

Date: 12/15/16

For ACTION X
For INFORMATION

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 2017-18 for Secondary Schools

BACKGROUND: February 6, 2016 marks the start of the enrollment process for secondary students for the 2017-18 school year. Students and their families are provided with a Program of Studies which provides information on graduation and school practices that support student learning. The Program of Studies also includes a comprehensive list of courses available to meet graduation requirements; provides opportunities to explore a wide-range of disciplines; and meets diverse student needs and interests.

A committee of administrators and guidance staff from each secondary school, along with Curriculum & Instruction and Communications staff, worked to design and develop the proposed Program of Studies for the 2017-18 school year. The 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.

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 (2016-17).

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 2017.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2017-18 Revision SUMMARY

COURSE ADDITIONS					
Name	Credit	Rationale	Budget Implications		
			Materials	Staff	Facilities
Advanced Spanish Dual Language	1	This course will prepare these students for the rigors of the Spanish IV Honors curriculum.	None	None	
STEM Seminar	1	New course for 11 th or 12 th grade students participating in the STEM academy.	None	1 FTE	
French 1	1	French 1 will be added as an 8 th grade course. This will allow 8 th graders the option of choosing Spanish 1 or French 1 if they chose to begin the language program in 8 th grade.	None	5 FTE	Classroom
AP Human Geograpghy	1	Creation of more AP level courses within the program of studies, specifically those offered at the Minnie Howard campus of T.C. Williams High School.	Textbooks	None (current)	
AP Research	1	The course is the 2 nd requirement for the AP Capstone diploma.	None	.8 FTE	
EAP AFDA	1	This additional course offering will provide more time with embedded language support for those students that need it.	None	None	

COURSE DELETIONS					
Name	Credit	Rationale	Budget Implications		
			Materials	Staff	Facilities
Firefighting I	2	The instructor for the course is to be funded by Alexandria City Fire Department and there has not been funding for the past three years and they do not expect future finding for this position.			
Introduction to Film Studies	.5	Have not offered this course in 3-4 years.			
Resource Organization	1	The current program contains a duplication of courses---Resource for Academic Purposes (RAP) and Resource Organization.			

ON LINE COURSE ADDITIONS					
Name	Credit	Rationale	Budget Implications		
			Materials	Staff	Facilities
3D Art I-Modeling	1	Offer an online option for students			
3D Art III- Animation	1	Offer an online option for students			
Anthropology	1	Offer an online option for students			
Astronomy: Exploring the Universe	1	Offer an online option for students			
Anatomy	1	Offer an online option for students			
Biotechnology	1	Offer an online option for students			
Biotechnology: Unlocking Nature's Secrets	1	Offer an online option for students			
Careers in Criminal Justice	1	Offer an online option for students			
Concepts in Fitness	1	Offer an online option for students			
Cosmetology: Cutting Edge Styles	1	Offer an online option for students			
Drugs and Alcohol	1	Offer an online option for students			
Family and Consumer Science	1	Offer an online option for students			

Family Living and Relationships	1	Offer an online option for students			
Forensic Science II: More Secrets of the Dead	1	Offer an online option for students			
Gothic Literature: Monster Stories	1	Offer an online option for students			
Health and Personal Wellness	.5	Offer an online option for students			
Health Grade 9 (.5 credit)	.5	Offer an online option for students			
History of the Holocaust	1	Offer an online option for students			
Homebound PE and Health	1	Offer an online option for students			
International Business: Global Commerce in the 21 st Century	1	Offer an online option for students			
Introduction to Nursing I	1	Offer an online option for students			
Introduction to Nursing II	1	Offer an online option for students			
Introduction to Women's Studies: A Personal Journey through Film	1	Offer an online option for students			
Law and Order: Introduction to Legal Studies	1	Offer an online option for students			
Lord of the Rings: An Exploration of the Films and their Literary Influence	1	Offer an online option for students			
Medical Terminology (1 credit)	1	Offer an online option for students			
Medical Terminology (0.5 credit)	.5	Offer an online option for students			
Mythology and Folklore: Legendary Tales	1	Offer an online option for students			
Online Learning and Digital Citizenship	1	Offer an online option for students			
Peer Counseling	1	Offer an online option for students			
Personal Training	1	Offer an online option for students			
Physiology	1	Offer an online option for students			
Social Problems II: Crisis, Conflicts, and Challenges	1	Offer an online option for students			
Sports and Entertainment Marketing	1	Offer an online option for students			
Theater, Cinema, and Film Production	1	Offer an online option for students			
Veterinary Science: The Care of Animals	1	Offer an online option for students			
World Religions: Exploring Diversity	1	Offer an online option for students			
Physical Education 9 (0.5 credit)	.5	Offer an online option for students			
Health Grade 9 Credit Recovery (0.5 credit)	.5	Offer an online option for students			
Physical Education 9 Credit Recovery (0.5 credit)	.5	Offer an online option for students			

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the School Board approve the proposed 2017-18 Program of Studies.

IMPACT: The adoption of the Program of Studies for 2017-18 will affect Secondary programming in options students have for class.

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

ATTACHMENT: Draft Program of Studies for 2017-18