
PROFILE OF BLACKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

2022-2023

Principal

Adam Simpson

Blacksburg High School

3401 Bruin Lane

Blacksburg, VA 24060

Assistant Principals

Derek Hairston

Keith Palmer

Maureen Powers

Deborah Showalter

Main Office: (540) 951-5706

FAX (540) 951-5714

Guidance Office: (540) 951-5715

FAX (540) 951-5778

School Counselors

Tamar Wood

Chad Cox, Lead Counselor

Emily Dwoyer

Amy Gore

Cindy Martin

10th - 12th Grades, A - D

10th - 12th Grades, E - K

10th - 12th Grades, L - Q

10th - 12th Grades, R - Z

9th Grade, A - Z

Carolyn Noble, Guidance Administrative Assistant

Tammy Wright, Registrar

Erica Sheppard, Testing Assistant

Mary Madeline Webster, Career Coach

CEEB Number: 470225

Department of Education Number: 0760

SCHOOL: Blacksburg High School is a comprehensive school with a wide range of academic and career and technical education courses, and 1,300 students. Historically, approximately 90% of the graduates attend college upon graduation - 70% to four-year colleges. Virginia Tech, one of the largest universities in Virginia, is located in Blacksburg, a town with a population of 43,000. Blacksburg High School won the Wells Fargo Cup for Academics in 2018-19, 2016-17, and 2014-15 and has won the Wells Fargo Cup for athletics ("the state champions' state champion") on fourteen occasions since 1989-1990 including 2018-19, 2017-2018 and seven of the past nine years.

ACCREDITATION: Blacksburg High School, a public secondary school, is accredited by the Virginia Department of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

SENIOR RECOGNITION: Beginning with the Class of 2019, Montgomery County Public Schools does not calculate a numerical class rank. Seniors who have attained the same levels of achievement will be recognized as follows:

Distinguished Scholar: GPA of 4.0 and above; **Scholar:** GPA of 3.80 – 3.99

Honor Graduate: GPA of 3.60 – 3.79

Calculating Grade Point Average (GPA)

MCPS will calculate Grade Point Average (GPA) for each high school student using a four-point system for all high school credit courses (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0). The number of credits earned for each course will be multiplied by the numerical value of the final course grade to obtain the number of grade points earned for each course. The total grade points earned will be divided by the total credits attempted to determine each student's GPA (rounded to two decimal places).

Additional Grade Points for Advanced Courses

For each passing grade earned in an advanced course (Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment, and approved courses taken at an accredited college/university), students will be awarded one additional grade point. The total additional grade points will be divided by 32, and the result will be added to the GPA. The resulting GPA will be comparable to a "weighted GPA" using a five-point system (A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2, F=0). When calculated, the final GPA will be rounded to two decimal places.

TRANSCRIPT NOTATIONS: -R = No credit for courses repeated that were previously passed
NG = No Grade, course repeated
DL or V = Distance Learning or Virtual
AP = Advanced Placement H = Honors
DE = Dual Enrollment and Collegiate/University Courses

AP COURSES: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, Statistics, Chemistry (2 class blocks), Biology (2 class blocks), Physics (2 class blocks), Environmental Science (2 class blocks), European History, U.S. History, U.S. Government and Politics, World History: Modern, English Language and Composition (11th Grade), English Literature and Composition (12th Grade), Psychology, three Art courses, Spanish, French, Seminar, and Research

VIRTUAL VIRGINIA AP COURSES: English Literature, English Language and Composition, Human Geography, World History, US History, US and Comparative Government and Politics, European History, Statistics, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science A, Physics 1, Physics 2, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Chinese Language and Culture, French, Spanish, Latin: Vergil, Psychology, Art History

AP SCORES: Scores three or higher: 2018 - 85% 2019 - 89% 2020 - 86% 2021 - 80% 2022 - 85%

SAT CUMULATIVE MEAN SCORES: 2018 = 1236 2019 = 1184 2020 = 1240 2021 = 1253 2022 = 1258

HONORS AND ADVANCED COURSES: *Dual Enrollment Transfer Courses with New River Community College:* Math DE Calculus, English 111-112-English Composition I-II (11th or 12th grades), English 243-244-Survey of English Literature I-II (12th grade), DE US History I/II, DE Chemistry started in 2019-20, Human Anatomy and Physiology started in 2019-20; English 9 Honors, English 10 Honors; Geography and History of the World I Honors. In addition, Honors Biology I, Honors Chemistry I, Geometry Honors, Algebra II Honors, DE Pre-Calc w/ Trig, Also, Physics I, Biology II: Advanced Survey (Botany/Zoology), and fourth year of world languages (French, Latin, and Spanish may also be taken in 8th grade; and Spanish VI is offered for those with high school credit in 7th and 8th grades).

HIGHEST LEVEL COURSES OFFERED: Art - AP Art courses; English - AP English Language and Composition (11th Grade), AP English Literature and Composition (12th Grade), DE English Composition (11th or 12th grade), and DE Survey of English Literature (12th grade); Mathematics - AP Calculus AB / DE, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC / DE, AP Computer Science, and AP Statistics, DE Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry; Social Studies - AP European History, AP World History, AP United States History, AP US Government and Politics, AP Psychology; Physical Science (2 blocks and credits) - AP Physics, DE/AP Chemistry; Biological Science (2 blocks and credits) - AP Biology, AP Environmental Science, DE Human Anatomy and Physiology started in 2019-20; World Languages - American Sign Language IV, AP French, German IV, AP Latin through Virtual Virginia, AP Spanish and Spanish VI. Also, AP Seminar starting in 2018-19, AP and DE Research in 2019-20. New River Community College Dual Enrollment courses are only available to juniors and seniors except with special permission under extenuating circumstances.

CURRICULUM: The curriculum at Blacksburg High School offers a rigorous college-preparatory track for college-bound students and a wide selection of career and technical and work training courses. Talents and skills are developed through a variety of academic work in: art, music, theater, career and technical education, work and family studies, and various trade and industrial courses. Special education is provided, and faculty, peer, and student tutorial assistance are available free to students. Students may apply for a limited number of slots in the Southwest Virginia Governor's School half day STEM program for 11th and 12th grades.

Southwest Virginia Governor's School

Students who meet established criteria in science and mathematics may apply to attend the SWVGS in Dublin, Virginia. Students attend SWVGS in the morning and return to their home school in the afternoon. All classes taken at SWVGS are dual enrolled with New River Community College.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: Candidates for graduation are required to earn a minimum of 22 units of credit in grades 9-12. Eighteen of the 22 are specified. The Advanced Studies Diploma (26 credits) is available for those who meet requirements of 22 specified courses including world language.

KEY TO GRADING SYSTEM

A = 90 - 100

B = 80 - Less than 90

C = 70 - Less than 80

D = 60 - Less than 70

F = Below 60

P = Pass (used for students taking courses outside the United States; also home schooled student transfer courses and courses transferred from non-accredited schools). Credit may be awarded based on successful performance by examination. Pass/Fail grades are not included in grade average. Recently, Economics and Personal Finance credit was evaluated with pass/fail and returned to A-F evaluations in 2019-20.

COVID – 19 UPDATE

**During the 4th quarter of the 2019-2020 school year, the Virginia Governor mandated that all school buildings be closed. Consequently, MCPS continued the school year with remote teaching and learning. Students were given the option of choosing to accept A-D traditional grades or Pass/Fail final grades for second semester and full-year courses. Pass/Fail grades are not included in our GPA calculations.

Class of 2022

Number of graduates: 285

Applied Studies Diploma: 4

Advanced Studies Diploma: 202

Standard Diploma: 79

Percent continuing their education: 82% -- (76% to 4-Year institutions, 24% to 2-Year institutions)