

# 2024-2025 Program of Studies

School Board Meeting  
Thursday, October 19, 2023





# Essential Questions

1. What is the **purpose** of the Program of Studies?
2. What are **new course offerings** in the 2024–25 Program of Studies?
3. What courses and descriptions have **changed** in the 2024–25 Program of Studies?
4. What courses were **replaced** in the Program of Studies?
5. What **virtual learning options** will be available to students in 2024–25?
6. How will the Program of Studies impact **educational programming for The High School Project**?





# Purpose of the Program of Studies

- Provides students and families with a **list of approved course offerings at the 6-12 secondary level**
- Supports professional school counselors as they plan for the **academic advisement** period
- Includes **course requirements, descriptions and expectations**
- **Provides information about the academies and learning pathways for grades 9-12** (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics [STEM]; Business and Government, Liberal Arts and Human Services, Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts, and Global Studies)
- **Outlines graduation requirements**
- Links school-based learning with the **knowledge and skills** required for success in the workplace



# Program of Studies: Points to Remember

- Students choose courses based on **areas of interests**.
- Students can **choose a pathway and still take courses outside** of their chosen pathway.
- All students take required **core content classes needed for graduation**.
- All courses are **aligned to Virginia Department of Education Standards of Learning (curriculum) and Instruction**.





# Course Additions

## High School: Career & Technical Education

- Medical Terminology (non-dual enrollment option)
- Automotive Technology II (non-dual enrollment option)
- Automotive Technology III (non-dual enrollment option)
- Dual Enrollment Teachers for Tomorrow I & II
- Teachers for Tomorrow II
- Dual Enrollment Technical Drawing
- Game Design and Development I
- Dual Enrollment Manufacturing Systems I
- Manufacturing Systems I
- Dual Enrollment Construction Technology
- Engineering Studies Seminar
- Firefighting I



## Course Additions (cont.)

### High School: Alternative Options toward Graduation

- Adult High School Diploma Program (online)
- Alternative Pathways to Achievement (APA): English 9-12
- Alternative Pathways to Achievement (APA): Social Studies 9-12
- Alternative Pathways to Achievement (APA): Math 9-12 Progression
- Alternative Pathways to Achievement (APA): Science 9-12
- Alternative Pathways to Achievement (APA): Economics and Personal Finance
- Alternative Pathways to Achievement (APA): English for Academic Purposes
- Alternative Pathways to Achievement (APA): Strategies for Academic Success



## Course Additions (cont.)

### High School: Online Learning

- Advanced Placement European History (Virtual Virginia)
- Advanced Placement Comparative Government (Virtual Virginia)
- Personal Psychology I (Online 0.5 credit)
- Personal Psychology II (Online 0.5 credit)
- Sociology I (Online 0.5 credit)
- Sociology II (Online 0.5 credit)
- Sustainability and Renewable Technologies (Online 1.0 credit) (Not for CTE credit)
- Biology II/Ecology (Online 1.0 credit)
- Biology II: Anatomy and Physiology (Online 1.0 credit)



## Course Additions (cont.)

### High School: Specialized Instruction

- Resource for Academic Purposes: Reading and Math
- Resource for Academic Purposes: Reading
- Resource for Academic Purposes: Math
- Employment Training II: Junior Internship
- Employment Training II: Senior Internship





## Course Additions (cont.)

### High School: Math

- October 19 Recommendation
  - Advanced Placement Precalculus
- November 2 Recommendation
  - No addition in math
  - Maintain the precalculus course as is



## Course Additions (cont.)

### High School: Social Studies

- World Geography
- Latin American Studies
- Advanced Placement African American Studies
- English for Academic Purposes (EAP) General History



## Course Additions (cont.)

### High School: Fine Arts

- Jazz Band B
- Colore Dolce



## Course Additions (cont.)

### High School: Physical Education

- Aquatics Fitness and Activities



## Course Additions (cont.)

### High School: World Languages

- American Sign Language I (in-person)
- American Sign Language II (in-person)



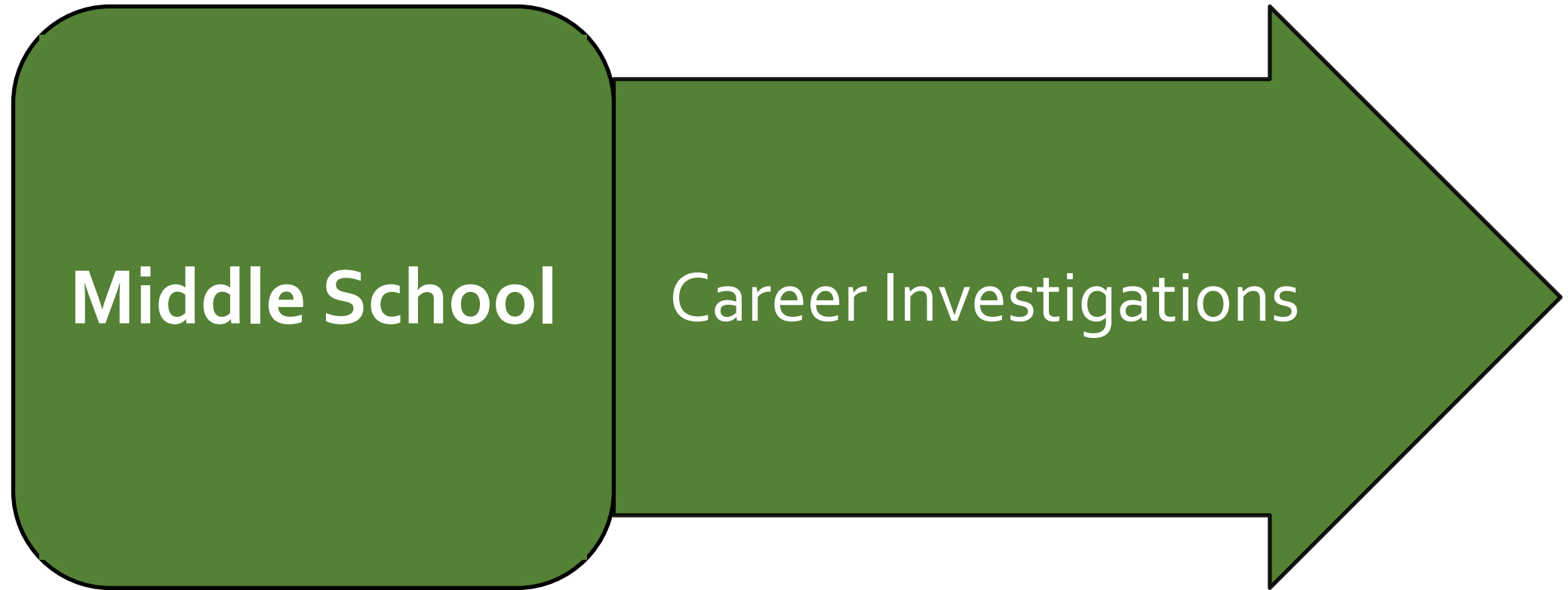
# Course Additions (cont.)

High School:  
Student  
Support

Advisory



## Course Additions (cont.)





# Course Expansions

Wind Ensemble	Expanding grade offering
Advanced Choir	Expanding grade offering
Personal Finance (for Students with Disabilities only)	Grade 12 offering only
Aerospace Technology	Expanding grade offering
Aerospace Technology II	Expanding grade offering
Technical Drawing and Design I	Changing grade offering
Commercial Photography I	Expanding grade offering
Commercial Photography II	Expanding grade offering







## Course Expansions (cont.)

Criminal Justice I	Expanding grade offering
Criminal Justice II	Expanding grade offering
Introduction to Health and Medical Sciences	Expanding grade offering
Child Development	Expanding grade offering
Teachers for Tomorrow	Expanding grade offering and changing prerequisite
Automotive Technology I	Expanding grade offering





# Updates to Course Description & Prerequisites

Army JROTC II	Adding prerequisite
Army JROTC III	Adding prerequisite
Army JROTC IV	Adding prerequisite
Dual Enrollment Advanced Early Childhood Education and Services II	Adding prerequisite
Advanced Engineering Drawing and Design II	Expanding grade offerings, increasing to 1.0 credit, and adding prerequisite
Advanced Placement Music Theory	Updated prerequisite
Computer Applications - Office 2010 (Online)	Credit increase
Earth Science II: Astronomy	Change course level
Biology II: Human Anatomy and Physiology	Updated course description
Honors Virginia and U.S. History	Change of course description
Journalism II	Adding prerequisite





# Updates to Course Titles

Fitness I	Personal Fitness
Fitness II	Strength Training
Jazz Ensemble	Jazz Band A
Strings Discovery	String Orchestra I
String Orchestra I	String Orchestra II
String Orchestra II	String Orchestra III
String Orchestra III	String Orchestra IV
Chamber Orchestra	String Orchestra V





# Updates to Course Titles

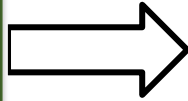
Performance Ensemble/Show Choir	Choir Performance Ensemble
Music Laboratory/Guitar	Guitar I
Music Theory I	Music Theory
Introduction to Theatre: Character Creation and Theatre Appreciation	Introduction to Theatre
Intermediate Theatre: From Page to Stage	Intermediate Theatre
Advanced Theatre: Theatre for Competition and Community Performance	Advanced Theatre





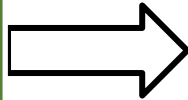
# Course Deletions and Replacements

Algebra II and Trigonometry (Online)



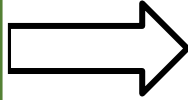
Aligning to VDOE Curriculum. Algebra II and other advanced math courses are offered in the current Program of Studies (POS).

Calculus (Online)



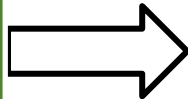
Aligning to VDOE Curriculum. Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus is offered in the current POS.

Introduction to Fashion Careers



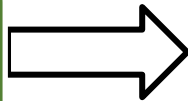
Competencies are covered in Fashion I and Fashion II, courses that are offered in the current POS.

Resource for Academic Purposes (RAP)



Replaced with courses for students with disabilities that specifically provide reading and math interventions.

Precalculus



~~Replaced with AP Precalculus to provide students with the chance to earn a college credit.~~



# Virtual Learning

For the 2024–2025 school year, virtual learning will be an option for elementary students through Virtual Virginia.

Virtual learning for secondary students will be through Imagine Learning Edgenuity.

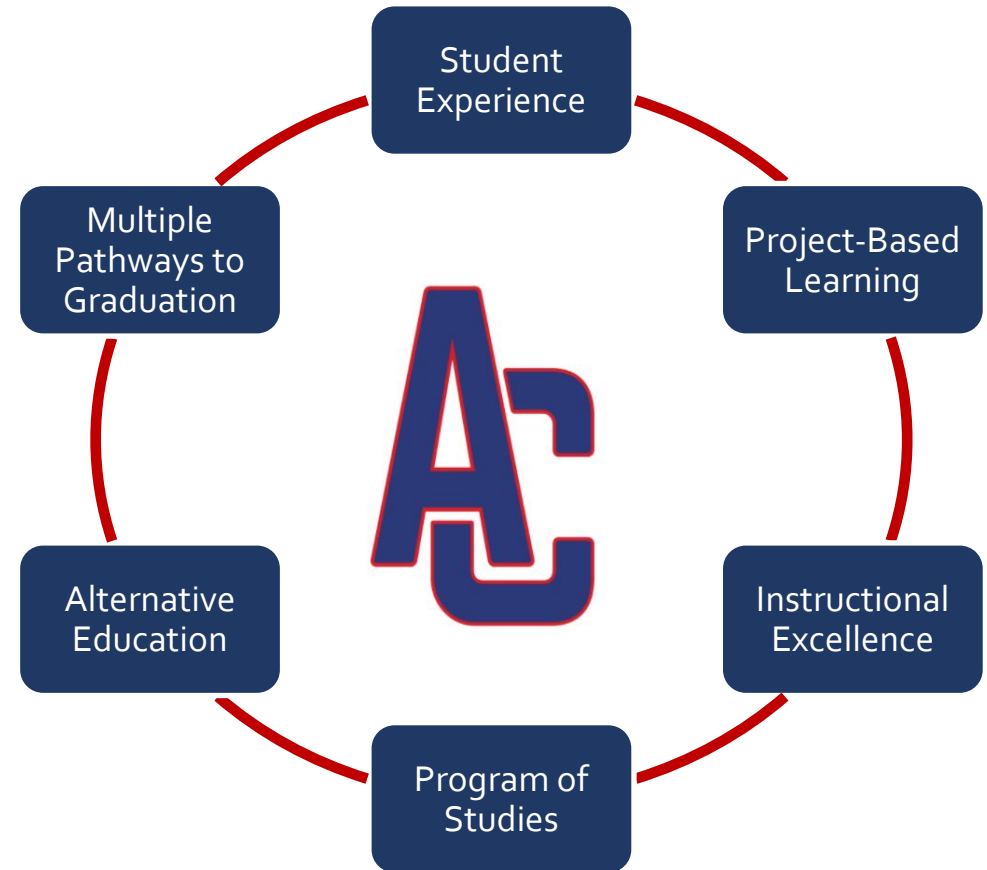


imagine  
edgenuity



# Core Values and Drivers

- Equity
- Relationships and Community
- Achievement and Growth
- Student Choice and Multiple Pathways





# Program of Studies Key Terms

Academies	Pathways	Small Learning Communities
<p>Academies are an umbrella of instructional/ programmatic themes that provides a comprehensive curriculum within a specified field or concentration area.</p> <p>They bring diverse students together around common learning concepts and experiences.</p>	<p>Pathways are the sequence of courses, resources, and experiences needed for graduation and certification area.</p> <p>They are customized to meet the needs and interest areas of ACHS learners, meaning they are flexible and adaptable.</p>	<p>Small Learning Communities define the student’s four-year experience.</p> <p>Core content and elective teachers connect with a subgroup of students to ensure interdisciplinary alignment to the Pathways and offer advisement and mentorship.</p> <p>They provide a supportive environment in the school that helps learners connect, collaborate, and grow.</p>



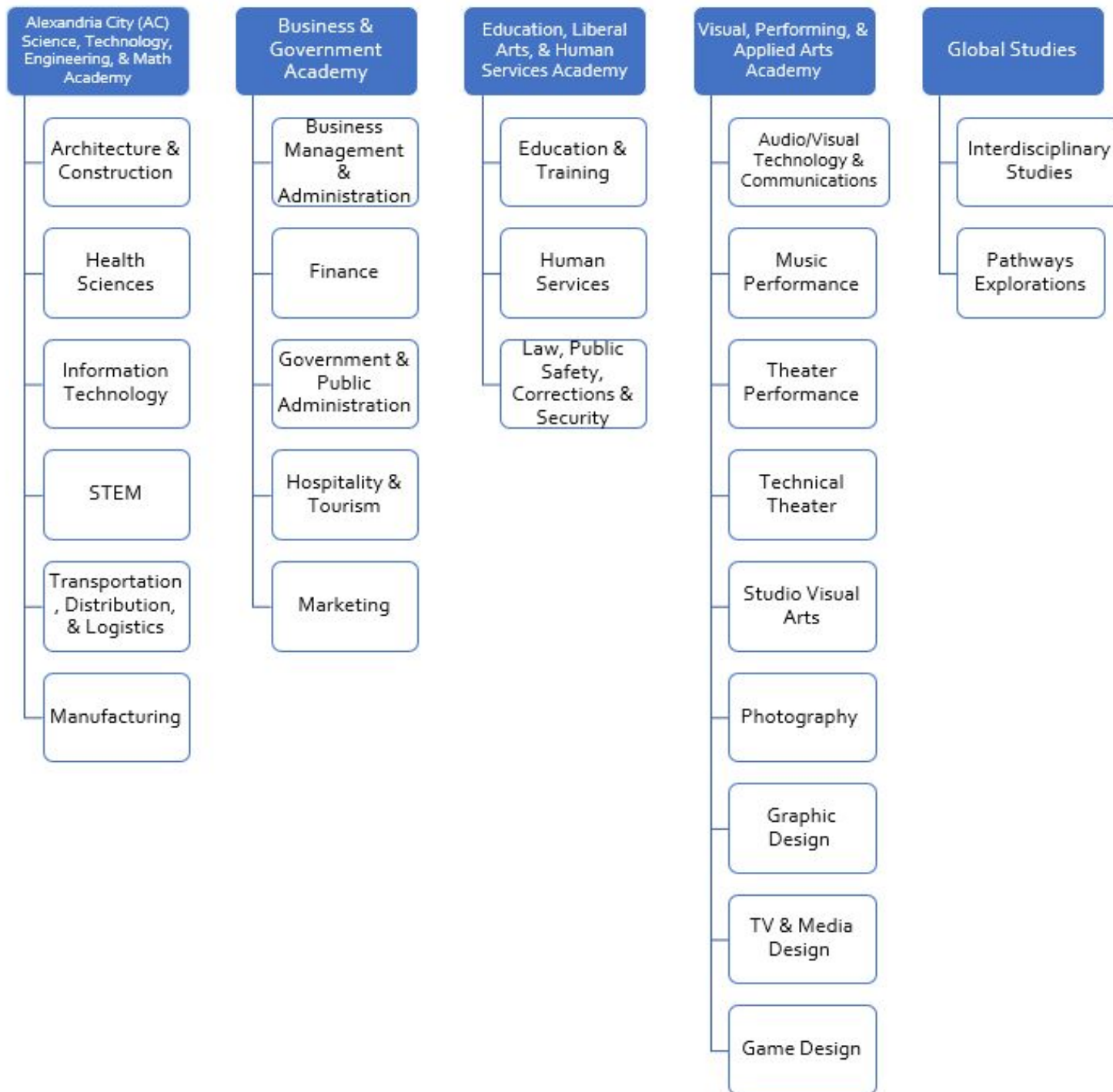


**ALEXANDRIA CITY  
HIGH SCHOOL**

9th Grade Global Studies	STEM	Visual, Performing, & Applied Arts	Business & Government	Education, Liberal Arts & Human Services	Academic
Pathway 1	Pathway 1	Pathway 1	Pathway 1	Pathway 1	
Pathway 2	Pathway 2	Pathway 2	Pathway 2	Pathway 2	
Pathway 3	Pathway 3	Pathway 3	Pathway 3	Pathway 3	
Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	
Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	
Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Student Support
Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	Small Learning Community (SLC)	



INNOVATIVE



# 2024-25 High School Academies and Pathways



# Example: AC STEM Academy

<b>Pathway Name</b>	<b>Engineering</b>
<b>Pathway Description</b>	Designed to prepare students for employment as a technician, operator, or technologist in the fields of engineering technology, electrical technology, industrial technology, operational technology, sensor technology, automation technology, energy, robotics, and mechatronics. Coursework provides an industry certification for OSHA 10.

Grade	9th	10th	11th	12th
Required Elective	Freshman Exploration	Engineering Explorations I	Engineering Analysis (Robotics)	Physics OR AP Physics II/C
<i>*Optional Electives</i>				AP Calculus AB OR AP Calculus BC



INNOVATIVE

# Engineering Pathway: Options for Core Content Classes

<p>Core English</p> <p>(4 credits required for a standard diploma, 4 credits required for an advanced diploma)</p>	<p>English 9</p> <p>Honors English 9</p>	<p>English 10</p> <p>Honors English 10</p>	<p>English 11: Survey of American Literature</p> <p>Honors English 11: Survey of American Literature</p> <p>AP English Language and Composition</p> <p>Dual Enrollment College Composition 11</p>	<p>English 12: British and World Literature</p> <p>Honors English 12</p> <p>Dual Enrollment College Composition 12</p> <p>Dual Enrollment Survey of World Literature</p> <p>AP English Language and Composition</p> <p>AP English Literature and Composition</p>
<p>Core Mathematics</p> <p>(3 credits required for a standard diploma, 4 credits required for an advanced diploma)</p>	<p>Algebra I</p> <p>Geometry</p> <p>Algebra II</p>	<p>Geometry</p> <p>Algebra II</p> <p>AP Precalculus*</p>	<p>Algebra II</p> <p>AP Precalculus*</p> <p>AP Calculus AB/AP Calculus BC*</p>	<p>AP Precalculus*</p> <p>AP Calc AB/AP Calc BC*</p>
<p>Core Social Studies</p> <p>(4 credits required for a standard diploma, 4 credits required for an advanced diploma)</p>	<p>World History and Geography Part I</p> <p>Honors World History and Geography Part I</p>	<p>World History and Geography Part II</p> <p>Honors World History and Geography Part II</p>	<p>Virginia and U.S. History</p> <p>Honors Virginia and U.S. History</p> <p>Dual Enrollment College U.S. History*</p> <p>AP United States History*</p>	<p>Virginia and U.S. Government*</p> <p>Honors Virginia and U.S. Government - We the People*</p> <p>AP United States Government and Politics*</p> <p>AP Comparative Government</p>
<p>Core Science</p> <p>(3 credits required for a standard diploma, 4 credits required for an advanced diploma)</p>	<p>Biology/Honors Biology</p>	<p>Chemistry Honors Chemistry</p>	<p>AP Physics I*</p>	<p>Astronomy*</p>
<p>Physical Education</p>	<p>Health and PE 9</p>	<p>Health and PE 10</p>		



# Example: Business & Government Academy

<b>Pathway Name</b>	<b>Finance</b>
<b>Pathway Description</b>	Planning, services for financial and investment planning, banking, insurance, and business financial management

<b>Grade</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>Required Elective</b>	Accounting I	Accounting II		
<b>*Optional Elective</b>		Introduction to Financial Services	Economics and Personal Finance	Introduction to Business and International Finance



# Finance Pathway: Options for Core Content Classes

<p>Core English</p> <p>(4 credits required for a standard diploma, 4 credits required for an advanced diploma)</p>	<p>English 9</p> <p>Honors English 9</p>	<p>English 10</p> <p>Honors English 10</p>	<p>English 11: Survey of American Literature</p> <p>Honors English 11: Survey of American Literature</p> <p>AP English Language and Composition</p> <p>Dual Enrollment College Composition 11</p>	<p>English 12: British and World Literature</p> <p>Honors English 12</p> <p>Dual Enrollment College Composition 12</p> <p>Dual Enrollment Survey of World Literature</p> <p>AP English Language and Composition</p> <p>AP English Literature and Composition</p>
<p>Core Mathematics</p> <p>(3 credits required for a standard diploma, 4 credits required for an advanced diploma)</p>	<p>Algebra I</p> <p>Geometry</p> <p>Algebra II</p>	<p>Geometry</p> <p>Algebra II</p> <p>AP Precalculus</p>	<p>Algebra II</p> <p>Data Science</p> <p>AP Statistics</p> <p>Probability and Statistics</p>	<p>Data Science</p> <p>AP Statistics</p> <p>Probability and Statistics</p>
<p>Core Social Studies</p> <p>(4 credits required for a standard diploma, 4 credits required for an advanced diploma)</p>	<p>World History and Geography Part I</p> <p>Honors World History and Geography Part I</p>	<p>World History and Geography Part II</p> <p>World History and Geography Part II</p>	<p>Virginia and U.S. History\</p> <p>Honors Virginia and U.S. History</p> <p>Dual Enrollment College U.S. History*</p> <p>AP United States History*</p>	<p>Virginia and U.S. Government</p> <p>Honors_Virginia and U.S. Government - We the People</p> <p>AP United States Government and Politics</p> <p>AP Comparative Government</p>
<p>Core Science</p>	<p>Biology</p> <p>Honors Biology</p> <p>Environmental Science</p>	<p>Earth Science*</p> <p>Chemistry</p> <p>Physics</p>	<p>Biology II: Ecology*</p> <p>AP Chemistry</p>	<p>AP Biology*</p>
<p>Physical Education</p>	<p>Health and PE 9</p>	<p>Health and PE 10</p>		



# The High School Project Impact

- **Program of Studies (POS)** outlines courses that fit within academies and pathways.
- **Academies** in the POS provide a clearer direction for students towards graduation and post-secondary planning to college and/or a career field.
- **Pathways** in the POS align to a student's college and/or career interest.
- **More Career and Technical Education (CTE)** sequential electives, completers, and content electives support real-world career experiences.
- **Course offerings extended to ninth grade students**, as all ACHS campuses will include 9-12 curriculum.



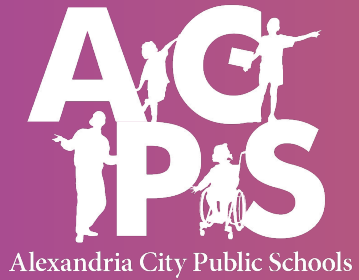


# Key Takeaways

- The current and proposed Program of Studies courses will be used to **build out academies and pathways**.
- Students will choose an academy and pathway **and will still have access to courses of interest**.
- Core content **classes needed for graduation are complemented by the interest/passion-driven courses** within the pathways.
- All courses are **aligned to Virginia Department of Education Standards of Learning (curriculum) and Instruction**. *The curriculum exists and is not new.*
- **Project-based learning, student exhibitions, and real-world career connections** will be incorporated into the student experiences in pathways.







# Questions?

Carmen Sanders, Executive Director of Instructional Support  
Dr. Pierrette Finney, Chief Academic Officer



## Superintendent

Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt

## School Board

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