Pembroke High School
Program of Studies Presentation
February 27, 2020
6:30 PM
Presentation Agenda

- Introductions
- Graduation Requirements
- Grade Point Average
- Course Selection Process
- Physical Education Requirements
- Schedule Changes
Break-Out Session Agenda

- Dr. Mark N. Galligan, Humanities Curriculum Supervisor - Room A201
- Mark Duffy, Mathematics Curriculum Supervisor – Room A202
- Jonathan Shapiro, Science Curriculum Supervisor – Room A203
- Saviz Safizadeh, World Language Curriculum Supervisor – Room A204
- Gwynne Chapman, Visual & Performing Arts Curriculum Supervisor
  Room A205
Program of Studies

Welcome to the Pembroke High School Guidance Department

Mission Statement:
The School Counseling Department at Pembroke High School advocates for all Pembroke High School students and develops relationships within the community. Counselors help to guide and support students with their academic planning, personal/social development and with college and career readiness. By taking a holistic approach of collaboration with students, parents, faculty and community members, counselors will assist students with post-secondary goals while preparing them to become successful and active members of their community.

Vision Statement:
Empowering student to Believe, Achieve, Succeed.
Graduation Requirements

- English – 16 Credits/4 years
- Mathematics - 16 Credits/4 years
- Science – 12 Credits/3 years (Biology & Chemistry Required)
- Social Studies – 12 Credits/3 years (World History I, US History I & II Required)
- Physical Education/Wellness – 8 Credits/4 Years
- MCAS Standardized Testing
  - Biology – June/Grade 9
  - ELA – March/Grade 10
  - Mathematics – May/Grade 10

* World Language is not a graduation requirement but a minimum of 2 years of the same language is required for admission to a 4-year college

- 40 Hours Community Service
- Total: 88 Credits Required for Graduation
Weighted Grade Point Average

A weighted grade point average will be calculated for all Pembroke High School students.

Grades of a “P” or an “F” will not be weighted into the GPA.

The grade point average is calculated by converting grades to their corresponding numerical equivalent according to the GPA chart.
Course Selection

Teachers conference with students & make course recommendations – Feb 6th – Feb 28th

Students select courses in PowerSchool during Titan Time with their Guidance Counselors

- Grade 11 - Tuesday, March 10 - Friday, March 13
- Grade 10 - Thursday, March 19 - Friday, March 20
- Grade 9 – Thurs. 3/26 & 4/2 / Friday, 3/27 & 4/3
- Grade 8 – Wednesday, March 11 – Wed. March 18

**Course selection is NOT first-come, first-serve to your actual schedule. It is simply collecting numbers to determine which classes to run. You do not need to be the first person to select courses to get a course that you want.**

Parents & Students should review course selections together at home

Students can only select academic course levels recommended by teachers (Honors or CP) and electives.

- Students must select a total of 28 credits
- Students may select up to 2 study halls (1 per semester)
- Students should select 3 alternates that are different than their elective choices
- All duplicate requests will be deleted. Selecting the same course several times does not increase the chance of getting the course.
Course Selection – Find the Right Balance

Please select courses with care, be mindful of course descriptions and level requirements. Review the Program of Studies!

Find the balance between realistically challenging and creating a program for success.

Guidance Counselors will review course selections for all students during Titan Time Scheduling Seminars and 21st Century Skills at PCMS for grade 8 students.

Courses that the students select will determine:
- The master schedule
- Number of sections that will be offered of each class
- Class sizes
- Teacher work load/equity

Changes to student schedules can be difficult to accommodate due to scheduling restrictions.
Course Override

It is highly recommended that students take the course level that is recommended by their teacher. In a situation when a student would prefer to change levels, they should complete the following steps:

1. Student discusses the level change with their teacher.
2. Parent contacts the recommending teacher about moving to a different level.
3. The student makes an appointment with their Guidance Counselor to discuss the level change and obtain a Level Override Form.
4. Student/Parent signs the form & return to their Guidance Counselor by April 6th

Override forms are due April 6, 2020
Schedule Changes – The Placement Review Process

When possible, schedule changes are made upon request in June & the week prior to the first day of school when the Guidance Counselors return.

Once school starts, requests for schedule changes are entertained primarily if a student is misplaced. The Placement Review Process

Two Windows to review placement
- After Term 1 Progress Reports (4 weeks)
- After Term 1 Report Cards (8 weeks)

Schedule changes occur when stakeholders agree that student is “misplaced.” The student is doing everything possible to achieve success but is still not meeting with success.
- Making an earnest effort daily
- Turning in all assignments
- Consistently seeks extra help (before/after school & during Titan Time)
Physical Education Requirements

All grade 9 students will be scheduled in 1 semester of Health & Wellness.

Students grades 10-12 will be required to select a traditional PE class or indicate that they a “Bona Fide Team Member” of an MIAA sport to fulfill the MA state requirement for PE.

Participation in a Junior Varsity or Varsity Sport for a full season – All students selecting this option will be required to complete a form & indicate the sport they plan to participate in during scheduling seminars.

Students that select this option but do not meet this obligation (change of mind, cut from team) are enrolled in the next available traditional PE class.