Memorandum

To: Dr. Joseph Sawyer
From: Todd Bazydlo
Date: January 9, 2023
Re: Proposed Changes to the 2023-2024 HS Program of Studies

I am pleased to present proposed changes and additions to the *Program of Studies* for the 2023-24 school year. The majority of the changes presented within this document are in response to the growing demands of our diverse school population and align with current educational research. I look forward to providing the School Committee with more detail regarding the revisions listed below at the January meeting.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Family and Consumer Sciences Department
1. *Mediterranean Cuisine* will be offered during the 2023-2024 school year; *Foods of the World* will not be offered during the 2023-2024 school year.

Instructional Technology and Media Services (ITAMS)
1. Adjust the name of the department from *Instructional Technology & Media Services* to *Technology, Media, & Business* in order to incorporate our Business offerings.

2. Change the course title of *Financial Literacy* to *Personal Finance* to clarify that the goal of the course is for students to gain an understanding of how to manage their own personal finances as they become adults.

3. Adjust the grade levels for *Introduction to Business* to 9-12 instead of 10-12 to open it up to freshmen.

4. Adjust the course description for *Student Innovation Team* to the following:

    Student Innovation Team (7415)
    Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8
    Elective Grade: 12   Full Year
    Prerequisite: *Instructor Approval*
    Do you like to help people? Do you like to solve problems? Do you like technology? If so, the Student Innovation Team (SIT) is a course for you! SIT students gain real-world

experience working at our student-run help desk located in the IT department office. Members of the *Student Innovation Team* (SIT) serve as the first level of technology support for teachers and students, providing customer service to help assess problems and identify solutions. As part of the course, you will work closely with members of the IT department. In addition to learning to use a professional ticketing system, you will also research new technology and apps for the iPad and create training tutorials for the school community. You will be expected to demonstrate the ability to work independently and direct your own learning.

5. Move the *Accounting* course from *Special Programs* to *Technology, Media, & Business.* Adjust the course from a full-year course to a one-semester course. Open the course to students in grades 10-12. Adjust the course description as follows:

Accounting (2024)
Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1,2,3,4,7,8
Elective Semester Grade(s): 10-12
Accounting is the language of business. Are you interested in learning how accounting is used to communicate financial information? Accounting provides information to investors and decision-makers and tells a story about the financial health of a business. In this course, you will learn principles that are necessary for understanding financial statements and records. As you learn these concepts, you will use spreadsheets and a computer application that will enable you to use automated accounting software to practice these skills; through organizing, recording, and analyzing financial information.

Performing Arts:
1. Add Course: *Introduction to Piano*

Introduction to Piano
Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7
Elective Semester Grade(s): 10-12
Introduction to Piano is a semester course designed for students who have little or no prior piano instruction and would like to learn how to play basic piano. The course will include familiarization with the keyboard, music notation and reading, basic elements of music theory/major scales, single-hand melodies, and chord accompaniment. Students will be working individually to master the piano technique and perform basic solo pieces by the end of the semester.

2. Voice in Acting will be offered next year. *Theater Arts II* and *Theatrical Design* will not be offered next year. *Theater Arts II* will be offered in 2024-25 and *Theatrical Design* with be offered in 2025-26.

3. Techniques of Music Theory I will be offered next year. *Songwriting* will not be offered next year, but will alternate years with *Techniques of Music Theory I* and be offered in 2024-25

Science & Engineering
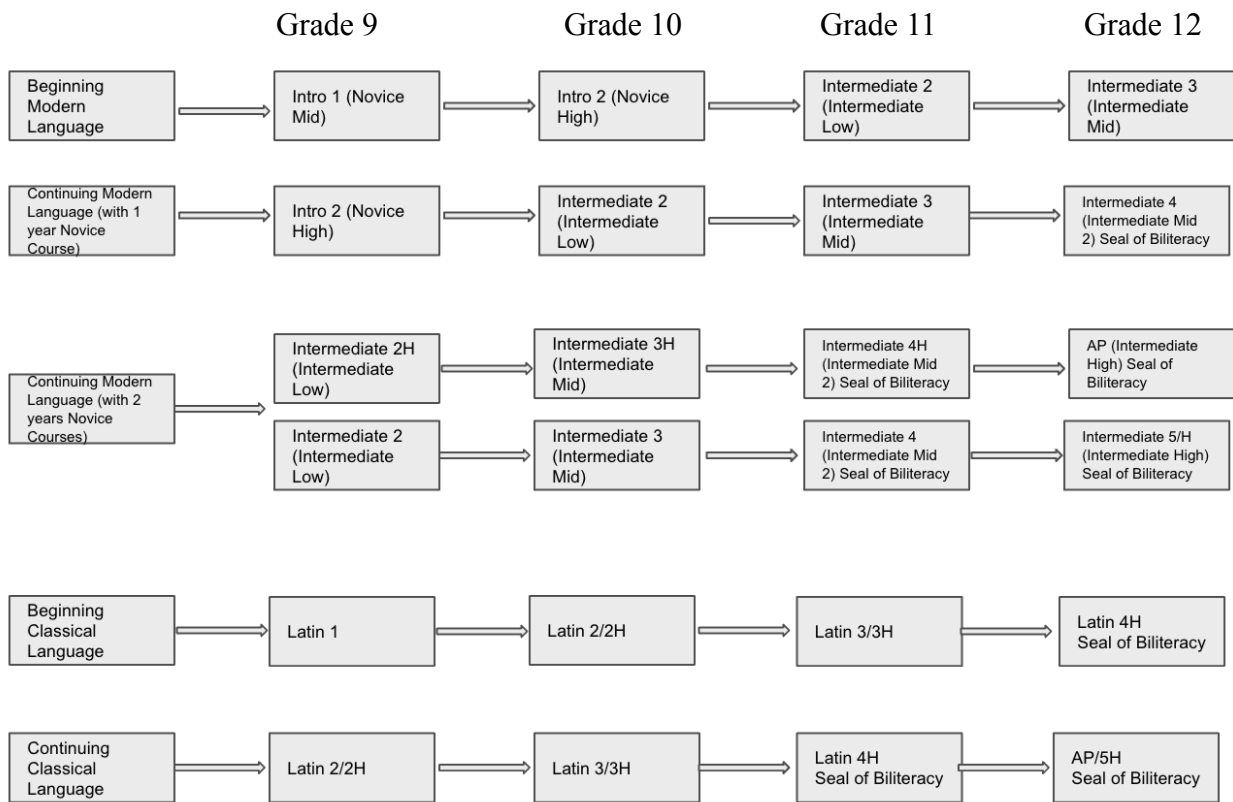
1. Remove *Bioethics* from the Program of Studies.
   Interest and enrollment in this course have dwindled over the years mostly because of the increase in the number of other Biomedical electives such as *Principles of BioMed* and *Human Body Systems.* A number of concepts covered in the semester *Bioethics* course are now covered within these other new full-year Biomedical course options.

Visual Arts

Eliminate *Art Appreciation* as a result of a lack of student interest and enrollment.

World Languages

1. Add flowchart to Program of Studies:

	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
	Beginning Modern Language →	Intro 1 (Novice Mid) →	Intro 2 (Novice High) →	Intermediate 2 (Intermediate Low) →	Intermediate 3 (Intermediate Mid)
	Continuing Modern Language (with 1 year Novice Course) →	Intro 2 (Novice High) →	Intermediate 2 (Intermediate Low) →	Intermediate 3 (Intermediate Mid) →	Intermediate 4 (Intermediate Mid 2) Seal of Biliteracy
	Continuing Modern Language (with 2 years Novice Courses) →	Intermediate 2H (Intermediate Low) →	Intermediate 3H (Intermediate Mid) →	Intermediate 4H (Intermediate Mid 2) Seal of Biliteracy →	AP (Intermediate High) Seal of Biliteracy
		Intermediate 2 (Intermediate Low) →	Intermediate 3 (Intermediate Mid) →	Intermediate 4 (Intermediate Mid 2) Seal of Biliteracy →	Intermediate 5/H (Intermediate High) Seal of Biliteracy
	Beginning Classical Language →	Latin 1 →	Latin 2/2H →	Latin 3/3H →	Latin 4H Seal of Biliteracy
	Continuing Classical Language →	Latin 2/2H →	Latin 3/3H →	Latin 4H Seal of Biliteracy →	AP/5H Seal of Biliteracy

2. Change Course Title, Description, and Prerequisites of *Mandarin Chinese 1* (8050) to *Introductory Mandarin 1* (8050T)

   Introductory Mandarin Chinese 1 (8050T)
   Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1,2,3,4,7
   Elective   Full year   Grades: 9-12   A Level

This course is designed for students at the novice level of language proficiency. Focus will be on the acquisition of thematic vocabulary and the incorporation of appropriate grammatical structures essential for basic communicative skills at the novice level. Students will learn to speak, read, and write (through Pinyin and simple characters) at a beginning level on topics such as school, family, hobbies, etc. They will be able to produce and understand simple conversations. The target for this course is novice mid. The course will be taught 50-75% in the target language.

3. Change Course Prerequisite and the Description of *Heritage Portuguese 1* to the following:
    Prerequisite: Director Approval Oral Proficiency Test Required.
    This course is designed specifically for students whose home language is Portuguese but who need to develop literacy skills and grammatical knowledge of the Portuguese Language. The course will focus on contemporary issues in the US and Lusophone worlds and how one's language forms one's identity. Students will be assessed on points of view in spoken and written Portuguese.

4. Change Course Prerequisite of *Heritage Portuguese 2* to the following:
    Prerequisite: Successful completion of Heritage Portuguese I or demonstrated literacy and writing skills via Placement Exam.

5. Add course: *Heritage Portuguese 3*

    Heritage Portuguese 3 (8074)
    Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1,2,3,4,7
    Elective   Full Year   Grades: 11-12   A Level
    This course is a continuation of the Heritage Portuguese sequence. Students will explore the different text types in literature from a cultural perspective. Emphasis will be placed on the interpretation and analysis of literary works.