

Making the Leap to High School Class of 2026

Preparing Students for the World



Objectives

- Who is Here to Help: HS Team
- Basic Information
- PVCICS/MA Graduation Requirements
- 9th Grade Courses, Electives & Clubs
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Program
- College Admissions
- High School Panel/Questions

Who is Here To Help: HS Team

- Kathleen Wang, Principal HS Administrator
- Kevin Lawson, MS/HS Administrator
- Marsha Liaw, Chinese Administrator
- Maria Paoletti, School Counselor (9-12)
- Patrice MacPherson, IB Coordinator & IB teacher, CAS Coordinator
- All HS Teachers Available to Assist



DEPARTMENTS & TEACHERS:

- English - Dan McCarthy, Lila Oren-Dahan, Jacob Steward
- Chinese - Lingling Qian, Wei Zhang, Tiantian Wang, Shali Qiu, Xi Li
- Math - John Rost, Mike Locher, Ian Carrier, ShuaiQi Hu, Kurt Marchl
- History/Social Science - Bruce Rubin, Kevin Brown, Patrice MacPherson
- Science-Mike Locher, Kathleen Laurie, Madi McDermott, Ryan Burkhead
- PE/Health – Greg Rota
- Music - Tyshaun Davis
- Art - Lisa Winter

Benefits of Smaller High School

- More opportunities to develop stronger relationships with friends & teachers
- Smaller class sizes = teachers can tailor instruction to meet the needs of individual students while also encouraging students to meet higher expectations
- Welcoming all inclusive atmosphere
- Less intimidating than being in a big high school
 - Encourages more student engagement
 - Which leads to sense of personal responsibility for the school community
- More opportunities to develop leadership skills start a new club or sport



<http://www.methodschoools.org/blog/what-are-the-advantages-to-schools-with-small-class-sizes>

<http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/appsycho/opus/issues/2013/fall/gallagher>

*<http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED465474.pdf>

Transitioning to High School

One Step at a Time

BASIC INFORMATION

- Orientation is in the beginning of 9th grade
- Approaches to Learning - All 9th grade students
- Weekly Advisory classes
- Students have a course of study that you **must** follow.
- Continued preparation for timed testing – essays, PSATs, SAT, ACT, IB
- Teachers use Google Calendar for coordinating assignments
- Field trips-Yes! Dances-Yes! Sports, Activities, Clubs-Yes!

9th grade

English

Math

Biology

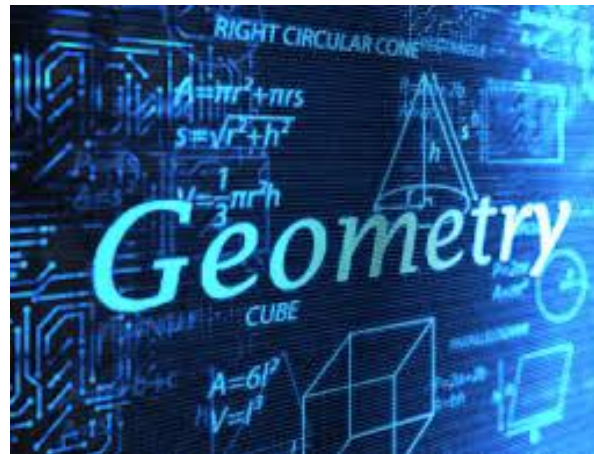
US History

Chinese
2 credits

PE

Music 1
(1/2 cr)
Art 1 (1/2 cr)

Electives and Advisory



PVCICS Graduation requirements

Chinese (2 credits per yr)	8 credits/4 yrs
English (1 cr. Per yr)	4 credits/ 4 yrs
Math (1 cr. Per yr)	4 credits/ 4 yrs
Social Science (1 cr. Per yr)	4 credits/ 4yrs
Natural Sciences (1 cr. Per yr)	4 credits/ 4 yrs
PE (1 cr. 9 th & 1 cr. 10/Health included in PE)	2 credits/ 2 yrs
Music (1/2 credit per yr) 9 & 10	1 credit / 2 yrs
Art (1/2 credit per yr) 9 & 10	1 credit / 2 yrs

•Pass all required courses

•Grade below 60 is failing

•Pass MCAS Biology, ELA and Math

•Minimum 28 Credits

Graduation requirements ALL Students:

Extended Essay (EE) & Creative, Activity, Service, (CAS) in 11th & 12th grade

IB Diploma Candidates Only Requirement: in 11th & 12th take 2 extra courses

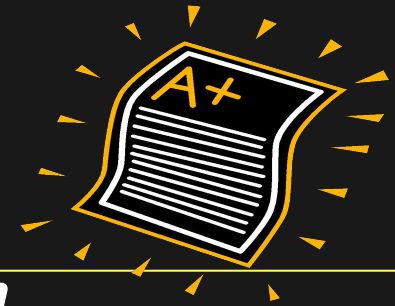
TOK Course 1 Cr. AND IB Elective 2 Cr.

Grading Chart

Unweighted courses/unweighted GPA

Numerical Range	Letter Grade	International Baccalaureate (IB)	Value in Grade Point Average (GPA)
97-100	A+	7	4.3
93-96	A	7	4.0
90-92	A-	6	3.7
87-89	B+	5	3.3
83-86	B	5	3.0
80-82	B-	5	2.7
77-79	C+	4	2.3
73-76	C	4	2.0
70-72	C-	4	1.7
67-69	D+	3	1.3
63-66	D	3	1.0
60-62	D-	3	0.7
31-59	F	2	0.0
0-30	F	1	0.0

Differences between MS & HS



- **Every year counts, starting with 9th grade!**
Classes taken in 9th grade count toward earning credits toward graduation and for college admissions
- **What happens if my student fails a required class for graduation?**
Students will need to repeat the course in order to recover those credits by taking the class in summer school
- **Failing multiple classes may cause students to fall behind for graduating on time with your classmates**

English



English 9

Students develop close reading skills, analytic skills, formal essay, and oral analysis skills. It acts as a survey course, introducing students to various literary mediums.

English 10

Students will read a combination of classic and contemporary texts, develop formal essay writing, discussion and presentation skills. Preparation for MCAS in March.

IB English Literature SL/HL (11 & 12th Grade)

Students will closely study works in translation, novels, poetry, non-fiction and drama and refine oral and written expression skills.

IB English Language and Literature SL/HL (11 & 12th Grade)

Students will focus on applying the skills of literacy to all texts people might encounter, from memes and movies to classics and poetry.

Chinese Language Pathway 2021-2022

Grade	Level
9th 10th	Novice
	Intermediate
	Advanced
11th IB Chinese B SL1 or HL1	
12th IB Chinese B SL2 or HL2	

- **Seal of Biliteracy**



- **Chinese Placement Test**

- Last week in June or late August (Notification)

Highlights of Chinese Events

- Overseas summer trip (e.g., China-Taiwan Trip)
- International Pen pal project
- School-wide language competition (PV-Talk, Dubbling, Writing contest, Vlog...etc)
- Culture and Festival (e.g., Moon festival, Chinese Lunar New Year)
- Field Trips



Social Sciences

Grade 9:

U.S. History I

Grade 10:

U.S. History II/19th-Century World History

Grade 11: SL or HL (Student Choice)

IB History I

IB Psychology I

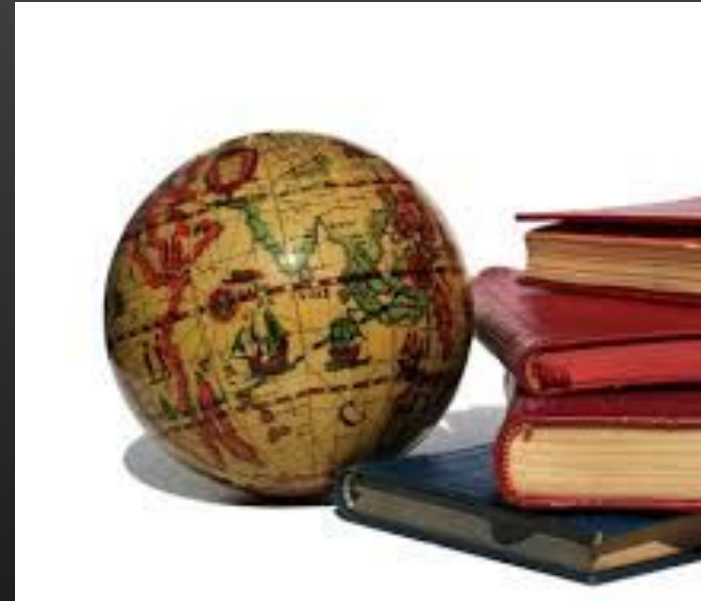
IB Business and Management I

Grade 12: SL or HL (Continued)

IB History II

Psychology II

Business and Management II



Natural Sciences

Grade 9:

Biology for MCAS
(test in June)



Grade 10:

Intro to Chemistry (one semester)
Intro to Physics (one semester)

Grade 11/12: Student Choice (1 or 2)

IB Biology SL or HL

IB Chemistry SL

IB Physics SL or HL (Math requirements)



Grade 9

HS Algebra 1 or Geometry

Grade 10

HS Geometry and/or Algebra 2

(Algebra 2 required for any HL math in grades 11, 12)

Grade 11: IB Mathematics SL or HL

IB Math Applications and Interpretations Year 1

IB Math Analysis and Approaches Year 1

Grade 12: IB Mathematics SL or HL

IB Math Applications and Interpretations Year 2

IB Math Analysis and Approaches Year 2

(All IB Math classes include Calculus.)

Specials: Music

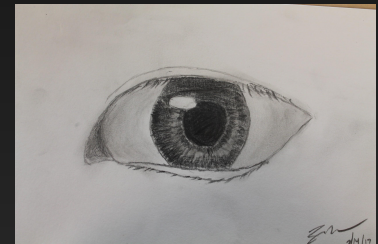
Music 9- Music Technology and Intro to music. Students will learn about how music and technology work together. Also they will learn how to use their respective instruments and record them. The class will engage in creating music as a team as well.



Specials: Art

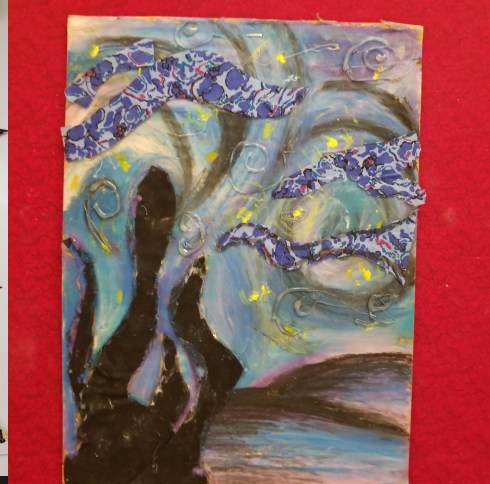
- **Art** - Exploring one's own inner creativity in a variety of media while learning about the elements and principles of design. Every year has different materials that we focus on:
- This year : the focus has been on watercolor and tempera painting, mixed media sculpture, and colored pencil.
- Last year: the focus was on learning realistic drawing with pencils using an approach from the book “Drawing on the Right side of the Brain.”

student
example:



Specials: Art (Mixed Media)

Here are some examples from this year:



Specials: Art (Painting)

Here are some examples from this year:



Specials: PE/HEALTH

- **PE/Health-** Focus more towards cooperative game play,
building motor skills to an advanced level. Wellness takes place in 9th grade with focus on nutritional needs, establishing healthy relationships, AIDS/HIV and STI'S, and injury prevention and safe behavior. We also cover the 8 National SHAPE standards.



- Asian Films
- Board Games
- Philosophy
- Data Analysis
- Creative Writing
- Theatre
- Film
- Electronics
- Wiki Website
- MCAS Math prep
- Creative Arts
- Model United Nations
- Intro to Business
- Anatomy & Dissection
- Programming & Coding
- Today's World
- Astronomy
- Produce 101
- Fiber Arts
- Comics and Graphic Novels
- Yoga & Mindfulness
- Chinese Arts
- Tai Ji
- Translation
- Experimental Energy Production

***Electives-Pass/Fail**



Clubs & Activities

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Coaching, peer tutoring, in-school interning, Girls on the Run, MS Lego Club, after school volunteer for elementary students, team manager, school intern

-Based on teacher availability & subject to change

During lunch & after school

Clubs:

SASHA, Student Council, MUN, Yearbook, Literary Magazine, Service Club, PVCICS Voice Bilingual Podcast, PVCICS Gazette, Theater Club, Environmental Club, Book Club, Chess Club, HS Math Club, Black Student Union, Mock Trial Club, Art Club, ESports Club, RPG Club and more



Sports!

Competitive Sports:

- Fall: Soccer and Cross Country
- Winter: Basketball, Wrestling and Alpine Skiing
- Spring: Ultimate and Tennis
- Co-Op Sports- Wrestling

Rec.Sports: Running Club,
Ping-Pong, Volleyball

MIAA Sports:

All sports are under the MIAA rules and regulations. The Fall season starts before students report to class in late August.

Some sports will run into vacations like Basketball.

Please
plan accordingly.



National Honor Society:

Membership in the PNCI Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) is based on the effective demonstration of the four pillars that serve as standards for the Society.

-Scholarship - academic achievement is an everyday commitment to learning and growing both academically and personally. The minimum GPA is 3.3.

-Service -This involves voluntary service/contributions made by a student to the school and community and done without compensation.

-Character - Student is cooperative & demonstrates high standards of honesty, integrity & reliability, shows courtesy, concern and respect for others and good citizenship.



-Leadership- Student leaders are resourceful, good problem solvers, and idea contributors. They have the ability to influence others toward positive goals.



Calculated every semester on a minimum of five major subjects.

No grade below C to be eligible.

- **High Honors**

All A's

- **Honors**

All A's and B's

- **Honorable Mention**

A's and B's in all but one major subject if a C in that major subject is offset by an A in another major subject.

“IB for ALL” High School

Grades 9 & 10
Similar to Honors

Grades 11 & 12
-All students take
IB Courses
-Are Two Years
-IB Diploma
Program Option



ALL PVCICS students take the IB Challenge!
Opportunity and Access for ALL!

先鋒中英雙語學校 Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School

International Baccalaureate

Standard Level & Higher Level

- IB English Literature, or Language and Literature
- IB Chinese Language
- IB History/IB Psychology/IB Business Management
- IB Biology/IB Chemistry/IB Physics
- IB Mathematics/Calculus (Analysis or Applied)
- IB Theater

The IB program prepares students to be
global citizens

Resource: IB website

www.ibo.org

IB + Chinese Immersion = College Admissions





Harvard University, Marilyn McGrath Lewis, Asst. Dean of Admissions

“Success in an IB program correlates well with success at Harvard. We are always pleased to see the credentials of the IB Diploma Program on the transcript.”

"...IB is a coordinated program, well established, well known and well respected. We know the quality of IB courses, and we think the IB curriculum is terrific."

-Christoph Guttentag



http://www.salemnj.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_5607714/File/SHS/IB/Admissions.pdf

Class of 2017- 2021

73 Graduates

Where they went:

American International College

Barnard College

Baypath University

Bentley University

Boston College

Bucknell

University of CA Irvine

Case Western Reserve

Cornell

Dartmouth College

Dickinson

Fairfield University

Framingham State

George Washington

Greenfield Community

Holyoke Community College

Keene State College

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

McGill University

Middlebury

Mount Holyoke College

New England Institute of Technology

NYU

NYU Shanghai

Pomona College

Rochester Institute of Technology

Sarah Lawrence

Simmons University

SUNY at New Paltz

Stonehill College

Suffolk University

United States Naval Academy

University of Connecticut

University of Hartford

University of New Haven

UMASS Amherst, Boston, Lowell

University of Miami

University of Rhode Island

Vassar College

Vermont Technical College

Wellesley College

Western New England University

Worcester State University

Yale University

先鋒中英雙語學校 Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School



HS Panel/ Questions?

