Roslyn Middle School

Grade 6 Curriculum Guide

2019 – 2020

Promoting lifelong learning through social, emotional and intellectual development.

www.roslynschools.org

ROSLYN MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Roslyn Middle School will create a positive environment that promotes lifelong learning through social, emotional and intellectual development. A culture of respect, understanding and integrity will be nurtured through the collaboration of educators, support staff, students, parents and our community.

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No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance, or be so treated on the basis of sex under most educational programs, or activities receiving federal assistance. The Rehabilitation Act prohibits any discrimination based on a person's handicapping condition.

For questions or issues concerning Title IX, contact Michael Goldspiel, the District Title IX Coordinator at 801-5020. For questions or issues concerning The Rehabilitation Act, contact Barbara Schwartz, Director of Pupil Services at 801-5060.

Table of Contents

New York State Course Requirements & Assessments 4

Grade 6 Curriculum Offerings 7-12

Core Courses

English 6 7
Mathematics 6 7
Science 6 8
Social Studies 6 8

World Languages Courses

Introduction to French 9
Introduction to Italian 9
Introduction to Mandarin Chinese 9
Introduction to Spanish 9

Grade 6 Exploratory Courses

Art 6 10
Coding 6 10
Digital Citizenship 6 10
FACS 6 (Family and Consumer Science) 10

Elective Courses

Music Electives 6 11
Physical Education 6 12

Academic Support Courses 12

Grade 6 Worksheet 13

Grade 6 Sample Schedule 14

High School Sequence Charts (Math, Science, Art, & World Languages) 15-18

Special Programs Grades 6-8

English Language Learners 19
Library Services 19
Special Education Programs 20

Extra-Curricular Programs 6-8

Interscholastic Athletics 21

Minimum New York State Middle School Course and Assessment Requirements

All middle school students in New York State are required to receive instruction in the subject areas listed below. Roslyn Middle School meets or exceeds the minimum State Learning Standards in all units of study.

Units of Study Offered During Grades 6-8

English Language Arts	3 Units of Study
Mathematics	3 Units of Study
Science	3 Units of Study
Social Studies	3 Units of Study
Health Education	½ Unit of Study
FACS	¾ Unit of Study
World Languages	1 Unit of Study
Music	½ Unit of Study
Physical Education	½ Unit of Study each Year
Technology Education	1 Unit of Study
Visual Arts	½ Unit of Study

Students who have been determined to need academic intervention services may have the units of study reduced, but not eliminated. Academic intervention services shall be coordinated with instruction in the general curriculum.

Required New York State Assessments

All students shall take the following assessments:

Grade 8

English Language Arts Assessment
Mathematics Assessments (Math 8 or Algebra 1 Common Core Regents)
Science Assessments (Science 8 or the Earth Science Regents)

Grade 7

English Language Arts Assessment
Mathematics Assessment

Grade 6

English Language Arts Assessment
Mathematics Assessment

New York State Graduation Requirements

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – Effective July 1, 2019

Local Diploma Required Courses Special Education Students Only	
English	4
Social Studies	4
Mathematics	3
Science (Must include Living Environment credit)	3
Foreign Language *	1
Art/Music	1
Health	0.5
Physical Education	2
Electives	3.5
****Total	22

Regents Diploma Required Courses	
English	4
Social Studies	4
Mathematics	3
Science (Must include Living Environment credit)	3
Foreign Language*	1
Art/Music	1
Health	0.5
Physical Education	2
Electives	3.5
****Total	22

Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation	
English	4
Social Studies	4
Mathematics	3
Science (Must include Living Environment credit)	3
Foreign Language**	3
Art/Music	1
Health	0.5
Physical Education	2
Electives	1.5
****Total	22

Required Regents Exams Special Education Only (Passing Score 55-64)***
English Language Arts Exam
One Mathematics Exam: Algebra or Geometry or Algebra 2
Social Studies: Global History or U.S. History
One Science Exam: Earth Science or Living Environment or Chemistry or Physics
+One Pathway Assessment

Required Regents Exams (Passing Score of 65 and Above)
English Language Arts Exam
One Mathematics Exam: Algebra or Geometry or Algebra 2
Social Studies: Global History or U.S. History
One Science Exam: Earth Science or Living Environment or Chemistry or Physics
+One Pathway Assessment

Required Regents Exams for Advanced Designation (Passing Score of 65 and Above)
English Language Arts Exam
Three Mathematics Exams: Algebra, Geometry and Algebra 2
Two Social Studies Exams: Global History and U.S. History
Two Science Exams: 1) Living Environment 2) Earth Science or Chemistry or Physics
Foreign Language Regional Assessment FLACS Checkpoint B Exam

* Students with an IEP may be exempt from the Foreign Language requirement.

** An alternate pathway is available by pursuing a 5-credit sequence in Art, Business or Technology

*** Special Education students have Regents Score compensatory options in order to earn a local Diploma. Please consult your school counselor for available options.

**** Students must complete a minimum of 40 hours of Community Service.

+For an approved list of Pathway Assessments, please visit **http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/multiple-pathways**

Honors Distinction on High School Diploma

- Students can receive either a Regents Diploma with honors or Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with honors if the overall average of all required Regents Exams is 90% or higher.
- In addition, students can receive Honors Distinction in Mathematics and/or Science by meeting the following criteria:
  - 3 Mathematics Regents examinations with 85% or above on each exam
    and/or
  - 3 Science Regents examinations with 85% or above on each exam

Grading System

All courses are graded with a numeric system from 0 to 100, unless otherwise noted in the course description. The minimum passing grade is 65.

Interim academic reports are posted on the parent portal each quarter after five weeks. Report cards are posted on the parent portal for parents and guardians every ten weeks.

Calculating Final Course Averages

Final averages for full year courses will be calculated as follows:

$$\frac{Q1 + Q2 + Q3 + Q4}{4}$$

Final averages for alternate-day courses will be calculated with the same format as full year courses.

Note: Full year courses with a midterm examination will calculate the midterm as 20% of the 2nd quarter average and final examinations or Regents examinations will calculate for 20% of the 4th quarter average.

Pass/Fail Courses

A limited number of elective and special education courses are graded on a High Pass (HP), Pass (P), Low Pass (LP), and Fail (F) basis. Courses that are graded on a Pass/Fail system are noted in this guide.

Grade 6 Curriculum Offerings

Core Courses

English 6

Offered: Full Year

Type of Course: Required

The focus of the instructional program is on building solid literacy skills and easing the transition from elementary school. Using many different types of texts as a foundation, higher-level thinking skills (such as inference and authorial intent) are developed through a variety of responses.

At least one unit will be devoted to texts that the students will choose from a list created by our teachers. Outside reading assignments, authentic assessments and oral presentations further enhance reading, writing, and speaking skills- building upon students' elementary school literacy education. Additional units of study may include poetry, interdisciplinary mythology, and short stories. To develop their writing skills, students will be guided through the process of writing essays. The contextual study of vocabulary is also part of each unit, and grammar study solidifies students' understanding of their language and their ability to use it for greatest effect. The class will culminate for all students with the NYS Grade 6 English Language Arts exam, which is based on the Common Core Learning Standards.

Mathematics 6

Offered: Full Year

Type of Course: Required

This course is designed to address the seven standards found in the New York State K-6 curriculum and select 7th grade topics such as algebra and geometry. Students who successfully complete this course will advance to Pre-Algebra in grade seven and Algebra 1 in grade eight.

The curriculum in this course will include mathematical reasoning, numbers and numeration, operations, model/multiple representation, measurement, uncertainty, and patterns/functions. The basic principles of mathematics and the development of problem solving techniques will be discussed in each unit of study. Students who need additional support in mathematics will also be assigned to a math lab on alternate days. Students in Math 6 will take the New York State Grade 6 Assessment in mathematics.

Possible Middle School Sequences in Mathematics

Math 6→ Pre-Algebra→ Math 8
or
Math 6→ Pre-Algebra→ Algebra 1 Honors
or
Math 6→ Pre-Algebra→ Algebra 1 Research Honors

Science 6

Offered: Full Year

Type of Course: Required

Sixth grade science focuses on life science. Students will be engaged in a variety of exciting hands-on activities in a fully equipped laboratory facility. The areas of study include classification, microbes, plants, animals, human systems, and ecosystems. The interdependence of living organisms is emphasized throughout the course. Students will learn to utilize scientific lab techniques, write lab reports, practice proper safety skills, and build on their knowledge of the Scientific Method. Science 6 is part of the multi-year science sequence that prepares students for the Science 8 Assessment.

Science 6→ Science 7 → Science 8

or

Science 6→ Science 7 → Earth Science Honors

Social Studies 6

Offered: Full Year

Type of Course: Required

The social studies curriculum for grade 6 focuses on the development of democracy and the rule of law. The topics include the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Greece and Rome, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, Industrial Revolution, and French Revolution. Throughout the course map skills, research skills and the writing process will be used to enhance instruction. Students will have an opportunity to draw connections between current events and each historical time period.

World Languages Courses

It is our goal to ensure that each student is placed in his or her first choice for World Languages. All sequences are dependent on interest, enrollment, and staffing. Therefore, we require students to have a second option should their first not be available. *The continuation of a language sequence will be contingent upon enrollment and staffing*. We will make every effort to provide students access to the Checkpoint A at the conclusion of Grade 8, however as mentioned above, we will not guarantee that all language selections will be available at the High School level.

Introduction to French

Offered: Full Year

Type of Course: Required

Introduction to French acquaints students with the basic expressions, vocabulary, and culture of French-speaking peoples and countries. Students will be given a comparative perspective of French and English through word derivations, roots, prefixes and suffixes. Thematic and situational packages will be used to foster proficiency and fluency. Multiculturalism will also be highlighted in the course.

*French sequence is subject to district enrollment policies.

Introduction to Italian

Offered: Full Year

Type of Course: Required

Introduction to Italian acquaints students with the basic expressions, vocabulary, and culture of Italian-speaking peoples and countries. Students will be given a comparative perspective of Italian and English through word derivations, roots, prefixes and suffixes. Thematic and situational packages will be used to foster proficiency and fluency. Multiculturalism will also be highlighted in the course.

*Italian sequence is subject to district enrollment policies.

Introduction to Mandarin Chinese

Offered: Full Year

Type of Course: Required

Introduction to Mandarin acquaints students with the basic expressions, vocabulary, and culture of Mandarin speaking peoples and countries. Students will be introduced to the essentials of pronunciation using the Pinyin system as well as the writing system through simplified characters. Thematic and situational packages will be used to foster proficiency and fluency. Multiculturalism will also be highlighted in the course.

*Mandarin Chinese sequence is subject to district enrollment policies.

Introduction to Spanish

Offered: Full Year

Type of Course: Required

Introduction to Spanish acquaints students with the basic expressions, vocabulary, and culture of Spanish-speaking peoples and countries. Students will be given a comparative perspective of Spanish and English through word derivations, roots, prefixes and suffixes. Thematic and situational packages will be used to foster proficiency and fluency. Multiculturalism will also be highlighted in the course.

Grade 6 Exploratory Courses

In the event that a student is enrolled in academic support classes, he or she may not be able to participate in all or some of the exploratory courses.

Art 6

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Required

This course gives students a wide variety of experiences in different media. Techniques in drawing, painting, sculpture, printing, and design are explored through various unit areas aimed at specific concepts and movements in art history.

Coding 6

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Required

Coding 6 is an alternate day full year elective designed to give students a basic introduction to the world of computer science and technology. Students will work independently and collaboratively to learn how technology improves real world relationships, connections, and life. Students will learn:

- the applications of computer science.
- hardware and software in a computer.
- encoding and decoding data.
- data representation with binary.
- an introduction to block-based programming.
- solve puzzles and create games using: Tynker, Scratch, and Code.org
- snap Circuits – encode and decode data
- program Sphero Robot Balls – Program an obstacle course
- Makey Makey invention kits – discover how circuits and coding work together, creation of interactive games

Digital Citizenship 6

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Required

The purpose of this course is to learn Digital Citizenship, which empowers students to think critically, behave safely, and participate responsibly in our digital world. These 21st-century skills are essential for students to harness the full potential of technology for learning. Also, keyboarding skills will be an area of focus with the students. Students will learn the basic touch system of keyboarding with proper technique and will begin to develop speed and accuracy.

FACS 6 (Family and Consumer Sciences)

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Required

This course reflects the New York State FACS Learning Standards. Students in this course will be given the opportunity to learn how to make decisions and solve problems, apply decision-making to their everyday lives, learn nutrition management, prepare simple foods, and create a simple sewing project.

Music Electives

Band 6

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Elective

Students in Band 6 will have an opportunity to improve technical skills such as articulation, phrasing, tempo, and dynamics, while also preparing for performances at concerts and graduation. Students will be scheduled for pull-out lessons approximately twice every three weeks. Pull-out periods will be rotated. Students in Band 6 are required to attend two evening performances each year.

Chorus 6

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Elective

The sixth grade chorus program provides opportunities to improve voice, character, and social awareness while singing. The course will include the performance of varied vocal music with emphasis on proper breathing, resonance, diction, note reading and standard performance techniques. The chorus performs in concerts during the school year to give the student performers ample opportunity to demonstrate their musical skills. Performance at both the Winter and Spring concerts is a course requirement.

Lunch Chorus 6

Offered: Alternate Day – During Lunch Period.

Type of Course: Elective

Co-requisite: Enrollment in an instrumental ensemble.

This course is offered to band and orchestra students who would also like to participate in the RMS chorus. (See Chorus 6 for a full course description.)

Musicology

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Required for students who are not in a music performance group.

Musicology is designed as a non-performance option to give students a hands on experience in learning and creating music through the understanding of its many styles and components. Each student will have access to their own work station which will include a MIDI keyboard, computer, headphones and software. The course will encourage students to develop their creative talents and explore new musical ideas.

Orchestra 6

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Elective

Orchestra 6 reinforces beginning string techniques including note reading and proper instrument position. A higher level of music will be explored in this course than in earlier grades. Students will be required to perform at two evening concerts during the year and to participate in pull-out lessons. Pull-out periods will be rotated.

Physical Education

Physical Education 6

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Required

The Middle School Physical Education program is designed to provide all students with opportunities for healthy mental, physical, and social growth and development through a variety of physical activities. The physical education curriculum also emphasizes the development of health related physical wellness. A variety of individual and team sports, games, and activities are offered.

Academic Support Courses

Literacy Lab 6

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Required by New York State Assessment scores or by teacher recommendation.

Grading: Pass/Fail

The literacy lab program uses a wide variety of methods and materials to motivate students to write, read, develop vocabulary, and think critically. Activities will focus on the Common Core Standards of English Language Arts and will encourage the development of knowledge and the use of past experiences to derive meaning from print and other sources of information.

Mathematics Lab 6

Offered: Alternate Day

Type of Course: Required by New York State Assessment scores or by teacher recommendation.

Grading: Pass/Fail

A student is scheduled for a mathematics lab class if his or her New York State assessment score reveals a deficiency in mathematics skills or his or her current course progress is insufficient. Special attention will be given to the tasks associated with the mathematics assessment. Math lab is taken in addition to a student's regular mathematics class and meets on alternate days.

Grade 6 Worksheet

Required Courses

1. English 6 — Full Year

2. Art 6 — Alternate Day
   Coding 6 — Alternate Day

3. Social Studies 6 — Full Year

4. Science 6 — Full Year

5. World Languages — Full Year
   - Intro to French
   - Intro to Italian
   - Intro to Mandarin Chinese
   - Intro to Spanish

6. Physical Education 6 — Alternate Day

AND

Student must select one of the following:

- Musicology — Alternate day
  or a performing group
- Band 6 — Alternate Day
- Chorus 6 — Alternate Day
- Orchestra 6 — Alternate Day

7. Mathematics 6 — Full Year

8. FACS 6 — Alternate Day
   Digital Citizenship 6 — Alternate Day

9. Lunch

*Recommendation Only

Alternate Assignments

Music
- Lunch Chorus 6 — Alternate Day (during lunch)

Academic Support Classes
- *Math Lab 6 — Alternate Day (replaces exploratory period)
- *Literacy Lab 6 — Alternate Day (replaces exploratory period)

Special Education
- *Academic Strategies — Daily
- *Co-Teaching Workshop — Daily
  - required for students enrolled in a co-teaching program (replaces two elective choices)

*Recommendation Only

Sample Grade 6 Schedule

Period	1	Introduction to Spanish
Period	2	Math 6
Period	3A	Physical Education 6
	3B	Musicology 6
Period	4	Social Studies 6
Period	5	Science 6
Period	6	Lunch
Period	7A	Coding 6
	7B	Digital Citizenship 6
Period	8	English 6
Period	9A	Art 6
	9B	FACS 6

*Students who receive a co-teaching program will be scheduled for a Co-Teaching Workshop daily.

High School Sequence Charts

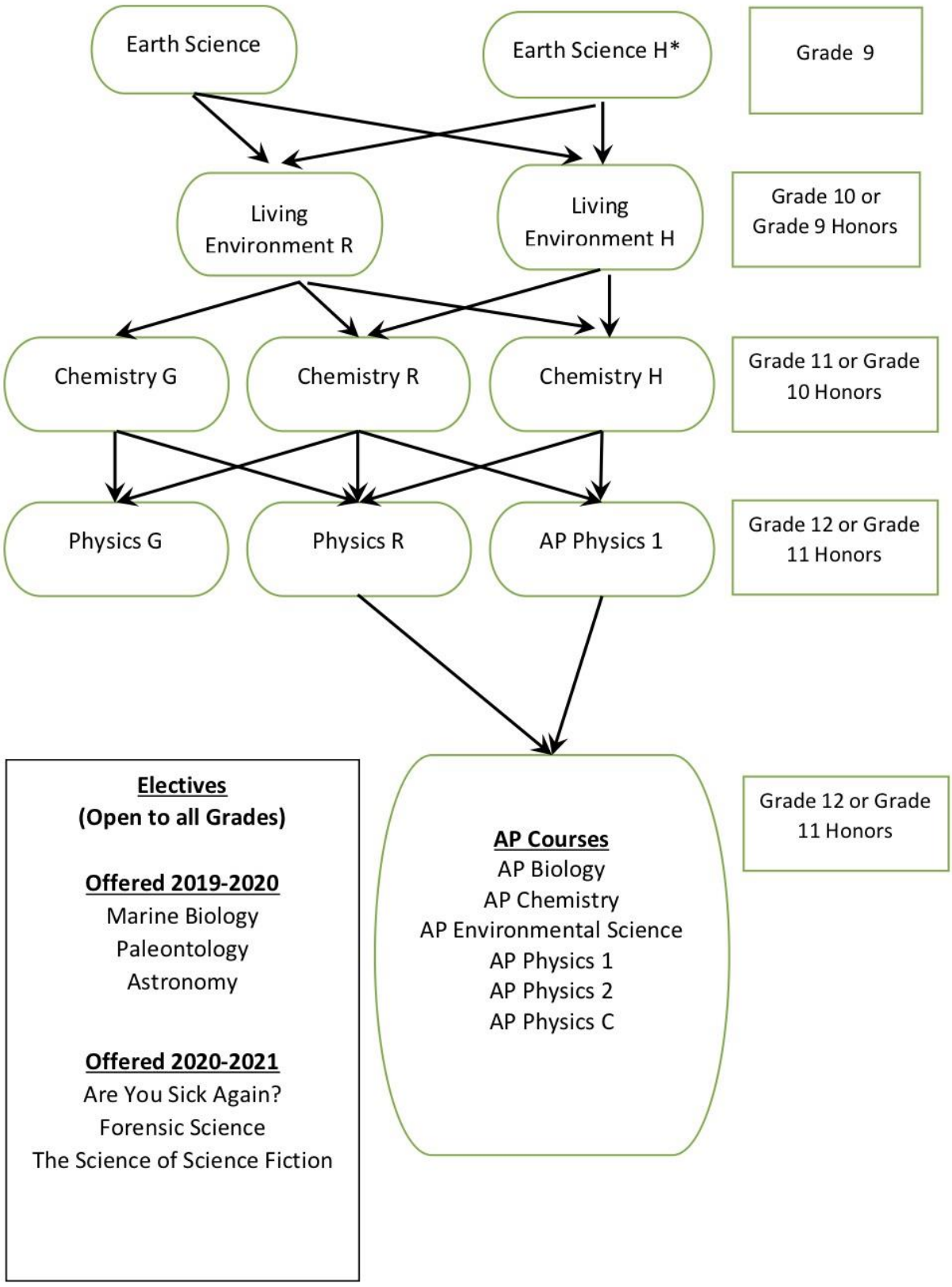
Mathematics Sequences

	RESEARCH HONORS	HONORS/ ACCELERATED	REGENTS

7th	Algebra 1 RSH	Pre-Algebra 7		Pre-Algebra 7				
8th	Geometry RSH	Algebra 1 RSH	Algebra 1 H	Algebra 1 H	Math 8			
9th	Algebra 2 RSH	Geometry RSH	Geometry H	Geometry	Algebra 1			
10th	Pre –Calculus RSH	Algebra 2 RSH	Algebra 2 H	Algebra 2	Geometry			
11th	AP Calculus BC	Pre-Calculus RSH	Pre-Calculus H	Pre-Calculus	Algebra 2		Algebra 2 CC 1	
12th	Multi Variable Calculus / Differential Equations	AP Calculus BC	AP Calculus AB	Calculus	Pre-Calculus	College Math	Algebra 2 CC 2	Math 12

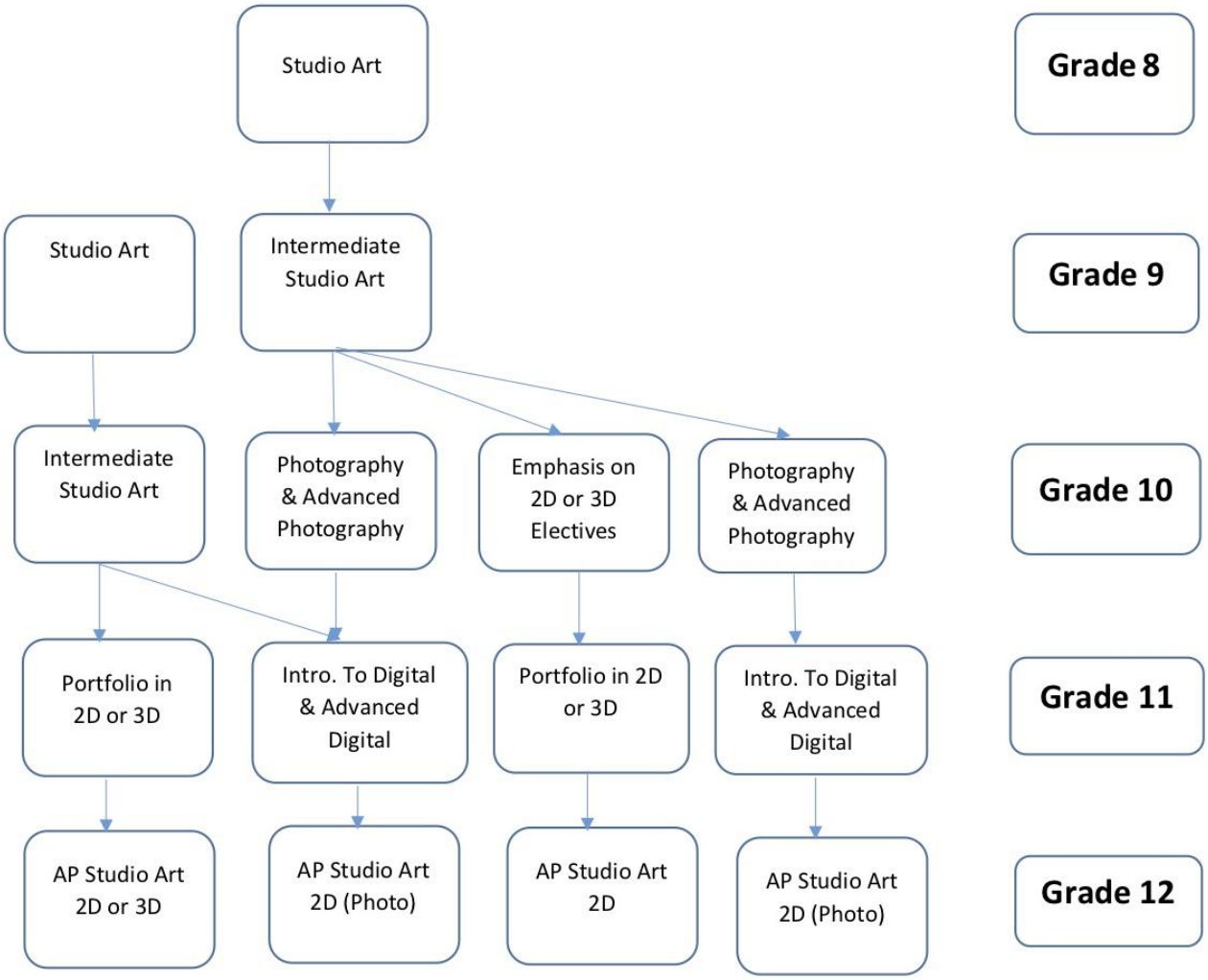
- Electives: Linear Algebra, AP Statistics, AP Calculus BC, AP Calculus AB, Calculus, Computer Programming in Java, AP Computer Science, AP Computer Science Principles, App Inventor, Math of Finance, and SAT / ACT Prep
- Math labs are available to students enrolled in Algebra 1 CC, Geometry CC, or Algebra 2 CC.
- A two-year sequence in Algebra 1 is also available.

Science Sequences



*Pending BOE Approval

Art Sequences



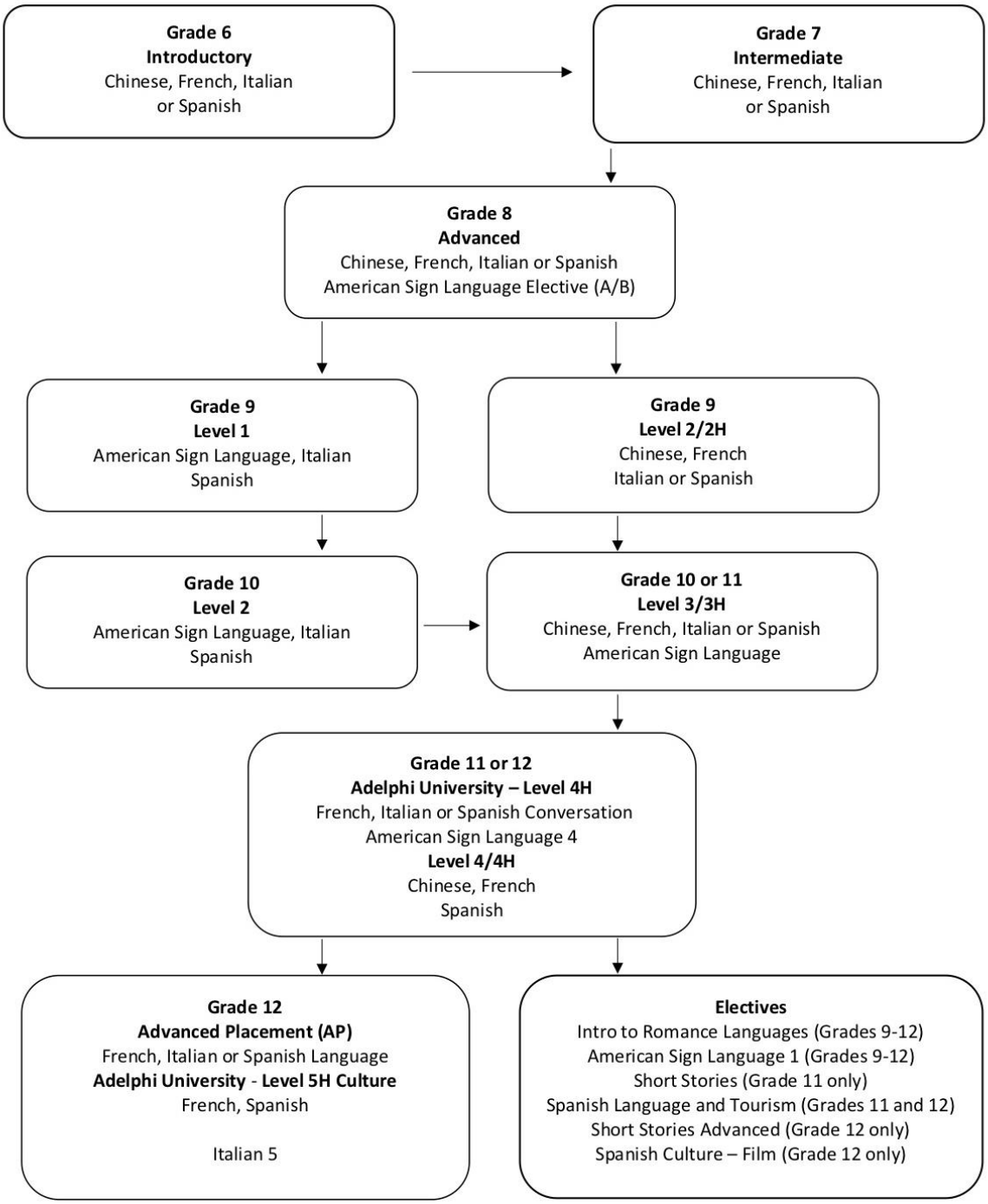
Electives

Basic Photography*
Introduction to Digital Photography*
Sculpture and Ceramics*
Fashion Design & Illustration*
Computer Graphics*
Mixed Media*

Advanced Photography
Advanced Digital Photography
Advanced Fashion Design & Illustration
Advanced Computer Graphics

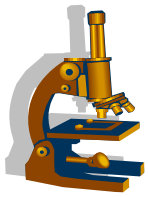
**Available to Freshmen*

World Languages Sequences



The continuation of a language sequence will be contingent upon interest, enrollment and staffing. We will make every effort to provide students access to the Checkpoint A at the conclusion of Grade 8, however as mentioned above, we will not guarantee that all language selections will be available at the High School level.

Special Programs



English Language Learners

English as New Language (ENL) is offered to students whose native language is not English. The program focuses on the development of reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. The goal of this program is to help students become proficient in the English language while familiarizing them with American culture.

Placement is done through a screening process that includes a formal and an informal assessment of the student's proficiency in English. Students will move into the regular education program when they have obtained proficiency in the English language.

Sample Course Offerings:

- ENL English
- ENL Language Arts
- ENL Social Studies
- ENL Support

Students who receive ENL services take an annual language achievement test, part of the New York State Testing Program.

Library Services

In today's world of constantly evolving media and information technology, the ability to effectively and efficiently access, evaluate and utilize data and information is the key to success. The newly renovated and redesigned Roslyn Middle School Library provides a dynamic learning space, incorporating traditional as well as cutting-edge resources to help students and faculty delve into the various department curricula while piquing the myriad interests of our middle school learners. Our bright and inviting space makes materials available for all grades and ability levels, and is the perfect setting after-school and during lunch to do homework, research, or explore the stacks.

Special Education Programs

Our related services and special education programs are designed to provide students who are classified under the Committee on Special Education with the level of support they each require to develop appropriate study skills and strategies necessary to become successful, independent learners. Program goals include supporting students with their academic curriculum, developing self-advocacy skills as well as adult daily living skills.

All decisions are made during CSE meetings or as an amendment to an IEP.

Resource Room (Academic Strategies)

Grading: Pass/Fail

Our academic strategies class is designed to support students who are enrolled in regular content area courses, but require the support of a Resource Room daily. This class is taught by a special education teacher and has a maximum ratio of five students to one teacher.

Objectives:

- to teach study skills and strategies.
- to help improve organizational and time management skills.
- to teach self-advocacy skills.

Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT)

Our integrated co-teaching program is designed for students who require additional support within their regular academic classes as well as outside of the classroom. Co-teaching classes are taught by both a content area specialist and a special education teacher. The curriculum, reading materials, and assignments in an ICT class are the same as any other section of the course. Class size is also the same. Both teachers are available to support all students during class. A student enrolled in this model is also scheduled to attend a daily workshop class to work on study and organizational skills and pre-teach and re-teach material with one of their special education teachers.

Special Class (15:1)

Students are recommended for self-contained academic classes at their CSE meetings. Curriculum, instruction, and assignments are modified/differentiated to address each student's learning needs. Students who attend these classes are on an academic track. The classes have a maximum of fifteen students and are structured to provide key concepts and ideas.

Skills for Life and Raise Programs

Our Skills for Life and Raise programs are self-contained, language based, academic programs developed for students who require the essential elements of a modified curriculum. The programs help students achieve mastery of functional academic, social, and life skills. Students are mainstreamed for all elective classes when appropriate.

Extra-Curricular Program

Our varied after-school program for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students consists of intramural and interscholastic teams and clubs. All activities are supervised by staff members.

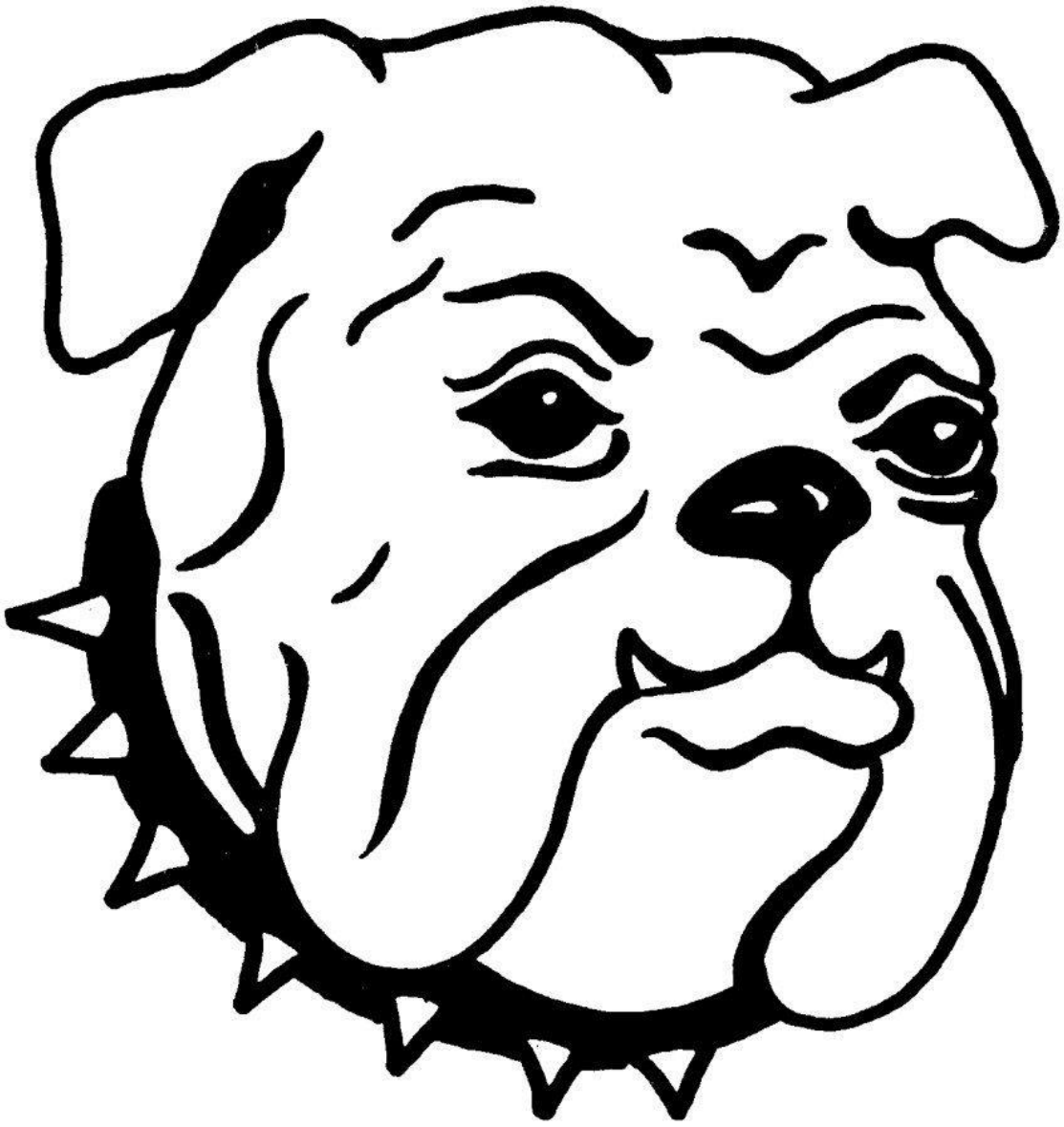
Participation in extracurricular activities is an integral part of a student's educational experience. However, involvement in our varied extracurricular activities should not negate academic responsibilities. All students must adhere to the District's Academic Eligibility Policy. The policy states that students may not fail more than one subject. Administrators, teachers, guidance counselors, coaches and advisors monitor all students' academic progress.

Interscholastic Athletics

The athletic program provides the opportunity for interested 7th and 8th grade students to compete with other middle schools in Nassau County. New York State guidelines do not permit 6th graders to participate in interscholastic athletics.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC SEASONS

Fall	Girls' Badminton, Boys' Cross Country, Girls' Cross Country, Boys' Soccer, Boys' Football, Girls' Soccer, Girls' Tennis
Winter I	Girls' Volleyball, Boys' Basketball, Girls' & Boys' Winter Track
Winter II	Girls' Basketball, Boys' Wrestling, Boys' Volleyball, Girls' & Boys' Bowling
Spring	Boys' Baseball, Boys' Lacrosse, Girls' Lacrosse, Girls' Softball, Boys' Tennis, Girls' Track & Field, Boys' Track & Field, Girls' Gymnastics



Moving Up…