

2025-2026

Freshman Registration Booklet

Walton High School

1590 Bill Murdock Road Marietta, GA 30062

(770) 578-3225

<https://www.waltonhigh.org>

Administration

Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
Support and Services Administrator

Dr. Stephanie Santoro
Dr. Julie Brown
Dr. Chris Jones
Ms. Christy Page
Mr. Troy Pirkle
Mr. Matthew Short
Dr. Chris Williams
Mr. Timothy O'Connell

School Counseling Department

Counselor A-Ch
Counselor Ci-G
Counselor H-K
Counselor L-N
Counselor O-Sl
Counselor Sm-Z
Scheduling Clerk
Records Room
College & Career Center

Ms. Laura Clary
Dr. Betsy Alpert
Ms. Donna Dunham
Ms. Erica Watford
Ms. Tina Harwood
Ms. Lisa Fay
Ms. Kristin Fox
Ms. Melissa Schrenk
Dr. Rebecca England

Academic Program

Walton High School operates on a two-semester system with each semester being approximately 18 weeks long. Credit is established in units; each course meets every day for approximately 50 minutes and carries one-half unit credit upon successful completion. It is possible to earn three units of credit per semester, or a total of six units per year if all classes are successfully completed. During the 4 years (8 semesters) of high school, students may earn a total of 24 units of credit. Students may earn additional credit by taking a paid morning tuition class (1 per semester). Classes are offered based on minimum enrollment to support the program. Walton will accept one additional credit per semester from tuition-based Cobb Virtual Academy or Georgia Virtual School for upperclassmen. Ninth grade students can only take 7 courses in any combination of zero period or online to earn 3.5 units of credit per semester. While online classes are completely independent of Walton High School and all academic responsibility is between the family and that school, students must receive permission from Walton High School to take the online course.

The variety of course offerings in each department will give students the necessary prerequisites for future activities, whether they include college, technical school, or work. Some courses have prerequisites. A prerequisite is a course that must be taken before another course. Some courses are sequential and must be taken in order. World Language and Mathematics are courses that are sequential in nature. Students should begin thinking and planning for future goals early in high school to be well prepared upon graduation. Students enrolled in an EOC course (Algebra, Biology, US History, and Literature & Composition II) must pass the course in which a Georgia Milestones End of Course Assessment is given and comprises 10% of the overall grade, as well as all necessary courses for graduation.

Advisement Program

The focus and intent of advisement is to create a communication bond between the school, student, and parents. It is an organized method for developing, with the input of three parties, an academic plan for students. Ninth grade students will receive advisement during spring semester to complete a four-year academic plan. Eleventh grade students will receive advisement in the fall to assess progress toward graduation and post-secondary goals. Scheduled meeting times for students and parents will be planned during the regular school day.

Athletic Eligibility

The Georgia High School Athletic Association requires the following accumulation of Carnegie units toward graduation according to the following criteria:

1. First-year students are eligible first semester. They must earn 2.5 units at the end of first semester to be eligible for the spring semester.
2. Second-year students must have accumulated 5 total units in the first year and have earned 2.5 units the previous semester.
3. Third-year students must have accumulated 11 total units in both years and have earned 2.5 units the previous semester.
4. Fourth-year students must have accumulated 17 total units in all three years and have earned 2.5 units the previous semester.

Grades/Grading Scale

The Cobb County School District has set the following grading scale:

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 74-79 D = 70-73 F = Below 70

A student's grade point average is based on quality points awarded for each grade earned. All regular courses earn the following:

A = 4 quality points B = 3 quality points C = 2 quality points D = 1 quality point F = 0 quality points

Honors courses receive an extra 0.5 quality point. Honors courses are designated in the course section of the booklet with two asterisks (**). Advanced Placement courses are awarded an extra 1.0 quality point. These courses are designated with three asterisks (***). No extra quality points are earned if the student fails the course. Students are recommended by their current teacher for Honors and Advanced Placement courses based on the student's performance in the current course. Course placement is based on criteria set by each department.

Graduation Requirements

The State Board of Education has one common set of high school graduation requirements. Fulfillment of these graduation requirements will earn a student a high school diploma. Georgia's Board of Regents establishes the admissions requirements for Georgia's colleges and universities. Students should check the admission requirements of the college they wish to attend. Students must pass the course in which a Georgia Milestone End of Course Exam is given which comprises 10% of the overall course grade. Each student is encouraged to complete either an Academic, Fine Arts, CTAE or World Languages pathway.

Subject	Required Credits	Diploma Requirement
English	4	Must include Literature and Composition I and Literature and Composition II
Mathematics	4	Must include Algebra 1, Geometry and Advanced Algebra, or their equivalencies
Science	4	Must include Physical Science/Physics; Biology; Chemistry or Environmental Science or an AP Science; and 1 additional unit of science.
Social Studies	3	Must include World History, United States History, American Government and Economics
Health and PE	1	Health and Personal Fitness (0.5 credit each)
Required Electives	3	From Career Tech, World Language and/or Fine Arts
Additional Electives	4	
Total	23	Minimum required credits

Pathway Completion

Starting with the class of 2017, each student is encouraged to complete either an Advanced Academic, Fine Arts, CTAE, or World Languages pathway.

Advanced Academic Pathway: An Advanced Academic Pathway may be followed in any of the following content areas: English, mathematics, science or social studies. Students complete an Advanced Academic Pathway when they have completed the required courses for graduation and one of the courses listed in the student's course history is either AP, IB, or dual enrollment. Additionally, students must earn credits in two sequential courses in one world language.

Fine Arts Pathway: Students complete a Fine Arts pathway when they have completed three courses in either Visual Arts, Band, Chorus, Orchestra, or Journalism/Yearbook.

World Language Pathway: Students complete a World Language Pathway when they have completed three courses in the same World Language.

CTAE Pathway: Students earn a CTAE Pathway when they complete a series of three or four specific courses in a CTAE-approved pathway. Walton High School offers complete pathways in the following areas: Financial Marketing Services Career Pathway, Computing Career Pathway, Therapeutic Services-Physical Medicine Career, Graphic Design Career Pathway, Broadcast/Video Production Career Pathway, and Engineering and Technology Concentration Pathway. Students may complete the JROTC Air Force Career Pathway by taking courses at Wheeler High School. Those interested in this pathway can contact the school counseling department.

School Counseling

School counselors are available to meet with students regarding academic, personal/social, or career development needs. Students should make appointments to see a school counselor either before school, after school or during their lunch periods. To see a counselor during a class period, students should request permission from their teacher and obtain a hall pass. [Walton School Counseling | Walton High School Counseling | Marietta](#)

Honor Roll

Students who earn a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher and have no grades lower than a 74 will be placed on the Honor Roll. Students who earn a semester GPA of 4.0 or higher and have no grades lower than an 80 will be placed on the Principals' Honor Roll. Students who earn a 4.0 or higher, each semester, for an entire academic school year will be awarded an Academic Letter. Students who do so in a subsequent year will be awarded an Academic Bar.

Promotion Requirements

Per Cobb County School Board Policy, students shall be on track to advance with the graduating class they enter as a ninth grader. The following minimum requirements must be met in order to advance to the next grade level.

10th grade: 5 units, including one full credit in English, math and science

11th grade: 10 units, including two full credits in English, math and science

12th grade: 16 total units

Transcripts

TRANSCRIPT REQUEST- A student who wants a copy of her/his transcript sent to a college must sign a request for a transcript to be released. This request form is kept on file in the RECORDS ROOM located in the school counseling office. Transcripts are released for a charge of \$2.00 each. Payments can be made with exact change or a check.

DUAL ENROLLMENT TRANSCRIPT REQUEST- A student who wants a copy of her/his transcript sent to a college must sign a request for a transcript to be released. This request form is kept on file in the RECORDS ROOM located in the school counseling office. Transcripts are released for a charge of \$2.00 each. Payments can be made with exact change or a check.

Post-Secondary Planning

At Walton, approximately 92% of students attend either a two- or four-year college upon graduation. This figure remains steady with each graduating class. All students at Walton are encouraged to take challenging courses that will prepare them for whatever post-secondary school they desire to attend. Colleges appreciate students who demonstrate a willingness to attempt higher level classes, such as AP and Honors. Success in these classes is evidence to admission committees that a student has what it takes to succeed and excel at their institution as well. In addition to the rigorous coursework, essays, extra-curricular involvement, and teacher recommendations, colleges may consider SAT and ACT test scores as a measure of how well a student will do once they are in college.

The College and Career Center at Walton is open to juniors and seniors. There are computers available for students to use to begin the college search process, research programs of study, work on applications and essays, and check the status of their applications. Students may also set up individual appointments to obtain assistance on beginning the college search, choosing colleges, preparing for interviews, and career exploration. In addition to live help, there are also numerous books and publications for student use on all aspects of applying, test taking, and funding for college.

College admissions representatives visit Walton throughout the year. These visits provide a personal touch that may not be available in schools' literature. Representatives inform students about the school's admissions process and deadlines, campus life, housing, majors available, and scholarships. Students can ask questions, and this is often a chance for students to meet the person who will read their application in the future. Juniors and Seniors must register 24 hours in advance and print the email reminder to present to teachers. Students must notify teachers in advance if they need to miss class to attend a college visit. It is up to the teacher to determine if the student can miss the class.

Walton school counselors offer a college panel presentation for juniors and their parents/guardians in the spring each year and host a detailed college application process presentation for parents of seniors in the fall. There is also a Financial Aid Night for parents held in the fall each year to help simplify the financial aid process. A representative from the Georgia Student Finance Commission and a Walton school counselor addresses all aspects of financial aid including the HOPE scholarship, the FAFSA, CSS Profile, loans, and grants.

NCAA Clearing House

Students interested in playing a sport on the collegiate level must register with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) before communication and official visitation for recruiting purposes. This registration is usually done during junior year; however, students are encouraged to register earlier. To register go to: www.eligibilitycenter.org. Review the three account options and choose the one that's right for you! You'll only need to create one account with the Eligibility Center. Starting with the free Profile Page is best practice, as you can transition it later to the Certification account needed for your circumstances. Students should request their official transcript in the Records Room. Transcripts are released to NCAA for a charge of \$2.00.

Course Selection Specifics

We try to make the registration process as smooth as possible at Walton High School. One way we do this is by building the master schedule for both teachers and students only after we have received all student requests for courses during registration. The master schedule, therefore, is determined by the student registration and provides the maximum accommodation for the courses desired by Walton students, with a minimum of schedule conflicts.

Since the master schedule is based entirely upon initial student registration, it is essential that students remain in the course for which they have registered, unless it is determined that the academic placement is inappropriate. Students register for the next school year during the February-March registration period; however, during the fall semester, students will have an opportunity to drop/add one semester elective courses for the upcoming spring semester. Year-long courses may not be dropped at the end of first semester.

The following information should be helpful in having a successful registration.

1. For all CORE classes (English, Math, Science, Social Studies and World Language), the current teacher will make recommendations for the level of curriculum the student should take next year. While each teacher will make a recommendation based on the specific core area, it is important to consider the overall course load. If the student and/or parent disagrees with the teacher's recommendation, or has concerns about the academic rigor, a waiver may be completed to request a different placement.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Waivers are binding for one complete semester. Once the waiver has been submitted and approved, the class cannot be changed again during that semester.
 - Waivers are due to the school by **April 1st for fall semester** and **November 1st for spring semester** and will not be accepted after that date unless the teacher recommendation has changed.
 - Waivers may be obtained online through the student's CTLS homeroom.
2. For elective classes, students will complete registration using a form disseminated through their homeroom. Freshmen will complete elective registration during Freshmen Advisement with the Counseling Department.
 3. Registration for a year-long course (classes with an A and B semester) in an academic area, regardless of if a core credit or an elective, **may not be dropped at the end of first semester**. Additionally, the course must be completed at Walton High School.
 4. We do not honor teacher-preference requests during scheduling. All 2700+ students have preferences, and it would be impossible to honor the requests of all students.
 5. Seniors may not request Minimum Day once the semester has started. Seniors must request minimum day either during registration or during the drop/add time for second semester. All minimum day

forms for fall must be turned in by the specified deadline during junior year. Students registered for minimum day normally leave the last period of the day. If a student's lunch period can be scheduled for the period prior to the last period, the student may be allowed to leave school two periods early, with parent permission. However, students should not assume they can leave school two periods early because scheduling may not permit all minimum day students this option. **THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT A STUDENT WILL HAVE 6TH PERIOD LUNCH.** Students taking an online course other than Health and Personal Fitness are NOT eligible for Minimum Day.

6. Students approved for an extracurricular early release are still required to take a minimum of 3 total credits. One course may be taken online, but the online course must be an elective course, not an academic course. Specific paperwork is required for extracurricular early release approval, please contact your counselor for additional information.
7. Morning tuition school will be available if there is enough student interest. If you would like to take seven classes rather than six, please email Kristin Fox at Kristin.Fox@cobbk12.org for registration information. The fee for the extra course is \$300 per semester. Cash or check (payable to Walton High School) must accompany your registration and should be brought in person to the counseling suite. Students will be placed in any zero-period course that his or her schedule allows.
8. Registering for zero period, Dual Enrollment, or teacher apprenticeship does NOT guarantee a parking space on campus.
9. **CHOOSE YOUR COURSES CAREFULLY.** There are course descriptions for each course in this planning guide. In addition, there is an online Advanced Placement Booklet on the Walton website that will give more detailed information regarding the requirements and demands specific to AP classes. **It is not possible for students to “try out” a course to determine if it is a correct fit.** After the 10th day of the semester, any course dropped will receive a grade of “F” with an average of “10” as the grade on the official transcript per Cobb County School District policy.
10. AP courses taken at Walton High School or through an approved online provider will be given credit, an AP designation and receive the extra 1.0 extra quality point added to the GPA **ONLY if the AP exam is taken and the student takes both semesters of the course if it is a yearlong/1.0 credit course.**
11. Course selections are changed for the following reasons only:
 - If you failed or have not had the prerequisite for the particular course.
 - If you are a senior and need a specific course to graduate.
 - If you have previously received credit for the course.

Included in the list of course offerings are the grade level and course prerequisites. The following notations are used to denote additional weighting for grades earned in Honors and Advanced Placement courses:

**denotes course which receives an additional 0.5 quality point

***denotes course which receives an additional 1.0 quality point

Course Offerings

Course Title	Grade Level	Prerequisite
Career, Technology, & Engineering		
Intro Business & Technology A & B	9-12	
Intro to Graphic Arts 1A	9-12	
Intro to Graphic Arts 1B	9-12	Intro to Graphic Arts 1A
Hon Intro to Engineering Design A&B**	9-12	Concurrent with GSE Algebra 1
Broadcast/Video Productions 1A	9-12	
Broadcast/Video Productions 1B	9-12	Broadcast/Video Productions 1A
Intro to Healthcare Science A & B	9-12	
English		
Lit & Comp I A & B Honors **	9	Teacher rec
ISA Lit & Comp I A & B Honors **	9	Admission to ISA
Lit & Comp I A & B	9	
Lit & Comp I A & B ELL	9	Identified ELL & teacher rec
Journalism/Yearbook A & B	9-12	Not an English credit
Fine Arts		
Visual Arts: Comprehensive	9-12	
Visual Arts: Drawing I A	9-12	Visual Arts: Comprehensive
9th Treble Choir	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Men's Ensemble	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Concert Band II	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Concert Band I	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Symphonic Band	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Wind Symphony	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Percussion	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Dorian Orchestra	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Aeolian Orchestra	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Locrian Orchestra	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Sinfonia	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Philharmonia	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Chamber Orchestra	9-12	Audition & Teacher rec
Technical Theater	9-12	Offered fall only
Acting I	9-12	Offered spring only

Other Courses

Air Force JROTC 1 9-12 At Wheeler HS; see counselor for details

Mathematics

Algebra A & B 9 Math 8 & teacher rec
 Alg Support A & B 9 Teacher rec (elective credit only)
 Algebra 93 A & B 9 Math 8 & teacher rec – core math
 credit unit taken together spring
 semester
 Foundations of Algebra 93 A & B 9 Math 8 & teacher rec – core math
 credit unit taken together fall semester
 Honors Algebra A & B** 9 Adv. Math 8 & teacher rec
 Geometry A & B 9-10 Algebra & teacher rec
 Geometry 103 A & B 10 Algebra 93 & teacher rec
 Honors Geometry A & B** 9-10 Hon Alg or Alg & teacher rec
 Enhanced Honors Geometry A & B** 9 Algebra & teacher rec
 Offered fall only
 Enhanced Honors Advanced Algebra A & B** 9 Enhanced Hon Geometry A & B &
 teacher rec
 Offered spring only
 STEM Enhanced Honors 9 Admission to AMS STEM Academy
 Geometry/Advanced Algebra**

Physical Education

Personal Fitness 9-12
 Health 9-12
 Intro to Team Sports A & B 9-12
 Intro to Lifetime Sports A & B 9-12
 Intro to Recreational Games A & B 9-12
 Weight Training A & B 9
 9th Football Weights 9
 Female Weight Training 9-12 Teacher/Coach rec
 Body Sculpting 9-12

Science

Honors Biology A & B** 9 Teacher rec (recommended w/Hon Lit &
 Comp I)
 Biology A & B 9 Teacher rec
 Biology 93 A & B 9 Teacher rec – no waivers
 STEM Honors Biology A & B** 9 Admission to STEM BMS Academy
 STEM Honors Biology A & B** 9 Admission to STEM ENG Academy
 STEM Principles of Biomed Sci A & B** 9 Admission to STEM BMS Academy
 STEM AP Env. Science A & B*** 9 Admission to STEM AMS Academy

Social Studies

World Geography A & B 9
 AP Human Geography A & B*** 9 Teacher rec

World Language

French I A & B	9-12	
French II A & B	9-12	French I A & B
Spanish I A & B	9-12	
Spanish II A & B	9-12	Spanish I A & B
ISA Spanish II A & B	9	Admission to ISA
Latin I A & B	9-12	
Latin II A & B	9-12	Latin I A & B
Chinese I A & B	9-12	
Chinese II A & B	9-12	Chinese I A & B

Career, Technology, & Engineering

A total of three units are required from Career Tech Education, Modern Language, Latin, and/or Fine Arts.

Intro to Business & Tech A & B**For Grades 9 – 12**

This course is the first in the Financial Management Services Career Pathway. This course provides an overview of business and technology skills required for today's business environment. Students will learn essentials for working in a business environment, managing a business and owning a business. The intention of this course is to prepare students to be successful both personally and professionally in an information-based society.

Intro to Graphics & Design I A&B**For grades 9-12**

This is the first course in the Graphic Design Career Pathway. This class is designed to provide an overview of the field of Graphic Communications and Design. Students will learn design concepts, computer layout, and production of printed materials which are pervasive in our world. Students will custom make the products using the Adobe Creative Suite 5. Some projects include notepads, mouse pads, business cards, stationery, brochures, post cards, CD covers, invitations, and more. Students are acquainted with career opportunities in the areas of advertising, graphic design, illustration, typesetting, screen printing, digital printing, offset printing, and others. Students will learn basic techniques of photo editing in Adobe Photoshop, drawing and vector art creation using Adobe Illustrator and page layout skills using Adobe InDesign. Many opportunities are available for students to gain local, state and national recognition through their work produced in this and future courses. This course is a PrintEd accredited program in which a student may obtain a national certification upon completing specific competencies.

Broadcast/Video Productions I A & B**For grades 9-12**

This is the first course in the Broadcast Video/Production Career Pathway preparing the students for employment of entry into a postsecondary education program in this field. Students in Broadcast/Video Productions will discover the ins and outs of how a television show is made. Topics covered include history of mass media, basic field equipment function, shooting and editing video, studio production, production teams, planning, writing and editing a field production, employability skills, storyboarding, career opportunities and professional ethics.

Honors Intro to Engineering Design A&B****For grades 9-12****Prerequisite: concurrent with college-prep Algebra or higher.**

Introduction to Engineering Design is a year-long honors introductory course based on the Project Lead the Way curriculum. Project Lead the Way is a nation-wide organization that develops curriculum in Engineering and Technology (PLTW.org) The IED course teaches problem-solving skills through the use of the Engineering and Design Process. Topics include the Engineering Design Process, technical sketching, 3-D CAD modeling (Autodesk Fusion), Materials Analysis, measurement, and documentation. Students will create and prototype 3-D models using industry standard CAD software and various manufacturing techniques including 3-D Printers and Laser Cutters. Students will learn how to properly document this entire design process.

Introduction to Healthcare Science A&B**For grades 9-12**

Introduction to Healthcare Science is a foundations course for the Sports Medicine Pathway. It is appropriate for students wishing to pursue a career in the Healthcare Industry. The course will enable students to receive initial exposure to

healthcare skills and attitudes applicable to the healthcare industry. The concepts of health, wellness, and preventative care are evaluated, as well as, ethical and legal responsibilities of today's healthcare provider. Fundamental healthcare skills development is initiated including medical terminology, microbiology, and basic life support.

Other Courses

Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (AFJROTC) is one of the largest youth development programs in the country with a mission to develop citizens of character. This program, which spans from two to four years, is available to high school students in grades 9-12. It offers a flexible, blended curriculum that allows students to join at any point during their high school journey and has been part of Cobb County since 1970.

AFJROTC aims to educate and train high school cadets in citizenship, promote community service, instill responsibility, build character, and develop self-discipline, all while providing instruction in air and space fundamentals.

THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO MILITARY OBLIGATION ASSOCIATED WITH TAKING HIGH SCHOOL AIR FORCE JUNIOR ROTC AND NO UNIFORM REQUIREMENT FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS.

The curriculum includes Aerospace Science (AS), Leadership Education (LE), and Wellness components, and it serves students from both Wheeler and Walton High Schools.

Students who successfully complete the AFJROTC course will receive academic credit applicable towards graduation requirements. Depending on the course level (AS 100-400), students will learn various life skills, such as understanding the impact of weather, career selection, project management, training in chosen career fields, college admission and financing, and American civics. Additionally, students will enhance their leadership and management skills through the study and practice of responsibility and teamwork, learn orderliness and precision through drill and ceremonies, and understand the role of public service in American society.

Note: *3 units of AFJROTC will waive the Health and Personal Fitness graduation requirements and *1 course AS 200: Science of Flight will count as a 4th science elective. Click here to learn more: [WHEELER / WALTON JROTC Unit GA-052 \(wheelerwaltonjrotc.com\)](http://wheelerwaltonjrotc.com)

English

All students must earn 4 units of English to satisfy graduation requirements. Each course is designed for increasing complexity so that students will build on their learning each year. Georgia's K-12 English Language Arts (ELA) Standard are incorporated in the rigorous curriculum developed at Walton High School. The comprehensive Sadlier vocabulary series is utilized to prepare students for the PSAT and SAT. All students are required to complete summer readings and assignments.

Literature & Composition I A & B Honors**

For grade 9

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation

This honors-level class prepares able and ambitious readers and writers for AP and/or honors level English courses. Literature & Composition I is the first course in the sequence of secondary English language arts courses required for graduation. This course develops the integrated skill set that comprises the English language arts discipline to ensure that students are on track to be college ready. Literature & Composition I focuses on the interpretation, evaluation, construction, and design of texts across genres and modes in a variety of real-world, academic, and disciplinary contexts while sustaining and building mastery of language applications and discipline-specific practices. Students will read at least 7 parallel and/or teacher-directed longer pieces of literary merit over the year (including summer reading).

Literature & Composition I A & B

For grade 9

Literature & Composition I is the first course in the sequence of secondary English language arts courses required for graduation. This course develops the integrated skill set that comprises the English language arts discipline to ensure that students are on track to be college and work ready. Literature & Composition I focuses on the interpretation, evaluation, construction, and design of texts across genres and modes in a variety of real-world, academic, and disciplinary contexts while sustaining and building mastery of language applications and discipline-specific practices. Students will read at least 6 parallel and teacher-directed longer pieces of literary merit over a year (including summer reading).

Literature & Composition I ELL A & B

For grade 9

Prerequisites: Identified ELL

This course contains the same curricular objectives as Lit & Comp I. Adaptation in presentation is made to accommodate the needs of ELL students. This course is designed for the college-bound student.

Journalism/Yearbook

For grades 9-12

This is a yearlong class designed for college bound students interested in learning the principles of design, writing and photography necessary to produce the yearbook. Students enrolled in the class are expected to work independently and meet deadlines throughout the year. The class requires outside time for completion of spreads as well as pictures of events that occur throughout the year. This course is an academic elective and does not satisfy English requirements for graduation.

	9th	10th	11th	12th
Honors/AP	Lit & Comp I Honors *80 or below = possibility of moving to on-level Lit & Comp II	Lit/Comp II (see below) Lit & Comp II Honors *C or lower = move to on level Lit & Comp III	Lit & Comp III (LA) Honors *C or lower = move to on level Advanced Comp *AP Language (see below) OR Lit & Comp III Honors	AP English Lit & Comp OR Lit & Comp IV Honors
Honors	Lit & Comp I Honors *80 or below = possibility of moving to on-level Lit & Comp II	Lit & Comp II Honors *C or lower = move to on level Lit & Comp III	Lit & Comp III Honors	Lit & Comp IV Honors OR AP English Lit & Comp
College Prep	Lit & Comp I A = possibility of moving to Honors Lit & Comp II	Lit & Comp II	Lit & Comp III	Advanced Comp OR Dramatic Writing
Small Group (IEP placement)	Lit & Comp I (SG)	Lit & Comp II (SG)	Lit & Comp III (SG)	Advanced Comp (SG)
4 Units of English Required. Must include: *1 unit of Lit & Comp I And *1 unit of Lit & Comp II or AP Lang/Lit & Comp II		NOTES: *Students in Honors Lit & Comp I have the possibility of taking AP Language in 10 th grade OR 11 th grade depending on their English grades. Students cannot take AP Language in both 10th and 11th grades. *For each English class, there are a minimum of three parallel readings each semester. *The research paper is written during the 2 nd semester of honors Lit & Comp II and all Lit & Comp III classes as well as 1 st semester of all Lit & Comp IV classes and Dramatic Writing. A research paper is also a component of AP English Language and Composition and AP English Literature and Composition.		

Mathematics

Four units of mathematics study are required for graduation. A graphing calculator (TI-84 or higher) is required for ALL math classes. There are a limited number of calculators available for student check out, but it will be advantageous to purchase for student use.

GSE Algebra A & B

For grade 9

Prerequisite: Math 8 & teacher recommendation

This is the first course in a sequence of courses designed to provide students with a rigorous program of study in mathematics. It conforms to the Georgia Standards of Excellence of Algebra. Students will take the state Georgia Milestones EOC at the end of the course.

Foundations of Algebra 93 A&B

For grade 9

Prerequisite: Math 8 & teacher recommendation (no waivers accepted)

Foundations of Algebra is a first-year high school mathematics course option for students who have completed mathematics in grades 6-8 yet will need substantial support to bolster success in high school mathematics. The course is aimed at students who have reported low standardized test performance in prior grades and/or have demonstrated significant difficulties in previous mathematics classes.

Foundations of Algebra will provide many opportunities to revisit and expand the understanding of foundational algebra concepts, will employ diagnostic means to offer focused interventions, and will incorporate varied instructional strategies to prepare students for required high school mathematics courses. The course will emphasize both algebra and numeracy in a variety of contexts including number sense, proportional reasoning, quantitative reasoning with functions and solving equations and inequalities. This is a core mathematics course and does fulfill a mathematics requirement for graduation. Students in this course will take Foundations of Algebra A and Foundations of Algebra B during fall semester and then Algebra 1 A 93 and Algebra 1 B 93 during spring semester.

Algebra 93 A&B

For grade 9

Prerequisite: Foundations of Algebra 93 A&B (no waivers accepted)

This course includes the same topics of study included in GSE Algebra but places more emphasis on basic fundamental processes and practice. This course will place more emphasis on basic problem solving and mathematical concepts. Students will take the state Georgia Milestones EOC at the end of the course.

Algebra Support A & B

For grade 9

Prerequisite: concurrent enrollment in GSE Algebra A&B & teacher recommendation

The purpose of the Math Support class is to address the needs of students who have traditionally struggled in mathematics by providing the additional time and attention they need in order to successfully complete their regular grade-level mathematics course. Mathematics Support is an elective class that will be taught concurrently with a student's regular Algebra course. This course is an academic elective credit only and does not fulfill the mathematics requirements for graduation.

Honors Algebra A&B**

For grade 9

Prerequisite: Advanced Math 8 & teacher recommendation

This course includes the same topics of study included in Algebra but places more emphasis on formal processes and rigor. This course will place more emphasis on critical thinking and analysis of mathematical concepts. Students will take the state Georgia Milestones EOC at the end of the course.

Geometry A&B

For grade 9 - 10

Prerequisite: GSE Algebra 1 & teacher recommendation

This is the second in a sequence of courses designed to provide students with a rigorous program of study in mathematics. It conforms to the Georgia K-12 Mathematics Standards for Geometry.

Honors Geometry A&B**

For grade 9-10

Prerequisite: GSE Honors Alg 1 or GSE Alg 1 & Teacher recommendation

This course includes the same topics of study included in Geometry but places more emphasis on formal processes and rigor. This course will place more emphasis on critical thinking and analysis of mathematical concepts.

Prerequisite: Honors Algebra or Algebra & Teacher recommendation

This course includes the same topics of study included in Geometry and Advanced Algebra but places more emphasis on formal processes, rigor, critical thinking, and analysis of mathematical concepts. It conforms to Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards of Geometry and Advanced Algebra. Students taking this course must complete a summer packet that is due on the first day of school. Students not maintaining an A or B average for fall semester will receive credit for Honors Geometry A and be moved to Honors Geometry B for spring semester. Students successfully completing this course will be prepared to take higher level courses such as AP Precalculus BC, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, and/or Multivariable Calculus.

Math Course Sequence for the 2025/2026 School Year

9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Enhanced Hon Geo/ Enhanced Hon Adv Algebra	AP PreCalc BC	AP Calculus BC	Multivariable Calculus
	AP PreCalc AB	AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus BC
Honors Geometry	Honors Advanced Algebra	AP PreCalculus AB	AP Calculus AB
Geometry	Advanced Algebra	PreCalculus	AP Calculus AB OR AP Statistics
Honors Algebra	Honors Geometry & Honors Advanced Algebra	AP PreCalculus AB	AP Calculus AB
	Honors Geometry	Honors Advanced Algebra	AP PreCalculus AB
Algebra	Geometry	Advanced Algebra	PreCalculus
Algebra & Algebra Support	Geometry	Advanced Algebra	PreCalculus OR 4 th year option
Foundations of Algebra (Fall) & Algebra 1 93 (Spring)	Geometry 103	Advanced Algebra 113	PreCalculus OR 4 th year option
Foundations of Algebra (SG) & Algebra (SG)	Geometry (SG) & Geometry Support (SG)	Advanced Algebra (SG) & Advanced Algebra Support (SG)	Advanced Math Decision Making (SG)
	AP Statistics can be taken as an elective any time after successful completion of Enhanced Honors Geo/Adv Alg or Honors Geometry as an elective		

Fine Arts

Our Fine Arts department includes visual and performance groups. Students must audition to register for a performance group. For the class of 2012 and beyond, a total of three units are required from Career Technical Education, World Language, Latin and/or Fine Arts.

The Fine Arts department offers advanced level classes in addition to on-level classes. If accepted to a higher-level course, students are expected to behave and perform with higher-level expectations, including preparation, attendance, attitude, etc.

All fine arts classes count towards the Georgia Fine Arts Diploma Seal. Students must earn three in a single fine arts area, plus an additional fine arts course in addition to completing community service and a capstone presentation.

Visual Arts Comprehensive

For grades 9-12

This one semester class is open to any student with an interest in art and serves as the first semester in the **Visual Arts Pathway**. Introduces art history, criticism, aesthetic judgment, and studio production. Emphasizes the ability to understand and use elements and principles of design through a variety of media, processes, and visual resources, which may include pencil, charcoal, pastels, clay, and related media. Explores master artworks for historical and cultural significance.

Visual Arts: Drawing I

For grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Visual Arts Comprehensive

This one or two semester course, which is the second semester in the **Visual Arts Pathway**, explores a variety of drawing techniques and media with an emphasis on developing drawing skills. Examines solutions to drawing problems through student drawings and those of other artists. Develops critical analysis skills for responding to master drawings. Covers western and non-western cultures. Homework is required.

Men's Ensemble

For grade 9-12

Prerequisite: Audition & Teacher Recommendation

Men's Ensemble is a chorus for tenor and bass voices. It is one full credit in the Fine Arts Pathway. Singers in Men's Ensemble work on skills related to choral, vocal, music reading, and rehearsal techniques. Men's Ensemble performs three concerts a year and is evaluated at the Georgia Music Educators Association Performance Evaluation. These performances are extensions of chorus class and attendance is expected. Men's Ensemble is a year-long course. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, and instructional expenses.

9th Grade Treble Choir

For grade 9-12

Prerequisite: Audition & Teacher Recommendation

9th Grade Treble Choir is beginning treble chorus for students working to master the choral, vocal, music reading, and rehearsal skills necessary for success. It is one full credit in the Fine Arts Pathway. Students in 9th Grade Treble Choir work to learn music independently, with an emphasis on performing at a high level of choral artistry. Members of 9th Grade Treble are eligible to participate in the Walton Tour Choir. 9th Grade Treble performs three concerts a year and is evaluated at the Georgia Music Educators Association Performance Evaluation. These performances are extensions of chorus class and attendance is expected. 9th Grade Treble is a year-long course. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, and instructional expenses.

Concert Bands

For grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Audition & Teacher Recommendation

Concert Band provides opportunities to develop performance skills on a wind or percussion instrument. This course is the first year in the Fine Arts Pathway. This class emphasizes performances and production, stresses individual progress within group experiences, and may include analysis, historical and cultural influences, improvisation, and appreciation of music. Students have organized objectives for self-paced progress. Rising freshmen students who do not elect to take the spring audition at the end of their 8th grade year will be placed in one of the Concert Band classes. Participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is expected. Concert Band 2 is a year-long course that performs GMEA level II and III music. Concert Band 1 is a year-long course that performs GMEA Level III and IV music. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, uniforms, and instructional expenses.

Symphonic Band**For grades 9-12****Prerequisite: Audition & Teacher Recommendation**

This performance-based class provides opportunities for advanced-level performers to increase, develop and refine performance skills and precision on a wind or percussion instrument. The course covers performance and production, analysis and theoretical studies, historical and cultural contributions and influences, creative aspects of music, and appreciation of music at advanced levels of understanding. Students have organized objectives for self-paced progress with individual learning strategies and ensemble experiences. Individual growth and achievement are encouraged through participation in adjudicated solo and ensemble festivals, district honor bands, and private lessons. Participation in rehearsals and concert performances outside of regular class hours is expected. Symphonic Band is a year-long course that performs GMEA Level V and VI music. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, uniforms, and instructional expenses.

Wind Symphony**For grades 9-12****Prerequisite: Audition & Teacher Recommendation**

This performance-based class provides opportunities for students to develop master skills in music reading and performance techniques. A variety of mastery band literature of various historical and contemporary styles and genres is performed. Students extend their knowledge of music theory, analysis of form, and exploration of compositional and improvisational techniques of instrumental music. Individual growth and achievement are encouraged through participation in adjudicated solo and ensemble festivals, district honor bands, community bands, community orchestras, and private lessons. Participation in rehearsals and concert performances outside of regular class hours is expected. Wind Symphony is a year-long course that performs GMEA Level VI and collegiate-level music. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, uniforms, and instructional expenses.

Percussion**For grades 9-12****Prerequisite: Audition & Teacher Recommendation**

In Advanced Instrumental Ensemble students are selected by director's recommendation. Offers advanced-level performers an alternative ensemble experience to large band and orchestra. Emphasizes the performance style and literature of the instrumental chamber group medium. Includes percussion ensemble and techniques. Covers performance and production, analysis and theoretical studies, creative aspects of music, historical and cultural influences, and music appreciation. Participation in rehearsals and concert performances outside of regular class hours is expected. Percussion is a year-long course. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, uniforms, and instructional expenses.

On-Level Orchestras (Dorian, Aeolian, Locrian)**For grade 9-12****Prerequisite: Audition & Teacher Recommendation**

On-level orchestras are intermediate string ensembles for students who play violin, viola, cello, or double bass. This course counts for the Fine Arts Pathway. The techniques of string playing are taught within the context of musical performance (GMEA Level II-III difficulty). Rehearsals are held during the curricular school day, with an occasional afternoon rehearsal before concerts. On-level orchestras perform four concerts each year including Georgia Music Educators Association Large Group Performance Evaluation. These performances are extensions of class and attendance is expected. Orchestra is a co-curricular class and students have the opportunity to earn a letter in orchestra. Orchestra is a year-long course. Please note that orchestra instruments are not provided by the school and that purchasing a uniform is required. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, uniforms, and instructional expenses.

Sinfonia**For grades 9-12****Prerequisite: Audition & Teacher Recommendation**

Sinfonia is an advanced orchestra for violin, viola, cello and double bass students. Admission to this group is by audition only. Advanced techniques of string players are stressed within the context of music performance (Georgia Level IV music difficulty). Rehearsals are held during the curricular school day, with an occasional afternoon rehearsal before concerts. Performances are usually in the evening. These performances are extensions of class and attendance is expected. Orchestra is a co-curricular class and students have the opportunity to earn a letter in orchestra. Please note that orchestra instruments are not provided by the school and that purchasing a uniform is required. Sinfonia is a yearlong course. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, uniforms, and instructional expenses.

Philharmonia**For grades 9-12****Prerequisites: Audition & Teacher Recommendation**

Philharmonia is an advanced orchestra for violin, viola, cello and double bass students. Admission to this group is by audition only. This award-winning group performs music with advanced techniques of string playing (Georgia Level V-VI music difficulty). After school or evening rehearsals are required in addition to evening concerts. These performances are

extensions of class and attendance is expected. Orchestra is a co-curricular class, and students have the opportunity to earn a letter in orchestra. Please note that orchestra instruments are not provided by the school and that purchasing a uniform is required. Private lessons are strongly recommended. Philharmonia is a yearlong course. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, uniforms, and instructional expenses.

Chamber Orchestra

For grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Audition & Teacher Recommendation

Chamber Orchestra is Walton's most advanced orchestra. Admission to this group is by audition only. This award-winning group performs standard, professional, orchestral, string and chamber music at the highest level of difficulty. On occasion, woodwind, brass and percussion students from Wind Symphony may join the strings to form a full orchestra. After school or evening rehearsals are required in addition to evening concerts. These performances are extensions of class and attendance is expected. Orchestra is a co-curricular class, and students have the opportunity to earn a letter in orchestra. Please note that orchestra instruments are not provided by the school and that purchasing a uniform is required. Private lessons are recommended. Chamber Orchestra is a yearlong course. There is a participation fee to defray costs of music, uniforms, and instructional expenses.

Technical Theater (Fall Semester Only)

For grades 9-12

This class introduces technical considerations of play production; covers set construction, scene painting, lighting and settings, make-up and costumes. The students will learn the basic principles of stage design and construction. The class serves as the prerequisite course for other technical courses. This class utilizes and trains students on new technology related to the theatre. This course is an academic elective and does not satisfy English requirements for graduation. This is a one-semester elective.

Acting I (Spring Semester Only)

For grades 9-12

Introduces the acting process and the role of the actor in various styles/methods with a focus on scene study. Stresses developing imagination, observation, concentration powers, and self-discipline. Includes developing physical and vocal control while transmitting emotions, convictions, and ideas; enhances self-confidence and self-awareness. Theater is used as a means to encourage cooperative learning, teamwork, organization, and leadership skills. The class allows all students the opportunity to perform on a regular basis. This course is an academic elective and does not satisfy English requirements for graduation. This is a one-semester elective.

International Spanish Academy

The International Spanish Academy is a rigorous program of study for students who are learning Spanish as a foreign language. Students must apply in the spring of the 8th grade year. Those accepted will take 4 years of Spanish as well as 4 honors or AP level content area courses that include a delivery component in Spanish.

ISA Spanish II A & B: Culture, Comparisons & Communication

For grade 9

Prerequisite: Admission to ISA, Spanish I & concurrent enrollment in 9th Lit Honors and AP Human Geography

The International Spanish Academy Level II course focuses on the rapid development of communicative competence in the target language and understanding and comparing the cultures of the Spanish speaking world. The major means of communication between the students and instructors will be in Spanish. The philosophy of the ISA program is that the students will use the language to learn it instead of learning the language to use it.

ISA Lit and Comp I A & B Honors**

For grade 9

Prerequisites: Admission to ISA program & Spanish I credit

This honors-level class prepares able and ambitious readers and writers for AP and/or honors level English courses. Literature & Composition I is the first course (required) in the sequence of secondary English language arts courses required for graduation. This course develops the integrated skill set that comprises the English language arts discipline to ensure that students are on track to be college ready. Literature & Composition I focuses on the interpretation, evaluation, construction, and design of texts across genres and modes in a variety of real-world, academic, and disciplinary contexts while sustaining and building mastery of language applications and discipline-specific practices. Students will read at least 7 parallel and/or teacher-directed longer pieces of literary merit over the year (including summer reading). This class includes a Spanish language component and collaborates with the Spanish II International Spanish Academy class.

9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
ISA Spanish II A&B Culture, Comparisons and Communication	ISA Spanish III Advanced A&B; The Humanities/Art and History	ISA AP Spanish Language A&B	ISA AP Spanish Literature A&B
ISA Honors Lit & Comp I A & B	ISA AP Government (spring sem)	ISA AP US History A&B	ISA AP English Literature A&B
	ISA Honors Lit & Comp II A&B		

Physical Education

*All students are required to take **Personal Fitness and Health** for graduation.*

Health

For grades 9-12

Health allows students to develop a higher state of wellness (high levels of physical, mental/emotional, and social health) through an understanding of preventative health strategies as they pertain to personal health, nutrition, communicative and chronic diseases, consumer health, first aid and CPR, drug education, community health and family living. An emphasis is placed on the decision-making process and preventative health care. The Alcohol Drug Awareness Program (ADAP) which is a requirement for driver's licensure in Georgia will be given during all Health classes.

Personal Fitness

For grades 9-12

Introduces instruction in methods to attain a healthy level of physical fitness; implements a lifetime fitness program based on a personal fitness assessment and stresses strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, body composition, and cardiovascular endurance; includes instruction in fitness principles, nutrition, fad diets, weight control, stress management, adherence strategies, and consumer information; and promotes self-awareness and responsibility for fitness. There is a workout component that is supported by a classroom component in this class.

Intro to Team Sports A&B

For grades 9-12

Introduces fundamental skills, strategies, and rules associated with team sports such as basketball, volleyball, soccer, softball, baseball, field hockey, lacrosse, team handball, and flag football.

Intro to Outdoor Education A&B (fall only)

For grades 9-12

Promotes an appreciation of the outdoors; provides physical activities and adventures in an outdoor laboratory which include camping, fishing, hiking, orienteering, backpacking, repelling, outdoor cooking, boating safety, hunter safety, riflery and archery.

Weight training A&B 9th Football Weights

For grades 9 - 12 For grade 9

These courses are designed to introduce students to a program of activities that promote the development of health-related fitness. Activities may include stretching exercises, weightlifting, strength training, polymeric exercises, flexibility, and physical fitness training. Students will devise an individual program for their fitness and strength level. Some sections are sport and/or gender specific, while other sections serve those who enjoy lifting or have a desire to learn about lifting.

Intro to Lifetime Sports A&B

For grades 9-12

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental skills, strategies, and rules of various lifetime sports. This course may include the following: tennis, badminton, basketball, volleyball, golf, bowling, and any other individual or dual sport or activity. The history of the games, along with proper etiquette are discussed as well.

Intro to Recreational Games A & B (spring only)

For grades 9-12

Introduces recreational games for lifetime leisure activities which may include table tennis, shuffleboard, frisbee, deck tennis, new games, horseshoes, darts and croquet. Emphasizes the rules of each game and the skills necessary to play.

Body Sculpting**For grades 9-12**

This course is designed for the student who is interested in redefining her/his body shape through specific exercises. The course differs from our traditional weightlifting courses which emphasize Olympic lifts geared toward improved power and strength for athletic/skill performance. This course utilizes weight training, conditioning exercises, flexibility/mobility exercises, and proper nutrition to improve muscle tone, muscle definition, posture, bodily proportions, and overall condition of the body and energy levels.

Female Weight Training**For grades 9-12**

This course is designed for the experienced female weight training student. Much of the focus is utilizing Olympic Style lifts to increase strength and power specifically for student-athletes. Flexibility and cardiovascular exercises are also performed to enhance performance and prevent injury. **Prerequisite: Teacher/Coach Recommendation**

Science

Four units of science study, including one unit of Biology, one unit of Physics or Physical Science, one unit of Chemistry, Earth Systems, Environmental Science or AP science, and one additional unit of science is required.

Biology A&B Honors****For grades 9****Prerequisite: teacher rec and concurrent with GSE Honors Geom. or higher math**

Honors Biology topics of study include inorganic and organic chemistry principles, cell structures and function, cellular processes, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, and cellular reproduction, genetics, and DNA, evolution, biological diversity and its classification, and biotechnology. Honors Biology is a laboratory-based class. Students will be involved in computer-based and traditional lab activities with an emphasis on collaborative inquiry exploration. Students will take the state Georgia Milestones EOC at the end of the course.

Biology A&B**For grades 9****Prerequisite: one unit of science credit**

Biology introduces biological processes. Starting at the molecular level the structures and functions both unique and common to various life forms will be examined and compared. Study topics will include biological molecules, energy processes, cellular structure, genetics and reproduction, biological diversity, behavior and adaptation, and ecology. Laboratory exercises will provide hands-on opportunities to increase knowledge and skills in both biology and the design of controlled experiments. Students are required to take the state Georgia Milestones EOC.

Biology 93 A&B**For grade 9****Prerequisite: teacher rec - no waivers allowed**

The fall semester of this course will introduce the topics of cellular structure and function, genetics, and the development and diversity of life. The spring semester of this course will deal with the classification of living things, a survey of the five biological kingdoms, and ecology. This course is supplemented with materials not found in the textbook. Students are required to take the state Georgia Milestones EOC.

	9th	10th	11th	12th
Honors	Honors Biology (taken concurrently with Hon Algebra 1 or higher math)	Honors Chemistry (taken concurrently with geometry or higher math) <u>Available Electives</u> Hon Anatomy/Phys	Honors Physics AP Physics 1 AP Physics C (<i>must be taken with Calc</i>) <u>Available Electives</u> AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Env. Science Hon Anatomy/Phys Hon Biotechnology Forensics Environmental Sci	Course Options Honors Physics AP Physics 1 AP Physics 2 AP Physics C (<i>must be taken with Calc</i>) AP Physics Emag AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Env. Science Honors Anatomy/Phys Honors Biotechnology
On-Level	Biology (taken concurrently with Algebra 1 or higher math)	Chemistry (taken concurrently with geometry or higher math) Environmental Science	Physics <u>Available Electives</u> Anatomy/Physiology AP Environmental Sci Environmental Science Astronomy Forensics	Course Options AP Environmental Sci Anatomy/Physiology Physics Environmental Science Astronomy Forensics
3-Level	Biology 93	Environmental Sci 103	Physics 113	Course Options Anatomy/Physiology 123 Astronomy Chemistry
Graduation Requirements: 1 unit of Biology 1 unit of Physics/Physical Science 1 unit of Chem, Env. Sci or AP Science 1 unit of a 4 th science		Note: *Students can be moved up or down levels per teacher recommendation. *Waivers are accepted when the prerequisite has been satisfied *4 th science does not necessarily have to be taken senior year		

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Academy

The STEM Academy provides a rigorous program of study for students who have a sincere interest in the STEM fields. The academy provides three pathways: advanced math and science, biomedical sciences, and engineering. The academy's mission is to provide students a rigorous, interdisciplinary learning environment focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, to foster curiosity, and to promote a collaborative culture of ethical and innovative problem-solving. Students must apply in the fall of the 8th grade year. Students accepted into the academy will take 4 years of paired STEM courses unique to each pathway. Placement into the following courses requires admission into the STEM Academy. Admission occurs prior to the 9th grade year.

ADVANCED MATH AND SCIENCE PATHWAY

STEM AP Environmental Science A&B

For grade 9

The Advanced Placement Environmental Science course is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory Environmental Science course at the college level. The goal of the course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze both natural and human made environmental problems, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a variety of topics from biology, chemistry, geology, and public policy. The course has significant laboratory and fieldwork components. The course prepares students to take the AP Environmental Science exam.

STEM Enhanced Honors Geometry A&B/Enhanced Honors Advanced Algebra A&B For grade 9**

Prerequisite: Honors Algebra or Algebra & Teacher recommendation

This course includes the same topics of study included in Geometry and Advanced Algebra but places more emphasis on formal processes, rigor, critical thinking, and analysis of mathematical concepts. It conforms to Georgia's K-12 Mathematics Standards of Geometry and Advanced Algebra. Students taking this course must complete a summer packet that is due on the first day of school. Students will take the full Honors Geometry course fall semester and the full Honors Advanced Algebra course spring semester. Students not maintaining an A or B average for fall semester will receive credit for Honors Geometry A and be moved to Honors Geometry B for spring semester. Students successfully completing this course will be prepared to take higher level courses such as AP Precalculus BC, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, and/or Multivariable Calculus.

AP Capstone Courses

To earn the AP Capstone Diploma, students must score a 3 or above on both the AP Seminar and AP Research exams as well as a 3 or above on four other AP exams of their choosing.

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES PATHWAY

STEM Biology A&B Honors

For grade 9

Honors Biology explores basic biological processes. Topics of study include inorganic and organic chemistry principles, cell structures and function, cellular processes, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, and cellular reproduction, genetics, and DNA, evolution, biological diversity and its classification, and biotechnology. Honors Biology is a laboratory-based class. Students will be involved in computer-based and traditional lab activities with an emphasis on collaborative inquiry exploration. STEM students will work on a year-long project determined by the instructor. Students will take the state Georgia Milestones EOC at the end of the course.

STEM PLTW Principles of Biomedical Science A&B Honors**For grade 9**

Principles of Biomedical Science use the PLTW curriculum. This honors course requires students to design research strategies, analyze data related to outbreaks and healthcare as well and explore clinical empathy and health promotion. Students will develop technical skills using cutting edge technologies as well as skills involving problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, and collaboration. Students will take the PLTW end-of-course test.

ENGINEERING PATHWAY**STEM Biology A&B Honors****For grade 9**

Honors Biology explores basic biological processes. Topics of study include inorganic and organic chemistry principles, cell structures and function, cellular processes, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, and cellular reproduction, genetics, and DNA, evolution, biological diversity and its classification, and biotechnology. Honors Biology is a laboratory-based class. Students will be involved in computer-based and traditional lab activities with an emphasis on collaborative inquiry exploration. STEM students will be working on designing and maintaining an aquaponics system using both the engineering design process as well as a biological systems approach. Students will take the state Georgia Milestones EOC at the end of the course.

STEM Intro to Engineering Design A&B Honors**For grade 9**

Introduction to Engineering Design is a year-long honors introductory course in the nationally known Project Lead the Way curriculum. The IED course teaches problem-solving skills through use of a design development process. Topics include the history of design, sketching and visualization, modeling, and documentation. Students will create and prototype 3-D models using industry standard CAD software and various manufacturing techniques. Students will learn how to properly document this entire design process. Students will take the PLTW end-of-course test.

STEM Curriculum Flowchart

	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Advanced Math & Science Track	STEM AP Environmental Science	STEM AP Chemistry	STEM AP Physics C Mechanics	STEM AP Biology
	STEM Enhanced Hon Geometry/ Enhanced Hon Advanced Algebra	STEM GSE Accelerated PreCalculus BC	STEM GSE AP Calculus BC	Multivariable Calculus or Georgia Tech Distance Calculus
			Starting with class of 2026: STEM AP Seminar	Starting with class of 2026: STEM AP Research
Biomedical Track	STEM Honors Principals of Biomedical Science	STEM Honors PLTW Human Body Systems and STEM Honors Anatomy	STEM Honors PLTW Medical Intervention	STEM Honors PLTW Biomedical Innovations Capstone Course
	STEM Ho nors Biology	STEM Honors Chemistry	STEM AP Biology	STEM AP Physics 1
Engineering Track	STEM Hon PLTW Introduction to Engineering Design	STEM Hon PLTW Principles of Engineering	STEM Hon PLTW Aerospace Engineering or Digital Electronics	STEM Hon PLTW Engineering Design and Development
	STEM Honors Biology	STEM Honors Chemistry	STEM AP Physics 1/C	STEM AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism

STEM Advanced Math and Science, Biomedical and Engineering students enrolled in any of the following, AP Chemistry, Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry and/or PLTW courses, should expect to have labs several times each semester during WEB. STEM AP Biology students should expect to have labs during each WEB. Additionally, All STEM students should expect to participate in the Science Expo each January.

Social Studies

Three units of social studies is required including ½ unit American Government, ½ unit Principles of Economics, one unit World History, and one unit United States History

World Geography A&B

For grade 9

World Geography provides an overview of how human beings interact with their environment and introduces the idea that how we live is influenced by where we live. An awareness of similarities and differences in human needs and behaviors is developed along with an appreciation for the impact that geography has on our lives. World Geography will cover a wide variety of topics including, but not limited to demography, culture, political geography and agriculture. This course is an academic elective credit only and does not fulfill a social studies requirement for graduation.

AP Human Geography***

For grade 9

Prerequisite: teacher recommendation

The purpose of the AP course in Human Geography is to provide the students with an in-depth understanding of the earth's cultures, recent regional histories, political systems and disputes, land use patterns, and issues of sustainability. By the end of the course, each student will be able to watch the news on television and understand the issues that define our world. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to analyze human-social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. The course will cover 7 general topics: demography, resources and human settlement, cultural patterns and processes, political patterns and processes, economic patterns and processes, and environmental and development issues. This course is an academic elective credit only and does not fulfill a social studies requirement for graduation.

	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
ISA Spanish Students	AP Human Geography	AP U.S. Government *ISA class with Spanish component	AP U.S. History *ISA class with Spanish component	World History (any level) *Students should consider taking AP European History as an elective.
Advanced Placement	AP Human Geography	AP U.S. Government & AP Microeconomics *Possible AP electives include AP Macroeconomics, AP Comparative Gov, AP Art History, and AP European History	AP U.S. History *Possible AP electives include AP Macroeconomics, AP Comparative Gov, AP European History, AP Art History, AP Psychology	AP World History *Possible AP electives include AP Macroeconomics, AP Comparative Gov, AP European History, AP Art History and AP Psychology
Honors Level	AP Human Geography	Honors U.S. Government & Honors Economics / Personal Finance	Honors U.S. History	Honors World History
College Prep	World Geography	U.S. Government & Economics / Personal Finance	U.S. History	World History
3 – Level		U.S. Government 103 & Economics / Personal Finance 103	U.S. History 113	World History 123
Graduation Requirements: 1 unit of World History 1 unit of U.S. History ½ unit of Government ½ unit of Economics		AP Microeconomics – meets the Economics graduation requirement AP Macroeconomics – counts as an academic elective AP U.S. Government – meets the Government graduation requirement AP Comparative Government – counts as an academic elective Level recommendations will be made each year by social studies teachers to ensure proper level placement and rigor of coursework. All 3-level classes can only be taken with teacher recommendation.		

World Languages

Our World Language department offers a complete program in Chinese, French, Latin and Spanish. A total of three units is required from Career Technical Ed, Modern Language, Latin and/or Fine Arts. Students planning to enter or transfer to a University System of Georgia Institution or other post-secondary institution must take at least two units of the same modern language or Latin.

Levels I, II, III, and IV of the modern languages offered at Walton are for students who are learning these languages as a Foreign Language. Native and Heritage speakers wishing to study their native language at Walton will be placed on a case-by-case basis depending on their skill development levels. These students may instead prefer to study another modern language.

Latin 1 A&B

For grades 9 –12

This course introduces students to the Latin language and ancient Roman civilization. It emphasizes the skills needed to read Latin literature. The approach used is a reading approach in which grammar is taught in context, and as an aid to, reading comprehension.

Latin 2 A&B

For grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Latin 1

This course enhances Level I skills and provides opportunities to translate longer, more challenging passages. This course is the second half of a two-year sequential course, which develops the skills needed to read Latin literature.

Chinese 1 A&B

For grades 9-12

This Level I language course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the target language and understanding the culture of the people who speak the language. It assumes that the students have minimal or no prior knowledge of the language and culture. The major means of communication between the students and instructor is in the target language. The course content includes how to greet and take leave of someone, to ask and respond to basic questions, to speak and read within a range of carefully selected topics and to develop an understanding of Chinese-speaking cultures.

Chinese 2 A&B

For grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Chinese 1

The Level II language course focuses on the continued development of communicative competence in the target language and understanding of the culture(s) of the people who speak the language. It assumes that the students have successfully completed a Level I course. Students begin to show a greater level of accuracy in communicating their immediate world and daily life, read materials on familiar topics, and write short, directed compositions. The major means of communication between students and instructor is the target language. It continues to provide practice in how to greet and take leave of someone, to ask and respond to basic questions, and to speak and read within a range of carefully selected topics.

French 1 A&B

For grades 9-12

The Level I language course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the target language and understanding the culture of the people who speak the language. It assumes that the students have minimal or no prior knowledge of the language and culture. The major means of communication is in the target language. The course content includes how to greet and take leave of someone, to ask and respond to basic questions, to speak and read within a range of carefully selected topics, and to develop an understanding of French-speaking cultures.

French 2 A&B

For grades 9-12

Prerequisite: French 1

The Level II language course focuses on the continued development of communicative competence in the target language and understanding of the culture(s) of the people who speak the language. Students begin to show a greater level of accuracy when using basic language structures, and they are exposed to more complex features of the language. They continue to focus on communicating about their immediate world and daily life activities, read material on familiar topics, and write short, directed compositions. The major means of communication is in the target language.

Spanish 1 A&B**For grades 9 –12**

The Level I language course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the target language and understanding the culture of the people who speak the language. It assumes that the students have minimal or no prior knowledge of the language. The course content includes how to greet and take leave of someone, to ask and respond to basic questions, to speak, write and read within a range of specific topics, and to develop an understanding of Spanish-speaking cultures. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the target language.

Spanish 2 A&B**For grades 9-12****Prerequisite: Spanish 1**

The Level II language course focuses on the continued development of communicative competence in the target language and understanding of the cultures of the people who speak the language. Students begin to show a greater level of accuracy when using basic language structures, and they are exposed to more complex grammar as well as expansions in vocabulary topics learned in Level 1. They continue to focus on communicating about their daily life activities, read material on familiar topics, and write short, directed compositions. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be the target language.

9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Chinese 1	Chinese 2	Honors Chinese 3	Honors Chinese 4
Chinese 2	Honors Chinese 3	Honors Chinese 4	Honors Chinese 5 or AP Chinese
Latin 1	Latin 2	Honors Latin 3	AP Latin
Latin 2	Honors Latin 3	AP Latin	Honors Latin 5
French 1	French 2	Honors French 3	Honors French 4
French 2	Honors French 3	Honors French 4	AP French
Spanish 1	Spanish 2	Honors Spanish 3	Honors Spanish IV
Spanish 1	Spanish 2/Honors Spanish 2 (spring sem – teacher rec only; no waivers)	Pre-AP Spanish	AP Spanish Language
Spanish 2	Honors Spanish 3	Honors Spanish 4	AP Spanish Language or Spanish 5 Honors
Spanish 2/Honors Spanish 2 (spring sem)	Pre-AP Spanish	AP Spanish Language	AP Spanish Literature
		Spanish 5 Honors	AP Spanish Language

*Honors Chinese 6 may be taken after the completion of AP Chinese.

Summer Reading Requirements

Every student will have a required summer reading assignment in English. Additionally, some courses in mathematics require a summer learning assignment. These assignments along with specific instructions on the assignments will be posted to the Walton website in May. Please consider these requirements when planning your course selection for the 2025-2026 school year.

English Summer Reading:

9th Grade Literature and Composition I (All levels – one book with assignment)

Between Shades of Gray (Sepetys)

9th Grade Small Group Literature and Composition I (One required book with assignment)

Refugee (Gratz)

Social Studies Summer Reading:

World Geography & AP Human Geography

No Assigned Reading, Geography will complete level specific summer assignments.

Math Summer Assignment:

All Students enrolled in Enhanced Hon Geometry/Enhanced Hon Advanced Algebra will have a summer packet to complete. The packet will be available on the Mathematics Department page of the Walton website in May.