

HOPATCONG HIGH SCHOOL

8th GRADE

CURRICULUM HANDBOOK

2023-2024



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mr. Scott Francis - *President*
Mrs. Nicole Falconi-Shubert - *Vice President*
Mr. Philip DiStefano
Mr. Joseph Falconi
Mr. Gerard Gruenfelder
Mrs. Jayna Gulan
Mrs. Jennifer Johnson
Mrs. Jennifer Polowchena
Mrs. Jacqueline Turkington

Mr. Art DiBenedetto
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Jeff Hallenbeck
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Stephanie Martinez	Principal, Grades 8-12
Mr. Peter Oesen	Coordinator of Student Activities
Mr. Kurt Zimmermann	Coordinator of Student Discipline
Mrs. Tammy Miller	District Director of Special Services
Mrs. Lisa Dunmyer	School Counselor
Ms. Michelle Minimi	School Counselor & Student Assistance Coordinator
Mrs. Linda Padula	School Counselor
Ms. Melissa Stein	School Counselor
Mrs. Stacy Yanko	Administrative Assistant to School Counseling

HOPATCONG HIGH SCHOOL
PO Box 1029, Windsor Avenue
Hopatcong, New Jersey 07843
Main Number: 973.398.8803 Fax: 973.398.9048
Guidance: 973.770.8861 Guidance Fax: 973.398.6446
www.hopatcongschools.org

All courses are offered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, gender, gender identity or disability.

INTRODUCTION

This curriculum handbook is designed to assist students in their academic planning. Students should consult with parents, teachers and counselors before determining their program for next year. Factors to be considered include:

- Requirements for high school graduation
- Career plans
- Course descriptions
- Prerequisites
- Previous credit

Table of Contents

Graduation Requirements	4
5 Year Sequence	5-6
Art	7
English	7
Mathematics	8
Performing Arts	8
Physical Education	8
Science	9
Social Studies	9
Technology	9
World Language	10

HHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Class of: _____

Name: _____ / = Passed O = Failed W = Withdraw Ø = Passed (2nd time)

COURSE	GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English - 4 years		English 1	English 2	English 3	English 4
Math - 3 years (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 - or equivalent)					
Science - 3 years (Biology, 2 years lab)					
Social Studies - 3 years (World, US1, US2)					
PE/Health - 4 years		PE/Health 9	PE/Dr. Ed 10	PE/Health 11	PE/Health 12
World Language - 1 year					
Financial Literacy - 1 semester					
Visual or Performing Art - 1 year					
21st Century Life & Careers - 1 year					
Electives (other)					
NJSLA/Alt Assessment (Demonstrate Proficiency)	ELA	ELA	ELA	ELA	ELA
	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
TOTAL Credits (min = 120)					

NOTES:

SUGGESTED 5-YEAR SEQUENCE

<u>GRADE 8</u>	
English 8 (Advanced or General)	-
PE 8/Health 8	-
Social Studies 8 (Advanced or General)	-
Math 8 (no HS Credit) OR Algebra 1 (for 5 HS Credits)	-/5
Science 8 (Advanced or General)	-/6
Specials Cycle (no HS Credit) OR Spanish 1 (for 5 HS Credits)	-/5
CTE Exploration Cycle OR Band (semester) or Chorus (semester) (for 2.5 HS Credits)	-/2.5
Lunch	-
	0 - 21

<u>GRADE 9 GRADE 10</u>			
English 1	5	English 2	5
PE 9/Health 9	5	PE 10/Driver Education	5
World History	5	US History I	5
Algebra 1 (or equivalent) OR Geometry	5	Geometry (or the equivalent) OR Algebra II	5
Biology or equivalent (may include lab for 5/6 additional credit)	5/6	Science (e.g. Chemistry) (may include lab for additional credit)	5/6
Spanish	5	Spanish	5
Career or Arts Elective (5 credits) or Financial Literacy (2.5 credits)	5 or 2.5	Career or Arts Elective (5 credits) or Financial Literacy (2.5 credits)	5 or 2.5
Lunch	-	Lunch	-
	35-36		35-36

<u>GRADE 11 GRADE 12</u>			
English 3	5	English 4	5
PE 11/Health 11	5	PE 12/Health 12	5
Algebra II (or the equivalent) OR Math Elective	5	Math Elective	5
Science (e.g. Physics) (may include lab for additional credit)	5/6	Science Elective (may include lab for additional credit)	5/6
US History II	5	Social Studies Elective	5
Spanish/Elective	5	Spanish/Elective	5
Elective	5	Elective	5
Lunch	-	Lunch	-
	-	Early Release/Late Arrival with parent permission	-
	35-37		35-37

Concurrent Course Distinctions:

*-Sussex County Community College Credit ***-- Seton Hall University Credit

ART

ART - **Special**

The course introduces students to the elements and principles of art and encourages students to work with a variety of mediums to investigate the formal elements of design including line, form, texture, composition, and color.

GRAPHIC DESIGN - Special

Students will be introduced into the world of commercial graphics. They will explore design in the areas of typography, desktop publishing, and digital illustration.

PHOTOGRAPHY - Special

This course will introduce students to black & white fine art photography and the essential procedures for understanding the photographic process.

ENGLISH

LANGUAGE ARTS 8 - Basic

The course follows the same theme as English 8 in addition to focusing on improving students' lexile levels, writing and comprehension skills.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8

This course focuses on reading, comprehension, grammar, writing and vocabulary and is centered around four themes; Rites of Passage, Holocaust, What Matters and Human Intelligence. The units are guided by NJSLS for ELA and novels are selected to drive instruction.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8 ADVANCED

This advanced course follows the same theme as English 8 but is designed to push students to a higher level of reading and writing ability. Students will select novels for independent reading and be assigned supplemental work including a research paper.

CREATIVE WRITING - Special

This course offers interested students the opportunity to develop and enhance their writing talents beyond the scope of the regular English developmental writing curriculum. Students may contribute to the school's literary publication, as well as demonstrate sufficient writing proficiency to enter professional contests geared to their grade level and including varying writing categories. Enrichment via the reading of famous authors will supplement and enhance instruction.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

This course is offered each year to qualifying students requiring language training in English based on family background, teacher recommendation and test results.

JOURNALISM - Special

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of journalism. Students learn how to write news articles, feature articles, reviews, editorials, and op-ed articles. Furthermore, this course provides the foundation and procedures for publication in the school's newspaper. Students enrolled are encouraged to take leadership positions in the school's newspaper, becoming a contributing staff member after completing the course.

MATHEMATICS

MATH 8 - B

This grade 8 Mathematics course will move the students from the concepts developed in grades 6 and 7 at a less accelerated pace, modeling relationships with variables and equations and ratio and proportional reasoning, to making connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations. A foundation of conceptual understanding and procedural skills will be laid to prepare for Algebra 1.

MATH 8

Grade 8 Mathematics will move the students from the concepts developed in grades 6 and 7, modeling relationships with variables and equations and ratio and proportional reasoning, to making connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations. A foundation of conceptual understanding and procedural skills will be laid to prepare for Algebra 1.

ALGEBRA I CP - 5 High School Credits

This course emphasizes the basic principles of Algebra and enables students to develop their ability to solve complex problems in a logical and systematic manner. Students will study expressions, equations and the relationship between them. Conceptual understanding and procedural skills will be stressed equally. This course is a prerequisite for Geometry and provides a strong algebraic foundation for all subsequent mathematics courses.

PERFORMING ARTS

BAND - 2.5 (semester) High School Credits

Band members will learn to appreciate and perform a wide variety of classical and contemporary music for concert band. Knowledge of rhythms, scales and attention to musical interpretation will be stressed. Additional small group and/or individual instruction will employ intermediate and advanced methods of Belwin, Rhubank or the equivalent. The participation of all band members in rehearsals and all scheduled public performances throughout the school year is required unless previously excused by the director. A weekly instrumental lesson is required of all band members.

CHORUS - 2.5 (semester) High School Credits

The choral experience provides an opportunity for students to learn vocal techniques and sing a wide variety of contemporary and classical vocal music. The participation of all chorus members in rehearsals and all public performances scheduled during the semester is required, unless previously excused by the director.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Physical Education Program includes instruction in the following types of activities: body mechanics, individual/dual activities, aerobics, recreation activities, games, physical fitness activities, conditioning activities, lifetime activities, team activities, and health education. The Health Education Program will include instruction in the following areas (by grade level):

PHYS ED 8/HEALTH 8 (marking period)

The 8th grade health education curriculum is tailored to meet the NJ State Standards for health education through a variety of teaching styles and learning strategies. Our students will become health literate individuals, with the knowledge and the skills to live long healthy lifestyles beyond the classroom. This course includes such topics as; Health & Wellness, Nutrition, Emotional Health, Personal Safety, Substance Disorder & Treatment, Social & Sexual Health, Pregnancy & Parenting, and Community Health Services & Support.

ARCHERY 8 (marking period)

This course is designed for students to develop an understanding of archery as an individual sport as well as a lifetime recreational activity. Students will gain an understanding of safety principles, equipment, technique and terminology.

SCIENCE

SCIENCE 8 - Physical Science

The course provides an overview of the physical world and gives students tools and concepts to think clearly about matter, atoms, molecules, chemical reactions, motion, force, momentum, work and machines, energy, waves, electricity, light, magnetism and other aspects of chemistry and physics as well as topics defining science, technology, and engineering principles.

SCIENCE 8 - ADVANCED Physical Science

The course provides an overview of the physical world and gives students tools and concepts to think clearly about matter, atoms, molecules, chemical reactions, motion, force, momentum, work and machines, energy, waves, electricity, light, magnetism and other aspects of chemistry and physics as well as topics defining science, technology, and engineering principles. This is the same course as Science 8 - Physical Science, but topics will be explored at a deeper level and in more detail.

SOCIAL STUDIES

SOCIAL STUDIES 8

Students will explore the beginnings of American History including lessons in civics, geography, government and economics. The Holocaust and New Jersey history is infused into the curriculum.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8 ADVANCED

Students will explore the beginnings of American History including lessons in civics, geography, government and economics. The Holocaust and New Jersey history is infused into the curriculum. The advanced course will explore these topics at a deeper level and an accelerated rate.

TECHNOLOGY

INTRO TO WOODSHOP - SPECIAL

This course provides students an introduction to shop safety, tools, and construction.

CONCEPTS OF GAMING 2.5 (semester) High School Credit

This course is designed to give students a sense of design and art, plus the technical know-how to build an exciting video game. It is an appropriate starting point for students who seek a professional career as a game developer. It is also well-suited for enthusiastic amateurs and gamers looking to explore this exciting field. No prior game or graphics programming experience is necessary. Students work with a game engine software framework to design and implement several kinds of games. Additional topics include animation techniques, physics simulation, user controls, graphical methods, and intelligent behaviors

***Upon successful completion of course requirement, 2.5 college credits may be awarded.**

STEAM 8 - Special

Middle School is the perfect time for students to explore the numerous opportunities open to them, as well as the hidden talents they may not even realize they possess. This STEAM course of study is designed to develop the critical thinking skills of the 8th grade student, giving them ample opportunities to explore problem-solving abilities, work both individually and as part of a team, and employ the Engineering Design Process. This marking period course is designed to give students opportunities for hands-on, project based learning. Student's will review basic principles of engineering, architecture, and design. STEAM - Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. We will be covering the following topics, which will help us to cover the New Jersey Student Learning Standards: Lab Safety, What is engineering?, The Engineering Design Process, Science of Color, Design Challenges and Problem Solving.

WORLD LANGUAGE

SPANISH 8 - Special

This course provides students with the interpersonal, interpretive and presentational oral and written skills they need to create communication for a higher level than grade 7. Students will listen to and respond to authentic Spanish conversations and engage in more extensive writing and reading assignments.

SPANISH 1 CP - 5 (full year) High School Credits

This high school course is available for the 8th grade student who has shown exceptional progress in 7th grade Spanish. The fundamentals of Spanish grammar are presented in the first year course with an increasing emphasis on Spanish conversation and pronunciation. Also introduced is the development of knowledge of Spain and selected countries of Central and South America, past and present, with the characteristics and life of the Spanish-speaking people of these countries.