




Strath Haven High School

Welcome
Home and School
Families!



SHHS Course Registration

Goals tonight include:

- Review key highlights of the Silver Guide
- Provide a general overview of the Course Registration process,
- Share opportunities for student and parent engagement in the process, including timeline and PowerSchool instructions
- Identify the people who can support course selection decisions for individual students
- Answer your questions

Silver Guide: 29 Required Credits for Graduation

English	5	English 9 (2 credits), English 10, English 11 or AP Seminar and English 12 or AP Literature
Math	4	See Math Flow Chart
Science	4	Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, one additional science
Social Studies	4	US History II, Modern World, Modern World II, and Civics, US Gov't or CSSS
World Language	3	Levels 1-4 plus AP if a student chooses (one credit from MS counts toward distribution)
Fine/Applied Arts, Business, CompSci	3	See Summary of Elective Options
Health/PE	2	H/PE 1 (9th grade), H/PE 2 (10th grade)
Other Credits	4	Can be a combination of elective, academic, technical school, co-op, field career or non-SHHS courses

Sample: Courses to Meet Graduation Requirements

Grade Level	Minimum Requirement: 8 credits per year
9th Grade	English (2 credit), Math, Social Studies, Science, Health/PE, World Language, and one additional course/elective
10th Grade	English, Math, Social Studies, Science, Health/PE, World Language and two additional courses/electives
11th Grade	English, Math, Social Studies, Science, World Language*, and three additional courses/electives
12th Grade	English, Math, Social Studies, Science, World Language*, and four additional courses/electives

Silver Guide: Additional Pennsylvania Requirements

Students must demonstrate PROFICIENCY on Keystone Exams in Algebra, Biology, and Literature.

Beginning with the Class of 2023, students who do not meet the proficiency requirement will need to access [Alternative Pathways](#) to Graduation. Counselors will support students who must complete an Alternative Pathway.

Silver Guide: Credits Clarification

No courses taken prior to ninth grade will be reflected on the high school transcript or in the high school grade point average.

Students may make one academic substitution for their Arts, Business or Computer Science distribution requirement.

Students who take a level one language at the MS may apply one credit toward distribution at the HS as long as the same language continues at the HS. The MS credit and grade are not applied to the transcript.

Students in their 11th or 12th grade year may enroll in up to two (2) credits in the areas of Independent Study, college courses, accredited online courses, Field Career or Cooperative Education. **These may not replace required core courses.**

Course Registration: Course Recommendations

**English - Math - Science - Social Studies -
World Language**

College Prep

Honors

Advanced Placement

Course Registration: Prerequisites

Some courses have prerequisites or grade level requirements. Teachers and school counselors cannot override or waive these course constraints.

When there is no prerequisite, teachers, parents and students can consider a course level that was not teacher recommended. For example, if a student is recommended for CP, but prefers an Honors course, the student may go to Honors as long as a prerequisite or grade level does not restrict them.

The Math/Science Connection

[Silver Guide: Math Flow Chart](#)

[Math/Science Connection](#)

Four Year Planning

If your student has a specific goal in mind, then work with the school counselor to select courses that help students reach that goal. The old adage “begin with the end in mind” is helpful.

Be mindful that teenagers change their thought process and plans all the time, and it is common for students to be unsure about post secondary plans. Your budding engineer in ninth grade may decide to go the business route by senior year. It’s perfectly fine to explore in high school!

No magical formula exists to ensure entry into a particular college or university, so avoid the temptation to craft a perfect scenario. It’s good to do your homework and know what basic requirements post secondary institutions require. Your child’s counselor can help with this!

My best advice for students: take challenging coursework that still allows balance, the ability to reasonably manage time and pursue a social life and extracurricular interests. Everyone has strengths, and nobody expects students to be perfect in everything they do.

Course Registration: Electives and Alternatives

- Students choose the correct number of electives they need PLUS two alternatives.
- When the course registration window is open, there is no rush to be the first to submit. All students will be loaded into the system at the same time.
- Electives can be replaced with academic coursework (ie “doubling”) or academic electives, as long as graduation distribution requirements are being met.
- Students may apply to Delaware County Technical School in lieu of their electives, beginning in sophomore year.

Course Registration: Electives and Alternatives

- PowerSchool will automatically schedule an alternate elective if the primary selection does not fit into the schedule.
- Students will need to get a recommendation from a teacher in order to double in a core subject. The system does not list all courses as electives.
- If the student tries to choose the same primary and alternate elective, then that course will be flagged as a duplicate, and the alternate is removed as an option.

Increasing Options for Juniors and Seniors

Delaware County Technical School

Med Careers

Field Career

Co-op

Non-SHHS Courses

Silver Guide: Fifth Block Music Ensembles

Students may earn credits beyond the typical school day through enrollment in Music Ensembles.

These credits count toward the Fine and Applied Arts requirement.

Marching Band / Bandfront (fall)
Symphonic Band (winter & spring)
Wind Ensemble (spring semester)
Jazz/Modern Band (one night/wk)*
String Orchestra (full year)
Symphony Orchestra (full year)
Camerata (full year)
Cantata (full year)*
Silvertones (full year)*

*by audition

Students Who Aspire to Play D1 or D2 Sports in College

Students who aspire to play college level athletics after high school are required to meet [eligibility requirements](#) through the NCAA Clearinghouse.

Interested students may meet with their school counselor during the open registration period to ensure that all necessary requirements are being fulfilled.

Course Registration: How to Complete the Process

[SHHS→Academic Tab→Course Registration](#)

[Student Engagement Opportunities](#)

[Parent Engagement Opportunities](#)

[PowerSchool Instructions](#)

Course Registration: Who Can Help

Middle School Counselor

Erica Laster elaster@wssd.org

High School Counselors

Kristin Dunning kdunning@wssd.org

Travis Edwards tedwards@wssd.org

Jennifer Salvage jsalvage@wssd.org

Robin Smith rsmith2@wssd.org *Tech School Liaison

Ruth Garrett rgarrett@wssd.org - 9th grade counselor

Administrators

Andrea LaPira alapira@wssd.org

Department Chairs

English - Matthew Wood mwood@wssd.org

Social Studies - Rich Foulk rfoulk@wssd.org

Math - Lysa Rieger lrieger@wssd.org

Science - Katie Shepard kshepard@wssd.org

World Language - Gino Miraglia gmiraglia@wssd.org

Special Education - Regina Hollis rhollis@wssd.org

Health/PE - Margie Garrity mgarrity@wssd.org

Business, Engineering and CompSci - Katie McLead kmclead@wssd.org

Fine Arts- Jennifer Rodgers jrodgers@wssd.org

Family Consumer Science - Jennifer Zanoni janoni@wssd.org

Music - Henry Pearlberg hpearlberg@wssd.org