

Date: 12/4/14

For ACTION \_\_\_\_\_  
For INFORMATION   X  

Board Agenda: Yes   X    
No \_\_\_\_\_

**FROM:** Gerald R. Mann, Jr., Director of Secondary Instruction

**THROUGH:** Alvin L. Crawley, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

**TO:** The Honorable Karen Graf, Chair, and Members of the Alexandria City School Board

**TOPIC:** Program of Studies for 2015-16 for Secondary Schools

**BACKGROUND:** February 2, 2015 marks the start of the enrollment process for secondary students for the 2015-16 school year. Students and their families are provided with a Program of Studies that provides information on graduation and school practices that support their learning. The Program of Studies also includes a comprehensive list of courses available to meet graduation requirements, provide opportunities to explore a wide-range of disciplines, and meet diverse student needs and interests.

A committee of administrators and guidance staff from each school of the secondary schools, along with Curriculum & Instruction and Communications staff, worked to design and develop the proposed Program of Studies for the 2015-16 school year. These committee members worked with various departments in each school to solicit recommendations for course revisions, additions and deletions that incorporated trends in student interest and demand, as well as ensuring that the division is meeting new and revised course and graduation requirements from the Virginia Department of Education.

During October and November 2014, the Honors Review committee reviewed the 2014-2015 Program of Studies and made content, language, and course recommendations. The Program of Studies committee received and accepted the majority of the content and language recommendations provided by the Honors Review committee.

The entire proposed Program of Studies is attached for your review. The tables below provide an overview of changes from the previous Program of Studies (2014-15).

Once the Program of Studies is approved, it will be published on the ACPS website and printed in hard copy form for distribution to students, parents/guardians, and school staff at the end of January, as staff members begin to meet students and their parents/guardians to plan for each student's 2015-16 enrollment.

## PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2015-16 Revision SUMMARY

COURSE ADDITIONS					
Name	Credit	Rationale	Budget Implications		
			Materials	Staff	Facilities
Virginia and U.S. Government – We the People	1	This course was offered, but was not in the Program of Studies	None	None	
STEM Explorations III	.5	Third year of STEM Academy requires second course	None-	1 FTE	
DE Urban Alliance Internship / College Success Skills	2	This course is offered in collaboration with the Urban Alliance, a non-profit organization with a track record of effective programming to help high school seniors transition to college and careers.	None	None	None
Advanced Topics in German Language and Culture VI	1	To provide students with a means of maintaining and building upon the fluency they have worked to gain during their years in ACPS.	Will current resources	None (current)	
Advanced Topics in French Language and Culture VI	1	To provide students with a means of maintaining and building upon the fluency they have worked to gain during their years in ACPS.	Will current resources	None (current)	

COURSE DELETIONS					
Name	Credit	Rationale	Budget Implications		
			Materials	Staff	Facilities
Introduction to Hospitality Tourism & Recreation	.5	To correct the POS, course has not been offered for 2 years			
Hospitality Tourism & Recreation	1	To correct the POS, course has not been offered for 2 years			
Nutrition and Wellness	.5	To correct the POS, course has not been offered for 2 years			
Virginia Teachers for Tomorrow	1	Due to enrollment, to correct the POS, course has not been offered for 3 years			
DE Calculus with Analytic Geometry	1	Due to enrollment			

ON LINE COURSE ADDITIONS					
Name	Credit	Rationale	Budget Implications		
			Materials	Staff	Facilities
Computer Science	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Credit Recovery Algebra Functions and Data Analysis (AFDA)	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
AP Calculus BC (FLVS)	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
World History and Geography (1500-present)	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
World History and Geography (to 1500)	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
AP Human Geography	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Art History	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Personal Finance	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Physical Education (9/10)	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			

Health Grade 10	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Probability and Statistics	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Introduction to Communications and Speech	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Literacy and Comprehension 1	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Literacy and Comprehension 2	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Online Learning and Digital Citizenship	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Computer Applications- Office 2010	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			

### ON LINE COURSE DELETIONS

Name	Credit	Rationale	Budget Implications		
			Materials	Staff	Facilities
Trigonometry	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Creative Writing	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Grammar and Composition	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Contemporary World Issues	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Geography	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
World History	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
French IV	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Japanese I	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Japanese II	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
German III	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Spanish IV	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Computer Applications- Office 2007	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Gothic Literature	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Great Minds in Science	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Hospitality and Tourism	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Image Design and Editing	1	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Computer Literacy	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Criminology	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Archaeology	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Life Skills	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Mythology and Folklore	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Nutrition and Wellness	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Computer Fundamentals	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Philosophy	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Real World Parenting	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Social Problems I	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
Social Problems 2	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			
International Business	.5	Changes in Virginia Legislation			

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the School Board approve the proposed 2015-16 Program of Studies.

An Advisory Council of Instruction will be formed to review and study all proposed new Honors courses.

**IMPACT:** The adoption of the Program of Studies for 2015-16 will affect Secondary programming in options students have for class.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Gerald R. Mann, Jr., Director of Secondary Instruction

**ATTACHMENT:** Draft Program of Studies for 2015-16