



# **Tolland High School**

January 2024

Mrs. Foran \* Mr. Conklin \* Mrs. Grady \* Mrs. Durham

# Class of 2028

## Course Registration Workshop

- TMS vs. THS
- Graduation Requirements
- Required Courses vs. Electives
- How to Choose Courses
- Course Selection Process



# What are some of the *academic* differences in grade 9?

- You must earn CREDITS in order graduate.
- Credit is earned by receiving a passing grade (65) and meeting attendance requirements.
- Some courses are REQUIRED of all students, and some are electives (classes you get to choose)!
- Core academic classes are leveled.
- Block Schedule 4x4
- Attendance



Subject Area	Credits	Taken in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade
<b>Humanities</b>		
English	4	✓
Social Studies	3	✓
Fine Arts	1	
Humanities Elective	1	
<b>STEM</b>		
Math	3	✓
Science	3	✓
STEM Electives	3	
World Language	1	
Financial Literacy	1	
PE/Health/Wellness	2	✓
Mastery Based Diploma Assessment	1	
Electives	6 or more	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	

## Credit Requirements Needed for Graduation

# Course Selection

## **Required Courses:**

These will be  
recommended  
for you.

**Elective Courses:**  
You will choose  
these.



# TYPICAL GRADE 9 SCHEDULE

	FALL	SPRING
1	Elective	Health/PE 9
2	English	World Language
3	Math	Elective (for some a second math)
4	Modern World History	Integrated Science

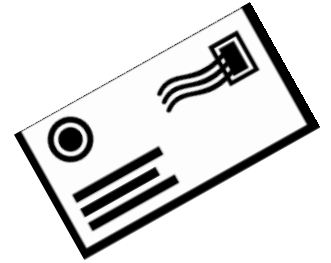
**\*\* Lunch is scheduled during your 3<sup>rd</sup> block class.\*\***

# Course Selection Process

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will be making recommendations for levels in your academic areas ( English , Social Studies, Science, Math and World Language, if applicable). These recommendations are based on data such as benchmarks, grades, NWEA and SBAC scores.
- Using the recommendations, you will be asked to enter your course requests and alternatives into PowerSchool with your parent/guardian.
- THS and TMS counselors will meet with you in groups to review what you entered.

# Course Selection Process cont.

- Your course requests will be sent home for your parent/guardian to review again.
- You will meet with Mrs. Miller to talk about transitioning to THS. You can join a pathway at this time.
- The high school schedule will be created. Alternatives will be used to complete schedules that have conflicts.
- You will receive your schedule late in August prior to the start of school.





# How to Read the Course Catalog

(page 9, top left)

## INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS

120

Level: NL  
Open to Grades: 9-10  
Prerequisite: None

This project-based course introduces students to the ever-changing field of business with a focus on economics, entrepreneurship, personal finance, and marketing. Students will have the opportunity to explore leadership styles, apply the economic decision-making process, practice public speaking and soft skill development, learn financial literacy concepts, and create and develop a marketing plan. In class, students engage with their peers to actively practice the 21st century skills of communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking through a variety of engaging and interactive assignments. Key activities in this course require students to: design infographics and advertisements, participate in the CT Stock Market game to research and analyze corporations, investigate entrepreneurial, nonprofit, and social enterprise organizations, and more. Team building, project management, current events and the CT Stock Market Game are integrated throughout the course.



## Class of 2028 Course Selection for THS



The following worksheet will

- explain a grade 9 schedule
- explain how levels are selected
- show the available electives for grade 9 students
- provide a workspace to write down some of your choices prior to entering them in the PowerSchool registration portal.

### TYPICAL 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE COURSE LOAD:

ALL STUDENTS will be scheduled for 8 classes and Eagle Block:

Eagle Block	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6	Class 7	Class 8
All students are in an Eagle Block, like 8 <sup>th</sup> grade homeroom.	Health/ PE 9	English 1	Integrated Science	World History	Math - all students take at least 1 math class - most students will take 2	Math #2 OR elective	World Language or elective	Elective

### How do I know which class to take in each area?

Eagle Block	All students are randomly assigned to an Eagle Block.
Health/ PE 9	All students are signed up for this/ no recommendations made.
English 1	All students will take the class, however, may take it at different levels. Students will be recommended for non levelled (NL), college preparatory (CP) or honors (H).
World History	All students will take the class, however, may take it at different levels. Students will be recommended for NL, CP or H.
Integrated Science	All students will take the class, however, may take it at different levels. Students will be recommended for NL, CP or H.
Math	Many students will take 2 math classes in grade 9. For most students, the sequence will follow Students in Math 8 - will take TWO math classes next year, Algebra 1(A) and 1(B), recommendation will be made for NL or CP- students will take both classes Students currently in Algebra 1A - will take Algebra 1(B), some students will also be recommended for H Geometry or CP Geometry. Students in Algebra 1AB - will take ONE math course in grade 9 - Geometry, recommendation will be made for CP or H.

Many students will take a **World Language** in grade 9. Some students will wait until grade 10. For those students who have started a language at TMS, they should continue to take a language at THS.

French 2/Spanish 2	Students who are currently enrolled in either French AB or Spanish AB and have an average above 80 will take French or Spanish 2; this may change with teacher recommendation.
French 1/ Spanish 1	Students who have not taken French or Spanish at TMS may choose to begin a language at THS. Some students who took French AB or Spanish AB may be recommended to take French 1 or Spanish 1 at THS.
Preliminary Spanish	This is an introductory Spanish course which may stand alone as a student's world language requirement or be used as a steppingstone to the Spanish sequence of courses.

## Electives

Electives are courses that you are not required to take. Electives fulfill graduation requirements. Choosing electives should be based on YOUR INTERESTS and areas you want to explore. You should NOT choose them based on what your friends are doing- the high school offers multiple sections of courses and although you may make similar selections, it does not mean you will have the same schedule.

ALL students will choose 3 electives and 3 alternative electives.

The following courses are open to grade 9 students. Using the course catalog, you can fill in some of the information such as challenge level, grade level, and description.

Department	Course	Level	Open to grades.....	Description	Are you interested in taking this course?
Business	Keyboarding for Info. Processing				
	Introduction to Business				
	Economics				
English	Journalism				
Family Consumer Science	Culinary Arts I			*Due to over enrollment, 8 <sup>th</sup> grade students may only enter this class as an alternative*	
Music	CP Band				
	CP Chorus				
	CP Band/Chorus				
	Guitar				
	Electric Piano				
	Theater Studies				
	UConn /H Popular Music...			*this is a college level course*	
	Independent Musical Studies			*need prior band experience or permission of instructor*	
Technology/Computer Science	Intro Computer Science				

	Intro to Technology				
	CAD/Drafting I				
	Print Media/Graphics I				
	Principles of Engineering			* algebra required*	
	Introduction to Engineering				
Visual Arts	Art Foundations				

## Workspace

Record your requests prior to entering them in the PowerSchool registration portal:

World Language?	
Elective Choice 1	
Elective Choice 2	
Elective Choice 3	
Alternative 1*	
Alternative 2	
Alternative 3	

\* Please note that we ask for ALTERNATIVE course requests in addition to your initial requests. Students may not get their first choices of classes. We often need back-up courses to fill your schedule.



# Pathways

- Pathways allow students a more focused opportunity to explore a career pathway and/or interest .
- A suggested progression of courses however NOT required.
- Partnerships with employers, community and higher education.
- Students are not “locked-in” to a pathway.
- Examples of pathways activities from this year.
- 2 Pathways at THS: BUSINESS and ENGINEERING
- More information can be found in the course catalog.
- Students can sign up with Mrs. Miller .







# **Mrs. Kirwin** **UConn Popular Music and** **Diversity in American Society**

- College Level Course
- Potential to earn college credit/ option to take for only THS honors credit
- Grades 9-12
- No musical performances
- Examines American popular music within its historical and societal context, primarily throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- Course will include regular homework and presentations.

# QUESTIONS

