leadership organization. A \$25.00 one-time fee will be assessed for students enrolling in one or multiple FCS courses collected by the instructor and payable to Butler Tech. Please note: Industry Credentialing is available!

Elective courses are available to the following grades:

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12 Grade
Culinary Fundamentals (Foods)	X	X	X	X
Baking & Pastry Arts * (Next offered 26-27)		X	X	X
Contemporary Cuisine (Cuisine)	X	X	X	X
Child Development **	X	X	X	X
Leadership & Community Engagement		X	X	X
Personal Wellness **	X	X	X	X

* Offered every other year – including 2026-27

** Offered every other year – next offered 2025-26

Leadership & Career Mentorship

2 semesters 1 credit

Successful athletes, powerful entrepreneur, and highly effective community members and citizens - what do they have in common? They must have strong leadership skills to achieve success. Learn the leadership skills that will be important to your future—regardless of career goals. This class teaches the “soft skills” identified as crucial for success, including vision and values; problem solving and creative thinking; goal setting and motivation; relationships and teamwork; communication and impact on you and your community. The class emphasizes small group work and hands-on experiences through service learning experiences. Students will be required to complete 60 service learning/career mentorship hours for the year
Prerequisite: Grades 10-12, Teacher-approval (Application).

Child Development **

2 semesters 1 credit

Study the process of human development from conception through preschool age as determined by a variety of factors. Learn the stages of pregnancy and childbirth, milestones of healthy child development, characteristics of strong families and supportive parenting, and much more! Additional topics include childhood diseases, immunizations, theories of development, and evaluating childcare services.

Culinary Fundamentals (Foods)

1 semester 1/2 credit

Introduction to basic cooking skills: Learn proper knife skills, food nutrition, basic food science principles, and cooking techniques such as sauté, poach, braise, and roast. Safe food handling and equipment usage are also introduced. Students will have the opportunity to be involved in FCCLA state and national organization.

Baking & Pastry Arts (Pastry Arts) *

2 semesters 1 credit

Are you the next Cake Boss or are you hooked on Cupcake Wars? Then this is the class for you! Topics include: Cake decorating, cookies, baking bread, French pastries, safe food handling and proper equipment, and other baking techniques. Learn food science principles that will make your baking a success.

Personal Wellness (Life & Relationships) **

1 semester 1/2 credit

Are you looking for a way to learn how to juggle your relationships, activities and school? In this class you learn how to have a healthy lifestyle and guide healthy food choices. You will learn to manage stress, practice communication skills, nurture healthy relationships and create your own healthy lifestyle plan. Students will have the opportunity to be involved in FCCLA state and national organization.

Contemporary Cuisine (Cuisine)

2 semesters 1 credit

Are you hooked on cooking shows or are you a future Culinary Arts student? Get in on the latest culinary trends, flavors and plate presentations! Learn about cooking principles, methods and nutrition management strategies. Examine food science in preparation, cooking and presentation of foods and beverages. Safe food handling and equipment usage are also covered.

MATHEMATICS

Due to the increasing demands and uses of technology in our society, the need for a solid mathematical background is critical. The logic, structure, attention to detail and problem-solving skills learned in the math classroom will aid, not only the college-bound student, but also those students who enter a technical school or the job market. Our program demands high standards from all students, yet places them in situations that provide them the best chance of successfully reaching and maintaining those standards.

Talawanda High School and the Ohio Department of Education require 4 credits of mathematics to graduate. Should a child fail a semester of math at any time during high school, summer school or an on-line math class will be needed for credit recovery. Due to the sequential nature of the subject, it is highly unlikely that two math classes may be taken simultaneously.

The recommended sequence of required/elective courses would be:

<u>Grade 9</u>	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>	<u>Grade 12</u>
Ext. Algebra I-A Ext. Algebra I-B	Ext. Algebra I-C Ext. Algebra I-D	Geometry 11	Data Science Quantitative Reasoning
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II Data Science Quantitative Reasoning	Pre-Calculus Honors Algebra II Data Science Quantitative Reasoning Statistics (MAT131) (CCP)
Geometry Honors	Algebra II Honors	Pre-Calculus Honors Data Science Statistics (MAT131)(CCP)	Calculus (MAT251) (CCP) Statistics (MAT131) (CCP) Data Science

Course Descriptions:

Algebra I

2 semester 1 credit

Algebra I is the foundation for all other high school math courses. Some of the major topics include manipulation of algebraic expressions, solving equations and inequalities, studying linear equations, and working with polynomials. The course is designed to prepare students for the Algebra I End of Course Exam given the 9th grade year. Successful completion of both semesters of this course is necessary to meet graduation requirements. Therefore, summer school is highly recommended for students who do not pass both semesters of Algebra I so they can keep pace with the 4-year Math program. Prerequisite: none.

Extended Algebra I

4 semesters 2.0 credits

This course is designed for students who would benefit from a longer amount of time to complete Algebra I. The course content is exactly the same as Algebra I; however, students will be given additional time and different teaching strategies will be used in this approach. The course is designed to prepare students for the Algebra I End of Course Exam that will be given at the end of the 3rd semester. Successful completion of all four semesters of this course is necessary to meet graduation requirements. Therefore, summer school is highly recommended for students who do not pass all semesters of Extended Algebra I so they can keep pace with the four-year Math program. Prerequisite: teacher recommendation only

Geometry

2 semesters 1 credit

Geometry prepares the student for further mathematical activity by introducing the ideas of geometric constructions, proof writing, logic, and inductive and deductive thinking. It also provides a method for students to learn skills such as organization of facts and logical thinking, and helps students to develop problem-solving and reasoning power, which can be used in any career. Students are required to purchase compass, ruler, and protractor. The course is designed to prepare students for the Geometry End of Course Exam given the 10th grade year. Successful completion of both semesters of this course is necessary to meet graduation requirements. Therefore, summer school is highly recommended for students who do not pass both semesters of Geometry so they can keep pace with the four-year Math program.

Prerequisite: successful completion of both semesters of Algebra I.

Geometry Honors

2 semesters 1 credit

Geometry prepares the student for further mathematical activity by introducing the ideas of geometric constructions, proof writing, logic, and inductive and deductive thinking. It also provides a method for students to learn skills such as organization of facts and logical thinking, and helps students to develop problem-solving and reasoning power, which can be used in any career.

The honors class will be different from the regular class in the pace the material is covered. More emphasis will be placed on proof-writing and theoretical concepts. Additional topics could include similarity of polygons and trigonometric functions. The course is designed to prepare students for the Geometry End of course Exam given the 10th grade year.

Prerequisite: in accordance with Talawanda School District guidelines students must have Algebra I in 8th grade with a C or better or teacher recommendation.

Algebra II

2 semesters 1 credit

Algebra II is a continuation of the concepts introduced in Algebra I. Many exercises are more complex examples of the concepts studied in Algebra I. In addition, many new concepts are introduced such as systems of linear equations and inequalities, matrices and complex numbers. This course is required for graduation. A graphing calculator is required for this course. The recommended calculator is the Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84.

Prerequisite: successful completion of both semesters of Algebra I and Geometry with a C or better.

Data Science

2 semesters 1 credit

The course teaches students to reason with and think critically about data in all forms. Ohio's Learning Standards for Mathematics relevant to data science are taught along with the data demands of good citizenship in the 21st century. Topics include describing big data; usability and usefulness of data; structured vs unstructured data; data extraction techniques; data storage; privacy issues; and data mining. Elements of research methods, probability, statistics, and computer science combine are used throughout the course.

Prerequisite: 12th Grade

Algebra II Honors

2 semesters 1 credit

Algebra II is a continuation of the concepts introduced in Algebra I. Many of the exercises are more complex examples of the concepts studied in Algebra I. In addition, many new concepts are introduced such as systems of linear equations and inequalities, matrices and complex numbers.

The honors class will be different from the regular class in the pace the material is covered. Some additional topics will be covered in this course possibly include conic sections, exponential and logarithmic functions and sequences and series. A graphing calculator is required for this course. The recommended calculator is the Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84.

Prerequisite: in accordance with Talawanda School District guidelines students must successfully complete Honors Geometry with a C or better or teacher recommendation.

Quantitative Reasoning

2 semesters 1 credit

Application of mathematics skills such as Algebra to the analysis and interpretation of quantitative information (numbers and units) in a real-world context to make decisions that are relevant to daily life. Critical thinking is its primary objective and outcome.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Statistics MAT131 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

A course on descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics include: the purpose of statistics, univariate and bivariate descriptive statistics, probability, normality and sampling distributions, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing.

Pre-requisite: Successful completion of Algebra II, or equivalent with a B or better.

Pre-Calculus Honors

2 semesters 1 credit

This course is designed for college bound students. The honors class will cover the material at a fast pace. The topics in this class are diverse, but include polynomial functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometry, sequences and series, and analytic geometry. Throughout the course, the concept of applying previously learned material is stressed.

Prerequisite: in accordance with the Talawanda School District guidelines students must complete both semesters of Algebra II with a grade of B or better.

Calculus I MAT251 (CCP)

2 semesters 1 credit

A course on concepts and applications of calculus. Topics include: the library of functions, analysis of functions with limits, the derivative and the derivative function, interpretations of the derivative, rules of differentiation, and introduction to integral calculus. A TI-83 Plus graphing calculator is required for the course.

Prerequisite: in accordance with the Talawanda School District guidelines students must successfully complete both semesters of Pre-Calculus with a grade of B or better.

MUSIC

Music is inherent in every human being and therefore should be presented as a genuine discipline for study. It is the function of the music program to develop each child's innate musical ability to his/her fullest potential and to provide the enrichment that music can bring to his/her life.

Musically, every student in the Talawanda District shall be provided the opportunity to be exposed to a wide variety of performance and/or appreciation experiences. These can be, and should be, shared interactively between home, school and community, whether they are as performer or listener.

Instrumental Music Philosophy

The objective of the THS Instrumental Music Program is to provide opportunities for students to pursue excellence in music education through instrumental performance.

The Bands give players of wind and percussion instruments four different ensembles in which to participate. The first of these is the Marching Band. The THS Marching Band begins rehearsals in the summer and is active as a competitive band until November of each school year. The second ensemble is Concert Band. The Concert Band begins in November at the conclusion of the competitive marching band season. Members of the Marching Band become the Concert Band in November. Those students are encouraged to continue in the Concert Band Program during the second semester. The Steel Band focuses on multicultural music performance through the use of steel pans, and other Latin percussion instruments. Finally, the Jazz Ensemble provides opportunities to explore the world of Jazz and develop playing skills in this uniquely American idiom of music.

Music skill development takes place over many months. For this reason students are encouraged to participate in band for both semesters of an academic year. Students who have legitimate scheduling conflicts based upon a need to take another class must meet with the band director to formulate a plan for continued musical development and participation in the high school music program.

The Orchestra gives developing string players the opportunity to perform a wide variety of musical styles, including four centuries of classical music, contemporary, jazz, folk, and fiddling. The Orchestra gives at least four evening concerts per year, attends OMEA adjudicated events, and performs for various community functions.

Vocal Music Philosophy

The Talawanda Vocal Music Program has a significant selection of classes to accommodate students' needs and talents. Through daily instruction and performances, every vocal music class offered at Talawanda High School emphasizes music literacy, healthy vocal tone production, an understanding of a variety of musical styles and cultures and school/community involvement. Music selected is carefully chosen to challenge and enrich each vocal music group. Many pieces are selected according to the Ohio Music Education Association vocal events lists and the State and National Standards for the Arts.

Much like other artistic skills, technical development in vocal/choral music takes time and practice to emerge properly, so students are encouraged to participate in choir for as many semesters as possible, and to attempt to pass into the audition-based groups for more intense and challenging musical experiences. Actively participating in musical performance builds teamwork, instills confidence and facilitates positive school/community relationships. THS choirs continue to prepare students to sing in selective choirs at the university level, including choirs that tour internationally.

Course Descriptions:

Chamber Singers

2 semesters 1 credit

Chamber Singers is a highly select choir designed to enhance the talents of experienced singers by performing a variety of high quality of choral literature throughout the year. The repertoire is designed to meet the national standards and to enhance the group performance at adjudicated events. Evening performances, in school performances, daytime concerts and tours are scheduled. Attendance at performances will affect the student's grade. Prospective members can request to look at the full course packet if they wish to see specific information. A fee is required for this course, as well as a specific and non-negotiable dress code.

Prerequisite: an audition or recommendation from director.

Concert Choir

2 semesters 1 credit

The Concert Choir is open to all who enjoy singing and would like to experience performing for an audience. It is for the experienced as well as the inexperienced singer. Members learn basic vocal techniques and musical skills by performing a wide variety of choral literature. Evening performances, in school performances and daytime concerts are scheduled. The group may also perform at adjudicated events. Attendance at performances will affect the student's grade. Prospective members can request to look at the full course packet if they wish to see specific information. A fee is required for this course, as well as a specific and non-negotiable dress code.

Prerequisite: none.

Concert Band

1 semester 1/2 credit

The focus of this group is the development of essential skills needed for outstanding instrumental musical performances. This group is also available for those students who wish to play a secondary instrument. Prerequisite: participation in the Marching Band automatically makes you a candidate for this ensemble. Students who do not participate in Marching Band are encouraged to see the directors about joining the concert band.

Prerequisite: none.

Jazz Ensemble

2 semesters 1 credit

This band ensemble is open by audition or recommendation only. It is important for students to realize that there is a specific instrumentation to this band (not everyone will be able to participate) and because of the band's excellent reputation we're always having people want to join. Because of the limited number of spots available we have to utilize strong audition standards. Students who do not get accepted into this ensemble are encouraged to participate in either the Marching Band or Concert Winds to develop the appropriate skills for eventual acceptance.

Prerequisite: audition or directors recommendation required.

Marching Band

1 semester 1/2 credit

The Talawanda High School Marching Band has developed a reputation for excellence in performance and dedication. The membership consists of woodwind, brass, percussion and color guard sections. The ensemble is formed in the spring and preparation for the upcoming competitive season begins during the late summer months. Because of the highly competitive nature of this activity, it is critical that students and parents understand that success is directly attributable to level of commitment. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances and the summer marching band camp. Additionally, students must spend individual time (not rehearsal time) preparing their own music and marching.

The rewards of this ensemble are numerous. From very strong performance skills to time management solutions the students are well rewarded for their outstanding commitment and dedication. Furthermore, the peer relationships that exist and are developed in this ensemble are very strong.

Prerequisite: participation in the Talawanda Middle School Band Program. Students who do not participate in Middle School Band are encouraged to see the directors about joining the Marching Band. Prerequisite: none.

PE Option for Marching Band: Students who successfully complete two full seasons of marching band/color guard may be excused from the high school physical education elective requirement. Students desiring to be excused from the PE elective requirement must complete an application declaring their intent. Registration packets are available in the Guidance Office. Marching Band students must complete and return to the GUIDANCE OFFICE within ten (10) calendar days following the official starting date of each new season for each year. Packets will not be accepted outside of the ten-day window. Attendance will affect the ability to earn credit through PE option.

Music Theory

1 semester 1/2 credit

This course is designed to prepare students to succeed in a college-level theory course and to increase their level of musical literacy. This course covers beginning music theoretical skills such as reading music, scale construction aural identifications/diction, harmonic analysis and basic composition. Students can expect a comprehensive musical foundation in this course. Although not prohibitive, this course is NOT recommended for those with little or no experience reading or performing music.

Prerequisite: none.

Orchestra

2 semesters 1 credit

Membership in this course is open to any student on any grade level who plays an orchestral instrument, subject to the approval of the orchestra director. Skills to be acquired include technical development, ensemble techniques, and orchestral literature as well as current orchestra arrangements and chamber work. This orchestra group appears in concerts and plays upon invitation at different locations.

Prerequisite: orchestra director recommendation.

Show Choir

2 semesters 1 credit

Performers in this ensemble explore popular vocal and showmanship techniques through a variety of styles including Jazz, Doo-Wop, Swing, Rock and American Songbook standards. Evening performances, in school performances and community concert "gigs" will be scheduled throughout the year based on the group's availability. The director will negotiate the scheduling of concerts. The group may also perform at adjudicated events. Attendance at performances will affect the student's grade. Prospective members can request to look at the full course packet if they wish to see specific information. A fee is required, as well as purchasing personal dance equipment.

Prerequisite: an audition or recommendation from the director.

Steel Band

1 semester 1/2 credit

The focus of this ensemble is on multicultural music performance through the use of steel pans, and other Latin percussion instruments. The Talawanda Steel Band is open to any student who is concurrently taking Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, or Choir. Students must pass an audition or have a recommendation from the director to participate in this ensemble. The Talawanda Steel Band performs at many school and community events throughout the year. Prerequisite: Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra, or Choir with audition and/or directors' approval.

Vox Femina

2 semesters 1 credit

Vox Femina is a select group designed to give female students an opportunity to perform a vast repertoire available while focusing solely on developing the female voice. Evening performances, in school performances and daytime concerts are scheduled. The group will also perform at adjudicated events. Attendance at performances will affect the student's grade. Prospective members can request to look at the full course packet if they wish to see specific information. A fee is required for this course, as well as a specific and non-negotiable dress code. Prerequisite: an audition or recommendation from director.

Guitar/Ukulele

1 semester 1/2 credit

This primary aim of this course is to teach students how to begin playing the guitar and ukulele, introducing new players to the parts of the instruments, music literacy, strumming patterns, and melodies. Folk, rock, pop, and classical music styles will be utilized to provide a well-rounded introduction to playing the guitar and ukulele. However, experienced players can also find benefits from the exercises in music literacy, and opportunities to teach small groups and compose new music. A limited number of instruments can be provided by the school, but students will be encouraged to bring in their own instruments when possible. This is a one-semester course, and is a fantastic pairing with the Music Theory course.

Prerequisite: Grade 10-12

Music History: 20th Century MUS102 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

Survey of major periods in Western musical history from the Middle Ages to the late 19th century. Topics include: major composers and development of perceptive listening habits through analysis of compositional styles and techniques.

Rock and Pop Music MUS115 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

A course on the evolution of rock, pop, and related music genres from the early 20th century to the present. Topics include: the social, political, and cultural impact of popular music in the United States.

Prerequisite: Grade 10-12

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

Physical Education makes a major contribution toward increasing the student's personal physical fitness, overall health and quality of life. The student will participate in activities structured to provide a firm foundation upon which to achieve and maintain lifetime fitness. Health Education promotes positive decision making in areas of the student's life which impact physical, emotional, and social wellness. Health Education also stresses the degrees of risk involved with lifestyle behaviors in a society where changing moral standards and mounting peer pressure can create new health problems and intensify existing ones.

Requirements: The student is required to take a minimum of two semesters of Physical Education and one semester of Health. Additional courses may be taken for a more active lifestyle and enjoyment. It is NOT recommended that a student wait until their senior year to meet these requirements.

PE Option for Athletes: Students who successfully complete two full seasons of interscholastic athletics or cheerleading may be excused from the high school physical education elective requirement. Students desiring to be excused from the PE elective requirement must complete an application declaring their intent. Registration packets are available in the Guidance Office. Athletes must be complete and return to the GUIDANCE OFFICE within ten (10) calendar days following the official starting date of each new season for each year. Packets will not be accepted outside of the ten-day window. Attendance will affect the ability to earn credit through PE option.

Interscholastic athletic teams currently recognized by the Ohio High School Athletic Association in the Talawanda School District include:

GIRLS

Cross Country (F)
Volleyball (F)
Soccer (F)
Golf (F)
Tennis (F)
Cheerleading (F, W)
Swimming/Diving (W)
Basketball (W)
Bowling (W)
Wrestling (W)
Softball (S)
Track & Field (S)

BOYS

Cross Country (F)
Football (F)
Soccer (F)
Golf (F)
Swimming/Diving (W)
Wrestling (W)
Basketball (W)
Bowling (W)
Tennis (S)
Track & Field (S)
Baseball (S)

Course Descriptions:

Required Courses:

Health Education

1 semester 1/2 credit

Health Education is a required semester class, recommended for all 9th graders that focuses on the development of the skills needed by teens today to face everyday health concerns. The class allows students to explore issues facing teenagers and to seek out solutions through independent research, reflection writing, role-playing activities, interviews, small group work and semester long projects, all part of efforts to improve their wellness throughout their lifetimes.

Prerequisite: none.

Elective Courses:

Cardio and Core Training

1 semester 1/4 credit

This course is geared to the student that is interested in continued improvement in the overall fitness of their body. Cardiovascular and Core Strength Training will be used in combination with varied workouts. Concentration will be placed on cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and muscle toning, and body fat composition. Workouts will include state of the art equipment as well as new innovative fitness concepts. Students will be responsible for daily recording tasks and monitoring of their own progress. Grades are based on individual improvement while working at their own pace.

Prerequisite: none.

Lifetime Sports

1 semester 1/4 credit

Lifetime Sports includes individual and team sports play, both recreational and highly competitive activities. This course is designed for those who desire competition and skill improvement. Activities may include Soccer, Razzle Dazzle, Ultimate Frisbee, Kickball, Mat Ball, Tennis, Capture the Flag, Lacrosse, Wiffle Ball, Floor Hockey, Basketball, Volleyball, and Pickleball. The student will be able to demonstrate intermediate to advanced skill levels in a variety of individual sports and use advanced strategies while competing in a variety of activities.

Prerequisite: none.

Strength Training and Conditioning

1 semester 1/4 credit

This course is designed for both the athlete and non-athlete for the development of muscular strength and endurance. The class will be designed to meet individual needs, goals, as well as character building skills towards making good decisions. The students will design their own individual workouts focusing on the individual needs of the student. Other focus areas will include, but are not limited to, core strength, speed, agility, cardiovascular endurance, body composition, flexibility and nutrition. The student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of proper lifting techniques, weight room safety, identify the basic components of physical fitness and recognize common myths or misconceptions regarding the effects of strength training on physical development.

Prerequisite: none.

SCIENCE

Science courses offer students a means of achieving scientific literacy and an opportunity to develop problem-solving skills so that students will become wise participants in our increasingly technological world. Talawanda offers students a well-balanced program in a variety of scientific disciplines while providing students with the opportunity for obtaining skills and knowledge in specific focus areas. The approach in all classes is lab-oriented. Students are taught to collect and analyze experimental data for the purpose of drawing general conclusions supported by that data. Students are presented with general science principles and are given multiple opportunities to apply those principles to a variety of situations.

The recommended sequence of required courses for current students would be:

<u>Grade 9</u>	<u>Grade 10</u>
Physical Science	Biology
Physical Science Honors	BIO 111/BIO 112 (CCP)

The earliest grade level an elective course would be available:

<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>
Engineering Design (CCP)	Anatomy & Physiology
Astronomy	Botany
	Chemistry I & Honors Chemistry I
	Environmental Science & Honors Environmental Science
	Physics & Honors Physics
	BIO 131 (CCP) (Students may opt to take the AP Biology exam in April)
	AP Chemistry

Course Descriptions:

Required Courses:

Physical Science 2 semesters 1 credit

Physical Science is a required course for all 9th graders. It is an inquiry-based course that focuses on the patterns and relationships found in the physical world. Basic communication skills, laboratory skills, and data interpretation skills will be used in a cooperative learning environment. Successful completion of both semesters of this course is necessary to meet graduation requirements. Therefore, summer school is highly recommended for students who do not pass both semesters of Physical Science during the school year so they can keep pace with the three-year science program. A lab fee is required. Prerequisite: none.

Physical Science Honors 2 semesters 1 credit

Physical Science Honors is an inquiry-based course that focuses on the patterns and relationships found in the physical world. The Honors section is designed for students focused on science careers and who have an aptitude for science research. This is more in depth, intensive study with a focus on independent research, including experiment design, data collection, data management and presentation of results. An independent research project is a course requirement. Successful completion of both semesters of this course is necessary to meet graduation requirements. Therefore, summer school is highly recommended for students who do not pass both semesters of Physical Science during the school year so they can keep pace with the three-year science program. A lab fee is required. Prerequisite: a selection process as defined by TSD.

Biology

2 semesters 1 credit

Biology is a required course for all 10th graders. This course gives students an in-depth survey of life. It is inquiry based and much of the class is devoted to gaining insight into the fundamentals of the external and internal environments of all living organisms through individualized and teamed inquiry work. Topics covered will include biodiversity, evolution, genetics, sustainability, and cellular anatomy and physiology. Successful completion of both semesters of this course is necessary to meet graduation requirements. Therefore, summer school is highly recommended for students who do not pass both semesters of Biology I so they can keep pace with the 3-year Science program. The course is designed to prepare students with the necessary content to complete the State of Ohio's performance based and end-of-year assessments for high school life science. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisite: successful completion of Physical Science.

Biology Unity & Diversity of Life BIO 111/112 (CCP)

2 semesters 2 credits

BIO 111: A course on characteristics shared by all living organisms. Topics include: the nature of science, chemistry of life, cell biology, energetics and biochemical pathways, cell division, genetics, molecular biology, and the origin of life. BIO 112: A continuation of BIO111. Topics include: taxonomy and evolution of animals, plants, fungi, protists, bacteria, and viruses; animal behavior; ecology; population growth; and conservation biology.

Prerequisite: must be enrolled in English II Honors

Elective Courses:

Anatomy & Physiology

2 semesters 1 credit

Anatomy and Physiology is a course designed for students who are interested in a career in the medical or research field. The focus of this course will be examining the organizational levels of the human body, the organ systems that the human body is comprised of, and various medical applications as they relate to each respective unit. DISSECTIONS WILL BE A PART OF THIS COURSE. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisite: Physical Science & Biology with a grades of a "C" or better

Environmental Science

2 semester 1 credit

Environmental Science is designed for students seriously interested in developing a deep understanding of the interconnectedness of Earth systems and society. Students explore topics related to sustainability, ecosystems, water pollution, population dynamics, food production, land and resource use, and alternative energy sources. This exploration is accomplished through lab activities, readings about current environmental issues, and cooperative research projects. A lab fee is required. Prerequisite: successful completion of Physical Science and Biology I.

Environmental Science Honors

2 semesters 1 credit

Because global climate change is a driver of political, economic and scientific activities, it is vital that our future scientists and engineers (and indeed all people) understand the science of climate. This course is designed to help students explore and understand the intricacies of the problem of climate change, how we as a species have come to know about it, and the mechanism for how it works. It is based on projects, labs, and demos, with a lecture/seminar component. As the climate problem is complex, this course is designed for students who have already completed their physical science and biology courses. Prerequisite: 11th/12th grade

Astronomy

2 semesters 1 credit

This course will explore our universe using physics, chemistry and geology in order to explain its origin and evolution. Objects of interest include satellites, planets, moons, stars, nebulae, galaxies, and comets. We will follow advances in astronomy through history and see how technology has increased our understanding of our universe as well as affected multiple aspects of human history. Students will conduct research projects on topics of interest throughout the year, and conduct laboratory exercises to model and better understand the astronomical phenomena we will observe. Prerequisite: Alg II (concurrent/completed) and science teacher recommendation

Biology I BIO 131 (CCP)

2 semesters 2 credit

A course on the chemistry of life. Topics include: cellular structure and function; characteristics of life; theory of evolution; understanding DNA and its role in heredity, regulation of biological systems, bioenergetics, and biochemical pathways; and current developments in biotechnology.

Prerequisites: completion of Biology or BIO 111/112 with a "B" or better average and either completion of Chemistry I or in Chemistry I Honors with a B or better average or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry.

Botany

2 semester 1 credit

Botany is the study of plants. Specifically, this course focuses on classical areas of Botany such as dendrology, ecology, anatomy, physiology, genetics, and taxonomy in addition to practical areas such as economic botany and use of identification keys. STUDENTS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO SPEND SEVERAL DAYS PER WEEK OUTSIDE DURING CLASS TIME. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisite: successful completion of the 9th and 10th grade science curriculum.

Chemistry I

2 semesters 1 credit

Through laboratory investigations, calculations, model construction, teamwork, and research, students will learn how Chemistry has contributed to our understanding of science. Students will study the relationships between matter's structure and function on both the microscopic and macroscopic levels. They will learn how chemists use their understanding of matter's physical and chemical properties to analyze the world around us. Topics of focus include the structure of matter, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, organics and food energy, gases, acids and bases and chemical impacts on the environment. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisites: completion of the 9th and 10th grade science curriculum with a "C" or better average as well as both Algebra I and Geometry.

Chemistry I Honors

2 semesters 1 credit

Through laboratory investigations, calculations, model construction, teamwork, and research, students will learn how Chemistry has contributed to our understanding of science. Students will study the relationships between matter's structure and function on both the microscopic and macroscopic levels. They will learn how chemists use their understanding of matter's physical and chemical properties to analyze the world around us. This course is designed for students who will pursue a Science related career. Topics of focus include the structure of matter, chemical & nuclear reactions, stoichiometry, organics and food energy, gases, acids & bases and chemical impacts on the environment. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisites: completion of the 9th and 10th grade science curriculum with a C or better average as well as both Algebra I and Geometry in accordance with a selection process as defined by the Talawanda School District.

AP Chemistry

2 semesters 1 credit

AP Chemistry is a continuation of Chemistry I and is designed for students who are striving for a deeper understanding of chemical concepts and their practical applications. Emphasis will be placed on inquiry-based learning, using integrated math and English skills. This class will incorporate the use of technology with hands-on experiences. Students will deepen their knowledge and experience from first-year chemistry, and focus topics will include equilibrium reactions, acids and bases, thermodynamics and electrochemistry. The course is yearlong and it is required that the AP Test be taken. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisites: completion of Chemistry I with a B or better average and teacher recommendation in accordance with a selection process as defined by the Talawanda School District.

Physics: Engineering and Robotics

2 semesters 1 credit

Any technology using electricity, magnetism, mechanics, heat, light, sound, optics, etc. relies on physics. This course will teach the concepts of physics involved in these technologies through various hands-on activities. Students will investigate the amazing phenomena of our world while conducting these lab exercises, and then apply their understanding through the engineering design process. Students will design and create 3-D printed items, as well as experiment with robotics (from mechanical design to coding). All modern technology is physics based, and many college majors require a Physics or Physics-related course. This class will prepare the students to be successful to tackle these concepts at the college level.

A lab fee is required.

Prerequisites: completion of the 9th and 10th grade science curriculum with a C or better average (or recommendation from Freshman Science teacher) as well as completion or concurrent registration in Algebra II.

Physics Honors

2 semesters 1 credit

Physics Honors emphasizes, in detail, the concepts and principles that describe our physical universe. The purpose of the course is to develop scientifically astute citizens who will be able to develop solutions to the technological problems of our world. Mechanics, energy, waves, circuits, astronomy, and atomic and nuclear structure are the major areas of study. The students participate in a variety of hands-on experiences with various kinds of lab equipment. This course is designed for students following the college preparatory career pathway and who will pursue a Science related career. A lab fee is required.

Prerequisites: completion of the 9th and 10th grade science curriculum with a B or better average as well as Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II in accordance with a selection process as defined by the Talawanda School District.

Engineering Design (CCP)

1 semester 1/2 credit

Engineering Design explores the engineering profession. Students will learn about the concentrations of engineering and their use in the real world. Students will have the opportunity to utilize engineering software, hand tools, and machine equipment to design and create models and structures. Students will improve student's problem-solving ability and knowledge of engineering, mathematics, technology, and science. Projects will differ from Engineering Foundations (TMS) and will expect a higher level of critical thinking skills. Topical units of instruction are directed to student level of competency and experience. Objectives and assessments should be commensurate to student course experience and prior learning experiences.

Prerequisite: Grade 10-12

SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies Program is to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in the social sciences. Students should learn to assess these materials, their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability and validity, and their importance and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in social science scholarship. Students should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in both the written and oral format. Students must be able to draw upon a reservoir of systematic, factual knowledge in order to exercise analytic skills intelligently. Ultimately educating students for responsible citizenship and productive lives is of primary importance.

The recommended sequence of required courses appears below.

<u>Grade 9</u>	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11/12</u>
Modern World History	American History	Required Elective American Government
Modern World History (Honors)	HST111/HST112 (CCP)	Required Elective (Honors/AP) POL101 (CCP)
	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>
	(available electives) Anthropology* World Geography*	Abnormal Psychology Anthropology Current Events The American Experience Sociology Psychology World Geography AP World History PSY110 (CCP)

Course Descriptions:

Required Courses:

Modern World History 2 semesters 1 credit

This course examines world events from 1600 to the present. It explores the impact of the democratic and industrial revolutions, the forces that led to world domination by European powers, the wars that changed empires, the ideas that led to independence movements and the effects of global interdependence. The concepts of historical thinking introduced in earlier grades continue to build with students locating and analyzing primary and secondary sources from multiple perspectives to draw conclusions. Prerequisite: none.

Modern World History Honors 2 semesters 1 credit

This course examines the same content and time frame as the college prep option. Honors students will be expected to engage in the following activities both in and out of class: reading weekly articles; writing multiple essays; engaging in frequent Socratic discussions; and working on independent research projects. Prerequisite: selection process defined by TSD.

American History

2 semesters 1 credit

This course examines the history of the United States of America from 1877 to the present. The federal republic has withstood challenges to its national security and expanded the rights and roles of its citizens. The episodes of its past have shaped the nature of the country today and prepared it to attend to the challenges of tomorrow. Understanding how these events came to pass and their meaning for today's citizens is the purpose of this course. The concepts of historical thinking introduced in earlier grades continue to build with students locating and analyzing primary and secondary sources from multiple perspectives to draw conclusions. The course is designed to prepare students with the necessary content to complete the State of Ohio's performance based and end-of-year assessments for high school American History.

Prerequisite: 10th grade or above.

American History: Early Settlers to Present HST 111/112 (CCP)

2 semesters 2 credits

HST 111: Survey of the formative years of the Republic from Colonial America through 1877. Topics include: early settlements, independence, slavery, expansion west, the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

HST 112: Survey of U.S. history from the end of Reconstruction until the present. Topics include: expansion, the Gilded Age, the Progressive Era, World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, and the 1960s.

Prerequisite: 10th grade and concurrently enrolled in Honors English II

American Government

1 semester 1/2 credit

Government and Politics is a required course for seniors designed to equip students to be active and knowledgeable participants in the political system after graduation. Major units include the study of the foundations of American Government; the political behavior of the American people; the purposes, structures, and processes of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches of the Federal Government. Students' attention will focus in particular throughout the course on current political issues and events at local, state, National, and international levels. The course is designed to prepare students with the necessary content to complete the State of Ohio's performance based and end-of-year assessments for high school American Government. Prerequisite: 11th or 12th grade.

Introduction to American Government POL 101 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

Study of the American political system at the national level. Topics include: democratic theory and principles, the Constitution, civil liberties, and citizen rights.

Prerequisite: 11th or 12th grade.

Elective Courses:

Abnormal Psychology

1 semester 1/2 credit

Abnormal Psychology will explore the multi-perspective approach to the diagnosis and treatment of various mental disorders. Students will utilize several strategies to research topics such as internet-based research, case studies, professional articles, and primary source documents. The disorders and their treatments and therapies discussed in this course include but are not limited to: anxiety, mood, and stress disorders; personality, addictive and organic disorders; childhood and adolescent disorders. Students will develop and understand the complexities and diversities of psychological treatments and therapies.

Prerequisite: 11th grade and successful completion of the survey Psychology course.

Anthropology

1 semester 1/2 credit

Anthropology is the study of people throughout the world, their evolutionary history, how they behave, adapt to different environments, communicate and socialize with one another. Anthropology is concerned both with the biological features that make us human, such as physiology, genetic makeup, nutritional history and evolution, and with social aspects, such as language, culture, politics, family and religion. A few common questions posed by anthropology are: How are societies different/same? How has evolution shaped how we think? What is culture? By studying peoples' lives in detail, anthropologists aim to increase understanding of us and of each other. We will study the origins of man, primate behavior, and the origins of culture and language. We will analyze different cultures and how they handle the questions of religion, magic, marriage, sex, family, and sustenance and land patterns. Through the study of Anthropology you will arrive at an understanding that our own culture gives us only one explanation from among numerous answers to simple questions. Prerequisite: 11th grade+ OR 10th grade with a B or better in World History.

Current Events

1 semester 1/2 credit

Current Events is a course designed to provide students with the requisite skills needed to critically analyze major issues as future citizens. This course looks at headlines from the international, national, state, local, and school wide levels. Although the content is constantly changing there are certain recurrent themes including domestic and foreign policy, the economy, war, crime and the environment. Students must be prepared to keep up with daily reading assignments and actively participate in class discussions. Prerequisite: 11th grade or above.

The American Experience

1 semester 1/2 credit

The American Experience is a one semester elective course designed to prepare students to live in 21st century America, a society that will be one of the most culturally diverse in history. The goal is to enable students to understand human similarities and differences; to increase empathy for human groups seeking security and integrity; a to recognize that "America" includes people of differing community, ethnic and cultural histories with differing points of view and degrees of empowerment. The course will begin with an exploration of the fundamental concepts of racism, ethnicity, and discrimination. Other topics covered will include issues of immigration and citizenship; social class; images of minorities in popular culture and the media; issues of religion in America; disability issues; gender issues; Native American identities. Prerequisite: 11th grade or above.

Psychology

1 semester 1/2 credit

Psychology is a science examining human and animal behavior from a wide range of perspectives. The course is designed to acquaint students with: research procedures; biological basis of behavior; human growth and development, learning, thinking, memory and intelligence; personality; states of consciousness; motivation; emotions, stress and health; and social psychology. Prerequisite: 11th grade or above.

Introduction of Psychology PSY 110 (CCP)

1 semester 1 credit

A course on psychology as the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Topics include: history, experimental psychology, clinical psychology, and human development. Prerequisite: 11th grade or above.

Sociology

1 semester 1/2 credit

Sociology is the social science specializing in the study of culture and society. Our emphasis will be on American culture and social institutions. Focal points include: group influences the individual, the unique behavior of different types of groups, and the way groups interact and communicate with each other. Specific course content deals with such topics as social research, cultures and subcultures, social structures, socialization, social stratification, social institutions, social problems, social deviance, criminology, penology and social and cultural change. Prerequisite: 11th grade or above.

World Geography

1 semester 1/2 credit

The guiding principle of the World Geography course is Think Globally; Act Locally. This course is intended to build upon students' understanding of geography and spatial thinking through the use of project-based learning centered around global, national, and local issues. World Geography is grounded in the six elements of geography: the world in spatial terms; places and regions; physical systems; human systems; environment and society; and the uses of geography. Through the study of the six elements, students will utilize the "geographer's toolkit" to successfully apply practical skills to examine historic, present, and future issues through a geographers' lens.

Prerequisite: 10th grade or above and the successful completion of Modern World History.

AP World History: Modern

2 semesters 1 credit

This course will focus on World History from 1200 CE to present-day. Beginning with a study of civilizations in Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe that are foundational to the modern era, the course will ensure an in-depth study of political developments, economic structures, and the emergence and comparisons of various world religions. The curriculum for this course is based on College Board curricular framework and will focus on the five course themes of AP World History: 1) interaction between humans and the environment 2) development and interaction of cultures 3) state building, expansion and conflict 4) creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems 5) development and transformation of social structures. The course will culminate with the required AP World History Modern exam.

Prerequisite: 11th grade or above and a selection process as defined by the Talawanda School District.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Some students require a continuum of curricular support to meet the needs of their educational plan. Supports are first provided in the general education setting. Should a student require more support, other learning opportunities are available including a functional academic curriculum, as appropriate to the student's needs. An educational team determines the need for these services and supports.

Academic Intervention

1 semester 1/2 credit

Intervention services provide more specialized instruction for students who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). This course focuses on the student's individualized services and may also provide support for improved study habits, assignment completion, career exploration, and related services. The content of the course is flexible to meet the individual needs of these students according to their IEP. The course can include organization of class assignments and notes, maintaining an assignment calendar, time management skills, reading strategies, drafting essays, conducting research, reviewing math formulas, and test-taking strategies. There is no fee for this course. Prerequisite: Individualized Education Plan

Work Study

1 semester variable credit

The Work Study program is a related service afforded to all students on an Individual Education Plan (IEP) in grades 9-12. Students must have regular attendance to be eligible for Work Study credit. This program promotes the development and practice of employability skills necessary for the acquisition and maintenance of future competitive employment. Students may achieve elective credit in proportion to the number of hours worked within the scheduled school year. Employment must always be outside of the immediate family and comply with Ohio's Division of Industrial Relation's Minor Labor Laws. The Work Study coordinator must approve all employment with parental/guardian consent for students under the age of eighteen. All parties (student, parent/guardian, Work Study coordinator, employer) involved in the Work Study experience will agree to compliance with the Work Study agreement with their signature. The grade (pass/fail) and the credit given to the student at the completion of the school year will be based on periodic evaluations. Students must remain in good standing or receive a positive termination upon completion of the work experience to receive a passing grade and credit. Giving an unacceptable notice of quitting the job or being fired by the employer is a negative termination resulting in a failing grade and no credit being earned.

There is no fee for this course.

Prerequisite: Individualized Education Plan

WORLD LANGUAGES

The World Language program rests on the belief that being bilingual is a valuable skill in today’s global economy. Being bilingual has multiple positive effects on the brain and cognitive development; it gives you an educational advantage over students who speak only one language. It fosters attitudes of inclusion and develops critical thinking. And more and more employers consider bilingualism a high priority in the workplace. Being able to communicate with other cultures is a huge social advantage and can open up so many more doors in life. The study of a language and culture will enable students to interact and communicate effectively with diverse communities here and abroad on a personal, social and business level. Students are encouraged to pursue a 3 to 4 year program in the same language.

The recommended sequence of courses would be:

<u>Grade 9</u>	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>	<u>Grade 12</u>
Spanish I Spanish II SPN101 (CCP)	Spanish II SPN101 (CCP) SPN102 (CCP)	SPN101 (CCP) SPN102 (CCP)	SPN102 (CCP)
French I	French II FRE101 (CCP)	FRE101 (CCP) FRE102 (CCP)	FRE102 (CCP)

Course Descriptions:

FRENCH

French I

2 semesters 1 credit

French I is designed as a one-year program open to all four grades. By the end of the year, a French I student would be expected to communicate at the novice-mid level according to the ACTFL (American Council of the Teaching of Foreign Language) standards. Novice-mid can identify with phrases, combine words, and express ideas with simple phrases and expressions to provide basic information and can understand simple questions and statements. Students will develop these basic skills in the areas of speaking, listening, reading, vocabulary, grammar, writing and study skills in the world language class. Students will be using interpretive, interpersonal and presentational skills in the classroom for both practice and assessment. They are expected to compare and contrast cultures embedded in the language program. Activities are based on authentic situations and have real meaning to the students.

Prerequisite: none.

French II

2 semesters 1 credit

French II is designed as a one-year program open to all four grades. By the end of the year, a French 2 student would be expected to communicate at the novice-high level according to the ACTFL (American Council of the Teaching of Foreign Language) standards. Students interact with others, negotiate meaning, and express preferences, feelings, and opinions in spoken and written communication. Novice-high can describe with phrases and can identify with short sentences in present time frame. They will be using interpretive, interpersonal and presentational skills in the classroom for both practice and assessment. They are expected to compare and contrast cultures embedded in the language program. Activities are based on authentic situations and have real meaning to the students.

Prerequisite: French I

Elementary French I FRN 101 (CCP)

2 semesters 1 credit

A course on French language and culture that provides the foundation for understanding, speaking, reading, and writing French.

Prerequisites: French I

Elementary French 2 FRN 102 (CCP)

2 semesters 1 credit

A continuation of FRN 101. Topics include: developing skills in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing French. Prerequisites: FRN 101

SPANISH

Spanish I

2 semesters 1 credit

Spanish I is designed as a one-year program open to all four grades. By the end of the year, a Spanish 1 student would be expected to communicate at the novice-mid level according to the ACTFL (American Council of the Teaching of Foreign Language) standards. Students interact with others, negotiate meaning, and express preferences, feelings, and opinions in spoken and written communication. Novice-mid can identify with phrases, combine words, and express ideas with simple phrases and expressions to provide basic information and can understand simple questions and statements. Students will develop these basic skills in the areas of speaking, listening, reading, vocabulary, grammar, writing and study skills in the world language class. Students will be using interpretive, interpersonal and presentational skills in the classroom for both practice and assessment. They are expected to compare and contrast cultures embedded in the language program. Activities are based on authentic situations and have real meaning to the students.

Prerequisite: none.

Spanish II

2 semesters 1 credit

Spanish II is designed as a one-year program open to all four grades. By the end of the year, a Spanish 2 student would be expected to communicate at the novice-high level according to the ACTFL (American Council of the Teaching of Foreign Language) standards. Students interact with others, negotiate meaning, and express preferences, feelings, and opinions in spoken and written communication. Novice-high can describe with phrases and can identify with short sentences in present time frame. They will be using interpretive, interpersonal and presentational skills in the classroom for both practice and assessment. They are expected to compare and contrast cultures embedded in the language program. Activities are based on authentic situations and have real meaning to the students.

Prerequisite: Spanish I.

Elementary Spanish I SPN 101 (CCP)

2 semesters 1 credit

A course on Spanish language and culture that provides the foundation for understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish. Prerequisites: Spanish I

Elementary Spanish II SPN 102 (CCP)

2 semesters 1 credit

A continuation of SPN 101. Topics include: developing skills in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish. Prerequisites: SPN 101

Intercultural Studies

1 semester 1/2 credit

The Intercultural studies class involves an in-depth look at the world's major cultures. The study of each of these cultures will focus upon historical and present-day culture and geography, family life and structure, social organizations, attitude on education, religious beliefs and institutions, economic life, political trends, and the intellectual and artistic accomplishments of men and women within the culture. The purpose of this course is to help students gain an understanding of themselves as members of a global community. Through the examination of diverse world cultures, students will come to appreciate both their heritage and that of other peoples.

COMPLETE LISTING OF DUAL ENROLLMENT & ADVANCED PLACEMENT OFFERINGS

Dual Enrollment & AP Courses:					
Available to Eligible 9th Graders:					PreReqs:
MUS102	Music History	3	Cincinnati State		
ART110	Intro to Art	3	Cincinnati State		
SPN101	Elementary Spanish I	4	Cincinnati State		Spanish I - B
IT 1050	IT Fundamentals*	3	Univ of Cincinnati		
IT 2040C	Fund of Web Development*	3	Univ of Cincinnati		
Available to Eligible 10th Graders:					
BIO111	Biology A	3	Cincinnati State		Eng II-Honors
BIO112	Biology B	3	Cincinnati State		Eng II-Honors
HST111	American History A	3	Cincinnati State		Eng II-Honors
HST112	American History B	3	Cincinnati State		Eng II-Honors
MUS115	History of Rock	3	Cincinnati State		
LH 110	Applied Botany*	3	Cincinnati State		
AGRI1107	Animal Science*	3	Southern State CC		
IT 101	Game Design & Programming II*	3	Cincinnati State		
IT 1080C	Computer Networking*	3	Univ of Cincinnati		IT Fund or Web
IT 2060C	Database Management*	3	Univ of Cincinnati		IT Fund or Web
IT 1090C	Computer Programming*	3	Univ of Cincinnati		IT Fund or Web
IT1081C	Systems Administration*	3	Univ of Cincinnati		IT Fund or Web
ENGR111	Intro to Engineering I	3	Cincinnati State		Geometry - C
SPN102	Elementary Spanish II	4	Cincinnati State		SPN101 - C
FRE101	Elementary French I	4	Cincinnati State		
Available to Eligible 11/12th Graders:					
AGRI 1101	Agriculture Economics	3	Southern State CC		
ECO105	Microeconomics	3	Cincinnati State		Algebra II
ENG101	English Composition I	3	Cincinnati State		
ENG104	Technical Writing - Eng Comp II	3	Cincinnati State		ENG101/AP - C
LIT240	The Novel	3	Cincinnati State		ENG101/AP - C
LIT270	Children's Literature	3	Cincinnati State		ENG101/AP - C
LIT285	Women Writers	3	Cincinnati State		ENG101/AP - C
BIO131	Biology I for Majors	5	Cincinnati State		Bio - B & Chemistry
MAT131	Statistics	3	Cincinnati State		Algebra II - B
MAT251	Calculus I	5	Cincinnati State		Hon Pre-Calc - B
POL101	American Government	3	Cincinnati State		
PSY110	Intro to Psychology**	3	Cincinnati State		
FRE102	Elementary French II	4	Cincinnati State		FRE101 - C
OT36*	AP Language & Composition				
OT36*	AP Chemistry				Chemistry I - B
	AP World History				
	AP Literature & Composition				
	AP Studio Art				
	Denotes OT36 Eligible				

COLLEGE READINESS PLANNING TOOL

Beginning the “College Process” can feel like an overwhelming task. This portion of the book is designed to help simplify and explain the steps you need to follow to reach your goal of college enrollment. The process should start early in your high school years. Below is a guideline of steps you should follow in each semester of grades 10 through 12.

SOPHOMORE YEAR - Fall Semester

- Discuss with family members and other adults about their careers to get ideas about fields you might want to pursue after graduation.
- Talk with your school counselor about your interests.
- Sign up for courses with your eyes on the prize! Regardless of your plans, there are courses your high school offers that can help you get there.
- Register in August/early September for the October PSAT (offered only once per year).
- Create a FOLDER/FILE where you will keep all testing, college, planning information! Keep track of any awards you receive as well – colleges will ask for this information!
- If your plan includes some type of training or education (college, technical school, etc) make sure to start looking into financial aid and scholarships in that area.
- Start gathering information on schools and training programs you’re interested in.
- Research what the program/college requires for admission.
- Find a consistent community service project to get involved in! Many employers and colleges like to see that you’re involved in an ongoing fashion in your school’s community!
- Make sure to stay on top of your grades. Meet with your teachers or school counselor if you are struggling in a class to make sure you’re doing all that you can to succeed.

SOPHOMORE YEAR - Spring Semester

- Meet with your school counselor again to check your credits and talk about your junior year schedule to make sure you’re on track and that your classes match your graduation requirements.
- Consider your summer possibilities! (Job, internship, volunteer work, etc.)
- Join a student group at THS. If there isn’t one that interests you, is there a student group you could start? Leadership roles look great on a college resume!
- Continue your work through your Ohio Means Jobs planner.

JUNIOR YEAR – Fall Semester

- Talk with your school counselor about your interests and options after graduation.
- Establish a personal EMAIL address. (Gmail, Hotmail or Yahoo are great choices) Make sure it is APPROPRIATE and PROFESSIONAL.
- Sign up for courses with your eyes on the prize! Regardless of your plans, there are courses your high school offers that can help you get there. Consider an ACT/SAT prep course!
- Make sure to ask about Test Dates for the PSAT (October only), ACT, & SAT.
- Update your FOLDER/FILE where you are keeping all testing, college, planning information!
- Continue gathering information on schools and training programs you're interested in.
- GO TO AT LEAST ONE COLLEGE FAIR!
- Attend the tutorial college visits – even if you've never heard of the school!
- Explore as much as you can about the programs on the Colleges 'websites.
- Make sure to stay on top of your grades. Meet with your teachers or counselor if you are struggling in a class to make sure you're doing all that you can to succeed.
- Take the practice ACT – currently offered at THS

JUNIOR YEAR - Spring Semester

- Meet with your school counselor again to check your credits and talk about your senior year schedule to make sure you're on track.
- Plan campus visits! See if your counselor has information regarding open house days or if the college is coming to your high school.
- Memorize your social security number! Once you leave high school, you will need it for job applications, college and training program applications, it will come in handy!
- Prepare for the ACT & SAT test. Check out your local library, the internet, and other resources for test prep! Ohio Means Jobs has great free resources to help with this.
- Make a scholarship file. Check out scholarships that are available to seniors this year and see how to make yourself eligible for ones that apply to you.
- In June, retake the ACT or SAT – depending on which exam you felt most comfortable with/scored highest on from March/April.

SENIOR YEAR - Fall Semester

- Take the ACT or SAT – only if you need it for score improvement or a scholarship.
- Visit with your school counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements.
- Keep working hard all year; senior grades can affect scholarship eligibility AND college acceptance.
- Visit with admissions counselors who come to your high school during tutorial.
- Attend a college fair. (Miami – Hamilton hosts a College Fair every fall!)
- Complete your college essay(s). (Not optional although the application may say otherwise.)
- Apply for admission at the colleges you've chosen – Nov 1st & Dec 1st are common deadlines.
- Find out if you qualify for scholarships at each college where you have applied.
- Visit colleges that you have applied to! Contact the college to see about visit days.
- Participate in FAFSA Day (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Be sure to send your Student Aide Report (SAR) to all schools to which you are applying!

SENIOR YEAR - Spring Semester

- Work on and COMPLETE all possible scholarship applications!
- Check out Scholarships available through the THS School Counseling office.
- Wait patiently as college acceptance letters arrive at different times.
- Decide which college to attend, and update your school counselor as you decide.
- Keep track of and observe deadlines for sending in all required fees and paperwork.
- Notify schools you will not attend of your decision.
- Compare financial aid packages from different schools.
- Notify your school counselor and college about any outside scholarships you received.

Understanding Your Transcript

Your high school transcript serves as an academic picture of you. It contains a variety of information. It shows the classes that you have taken from your freshman year through your senior year as well as any middle school courses that count towards graduation. It shows semester final grades only (no quarter grades or exam grades appear). If you have taken any courses with an add-on, those are indicated as well. Your grade point average (both weighted and un-weighted) is printed on your transcript. Your total credits attempted and earned for each year, attendance (including tardies), and state-based test scores are also listed.

You need to know that colleges use the information on your transcript to make decisions about your acceptance to their institution. They expect to see rigor in your course choices, strong grades, a competitive class rank and GPA, strong test scores and good attendance. Besides the information on your transcript, they may look at school activities, work experience and community service, letters of recommendation and application essays.

College Entrance Testing Information

PSAT – The PSAT is given to interested students (typically 10th/11th graders) in October of each year. The testing date for the PSAT is pre-determined by College Board and is the only date for the test each academic year. The PSAT also serves as the qualifier for juniors as a student for the National Merit Scholarship.

ACT – The ACT should be taken by the spring of the student's 11th grade year and is required for admission at most colleges/universities. The ACT is not offered at Talawanda High School but numerous testing locations are available in neighboring districts. Registration is completed at www.act.org.

SAT – The SAT should be taken by the spring of the student's 11th grade year and is required for admission at most colleges/universities. The SAT is not offered at THS, but is available at nearby schools/testing locations. Registration is completed at www.SAT.org

Fee Waivers are available for students who receive free or reduced lunch. Two exam waivers can be issued annually. Application fee waivers are available as well...see your school counselor for more information.