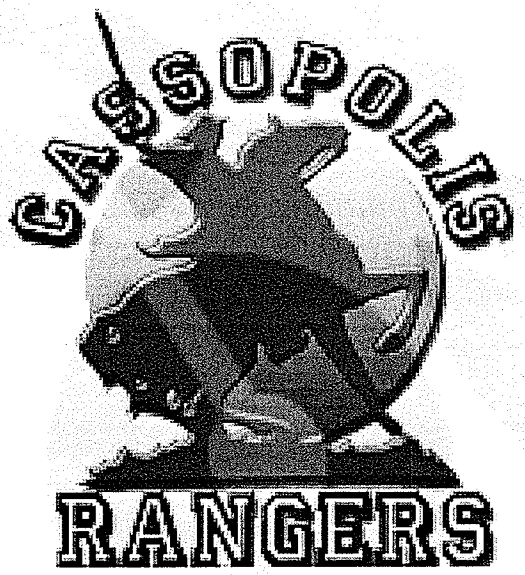

Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School

Course Description Guide

2020-2021 School Year

Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School

22721 Diamond Cove Street
Cassopolis, MI 49031

School Number: 269-445-0540
Fax Number: 269-445-3112
Main Office: 269-228-5833

Ross Beatty Administration

Renee Manno, Principal
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Cassopolis Public Schools

Ross Beatty Jr/Sr High School

22721 Diamond Cove St.
Cassopolis, MI 49031
Ms. Renee Manno, Principal
Mrs. Carey May, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

We are pleased to be able to assist you in choosing an appropriate schedule for the 2020-2021 school year. Choosing the most appropriate courses in middle and high school will help enable success after graduation. Our goal is to help our students successfully pursue post-secondary options in their chosen fields.

All high school students will need to satisfy the requirements for graduation listed below. It is important to develop a high school course plan consistent with the Educational Development Plan (EDP) first developed in the middle school and to review that four-year plan and EDP each year prior to selecting courses.

In order to plan successfully for graduation and post-secondary opportunities, students must pass all courses in which they are enrolled so that all course options are open to them each subsequent year. We also need support from parents in monitoring that students are doing their best in each class so that their son/daughter will be able to pursue options such as: AP courses, Berrien County Mathematics and Science Center, dual enrollment, Early/Middle College, Van Buren Tech Center courses, etc.

The elective courses that are taught each year are determined by how many students sign up to take them during the scheduling process. It is very important that students and parents choose courses they intend not only to start, but also complete. It is possible that a course may not be scheduled if too few students request it. For this reason, students should be sure to choose alternates that they will be happy with.

Please feel free to contact us with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mary Casteel, Counselor

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Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School
New Tech Network

Through project-based learning, New Tech Network schools empower and challenge students to learn and succeed, to collaborate and communicate, and to engage in the world around them.

The New Tech Network focuses on 4 major components to prepare students for college and careers:

Culture that Empowers
Trust, respect, and responsibility are the hallmarks of our culture. With New Tech, students and teachers are transformed into learners and facilitators. Both the learners and facilitators alike have exceptional ownership of the classroom experience and their school environment.

Teaching that Engages
Project-based Learning is the core of our instructional approach. With New Tech, learning is contextual, creative, and shared. Learners collaborate on projects that require critical thinking and communication.

Technology that Enables
The smart use of technology supports our approach to instruction and culture. All classrooms have a one-to-one computing ratio allowing everyone to grow and flourish as a self-directed learner.

Outcomes that Matter
Learning outcomes also measure collaboration, written and oral communication, and students' responsibility for their own learning. Performance assessments measure the knowledge and thinking of students to help them become proficient in producing college-level work.

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Thinking: Mathematical Problem Solving, ELA Analysis and Research and ArArgumentation, Science Argument/Explanation and Research, Social Studies Argument/Explanation

Agency: Taking ownership over learning and developing academic mindset. Meets benchmarks, seeks feedback, tackles and monitors learning, actively participates, builds relationships, impacts self and community, uses effort and practice to grow, seeks challenges, grows from setbacks, builds confidence, and finds personal relevance.

Collaboration: Contributes ideas, equal participation, group norms, respectful tone and style, positive body language, active listening, roles, work ethic, team support.

Oral Communication: Interpersonal Communication and Presentation. Listening and comprehension, clear presentation of ideas, asking questions, clarity, evidence, organization, use of visual materials.

Written Communication: Development, organization, structure, language and conventions.

CASSOPOLIS RANGERS	**Ross Beatty High School Graduation Requirements 2020-2021 School Year**	**Graduating Classes of 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024**

To be eligible for graduation, all students must be enrolled full time for eight semesters unless otherwise approved by the building principal. Students must participate in the Michigan Merit Exam or MI-Access in the spring of their junior year, complete 30 hours of community service, and earn the following credits (modifications for transfer students and students with IEP's can be made - see counselor for details):

Department	Requirement
English Language Arts	4 credits: At least one core English class taken each school year.
Mathematics	4 credits (at least one in final year of high school) • Algebra 1 • Geometry • Algebra 2 • Additional math or math related course
Science	3 credits • Classes of 2021 and 2022: Biology, Chemistry, and 3rd Science • Class of 2023: Bio/Chem, Physical Science, and a 3rd Science • Class of 2024 and beyond: Biology, Physical Science, and a 3rd Science All students may fulfill the requirement for the 3rd Science by completing a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program
Social Studies	3 credits • World History (1 credit) • US History (1 credit) • Economics (.5 credit) • Civics (.5 credit)
Health and Physical Education	1 credit/2 complete courses • Health (.5 credit) • Physical Education OR participation in school-sanctioned physical activity (.5 credit = 2 seasons of a sport or marching band)
Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts (VPAA)	1 credit/2 complete course(s) • Art, Music, Theatre, Journalism/Digital Media, some CTE programs
World Languages	2 credits/2 Complete courses - Both credits must be of the same language OR students may satisfy the second credit by completing a CTE program or taking an additional VPAA course
Online Learning Experience	1 credit- Students satisfy this requirement through participation in our course management system, echo.
Elective Credits	6-10 credits (dependendent on Education Development Plan)
TOTAL CREDITS	**28 Credits**

Courses and Potential Modifications That Meet Graduation Requirements

The following is a breakdown of the courses offered by Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School which meet the graduation requirements. The State of Michigan allows students to request a personal curriculum to modify some of the state-established graduation requirements. See your counselor for additional information. This is also discussed below.

English Requirements

Students must take one English course per year, with a total of four credits required for graduation. This requirement cannot be modified with a Personal Curriculum. Courses which meet the English requirement include:

- English 9
- English 10
- English 11
- English 12
- College English
- AP Literature

Mathematics Requirements

Students must earn four credits of math, including one during their final year of high school. All students must complete the following courses in the Math Department: ,

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 2*

Students must take one math or math-related course during their senior year. When taken during their senior year, the following courses satisfy this requirement:

Accounting, Personal Finance, Physics**, some Career and Technical Education courses, online math or math-related course as approved by the counselor

Modifications can be made to the mathematics requirements through a personal curriculum. See your counselor for further information.

*Students may be able to fulfill the Algebra 2 requirement through completion of some Van Buren Tech Programs.

**Students may not count Physics as both a science credit and a math-related credit. Students successfully completing Physics as a math-related credit must also successfully complete a third science.

Science Requirements

All students must complete three credits of science. This requirement cannot be modified with a Personal Curriculum. Courses that meet the Science requirement include the following: Bio/Chem, Biology, Earth Physics, Physical Science, Agricultural Leadership, Veterinary Science, Forensic Science, Genetics, and Agricultural Biology. Science courses may also be taken through dual enrollment, and completion of a Career and Technical Education Program may also fulfill the third science requirement.

Social Studies Requirements

Students must complete three Social Studies credits, including the following:

- US History (1 credit)
- World History (1 credit)
- Economics (.5 credit)
- Civics(.5 credit)

Modifications can be made to the social studies requirements through a personal curriculum. Students may request a modification of one fewer Social Studies credits if he/she takes additional credit(s) beyond the required credit in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or World Languages, or through completion of some Career and Technical Education Programs. No modification can be made of the Civics requirement.

Physical Education Requirements

Students must complete one credit of Physical Education, including one-half credit of PE and one-half credit of Health. Students may satisfy their PE portion through participation in school-sanctioned physical activities (see below).

Students may request a personal curriculum to modify this credit if he/she takes an additional credit beyond the required credit in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or World Languages, or through completion of some Van Buren Tech courses.

Acceptable activities meet all of the following criteria:

- Two full seasons with a school-sanctioned sport which requires regular physical activity with a team during regularly-scheduled practices over the course of the established seasons.
- Two full seasons with Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School Marching Band which requires regular physical activity over the course of the marching band season.

Earning PE credit in this alternative way does not result in additional transcripted credit. Rather, it allows a student to waive that PE credit to take more elective coursework.

Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts Requirement

All students must complete one credit of a Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts class. Courses available to students at Cassopolis Jr./Sr. High School which meet this requirement includes the following:

- Any class in the Art Department
- Any class in the Music Department
- Creative Writing (high school or college)
- Theatre
- Journalism and Digital Media

Several Career and Technical Education courses meet this requirement. Students may request a personal curriculum to this requirement by taking an additional credit beyond the graduation requirements in English, Mathematics, Science, or World Languages.

World Language Requirement

Students must complete two credits of the same language in order to meet this requirement (ex: Spanish 1 and Spanish 2). This requirement can be met at Cassopolis Jr./Sr. High School in the following ways:

- Taking French 1 and French 2
- Learning beyond the classroom: formal study abroad, college coursework, home or heritage languages, or online courses

- Students in graduating classes through 2024 may fulfill one credit of this requirement by completing one of several Career and Technical Education Programs, or by completing an additional Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts credit

This requirement cannot be modified with a Personal Curriculum with the exception of students with an IEP.

Additional Personal Curriculum Modifications

Students with an IEP are eligible for additional modifications through a personal curriculum, as long as the modification aligns with their Education Development Plan, their IEP, and their future career goals. See your counselor for details.

Transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school are eligible for additional modifications. See your counselor for details.

Grading Scale

Weighted Courses:
A weighted GPA will be applied to all AP courses and core Dual Enrollment courses. Math and Science Center courses, and other accelerated program courses must receive approval from the Principal for a weighted GPA to apply. These courses must be in core academic areas and be considered college-level courses.

Students' grades will be calculated using the following scale:

Grading Scale	Letter Grade	Non-weighted	Weighted
93-100	A	4.00	5.0
90-92	A-	3.667	4.667
88-89	B+	3.33	4.333
83-87	B	3.00	4.0
80-82	B-	2.667	3.667
78-79	C+	2.333	3.333
73-77	C	2.0	3.0
70-72	C-	1.667	2.667
68-69	D+	1.333	2.333
63-67	D	1.0	2.0
60-62	D-	0.667	1.667
59 and below	F	0	0

Advanced Placement Courses

What are Advanced Placement (AP) Courses?
AP courses are college-level courses that students can take in high school. Curriculum in AP classes is determined by the College Board and is uniform throughout the United States and abroad. As a result, AP classes are recognized more uniformly by colleges and universities than other classes. AP courses require more time and work, but are academically more challenging and stimulating.

Who Should Take AP Courses?
Students who:

- Love learning – especially the subject area in which the AP course is being taken
- Are strong readers who have been academically successful

- Are motivated learners that are willing to take on hard work and responsibility
- Are enthusiastic about sharing ideas and concepts in academically challenging ways and improving critical thinking skills
- Plan to attend a four-year university following high school
- Understand that success in AP classes requires work outside the school day.

Why Should AP Courses Be Taken?

- It builds sophisticated, college-level academic skills and confidence. Students are more prepared to do college work because they have practiced the skills needed to be successful and are more confident when facing difficult and demanding courses in college.
- AP classes are calculated on a weighted grading scale. This provides several advantages. First, it eliminates the "risk" of taking a more difficult course. Secondly, because many students earn a GPA of higher than 4.0 during their high school career, AP classes potentially increase a student's class ranking. Lastly, many colleges do not recalculate GPAs during the admissions process and use the highest GPA when determining admission, providing an advantage for students with a higher overall GPA.
- Success in AP leads to success in college. Research consistently shows that students who participate in AP courses and exams while in high school have higher GPAs, credit hours earned and four year graduation rates at the university level.
- Success in AP can lead to college credit: Students have the option of taking the AP exam in each of the content areas. Performance on these tests can lead to college credit.
- It increases options at college and saves money. Students who earn college credit by taking AP courses and exams may be able to take upper level courses in their field of interest or complete their undergraduate degrees earlier thus saving money.
- It impresses college admission officers. Taking AP makes candidates more attractive to colleges. It improves their chances of getting into competitive colleges and increases eligibility for scholarships.

Dual Enrollment

Students may enroll in college courses as part of their high school experience. Students will exchange each three-credit college class for one high school semester class. Students can receive college credit only, or both high school credit and college credit for these courses. If students prefer to receive college credit only, they need to notify their counselor in writing prior to starting the course. Students must meet all of the below requirements to be eligible. If the student fails to successfully complete the assigned course, the school may impose fines equaling the cost of the course tuition, books, and support material, and the student may be removed from future dual enrollment opportunities.

Students dual enrolling may have the costs of required textbooks paid for provided that the total amount of tuition, fees and books does not exceed the amount determined by the State of Michigan. Upon completion of the course, textbooks purchased by Cassopolis Public Schools must be returned to the school. Students are responsible for transportation, parking costs, or any activity fees.

Any student who wishes to dual enroll must complete a Dual Enrollment form and placement testing prior to taking any courses. It is understood that any course taken as part of dual enrollment and its accompanying grade will appear on the student's transcript with accompanying grades. Final grades will be included in the semester GPA, cumulative GPA, and class ranking. All academic courses taken through Dual Enrollment or Early/Middle College will be included in the weighted grading scale.

Eligible Students
Per the State of Michigan, students eligible for dual enrollment must be:

- A student enrolled in at least one high school class in a school district, public school academy, or state-approved nonpublic school in Michigan.
- Excludes foreign exchange pupils enrolled under a cultural exchange program (J-1 Visa).
- Student must have at least one parent or legal guardian that is a resident of Michigan (unless the student is experiencing homelessness).
- Student must not have been enrolled in high school for more than four school years (unless one of the exceptions provided for in administrative rule has been satisfied).

Additionally, RBJSHS students must meet the following in order to qualify for dual enrollment:

- Meet the assessment criteria on the PSAT, SAT, and /or SMC Placement Test.
- Have acceptable attendance and grades in the two semesters prior to participating in dual enrollment.
- Meet with the high school counselor for course scheduling.
- Have a signed dual enrollment contract on file at RBJSHS.
- Must maintain a D- or above in all classes to continue in the Dual Enrollment Program. Failure of a dual enrollment class, "F", will result in full tuition reimbursement of the course at the expense of the student and may result in removal from future dual enrollment opportunities.

Eligible Courses
Per the State of Michigan, courses eligible for dual enrollment must meet the following criteria:

- Course offered by an eligible postsecondary institution for postsecondary credit.
- Not offered by RBJSHS (or is not available to the student due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict).
- Academic in nature:
    - Normally applies toward satisfaction of postsecondary degree requirements.
    - Not ordinarily taken as an activity course.
    - Not a hobby, craft, or recreational course.
- In a subject area other than physical education, theology, divinity, or religious education.
- For subject areas assessed on a readiness assessment or the Michigan Merit Examination, eligible courses are limited to those subject areas for which the student has achieved a qualifying score.
    - Not required for computer science or foreign language courses.
    - A district may elect to support a student's enrollment in a subject area that the student has not yet achieved a qualifying score if it has been determined to be in the best educational interest of the student.
- Course limits:
    - Up to 10 courses overall can be covered under the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act. For a student that first dual enrolls in:
        - 9th grade – not more than two courses per year in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade, and not more than four courses in grade 12
        - 10th grade – not more than two courses in 10th grade, and not more than four courses in 11th and 12th grade
        - 11th or 12th grade – not more than six courses per year
        - These limits may be waived when a written agreement exists between a school district and a postsecondary institution as discussed in MCL 388.513.

For information regarding transferring credits earned through dual enrollment to another post-secondary school, please see the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) section below.

Credit By Examination
Interested students can pursue college credit by utilizing "Credit By Examination" options such as the CLEP or similar tests. Any cost associated with such credit options is the responsibility of the student.

Early/Middle College

The Early/Middle College program is an effective & exciting way for students to earn either a career certificate or substantial college credit up to an Associate's Degree while still in high school. Through this innovative program, students will be able to save both time and money as they get a headstart on their postsecondary careers.

The E/MC is structured so that students gradually increase their exposure to college courses throughout this three year program. Students will apply for entry into the program during their 10th grade year. If a student is accepted into the program their individual Program of Study will determine their classes throughout their 11th, 12th and 5th years. This Program of Study will eventually result in students being part-time on the high school campus and part-time on the college campus until their 5th year. In their "5th year" of high school, they will be enrolled full-time in college and all of their coursework will be completed on-site at a Lake Michigan College or Southwestern Michigan College campus.

Students in the 5th Year Early/Middle College program will receive support services to assist them in their transition from high school to college. All Early/Middle College students are required to complete a mandatory Summer College Success Bootcamp between grades 10 and 11; this bootcamp will help to develop their academic preparation skills, study skills, and social maturity skills. Students will work closely with an Early/Middle College Mentor who will serve as a "success coach" as they progress through the program. In addition, students will continue to have access to their traditional high school support system, along with the student support services available through the college.

Students applying for admission to the Early/Middle College must be willing, motivated, and up for the challenge to perform successfully within this program. Students have the opportunity to learn more about the program in the fall of their sophomore year, and parents can attend evening information sessions at that time as well. The application process takes place in December and January, with interviews being held in February. See your counselor for more information.

In order to enroll in college course work as a Dual Enrollment/Early Middle College student, the following rules and expectations apply:

1. The parent(s)/guardian agrees to pay any additional tuition and material fees due to the enrolling institution beyond what the district agrees to pay.
2. The student must maintain a full time schedule between the postsecondary institution and Ross Beatty High School.
3. The student may only withdraw from their postsecondary course(s) during the college withdrawal dates for a full refund. Then the student must enroll in a replacement class at Ross Beatty High School in order to maintain a full time student status.
4. If the student withdraws after the college withdrawal date, the parents(s)/guardian agrees to reimburse the district for all postsecondary fees. The student will then receive a failing grade(s) on their high school transcript.
5. If the student fails the course(s), the parent(s)/guardian agrees to repay the district the tuition fees paid on the student's behalf by the district. The student will receive a failing grade(s) on their high school transcript.

6. If the student fails the post secondary course(s), or fails to complete the post secondary course(s), they may be denied future enrollment into the Dual Enrollment/Early Middle College.

For information regarding transferring credits earned through E/MC to another post-secondary school, please see the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) section below.

Online Courses

Online courses for high school students must be selected at the same time as other course selections, unless assigned as credit recovery or due to a scheduling conflict. Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School works with Edmentum to provide online high school courses which are offered in semester lengths. Students registering for online classes should be self-motivated learners who are proficient at time management and comfortable with computers and the Internet. Please see your counselor for further information.

Testing Out

State Aid Act 380.1279b allows a student to test out of a course on a pass/fail basis. A student can sign up for testing out in the guidance department and will be offered during the summer. State law requires high schools to allow students to test out of courses by exhibiting mastery on the final exam.

Any student interested in testing out should contact the school counselor.

Guidelines for Testing Out:

- Student must receive a C+ or better on a comprehensive course examination (includes semester final tests and portfolio assignments) to fulfill a requirement for graduation or a prerequisite for a course sequence
- A "CR" will be entered on the transcript, instead of a grade, if the student receives a C+ or better on the test both quarterly exams.
- The course will not be computed in the student's GPA.
- Students can only attempt to test out of a specific class one time.

NCAA Approved Core Courses

Not all courses are approved for use in establishing the initial-eligibility certification status of student-athletes. For the most accurate list, visit:**www.eligibilitycenter.org**

Career Pathways

Career Pathways are broad groupings of careers that share similar characteristics and whose employment requirements call for many common interests, strengths, and competencies. Career Pathways provide a useful framework to aid both students and educators in making those meaningful connections to the world of work. Six career pathways have been identified to cover all career opportunities regardless of educational requirements.

Arts and Communications

Careers related to humanities and the performing, visual, literary and media arts.

Business Management, Marketing and Technology

Careers related to all aspects of business including accounting, business administration, finance, information processing and marketing.

Engineering/Manufacturing and Industrial Technology

Careers related to technologies necessary to design, develop, install or maintain systems.

Health Sciences

Careers related to the promotion of health as well as the treatment of injuries and disease.

Human Services

Careers in child care, civil service, education, hospitality and the social services.

Natural Resources and Agri-Science

Careers related to natural resources, agriculture and the environment.

Course Descriptions for 2020-2021

Below are the descriptions of courses available to RBJSHS students. These are not detailed descriptions nor outlines of the courses. Adjustments will be made as needed and will be based on State mandated standards and expectations. When selecting courses, please read this section carefully. Each year, the counselor and teachers work with students in planning their schedules for the following year. The final selection of courses, however, rests with the student and his/her parents. Once choices are made, we cannot guarantee the chance to make changes in the future. Also, some courses listed in this booklet may not eventually be offered because of insufficient enrollments. Be sure to note whether a course has prerequisites that you must take first. It is highly recommended that students earn at last a C- in any prerequisite course. Courses are listed under their departments.

Junior High level courses will be added to this Course Description Guide in April 2020.

High School Level Courses

Art Department

Art 1
(.5 Credit and 1 semester) Grade 9
Art I is an exploratory course. Students will create 2D artworks with a focus on the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Mediums may include ink, graphite, color pencils, paint, and paper. This is a prerequisite course for all other art courses. Students must pass Art One to take other courses.

Ceramics
Prerequisite: Art 1
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 10-12
Students will create and glaze functional and non-functional pieces while fine-tuning their clay building techniques. Works of art will include three hand-building techniques and throwing a vessel on the potter's wheel.

Painting
Prerequisite: Art 1
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 10-12
This course is designed for students who want to increase their skills in painting. Color theory, the elements of art & principles of design, composition, and the artist statement are the foundation for all assignments. Students will learn to paint with tempera, acrylic, and watercolor paints. Each semester includes an art history unit as well.

Drawing
Prerequisite: Art 1
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 10-12
Students will take one and two-point perspective drawing techniques to a higher level and learn how to create the illusion of space and form on a 2D surface. These skills will scaffold into drawing observationally in the second marking period. Materials used are graphite, pencil, and tortillion sticks.

3-Dimensional Art
Prerequisite: Art 1
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 10-12
This class focuses on three-dimensional art assignments that involve building forms. Mediums can include paper mache, polymer clay, found objects, wood, fibers, plaster, wire, and paper. Collaboration is highly encouraged in order to problem-solve construction decisions and aesthetic issues. Students will study and create art inspired by art movements, from past and present.

Painting Public Spaces
Prerequisite: A passing grade of a B or higher in both Art 1 & Painting
(.5 credit and 1 Semester)
This course addresses the embellishment of public spaces within the school district and community. Students will implement skills learned and practiced in Art One and Painting while applying them in real-world opportunities. Through public works of art, students will positively impact beliefs, values, and behaviors of school and community culture.

Business Department

Business Management Technology (CTE COURSE)
(1 credit and 2 semesters) Grades 10-12
This course is a hands-on, computer-oriented course. It is real-life practice to prepare students for the future. The Business Management and Technology Program allows students to explore the variety of career options available. The course is recommended for students who have an interest in business management or business occupation, and for students who are seeking a career with many opportunities for advancement. Must also take Small Business Management in order to complete the CTE program.

Small Business Management (CTE COURSE)
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 11-12
Small Business Management will give students the tools and knowledge needed to become a successful entrepreneur. Students will learn what entrepreneurship is and learn to recognize opportunities for business by understanding business trends. Students will learn how to research and plan an entrepreneurial venture, discover the importance of feasibility and business planning, market analysis, the different types of business ownership, the legal environment, and how to select a business site and plan its layout. From finance, marketing, and risk management, students will learn how to make their business grow and will become aware of the social and ethical responsibilities involved in owning and operating a business.
From basic economics to the global economy, students will learn how both affect business. Students will use the Internet to research and solve a multitude of problems and will discover how information technology is the driving force behind the information age. Must also take Business Management Technology in order to complete the CTE program.

Accounting (CTE COURSE)
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 11-12
This course is designed to create a solid base of practical, applicable accounting knowledge for all students, and a springboard for those who may go on to more extensive accounting studies. Students will learn about accounting concepts and procedures by exploring the real world of business. Accounting fundamentals and problems will be solved through a variety of applications, including business simulations and computer mini practice sets using Peachtree. Students will learn accounting on a system suited for virtually any type of small business.

English Department

American Studies: U.S. History and English 9

(2 Credits and 2 Semesters) Grade 9

This interdisciplinary humanities course integrates a comprehensive academic survey of U.S. History, beginning with the Industrial Revolution to the 21st Century, with ninth grade English. Learners will complete complex and challenging projects that focus on the political, economic, and social events and issues related to the United States development as a world power. Learners will develop language and oral skills through a variety of writing and reading. Their work will include reading short stories, poetry, non-fiction, novels, and drama related to the United States. They will write for a variety of purposes and audiences in traditional forms (personal narrative essay, literary analysis, journaling, poetry, etc.) as well as in 21st-century forms (movies, documentaries, weblogs, digital stories, podcasts, presentations, Google Docs, etc.)

World Studies: World History and English 10

(2 Credits and 2 Semesters) Grade 10

This interdisciplinary humanities course integrates a comprehensive academic survey encompassing global themes of World History/Geography with 10th grade English. In this course, learners will experience challenging projects that focus on imperialism, colonialism, industrialism, global interdependence through trade/exploration, and global conflicts up to current situations. Learners will examine these global concepts and diverse regions of the world through various forms of literature. Learners will write for a variety of purposes and audiences in traditional forms (personal narrative, essay, persuasive writing, literary analysis, journaling, poetry, reflection, etc.) as well as 21st-century forms (movies, documentaries, weblogs, digital stories, podcasts, presentations, Google Docs, etc.).

Agriculture Literature: Agriculture Leadership and English 11 (CTE COURSE)

(2 Credits and 2 Semesters) Grade 11

Leaders in Literature is a year long course that will provide students with a challenging learning environment where they can explore the concepts of science through the lens of English and literature, thus allowing students with an interest in biology the choice to study that subject more comprehensively and link science to other aspects of their core curriculum. The ultimate goal of BioLit is to help students understand how biology and English are not discrete subject areas, but like most core classes, can be intertwined and linked to many real-world applications. Students in BioLit will learn all the concepts covered in traditional biology and English class but in a more comprehensive manner. Students will complete several major research papers, a persuasive research essay and a personal narrative all on concepts of biology.

English 12 Capstone

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 12

This comprehensive course provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate and apply the reading and writing skills that they have acquired over the course of their high school career to a year-long project on a subject of their own choosing. Students will practice editing their own and others' writing, improve reading proficiency, expand vocabulary, gain exposure to notable works, and interpret/respond to fiction and non-fiction orally and in writing. They will also gain skills in doing research, determining reliable sources, including in-text citations, and creating an annotated bibliography. At the completion of their capstone projects, students will reflect on their experience and present their work to members of the public.

AP Literature and Composition
(Prerequisites: test scores, teacher recommendation)
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 10-12
As a study of literature, the A.P. English Literature and Composition course is designed to engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative works. Through the close reading of selected texts, students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's diction, structure, style, and themes, as well as literary devices such as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. The course begins with an intensive study of how to effectively analyze fiction through a deeper understanding of the literary tools authors use.

Public Speaking
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 10-12
The focus of speech is interpersonal communication, ranging from conversational skills to job interviewing, group discussion, public speech, presentations, working with media, developing listening skills, and learning about debate. Students learn to evaluate and develop their speaking and listening skills, as well as learning new methods and skills in research, preparation, and presentation. Additionally, students are introduced to basic researching, argumentation, questioning, and rebuttal skills through a variety and range of debate disciplines. Skill focus includes the development of techniques in diction, articulation, enunciation, and projection.

Theatre Performance
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 10-12
This course introduces students to acting, directing, and stage production. Acting techniques and the development of theatre are explored and practiced through small performances in pairs and larger groups. A variety of plays are read each year to supplement the crafts being studied. The culminating project of the class is the performance of a collection of student directed and produced productions.

Journalism and Digital Media
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 9-12
This course is a survey of all introductory skills and concepts necessary to survive in the field. All students will gain experience in journalistic writing, including the 5-beat system, and will be able to organize and publish, to the masses, current events. Units will include Law and the First Amendment, the beat system, advertising, ethics, digital media literacy, and writing for online publication. With a focus on responsible reporting, researching and writing stories, interviews, filming, editing, and being an onscreen anchor, students will gain hands-on experience by producing a weekly broadcast for the school district. Broadcasts include sports, events, weather, special interest stories, and more.

Film Studies
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 11-12
This course offers an introduction to film and film studies. The student will learn film techniques, such as lighting, camera angles, equipment types and be asked to evaluate the use of these techniques in various film genres Students will learn to "read" a film, and at the end of the course will write their own screenplay for a proposed film. There are numerous opportunities for filming, planning and designing short films for contests and competitions.

Mathematics Department

Pre-Algebra
(1 Credit and 2 semesters) Grade 9
This class will review the basic operations of arithmetic on whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. These operations will be used in dealing with ratio, proportions, percent, simple geometry and algebra. As students master these basic concepts, they will move into basic algebra. Students will be expected to understand basic operations with integers, rational numbers, irrational, and real numbers; the use of variables; properties of numbers and of equality; solving equations and inequalities; problem-solving; relations and functions; and polynomials.

Algebra 1
(1 Credit and 2 semesters) Grade 9
Algebra I is the foundation for the study of high-level mathematics courses. It develops thinking and reasoning skills while exploring the concepts of variables, simplifying and evaluating expressions, solving equations and inequalities, and problem-solving. Also included may be an introduction to basic statistics. Solid arithmetic skills are a necessity for success.

Geometry
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grade 10
This course is the study of geometric figures and their properties and relations. It is designed to acquaint students with facts about plane figures (such as triangles, line planes, squares, rectangles, rhombuses, parallelograms, perpendicular lines, parallel lines, circles, and spheres), and their applications. This course is important for developing reasoning and basic skills.

Algebra 2
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 11-12
Algebra II is a continuation of first-year algebra. Some of the topics covered include real numbers, equations, inequalities, graphs, functions, polynomials, factoring, rational functions, exponential functions, and logarithmic functions. This class is designed for the serious-minded mathematics student working toward a career in a math-intensive area.

Pre-Calculus
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 11-12
This course includes Analysis of linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions as they apply to calculus. Other topics include the system of equations and conics. Also angles, radian measure, right triangle trigonometry, graphs, inverse trigonometric functions, trigonometric equations, verifying identities, and laws of sine and cosine.

Personal Finance
(1 Credit and 2 semesters) Grade 11-12
This course is designed to help students understand the impact of individual choices on occupational goals and future earnings potential.

Music Department

Senior High Band
Prerequisites: Junior High Band (OR qualifying musical experience at the discretion of director) AND July Marching Band Camp (OR qualifying equivalence at discretion of director)
(1 Credit and 2 semesters) Grades 9-12

1st Semester: Intensive Marching Band Season beginning with July Band Camp, Home Football Games, and local performances. In November, ensemble makes full transition into Concert Band Season to prepare for Winter Holiday Concert in December.
2nd Semester: Concert Band focused performance cycle with emphasis on MSBOA Concert Festival, Solo and Ensemble participation, Spring Concert, and community outreach performances.

Through involvement with the Ranger Marching and Concert Bands, students will develop essential life-skills through the practice and performance of music in an ensemble setting. The band will perform three major concert cycles, complete with evaluated chair auditions, rehearsal clinics, and live performances. Students will ultimately discover a critical ear to determine the quality of musical compositions in varying styles.

*Marching and Concert Performances occur periodically during BOTH semesters. To keep instrumentation/participation consistent, students will not be permitted to "skip" the Fall or Spring semester. Attendance at all performances is required.

Jazz Band
Prerequisite: Membership in the band program (OR qualifying experience at the discretion of the director)
(1 Credit and 2 semesters) Grades 9-12
Jazz Band is an elective open to students 9-12, who are already enrolled in Band. (See Prerequisite) The class may be repeated. The Jazz Band may consist of varying instrumentation, depending on the needs of the ensemble. Students will study the many facets of Jazz including improvisation and chord/theory study. Varying styles including Blues, Latin, Rock, and Swing will all be studied and performed. Attendance at all performances is required.

Physical Education Department

Physical Education
(.5 Credit and 1 semester) Grade 9-12
This course provides the opportunity for individual or group reaction in situations that are physical, wholesome, mentally stimulating, satisfying and socially sound. There will be development of physical fitness, motor skills, mental alertness and development of neuromuscular activities. Learning consists of a broad view of physical activities in the form of team sports, individual sports, and leisure-time activities. Basic fundamental rules, skills, and fitness are taught throughout the program.

Health
(.5 Credit and 1 semester) Grades 10-12
This required course emphasizes a positive approach to personal health. Students explore their own health behavior and what constitutes good health and responsible decision-making. Topics covered in the course include

mental and emotional health, stress management, nutrition and fitness, substance abuse, disease, the human life cycle, STD's and AIDS.

Weight Training
Prerequisite: Physical Education or permission of instructor
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 10-12
This course is designed to target our student-athletes and help develop their muscular strength, muscular endurance and overall level of fitness. Students will perform various strength-training exercises in the weight room to improve their speed, power, and explosiveness. Workouts will be sport specific, designed to focus on the student's most desired sport.

Advanced Weight Training
Prerequisite: Weight Training or permission of instructor
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 10-12
This course is designed to target our student-athletes and help develop their muscular strength, explosiveness, and endurance. Students will perform various strength training exercises with a focus on power-lifting to improve speed, power, and overall muscle development. Workouts will be challenging, with a heavy focus on technique and execution.

Science Department

9th grade students will take one of the following courses including Biology:

Bio/Health: Biology and Health
(2 Credits and 2 Semesters) Grade 9
Through the use of inquiry based laboratory activities, projects and technology; students will be educated about the science of nutrition so that they are able to make healthy lifestyle choices at every stage of life. This course will focus on the study of the chemical and biological impact of food on the human body, offer students an opportunity to complete food labs that compare food nutrients, investigate current health trends/issues being researched or in the news, and learn everyday habits that contribute to sound health and nutrition.

Bio/Chem: Biology and Chemistry
(2 Credits and 2 Semesters) Grade 9
This course integrates biology and chemistry curriculum that is traditionally taught separately. In this course, learners will solve challenging real-world problems that demonstrate an understanding of how abiotic matter (atoms, molecules, elements) interacts with and affects biotic matter (living organisms and the environment). Specific concepts that are covered include the scientific process, periodic table, atom & molecular structures, chemical bonds, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, cells, DNA, homeostasis, evolution, genetics, ecology, as well as additional scientific concepts necessary for future success.

Earth Physics
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 10-12
This course is designed to meet the various requirements for an introductory Physics and Earth science class and to meet the corresponding, essential Next Generation Science Standards. The purpose of the class is to expose students to the four fundamental concepts of physics - Newton's classical laws of motion, electromagnetism, general relativity, and thermodynamics and how these fundamental concepts apply to the natural world (earth's

systems, weather and climate, oceanography, astronomy) and space. Areas covered include: motion, force (vector and scalar quantities for example), energy, work, entropy, waves, and light. Also, a brief overview of quantum mechanics will be discussed. The class will include basic lab investigations as well as scientific research and writing.

Chemistry 2
Prerequisite: Chemistry or Physical Science
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 11-12
This course will cover content in kinetics, thermochemistry, atomic structure, periodic table and chemical bonding that stresses the structure/property relationships inherent in chemical systems. Students will use observations, experiments, hypotheses, models, theories and technology to explore how matter behaves. There will be multiple opportunities for students to apply these ideas in developing experiments and discover explanations to authentic real life phenomena.

Physics 2
Prerequisite: Physics or Physical Science
(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grades 11-12
This course explores the physical world through observations, theoretical work, laboratory experiences and real-world engineering projects. Topics of study include sound, electricity and magnetism, and electromagnetic energy (light). Students will have several opportunities to describe real-world phenomena through the studied physical laws of nature.

Genetics
Prerequisite: Biology or Bio/Chem
(.5 Credits and 1 Semester) Grades 10-12
This course is designed to expand on the genetics knowledge that students learned in 9th grade. There is a C+ or better in Bio/Chem prereq. The course will cover mendelian genetics, cloning, DNA structure and inherited diseases.

Agriculture Technology (CTE COURSE)
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 10-12
Throughout this course, students will solve challenging real-world agricultural problems. Students will develop an understanding of the agricultural industry and issues that will impact our future by focusing on the biological processes of life. Students will investigate biological concepts including the chemical basis of life, cell structure and function, metabolism, reproduction, genetics, biological diversity and classification, plant structure and function, animal structure and function and ecology. In addition, students will be exposed to careers and opportunities in the agricultural industry.

Animal Science (CTE COURSE)
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 10-12
This course is focused on understanding the development and health of livestock. The course was designed for 10th to 12th grade students. Students will gain hands on and job shadowing experience with local vets in the area. Students may earn a certification through Elanco in this course.

Vet Science (CTE COURSE)
Prerequisite: Animal Science
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 11-12
This course is focused on understanding the development and health of livestock. The course was designed for 10th to 12th grade students. Students will gain hands on and job shadowing experience with local vets in the area. Students may earn a certification through Elanco in this course.

Agriculture Literature: Agriculture Leadership and English 11 (CTE COURSE)
(2 Credits and 2 Semesters) Grade 11
Leaders in Literature is a year long course that will provide students with a challenging learning environment where they can explore the concepts of science through the lens of English and literature, thus allowing students with an interest in biology the choice to study that subject more comprehensively and link science to other aspects of their core curriculum. The ultimate goal of BioLit is to help students understand how biology and English are not discrete subject areas, but like most core classes, can be intertwined and linked to many real-world applications. Students in BioLit will learn all the concepts covered in traditional biology and English class but in a more comprehensive manner. Students will complete several major research papers, a persuasive research essay and a personal narrative all on concepts of biology.

Social Studies Department

American Studies: U.S. History and English 9
(2 Credits and 2 Semesters) Grade 9
This interdisciplinary humanities course integrates a comprehensive academic survey of U.S. History, beginning with the Industrial Revolution to the 21st Century, with ninth grade English.. Learners will complete complex and challenging projects that focus on the political, economic, and social events and issues related to the United States development as a world power. Learners will develop language and oral skills through a variety of writing and reading. Their work will include reading short stories, poetry, non-fiction, novels, and drama related to the United States. They will write for a variety of purposes and audiences in traditional forms (personal narrative, essay, literary analysis, journaling, poetry, etc.) as well as in 21st-century forms (movies, documentaries, weblogs, digital stories, podcasts, presentations, Google Docs, etc.)

World Studies: World History and English 10
(2 Credits and 2 Semesters) Grade 10
This interdisciplinary humanities course integrates a comprehensive academic survey encompassing global themes of World History/Geography with 10th grade English. In this course, learners will experience challenging projects that focus on imperialism, colonialism, industrialism, global interdependence through trade/exploration, and global conflicts up to current situations. Learners will examine these global concepts and diverse regions of the world through various forms of literature. Learners will write for a variety of purposes and audiences in traditional forms (personal narrative, essay, persuasive writing, literary analysis, journaling, poetry, reflection, etc.) as well as 21st-century forms (movies, documentaries, weblogs, digital stories, podcasts, presentations, Google Docs, etc.).

Civics/Economics
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grades 11-12
Civics provides students with a basic understanding of the history and development of the United States Government from colonization to its current form. Students will learn about the factors that lead to independence,

the creation of a new government, and the ideas behind the founding documents of this country. Students will also examine elements related to each of the three branches of government, as the ideas behind the founding documents of this country.

Economics is the social studies course that examines the allocation of scarce resources and their alternative uses for satisfying human wants and needs. This course analyzes the economic reasoning used as consumers, producers, savers, investors, workers, voters, and government agencies make decisions. Key elements of the course include a study of scarcity and economic reasoning, supply and demand, market structures, the role of government, money and the role of financial institutions, economic stabilization, trade, and personal finance basis.

Psychology

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grade 10-12

An introductory course in the study of individual human behavior. Topics to be covered include biology and behavior, psychological approaches, experimental psychology, stages of consciousness and learning, developmental psychology, and abnormal psychology.

Political & Social History through Music

(.5 Credit and 1 Semester) Grade 10-12

Students will learn about political and social history through various musical genres including musical theater, historical and modern billboard chart songs, etc. Students will analyze the historical context surrounding the music, as well as the social impact of the music. In addition, students will constantly make connections to today's culture and develop an understanding of the importance influence that music can have on a society.

World Language Department

French 1

(1 Credit and 2 semesters) Grade 9

This course provides an introduction to the French language and the culture of the countries where it is spoken. The students are presented with language models and are drilled on basic pronunciation, intonation, and sentence patterns of the target language. They are also taught to read and comprehend the written form of the target language. The students study various cultural and geographical materials in order to broaden their reality in other parts of the world as well as in many areas of the U.S.

French 2

(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grade 10

This course is designed to increase the student's vocabulary, facility in oral expression, reading ability, and general comprehension. It also provides a much more complete study of French grammatical structure. Successful completion of the second year will give the student a solid foundation for advanced study of the language.

Spanish 1

(1 Credit and 2 semesters) Grade 9

This course provides an introduction to the Spanish language and the culture of the countries where it is spoken. The students are presented with language models and are drilled on basic pronunciation, intonation, and sentence patterns of the target language. They are also taught to read and comprehend the written form of the target

language. The students study various cultural and geographical materials in order to broaden their reality in other parts of the world as well as in many areas of the U.S.

Spanish 2
(1 Credit and 2 Semesters) Grade 10
This course is designed to increase the student's vocabulary, facility in oral expression, reading ability, and general comprehension. It also provides a much more complete study of Spanish grammatical structure. Successful completion of the second year will give the student a solid foundation for advanced study of the language.

Miscellaneous Courses

WIN (What I Need Time)
(.5-1 Credit) Grades 9-12
This class is intended to help students build on strategies for studying for other classes, organizing their work, and being independent learners. Students are placed in this course based on their need to focus on foundational skills.

Work-Based Learning
(1-3 Credits and 1 or 2 Semesters) Grades 9-12
Work-Based Learning is a program to provide students with a planned program of job training and other employment experiences related to a chosen career. There are six major recognized types of work-based learning experiences for secondary students in Michigan, as well as an additional school-related component, regarding the employment of minors as follows:

- Student/visitor
- Volunteer
- Work-based learning non-CTE programs (paid and unpaid student learner),
- Work-based learning state-approved CTE programs (paid and unpaid student learner),
- In-district/in-school placement (unpaid student learner)
- Minor employee with a work permit

Depending on the type of learning experience, the pupil might be engaged for one hour, one day, one semester, or even one year in length. The learning experience may be paid or unpaid, serves all students, and can be an in-school or out-of-school placement. See the counselor for more information and requirements.

Berrien County Mathematics & Science Center

Students who take Algebra 1 in 8th grade can apply for admission to the Berrien County Mathematics & Science Center for grade 9. The Center also often has a few seats available for qualified students beginning in 10th or 11th grade. Applications for the 2019-20 school year are due March 6, 2020. You can get more information on their website: Berrien RESA Mathematics & Science Center.

Dual Enrollment

See the Dual Enrollment section on page 11 above for more specific information about the Dual Enrollment process. Students can choose to take one, two, three or four courses per semester as dual enrollment. When selecting this option in PowerSchool, students will choose based on the number they plan to take per semester.

Early/Middle College

See the Early/Middle College section on page 13 above for more specific information about the Early/Middle College program process.

Lewis-Cass ISD Career Academies

Career Academies are a partnership between Lewis Cass ISD, Southwestern Michigan College, the four local districts (Cassopolis, Dowagiac, Edwardsburg, and Marcellus) and other interested districts. The academies provide 11th and 12th grade students an opportunity to earn college credit in a planned program of study while still in high school. Academy students attend classes on the campus of Southwestern Michigan College. Tuition and fees for academy classes are paid by the local high school. If interested in any career academy students should contact their high school counselor. Students must meet eligibility requirements of both the local high school and Southwestern Michigan College. For information regarding transferring Career Academy credits to another post-secondary school, please see the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) section below.

Automotive Technology
The program prepares students for employment as an automotive service technician in various settings such as automobile dealerships, independent service facilities, franchised repair facilities and specialty shops.

Business
Business, management, and administrative workers give the support needed to make a business run. The academy introduces students to several areas in the Business field. The academy emphasizes an exploration of careers in business, including job shadowing experience in several areas of business.

Construction Trades/Green Technology
This program prepares students with both the theoretical and applied knowledge necessary to gain successful employment in the construction industry. Students will also develop a solid foundation in "green" technologies and practices related to construction. The curriculum is aligned with national competency standards and trade specific skills. Students in this program will develop the understanding and skills to build, inspect and repair structures.

Criminal Justice
This academy is part of the Human Services pathway and prepares students to study the theories and principles of correctional science, organization management, and criminal justice.
Education/Early Childhood Education – This academy provides students with the foundation classes needed for careers in education. This academy also explores careers in the education field with a significant part of the course job shadowing in educational settings.

Graphic Design
Graphic Artists create artwork to illustrate or promote products, services and ideas, as well as to improve appearance or attract attention. They plan, design and draw illustrations for displays, billboards, brochures, catalogs, books, magazines, newspapers, TV, the internet and packaging. This academy gives students a foundation for continuing their education in careers in the design and graphic arts field.

Health
As a physician, dentist, or nurse, you could work directly with patients. You could also work in a laboratory to get information used in research or provide administrative support by keeping medical records. This academy is designed to provide students with the fundamental classes to continue in a career in the Health field. The academy also emphasizes an exploration of careers in the health field, including significant job shadowing experience.

Mechatronics Technology
Students are introduced to the emerging discipline of Mechatronics, which integrates electrical, mechanical, and computer systems, robotics, and programmable logic controllers and provides the graduate with the knowledge and skills required in today's manufacturing environment.

Sports Management
Sports Management is a part of the Business pathway to a degree specialized for managing sports and recreation related operations. It encompasses a variety of applications within the growing field of sports and recreation.

Welding Technology
This academy provides students with knowledge and practice in several areas of welding. Welding is the process of combining materials (usually metal) using high heat. It may also involve patching metal, plastic, glass, or other materials. Welding is used in nearly every manufacturing industry from shipbuilding and construction to pipelines, oil rigs, and automotive.

Van Buren Tech Courses

3 Credits (11-12)

Van Buren Tech's CTE programs provide a multi-faceted training experience, utilizing high-tech equipment and training, in combination with project and work-based learning, to assist students as they explore career options, prepare for college, and develop skills for the workplace. Students can leave the Van Buren Tech with up to 60 college credits, a state or national license/certification, and advanced skills that employers are looking for! Each year, over 1,000 high school juniors and seniors from 15 partnering school districts throughout southwest Michigan, choose to attend the Van Buren Tech for a portion of their school day. The flexibility in program offerings at VBTC allows students to maintain their affiliation with their "home school," while pursuing opportunities to work with educational and technical resources that would otherwise be unavailable. Programs at Van Buren Tech include the following:

Advanced Manufacturing
Study the operation of metal-working equipment. Develop skills from basic cutting to state-of-the-art computerized numerical machines (CNC). Previously known as Machine Tool, this program combines high-tech machines with hands-on projects. Students are engaged with brainstorming, engineering, machining and robotics. Work on Vertical Milling Machines and Engine Lathes, along with 3-axis Computer Numeric Controlled Milling and Lathe Machines. Build a foundation of manufacturing skills that will help you gain an engineering background or enter an apprenticeship. Also, learn skills in Master Computer Aided Machining software and programming. Through the Tooling University online curriculum, students can work toward National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS) certification. College credit is also available to qualifying students.

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Learn and develop the leadership and teamwork skills necessary in the industry today. Students can test their skills in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) youth organization, plus help plan and implement

community-based projects. First-year students will learn about different aspects of plant science, animal science, and natural resource concepts. Second-year curriculum includes learning concepts related to floral design, veterinary science, production agriculture, landscape management, wildlife management, and much more!

Allied Health Technologies
In this program, you will be introduced to a variety of careers in health care including careers as a Physician, Nurse, Physical, Occupational, and Respiratory Therapist, Kinesiologist, Psychologist, and Radiologist. This program also introduces students to a variety of fields of study in: Dentistry, Optometry, Audiology, Sports Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Massage Therapy, and Chiropractic Medicine.

Students engage in many hands-on "clinical" skills, acquire academic knowledge in areas such as: medical terminology, anatomy and physiology, and core health care foundations. Students will also participate in job shadow experiences further allowing them to explore their career options.

Participating students may earn certifications in First Aid, CPR, Phlebotomy, and as a Certified Medical Assistant

Auto Body Technician
In this ASE and NATEF certified program, students will focus on repairing and refinishing vehicle exteriors. This program emphasizes training in surface preparation, sheet metal alignment, and repair, removing and replacing parts, finishing techniques, and customer service. Students gain knowledge and skills in estimating, welding, and painting.

Auto B-E-S
Learn about automobile engine construction, brakes technology, steering and suspension designs, from the textbook and lab. In our state-of-the-art auto shop, students work as a team with real customers' vehicles to troubleshoot and repair problems. Students who successfully complete the program may be eligible to take the State of Michigan Auto Mechanic Certification exams. Students who would be successful in this program like to work with their hands, fix things, solve problems, work with tools, work on a team, work on cars and trucks and understand more about automobiles.

Auto E-E-P
In the automotive EEP (Electrical and Engine Performance) program students learn to diagnose and repair the following systems: automotive electric, starting, charging, lighting, audio, safety restraints, and computer systems along with basic hybrid maintenance for the first semester. During the second semester students will learn to diagnose and repair the following systems: ignition, fuel injection, emissions engine management, intake and exhaust, and onboard not diagnostic systems, along with basic alternative fuel systems. students also have the opportunity to take the Michigan State Certification test and upon successful completion of those tests, students are eligible to work in a licensed repair facility. Students who successfully complete the automotive EEP program will have obtained skills valuable to finding a job as an automotive technician.

Cadet Teacher Academy
Students receive face-to-face classroom instruction two days per week to learn beginning teaching skills/methodology. Three days per week, students work with a mentor teacher, gaining classroom experience, first by observing, then advancing to actual lesson development and delivery. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the "Family, Career and Community Leaders of America" (FCCLA) student organization. An enrollment packet is also required for the Cadet Teacher Academy, which includes field placement information.

Students may also qualify to receive their "Proficiency Certificate for Teacher Assistants" and/or Career Readiness Certificate. This would allow students to be qualified as a Classroom Paraprofessional upon graduation from high school. Participation in an orientation before the start of the school year is also required. Students in this program should enjoy working with children and be creative. Skills that would assist in the success of this program would be effective communication, compassion, flexibility, and self-motivation/management. This program provides the opportunity to work with the public and give back to the community.

Commercial Design

Here at The Exchange Company, the work we do is used to sell, promote, explain, narrate and inform those around us. As a commercial artist, you'll plan, analyze, and create visual solutions to communications problems using a variety of methods such as color, type, illustration, photography, animation, and various print and layout techniques. You will develop the foundations in commercial art and explore a variety of art techniques, both traditional and digital. Some future career choices include graphic designer, illustrator, art director, animator, advertising design, book design, web page designer, and more!

Construction Trades

Students will learn and apply the concepts of plumb, level, and square through practical on-site applications. Emphasis is placed on "hands-on" learning and correcting mistakes. Construction areas covered in this program include safety, hand and power tool operations, masonry skills, framing, roofing, siding, drywall hanging, and finishing, door/trim applications, and estimating. Students will also gain knowledge in electrical, cabinet making and more. In both the on-site and off-site programs, students will construct a residential home.

Cosmetology

This program can be a gateway to an exciting, fast-paced, ever-changing career for our students- opening the door to many opportunities. In this three-year, 1500 hour program, students are taught all aspects of hair, skin, and nails. This environment is very hands-on, where students learn manicures, pedicures, facials, hair cutting, hair coloring, waxing, hairstyling, scalp massages and more. After proper training and the appropriate amount of hours, students are able to perform services on clients, on our salon floor. When completing this program, students are extremely prepared for the State Licensure exams and have acquired on-the-job training, salon management skills, the ability to work well with others, and a life-long career.

Culinary Arts and Catering Management

The Culinary Arts and Catering Management program, which is recognized by the Culinary Institute of America and is a member of the Michigan Restaurant Association, includes segments from a variety of related industries. Students develop skills through field trips, banquets, on-and-off-site food service events, textbook/workbook activities, hands-on cooking, and culinary/cooking. Qualifying students can earn college credit and industry certifications. ServSafe, a nationally recognized sanitation certification, is a hospitality services industry requirement. Students who successfully complete ProStart Levels I and II are issued a certificate from the National Restaurant Association.

Cyber Security and Computer Network Technology

Cyber Security is a 75 billion dollar industry and is expected to grow to 170 billion dollars by 2020, with millions of high paying jobs unfilled. Our program at VBTC teaches you the skills needed to be successful in this industry. We start with computer and network hardware and software, including personal computers, tablets, phones, Windows, Linux, Android, routers, switches, wireless access points, cabling, servers and dozens of other types of electronic equipment. The second-year is advanced studies and certifications in local area networks, wide area

networks and network security. As a part of the program, all students will complete internships at their local school districts and we also have up to 24 credit hours of direct college credit through Davenport University. In addition, students are encouraged to earn industry certifications. Anyone can do it. It just takes self-motivation, a good work ethic and time management.

Early Childhood Careers and Education

Students who enjoy working with children of all ages will learn about children's emotional, physical, social, and cognitive development, as well as appropriate learning activities for each child's age level. Get hands-on experience working with children in a preschool lab and in other classroom settings. Students will also learn about working with at-risk children, and children with developmental disabilities. students can participate in our student organization, "Family, Career and Community Leaders of America" (FCCLA) where they have the opportunity to organize and facilitate dynamic Community Service projects and events. Students may qualify for their ETS ParaProfessional Certification upon completion of the program. Students who are interested in this program enjoy working with children at all age levels, being part of a team and completing hands-on projects and field experience.

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

Learn immediate medical care techniques for the critically ill/injured person, including Airway Management, CPR, AED Auto Rescue/Extrication, and Emergency Childbirth. Certification in Medical First Responder or Emergency Medical Technician is available for students who successfully complete the program and pass the state exams. Students in this program must desire to be on a trained medical team that uses state-of-the-art communications, the latest life-saving pre-hospital care equipment and staff ambulances that are like mobile emergency rooms. The ability to maintain composure under the stress of a life-threatening emergency and quick responses are skills that will help a student to be successful in this program.

Engineering and Agricultural Design

Learn immediate medical care techniques for the critically ill/injured person, including Airway Management, CPR, AED Auto Rescue/Extrication, and Emergency Childbirth. Certification in Medical First Responder or Emergency Medical Technician is available for students who successfully complete the program and pass the state exams. Students in this program must desire to be on a trained medical team that uses state-of-the-art communications, the latest life-saving pre-hospital care equipment and staff ambulances that are like mobile emergency rooms. The ability to maintain composure under the stress of a life-threatening emergency and quick responses are skills that will help a student to be successful in this program.

Fire Science

This program is a State of Michigan approved Firefighter 1 & 2 academies. Students will learn how to work as a team, exercise leadership, and serve their communities. Cadets will focus on the principles of life safety, incident stabilization, and property conservation. Students who are least 16 and pass the class with a 75% or higher will be eligible to take the Michigan Firefighter 1 & 2 Hazardous Materials Operations exam for state certification. This program is not for the faint of heart. Cadets will be expected to perform at the adult and professional level.

Fundamentals of Patient Care

The patient care program is an excellent opportunity for students interested in any career in healthcare. Specifically, the patient care program focuses on nursing and preparing students to pursue a Michigan certified nursing association (CAN) license. Classroom instruction is divided between lecture and Hands-On learning. This program provides a solid foundation in the basics of medical terminology, anatomy, physiology, and medical

math. Students can become certified through the American heart association in CPR and first aid. Students interested in this program should have an interest in the healthcare field as well as enjoy working with people of all ages, cultures, and backgrounds. Success in this program would include the ability to work on a team, good communication skills and most importantly, having care and compassion towards people.

Law Enforcement

In this course, you will learn about basic policies and procedures of the legal system, study juvenile delinquency problems and theories, and become more familiar with the work of youth agencies, legislative involvement, and new approaches to juvenile crime prevention. Classroom participation, job shadows, and field trips are included. Qualifying first-year students can earn six credits from Lake Michigan College (LMC). Second-year students are placed in an intern program. An application process, including background check, are required for this program. Students who are interested in this program enjoy hands-on activities, learning from actual police officers, collecting evidence and working as part of a team.

Marketing/Entrepreneurship

Learn and apply marketing skills that allow you to be successful in today's highly competitive business world. Units include management and communication skills, sales, visual merchandising, job interviewing, product planning, podcasting, marketing research, and advertising. This course will also teach you how to research a business idea, write a business plan, and start your own business. Participation and competition in the national Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) student organization is encouraged for all students. Good verbal and written communication skills, time management, and the ability to work with others are qualities that will help a student succeed in this program.

Medical Biotechnology

This program focuses on various techniques that are used in the medical biotechnology industry to modify living organisms, to create new medicines or processes in the field of medicine. In this program, students learn how to conduct experiments, collect and process data, and interpret and communicate results. Students will use microscopes, centrifuges, pipettes, and electrophoresis equipment while learning critical lab skills, and gaining insight into biotechnology career fields. Students in this program will also complete Project Lead the Way's (PLTW) Medical Interventions (MI) course, where they will investigate how to prevent, diagnose, and treat disease.

Pharmacy Technician

Pharmacy Technicians help pharmacists provide medication and other health care products to patients. This college-level program prepares students to work in a pharmacy/hospital setting through classroom study and hands-on learning. Students will learn about pharmacy law and ethics, medical terminology, anatomy and physiology, pharmaceutical terminology and abbreviations, infection control procedures, pharmaceutical prescription preparation and dispensing procedures, pharmacy computer applications, insurance procedures, drug research, and patient/customer relations. Students in this program should have good memorization skills, be detail oriented, follow directions well, enjoy multitasking, work well under pressure and be good at problem-solving. This program requires you to work with people and accept responsibility.

Polymer Technologies

Students in this program will receive hands-on training with computers, CAD and design software, laser engraving equipment, hand tools, large machinery and measuring equipment (calipers, micrometers). Students

need to be creative and problem-solving abilities, as well as be comfortable working one-on-one with customers in the industry.

Print Media Technologies
Welcome to the Print Media Technologies program. Printing is all around us and influences our world in many ways. If you are interested in learning about the creative industry of printing and imaging, this program is for you! In this program, we take ideas from concept to printed product. We focus on learning how to print on almost any surface, using the latest imaging technology and production methods. Imagine wrapping a car in graphics, or creating a new design trend for all types of apparel and items, like t-shirts and skateboards. This class will push your creativity to new levels as we take design and graphics beyond two dimensions. As part of the Print Media Technologies class, you will be challenged to think differently, risk bravely and explore the vast world of printing by working on real projects with real clients. Print Media is all about developing tomorrow's imaging professionals, in every aspect, to reach success in both career and life.

Software Engineering
This course provides the opportunity to learn many different software languages and developmental tools, such as C++, C#, Java, Python, HTML5, Visual Studio, NetBeans, etc.while developing several projects. The projects can come from a wide range of applications, including web applications, computer graphics and image processing, scientific modeling, databases, games, embedded systems, computer vision, artificial intelligence and/or robotics.

Welding
Learn how to safely use the various welding equipment and do strong, professional looking welds. Apply your knowledge of various types of welds in a high-tech welding lab. Work independently while learning precise measurements and angles, and a variety of welding processes including Gas Metal Arc Welding, Gas Tungsten Arc Welding, Shielded Metal Arc Welding, Flux Core Arc Welding, Resistance Welding, and more! Students will receive hands-on training in different welding processes, working with large industrial machinery, cutting metal with fire, joining pieces of metal together with electricity, hand tools and bending/manipulating metal. Students should be comfortable working one-on-one with special customer projects.

MSU credits via high school Agriscience Program

An agreement between Michigan State University (MSU) and the Michigan Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education will allow high school students to earn college credits while they're still in high school. Students who complete a state-approved agriculture, food and natural resources education program and receive the State FFA Degree can receive six credits toward a bachelor's degree or undergraduate certificate program at MSU.

The credits will apply to the total number required for graduation and may be used to meet the requirements of the student's program at MSU, pending approval of the major department. The credits cannot be used to fulfill general education requirements such as math and English.

1. To be completers in the Agriscience program at Cassopolis students must complete the following sequences of courses:
   Agriculture Biology or Agriculture Literature
   Veterinary Science
2. To obtain the State FFA Degree students must:

- Complete the State FFA Degree Application and submit it by the deadline (usually early January)
- Be a senior student in the Agriscience Program and have actively participated in the FFA
- Maintain a satisfactory record of scholarship throughout high school (recommended 2.5/4.0 or higher)
- Participate in at least 5 FFA activities above the chapter level
    - Examples could include the following: District Leadership Contests, Regional Leadership Contests, Broiler Contest, Regional Leadership Camp, State Convention, National Convention, Farm Day, Green and White Swine Show, Ag Skills Contest
- Has completed a minimum of 25 hours of community service during their high school career Maintains a Supervised Agriculture Experience Project and has earned a minimum of $2000 or worked 500 hours on the project while they are enrolled in the Agriscience Program
    - Examples of ways to attain the hours or money could include the following: raise livestock at home, engage in the production of agricultural products, work in an agriculturally related job

The FFA State Degree Application is submitted to Michigan FFA Association by the local chapter Advisors. The application receives final approval by the Michigan FFA State Executive Secretary. The FFA State Degree is awarded annually at the FFA State Convention in March.

Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)

Southwestern Michigan College and Lake Michigan College

The Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) is designed to facilitate the transfer of general education requirements between participating Michigan institutions. The agreement provides for the transferability of a block of core requirements. Students are encouraged to complete the MTA as a part of an associate degree, but may achieve the distinction without completing a degree. At SMC, most Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees facilitate the completion of the MTA requirements. Some Associate in Applied Science degrees at SMC also facilitate the completion of the MTA, but many more do not because the A.A.S. curriculum, by design, is more focused on helping students move toward employment opportunities rather than transferability.

To secure the MTA stamp of approval from SMC, students must: complete a minimum of 30 MTA approved credit hours in conjunction with a degree, achieve a minimum grade of "C" for each approved course, and earn at least one credit bearing course at SMC. Students cannot use CLEP Exam scores to fulfill MTA requirements. The specific courses that meet MTA standards for the 2019-2020 academic year are listed below. Consult your advisor for changes or specific details.