

**West Essex High School  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation  
Night**

January 11, 2024

# Overview

- ❑ Principal's Introduction
  - ❑ Assistant Principals: Ms. Hoebee & Dr. Westervelt
- ❑ Guidance
- ❑ Advanced Placement
- ❑ Department Supervisors
- ❑ Athletics
- ❑ Questions & Answers

# Benefits of Attending WEHS

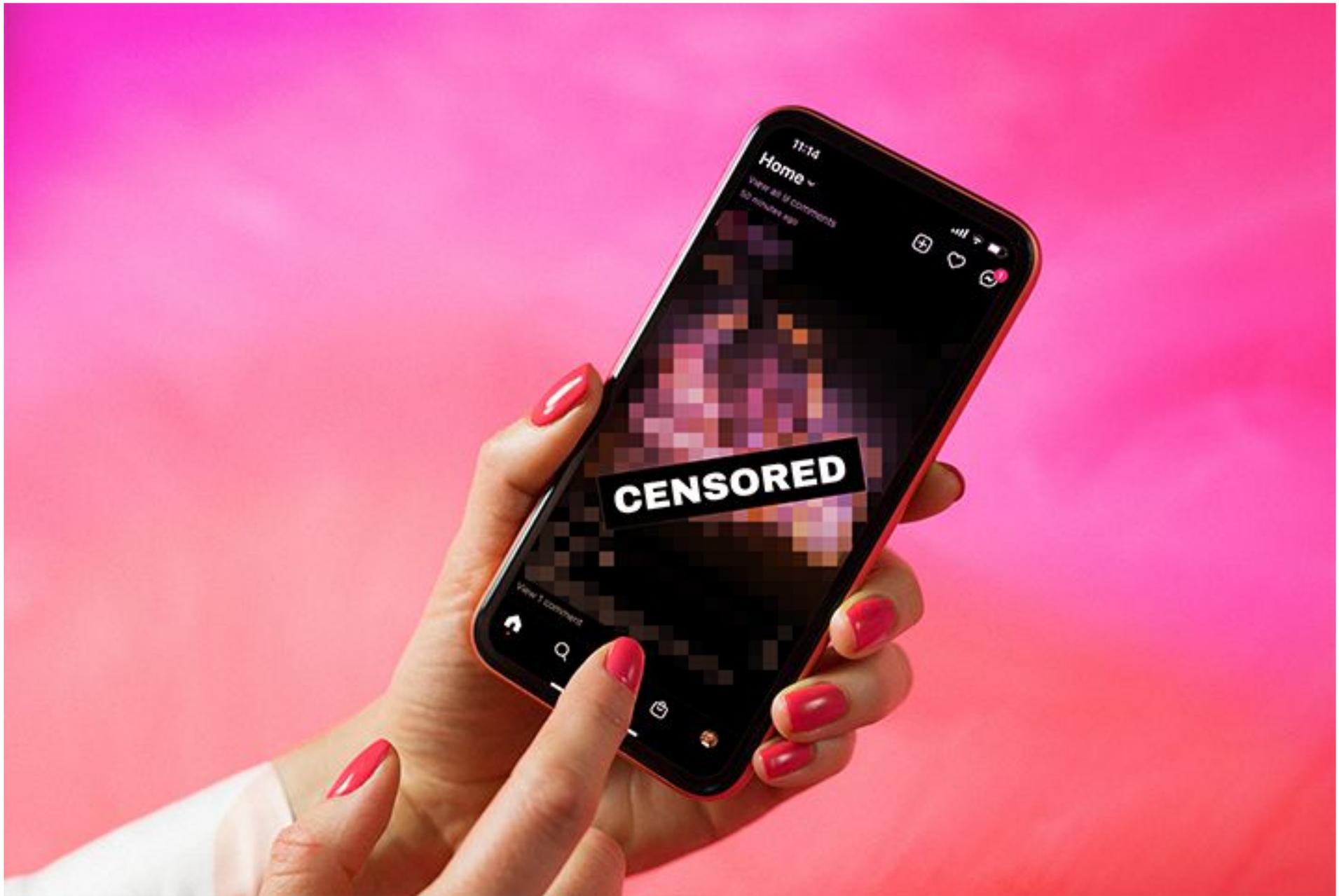
- ❑ Academics
- ❑ Support
  - ❑ Counselors
  - ❑ Peer Leader Program - UKnight
    - ❑ Freshman Orientation & Club Fair - Wednesday, August 21
  - ❑ Academic tutoring
- ❑ Athletics
- ❑ Arts & Music
- ❑ Clubs, Honor Societies, Academic Leagues
- ❑ 1100 Students
- ❑ School Spirit

# Preparedness for College and Careers

- ❑ Individualized course of study and high interest electives
- ❑ AP courses
  - ❑ Annually approximately 200+ students take 800+ AP exams across 27 subjects
- ❑ Courses offered for dual credit in association with Syracuse University and Rutgers
- ❑ Off campus vocational programs and cooperative education programs
- ❑ **Highly qualified, passionate faculty and staff**

# Major Differences Noticed on Day 1

- ❑ Freedom
- ❑ Higher Expectations
  - ❑ Encourage students to advocate for themselves
  - ❑ Independence
  - ❑ Time management is critical





**Everything you post or text is PUBLIC and PERMANENT.**

# Guidance Department

Lisa Hulse, Director

# The Guidance Team

<b>Counselor</b>
Mrs. Kimberly Greulich
Ms. Jessica Pratt
Ms. Samantha Rhinesmith
Mr. Jon Sibiliala
Mrs. Crystal Tremaroli

Student Assistance Counselor	Mr. Anthony Emering
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Jessica Curran
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Patty Smith

# The Guidance Department keeps you informed



@ wehs\_guidance

Make sure to read our monthly newsletters for information, upcoming events, updates, and much more!

# Program of Studies 2024-2025

- ❑ Board of Education approved informational booklet for parents and students to reference
  - ❑ Policies and procedures
  - ❑ Course level recommendation procedures
  - ❑ Add/Drop dates and withdrawal procedures
  - ❑ Summer school for remediation and acceleration procedures
  - ❑ Course level change and waiver procedures

# Graduation Requirements

4 years of English (Language Arts Literacy) - 20 credits

3 years of Mathematics - 15 credits

3 years of Science (Biology and two additional lab sciences) - 18 credits

3 years of Social Studies: U.S. History - 10 credits, World History - 5 credits

1 year of World Language - 5 credits

1 year of Visual or Performing Arts - 5 credits

1 year of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Life and Careers - 5 credits

4 years of Health/Physical Education - 20 credits

½ year Financial Literacy - 2.5 credits

## **Total of 135 Credits**

Note: Only courses taken from September of 9th grade through 12th grade count towards high school graduation

NJGPA- New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment: ELA and Math

# The Course Selection Process

January

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade science class visits: **January 22nd and 24th** to discuss the PROGRAM of STUDIES.
- Select elective requests via Course Selection Sheet

February

- Receive an invite for date/time of scheduling conference via USPS mail
- Scheduling Conferences: **February 6th – February 12th**
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students & their parents will meet with HS Counselor at the Middle School to discuss course selections.

June

- Students receive their 2024-2025 class schedule on **MOVE UP DAY - Friday, June 7th**
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students visit the high school to follow their schedule for upcoming year.

# Advanced Placement Program

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program provides motivated students the opportunity to pursue college-level studies while still in HS.

AP students take an end-of-course exam in May to demonstrate college level proficiency and potentially earn college credits.

WEHS offers 27 different AP Courses

9th Grade- 1 AP offering - AP Computer Science Principles

# Benefits of AP Courses

## College-Ready

- ❑ Transition smoothly to college-level rigor/expectations
- ❑ Earn college credits and/or test out of introductory courses
- ❑ Complete college degree early

## Build Skills and Confidence

- ❑ Dive deep into the subjects students love
- ❑ Learn time management and study skills needed at the college level

## Strengthen College Application

- ❑ Weighted courses improve GPA
- ❑ Colleges recognize the rigorous schedule

# Considerations

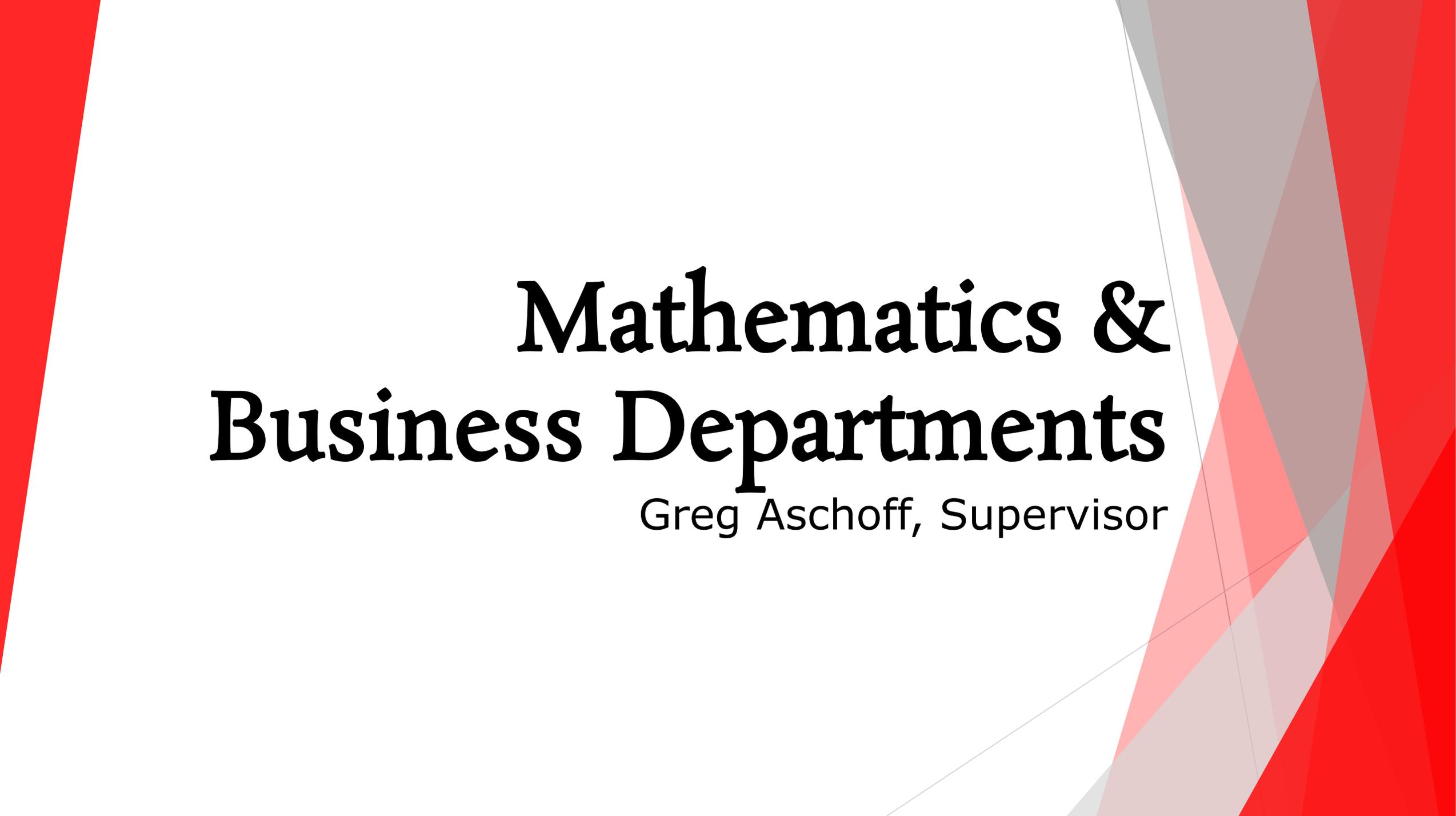
Academic interests

Schedule

- ❑ Academic
- ❑ Extracurricular

Consultation with guidance counselor

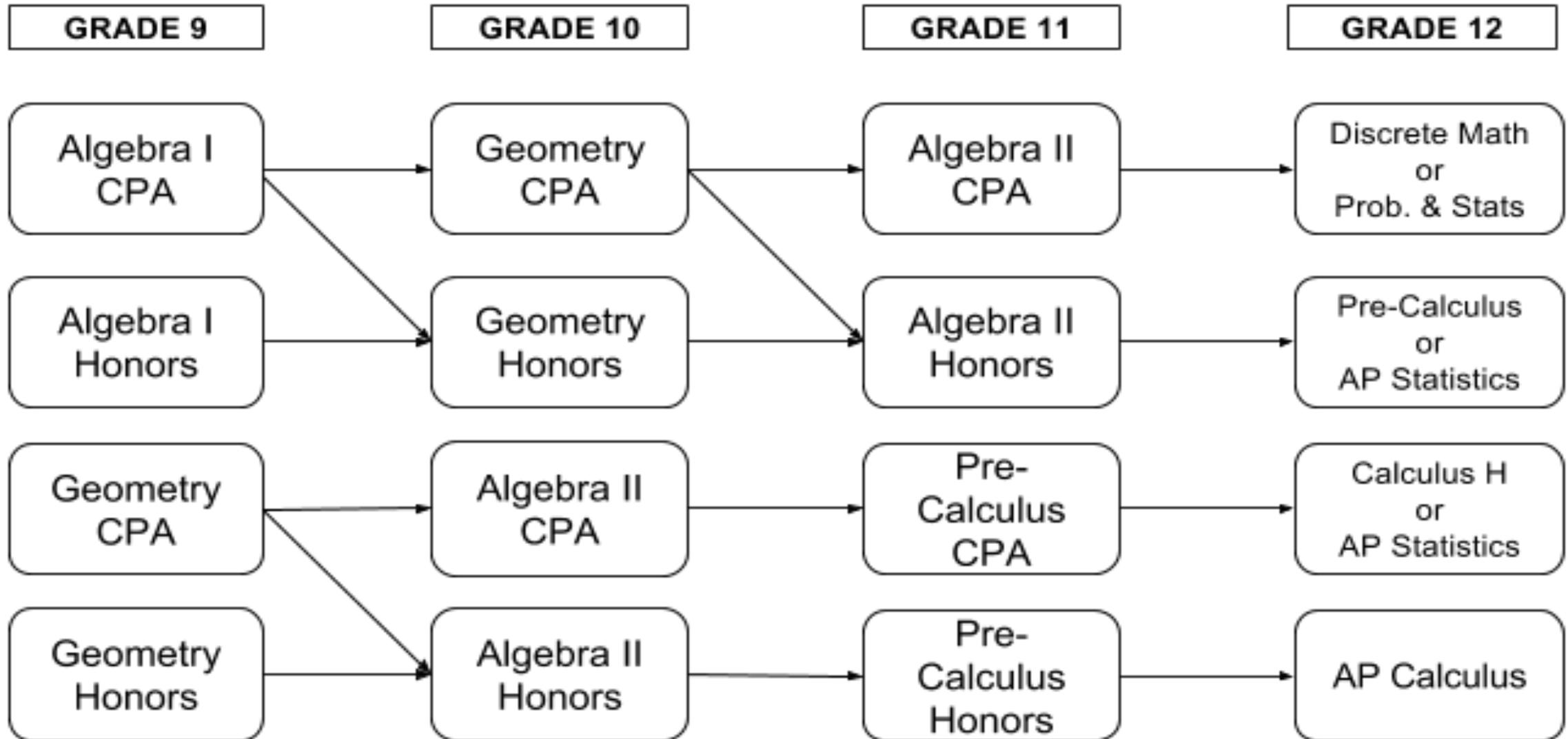
Questions regarding specific AP courses should be directed to the content area supervisors



# Mathematics & Business Departments

Greg Aschoff, Supervisor

# Math Course Sequence



# Mathematics & Business Electives

## ❑ Mathematics Electives

- ❑ *Intro to Computer Science*
- ❑ *Cybersecurity*
- ❑ *Animation and Game Design*
- ❑ Probability and Statistics
- ❑ SAT Prep (with English)

## ❑ AP Electives

- ❑ AP Calculus AB
- ❑ AP Calculus BC
- ❑ AP Computer Science A
- ❑ *AP Computer Science Principles*
- ❑ AP Statistics
- ❑ Calculus III (through Syracuse U.)

## ❑ Business Electives

- ❑ Business Law
- ❑ Business Management
- ❑ *Entrepreneurship*
- ❑ *Digital Marketing and Social Media*
- ❑ Financial Accounting I and II
- ❑ *Introduction to Business and Business Applications*
- ❑ *Personal Finance*
- ❑ *Sports and Entertainment Marketing*
- ❑ Sport Management (through Syracuse U.)

# English, Reading, & Libraries

## Department

Stacy Casais, Supervisor

# English Courses

## ❑ Required Courses

- ❑ *English I-IV* CPA or Honors

## ❑ AP Courses

- ❑ AP Language and Compositions (Grade 11)
- ❑ AP Literature and Composition (Grade 12)

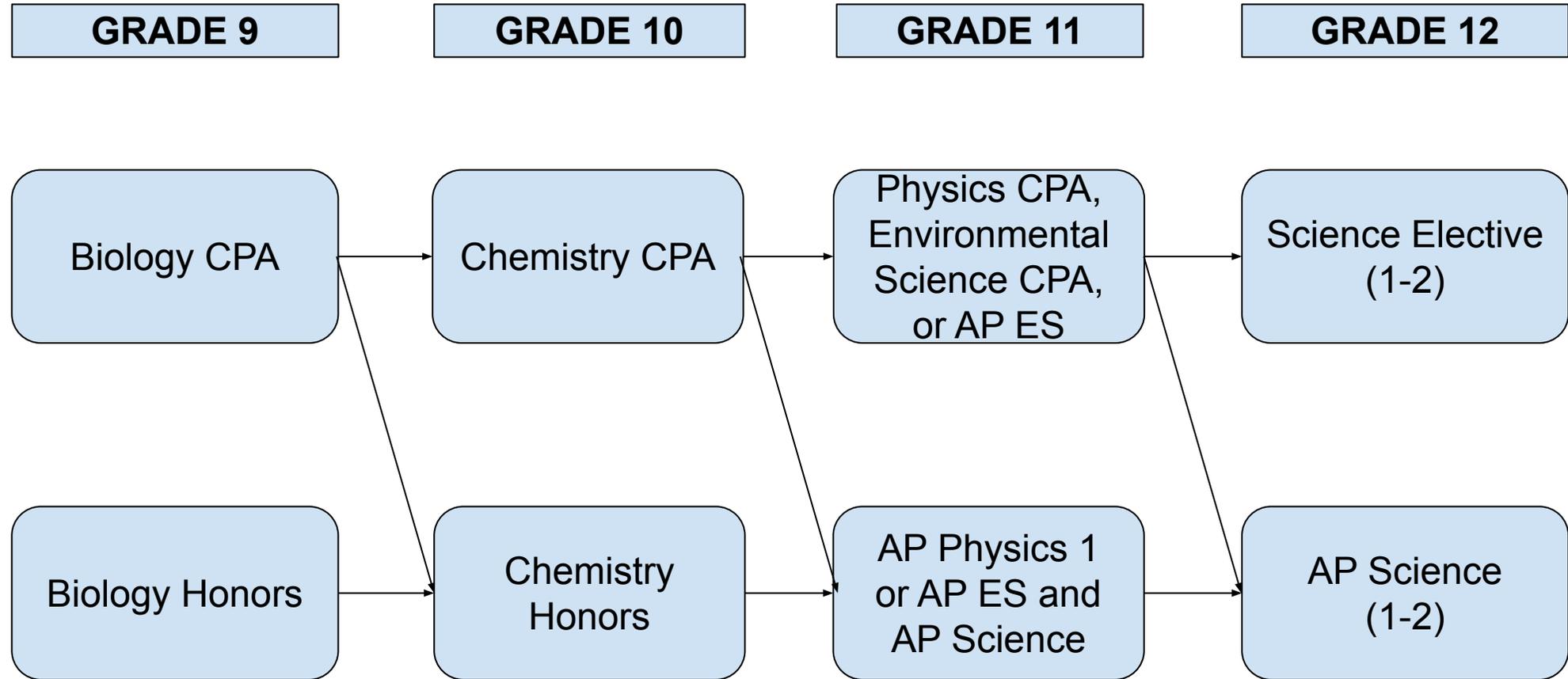
## ❑ Electives

- ❑ *Creative Writing I and II*
- ❑ *Film Review*
- ❑ *Journalism I, II, III/IV*
- ❑ *Public Speaking*
- ❑ True Crime in Literature and Media Honors
- ❑ SAT/ACT Prep (with math)

# Science Department

Jason Lerner, Supervisor

# Science Course Sequence



# Science Electives

## ❑ CPA Electives

- ❑ Astronomy
- ❑ Forensic Science
- ❑ Marine Science
- ❑ Sports Medicine

## ❑ AP Electives

- ❑ AP Biology
- ❑ AP Chemistry
- ❑ AP Environmental Science
- ❑ AP Physics 1
- ❑ AP Physics 2

## ❑ Honors Electives

- ❑ Anatomy & Physiology  
(through Rutgers U.)
- ❑ *Big History*
- ❑ Biotechnology
- ❑ Forensic Science  
(through Syracuse U.)

# Sample Schedule

	A		B	C	D
<b>Block 1</b>	English I		Personal Finance	Biology	Algebra I
<b>Block 2</b>	Algebra I		English I	Personal Finance	Biology
<b>Block 3</b>	Biology		Algebra I	English I	Personal Finance
<b>Unit Lunch</b>	Lab	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
<b>Block 4</b>	Italian I		World History	PE/Health	Computer Graphics I
<b>Block 5</b>	Computer Graphics I		Italian I	World History	PE/Health
<b>Block 6</b>	PE/Health		Computer Graphics I	Italian I	World History



# Social Studies & World Languages Departments

Laura Drago, Supervisor

# Social Studies Courses

## ❑ Required Courses

- ❑ *World History CPA & Honors*
- ❑ US History I CPA, H, & AP
- ❑ US History II CPA, H, & AP

## ❑ AP Electives

- ❑ American Government & Politics
- ❑ European History
- ❑ Human Geography
- ❑ Macro/Micro Economics
- ❑ Psychology

## ❑ Electives ½ year

- ❑ Constitutional Law
- ❑ *Global Studies*
- ❑ Holocaust & Genocide Studies
- ❑ Pop Culture in American History
- ❑ Social Psychology

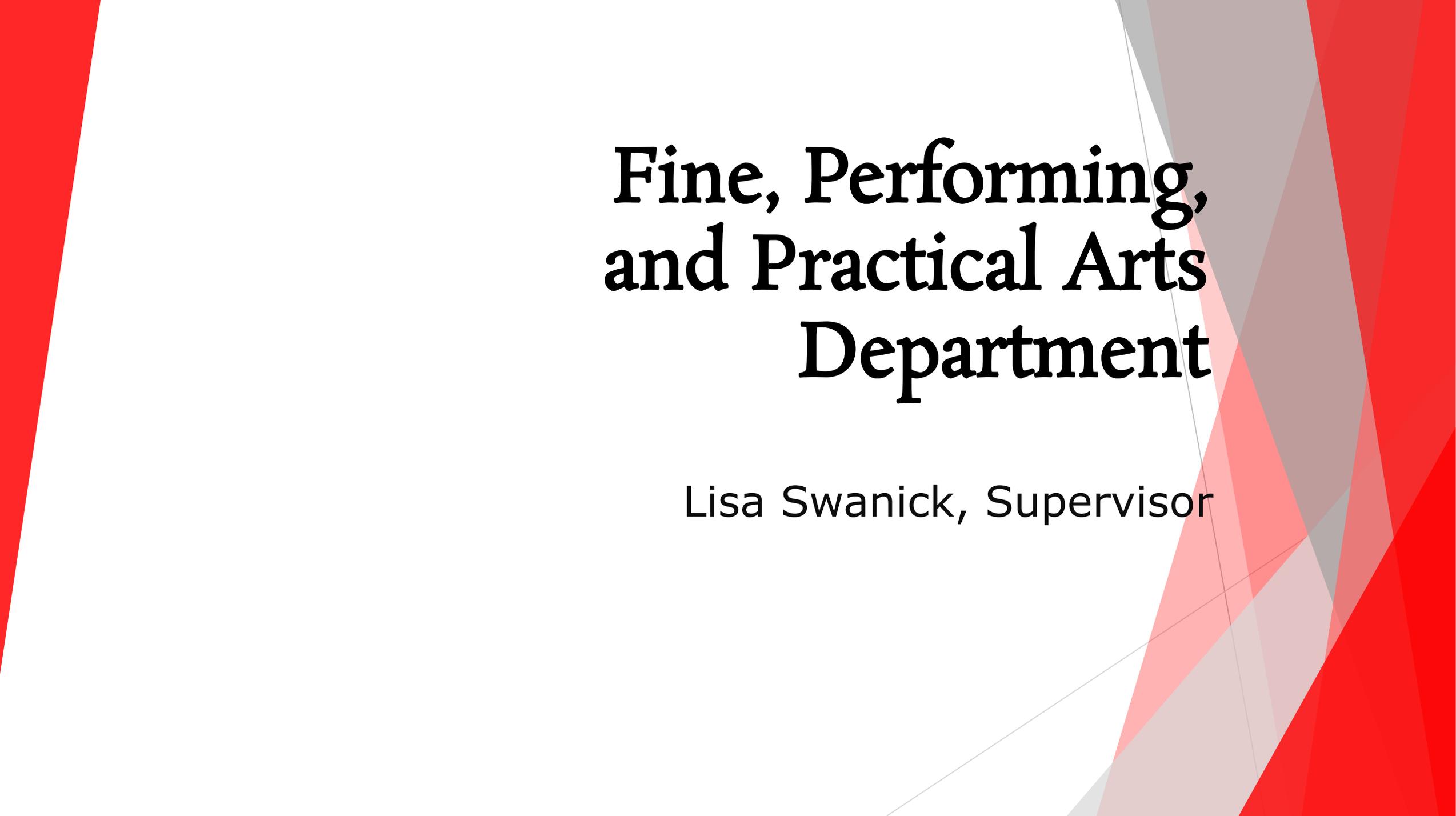
# World Language Courses

## ❑ CPA and Honors Courses

- ❑ Chinese I-IV
- ❑ French I-IV
- ❑ Italian I-IV
- ❑ Spanish I-IV

## ❑ AP Courses

- ❑ Chinese
- ❑ French
- ❑ Italian
- ❑ Spanish



# Fine, Performing, and Practical Arts Department

Lisa Swanick, Supervisor

# Visual & Performing Arts Courses

## Visual Arts

- ❑ *Graphic Design I-II* CPA, III Honors
- ❑ *Digital Photography* CPA
- ❑ *Studio Art I-II* CPA, III-IV Honors
- ❑ Yearbook CPA
- ❑ AP Art History
- ❑ AP Art and Design

## Performing Arts

- ❑ *Band* CPA/Honors
- ❑ *Choir (Concert Choir/Treble Choir)* CPA/Honors
- ❑ *Guitar* CPA
- ❑ *Orchestra* CPA/Honors
- ❑ *Theater Arts* CPA
- ❑ *Music Technology* CPA
- ❑ AP Music Theory

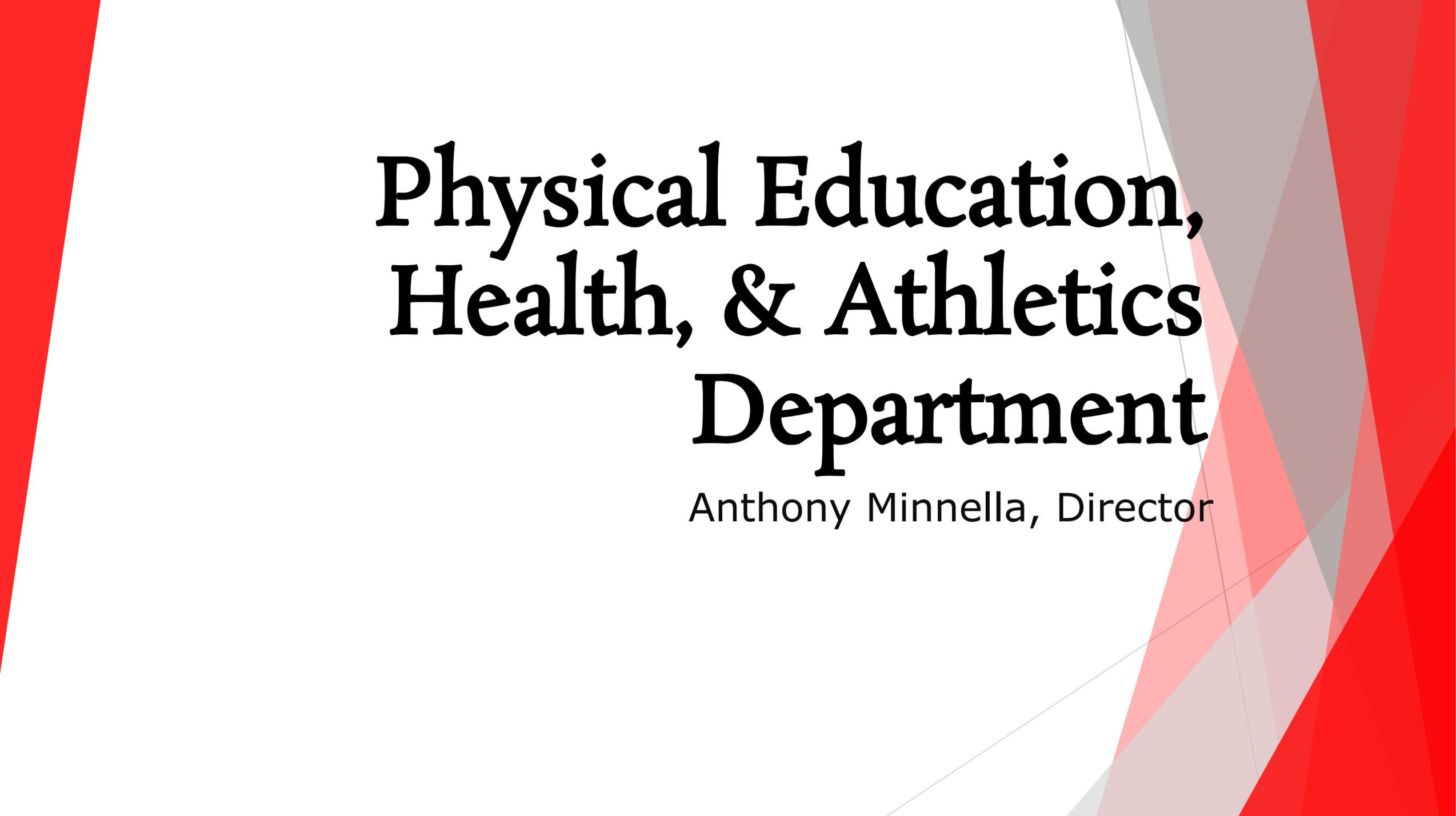
# 21st Century Life & Careers Courses

## *Technology Education*

- ❑ Architectural Design Honors
- ❑ Engineering Design and Robotics Honors
- ❑ *Foundations of Engineering and Architectural Design CPA*
- ❑ Engineering Graphics Honors: 3D Modeling and Rapid Prototyping
- ❑ *Multimedia Design CPA*
- ❑ *Woods Technology I-II CPA, III-IV Honors*

## *Family and Consumer Science*

- ❑ Culinary Arts I-II CPA
- ❑ Culinary Arts II Honors
- ❑ *Fashion Design I CPA*
- ❑ Fashion Design II Honors
- ❑ Food and Sports Nutrition CPA



# Physical Education, Health, & Athletics Department

Anthony Minnella, Director

# Physical Education

## Individual Activities

- Weight Room Levels I-IV
- Aerobic Fitness
- Yoga Levels
- Tennis Levels
- Dance
- Ping Pong
- Pickleball
- Badminton

## Team Activities

- Pillo Polo
- Adventure Education
- Football
- Handball
- Basketball
- Frisbee
- Boccer
- Volleyball
- Floor Hockey
- Soccer
- Backyard Games

# Health Education

<b>Grade 9</b>	<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>Grade 11</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>
<b>MP IV</b>	<b>MP I</b>	<b>MP III</b>	<b>MP II</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alcohol &amp; Substance Abuse</li><li>• Suicide Prevention</li><li>• Cyber Bullying</li><li>• Human Sexuality</li><li>• Physical Fitness</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NJ Motor Vehicle Driver's Education</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nutrition</li><li>• American Red Cross: AED &amp; CPR Certification</li><li>• Mental Health Disorders</li><li>• Stress Management &amp; Mindfulness</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health &amp; Media Literacy</li><li>• Adulthood &amp; Personal Care</li><li>• Independent Living Project</li></ul>

# Athletics

West Essex High School offers a variety of sports for boys and girls.

## **Athletic Experience**

- ❑ Winning/Losing
- ❑ Commitment/Responsibility
- ❑ Self-Discipline
- ❑ Self-Confidence

## **Coaches**

- ❑ Instruction
- ❑ Strategy
- ❑ Fitness
- ❑ Sportsmanship

# Upcoming Transitional Events

- ❑ Move up Day – Tentatively June 7, 2024
- ❑ Freshman Orientation – Wednesday, August 21, 2024
  - ❑ Freshmen meet peer leaders and peer groups

**Questions?**