

Livingston Public Schools New Course Offerings 2024-2025

Board of Education Meeting
December 12, 2023

Math in Focus - Grade 6

- Continuation of our Math in Focus Sequencing
- Supported through Singapore Math and advocates eight mathematical habits:
 - persevering in problem solving
 - constructing viable arguments
 - using tools strategically
 - making use of structure
 - using mathematical reasoning
 - using mathematical models
 - using precise mathematical language
 - looking for patterns
- Students will learn the language of math through activities, explorations, practice, meaningful discussion, hands-on learning, visualization, pictorial representations, application, and problem solving.
- Through this course, students will build deep conceptual understanding, develop critical thinking skills, advance their problem-solving proficiency, build positive outcomes, and cultivate confidence to succeed as a mathematical learner.

Gifted and Talented Music 6-8

- The Gifted and Talented Music Program begins at the elementary school level in 4th and 5th grades.
- A number of students are still interested in continuing in the GT Music Program in middle school as many of these students do not participate in the select auditioned groups, like Jazz Band, Chamber Orchestra, and Select Chorus.
- The GT Music Program has been expanding over the past two years, and has been piloted at MPM and HMS to ensure the program could continue at both levels.
- The plan is to formally write the curriculum for Grades 6-8 GT Music this summer.

AP Macroeconomics

- AP Macroeconomics provides an option for students who wish to have a different pacing in AP Economics course work.
- This is the second stage of a program started last year.
 - For the '23 -'24 school year, AP Microeconomics was added
 - Plan to continue this summer with AP Macroeconomics.
 - Courses will alternate annually
- Students can continue to take both Micro and Macro in one year through our AP Economics course or can space them out and take one course per school year.

Costume Design

- This is a course in the LHS Art Department and part of the Theatre Arts Pathway.
- The course will explore costume design as it pertains to history, literature, and media.
- Students will build a strong foundation in figure drawing and knowledge of textile rendering along with the history of costume design in the first semester.
- In the second semester, students will create their own original designs through research, including the creation of mood boards, color stories, and fabric options, along with costume illustrations.
- Students in this full-year course will create a portfolio of work by the end of the year.

Dance 4

- Dance Composition 4 is an exploration of the creative process in choreography, aimed at developing students' skills in crafting original dance works.
- This course dives into the principles, concepts, and tools required to conceive, develop, and stage dance pieces.
- Through a combination of theory and practical exercises, students will learn to express themselves through movement and create compelling dance compositions, in a variety of styles, both individually, in duets, and in small groups.
- This course encourages artistic exploration, self-expression, and collaboration, and helps prepare students to further expand their studies in dance.
- The prerequisites for this course are Dance 1, Dance 2, and Dance 3.

Innovations in Artificial Intelligence

- This course will be designed to provide high school students with the foundational knowledge and skills necessary for effectively working in environments that utilize generative AI programs
- It will be a combination of AI applications in the workplace and the computational thinking foundations they are developed with.
- Innovations in AI will focus on ethics as the course will delve into the ethical and social implications of this technology, exploring issues such as bias, privacy, and intellectual property rights.
- The District is currently vetting an LPS Artificial Intelligence Statement discussing the potentials and concerns with prompt engineering as well as expectations for using AI in classrooms. This work will help guide the course and our engagement across schools.

Metal Arts 2

- The number of students taking Metal Arts has increased over the past few years.
- We are looking to offer an advanced level metal arts course that will offer students an opportunity to explore advanced skills in metal sculpture and jewelry design beyond those in Metal Arts 1.
- Student will learn more advanced technical processes, such as casting, stone setting, and forging and will further develop their skills in design and production.
- Metal Arts 2 will serve as one of the courses that are recommended as a prerequisite for students preparing to take Advanced Placement Studio Art in 3D Design.

Additional Course Revisions

- Music Technology 1 & 2 Rename to Audio Engineering & Music Production 1 & 2
- Explorations in Data Science & Python Rename to Introduction to Data Science
- Psychology: Rename to Human Behavior
- Computer Applications: Full year to Semester
- Microsoft Office (MOS): Full year to Semester
- Foods & Nutrition: Changing from 9th-12th Grades to 10th-12th Grades
- Life Hacks & Habits: Changing from 12th Grade to 11th and 12th Grades

Thank You

