

8th Grade Parent Orientation

Metuchen High School

February 1, 2017

+ MHS Administrative Team



■ Building Administration

- Bruce Peragallo, Principal
- Susan La Fauci, Vice Principal

■ Department Supervisors

- Robert Capra, Director of Special Services
- Suzy R. Azevedo, Supervisor of Guidance & School Counseling
- Derek Khoudja, Supervisor of Language Arts & Social Studies
- Sean Powers, Supervisor of Mathematics/Instructional Technologies
- Kathleen Henn, Supervisor of Science/Practical Arts/Gifted & Talented
- Christine DeSimone, Supervisor of World Language/Visual & Perf. Arts
- John Cathcart, Supervisor of Phys. Ed./Athletics

+ MHS Mission Statement



Metuchen High School, building on a tradition of academic and co-curricular distinction, provides a **safe and nurturing environment for all students**. As an educational cornerstone in our historical, small suburb, we recognize the **high expectations** of our community. Our curricular offerings are an integral part of an evolving program that meets each student's intellectual, social, and emotional needs. We are **committed to superior classroom instruction** and **encourage our students to strive for excellence**. Our school balances innovative, experiential, and traditional learning, encouraging all students to discover their talents, develop their strengths, and become responsible and productive citizens of a rapidly changing world.



+ A Word from the Principal

Bruce Peragallo, Principal

+ A Word from the Vice Principal

Susan La Fauci, Vice Principal



Special Services

Robert Capra, Director

+ **Child Study Team**



■ **The Team**

- Full time, school-based learning disability teacher consultant (LDTC)
- Shared school psychologist and social worker

■ **The Support**

- Counseling & crisis intervention
- Program management & educational planning
- College learning support programs



Special Education Programs



- **Resource Classes:** Individualized programs
- **In-Class Support Classes:** Co-taught by content area teacher and special education teacher; modifications
- **Study Center:** Organizational & study strategies; supplemental help for regular education classes
- **Experience-Based Career Education (EBCE):** Provides students with opportunities to learn prevocational and vocation skills with businesses
- **MCC Vocational School:** Full or shared-time



School + Counseling Services

Suzy R. Azevedo, Supervisor

+ School Counseling Team



■ The Team

- Three full-time counselors
- One shared Student Assistance Counselor (SAC)

■ The Support

- Individual Planning (academic, college/career)
- Small Group Counseling
- Guidance Curriculum
- Responsive Services
- Detailed overview of our program and services online

+ Plan Ahead!

- Become familiar with the Program of Studies
- Know the course options and sequences
- Understand expectations and placement criteria
- Consider “**appropriate rigor**”
- Set goals for higher achievement
- Use Course Planner tools in *Naviance*



The Course Planning Process



■ **Course Recommendations:**

- Consider current & historical grades
- Performance indicators & assessment data
- Teacher recommendations

■ **Electives**

- **Students must choose multiple elective options**
- There is no guarantee students will be scheduled for the first choice

■ **Course Placement**

- Content area supervisors will provide high school course placements to the middle school counselors
- Parents will be able to view course assignments in Genesis in March



Sample 9th Grade Schedule



Period	Course Title	Subject	Credits
Period 1	English 9	<i>English/Lang. Arts</i>	5
Period 2 & 3	Honors Biology + Hon Bio Lab Day (W)	<i>Science</i>	6
Period 3 (MTRF)	PE/Health 9 – 4 Day	<i>Physical Ed/Health</i>	4
Lunch A	LUNCH	LUNCH	-
Period 4B	Spanish 2	<i>World Language</i>	5
Period 5C	Honors Geometry	<i>Math</i>	5
Period 6	World Cultures	<i>Social Studies</i>	5
Period 7	*Introduction to Art	<i>Visual/Perf. Arts</i>	5
7 PERIODS	7 COURSES	7 SUBJECTS	35 CREDITS

IMPORTANT NOTE:

We try our best, but no student is guaranteed their first-choice elective.



Graduation Requirements



- English- 4 years
- Math- 3 years
- Science- 3 years
- Social Studies- 3 years
- World Language- 2 years
- Physical Education - 4 years
- Visual & Performing Arts- 1 year
- Practical Arts- 1 year
- Financial Literacy- $\frac{1}{2}$ year
- Total credits required-- 120
- State Assessment Requirement



State Assessment Requirement Class of 2021



Two Pathways Available	English Language Arts (ELA)	Mathematics
First Pathway	Take and Pass PARCC ELA Grade 10	Take and Pass PARCC Algebra 1*
Second Pathway This Pathway is only available if a student takes all PARCC tests associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible*	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for ELA	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for Math

Note: * “Eligible” is defined as a student who is enrolled in a high-school level course for which there is a PARCC test and receive a valid score. This includes all of these courses: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, ELA 9, ELA 10, and ELA 11.



+ English Language Arts

Derek Khoudja, Supervisor



English Language Arts Core

Students must complete **4 years (20 credits)**

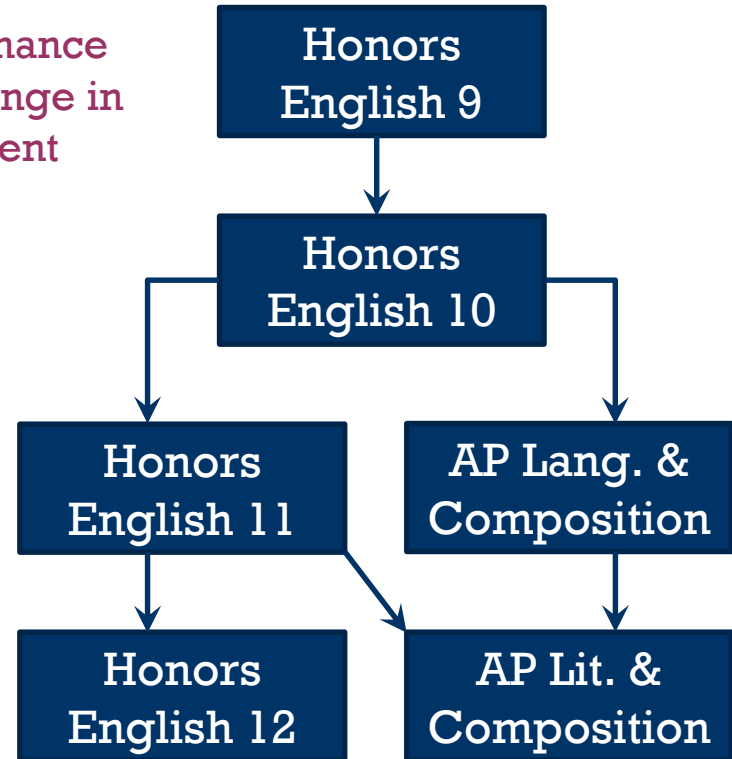
English 9

English 10

English 11

English 12

Student performance
may prompt change in
level placement



Students are **strongly** encouraged
to take the AP exam



English Language Arts Electives



- **Survey of Theater***
- **Classic American Theater***
- Introduction to Playwriting
- Introduction to Screenwriting
 - Speech & Communication
- Writers' Workshop
- Songwriters' Workshop
 - Introduction to Film
 - Filmmaking
- Word Derivation & Etymology

*** These courses are offered to students in grade 9**

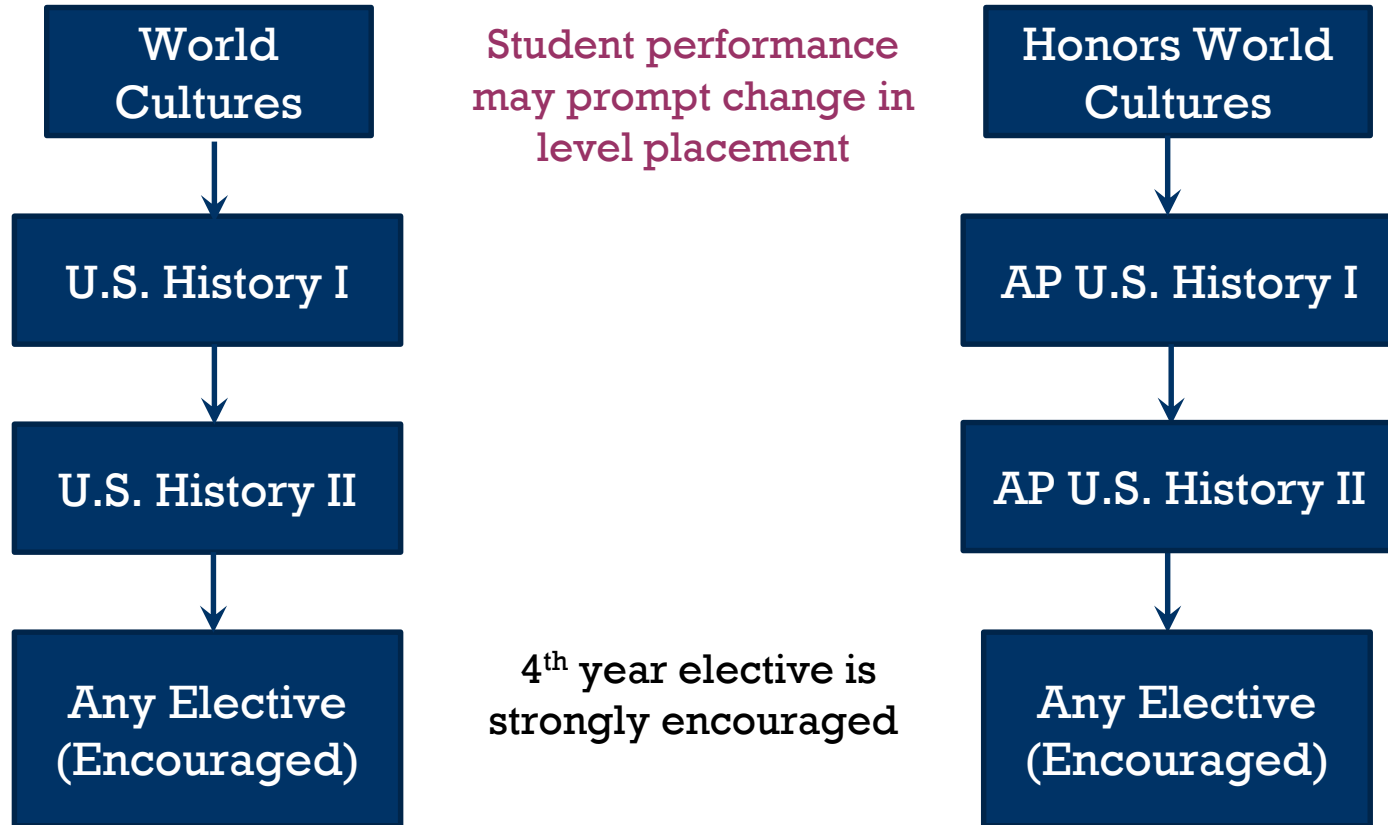


Social Studies

Derek Khoudja, Supervisor

+ Social Studies Core

Students must complete a minimum of **3 years (15 credits)**



Student performance may prompt change in level placement

4th year elective is strongly encouraged

Students are **strongly** encouraged to take the AP exam

+ Social Studies Electives

- AP Government & Politics
- AP Modern European History
- American Social Issues
- Global Social Issues

Offered for College Credit

Dual-credit/dual-enrollment partnership with Middlesex County College

Only \$200 for 3 college credits with grade of C or better

- Psychology
- Sociology



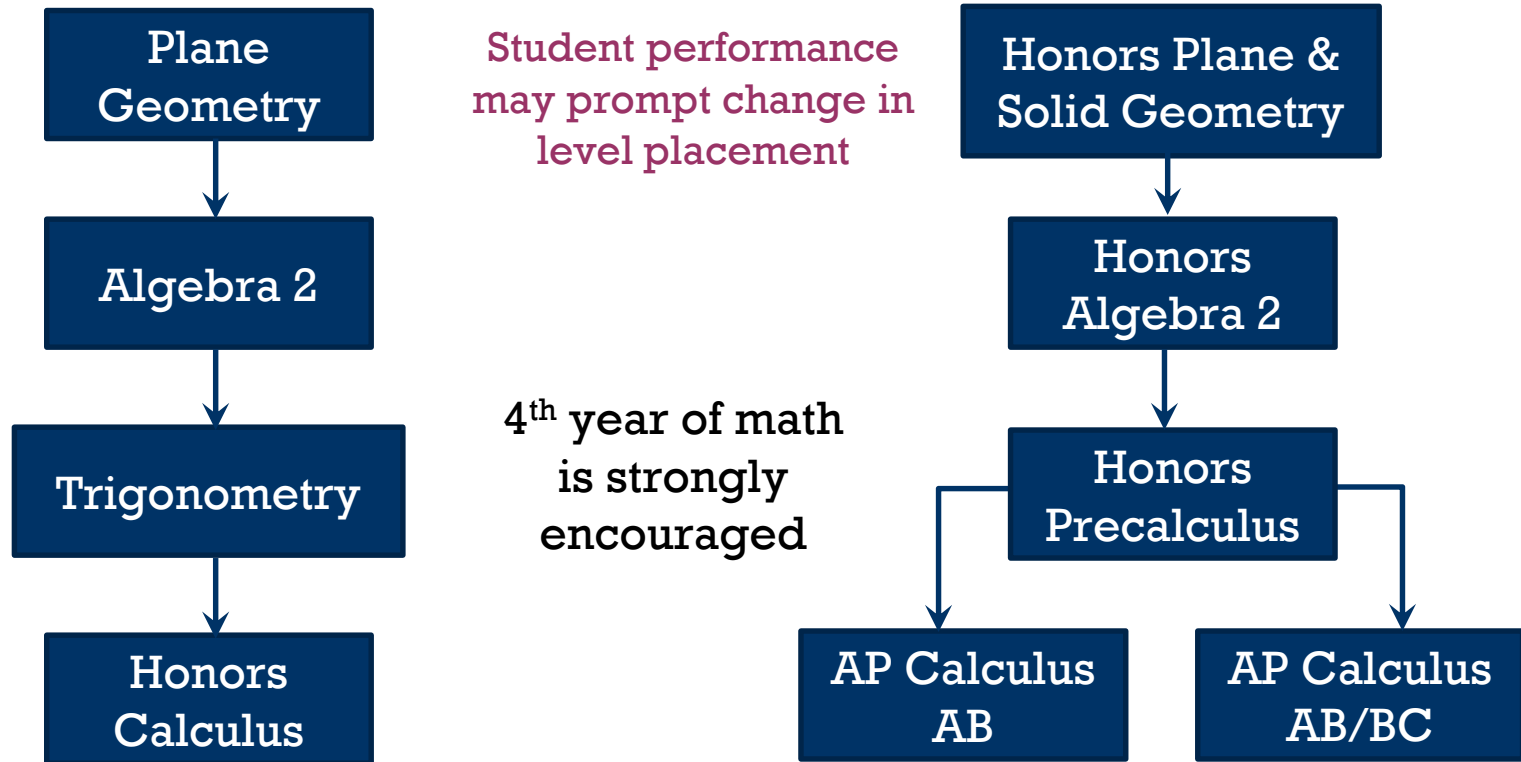
Mathematics

Sean Powers, Supervisor

+ Mathematics Core

For students who completed Algebra 1 in Grade 8

Students must complete a minimum of **3 years (15 credits)**



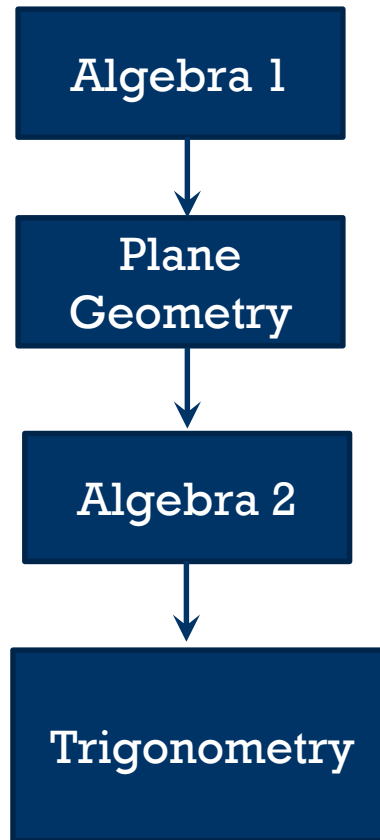
Students are **strongly** encouraged to take the AP exam

+ Mathematics Core

For students who completed Pre-Algebra in Gr. 8

Students must complete a minimum of **3 years (15 credits)**

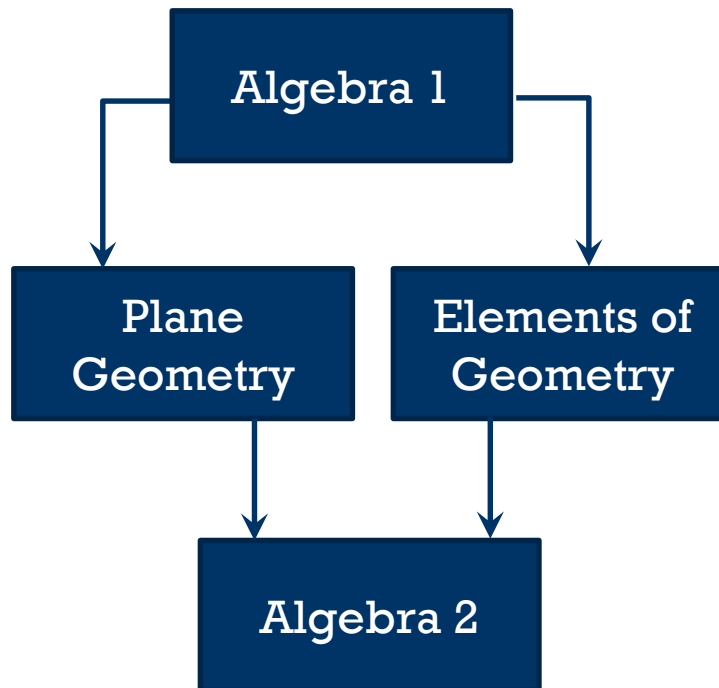
4th year of math
is strongly
encouraged



Student performance
may prompt change in
level placement

+ Mathematics Core

For students who would need review of basic math principles
Students must complete a minimum of **3 years (15 credits)**



★ Graduation requirement requires Algebra, Geometry AND an additional course that builds upon Algebra and Geometry (i.e. Algebra 2)

+ Mathematics Electives

- **Computer Programming in Java***
- **Web Programming & Visual Basics***
- AP Statistics
- Discrete Math & Math Investigations
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus AB/BC
- Honors Calculus 3

* These courses are offered to students in grade 9



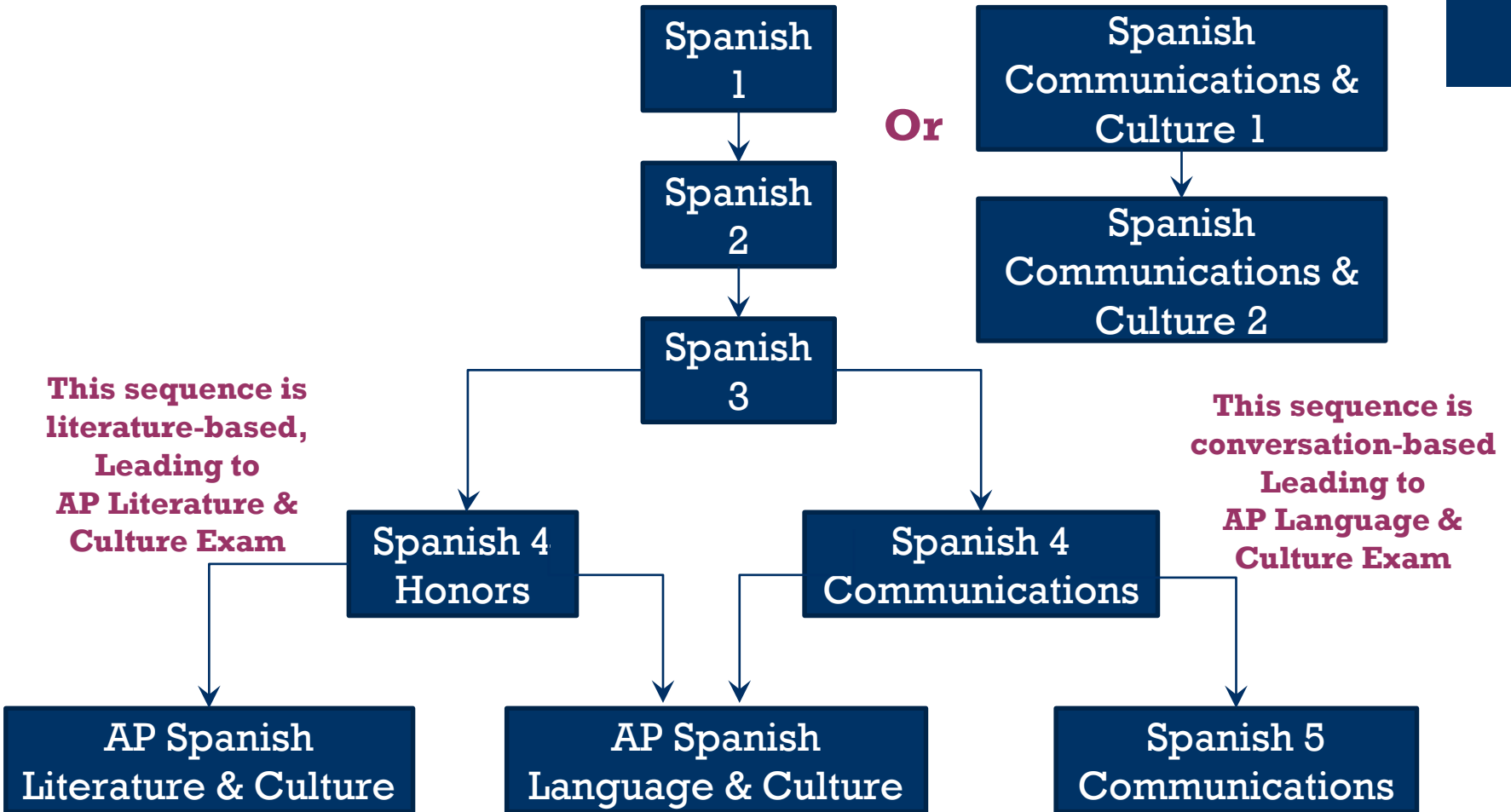


+ World Languages

Christine DeSimone, Supervisor

+ Spanish

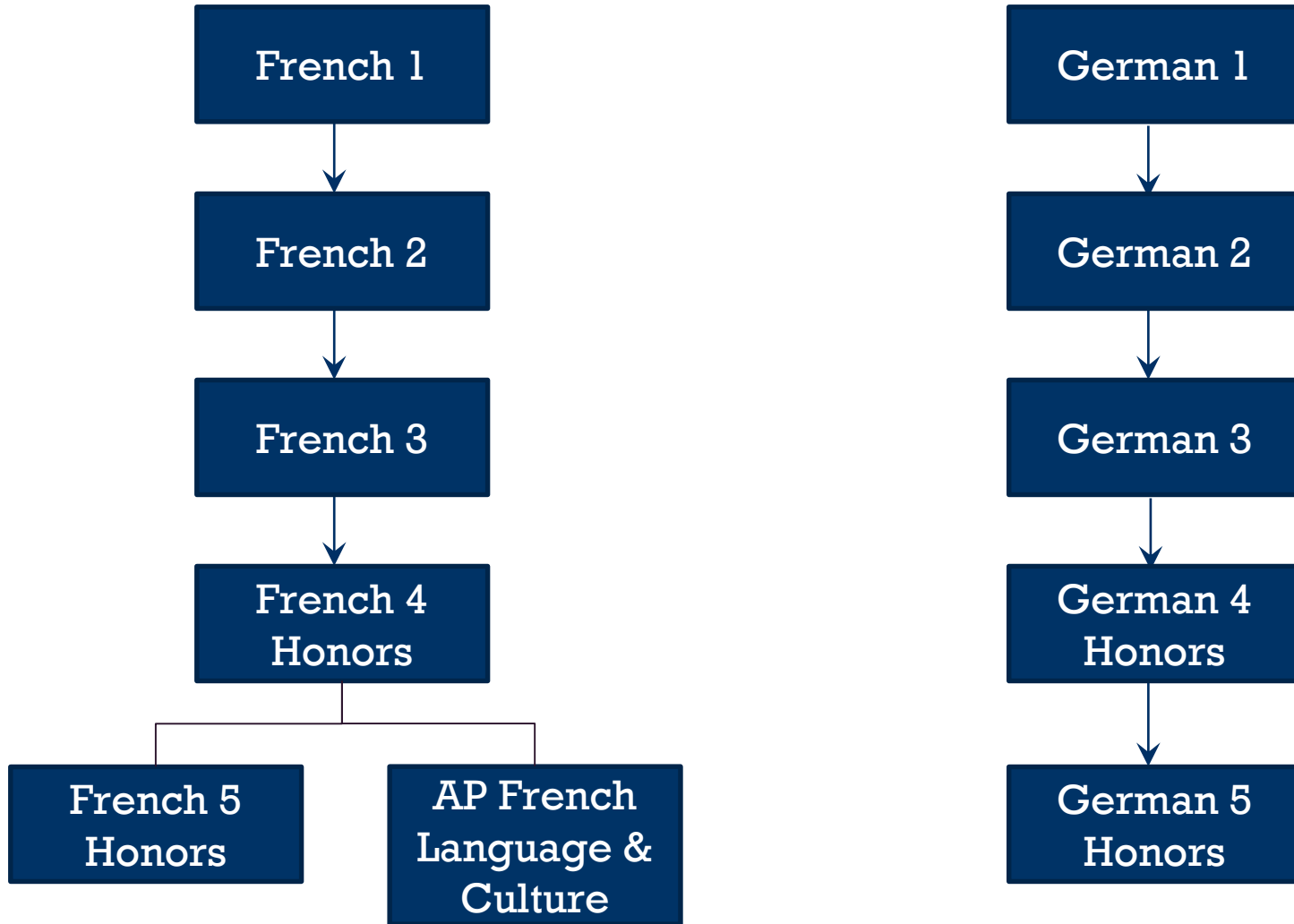
Students must complete **2 years (10 credits)** of a language in High School





French or German

Students must complete **2 years (10 credits)** of a language in High School





+ Visual & Performing Arts

Christine DeSimone, Supervisor

+ Visual and Performing Arts

Students must complete **5 credits** in Visual or Performing Arts

Music

★ Ensembles
(Band, Choir,
Orchestra)

★ Music
Technology

★ $\frac{1}{2}$ year – Musical Theater
 $\frac{1}{2}$ year – Music Foundations
(Will be offered in 2018-19)

AP Music Theory
Open to Gr. 10, 11, 12
Will be offered in 2017-18

Art

★ Introduction to
Art Techniques

★ Photography
&
Digital Media

Color
Dynamics
and Design

Innovative Art

AP Art History

AP Studio Art

★ **These courses are offered to students in grade 9**



Sciences

Kathleen Henn, Supervisor



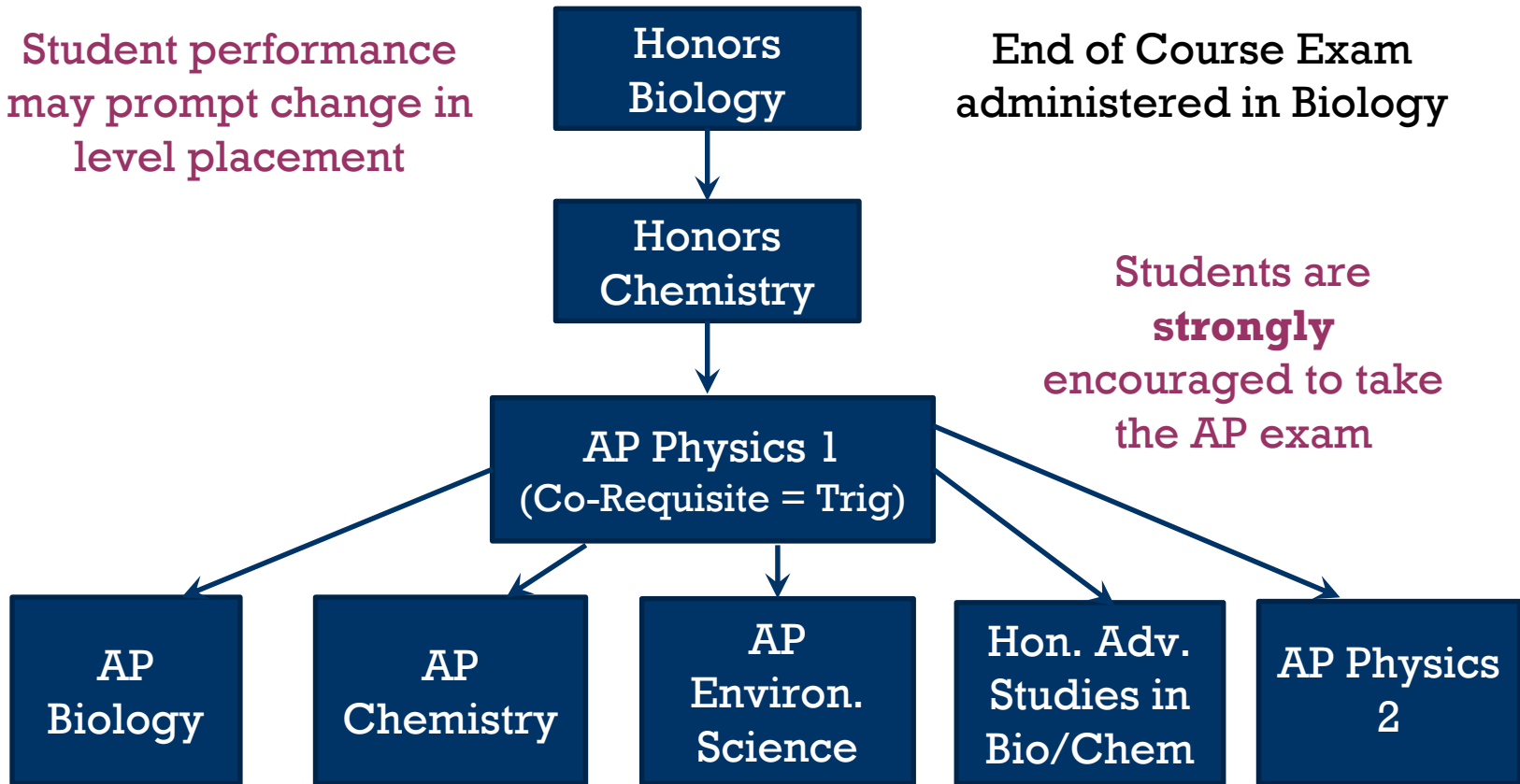
Science – Honors Sequence

Most comprehensive, fast-paced; prep for science majors and more selective colleges

Student performance may prompt change in level placement

End of Course Exam administered in Biology

Students are **strongly** encouraged to take the AP exam



Students must complete a minimum of **3 years (15 credits)** - 4th year is encouraged

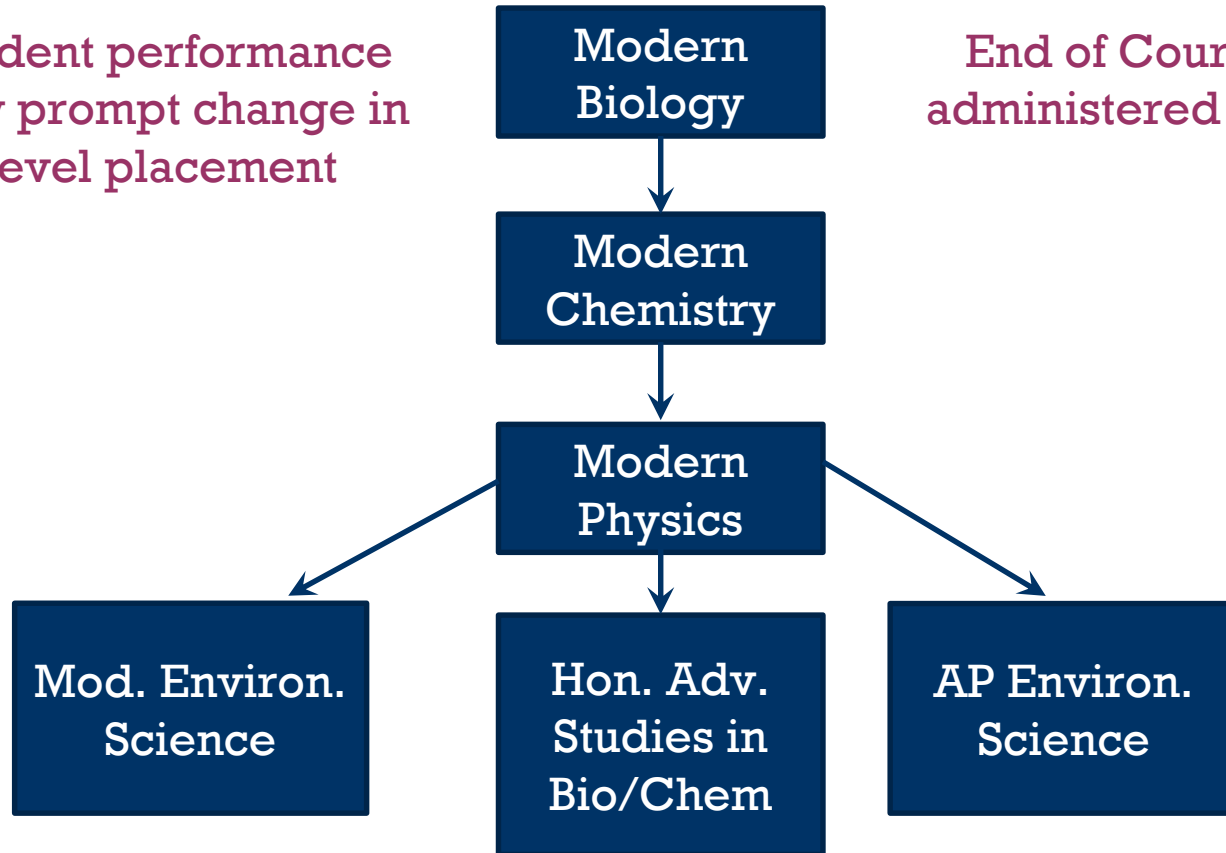


Science – Modern Sequence

Comprehensive; preparation for college coursework

Student performance
may prompt change in
level placement

End of Course Exam
administered in Biology



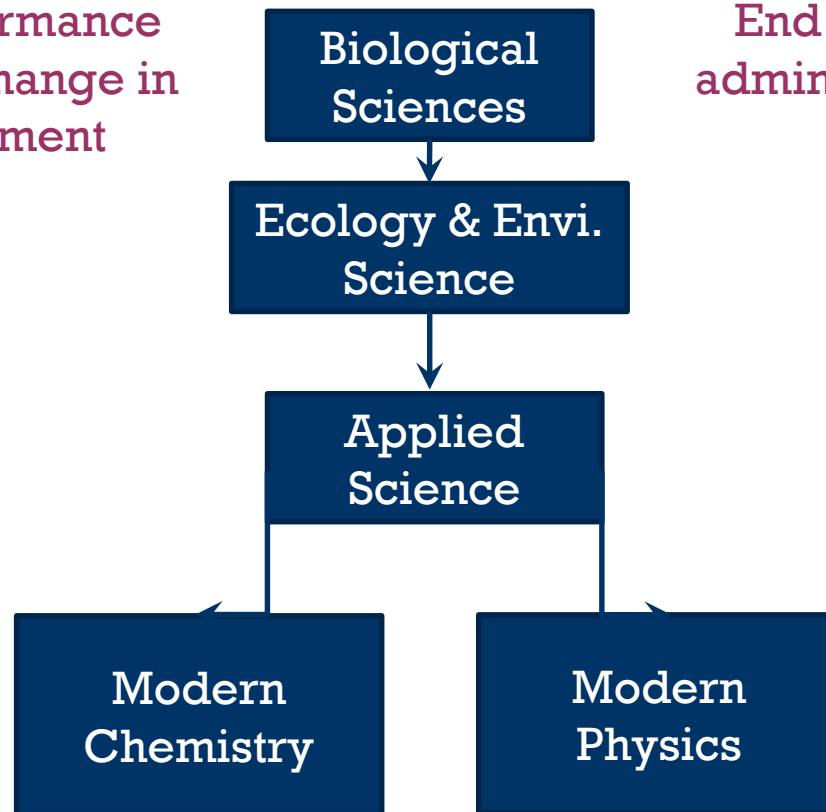
Students must complete a minimum of **3 years (15 credits)** - 4th year encouraged

+ Science Sequence

Standards focused, supportive; college/career prep

Student performance
may prompt change in
level placement

End of Course Exam
administered in Biology



Students must complete a minimum of **3 years (15 credits)** - 4th year encouraged



+

Practical Arts

Kathleen Henn, Supervisor



Practical Arts Electives

Students must complete **5 credits** in Practical Arts

- **Foods & Nutrition***
- **Drafting 1***
- **Computer Applications for Business: Information Management (Semester)**
- American Foods
- International Foods
- Food Science
- Meal Service Management
- AP Microeconomics/AP Macroeconomics
- **Engineering & Technology***
- **Woodworking 1***
- **Computer Applications for Business: Visual Technology Design (Semester)**
- **Entrepreneurship**
- Woodworking 2
- Advanced Woodworking 1 & 2
- Digital Graphics 1
- Digital Graphics 2
- Some academic electives will also fulfill this requirement

*** These courses are offered to students in grade 9**





Physical + Education & Athletics

John Cathcart, Supervisor



Metuchen Athletics



Metuchen High School has 20 Varsity Sports for Grades 9 – 12

■ Fall Sports

- Boys and Girls Cross Country, (Varsity)
- Boys and Girls Soccer, Freshman, JV and Varsity (Fr. boys only)
- Field Hockey (Freshman, JV and Varsity)
- Girls Tennis (Varsity and JV)
- Football (Varsity and JV)

■ Winter Sports

- Boys and Girls Winter Track (Varsity)
- Boys and Girls Basketball (Freshman, JV and Varsity) (Fr. boys only)
- Boys and Girls Swimming (Varsity)
- Wrestling (Varsity and JV)

■ Spring Sports

- Boys and Girls Spring Track (Varsity)
- Boys and Girls Golf (Varsity)
- Baseball (Freshman, JV, and Varsity)
- Softball (Varsity and JV)

+

In Conclusion

+ Stay Connected

■ Naviance Family Connection

- <http://connection.naviance.com/metuchen>
- Tons of resources for college & career planning!
- Email communication keeps you “in the know”!

■ Genesis Parent Portal

- Monitor grades & attendance “with your child”

■ The Guidance Webpage & Principal's Newsletter

■ Parent Evening Programs & Workshops

HAVE + QUESTIONS?

Supervisors and Administrators are
available for questions