

Welcome Parents of the
Class of 2028



Overview of Counseling

Mr. Lybarger A - G

Mr. Floress H - O

Mrs. Mills P - Z

Review of Course Selection Resources on website!

http://www.mshscounselors.com/course_selection/index.html

Important upcoming Dates:

In progress - Courses entered into Skyward by students

January 31st - Feb 2nd: Counselors return to MSJH for individual meetings during Math

January 31st: Ramirez

February 1st: Smith and Patrick

February 2nd: Snodgrass

Earning Credits

Must pass a class to earn the credit (Minimum grade of D- or higher)

Each academic class is worth .5 credits/semester

For example, If you pass both semesters of English 1 you will earn 1 credit (.5 from 1st sem, .5 from 2nd sem)

PE worth .25 credits/semester

Need to always be enrolled in at least 5 classes...although, recommended to be in no more than 1 study hall

How to be successful @ MSHS

1. Stay current with classwork/homework
2. Study for assessments
3. Be present
4. Get involved
5. Ask questions and ask for help when needed

Extra Supports: Before/After school, Homework Hangout

Minimum Graduation Requirements

Must earn at least 20 Credits and must include -

4 Years English

3 Years Math

2 Years Science

2 Years Social Studies

1 Sem Consumer Ed

PE throughout except when in Health/DrEd or waived for band/athletics (11/12)

1 Year CTE or World Language or Fine/Performing Arts

University Admission Recommendations

Take more core -

4 Years English

3-4 Years Math

3 Years Science

2-3 Years Social Studies

2+ Years of World Language

Note: Will want to check with schools you are interested in for specific details

Graduation Requirement Continued

Earn 20+ Credits and pass required classes

Participate in required state testing (SAT)

Complete the FAFSA or the FAFSA non-participation during senior year

Different types of courses

Regular classes - Generally, these are considered college/career preparatory classes

Honors classes - Generally move at a quicker pace, maybe go into more depth. Higher rigor. Students receive weighted GPA points if score C- or better. Sometimes lead towards AP courses later on.

AP Classes - College-level classes that are taught in the building. Most take the AP Exam in May to potentially earn college credit. Students receive weighted GPA points for grade of C- or better. This program goes through the College Board (same company who does the SAT). AP Scores range from 1-5.

Dual Credit - Earn both high school and college credit. Some classes in the building with our teachers while others take place at Parkland (E.G. ECCA). Some students also take Dual Enrollment which earns the Parkland credit but NOT the high school credit. *** ***Dual Credit courses generally do have a fee.***

Co-Taught and Individualized Classes

Math and English Placement

- New IL School code (new last year) -
 - Eng/Math placements based on meeting cut scores on standardized testing such as 7th/8th grade Fastbridge and IAR
 - Current Eng/math teachers also reviewed those placement
 - Probably accurate in the VAST majority of cases but we can have conversations if needed.

English, Math, Science, Health/Driver's Ed/PE selections are already in Skyward!

English

English 1 or Honors English 1

English 2 or Honors English 2

English 3 or Honors English 3 or AP English Language

English elective (2 sem)

Speech, Creative Writing (11/12), British Lit, Modern Lit, Media Persuasion,
College Prep Writing, English 101/102 Dual Credit, AP English Literature

Please note Speech is no longer a graduation requirement but is still offered as an English elective for graduation credit

Math

Must pass at least 3 years (6 semesters) of Math

Example pathways:

Alg 1A → Alg 1B → Geometry → Algebra 2

Algebra 1 → Geometry → Algebra 2 → Discrete or Trig/Stats or MAT 107/8 or AP Stats

Hon Geom → Hon Alg 2 → Hon Precalc → AP Calc OR AP Stats

Other math: AP Computer Science A (10-12) and AP Computer Science Principles (10-12)

Also note: Geometry in Construction (new)

Science

At least 2 years and must include life science (Biology)

Example Science Pathways

Bio (req) → Earth Sci → Science Electives

Bio (req) → Chem → Science Electives

Science Electives:

Chemistry (10-12), Earth Science (10-12), AP Chemistry (11/12), AP Biology (11/12), Physics 1 (11/12)(DC 2nd sem), Physics Dual Credit, AP Physics C, Anatomy (11/12), BSAA/PSAA (10/12)

Social Studies

Required: 1. US History or APUSH - 11th grade

2A. Civics (1 sem) anytime 9th-10th

OR

2B. Political Sci 122 (National Govt)/124 (State and Local Govt) - Dual Credit

3. Social studies elective (1 sem) anytime 9-12

Social Studies Electives:

Geography (9/10), Current Hist (10-12), Wld Hist: To and Since 1500 (10-12), Govt & Law (10-12)

Sociology (11-12), Econ (11-12), AP Econ (10-12), Consumer Ed (11/12), Poly Sci 122, 124 (11/12)

Consumer Ed

Can be met by passing 1 semester of any of the following:

Consumer Education (11-12th graders)

Economics (11-12th graders)

AP Economics (10-12th graders)

Ag Business/Ag Operations (10-12th graders)

Work Based Learning (12th graders)

Physical Education

Must take throughout high school with a few exceptions

Must pass semester of Health (9th grade)

Options: PE, PE Conditioning, Lifelong Wellness (10-12)

Note: Zero Hour PE

PE Waivers available: IHSA athletics or Marching Band during 11th/12th grade

If waiving...reminder that you always need to be passing 5 for eligibility!

Driver's Education

Eligible according to birthday (we automatically enroll 9th graders who are eligible)

Must pass at least 8 classes the previous two semesters leading to DrEd (Illinois Law)

Driver's Ed lasts just one quarter and is paired with PE.

E.G. DrEd 1st quarter/PE 2nd quarter

Behind the Wheel after DrEd. There is a cost associated with BTW

BTW instruction given outside of normal school hours (may even be over summer)

Electives

World Language: French and Spanish from level 1 - AP

Business/Computers: Orient Bus, WP I/II, Web Design, Comp App, Accounting, Sports Management/Marketing

Family and Consumer Sci: Foods, Culinary, Child Dev, Early Childhood Practicum

Agriculture: Intro Ag, Ag Sci, Ag Bus, Hort (Dual Credit), Mechanization, Ag Leadership

Electives Continued

Technology: Intro to Engineering, Technical/Arch Design, Construction, Manufacturing, 3D Animation

Art: Basic Design, Sculpt 1/2, Drawing & Painting 1/2 , Graphic Design

Band/Chorus: Choir, Band, new elective: History of Rock & Roll

Other classes: Drama, Yearbook, Consumer Ed, Adult Living, Medical Careers, Digital Media, Workplace Experience

Other things to be aware of...

Advisory

Freshman Year = Freshmen Mentoring Program

Sophomore Year = Sophomore Advisory or Bridge Advisory

Junior Year = Test Prep or Career and Life Planning

Senior Year = Senior Advisory

Other notes about advisory:

- School Safety

- College and Career Readiness

Summer School

Students can utilize summer school to work ahead on credits

- Civics

- Driver's Ed

Registration and dates will be emailed to high school parents in the spring

Grade Point Average (GPA)

We are on a 4.0 scale

A = 4.0, A- = 3.67, B+ = 3.33, B = 3.0, etc

On transcript, you will see both your CUMULATIVE weighted and unweighted GPA -

Weighted GPA includes any weighted (Honors/AP) classes that you take.

See g.p.a tab on counseling website for details and how to calculate

Academic Letters

Through M-S Schools Foundation

Must be enrolled in min of 5 ACADEMIC courses each semester

GPA req 3.6 for Freshmen/Sophomore students for entire school year

GPA req 3.8/4.0 for Juniors/Seniors for entire school year

No D's/F's

Athletics/Extracurricular Eligibility

Must pass 5 classes previous semester

Must be passing 5 at all times during season to remain eligible

Students with two D's and an 'F' are ineligible

Students with two F's are ineligible

NCAA Eligibility

Students who are striving to participate in D1 or D2 athletics in college:

- Register on NCAA Eligibility Center (Before the fall of senior year)
- Will look at your “16 Core” classes (Eng, Math, Sci, Soc, Language) and test scores
- Look at NCAA website www.ncaa.org for more details if applicable
- Students need to talk with counselor to ensure they take correct classes

Early Graduation (after 7th semester)

Must still fulfill all graduation requirements

Complete Early Grad Form → Turn into Counselor

Will want to discuss this with your counselor if thinking about it so we can help you to plan accordingly

Consider a 4-Year Plan

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

FRESHMAN (9)

	SEM 1	SEM 2
1	English 1	English 1
2	Math: _____	Math: _____
3	Biology	Biology
4	Health or PE	Health or PE
5	_____	_____
6	_____	_____
7	_____	_____

SOPHOMORE (10)

	SEM 1	SEM 2
1	English 2	English 2
2	Math: _____	Math: _____
3	PE	PE
4	_____	_____
5	_____	_____
6	_____	_____
7	_____	_____

JUNIOR (11)

	SEM 1	SEM 2
1	English 3	English 3
2	US History	US History
3	Math: _____	Math: _____
4	PE	PE
5	_____	_____
6	_____	_____
7	_____	_____

SENIOR (12)

	SEM 1	SEM 2
1	English: _____	_____
2	PE	PE
3	_____	_____
4	_____	_____
5	_____	_____
6	_____	_____
7	_____	_____

Choosing your classes



Selections will be entered directly into Skyward

Wednesday, January 31st by 8am: Deadline to enter courses into Skyward

January 31st - February 2nd: Counselors meet w/students individually (out of Math)

Use the handout - [Course Selection Summary](#) to help!

- Summarizes everything we talked about today and shows courses available by your grade level.

Use the online Course Guide: Videos, handouts, etc

Should have a total of 14 “requests.” Will be 15 requests if taking Driver’s Ed

Sample Schedule

Fall 2024

1. Biology
2. Algebra 1
3. English 1
4. Health
5. Elective
6. Elective
7. Study Hall

Spring 2025

1. Biology
2. Algebra 1
3. English 1
4. Driver's Ed/PE
5. Elective
6. Elective
7. Elective or SH

Thank you!!!

General Questions in the Commons

Students A - G: Mr. Lybarger tlybarger@ms.k12.il.us

Students H - O: Mr. Floress kfloress@ms.k12.il.us

Students P - Z: Mrs. Mills smills@ms.k12.il.us