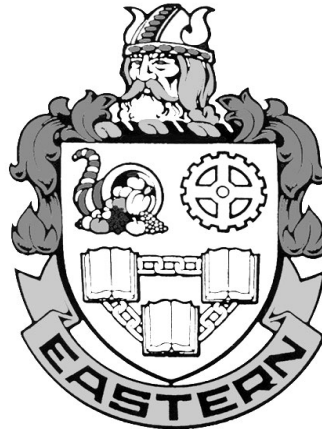


**Eastern Intermediate – Senior High Schools
Box 2500 Laurel Oak Road
Voorhees, NJ 08043
(856) 784-4441**

**Curriculum Handbook
2012 - 2013**



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(Board of Education meets the third Wednesday of each month.)

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EASTERN CAMDEN COUNTY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MISSION STATEMENT

The Eastern Camden County Regional School District is committed to an exemplary educational program based upon the Core Curriculum Content Standards, as adopted by the State Board of Education, that inspires and prepares life-long learners who contribute to society as caring, productive and responsible individuals.

VISION

At Eastern Regional, students make the connection to life-long learning.

Academically, students are both nurtured and challenged as they explore an array of disciplines through a variety of opportunities. Teachers design curriculum to foster the development of skills that will enable students to function effectively in a rapidly changing global and technological society. Teachers base instruction on the firm belief that every student can learn. School staff, together with community resources, integrates career and educational planning to assist students as they begin to explore future employment opportunities.

Physically, students are protected within a safe school environment where respect for the individual and an appreciation of diversity are of utmost importance. In addition, students are supported and encouraged to develop healthy practices that will enable them to live a full, active and energetic life.

Socially, students are valued and respected for both their unique qualities and their youthful perspective. The students, their parents, the school staff, and the local community realize that education is a responsibility shared by all.

Emotionally, students are encouraged to take pride in their accomplishments whether they are academic, artistic, athletic, personal or career-related. The development of self-esteem, personal responsibility and self-respect is integrated into every aspect of the school experience.

Learning is a Dynamic Life Long Process

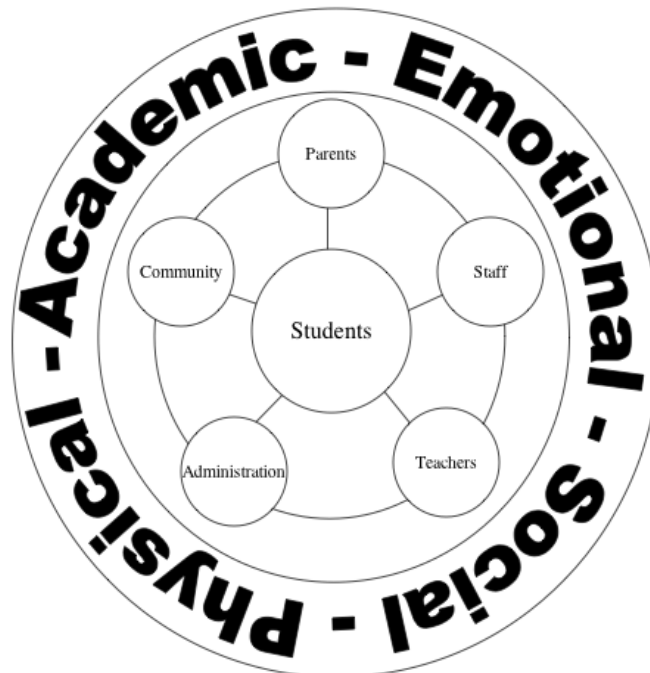


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High School Program Planner and Worksheet

Use the following sheet when planning your high school course selections

- Notes:**
- ♦ A student must be scheduled for a minimum of 30 credits each year (unless enrolled in an approved Option 2 program).
 - ♦ Within the school day, students should be scheduled for seven classes.
 - ♦ In order to graduate, a student must accumulate at least 120 credits.
 - ♦ In order to be eligible for fall and winter extra-curricular activities, a student must have earned at least 30 credits during the prior school year.
 - ♦ In order to be eligible for spring extra-curricular activities, a student must pass at least 15 credits at the end of the first

	Grade <u>9</u>	Grade <u>10</u>	Grade <u>11</u>	Grade <u>12</u>	REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION	
					YEARS	CREDITS
ENGLISH					4	20
SOCIAL STUDIES					3	15
MATHEMATICS					3	15
SCIENCE					3	15
WORLD LANGUAGE					1	5
PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH					4	3.75 per year
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS					1	5
21 ST CENTURY LIFE AND CAREERS					1	5
FINANCIAL, ECONOMIC, BUSINESS, AND ENTREPRENEURIAL LITERACY REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 9 IN 2010-2011					X	.5 2.5
ELECTIVES						
TOTAL CREDITS						120

Your High School Program

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the curriculum offered by the Eastern Camden County Regional School District. Content includes graduation requirements, scheduling guidelines, and a catalog of all courses offered.

The educational programs at Eastern Intermediate and Senior High Schools are developed to assist each student in discovering his/her aspirations, aptitudes and achievements. All programs and courses are open to all students. No student shall be denied access to any course offering on the basis of race, sex, national origin, color, creed, religion, ancestry, economic status, or handicap. Since post-secondary school requirements for employment, college, and post-secondary training are constantly changing, students must frequently re-evaluate their immediate and long-term goals. The guidance staff is available year round to assist students and/or parents in developing an appropriate program of studies.

Beyond the state and local requirements, students are encouraged to select courses that best fit their potential. Since career goals often evolve slowly, each year's course selection process requires a review of completed courses, and courses in progress. The following questions should be considered when selecting a course.

Will the course selected:

- *Meet high school graduation requirements?*
- *Reflect an aptitude or significant proficiency level?*
- *Provide requisite knowledge for post-high school plans leading to career choices?*
- *Meet college entrance requirements?*
- *Meet NCAA initial eligibility?*

Graduation Requirements

It is the policy of the Board of Education to provide learning opportunities and programs, which are appropriate to the abilities, needs, and interests of the pupils in order that they may successfully complete an appropriate course of studies leading to graduation. The Board of Education shall award the same high school diploma regardless of the program of studies completed by the pupils. A diploma, therefore, represents only the accumulation of credits; it does not guarantee acceptance into schools to further one's education.

It is necessary that a student's program comply with the statute and administrative code of the State of New Jersey, the requirements established by the District Board of Education, and sound principles of education before a diploma will be granted. In order to graduate a pupil must:

- I. Pass all required state assessments.
- II. Earn a total of 120 Credits
- III. Meet the district attendance policy
- IV. Complete the Senior Essay
- V. Pass the following courses:

	Class of 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
English	4 years
World History/Cultures	1 year
United States History	2 years
Mathematics	3 years
Science	3 years
World Language	1 year
Physical Education and Health	4 years
Visual and Performing Arts	1 year
Career/Consumer/Family Life Skills/Vocational Technical Education	1 year
Financial, Economic, Business, and Entrepreneurial Literacy REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 9 IN 2010-2011	1 semester – classes of 2014, 2015, 2016 ONLY

Three Year Graduation

Students must apply for the three-year program in writing and receive approval from the Principal prior to the beginning of their sophomore year.

A student participating in a three year high school graduation program must complete all course requirements as prescribed by the Board of Education with the exception of a fourth year of Health and Physical Education. This includes earning 120 credits and passing all sections of the New Jersey High School Proficiency Assessment.

Guidance Services

The courses at Eastern High Schools provide students with the opportunity to meet their educational needs in accordance with their individuality and aspirations. Beyond the state and local graduation requirements, students are encouraged to select courses that best match their potential and aspirations. The counseling staff is available to discuss a student's program as often as necessary.

Parents/guardians are expected to assist their child in the development of a curriculum plan and to sign off on the Course Verification Form mailed home in late April. We encourage parents to monitor their child's performance and progress. School counselors are resources to both students and adults in the development and monitoring of educational programs and are available for consultation. Additionally, school counselors conduct individual and group programs to help students with the planning process.

Master Schedule

The high school master schedule and staffing are determined by the course selections of the students. Every effort will be made to accommodate a student's course requests. Exceptions may include courses being closed due to high student demand, insufficient student interest in a course, and administrative discretion. To insure optimum class enrollment, the administrative team reserves the right to designate student placement within the master schedule.

Change of Schedule Procedure

The process of selecting an academic program is one in which many people are involved and which requires several months of preparation and consultation. Student course selections are made after serious deliberation with the student, parents, faculty and counselor. The selection program is designed to meet the student's personal and educational goals. Changes from this program are not encouraged and may not be possible; therefore, it is essential that the original selections are given careful and thoughtful consideration. When considering a schedule change be aware of the following stipulations:

- No course request changes can be made after April 30th of the current academic year.
- The only notable exception to this would be a change necessitated by the completion of courses in summer school, or failure to complete designated prerequisites.
- Classes will not be changed for the purpose of changing teachers within the same course, or lunch period preference.

Students, faculty and parents are urged to seriously consider the reasons for a course change, for numerous changes can have an adverse effect on the student's program. All requests for a change in schedule must be requested in writing and signed by both parent/guardian and student.

Dropping a Course

Dropping a course is a serious matter and is usually discouraged. This should be done only after much thought and consultation. A request to drop a course must be put in writing by the parent/guardian and student, and submitted to the student's guidance counselor.

Semester Course

Marking Period (MP)	Effect on Transcript
Mid-MP 1 or 3	Course does not appear on transcript
After MP 1 or 3	WP (Withdraw Passing) or
	WF (Withdraw Failing)
	<i>*credit will not be awarded</i>

Full Year Course

Marking Period (MP)	Effect on Transcript
1	Course does not appear on transcript
2,3,4	WP (Withdraw Passing) or

	WF (Withdraw Failing)
	*credit will not be awarded

Credit Requirements

1. All students are required to take a minimum of 30 credits per year (unless enrolled in an approved Option 2 program).
2. Homeroom Placement:
 - All students will move to the next grade level homeroom with his/her class until the eleventh grade regardless of the number of credits accumulated.
 - In order to be promoted to the twelfth grade, a student must have sufficient credits to complete high school graduation requirements by the end of summer school following the senior year.
3. To assure extra-curricular eligibility, and graduation within a four-year period it is recommended that students earn 30 credits per year.

Grade to Grade	Retained	Promoted
9 to 10	27 credits or less	27.5 credits or more
10 to 11	57 credits or less	57.5 credits or more
11 to 12	79 credits or less	85 credits or more or students with a minimum of 80 credits must be scheduled for enough credits to graduate.

4. High School Athletic Eligibility
 New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association Eligibility Rules apply to all boys and girls varsity, junior varsity, and freshman interscholastic teams. Students and parents must accept responsibility for insuring that their NJSIAA Eligibility requirements are met. Questions concerning eligibility rules and status should be directed to your school counselor, vice-principal of athletics, or coach immediately.

Eligibility Requirements

Fall and Winter Sports – 30 credits earned previous year
 Spring Sports – 15 credits earned 1st semester
(Must pass a minimum of six courses)

Guidelines for College Preparation

Through courses in English, Mathematics, Science, World Language and Social Studies, students will gain the requisite academic knowledge, technical and critical thinking skills for college level work in the 21st century.

Academic Units

The academic unit is the term normally used by colleges and universities to express a quantitative evaluation of high school courses acceptable as preparation for college. A full year academic course is evaluated as one unit; a semester course is evaluated as a half unit. Admissions requirements by four-year institutions generally require that a student complete 16 academic units upon graduation from high school. Colleges and universities determine what courses qualify as academic units. Generally speaking, courses in English, Mathematics, Science, World Language and Social Studies are acceptable. Physical Education and electives are not considered academic units.

World Language: The required **minimum years of study** for four-year college applicants is **two years of the same language** taken during high school, grades 9 – 12

Special Programs

High School Plus Program

Eastern Camden County Regional School District and Camden County College have agreed to participate in the High School Plus Program. Upon approval by appropriate college faculty of the specific high school curricula, high school courses can be used to obtain credit at Camden County College. Throughout the academic year, the college faculty representative monitors course content, testing instruments, and evaluation procedures to insure the high school course meets college academic standards. Following successful completion of the course (with a minimum grade requirement set by the college) and payment of a course fee, the student is provided a transcript from Camden County College. Upon student

request, an official Camden County College transcript is sent to the college(s) of his/her choice.

The general education credits earned are “transferable” college credits acceptable at many colleges and universities. It should be noted that while Dual Credit courses are designated as transferable, neither Camden County College nor the Eastern Camden County Regional School District guarantees acceptance of these credits by any specific college or university.

Currently, the following courses qualify students to apply for college credit at Camden County College:

Marketing Honors, Programming 2, Level 2 & 3 Engineering and CAD (must take both courses), Spanish 3Acc, 3H, 4H and AP, French 3H, 4H, and AP, German 3H, 4H, and Latin 3H & 4H.

Students interested in pursuing High School Plus program should seek additional information from their high school guidance counselor.

Option 2 Programs:

Online Courses - High school credit will be awarded for courses taken via the Internet under the following conditions:

- (1) All courses must be approved by the Principal or his/her designee.
- (2) All courses must be approved prior to registration.
- (3) The institution must be accredited.
- (4) The course must be at a high school level or above.
- (5) The learning must be guided and must have an evaluation component (tests and/or projects).
- (6) All courses will be evaluated based on Eastern curriculum and/or New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.
- (7) To obtain credit for any course, the student must submit a transcript or report card summary from the Internet institution.
- (8) Courses will not count in the student’s GPA or class rank.
- (9) Credits that determine grade level promotion must be submitted by August 1.
- (10) All students can earn up to 5 Internet credits per school year.
- (11) The school will not be held responsible for payment nor will they have to provide a mentor, a site administrator, or any instructors for any reason.

College Courses - High school credit will be awarded for courses taken at a college under the following conditions:

- (1) The student and parent will make a request to the guidance counselor. If the student will be making a request for an early dismissal (Seniors only) then the request must be made by June 1.
- (2) The course must be approved by the school Principal or his/her designee.
- (3) The student must be approved by the college and meet its requirements to take course(s) as a high school student.
- (4) The grade for the college course will not count in the calculation of the student’s GPA or class rank.
- (5) A transcript from the college will be required at the end of the course to award credits. Credits that will determine grade level promotion must be submitted by August 1.
- (6) Courses may be taken any semester after September 1 of the student’s 9th grade year.
- (7) The student and/or parent are responsible for tuition and fees charged by the college, as well as providing their own transportation to the college course.

College While in High School - Students who do not need 30 credits to meet graduation requirements may elect to attend a college or technical training program while still enrolled at Eastern High School. These students may apply for an early dismissal or late start to attend college or technical courses, as long as their Eastern schedule of classes includes all required classes for graduation. The 30 credit requirement will be waived for participating students. Students who are approved for an abbreviated schedule will maintain that schedule throughout the school year.

- (1) The student and parent will make a request to the guidance counselor.
- (2) The student must be approved by the college or technical training school and meet its requirements to take courses as a high school student.
- (3) The grade for the college or technical course will not count in the calculation of the student’s GPA or class rank.
- (4) Students will earn Eastern High School elective credit for courses.
- (5) The student and/or parent are responsible for tuition and fees charged by the college or technical training institute, as well as providing their own transportation to the college or technical training institute.

Dual Credit Program with Rowan University

- (1) Eligible students may apply to take online courses through Rowan University.

- (2) Successful completion of these courses awards the students with credit from Rowan University, as well as Eastern High School.
- (3) All tuition fees are paid directly to Rowan University by the student.

Basic Skills Improvement/Support Program

For students who have not yet demonstrated proficiency in language arts and/or mathematics, support courses are provided. Students will be placed into the appropriate course(s) based upon the results of standardized tests, state assessments, teacher recommendations, guidance counselor recommendation, and course grades.

Special Review Assessment

This program is for students who have not passed one or both sections of the High School Proficiency Assessment (H.S.P.A.) administered in grade 11. Students cannot waive participation in this program.

Special Education

When a student experiences difficulties within the general education classroom and all documented intervention modifications have been unsuccessful, and it is believed that the student may have a disability, the student shall be referred for an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education programs and services. A student suspected of having a disability is referred to the school's Child Study Team to determine the need for a comprehensive educational evaluation. The Child Study Team is comprised of a school psychologist, a learning disabilities teacher consultant, and a school social worker.

A student's eligibility for special education services is determined by the Child Study Team in consultation with the student's parents and teachers, as well as other support staff and is based on assessments conducted by the team. A student is classified "eligible for special education and related services" when it is determined the student has a disability that adversely affects the educational performance and the student is in need of special education supports and services. Eligible students are provided with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), which is designed to meet the individual needs of the student.

Students with disabilities who receive special education services are afforded the same opportunities for course selection as students without disabilities. Course selection is driven by a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) and is delivered either within the general education classroom without support, in the general education classroom with in-class support, in the general education classroom with in-class replacement instruction, or through resource center instruction outside of the general education classroom.

Academic Levels

All courses are assigned a level of difficulty in one of four categories. In structuring these levels the following criteria has been established:

1. Complexity of content and pace of instruction
2. Difficulty and amount of reading material
3. Abstract reasoning and problem solving skills
4. Integration of previously learned material
5. Quality and frequency of homework and independent assignments
6. Level of mastery of course proficiencies

Note: To advance to the next higher academic level, a student must earn a minimum final grade of 83 in the current level of that course, or recommendation from department supervisor. A Course Request Waiver Form is available to a student who does not meet the minimum grade requirements in a course, and has not received departmental recommendation. A student enrolling in a course using a waiver will not be permitted to drop the course or change the level for the duration of the school year.

A further description of these follows:

College Prep: Courses are designated to prepare students for post-secondary education and the workplace. Student placement will be determined by previous academic achievement and standardized test scores.

Accelerated: Courses designated as Accelerated are intended for students with strong academic abilities. Student placement will be determined by previous academic achievement and standardized test scores.

Honors: Courses designated as Honors are intended for students who are well above grade level in their academic skills. The homework load, academic environment, and difficulty level of tests and quizzes are

consistent with an Honors level of course work. Student ability level will be determined by previous academic achievement and standardized test scores. Students will be required to earn a minimum grade of 74 in an Honors course to enroll in the next course at the Honors level.

Advanced Placement: Courses designated as Advanced Placement (AP) are taught under guidelines established by The College Board. AP courses are college-level courses. Students enrolled in AP courses will be challenged at the highest level of academic difficulty available in a high school setting. Students who take AP courses may elect to take the accompanying Advanced Placement Examination given at the conclusion of the course. If a student earns a grade of 3, 4, or 5 on an AP exam it is possible to receive college credit for that particular AP course while gaining tuition savings. The Advanced Placement test for college credit is optional. If a student chooses to take the test, he/she will be responsible for payment of the testing fee.

Prerequisites

In sequential courses, successful completion of the previous course is the prerequisite. Placement in English 1 CP and Algebra 1 CP will be determined by NJASK Test Scores (less than 200).

The science course prerequisites with both science and math components:

- Chemistry Advanced Honors and Honors require successful completion of Algebra 1.
- Physics Accelerated requires successful completion of Algebra 1.
- Physics Honors requires successful completion of Algebra 1 & Geometry.
- Earth & Space Accelerated requires successful completion of Algebra 1.
- Biology AP requires successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 2.
- Chemistry AP requires successful completion of Chemistry and Algebra 2.
- Physics AP will freely apply calculus to problem solving by the end of the year.

Grading Scale

A = 92 - 100 **B** = 83 - 91 **C** = 74 - 82 **D** = 65 – 73 **F** = 64 and below

W/P and W/F will be issued to students who are withdrawing from courses and have met the required time in the course. No credit will be issued for W/P and W/F. (See “Dropping a Course” description.)

W/P – Students having a passing grade at the time of withdrawal

W/F – Students having a failing grade at the time of withdrawal

GPA Calculation System

The seniors with GPA of 88 to 91.9 at the end of the third marking period, as calculated using the weighted system, will graduate with honors (silver tassel). The seniors with a GPA of 92 and above at the end of the third marking period, as calculated using the weighted system, will graduate with high honors (gold tassel). GPA will be calculated to three (3) decimal places.

Any courses that are graded through special grading are excluded from GPA.

There are two systems for calculating Grade Point Average, an unweighted and a weighted scale. The weighted system will only consider courses that are from the academic disciplines of English, World Language, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies plus Gifted/Talented Seminar, courses designated as Honors, and all Advanced Placement Courses. Class rank is not reported on transcripts.

Ranking Systems

- **Unweighted system** – All courses are given equal weight and value (This is in effect for ALL students). Every course a student takes and the grade in the course is included in determining grade point average. This includes courses that are repeated to make up a failure or to improve a grade. *Courses taken through a county college or university will not count toward a student’s calculated GPA.* This GPA calculation procedure treats all courses equally in value regardless of academic challenge or academic difficulty.
For GPA Calculations: Multiply the final numeric grade by the credit value of each course divided by the total credits attempted.
- **Weighted System** – Only subjects in the five traditional areas of **English, World Language, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies plus Gifted/Talented Seminar, Advanced Placement and all other courses designated as Honors courses are included in this GPA calculation system.** This includes courses in those subjects that are repeated to make up a failure or to improve a grade. *Courses taken through a county college or university will not count toward a student’s calculated GPA.* Each subject is assigned a numerical value, according to its “academic challenge”, which determines the number of points added to the final grade for the course. The adjusted final grade is then multiplied by the number of credits earned. The product of this process is then divided by the total academic course credits attempted.

This academic weighted ranking system will apply to all students including transfer students. Courses taken in these academic disciplines at other schools will also be included in this system. Foreign Exchange students will not be included in either the weighted or equal class ranking systems, as they are guests of the Eastern Board of Education.

- Completion of courses to remediate subject failures or to improve grades will receive a value equal to that of the course the student took previously.
- Transfer courses will be evaluated by the guidance counselor and included on both unweighted and weighted systems in accordance with the school district's established criteria.
- The final decision with respect to interpretation of the academic weighted GPA system is the responsibility of the school principal.

	Value 1 Advanced Placement	Value 2 Honors	Value 3 Accelerated	Value 4 CP
Points Added to final grade	10	6	3	0

Minimum Grades for Failures

No student will be assigned a grade lower than a 50 for the first, second or third marking periods. A student must earn a grade of 50 or above in the fourth marking period, regardless of final average, to pass a course for the year. For semester courses, no student will be assigned a grade lower than a 50 for the first marking period of the semester. A student must earn a grade of 50 or above in the second marking period of the semester, regardless of final average, to pass a course for the year.