

# Morrisville High School



**Program of Studies**  
*2022-2023*

## EQUAL EDUCATIONAL AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Morrisville School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504.

For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator at 550 W. Palmer Street, Morrisville, PA 19067, telephone 215-736-5374. For information regarding services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped persons, contact the School Psychologist at 215-736-5926.

Morrisville School District offers vocational programs in Business, Family and Consumer Sciences, Industrial Arts and a variety of vocational/technical programs at the Bucks County Technical School.

Morrisville School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

*El Distrito Escolar de Morrisville es un sistema escolar de igualdad educacional y no discriminara a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, o incapacidad fisica o mental en sus programas educacionales y en sus procedimientos de empleo. (Titulo VI, Titulo IX y la Seccion 504)*

*Para mas informacion sobre sus derechos civiles y los servicios disponibles a las personas con impedimentos fisicos, llame a 215-736-5926.*

*Se ofrecen programas vocacionales relacionados con la familia y el hogar, la oficina y la artesanía en adición a los programas de Bucks County Technical School.*

*El Distrito Escolar de Morrisville no se les niega a sus estudiantes cuyo idioma no sea el inglés acceso a todo programa educacional.*

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## **A FLEXIBLE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

The Morrisville School District believes that the basic requirements established are designed to give all students a sound educational background. Beyond these, students may elect courses that are best suited to their abilities, interests, and future plans. It is suggested, however, that every student elect enough courses in one or two areas to gain a foundation for further study or immediate employment upon graduation. Prospective employers and college admissions people will study the applicant record to see what quality of performance has been achieved throughout the program and in what fields the student has shown continued interest and accomplishment.

\* Courses and electives will be offered only if there is sufficient enrollment.

## **ROLE OF THE COUNSELOR**

Guidance can best be described as the services available to each student to facilitate academic success; to aid in understanding individual strengths and limitations; to identify interests; and to assist in planning for and attaining realistic goals. The emphasis is always upon the individual, even when students meet in groups for guidance purposes.

Counseling, the primary activity of the counselor, provides professional assistance to each student by helping him/her to be more objective and realistic as he/she seeks self-understanding and self-development. Individual counseling helps the student interpret and relate facts about the world and one's self. This knowledge, when applied, aids in solving everyday problems and in making realistic educational and occupational plans.

The individual needs dictate the course of action to be followed. Resource and supportive personnel services are an integral part of the counseling process. One or all of these services may be needed to satisfy the unique needs of any individual in the educational setting.

Students, in planning a high school program, must attempt to match interests, aptitudes, values, and goals with available courses and programs. It is the function of the counselor to assist the student in this process.

## CLASS RANK & GRADE WEIGHT

Each student's rank in class is determined yearly by his/her cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) for all courses completed. Dual Enrollment, High School Enrichment, Honors, Gifted and AP courses are the only weighted classes.

### LETTER NUMERIC GPA

A+	97-100	4.00
A	93-96	3.88
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.00
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.00
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	67-69	1.33
D	63-66	1.00
D-	60-62	0.67
F	00-59	0.00

One point is added to the value of each weighted course if the grade is B or better. For example: A+ = 5.0; A = 4.88; A- = 4.67; B+ = 4.33; etc. One and a half points is added to the value of each Advanced Placement Course. For example: A+ = 5.5; A = 5.38; A- = 4.17; B+ = 3.83. These numerical equivalents are used in the computation of GPA. Pass/Fail classes are not included in the GPA computation. Class rank is determined by cumulative GPA at the end of the year for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors and at the end of the third quarter for seniors.

### PROMOTION POLICY

All students should move forward in a continuous pattern of achievement and growth that is in harmony with their development. Senior High students are classified as freshman (9th), sophomores (10th), juniors (11th), and seniors (12th).

Class of 2019 and beyond:

To earn a diploma: A student must earn 27 total credits, and students must complete courses in each of the core subjects (at least 4 English, 4 math, 4 social studies, 4 science, 2 wellness credits, 2 arts or humanities, and elective credits).

### SUMMER SCHOOL

Students who fail one or more required courses during the regular school year should attend summer school. Summer School options are available in the guidance office.

## **GRADING**

Teachers must be consistent, fair, honest, and as objective as possible. Above all, teachers should ensure that the student understands why he/she received a certain grade. All test scores should be recorded so those grades can be easily justified, if necessary. The final grade should be based upon class participation, outside assignments, quizzes, tests, and class projects or any other criteria the teacher explains to the students. Midterms and finals are given midway through and at the end of each course respectively.

## **EXAMINATION POLICY**

See student handbook

Morrisville Senior High School (grades 9-12) requires students to take final exams for all courses. Exceptions to this requirement must have prior administrative and teacher approval. An exam schedule will be posted before any final examination. Students failing to take their scheduled exam may fail the course. Students are not allowed to make up an exam unless they have an excused absence or prior administrative and teacher approval.

## **GRADUATION OPTION**

College in Lieu of Senior Year

College in Lieu of Senior Year is designed for students of academic ability who wish to complete their senior year of high school while at the same time begin their studies toward a college degree. The high school diploma will be issued by the Borough of Morrisville School District and freshman college credits will be granted by the cooperating institutions. In cooperation with participating schools, students develop individual schedules designed to meet the graduation requirements of the home school, participating colleges, and the student® individual interests.

To qualify for College in Lieu of Senior Year, a student must first be accepted by a college into its program and then receive a letter of permission from the high school counselor. This letter will outline the courses the student needs to complete in order to fulfill all graduation requirements.

The cost of the program must be assumed by the student and his/her family in accordance with the college® requirements. Financial aid may be received from the various state and federal or private programs providing aid for college students. Students interested in this option will work with their counselor in investigating the various programs available to them.

After providing written documentation of his/her satisfactory completion of college work, a student will receive his/her Morrisville diploma at the annual commencement of his/her class in June.

## SCHEDULING PROCEDURES

Scheduling Procedures of High School (9-12):

The following is an outline of suggested scheduling procedures that will aid the student in selecting the most appropriate course of study. Parents and/or guardians are urged to assist the student in the selection process.

1. Carefully read the descriptions of courses found in the Program of Studies booklet.
2. Review the recommended Sequence of Courses found in the Program of Studies booklet.
3. Review the Graduation Requirements found in the Program of Studies booklet to ensure satisfactory completion of all course requirements.
4. Discuss any concerns you might have about your educational program with your school counselor.
5. Upon receiving a course selection sheet in the spring, carefully review and discuss your selections with your counselor.

Students are requested to be careful and thorough in their selection of courses. All students are expected to continue in and complete, the courses selected. All schedule changes must be made prior to the opening of school in September.

Adequate schedule planning for students, teacher, and classroom space can be completed only when school officials can consider student schedule requests to be final and binding. There are times when a change in this schedule request is desired. When this happens, a conference with the counselor is required. Parents should be involved with this conference in order to assist the student and counselor to arrive at a reasonable decision.

The only course changes that will be considered after the opening of school are those meeting the following requirements:

- a. The request has been reviewed at a conference set up at a mutually convenient time.
- b. The student plans to maintain the same number of credits prior to the request.
- c. The student is better suited to take a more demanding course in a core subject.

The following are not considered valid reasons for course changes:

- a. Teacher preference
- b. Reduction of course loads because of outside employment.
- c. Change of mind as to personal preference or course content.

The Senior High School daily schedule consists of 8 total periods. Students are required to schedule all 7 academic periods and 8th period is a lunch. Many courses offered require specific prerequisites. Students should determine whether they meet the prerequisites of a given course before electing it by referring to the course descriptions. Additionally, students should consult with teachers, counselors, and their parent(s) prior to selecting an appropriate program of studies.

The number of students electing a course and the availability of teachers will determine whether a course will be offered.

## CORE COURSE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A student must successfully complete all ninth through twelfth grade requirements to qualify for a diploma from Morrisville Senior High School. These requirements are based upon state and local requirements.

Subject	Credits	
English	4	Each student must carry and pass a full credit of English each year.
Social Studies	4	Each student must carry and pass a full credit of Social Studies each year.
Mathematics	4	Each student must carry and pass a full credit of Math each year.
Science	4	Each student must carry and pass a full credit of Science each year.
Wellness	2	1 semester per year
Business	.5	Career Prep*
Arts or Humanities	2	Each student must carry and pass 2 full credits of Arts of Humanities by the conclusion of their senior year.
Additional approved courses	Depends on the number needed to graduate. See promotion policy.	Electives are taken each year

*Special Note:*

In addition, students must take the Keystone Exams.

If a student does not receive a proficient score on each exam, they will be required to re-take the exam and/or complete a project-based assessment.

All questions or concerns regarding the fulfillment of the district graduation requirements should be directed in writing to the high school principal.

\* For students who enroll in their 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade year.

## CORE CURRICULUM SUGGESTED SEQUENCE

Below are course sequences that are a guide for students. There are many options for students as they progress through their high school year.

DEPARTMENT	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
ENGLISH	English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
SOCIAL STUDIES	U.S. History I (1865-1920)	Government	U.S. History II (1920-Present)	World Cultures College Course
SCIENCE	Biology Biology A	Chemistry Biology B	Chemistry Chemistry in the Community Physics Environmental Science	Physics Environmental Science College Course
MATH	Algebra IA Algebra IB Algebra II Geometry	Algebra IB Algebra II Geometry	Algebra II Geometry Pre-Calculus Foundations & Applications of Math I	Geometry Algebra II Pre-Calculus Calculus Foundations & Applications of Math II College Course
WELLNESS/HEALTH	Wellness	Wellness	PE 11/12	PE 11/12
BUSINESS	Career Prep	Career Prep		
LANGUAGES	Foreign Language	Foreign Language	Foreign Language	Foreign Language College Course
ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES	Addm Electives	Addm Electives	Addm Electives	Addm Electives

*Honors courses are available in each core subject (Math, English, Science, Social Studies) with prior approval.*



Teacher Recommendation: Honors: In addition to the above objectives, students will have intensive vocabulary study and complete various writing assignments throughout the course to prepare for college studies. Public Speaking assignments will showcase student research projects. Time-management is a critical component of advanced level classes. Honors courses will be offered in each of the above classes with prior approval. Courses may run in conjunction with one another if there is insufficient enrollment.

WRITING

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course will review the foundations of writing. Students will strengthen grammar skills, as well as learn to write more in depth on various topics. Students will brainstorm, draft, and edit all papers, and will develop skills to stay on topic. This course will strengthen students' skills needed on the SAT and Keystone Exams.

MYSTERY SUSPENSE & HORROR

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

Designed for the future detective, the horror film buff, and the one who will go down the dark staircase first. Let us take a look at the dark and dreary. Why do we like to be afraid and why do we like to examine the fears that keep us up at night? Who cares? Let's go down the dark road and if the flashlight does not work...so much the better! Course work includes a research project and presentation.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course introduces the basic principles of computers and application software in a constantly connected world. It provides an introduction to Word, Excel, PowerPoint, MS Publisher, and Internet research skills. The course covers multiple programming languages, such as HTML5, Visual Basic, Python, C#, and Java. Students will have in-depth exposure to problem analysis, language control statements, algorithmic processes and data structures.

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS

ALGEBRA IA: Grades 9 1 Credit

This course is the first half of Algebra I. The students will develop fundamental algebraic skills and concepts based on the structure of the system of real numbers. Topics covered will include operations with real numbers and expressions, solving linear equations, using proportions, percent, probability and statistics, and an in-depth study of linear functions. This is a yearlong course.

ALGEBRA IB: Grades 9-10 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra IA and/or Teacher Recommendation

This course is the second half of Algebra I. Topics covered will include solving inequalities and absolute value sentences, solving systems of equations and inequalities, laws of exponents and exponential functions, operations with polynomials, factoring polynomials, and simplifying radicals. The students will take the Keystone Algebra I Exam near the end of this course. This is a yearlong course.

ALGEBRA I: Grades 9-10 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

The student will develop fundamental algebraic skills and concepts based on the structure of the system of real numbers. Topics covered will include operations with real numbers and expressions, solving linear equations, using proportions, percentages, probability and statistics, an in depth study of linear functions, solving inequalities and absolute value sentences, solving systems of equations and inequalities, law of exponents and exponential functions, operations with polynomials and factoring polynomials. This is a yearlong course.

GEOMETRY: Grades 9-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course will cover the basic concepts of geometry including topics of basic terms, angle measurement, introduction to proof and logic, postulates and theorems, polygons, quadrilaterals, triangle congruence, perimeter, area, surface area, volume, similarity, circles involving chords, arcs, tangents, inscribed angles and angles formed by secants and tangents. This is a yearlong course.

ALGEBRA II: Grades 9-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course is a second year of algebra that focuses on solving linear equations and inequalities, the study of relations and functions, linear systems in linear equations and inequalities, matrices, quadratic functions, and polynomial and rational functions. This is a yearlong course.

PRECALCULUS: Grades 11-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Honors Algebra II and Geometry or Honors Geometry

This course will include the study of exponential and logarithmic functions, analytic geometry, matrices and determinants, statistics and probability. This is a yearlong course.

CALCULUS: Grades 11-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

This course will include the basic concepts of calculus including topics of limits, differentiation, and applications of differentiation, integration, and applications of integration, logarithmic function, and exponential functions. This is a yearlong course, which is weighted.

FOUNDATIONS AND APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICS I AND II: Grades 11-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation (Foundations and Applications of Mathematics I is NOT a prerequisite for Foundations and Applications of Mathematics II).

This supplemental math program emphasizes the use of essential elements of mathematics while utilizing and reinforcing basic math skills. Each student's plan of study is developed to meet his or her math abilities and needs. This course will include, but not be limited to such topics as: mental math computation/estimation, fractions/percentages/decimals, rates/ratios, algebra, geometry, and consumer math. \*Placement in Foundations and Applications of Mathematics I does not guarantee placements in Foundation and Applications of Mathematics II for the following year.

MATH PROJECTS AND PROBLEM SOLVING Grade 12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

The course specializes in math and logic techniques, while teaching sound approaches to solving quantifiable and abstract problems. You'll tackle logic puzzles, develop computational skills, build your ability to represent real-world phenomena abstractly, and strengthen your reasoning capabilities.

SAT Prep Grades 10-11 .50 Credit.

The SAT prep course is designed to help students prepare for the SAT test. The primary goal of this course is to identify and implement test taking strategies and use prerequisite knowledge to become more successful in the math portion of the exam.

ALGEBRA READINESS 1A Grades 9-12 1 Credit

This course will develop fundamental algebraic skills and concepts based on the structure of the system of real numbers. Pre-algebraic topics will be reviewed at the start of this course leading into topics taught in Algebra 1A. Depending on the success in this course, students will be recommended for either Algebra 1A or Algebra 1B. A student must be recommended for this course by his/her IEP team.

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS

PHYSICAL SCIENCE: Grade 9 1 Credit

This academic lab course will cover the structure of matter, as well as the nature of forces, motion, and energy. The focus of the course will be the mathematic relationships of the natural world as well as the nature of scientific inquiry. This course is designed to give students a strong foundation for the studying of chemistry and physics. This is a yearlong course.

BIOLOGY: Grade 9-10 1 Credit

This course is designed for college bound students. It begins with the study of living things at the molecular and cellular levels and continues with the study of genetics and biotechnology during the first semester. The second semester will involve the study of ecology, plants, invertebrates, and vertebrates. This is a yearlong course. The Biology Keystone will be taken during the spring of this course.

CHEMISTRY IN THE COMMUNITY Grades 11 .50 Credit

Chemistry in the Community (commonly abbreviated ChemCom) is a first-year high school chemistry program based around a textbook created by the American Chemical Society that teaches chemistry concepts through the lens of societal issues. Designed for a year-long high school chemistry course geared for college-bound students, ChemCom covers traditional chemistry topics with coverage organized around societal issues with less emphasis on mathematics. With this program, students learn organic and biochemistry as well as environmental and industrial chemistry. The text is 50% laboratory-based. ChemCom features decision-making activities to give students practice in applying their chemistry knowledge in various problem-solving situations. This is a yearlong course.

CHEMISTRY: Grades 11-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing grade in Biology

Chemistry introduces a logical, sequential development of major chemical principles. The course begins with the basic mechanics of chemistry, the structure of matter and the mole concept. The course then deals with the behavior of acidity, gas laws, and solutions. The laboratory provides the student with a variety of experiences designed to introduce or reinforce the discovery of chemical principles. Quantitative aspects of laboratory procedures are emphasized. The course is intended for college bound students. This is a yearlong course.

PHYSICS: Grade 12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II, Geometry

This class is intended for college bound students. Physics is the basic science underlying the investigation of all physical phenomena. The basic concepts of motion, force, energy, and electricity are investigated from both the theoretical and laboratory levels. Concepts are stressed over mathematical computation. Intelligent living in the modern world requires some acquaintance with the principles of physics, which continue to shape our world and our future. This is a yearlong course.

Science Teacher Recommendation: Honors courses will be offered in each of the above classes with prior approval. Courses may run in conjunction with one another if there is insufficient enrollment.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE: Grades 11-12 1 Credit

This course is designed to provide a study of selected topics in our environment. Students relate the concepts of chemistry to a variety of environmental problems such as acid rain, toxic waste, and endangered species, etc. Laboratory and field studies are included in this course. This is a yearlong course.

ZOOLOGY:

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

Zoology is a semester-long course that studies animal life. Students will survey the nine major phyla of Kingdom Animalia. Students will explore the different characteristics, the similarities of the structures and functions, and the relationships across the phyla. Students will examine both invertebrate and vertebrate animals and their environmental importance.

THE HUMAN BODY

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course will center on the six major systems of the human body: Integumentary, Skeletal, Senses (sight), Endocrine, Cardiovascular and Digestive. A concluding research project will also be included. This course is designed to prepare those students who are considering a career in the health related professions. Extensive use of medical films, along with actual animal dissection, and extensive readings will be used. A major component of this course involves students' willingness to partake in animal dissection. If the student does not want to be involved in dissection, they should possibly reconsider taking this course. Only the more focused and scientifically motivated students should consider taking this course.

**SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS**

U.S. HISTORY I: Grade 9 1 Credit

This course will introduce students to the cultural, political, economic, and social development of the American people. Topics will range from the post-Civil War period up to 1920. In this course, students should develop and maintain skills involving reading, outlining, verbal expression of ideas, research, critical examination of historical figures and citizenship. This is a yearlong course.

GOVERNMENT: Grade 10 1 Credit

This course is a study of our political system and how it identifies, defines, and resolves problems. It is a study of our republic, our Constitution, and the exercise of government at the local, state, and federal levels. Students will also be introduced to alternative forms of government as found in other countries. Students will then contrast these alternative forms with our own democratic republican system. This is a yearlong course.

U.S. HISTORY II: Grade 11 1 Credit

This course will introduce students to the cultural, political, economic, and social development of the American people. Topics will range from the 1920 period up to the present day. In this course, students should develop and maintain skills involving reading, outlining, verbal expression of ideas, research, critical examination of historical figures and citizenship. This is a yearlong course.

WORLD CULTURES: Grade 12 1 Credit

This course addresses major periods in world history, with special emphasis on the events and people, which shaped and enriched both Western and Eastern Civilization from 1500 to the present. Economic, social, and political topics will afford students the challenge to become knowledgeable learners. Writing, speaking, and listening experiences will aid students in the classroom setting. This is a yearlong course.

Social Studies Teacher Recommendation: Honors courses will be offered in each of the above classes with prior approval. Courses may run in conjunction with one another if there is insufficient enrollment.

SOCIOLOGY Grades 9-12 .50 Credit

In this course, students will learn about connections between individuals and society, culture and individual personality, and personal choice and mass social change. All of the information students learn will relate to one big idea: understanding the social world around them. The following three themes will be discussed:

Sociology is imaginative: Sociology offers a way of seeing the world that helps one understand their connection to society. It also helps one see how personal choices have a social context.

Sociology is a science: Social scientist use scientific processes to test and examine ideas and concept in sociology.

Sociology has multiple perspectives: Individuals view the world in different ways. Sociology resembles a conversation between people with varying points of view.

PSYCHOLOGY B Grades 9-12 .5 Credit

Psychology B will focus on the three major parts of psychology that include personality, health and adjustment and social psychology. The personality unit will have an emphasis on motivation and emotion as well as the various theories on personality and personality tests. The unit on health and adjustment will highlight stress and its effects on human health, psychological disorders, and methods of therapy. Finally, the semester will end with a brief unit on social cognition and interaction as it relates to social psychology.

CRIMINOLOGY B: Grades 9-12 .50 Credit

This course affords students the opportunity to explore the nature and extent of crime in greater depth. Topics covered will include (but not limited to) Political Crime, Terrorism, Economic Topics, Public Order Crimes as well as Cyber Crimes and Organized Crime. There will be several opportunities for students to present projects during this course so students should be aware that delivering presentations will be one of the required components of this class. This is a semester course.

WOMEN'S STUDIES

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course will explore women's roles in American history. It will touch on women who made their mark in the Colonial Era, the part women played in both the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement, the Woman's Suffrage Movement and women's roles in both World War I and World War II.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS**

SPANISH I:

Grades 9-11

1 Credit

Students will develop the four language skills of listening-comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The primary focus is on oral communication. Students will be introduced to Hispanic culture through short readings and related class activities. This is a yearlong course.

SPANISH II: Grades 9-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed Spanish I

Emphasis is placed on increasing the student's ability to communicate in oral and written form. Realistic goals are established for students as they perfect their vocabulary and expand their knowledge of grammatical structure and appreciation of cultural differences. This is a yearlong course.

SPANISH III: Grades 10-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed Spanish II

Students continue to develop their skills in listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. More complex grammatical concepts are introduced and students are encouraged to apply these through written and oral projects. Literary selections are presented during the second semester. This is a yearlong course.

HISPANIC CULTURAL CONNECTION Grades 9-12 .5 Credit

This course examines topics like tourism, music, dance, art and holidays. Comparisons are made to cultures in the U.S. Student interest guides additional topics.

SOCIAL UNREST OF THE SPANISH SPEAKING WORLD Grades 9-12 .5 Credit

This course examines dictatorships, civilian protests and uprisings, and factors that have created unrest among people where Spanish is spoken.

FRENCH I: Grades 9-12 1 Credit

Students will develop the four language skills of listening-comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The primary focus is on oral communication. Students are introduced to the culture of France through readings and related activities. This is a yearlong course.

FRENCH II: Grades 9-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed French I

Students will continue to develop and reinforce their skills of oral communication, build a strong grammar base, learn and practice new vocabulary in daily life situations and practice their written skills. The use of videos and films for special projects will be introduced to enhance the students' cultural awareness. This is a yearlong course.

FRENCH III: Grades 10-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Must have successfully completed French II

Students continue to develop their skills in listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will become more active learners by applying their knowledge of complex grammatical concepts and idiomatic phrases to their oral and written work. An introduction to French poetry and literature will emphasize critical analysis. A survey of French life and politics will be introduced through individual and group projects. This is a yearlong course.

FRENCH CARIBBEAN:

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

Study the arts, music, foods, culture, literature, and history of the French-speaking Caribbean islands. (We'll take a dip into the Pacific territories too if time allows.)

FRENCH CUISINE

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

Put on your berets and get ready to dine à la français. Explore France's most famous culinary creations and how food has influenced everything from literature to pop culture. We'll also try our hand at making a few signature dishes.

Note:

*Many 4-year colleges require two consecutive years of the same foreign language as part of their admissions requirements.*

*Students scheduled in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year languages may be integrated due to scheduling demands.*

**ART DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS**

MURAL ART

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course focuses on the historical and contemporary exploration of murals. Creation of Murals and motivational art work in the school. It also involves gym night activities, and selective school related activities. This course helps to promote school spirit through the artistic style of the students.

### PAINTING

This course focuses on the fundamentals of painting. Emphasis will be put on the techniques, color theory, and mixed mediums. This course will consist of still life, portraits and landscapes, etc.

### EXPRESSIVE ARTS

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

A course that is designed to help students find their own voice and utilizes artist techniques for student self-expression. It uses the methods of art therapy to enhance individual development and growth.

### WORLD ART

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course teaches art through a global prospective. It is a broad exploration into the history of visual art around the globe, exploring cultures, and art history. It gives a glimpse into another time and place which looks into our global culture and history.

## **BUSINESS DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS**

**CAREER PREP:**

Grade 9

.50 Credit

This course is designed to address the PA State requirements for College and Career Standards. The first of these is College and Career Preparation Skills. Students will learn how to research various career opportunities, fill out job applications and the proper way to conduct themselves during interviews. The second area deals with communication skills where students will begin to develop a professional portfolio. Finally, this course will cover topics relate to Personal Finance. Required

**MONEY MANAGEMENT A:**

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course is designed to help students understand basic concepts related to managing money and household expenses. Students will learn the impact of individual choices on personal, occupational, and future goals. Students will learn how to plan their future earnings potential. This course will provide a foundational understanding for making informed personal financial decisions.

**MONEY MANAGEMENT A TOPICS:**

Assets vs Liabilities (Debts) budgeting, time management

Living arrangements: rent vs own

Federal, state, and local income and payroll taxes

Grocery shopping

Furnishing living space

Transportation costs

Saving and investing for the long term

Important financial documents/record keeping

Insurances: life, health care home/renters, long term care

Setting financial goals and budget

**CAREER PREP II**

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course will revisit topics from Career Prep I and allow students exploratory to to research college and/or careers, given the following framework: knowledge and skills for the workplace, workplace safety, workplace expectations, workplace culture, employability skills, leadership development, career development, career retention and advancement. A strong use of effective technology skills will be emphasized to build a portfolio for future reference.

**TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT COURSES**

ENERGY, POWER,  
AND TRANSPORTATION:

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course will examine technological systems power and move our lives. The students will explore the areas of electrical power generation, storage, and transmission, transportation systems and how an internal combustion engine (like the one in your car) works. Students will gain knowledge and experiences in problem solving, working with materials, applying tools, machines and processes, using computers and learning about the technological nature of our rapidly changing society. Student activities and projects may include (but are not limited to) the following: designing and building parallel and series circuits, model race cars (CO2 Dragsters) cardboard glider, paper rockets and more. Emphasis will be placed on integrating science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) into the activities.

BASIC WOODWORKING:

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

An introduction class to machine woodworking. Students will learn about wood structure and species, measurement, joinery, gluing procedures, finishing techniques and proper use of machinery. Students will complete numerous student-designed projects that demonstrate proficiency in all areas taught. Safety will be stressed at all times. This course is a problem-solving course that requires students to design, build, and evaluate their projects.

WOODWORKING/  
ADVANCED & INDEPENDENT:

Grades 10-12

.50 Credit

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Basic Woodworking

Woodworking Advanced and Independent courses are offered together. Students will continue to apply the Technological Design Loop as they design, build, and evaluate their projects. More advanced instruction will be given on joinery and other woodworking topics. Students are encouraged to pursue improved skills in areas of basic woodworking they enjoyed. Safety will be stressed at all times.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY:

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This course will focus on the proper use of digital cameras and camcorders. Students will learn to capture and manipulate digital images for use in various multimedia applications. Students will learn photography basics such as composition, shutter speed, and aperture. Other topics to be covered include business practices as a free-lance photographer and consumer tips on buying digital imaging equipment. Projects may include creating a printed ad, producing a short video, developing a power point presentation that incorporates digital images & video and examples of specific styles of photography (Action, Portrait, and Selective Focus).

MOVIE MAGIC-  
BEHIND THE SCENES:

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

In this course, students will learn about cinema history, influence, and techniques. This course will focus on the various communication technologies used to create movies. We will be viewing and discussing a selection of AFI® 100 Greatest Films to compare and contrast the people, practices, and effects that have had a lasting impact on the film industry. We will focus on some of the groundbreaking technology used to make the movies of yesterday and today. Some of the technologies include matte painting, animation, animatronics, pyrotechnics, sets, models, and motion capture CGI.

## NuPATH

The course focuses on the basics of computer hardware, software, mobile computing, networking, troubleshooting, and emerging technologies. Students learn about configuring operating systems, file and folder management, networks and network configuration, and the role of the OSI model in networking and troubleshooting. A fundamental understanding of computer hardware, operating systems, computer application software, networking technologies and protocols, web browsers, identifying security risks, troubleshooting errors, and system maintenance is gained. The course also includes an exploration of cutting-edge technologies such as cloud computing and virtualization.

## ANIMATION

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

Students will study the various technologies and techniques used to create the illusion of movement in animated programs since the invention of animation. Important creators, companies, and pioneers in the development of animation technology will be studied. Along with viewing some outstanding examples of some of the techniques, student will complete projects that could include things like creating an animated GIF, painting an animation cell, rotoscoping, 3D sculpting, and photographing a stop motion sequence.

## YEARBOOK

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

Students in the Yearbook course will learn about the ins and outs of producing a printed publication. Topics include photographic composition, page layout, camera skills, page layout software and basic photoshop. Students will be asked to contribute towards the school Yearbook by helping photograph events or design page layout. Students will gain skills that can be transferred to software used in industry and gain a better understanding of working as a team to create a product to please a variety of customers.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS

### Bucket Drumming

Everyone loves to drum! In this course everyone will get to play on a bucket and learn the basics of drumming. We will cover some basic stick technique and then learn to work together to play some fantastic pieces of music. During the semester we will improvise and learn a group piece to play together, work in small groups, and students will compose and perform their own pieces of music as duets. Two group selections will be featured in the concert!

### SONG WRITING

Grades 9-12

.50 Credit

This is a semester course for students interested in writing digital music. Students will use digital music software and create music following the formats and structures of several different genres including EDM, Rock, Hip-Hop, Rap, R&B, Country, Pop, Indie, Folk, and more. Students will explore writing song lyrics as well as the arts of recording, mixing, and producing. This is a course for students that are ready to work hard to create music that they're proud of. Get ready to release your inner creative songwriter!

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS

### WELLNESS:

Grades 9 – 10

.50 Credit

This course focuses on a broad range of topics covering the Wellness Education Standards set forth by the state of Pennsylvania. This Wellness course is a combination of Health and Physical Education relating health and wellness issues to physical education and fitness activities. Throughout the marking period, time will be spent in both the classroom and gymnasium. The following principles are the main focus: Physical, Mental, and Social areas of health, Risk Behaviors, Benefits of an active lifestyle, Exercise specificity, Aerobic and Anaerobic fitness, Nutrition and its role as part of a healthy lifestyle, The Importance of Goal Setting, Personal Safety, and more. This is a semester course.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION 11/12:

Grades 11-12

.50 Credit

A senior high based course that utilizes a combination of team sports, small group activities and individualized activities with a common goal of improving each student® level of physical fitness. Fitness tests are done on a pre and post-test basis to gauge improvement. Classes are structured so that each individual can succeed at his/her current ability level through the use of drills, lead-up games and other suitable modifications. This is a semester course.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT COURSE OFFERINGS

### LEARNING SUPPORT: Grades 4-12

Any student who is determined eligible to be classified as having a disability and requires specially designed instruction must be offered special education services. The student IEP Team is responsible for determining the student individualized educational program as well as the least restrictive environment in which the program can be delivered. Keeping in mind that special education is a service and not a location, service delivery options are deemed flexible based on the current needs of the student.

### LIFE SKILLS SUPPORT Grades 9-12

This program is designed to be individualized for students who are eligible for an Individual Education Plan (IEP). This program focuses on the development of vocational skills. When appropriate and determined by the IEP team, students may participate in Regular Education classes with support from the Life Skills Support Program. This program provides support for students with social, communication, academic and transition needs. This program will support student's transition to adult life as determined in the student's IEP.

Courses may include: Functional Math, Functional Reading, Functional Social Studies, Functional Science, Daily Living Skills and Social Skills

### SEMINAR: Grade 9-12 1 or .50 Credit

This recommended course is offered to assist students in developing study skills that can be integrated and utilized through the curriculum. Topics addressed are organization, time management, goal setting, good study habits, and test taking strategies. In addition, students continue to develop their reading, writing, and mathematical skills through individualized assessments and curriculum based assignments.

### LANGUAGE LIVE Grades 9-12 1 Credit

This course is an intensive reading intervention for students who are college and career bound and are in need of significant improvements in reading and writing. This course is designed as a blended model where students will receive direct instruction from their teacher and complete independent assignments online. A rigorous review process by a multidisciplinary team is required for prospective students to be considered for eligibility. This includes a review of evaluations, report cards, teacher input, and observation. Participation in this class will prepare students for post-secondary opportunities such as technical schools or college.

### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE Grades 9-12 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

Placement in this course will be based on the Home Language Survey and results on an individual language assessment. Students are grouped according to English abilities, and instruction is based on both English Language Proficiency Standards and content area standards. This course provides an opportunity for English language learners to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in English and receive help in other content areas.

### PAES LAB/BUSINESS SKILLS Grades 9-12 1 Credit

This is a hands on work base curriculum designed to prepare students for the world of work. Students will be exposed to five industries: Computer Technology, Construction/Industrial, Processing/Production, Consumer/Service, and Business Marketing. Students will learn work-related problem solving skills, proper work behavior through the development of soft skills, insight into job skills and real work settings, and an understanding of their learning and training styles for future employment.

TRANSITION

Grades 11-12

1 Credit

This course is designed to prepare students for the workplace. During students 11<sup>th</sup> grade year, they will be given direct instruction in Career Exploration and Career Planning with a focus on hard and soft skills. Students will participate in classroom activities to help with career planning and exploration. During students 12<sup>th</sup> grade year, they will be given direct instruction on Succeeding in the Workplace, Teamwork, Leadership, and Diversity, Money Management, and Work-Life Balance. During their 12<sup>th</sup> grade year, students will also be provided the opportunity to participate in a school to work program provided the students are employed within the community.

ENGLISH FOUNDATIONS 10, 9/10, 12

Grades 9-12

1 Credit

This course is designed to prepare students in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will develop these skills through a variety of literature including novels, short stories, non-fiction texts, and poetry. Students will be exposed to many new vocabulary words where they can utilize prior knowledge, context clues, and prefixes/suffixes to gain a deeper understanding of these words. Reading comprehension strategies will be taught and practiced throughout the year to aid in the understanding of text. In addition, students will develop their writing skills with an emphasis on focus, content, organization, style, and conventions through paragraph and essay writing. A student must be recommended for this course by his/her IEP team.

## **OTHER ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS**

### **INDEPENDENT STUDY OPTIONS:**

Grades 10-12

1 or .5 Credit

Independent study options are based on individual needs and teacher/counselor recommendations. These options may include, but are not limited to mentoring, work release, independent courses in a specific discipline, community service, distance learning, advanced placement, and internship programs. Students receive a grade based on a pre-arranged agreement with the instructor, guidance, and/or institution.

### **SERVICE LEARNING**

Beginning with the class of 2023, all graduating seniors are required to take a half-year, pass or fail, Service Learning Course. Service Learning is a model of teaching that uses community service as a catalyst for educational and personal growth through a cycle of action and reflection. Based upon a reciprocal relationship, service learning promotes learning within the classroom that is reinforced within the community. It encourages the development of personal values, beliefs, awareness, confidence, self-esteem, empathy for others, and social responsibility. It also assists in developing project management, team building, and leadership skills. In short, service learning happens when students learn through community experiences.

## **GIFTED COURSE OFFERINGS**

### **PROSPECTIVE COLLEGE ATHLETES**

If you are planning to enroll in college as a freshman and you wish to participate in Division I or II athletics, you must be certified by the NCAA Initial - Eligibility Clearinghouse.

PLEASE NOTE: The NCAA meets each summer, and the requirements can change as a result of these meetings. If you believe you will be a Division I or II athlete, please check with your counselor in the fall to learn if these requirements have been changed.

### **HIGH SCHOOL ENRICHMENT**

Students in grades 9-12 are able to take High School Enrichment courses through Bucks County Community College. Students interested in taking courses at the college must first meet the requirements on BCCC's placement test. State funding is no longer available therefore; students are responsible for the full payment of each course and books. Courses are offered at the Bucks County Community College campus, or online. Colleges may cancel a class if there are not a sufficient number of students enrolled. Students who opt to take classes at Bucks County Community College or other campuses are responsible for their own transportation. Anyone who withdraws from a course after the designated drop date or fails a class is still responsible for the full payment of the course. High School Enrichment courses are weighted (B or higher) and successful completion counts as one credit toward high school graduation and applicable college credit. High School Enrichment courses may be taken in place of core requirements for graduation with subject coordinator and parent's written consent. Morrisville High School does not select the High School Enrichment professors and has no control over their curriculum, grading, or classroom policies. Students must direct questions or concerns about the classes to the professor and/or sponsoring college or university.