

Program of Studies
Overview
2020-2021

January 23, 2020
Medway School Committee



EXCELLENCE FOR ALL
A Medway Mindset



2019 - 2020 Program of Studies (POS)

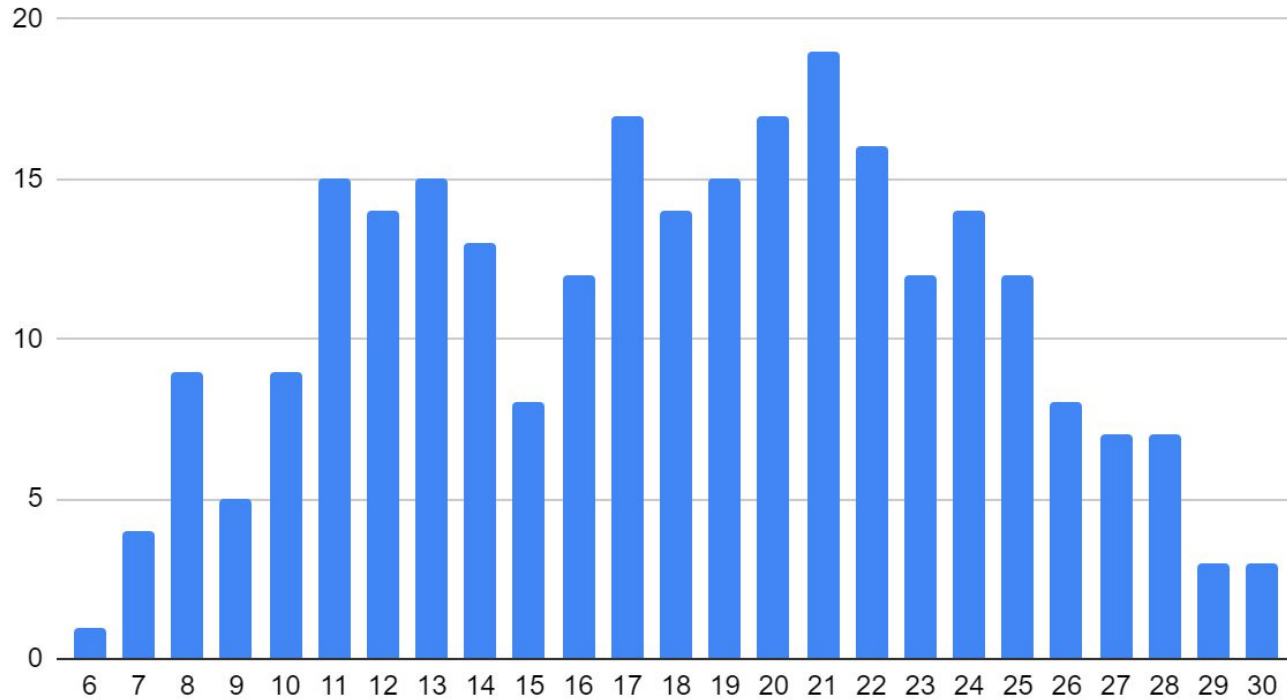


- Provide equitable learning experiences for all through the design of “A-B” model (alternate year) course offerings
- Fine and Performing Arts graduation requirement beginning with the Class of 2024
- Increased level flexibility within courses
- Ensure reasonable opportunities within current student enrollment landscape

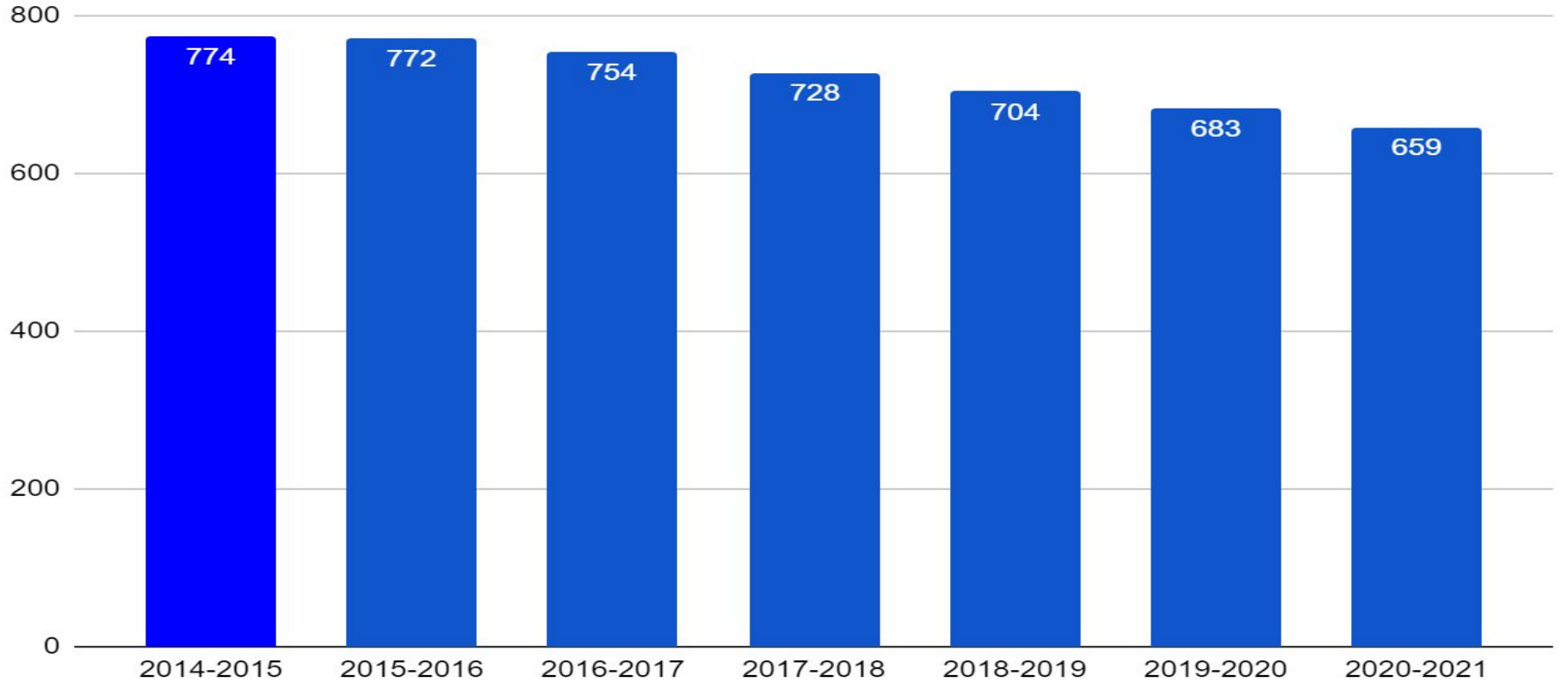
Schedule Challenges 2019-2020

- Transition to new student information system
- Course balance disparities among sections
 - 21 classes with 27+ students
 - 21 classes with 10 or fewer students
 - Too many elective options
- Freshman Academy
 - 68 students at least 1 class cross-teamed
- Clarity and timeline for level request changes
 - Extended deep into the summer
 - Learning gaps for student shifts in absence of transition plan

Class Sizes



MHS Enrollment Trend



2020-2021 Program of Studies Recommendation #1: *Alternate Year Course Offerings*

Why?

- Fewer options per year allows students to plan out the courses they wish to take over the course of 4 years
- Fewer elective options per year allows courses to better balance across all content areas

2019-2020: 60 Electives

2020-2021 Year A: 42 Electives*

2021-2022 Year B: 42 Electives*

**26 of these courses are those that will be offered every year; mostly highly subscribed historically*



2020-2021 Program of Studies Recommendation #2: ***Fine and Performing Arts Graduation Requirement***

- Medway High School not currently aligned to [MassCore](#) program of study
 - MassCore delineates a full year of study within the arts
- Recommended to begin as requirement starting with the Class of 2024
- Additional courses being proposed to support diverse student interests
- 71% of current Seniors have completed the requirement
 - Another 10% have a least one course completed



2020-2021 Program of Studies Recommendation #3: ***Streamline Course Scheduling Process***

- Maintain course recommendation and elective selection process from February through late Spring
- Academic Advising for all students with School Counselors
- Requests for Changes/Overrides in Spring
- Final class lists prior to end of school year

New Courses Proposed for 2020-2021

2020-2021 Program of Studies New Courses

English Language Arts

- **ELA 12 H/CP (Full year)**

Includes elements of the previous elective options:

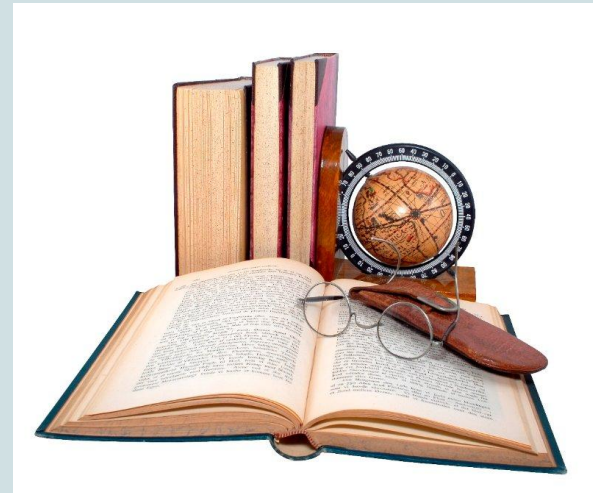
- Modern Contemporary Fiction
 - Science Fiction
 - Modern British Literature
 - Nonfiction
- ❖ Honors option within course
 - ❖ Provides flexibility within schedule
 - ❖ Grade 12 ELA curriculum review committee to review course outcome for future Capstone and Senior Study opportunities



2020-2021 Program of Studies New Courses

History/Social Sciences

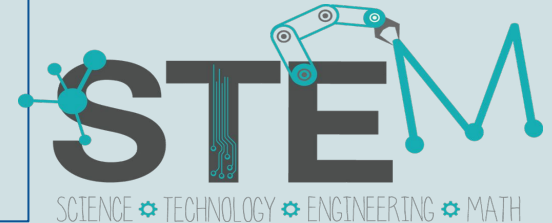
- Financial Literacy (semester)
 - DESE recommendation to provide greater accessibility to financial decision making, knowledge, and skill embedded in curriculum.
- Genocide and Persecution Studies (full year)
 - DESE recommendation to provide additional antisemitism and anti-hate curriculum opportunities.



2020-2021 Program of Studies New Courses

Science, Technology, and Engineering

- **Environmental Science**
 - Introducing Natural Science Pathway
 - AP Environmental as B year course if successful
- **PLTW Capstone**
 - Project Based Capstone
 - Engineering and Bio-Medical Pathway
 - Hands-on student created projects + partnerships/internships/mentoring with local businesses



2020-2021 Program of Studies New Courses

Fine and Performing Arts

- **Songwriting and Performance Lab**
 - Provides access to students not already involved in an instrumental or performance group

- **AP Music Theory**

- **Several courses redeveloped to reduce crossover offering**
 - **Theatre I/ II**
 - Replaces Drama Workshop
 - **Painting and Drawing I/II**
 - Combines elements of Drawing and Fine Arts

Questions?



Thank you for your time!