

A MESSAGE TO EIGHTH GRADERS AND THEIR PARENTS

Planning your high school program is an important step in your life. The decisions you make now will have a lasting effect on your future. Please discuss these plans with your parents and school counselor. If you have not already done so, now is the time to take challenging courses.

All ninth graders at Minisink Valley High School are required to take six and one half classes each semester. The requirements include

1. English
2. Global Studies
3. Math
4. Science
5. Foreign Language
6. Art or Music
7. Physical Education

If you are interested in one of the BOCES VOTECH programs, you will be given information about them when you are in tenth grade. BOCES courses are usually for juniors and seniors. (You must be 16 yrs. old)

Your school counselor will discuss future goals individually every year at scheduling time. The ninth grade is the time for a new beginning and a fresh start. We would like it to be an educationally exciting and successful experience for you. The teachers, school counselors, administrators and staff are here to help you achieve throughout your high school career. If you have any questions please call the high school counseling center at 355-5161.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Hauck, Principal
and
Your School Counselors,
Loretta Bogdanski
Brian Golden
Matthew Caputo
Brian Rosenberger
Christine Thomas

DEFINITIONS

The terms defined here are used in various parts of this booklet. It would be helpful to read them before reading the course descriptions.

Prerequisites are subjects, which are required as background for some advanced subjects. For example you must have successfully completed Spanish 1 before taking Spanish 2.

An elective is a subject, which may be chosen by a pupil in addition to the required courses. It is a course the student wants to take but does not have to take.

A unit of credit is earned by successfully completing course requirements in a high school subject, which is taken every day for the entire school year.

A half unit of credit is the credit given for successful completion of a high school subject taken every day for half a year or every other day for the full year.

Regents examinations are state achievement tests based on topics completed in a particular high school subject.

Occupational Education – all programs of instruction in Business, Family and Consumer Science, Technology and Vo-Tech

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Course	Credit
English	4
Social Studies	4
Math	3
Science	3
Foreign Language	1
Health	½
Art/Music	1
Electives	3½
Phys. Ed	2 credits
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Minimum Credits	22

The following courses meet the 1 unit Art/Music Requirement:

1. Music in our Lives I & II
2. Art I - Studio in Art
3. One year of music performance - Band or Choir (2 years of Jazz Ensemble)
4. Design and Drawing for Production I

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SEQUENCE REQUIREMENTS For Advanced Regents Diploma

One three-unit sequence in a language other than English. Students who pursue a 5-unit sequence in Art, Music or Occupational Education may be exempt from the second language requirement.

TAKING REGENTS/STATE EXAMS

A student may be allowed to take a Regents/State exam in June, August, or January for the following reasons:

1. As the final examination in a Regents level course.
2. Failure of an initial Regents exam and student desires additional chance to acquire Regents credit.
3. To raise his or her previous Regents/State exam grade (within 11 months). The final average for the course will not be recalculated.
4. Student enters Minisink Valley from another state and must meet certain test requirements for Regents or Advanced Regents diploma (having completed their course work at another school).
5. Under certain conditions, a student may be admitted to a Regents/State exam if he or she was not enrolled in the course (Course Challenge).

REQUIRED REGENTS EXAMS

Students are required to take and pass (with a 65) the following Regents/State exams in order to qualify for a NYS diploma.

Year entering Grade 9	Required exams
September 2008 and beyond	English, Math, Global Studies, US History & Gov't, Science

COURSE LOAD

All students in grades 9-11 are required to be enrolled in 6 classes plus physical education each semester of each school year. Grade 12 students must be enrolled in 5 classes plus physical education. (Being a student intern does not count as one of these required classes.)

SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY

Since you have the opportunity and responsibility to fully discuss your course selection with your school counselor, and have the opportunity to make changes in your schedule from March through August, the following policy is in effect:

An academic penalty, which is a grade of 50 (Drop/Failure (D/F)), will be imposed upon any student withdrawing from a course after school reopens in September.

If a student is removed from a full-year course with a Drop/Failure before the end of the first semester, he/she will NOT be permitted to repeat the course in summer school.

HONORS COURSES

Honors courses are offered in several areas of the high school program at Minisink Valley High School. To be considered for these programs, students must complete the honors challenge agreement, which may include a recommendation by the current teacher, the class average in the current course, scores on standardized tests and/or a writing sample.

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION SERVICES

Some students will be assigned academic services based on a standardized test score or failure of a required state exam. In some instances, students will be placed due to teacher recommendation.



NCAA FRESHMAN-ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

KNOW THE RULES:

Core Courses

- **NCAA Division I requires 16 core courses as of August 1, 2008.** This rule applies to any student first entering any Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2008. See the chart below for the breakdown of this 16 core-course requirement.
- **NCAA Division II requires 14 core courses.** See the breakdown of core-course requirements below. Please note, Division II will require 16 core courses beginning August 1, 2013.

Test Scores

- **Division I** has a sliding scale for test score and grade-point average. The sliding scale for those requirements is shown on page two of this sheet.
- **Division II** has a minimum SAT score requirement of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.
- The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes **only** the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.
- The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a **sum** of the four sections on the ACT: English, mathematics, reading and science.
- **All SAT and ACT scores must be reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center by the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used. When registering for the SAT or ACT, use the Eligibility Center code of 9999 to make sure the score is reported to the Eligibility Center.**

Grade-Point Average

- Only core courses are used in the calculation of the grade-point average.
- **Be sure** to look at your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses on the Eligibility Center's Web site to make certain that courses being taken have been approved as core courses. The Web site is www.eligibilitycenter.org.
- **Division I** grade-point-average requirements are listed on page two of this sheet.
- **The Division II** grade-point-average requirement is a minimum of 2.000.

DIVISION I 16 Core-Course Rule

16 Core Courses:

- 4 years of English.
- 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or non-doctrinal religion/philosophy).

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning August 1, 2013, students planning to attend an NCAA Division II institution will be required to complete 16 core courses

DIVISION II 14 Core-Course Rule

14 Core Courses:

- 3 years of English.
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 2 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 3 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or non-doctrinal religion/philosophy).

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Division II has no sliding scale. The minimum core grade-point average is 2.000. The minimum SAT score is 820 (verbal and math sections only) and the minimum ACT sum score is 68.
- 14 core courses are currently required for Division II. However, beginning 2013, students will be required to complete 16 core courses.
- 16 core courses are required for Division I.
- The SAT combined score is based on the verbal and math sections only. The writing section will not be used.
- SAT and ACT scores must be reported directly to the Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Scores on transcripts will not be used.
- Students enrolling at an NCAA Division I or II institution for the first time need to also complete the amateurism questionnaire through the Eligibility Center Web site. Students need to request final amateurism certification prior to enrollment.

For more information regarding the rules, please go to www.ncaa.org. Click on "Academics and Athletes" then "Eligibility and Recruiting." Or visit the Eligibility Center Web site at www.eligibilitycenter.org.

Please call the NCAA Eligibility Center if you have questions:

Toll-free number: 877/262-1492.

NCAA DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE CORE GRADE-POINT AVERAGE/ TEST-SCORE New Core GPA / Test Score Index		
Core GPA	SAT	ACT
	Verbal and Math ONLY	
3.550 & above	400	37
3.525	410	38
3.500	420	39
3.475	430	40
3.450	440	41
3.425	450	41
3.400	460	42
3.375	470	42
3.350	480	43
3.325	490	44
3.300	500	44
3.275	510	45
3.250	520	46
3.225	530	46
3.200	540	47
3.175	550	47
3.150	560	48
3.125	570	49
3.100	580	49
3.075	590	50
3.050	600	50
3.025	610	51
3.000	620	52
2.975	630	52
2.950	640	53
2.925	650	53
2.900	660	54
2.875	670	55
2.850	680	56
2.825	690	56
2.800	700	57
2.775	710	58
2.750	720	59
2.725	730	59
2.700	730	60
2.675	740-750	61
2.650	760	62
2.625	770	63
2.600	780	64
2.575	790	65
2.550	800	66
2.525	810	67
2.500	820	68
2.475	830	69
2.450	840-850	70
2.425	860	70
2.400	860	71
2.375	870	72
2.350	880	73
2.325	890	74
2.300	900	75
2.275	910	76
2.250	920	77
2.225	930	78
2.200	940	79
2.175	950	80
2.150	960	80
2.125	960	81
2.100	970	82
2.075	980	83
2.050	990	84
2.025	1000	85
2.000	1010	86

**MINISINK VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
HIGH SCHOOL HONORS/ADVANCED COURSE CHALLENGE AGREEMENT - 2012-2013**

STUDENT STATEMENT

I _____ declare my intention to accept the challenge of enrolling in the following Minisink Valley High School Honors/Advanced Placement Level Course(s):

COURSE #1 _____ COURSE #3 _____
COURSE #2 _____ COURSE #4 _____

I acknowledge that I have read the course descriptions and expectations for each course and discussed my desire to accept this challenge with my current teacher and my guidance counselor. I understand that these courses represent a rigorous level of study that will require a high degree of commitment of both time and energy on my part. I also understand that these courses are designed for students who are strong independent learners and typically rank in the top ten percent of their class. *I do not expect and will not receive a significant amount of extra help or independent assistance from the instructor in these accelerated/advanced level courses.*

I understand that I must have a minimum average of 85% in my current course of that subject area, or an 80% in my Honors course in that subject area, in order to apply for placement in the course(s) listed above. Furthermore, I understand that enrollment in this level course is a year long commitment. The only way I could be moved from the course during the school year is through the Drop/Fail process which would result in a grade of 50% on my report card in the course for that reporting quarter.

In the case of Advanced Placement® courses, I understand that the AP® Exams are an integral part of the curriculum in these courses and I agree that if I enroll in an AP® course I will take the corresponding AP® Exam in May. I understand that there is a fee of approximately \$85.00 for each exam for which I am responsible. *(Limited fee waivers are available if there is a financial hardship).*

Most Honors/Advanced Placement level courses require some form of summer work. I further agree to obtain any required summer work and complete it as prescribed.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

PARENT STATEMENT

I acknowledge that I have read the course descriptions and expectations for these courses, and have discussed with my child his/her desire to accept this challenge. I understand that these courses represent a rigorous level of study that will require my child to make a significant commitment of both time and energy. I also understand that these courses are designed for students who are strong independent learners and typically rank in the top ten percent of their class. *I do not expect, and understand that my child will not receive, a significant amount of extra help or independent assistance from the instructor in these accelerated/advanced level courses.*

I understand that my child must have a current minimum average of 80% in his/her Honors level course or an 85% in a Regents level course in that subject area in order to apply for placement in the course(s) listed above. Furthermore, I understand that enrollment in this level course is a year long commitment. The only way my child could be moved from the course during the school year is through the Drop/Fail process which would result in a grade of 50% on the report card in the course for that reporting quarter.

In the case of Advanced Placement® courses, I understand that the AP® Exams are an integral part of the curriculum in these courses and I agree that if my son/daughter enroll in an AP® course they will be expected to take the corresponding AP® Exam in May. I understand that there is a fee of approximately \$85.00 for each exam for which I am responsible. *(Limited fee waivers are available if there is a financial hardship).*

Most Honors/Advanced Placement level courses require some form of summer work. I further agree that my child will obtain any required summer work and complete it as prescribed.

Parent _____ Signature _____
Date _____

****This form must be returned to your counselor no later than June 1, 2012**

AJROTC

Army Junior Reserved Officers Training Corps

The CITIZEN BUILDER

Achieve Lifetime Enrichment Skills

GOLDEN RULE FAMILY PERSONAL BEST

WARRIOR BATTALION

National HONOR UNIT WITH DISTINCTION

TEACH AND I WILL LEAD

National Mission: To motivate young people to be better citizens.

District Mission: To become ladies and gentlemen.

To become all that they are capable of being.

Local Mission: “ACES” – Achieve Core Enrichment Skills – Be STRONG

CITIZENSHIP, & LEADERSHIP – Targeting the treasured wealth of quality **LIFETIME SKILLS** during the advantageous high school experience enabling optimum transition, after successful graduation, to the World of Work, Advanced Education, and/or Military Service.

HONORS AMERICA, PATRIOTISM, & STANDARDS

0901

Grade 9

Level: Honors

1 – 2 credits

Prerequisites: Warrior Summer Camp and Nomination

6 periods/week

Freshman Citizenship & Leadership Honors is comprised of outstanding new volunteer cadets who have successfully attended and achieved graduation at Warrior Summer Camp and who meet high HS and JROTC academic standards. They have distinguished themselves in the MS Honors Program. This course is for self-starters, initiators, dependable and responsible mature cadets who consistently display Disciplinary Standards, Civic Values, & Ethics – in summary: they are viable Citizen Leaders. The accelerated program provides fast-paced education leading to Crest Award Recognition and advanced promotion opportunities in both rank and position. Honor Guard, Drill Team, and Scabbard & Blade after-school groups extend enrollment invitations. New Cadet Exhibition Drill Group is developing. Honors requires the participating cadet to perform at a minimum grade of 90% in both the regular and honors courses and at a minimum grade of 85% in other school courses. Honors enrolled cadets must become personally committed and involved in the dual curriculum and extra-curricular activities. Introduction to the Congressional Bronze Award is available.

AMERICA, PATRIOTISM, & STANDARDS
INTRODUCTION PHASE FOR FRESHMAN

0900

Grades 9-12

Level: Regents, Local

1 - 2 Credits

Prerequisite: None

5 periods/week

This first year Introduction/Orientation Phase to Citizenship and Leadership concentrates on “Followership” by emphasizing Character Building, Disciplinary Standards, Civic Values, and Ethics. The target is to provide a positive quality family environment ensuring cadet accomplishment and success. Focus is on Inter-Personal Relations and Communications skills development. The cadet entry experience incorporates an “accelerated promotion” program as an incentive for meritable cadets who become actively involved as participants in JROTC activities, particularly Warrior Summer Camp. After-school teams/groups include: Raiders, Drill Team, Color Guard, MP’s and Honor Guard. Topics include: Citizenship, Leadership, History of the Nation, Military and JROTC, Oral Presentations, Map Reading, Human Relations, Current Events, Basic School Skills Review and selected optional subjects including spontaneous and planned events. Leadership Labs include: Drill and Ceremonies (D&C) and Wearing of the Uniform and Physical Training (PT). Trips include: Delaware River Rafting, Great Adventure, Artificial Wall Rock Climbing, Rappelling, and NYC. The evening Dining In/ Military Ball and class day Leadership Reaction Course are graded mandatory attendance participations.

**AMERICA, PATRIOTISM, & STANDARDS
INTRODUCTION/ORIENTATION PHASE**
Level: Regents, local
Prerequisite: Counselor Approval

0910

**Grades 9 -12
½ - 1 credit
After school; M & W**

This newly introduced specialized Orientation Phase is available as an accelerated curricular opportunity selection particularly for 9th graders (higher level students are welcome) unable to enroll in JROTC during the 9 period school day. It is a one year program wherein the cadet may avail her/him-self of the opportunity to choose to attend trips and participate in extra-curricular teams and groups. During succeeding years the cadet will enroll in Regular or. Honors Courses. Leadership Labs of Drill & PT, Uniform Wear and Academics are identical to the full-year course but reduced in time and scope. Please refer to Course 0900.

ART

ART HISTORY I: The Western World 0605
Prerequisite: None

**Grades 9-12
½ Credit
5 periods/week**

This course will explore the language of art and its power to shape culture and society. We will explore visual records of the past from a Western point of view. We will study major periods in art history chronologically from Prehistoric Cave Art through 19th Century Impressionism. These periods will be studied through readings, written analysis, studio art projects, computer research, multi-media presentations, as well as group and individual activities. Can be taken with Art History II to fulfill fine arts credit.

ART HISTORY II: The 20th Century 0607
Prerequisite: None

**Grades: 9-12
½ Credit
5 periods/week**

This course will explore the language of art and its power to communicate in our lives and our society. We will explore art created in the 20th century to the present. We will study major periods including Abstract Expressionism, Cubism, Surrealism, Pop Art, Modernism, and Earth Art, as well as individual artists whose ideas shaped 20th century art. These periods will be studied through readings, written analysis, computer research, multi-media presentations, as well as group and individual activities. Can be taken with Art History I to fulfill fine arts credit.

ART I: BASIC STUDIO FOUNDATION/ART HISTORY 0603
Level: Regents, Local
Prerequisite: NONE

**Grades: 9-12
1 Credit
5 Periods/week**

This course provides the student with an introduction to the major periods of art history and relates this historical work to hands on work in the classroom. The students will learn to define identify basic periods in the history of Western art, enriching their perceptions of art's relationship to history. The student will build skills in drawing and painting, design, and spatial comprehension. This course is the foundation for an art sequence.

BUSINESS

KEYBOARDING/COMMUNICATIONS 0505
Level: Regents, Local
Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9-12
1 Credit
5 Periods/week

This course is designed to review and enhance the mastery of the touch keyboarding system. This mastered typing skill will be integrated with business applications while learning appropriate English communication skills in the use of business letters, memorandums, tabulations and reports. The students will also be introduced to word processing and communication through the use of Microsoft Word & Power Point. Each unit will be supplemented with the reinforcement necessary in English skills to become a productive employee. (Class is held in the Computer Lab.)

TYPING FOR THE COLLEGE BOUND (PERSONAL KEYBOARDING) 0568
Level: Regents, Local
Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9-12
½ Credit
5 Periods/week

This course is designed for the college bound student who wants to review his/her typing skills and improve their speed and accuracy to allow them to optimize their time at college. Formatting skills are emphasized to enhance the marketability of these students in today's complex world of technology. Individual resumes are completed to assist students to obtain part-time work and /or college scholarships.

MANAGEMENT FOR PERSONAL SUCCESS
Level: Regents, Local
Prerequisites: None

Grade: 9
5 periods/week
½ credit

This course is designed to introduce and develop skills that are needed for success in the work and academic arena. Skills needed for employment including interviewing, career planning and personal finance will be developed. The course will also emphasize study skills, research techniques, public speaking, and the development of Power Point presentations. This course is considered foundational for enhancing a student's success an all areas of life.

ENGLISH

HONORS ENGLISH 9, 0003
Level: Honors
Prerequisite: Matrix and/or Honors Challenge Agreement,
English teacher & attainment of necessary score on the honors matrix.

Grades: 9
1 Credit/course
5 Periods/week

Honors English 9 offers an enriched Level 1 curriculum to challenge and to motivate the superior student. Students in an honors course should be prepared to do complex and creative assignments in addition to meeting the requirements of the Level 1 course.

ENGLISH 9R1 0006
Level: Regents
Prerequisite: Recommendation of 8th grade teacher

Grade: 9
1 Credit
5 Periods/week

English 9R, Level 1, is an academic course designed to give students a foundation for further academic studies in English. Major units of study include the analysis and appreciation of literature, structural grammar, correct usage, speaking and listening skills, and vocabulary development. Composition skills are stressed throughout the year with a major emphasis on expository writing.

ENGLISH 9R 2 **0009** **Grade: 9**
Level: Regents **1 Credit**
Prerequisite: Recommendation of 8th grade teacher **5 Periods/week**
English 9 Level 2 students are exposed to the same units of study as those offered in the Level 1 course with an emphasis on improving reading comprehension, written communication, and study skills.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Note: All students must take 2 units of study and earn 1 High School credit in order to obtain a NYS High School Diploma. (To earn one credit, students must pass one High School level course or the Second Language Proficiency (SLP) examination.)

FRENCH 1 **0427** **Grades: 9**
Level: Regents **1 Credit**
Prerequisites: Recommendation of 8th grade teacher **5 Periods/week**
A basic study of French with an emphasis on oral communication and pronunciation. This course also incorporates into the curriculum correct grammar usage, vocabulary study, elementary writing skills and an introduction to various aspects of French culture throughout the world. Local final examination.

FRENCH 2 **0433** **Grades: 9-12**
Level: Regents **1 Credit**
Prerequisites: French 1R **5 Periods/week**
A continued study of the grammar of the French language. Reading in French for an understanding of the content. Continued vocabulary and emphasis on oral expression. A continued study of French culture. Local final examination.

SPANISH 1 **0406** **Grades: 9**
Level: Regents **1 Credit**
Prerequisites: Recommendation from 8th grade teacher **5 Periods/week**
A basic study of Spanish with an emphasis on oral communication and pronunciation. This course also incorporates into the curriculum correct grammar usage, vocabulary study, elementary writing skills and an introduction to various aspects of Spanish culture throughout the world. Local final examination.

SPANISH 2 **0412** **Grades: 9-12**
Level: Regents **1 Credit**
Prerequisites: Spanish 1R **5 Periods/week**
A continued study of the grammar of the Spanish language. Reading in Spanish for an understanding of the content. Continued emphasis on oral expression. A continued study of Spanish culture. Local final examination.

MATHEMATICS

INTEGRATED ALGEBRA 0257
Level: Regents
Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

Grade: 9
1 credit
5 periods/week

This course is geared to the student who has demonstrated an average to above average level of math ability. The course covers the topics of Algebra 1 as well as probability, statistics, and geometry. Students will be preparing for the Integrated Algebra Regents which will be given in June of their first year. The class will also take a local final exam at the end of the year. Students need a scientific calculator; TI 30 X IIS is recommended.

INTEGRATED ALGEBRA I 0251
Level: Regents
Prerequisite: 8TH grade Teacher Recommendation

Grade: 9
1 credit
5 periods/week

Students begin to prepare for the Integrated Algebra Exam with a study of probability, linear and quadratic functions, basic trigonometric functions, slope, laws of exponents, equations and inequalities, and the interpretation of graphic representation of information. Students solve equations and inequalities numerically, graphically, and symbolically. Algebraic models are used to solve real life problems. Students need a scientific calculator.

INTEGRATED HONORS GEOMETRY 0214 (0213 – Accelerated) Grades: 9-10
Level: Honors 1 Credit
Prerequisite: Math 9 Acceleration or 9R1, teacher recommendation, 5 periods/week and attainment of necessary score on honors matrix and/or honors challenge agreement

This course enriches the basic Integrated Geometry curriculum. It covers each topic to a greater depth and offers more challenging problems to solve. Optional topics of study suggested by the state will be explored as time permits. The Integrated Geometry Exam will be administered in June. A local final exam will also be given at the end of the year. A graphing calculator will be used.

INTEGRATED GEOMETRY 0215
Level: Regents
Prerequisite: Math 9R1 and Teacher Recommendation

Grades: 9-10
1 Credit
5 Periods/week

This is the second course of High School Math. The integrated program includes logic, plane geometry, coordinate geometry, quadratic equations, trigonometry, transformations, probability, permutations and combinations. Students will take a final exam and the Integrated Geometry Regents in June. Students will use a graphing calculator in course, TI-83 or 84

MUSIC

MIXED CHORUS 0800

All 9th graders, plus any student who has not successfully auditioned into the other ensembles. Students with strong piano skills are encouraged to enroll.

No Prerequisite

This course is open to all students who have a love for singing. During class/rehearsals/lessons, attention will be paid to the fundamentals of proper singing technique. Focus will be paid to the skills needed to move up into the select Women's Chorus or Chamber Choir and to succeed in individual goals (i.e.; All-State, NYSSMA Solo, All-County, and drama auditions.) Course requirements include the following: positive participation in daily class rehearsals, participation in weekly group lessons, participation in ALL day-time and evening concerts and performances, written and vocal performance tests, and final exam. The student will study proper singing technique, music reading/literacy and musicianship skills through the study and performance of a wide variety of choral music styles. Home practice is considered an essential part of the student's musical development. Course objectives include the development of the student's appreciation of music through active music performance in a cooperative group setting. Students with exceptional talent will be encouraged to further develop their talents and skills through participation in various solos, ensemble, and honors festivals.

Grades: 9-12

1 Credit

5 Periods/week

CHAMBER CHOIR 0824 (Accapella)

Prerequisites: Mandates Vocal Audition by Director

Auditions are in March

CLASS WILL BE CAPPED AT 50 PARTICIPANTS

Grades: 9-12

1 credit

5 periods/week

This course is designed for students who have an interest in performing and competing in choral competitions. This group performs challenging ACAPELLA music at the highest level. Students should be prepared to be challenged to excel above their talent level to create an ensemble that will perform and compete at national competitions. Course requirements include the following: positive participation in daily class rehearsals, participation in weekly group lessons, participation in ALL day-time and evening concerts and performances, written and vocal performance tests, and final exam. The student will study proper singing technique, music reading/literacy and musicianship skills through the study and performance of a wide variety of choral music styles. Home practice is considered an essential part of the student's appreciation of music through active music performance in a cooperative group setting. Students with exceptional talent will be encouraged to further develop their talents and skills through participation in various solos, ensemble, and honors festivals.

CONCERT BAND 0808

Level: Regents, Local

Prerequisites: Recommendation by Band Director

Grades: 9-12

1 Credit

5 Periods/week

The Concert Band consists of all band members who have not yet successfully auditioned for the Wind Ensemble. The Concert Band consists of participation in the Concert Band, Warrior Marching Band and weekly lessons. Each member of the band receives one lesson per week on a rotating schedule. Focus will be paid to increasing each student's skills on their instrument to the point where they will be able to advance to the Wind Ensemble. The lessons are directed not only toward the technical advancement of the pupils in materials used in full ensemble rehearsals but the development of concepts relating to musical content, structure and style. Technical progress is also made through emphasis on solo playing utilizing solo and ensemble literature. All members are required to attend concert performances and also to participate in marching band events. The marching band performs at all home football games and at the Memorial Day Parade. A final solo or ensemble evaluation in May is required in the fourth marking period. It is important to note that performances take place evenings and Fridays and are absolutely mandatory. Home practice is required.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE 0828
Level: Regents, Local
Prerequisites: Audition and recommendation by Director

Grades: 9-12
1/2 Credit
Meets every other day

Jazz ensemble members will meet every other day for a rehearsal/exploration of music from various jazz styles such as swing, blues, Latin, and fusion. All members are required to attend concert performances. Instrumentation will include saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drum set, and auxiliary percussion, guitar, bass and keyboard. Because other instrumentation is possible, see instructor if you have any questions.

JAZZ LAB 0810

Grades: 9-12
1/2 credit
Meets every other day

Prerequisite: Participation in Wind Ensemble or Concert Band and/or audition/recommendation by Band Director

The Jazz Lab is designed for the instrumental music student who has an interest in jazz and wants to learn the fundamentals of the jazz idiom. The Jazz Lab will consist of members who have not yet successfully auditioned for the Jazz Ensemble. The Jazz Lab meets every other day for a rehearsal/exploration of music from various jazz styles such as swing, blues, Latin, funk, rock and fusion. All members are required to attend concert performances and competitions. Instrumentation will include saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drum set, auxiliary percussion, vibraphone, guitar, bass, and piano. Individual home practice is considered an essential part of Jazz Lab participation.

WIND ENSEMBLE 0826
Prerequisite: Audition or recommendation by Band Director

Grades: 9-12
1 credit
5 periods/week

The Wind Ensemble is made up of the most motivated wind and percussion students in the High School. Wind Ensemble is designed to challenge the dedicated and superior instrumentalist. Wind Ensemble members are required to perform at the highest level on their instrument. Members are expected to perform with proper tone, intonation, style, interpretation and technique. This group will focus on performing sophisticated band/wind literature at concerts, community/school events and state/national competitions. Students in Wind Ensemble are required to actively and positively participate in daily rehearsals, weekly lessons and all concerts/performances. Solo performance at the annual New York State School Music Association festivals and private instrumental music lessons are strongly encouraged for musicians in this ensemble. Home practice is required.

MUSIC IN OUR LIVES I 0818
Level: Regents, Local
Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9-12
1/2 Credit
5 Periods/week

This course is designed to help discover the “undiscovered” musician in all of us. The course includes creative activities in music listening, composition and performance as well as the study of music’s role in present and past societies and cultures. The student will investigate a wide variety of musical styles ranging from popular to classical. Course requirements include individual, group, oral and written projects in addition to classroom and homework assignments and exams.

MUSIC IN OUR LIVES II **0820**
Level: Regents, Local
Prerequisites: Music in Our Lives I

Grades: 9-12
1/2 Credit
5 Periods/week

This survey course is designed to give the student an opportunity to investigate the following instruments: piano, guitar, and alto recorder. The course includes creative activities in music listening, composition and performance. Course requirements include a final performance exam on each of these instruments, individual and group projects in addition to classroom and homework assignments, written and performance exams.

APPLIED MUSIC CREDIT/OUTSIDE LESSONS **0822**
Level: Regents, Local

Grades: 9-12
1 Credit

Pre-requisites: 2 years of previous private study on your instrument/voice, approval of student's application by the Music Dept. Chairperson BEFORE SEPT. 30TH.
Credit approval for Applied Music Credit/Outside Private Music Lessons include the following requirements: submittal/approval of the application by September 30th (form A); a minimum of 1 private lesson per week, not less than 30 minutes in length, for a minimum of 36 weeks; 5 hours of practice per week; submittal of quarterly reports that include a log of the student's progress and practice record (forms B and C); a final performance exam through the NYSSMA Spring solo Festival or the National Piano Guild exam. This credit does not fulfill the graduation requirement of 1 music or 1 art credit. Exceptions may only be approved by the administration and the music department chairperson.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION **0710, 0710**
Level: Regents, Local
Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9-12
1/2 credit
Every other day all year

The High School Physical Education program at Minisink Valley High School is designed to provide the students with a variety of activities, many of which are considered lifetime activities. Our students are grouped heterogeneously, i.e. – 9th & 10th graders together and 11th & 12th graders together.

All grade levels will participate in an elective program, which includes a core curriculum of team and individual sports, as well as physical fitness activities. Some of the activities involved are racquetball, volleyball, softball, yoga, aerobic dance, weight training, basketball, and outdoor education. Students will be introduced to basic skills and techniques for each 5-week unit in Physical Education.

The Physical Education Department will also offer an Aquatic Program each year. Ninth and tenth grade students will be assigned Aquatics for 5 weeks and will be exposed to basic swim strokes and water safety skills. Eleventh and twelfth graders will participate in an aquatics program which may consist of American Red Cross Lifeguard Training, water aerobics, lap swim, and/or various water games.

Physical Education must be taken each week and each semester that a student is in Secondary school. Students are required to pass 4 years of high school physical education at Minisink Valley in order to graduate. It is mandated by NY State for each student to successfully pass Physical Education.

SCIENCE

All students in one-year Regents Science Classes must complete 1200 minutes of satisfactory laboratory experiences in order to sit for the Regents Exam in that subject. Be advised that those students enrolled in a one-year Regents Science Class must complete all 1200 minutes of laboratory experiences by the June Regents Testing at the end of that school year. Students who do not complete the 1200 laboratory minutes prior to the June Regents testing must repeat the course in its entirety the following year.

All satisfactory laboratory experiences and reports must be submitted before the Memorial Day recess. No laboratory reports can be accepted after that date.

HONORS EARTH SCIENCE	0305	Grades: 9-10
Level: Regents		1 Credit
Pre-requisite: Matrix and/or challenge agreement		7-8 periods/week

This course is geared for the higher-level science student. A strong background in mathematics is recommended. The course content will parallel the Regents Earth Science course but will be a greater, more in-depth study of the concepts that form the physical environment of the earth. Students will take the Earth Science Regents Exam at the completion of this course of study and the accompanying lab exercises.

REGENTS EARTH SCIENCE	0303	Grades: 9-10
Level: Regents		1 Credit
Pre-requisites: Teacher recommendation		7-8 Periods/week

This course is designed to give the student an understanding and appreciation of the fundamental concepts that form the physical environment of the earth, from the outermost limits of its position in the universe to the depths of its interior. The major areas covered include: change, the earth model (astronomy), the energy budget (meteorology), the rock cycle (geology) and earth history.

REGENTS LIVING ENVIRONMENT	0312	Grades: 9-12
Level: Regents		1 Credit
Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation		7-8 periods/week

The Regents Biology program covers 7 units outlined in the syllabus with an emphasis on Lab skills, scientific reasoning, scientific investigation and problem solving. As with the Honors Biology course, topics begin with molecules and progress to global ecological biomes.

SOCIAL STUDIES

SOCIAL STUDIES 9	0106, 0108	Grade: 9
Level: Honors*, Regents Level 1 and 2 (9R1 and 9R2)		1 Credit
Prerequisite: None		5 Periods/week

This is the first part of a two-year global studies course organized around the major areas of the world. Areas covered are Sub-Saharan Africa, India, East Asia (including China & Japan) and Latin America.

- In the Regents Level a Regents exam is given at the end of the second part of the course in 10th grade. All students must pass this exam. The same units of study are covered in Level 2 as in 1, with an emphasis on continuing to provide extra support in the areas of reading comprehension, written communication and study skills.

For the Honors level, the student must score well on the matrix, be self-motivated and have a sincere interest in social studies if he/she expects to do well.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

ALL COURSES LISTED HERE REQUIRE A STUDENT'S IEP FOR PLACEMENT.

RESOURCE ROOM - Resource Room program is a special education program for a student with a disability registered in either a special class or a general education class who is in need of specialized supplementary instruction in a small group setting for a portion of the school day. Resource room programs are for the purpose of supplementing the general education or special education classroom instruction of students with disabilities who are in need of such supplemental programs.

CONSULTANT TEACHER - Consultant Teacher services are defined as direct and/or indirect services provided to a student with a disability in the student's general education classes and/or to such student's general education teachers.

- Direct Consultant Teacher services mean specially designed instruction provided to an individual student with a disability or to a group of students with disabilities by a certified special education teacher to aid the student(s) to benefit from the general education class instruction. Direct Consultant Teacher can be combined with Indirect Consultant Teacher services.
- Indirect Consultant Teacher services mean consultation provided by a certified special education teacher to a general education teacher to assist the general education teacher in adjusting the learning environment and/or modifying his/her instructional methods to meet the individual needs of a student with a disability who attends the general education class. Indirect Consultant Teacher can be combined with Direct Consultant Teacher services.

INTEGRATED CO-TEACHING – Integrated co-teaching services means the provision of specially designed instruction and academic instruction provided to a group of students with disabilities and non-disabled students taught by both a regular education teacher and a special education teacher.

SPECIAL CLASS – Special class means a class consisting of students with disabilities who have been grouped together because of similarity of individual needs for the purpose of receiving specially designed instruction in a self-contained setting, meaning that such students are receiving their primary instruction separate from their non-disabled peers. This will be in core academic areas – English, Math, Science, Social Studies, as well as reading.

CAREER ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (CAP) – functional life skills courses combined with real life work experiences both on and off campus. Designed to help prepare students who are Individual Education Program (IEP) diploma candidates an opportunity to live as independent adults using “lean-by-doing” approach and applied academics.

TECHNOLOGY

***DESIGN AND DRAWING FOR PRODUCTION** 2060
Level: Regents, Local
Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9-12
1 credit
5 periods/week

This course uses a common graphic language to describe forms in the man-made environment. Students analyze, creatively design, prepare drawings, and critically evaluate these objects relative to their practical and ergonomic capabilities. Students will work individually or in design teams to solve problems. Learning to communicate these ideas through the universal language of computer aided drafting is the major goal. Strong basic math skills are essential.

*This course will meet the one year Art requirement.

TECHNICAL DRAWING

2010

Grades: 9-12

Level:

½ Credit

Pre-requisite: N/A

5 Periods/week

The basic concepts and principles of technical drawing, projection, size description, geometry, basic techniques, tools, and pictorial representation will be taught in this program by traditional board drafting methods.

VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL

Minisink Valley High School (MVHS) is at the forefront of educational change in offering you the opportunity to take online classes through Virtual High School (VHS), a collaborative of more than 200 high schools from across the country and even *around the world*. VHS offers an opportunity to experience learning in a whole new way -- via the Internet.

VHS can offer you a great opportunity to pursue an area of particular interest to you, one that is not covered by our school's curriculum. (We do not allow you to take classes our school already offers.) Our membership practically doubles our course offerings.

As exciting as all of this is, VHS is not for everyone. Before you apply, you need to make sure that you fully understand what VHS is and what it involves, so that you can be sure that VHS is right for you. Our school can offer VHS classes to only 25 students each semester; these limited opportunities cannot be wasted.

Most VHS classes are exciting, innovative, and interesting. You will have a lot of freedom to get your work done where you want and when you want. But this freedom can be hard to handle. You will have to motivate yourself and discipline yourself. Your teacher is not going to stand in front of you and tell you to get your work done. If you fall behind, you might find yourself facing a weekend worth of work or even a bad grade. **You should consider taking a VHS class only if you know you are an extremely self-motivated, self-disciplined learner who is a proficient user of technology.**

This packet contains more information about VHS. Read this information and get the required materials before completing the attached form. Signatures from you and from one of your parents/guardians will verify that you understand, and agree to abide by, our school policies regarding Virtual High School.

To be a successful VHS student, you should have a strong interest in, and a commitment to, the course of study. You must be self-motivated, self-disciplined and responsible. You do not have to be a "computer whiz" to take a VHS course, but you need to be willing and able to learn new things about the use of computers in learning. In the event that more than twenty-five students apply for each semester of VHS classes, first priority will be given to students who have not previously taken a VHS class.

****9th graders will be permitted to take a course in the spring semester.****