

Laconia High School



Program of Studies 2020-2021

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Core Values

The Laconia High School community provides a safe and supportive learning environment that encourages students to pursue excellence in achievement and to become contributing members of a diverse and changing society. We will accomplish this through promoting Pride, Leadership and Honor in each student. We believe in SACHEM **P.R.I.D.E.**

Personal Responsibility – Own your choices

Respect – Self, others, the institution

Integrity – Doing right at all times

Determination – Persevere regardless of circumstances

Empathy – Understand others' feelings

About Us

Laconia, New Hampshire is a small city with a population of about 16,000. Situated between three lakes, the city is located in a region that offers a variety of summer and recreational activities that draw significant numbers of tourists. The economy of the area is also based on a wide range of light industries and services. Laconia is the county seat for Belknap County and several state agencies have regional offices located here.

Laconia High School is a public, comprehensive, grades 9-12 high school with a current enrollment of approximately 600 students. Laconia High School's first graduating class consisted of eight members in 1878. The present building was constructed in the early 1920's with additions in the 1930's and renovation in 1974-1975. Laconia High School offers a wide variety of courses and co-curricular activities to prepare students for college and career and to develop community involvement, leadership skills, and well-rounded citizens. The J. Oliva Huot Technical Center opened in 1983 and had another wing added in 2012-13. The Huot Technical Center provides career and technical education programs for students from Laconia, Belmont, Franklin, Gilford, Inter-Lakes and Winnisquam Regional high schools.

Affiliations

Laconia High School is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). NEASC is a nongovernmental, nationally recognized organization whose affiliates include elementary schools through collegiate institutions offering postgraduate programs.

Accreditation by NEASC means that an institution meets or exceeds the criteria established by the commission. An accredited school or college is one that has available the necessary resources to achieve its stated purposes through appropriate educational programs; is substantially doing so; and gives evidence that it will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. The integrity of the institution is also addressed through the accreditation process. Accreditation by the New England Association is not partial, but applies to the institution as a whole. As such, it is not a guarantee of the quality of every course or program offered, nor of the competence of

individual graduates. Rather, it provides reasonable assurances about the quality of opportunities available to students enrolled in the institution.

Laconia High School is a member institution of NEASC and, as such, is committed to its system of review. Inquiries regarding the status of an institution's accreditation should be directed to the administrative staff. Individuals may also contact the Association.

NHIAA

Laconia High School is a member of the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association. Since 1947, the NHIAA has made progress in organizing, supervising, and coordinating a state-wide athletic program. Superintendents, principals, athletic directors, coaches, state school board association members, and State Department of Education personnel have served on the council, the governing body of the organization. The administration of sports has been carried out by committees chosen from school and non-school people throughout the state. In addition to the administration of athletics, the association has formulated standards to ensure that competition is equalized. Regulations have been adopted to meet changing times and conditions. Changes, when necessary, are implemented by constitutional or bylaw amendment.

By this process, athletics takes its proper place in the entire educational program of the schools and makes a great contribution to the development of New Hampshire youth.

The mission of the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association, as the leader of high school athletics, is to ensure fair play in competition and equal opportunity in interscholastic opportunities.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

The Laconia School District does not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, handicap, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy, or disability in compliance with the provisions of, but not limited to, Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1967, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the American with Disabilities Act of 1975, NH Law Against Discrimination, and State Rule: Ed. 303.01 (i), (j), (k). Any person having inquiries concerning Laconia School District's

compliance with regulations implementing these laws may contact: Steve Tucker, Superintendent of Schools, School Administrative Unit #30, 39 Harvard Street, Laconia, New Hampshire 03246 telephone number (603) 524-5710. The Title IX Coordinators are Tina Woodbury and Paul Robdau at the Huot Technical Center, telephone number (603) 528-8693 or Wendy Hamill and Phil Reed at Laconia High School, telephone number (603) 524-3350. The Region I Director (federal law office) is located at: Office of Civil Rights, US Department of Education, J. W. McCormack Building, PO & Courthouse, Room 222, 01-0061, Boston, MA 02109 (617) 223-9662, TDD 4 (617)223-9695. The Equal Opportunity Commission is located at JFK Federal Building, Room 475, Government Center, Boston, MA 02201 (617) 565-3200. The NH Commission for Human Rights is 2 Chenell Drive, Concord, NH 03301 (603) 271-2767.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (1974)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligibility students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records: The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the Principal or his designee a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The Principal or his designee will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. The right to request an amendment to the student's educational records, which the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask Laconia School District to amend a record generated by the Laconia School District that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the Principal or his designee, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the Laconia School District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing. The right to consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the Laconia School District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement personnel); a person serving on

the Laconia School District School Board; a person or company with whom the Laconia School District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, consultant, expert, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks; or the Laconia School District's insurance carrier. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the Laconia School District discloses education records without consent to officials of a school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA contact: Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 600 Independent Avenue SW Washington, DC 20202-460.

Academic Program and NCAA Eligibility

For students who hope to play sports at a Division I or Division II college and receive a scholarship. Student-athletes who hope to participate in NCAA sports must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. There are a number of criteria and specific course requirements that the NCAA considers when determining initial eligibility (whether or not a student exiting high school and entering college is eligible to participate in NCAA sports). The SRHS School Counseling and Athletic staff strongly encourage prospective college student-athletes to begin the NCAA eligibility process early. There are a number of forms that students, parents, and counseling staff must complete in order to officially register for NCAA Eligibility Center review of initial eligibility. As over 180,000 eligibility requests are received by the NCAA each year, it is helpful to begin the process as soon as possible. For more information about initial eligibility, please see the link below.

<http://www.athleticscholarships.net/ncaa-eligibility-center.htm>

School Counseling

The Laconia High School Counseling program is an essential part of the educational process for students. This program is designed to meet students' needs by helping them define and meet expectations in all facets of their lives – educational, emotional, social, and career. Each student will be assigned to a counselor upon entrance to Laconia High School.

Guidance activities and reviews are conducted on a regular and planned basis with the goal of providing students with experiences to help them grow and to reach their full potential. Counselors provide direct services to students, as well as working with parents, school staff, and members of the community. Unless otherwise instructed in writing by a parent or guardian, services provided through the School Counseling Office will be provided to all students through self-referral, staff referral, and/or parent referral. Counselors are obligated to share information with parents of minors and others in the following circumstances: as ordered by a court of law; to protect a student from harm, abuse and neglect; and, to warn potential victims of the intent to harm.

Student Services Program

Student Services at Laconia High School are designed to meet the New Hampshire Standards for the Education of Handicapped Students to provide a free and appropriate education for all identified educationally disabled students using an inclusion model. The proper referral, evaluation, and placement requirements must be met in order for a student to take part in this program. A referral may be made by any person who bears a responsibility for a child's welfare.

After it has been determined (through the referral, evaluation and placement process) that a student is educationally disabled, a variety of placement options become available. Such placements may include, but are not limited to, the following options: directed study support, consultative assistance, itinerant specialists, and instructional assistants, work-study, special classes, class monitoring, and/or individualized instruction. Students who are identified as educationally disabled will be graded according to their Individual Education Plan which defines specific goals, objectives, and modifications. A cooperative determination will be made by classroom teachers and the Special Education staff. These may include the following areas of concern: test-taking, assignment completion, study techniques, counseling, and/or vocational planning.

NOTICE OF RIGHTS PURSUANT TO RSA 186-C: 16-b, the Statute of Limitations for Special Education Cases

If you suspect that your child is educationally disabled and qualifies for such services, you may make a written referral requesting that the school district determine your child's eligibility. Such referrals should be addressed to:

Student Services Coordinator

Laconia High School
345 Union Ave.
Laconia, New Hampshire 03246

Suggested Credits

There are a variety of educational opportunities available to students after high school. In an effort to provide some general guidelines, the chart below provides course requirements to help inform students on the credits they should have by content area:

Type of College	English	Social Studies	Math	Science	World Language
Selective 4 Year Colleges	5	4-5	5	4-5	4-5
4 Year Colleges	4-5	4	4	4	3-4
2 Year Colleges	4	3	3	3	0-2
Military	4	3	3	3	0

Graduation Requirements

The course requirements for graduation allows students to take a broad spectrum of courses across a variety of content areas with allowance for choices for electives. Though the chart spells out the minimum requirements, students are encouraged to take a full schedule of classes while at Laconia High School to prepare for college and career and to take advantage of the wide variety of educational experiences available.

Required Subject or Course	Number of Credits Needed for Graduation
English	4 (English 9, English 10, American Literature, Senior Elective)
Fine Arts	1
Health	1
Mathematics	4
Physical Education	1
Science	3 (Physical Science, Life Science, Science Elective)
Social Studies	3 (Geo/Cult, Citizenship, US History)
Technology	1
Electives	8
Total Credits Required to Graduate	26 Credits

Early Graduation

Early graduation is a means to earn a high school diploma. If a student wants to graduate early, the student, parent(s) or guardian(s), Principal, the Academic Coordinator, and a school counselor must all be involved in the process. If a student wishes to graduate early, they must follow the following procedure:

1. Student request: The student submits a formal, written request to the Principal explaining that s/he wants to graduate early and the reasons for wanting to do so. The statement must be submitted by July 1 after the student's sophomore year.
2. Parent letter: The parent(s) or guardian(s) submits a letter accompanying the student request supporting their child's request to graduate early and articulating their reasons for supporting the request.
3. School Counselor review: The student and a parent or guardian meets with a school counselor to review credits earned and to determine whether early graduation is possible and if it is in the student's best interest. If it is, the school counselor will make a schedule for the following year to fulfill the rest of the student's graduation requirements.
4. Principal meeting: The Principal, a school counselor, Academic Coordinator, a parent, and the student review the student statement, parent letter of support, and student schedule for the next year. After this meeting, the Principal will approve or deny the request.

Eligibility for Extra-Curriculars

Eligibility for participation in Laconia High School athletics and other extra-curricular activities is determined by passing 3 blocked subjects in the 4 x 4 block schedule. As part of senior privileges, a senior who only attends less than 4 blocks would be fully eligible by passing all blocks they are enrolled.

If a student fails to adhere to the above conditions, they would become ineligible (no practices/games/no meetings) for that grading period. Student athletes who were academically ineligible due to grades achieved in the quarter previous to the next season tryouts, may try out if he/she is passing three of four classes at the time of tryouts. Students who were members of other extra-curricular activities who were academically ineligible due to

grades may resume participating in the extracurricular activity once they are passing three of four classes.

Class Rank

Class Rank is used to determine academic standing within classes and is based on a more specific GPA that aligns the percentage grade that a student earns in a class with a unique, weighted number that is correlated to the GPA value. This is an internal system that is only used to determine class rank; it is not the number that will be reported to colleges and universities. To be ranked, a student must carry a full load (four credits per semester) their freshmen, sophomore, and junior years and a minimum of two credits each semester of their senior year. All courses on a student's transcript count towards class rank unless the credit count exceeds eight (8) per year, in which case priority will be given to traditional courses offered in the Course Catalogue. The valedictorian, salutatorian, class essayist, and the rest of the Top 10 for that year's graduating class will be named at the end of Semester 1. The announcement of the valedictorian, salutatorian, class essayist, and the rest of the Top 10 will be made no later than the Friday prior to February vacation.

Extra Classes

All students are limited to taking a maximum of 8 course credits per year to be calculated toward class rank/GPA. Students wishing to take additional courses beyond the eight can do so for credit and posting on the transcript, but not to improve class rank. In all cases, courses taken at LHS have priority in determining class rank/ GPA.

Students interested in pursuing ELO opportunities should first discuss the opportunity with their school counselor, a classroom teacher and coordinate with the ELO Coordinator.

Laconia Academy

Laconia Academy is an adult evening high school diploma program. Students may take up to 5 credits courses toward LHS graduation

requirements at Laconia Academy. Further credits may be awarded with the Principal's permission. Contact the Laconia Academy Office at 603-524-5712 if you have further questions.

On-Line Course Work

Students can use a variety of on-line platforms, including but not limited to, Edmentum and VLACS, to make-up credit for course(s) due to academic failure or excessive absences or illness; to engage in learning not otherwise offered through the Laconia High School program of studies; or as otherwise determined appropriate by the LHS Administration. See specific subsections with details for eligibility and access.

Edmentum On-Line Learning:

The Edmentum program provides students the opportunity to recover credit for course(s) due to academic failure or excessive absences or illness. To be eligible, a student needs to have taken the class for the entire semester and received a grade of 50 or higher. Once the PLATO course has begun, the PLATO course will be reflected on the student's or higher. Once the Edmentum course has begun, the course will be reflected on the student's schedule and upon completion will receive Pass/Fail credit on their transcript.

Virtual Learning Academy Charter School (VLACS)

VLACS is a New Hampshire approved Charter School and is free to NH residents. Typically, LHS students take a VLACS course when the course is not offered at LHS or through the Huot and/or the class does not fit their schedule. Students can take a VLACS course on their own at any time. However, if a student desires to have the credit count towards their LHS graduation requirements and be listed on their transcript -- prior approval is required from: the subject area department head, a school counselor and/or Administration. A sample of this form is included in Appendix A – VLACS Pre-Approval Form. This form is also available in Guidance. Please note that the weighting and credits of the class will follow what is outlined by VLACS in the VLACS program of studies. Once the VLACS course has begun, the course will be listed on the student's schedule and the outcome of the course will be reflected on the student's transcript. For more details please see the subsequent Course Change section.

College Credit Opportunities

Running Start

The Running Start program enables high school students to take Community College System of NH (CCSNH) courses for high school AND college credit. The courses that are available are determined on an annual basis and LHS currently partners with Lakes Region Community College (LRCC) for these options. A student must express an interest in this option at the start of the course, register with LRCC and pay a fee of \$150.00 per course. Upon successful completion of the course, students are awarded LRCC college credits.

Early College

Early College opportunities are offered to LHS students through Lakes Region Community College. Early College is a dual enrollment program where high school students take college courses for both college and high school credit. These courses are offered at 50% of the traditional course cost and can occur both on campus and online. Students can take any courses offered for which they are eligible. Interested students should speak with their school counselor and complete an LRCC Early College Enrollment form (available in the Office of School Counseling).

Expanded Learning Opportunity (ELO)

An ELO is a learning opportunity initiated by the student for the purpose of typically, acquiring “knowledge and skills through instruction or study outside the traditional classroom methodology.” Students can design a learning experience and demonstrate proficiency of agreed-upon competencies with the support of a cooperating educator and approval by the ELO Coordinator. ELOs at LHS follow a structure which may include: a thesis paper, structured research, technology integration, work with a community partner, a presentation and a reflection. ELOs are supported by a contract. Once the ELO opportunity has initiated, the course will be reflected on the student’s schedule and the outcome of the course will be reflected on the student’s transcript. For more details, please see the subsequent Course Change section.

Course Change – Add/Drop

Students may add/drop courses to their schedules, providing space is available and they receive approval from both the current teacher of

department record and the school counselor, for a period of up to 5 course periods following the start of the course. After this 5-course period window has passed, students are expected to remain in the class. If a student is withdrawn after the first grading term of a course, the letter grade of "WP" (Withdraw Passing) or "WF" (Withdraw Failing) will be assigned to the student's transcript.

If a student decides to make a schedule change during this five (5) 5-course period window, students may be required to complete forms related to all course changes and obtain appropriate school, administrative and parent/guardian signatures. Please see Appendix C – Add/Drop Form.

Reassessment

Reassessment is offered and recommended for any student who earns less than a 70 on a summative assessment. Students are required to meet with the teacher and complete a reassessment contract outlining specific corrective actions and reteaching necessary before reassessment. Students are expected to complete the reassessment within one week of the initial assessment, although an extension is available with teacher permission. Through reassessment, a student could increase their grade to as much as an 83. Students who earn between a 70 and an 82 may do reassessment at the discretion of the teacher with the same criteria listed above.

Sachem Support Block (SSB)

The Sachem Support Block is a flex block with a multi-tiered approach to early intervention to support and identify students with academic and behavioral needs. The goal of SSB is to provide interventions, supports, and enrichments for all students during the regular school day. Enrichments will be offered to students who maintain a 70% in all classes. All students are assigned to an SSB, which runs daily from 10:08-10:56. Scheduling for the week will occur on Mondays in SSB with priority scheduling given to students who need interventions and support in classes.

Transfer Students

Students transferring into or out of the district must begin the process with the School Counseling Department. For students transferring into the district, the School Counselor will review the transcript(s) from the other school(s) and discuss the best way to fulfill Laconia's graduation

requirements. The School Counseling Office will transfer all courses taken and credits earned onto a Laconia High School transcript. Counselors will continue adding to this transcript as the student completes courses in Laconia. The student's information will also be entered onto the computer so that all transfer students will have a Grade Point Average. In order to ensure equity, transferred credits will be reconciled so that grades receive weights that are consistent with the Laconia High School grading policy.

If a student transfers from a school having a different credit system, the School Counselor will determine the number of appropriate credits for each course passed. The GPA and rank will then be determined. A student must be enrolled at Laconia for at least two full semesters before they can be eligible for class rank standing.

Explanation of Course Levels

To be successful at Laconia High School, students in all classes are expected to actively participate, complete assignments in a timely fashion, solve problems, read rigorous texts, write in a variety of domains, work in groups, communicate clearly, integrate technology, and critically analyze texts and data. These habits and skills are essential in the effort to prepare students for career readiness after high school. All courses at Laconia High School are designed to help students prepare for postsecondary opportunities after graduation. These opportunities include college/university study, career/technical school study, apprentice programs, military service, certification programs, as well as entry into the workforce. Courses are taught at three (3) levels to accommodate the instructional needs of students in the four (4) academic content areas. All course levels prepare students to be college and career ready upon graduation. Recommendations for the levels are based on the student's academic habits and skills, performance on previous internal assessments (based on course competencies and standards) in the respective content area, and external assessment scores. Examples of external assessments include the, and SATs. Flexibility exists for students to assume greater challenge as their skills advance. If a student earns an 85 (or a "B" average) or higher in a course and/or their scores on external assessments reflect they are capable, the high school staff will explore having the student take courses in that content area at a more advanced level with a recommendation from a teacher.

Course Designations

Laconia High School categorizes its courses using the following:

F = Foundations

CCR = College and Career Ready

H = Honors

AP = Advanced Placement

Foundations

To be admitted into a Foundations class, students must demonstrate, using multiple measures, that their academic skills are below grade-level.

Foundations classes are offered in the four (4) core academic areas to prepare students for entry-level career choices. These students are expected to:

- Continue to work to build a foundation in literacy and math
- Acquire or improve essential skills such as collaboration, communication, critical thinking, decision-making, and problem solving to promote career readiness
- Receive greater support to achieve competence.

College and Career Ready

Students who want to access a four (4) year college or university, two (2) year college, or technical training programs without remediation, seek out military options or enter immediately into entry-level career choices should access courses at this level. These students are expected to:

- Read, write, speak, think, and problem-solve at or near grade level
- Have a command of math skills at or near grade level
- Complete rigorous independent reading and writing assignments outside class on a regular basis in a timely fashion
- Be motivated and self-disciplined
- Study a wide variety of topics and materials at great depth.

Honors and Advanced Placement

Students who are bound for a four (4) year college or university should access these courses. These students are expected to:

- Read, write, speak, think, and problem-solve above grade level
- Have a strong command of math skills above grade level,

- Complete many rigorous independent reading and writing assignments outside of class on a regular basis in a timely fashion
- Be highly-motivated and self-disciplined
- Study a wider variety of topics and materials at a greater depth than students in other classes
- For students in AP classes, they must satisfy the requirements on the respective College Board approved course syllabus and are encouraged to take the AP exam at the end of the course.

Honors Contract Option

In the instance where a student is unable to take an honors level course due to schedule conflicts or constraints that lead to an honors level course not being offered; students may discuss with the classroom teacher the Honors option. This allows a CCR level class to be taken at the Honors level and the student will receive Honors credit; once a student has contracted-up to the Honors Option, he/she is not able to return to the CCR-level coursework during that semester. The student must work with the classroom teacher to develop an Honors Contract which is due into the Office of School Counseling within the first ten (10) academic days of the semester; this contract requires approval and signatures of the student, parent/guardian, counselor and administration. Please see Appendix B for an exemplar of this contract.

Honor Roll

Students at Laconia High School will be recognized on the honor roll in three (3) ways. Course grades for Honor Roll recognition are non-weighted.

- HIGH HONOR ROLL WITH DISTINCTION: Student earns a 95 or above in all classes
- HIGH HONOR ROLL: Student earns a 90 or above in all classes (all A's)
- HONOR ROLL: Student earns an 80 or above in all classes (all A's and B's)

Minimum Scheduling Requirement

All students in grades 9-11 are expected to take a full course-load each semester (4 credits/semester). Grade 12 students may reduce their course load as part of senior privilege, but it is recommended they take a full course load so they are college and career ready and take full advantage of LHS' educational opportunities. Seniors must carry at least two (3) credits per

semester to be able to participate in the LHS graduation ceremony and related activities. Seniors must carry at least three (3) credits to be eligible for honor roll recognition.

Embedded Huot Credits

The Huot Technical Center (Huot) provides additional opportunities for our students to increase their college and career readiness and academic standing (please reference the Huot Program of Studies in subsequent sections of this document). The Huot classes listed below allow LHS students to earn the following credit towards graduation requirements. Please note that each Huot class can only apply 1.0 credit on a singular basis. For example, Health Science I and Health Science II can only accrue 1.0 applied LHS science elective credit.

Huot Class	LHS Credit Applied	Number of Credits
Digital Media Arts	Fine Art or Technology	1
Biomedical Technology	Science Elective	1
Law Enforcement	Social Studies Elective	1
Health Science	Science Elective	1
Personal Finance	Math Elective	1
Accounting and Finance	Math Elective	1
Social Media Marketing	Technology	1
Pre-Engineering	Technology	1
Principles of Engineering	Math Fine Art*	1
Computer Integrated Manufacturing	Fine Art*	1
Computer Hardware, Networking, and Intro to Programming	Technology	1
Automotive Technology	Technology	1
Teacher Preparation	English Elective	1
Allied Health Non-LNA only	Technology	1
Building Construction	Math	1
Plumbing and Heating	Math	1
Culinary Arts	Math	1
Winnisquam Agricultural Ctr	Science	1

*Student must complete additional coursework for this credit

Weighted GPA for Reporting to Colleges and Universities

According to the College Board®, “Class ranking is a mathematical summary of a student’s academic record compared to those of other students in the class. It takes into account both the degree of difficulty of the courses a student is taking and the grade the student earns. The compilation of courses and grades is converted to an overall grade point average (GPA), and the higher the GPA, the higher the student’s class ranking.” The GPA system used at Laconia High School to report out to colleges and universities is based on a 4.0 scale recommended by the College Board (see <http://www.collegeboard.com/html/academicTracker-howtoconvert.html>) that is weighted based on course level. Below is a table with weighted GPA values.

GPA Table for Reporting to Colleges and Universities

Letter Grade	Percent Grade	5.0 Scale (AP)	4.5 Scale (Honors)	4.0 Scale (CCR)	4/0 Scale (FDN)
A+	97-100	5	4.5	4.0	4.0
A	93-96	5	4.5	4.0	4.0
A-	90-92	4.7	4.2	3.7	3.7
B+	87-89	4.3	3.8	3.3	3.3
B	83-86	4.0	3.5	3.0	3.0
B-	80-82	3.7	3.2	2.7	2.7
C+	77-79	3.3	2.8	2.3	2.3
C	73-76	3.0	2.5	2.0	2.0
C-	70-72	2.7	2.2	1.7	1.7
D+	67-69	2.3	1.8	1.3	1.3
D	65-66	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.0
F	Below 65	0	0	0	0

Class Rank Table

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percent Grade</u>	<u>5.0 Scale AP</u>	<u>4.5 Scale Honors</u>	<u>4.0 Scale CCR</u>	<u>4.0 Scale Foundations</u>
A+	100%	5.00	4.50	4.00	4.00
A+	99%	4.93	4.43	3.93	3.93
A+	98%	4.87	4.37	3.87	3.87
A+	97%	4.80	4.30	3.80	3.80
A	96%	4.73	4.23	3.73	3.73
A	95%	4.67	4.17	3.67	3.67
A	94%	4.60	4.10	3.60	3.60
A	93%	4.53	4.03	3.53	3.53
A-	92%	4.47	3.97	3.47	3.47
A-	91%	4.40	3.90	3.40	3.40
A-	90%	4.33	3.83	3.33	3.33
B+	89%	4.27	3.77	3.27	3.27
B+	88%	4.20	3.70	3.20	3.20
B+	87%	4.13	3.63	3.13	3.13
B	86%	4.07	3.57	3.07	3.07
B	85%	4.00	3.50	3.00	3.00
B	84%	3.90	3.40	2.90	2.90
B	83%	3.80	3.30	2.80	2.80
B-	82%	3.70	3.20	2.70	2.70
B-	81%	3.60	3.10	2.60	2.60
B-	80%	3.50	3.00	2.50	2.50
C+	79%	3.40	2.90	2.40	2.40
C+	78%	3.30	2.80	2.30	2.30
C+	77%	3.20	2.70	2.20	2.20
C	76%	3.10	2.60	2.10	2.10
C	75%	3.00	2.50	2.00	2.00
C	74%	2.90	2.40	1.90	1.90
C	73%	2.80	2.30	1.80	1.80

C-	72%	2.70	2.20	1.70	1.70
C-	71%	2.60	2.10	1.60	1.60
C-	70%	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.50
D+	69%	2.40	1.90	1.40	1.40
D+	68%	2.30	1.80	1.30	1.30
D+	67%	2.20	1.70	1.20	1.20
D	66%	2.10	1.60	1.10	1.10
D	65%	2.00	1.50	1.00	1.00
Below 65	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

New Hampshire Scholars

The New Hampshire Scholars Program encourages and motivates all high school students to complete a rigorous course of study throughout their four-year high school career. The program is designed to prepare students for a competitive job market and admission to college or technical training. New Hampshire Scholars must have a GPA of 2.7 and an overall attendance rate of 90% at the end of Semester 1. New Hampshire Scholars also agree to the following series of courses:

Content Area	NH Scholars Course of Study	Number of Credits
English	English 9, English 10, American Literature, Senior English Elective	4
Mathematics	Algebra 1A, Algebra 1B, Geometry, Algebra II	4
Science	Life Science lab based, Physical Science lab based, Science Elective	3
Social Studies	Geography, American Experience, (US History/Civics/Economics)	3.5
World Language	World Language	2

After successful completion of the above listed courses, students will be better prepared to enter college or the workforce. In addition, students who are designated as New Hampshire State Scholars will be candidates for certain types of scholarships and financial aid. State Scholars are recognized during the graduation ceremony with a ceremonial medallion. Students who are interested in the New Hampshire Scholars Program should speak to their school counselor.

For more information on the New Hampshire Scholars program, see <http://www.nhscholars.org/Course.cfm>.

Laconia Scholars

Competitive colleges and universities are looking for students to be successful in the most demanding courses a school offers. In an effort to promote academic excellence and prepare a student to be ready to attend a selective institution after graduation, the Laconia Scholars Program was created to recognize students who maximize the academic experience. Laconia Scholars take more core academic classes than the NH Scholars, maintain a 3.35 grade point average (GPA), and maximize their experience at LHS by taking a specific rigorous course load. This program helps support a student in preparing for college and career.

Content Area	Laconia Scholars Core Course of Study and Requirements	Credits
English	English 9, English 10, American Lit, AP Lit and Composition	4
Mathematics	3 Progressive Math Courses, 1 Calculus Course	4
Science	Lab-based Biology, Lab-based Chemistry, Lab-based Physics, plus one additional credit in: Honors Anatomy & Physiology, Bio-Medical Technology, AP Enviro, AP Chemistry, Physics 2, Health Science, or Forensic Science	4
Social Studies	World Geo/Cult, Civics, Economics, US History, with at least one of those courses being AP	4
World Language	3 credits of a language other than English	
Other Requirements	Minimum GPA Minimum Credits	3.35 30

LHS Diploma of Distinction

The Diploma of Distinction is intended to recognize, and reward student achievement that far exceeds the 26-credit diploma and fulfills certain specific and rigorous criteria. The intent of the Diploma of Distinction is to reward students for pursuing and maintaining consistent academic success over the entire course of their four years at Laconia High School.

Diploma of Distinction Requirements

- Minimum of 3.25 GPA to qualify
- 30 credits
- 4 credits in Math, Science, Social Studies, English
- 2 credits of World Language
- 1 credit for Senior Project
- 11 Elective Credits (must meet all requirements for LHS Diploma)

Eligibility Determination

- End of the 3rd quarter of junior year all students and parents will be notified they qualify to earn a Diploma of Distinction. A letter will be generated, and Guidance will have a meeting with all students.
- GPA will be calculated at the end of junior year to see if anyone new has qualified or if those who qualified have dropped below 3.25 GPA.
- GPA will be calculated quarterly to ensure good standing during senior year.
- Final GPA will be calculated at the end of 3rd quarter of senior year to ensure all students are eligible for Diploma of Distinction. Students who have dropped below 3.25 will not qualify.

Course Catalog

The purpose of the Course Catalogue is to provide the school community with brief descriptions of the wide variety of courses offered at Laconia High School. The curricula in the academic program focus on literacy, numeracy, problem-solving, critical thinking, mastering content, the arts, technology integration, communication, and collaboration. Students have the opportunity to balance their experience at Laconia High School with a mix of required academic classes, electives, dual enrollment classes, and classes that provide students with on-the-job training. The program is designed to meet the needs of a variety of students with various learning needs and styles.

Art and Technology

Topic	Freshmen Year/Sophomore Year	Junior/Senior Year
Fine Art	Exploring Art Art Elective	Elective
Technology	Exploring Digital Technology Elective	Elective
Electives	Art-Evolution of Crafts, Drawing, Painting, 3D Forms Technology-Characters and Comics, Fundamentals of Digital Security, Digital Imaging and Design, Computer Aided Design, Robotics, Yearbook	

Exploring Art

Grades 9-12

1 credit

CCR

In Exploring Art, students will be introduced to basic skills and art concepts of two and three dimensional art. Students will learn various techniques for creating fine art; including drawing, painting, ceramics, and printmaking. Students will demonstrate these various skills in creating their own artwork, and they will learn vocabulary associated with each technique. Students will be required to write responses on techniques learned and/or art history

robotics in the workplace and daily life. There are no specific entry requirements, but students taking this class should have an interest in, and aptitude for STEM content.

Characters and Comics Grades 9-12 1 credit CCR

The power of art is held in the story. Do you like to write? Do you like to draw? Have you ever felt it's not enough to do just one? Learn how to meld these two artistic expressions to create a unique voice that harnesses the power to tell a story with art.

In Characters and Comics we will study the history of comic strips, books, and graphic novels. Students will learn the fundamentals of character design through figure and animal drawing practices. Many styles of design will be experimented with such as Comic strip, Marvel, Anime, etc. This course will introduce you to drawing with Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop. No experience necessary but you must be willing to try!

Computer Aided Design Grades 9-12 1 credit CCR

This course is an introduction to computer aided drafting (CAD) using a variety of professional and consumer available software packages. Students will explore fundamental concepts of design as they relate to a variety of engineering and architectural applications.

Fundamentals of Digital Security Grades 9-12 1 credit CCR

This class will cover the technical details that form the foundation of cyber security as it relates to personal internet usage as well as corporate and government security programs. We will study the basics of computer hardware and operating systems, networking, and cryptography. We will review the technical aspects of various kinds of threats such as viruses, trojans, worms, denial of service, and many more. Because most digital security threats exploit human behavior more than system vulnerability we will examine our own use of technology and what we can do to improve our own security. We will study technical countermeasures along with end user training and education for a complete picture of digital security. We investigate current issues in cyber security and career options with student-directed seminars.

Yearbook

Grades 10-12

1 credit

CCR

Students who participate in this Fall-Semester-Only elective will be responsible for the creation of the LHS annual yearbook. Some student activities will include, but are not limited to, design and layout, photography, digital imaging and photo production, as well as networking with school staff and students to obtain needed elements. Students may also participate in the promoting and selling of the school yearbook.

English

Level	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Foundations	Foundations English 9	Foundations English 10	Foundations English 11	Foundations English 12
CCR	CCR English 9	CCR English 10	CCR American Literature	Senior Seminar Media Literacy
Honors	Honors English 9	Honors English 10	Honors American Literature	Honors College Comp Honors Creative Write
AP				AP Literature and Composition
Electives	Honors College Composition, Honors Creative Writing, CCR Journalism, CCR Speech & Debate, Media Literacy, Surviving the Apocalypse (can be taken for ENG or SCI credit)			

Foundations English 9

Grade 9

1 credit

F

Foundations of English 9 is systematically structured to ensure consolidated instruction in reading development, study skills, and life skills. Emphasis on visual and oral characteristics of words, using a variety of teaching materials and techniques, are hallmarks of this program. The reading strategies are presented in small groups and/or individualized instruction. The program is diagnostic and prescriptive, with the development of speaking, writing, and reading relationships. The classroom environment promotes and encourages a positive attitude toward reading in conjunction with fostering the improvement of self image. The reading material, in-class writing assignments, and classroom activities are also geared toward developing life skills. Materials include learning how to read cookbooks and recipes, medicine labels, newspapers, job applications, job postings, etc. Enrollment will be limited and determined by standardized reading test scores.

CCR English 9

Grade 9

1 credit

CCR

In this course, students will explore the English Department's 9th Grade Essential Question "What is my relationship with literature?" Students will establish personal connections with literature, determine a theme or central, and analyze complex characters through guided readings of canonical texts,

such as George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. Students will develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, editing, and revising both critical analyses and narrative reflections. Students will begin their preparation for the SAT through focused instruction regarding "SAT Writing & Language" skills and the English Department's scaffolded "Wordly Wise" vocabulary program.

Honors English 9

Grade 9

1 credit

H

In this course, students will explore the English Department's 9th Grade Essential Question "What is my relationship with literature?" Students will establish personal connections with literature, determine a theme or central, and analyze complex characters through guided readings of canonical texts, such as George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. Students will develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, editing, and revising both critical analyses and narrative reflections. Students will begin their preparation for the SAT through focused instruction regarding "SAT Writing & Language" skills and the English Department's scaffolded "Wordly Wise" vocabulary program. Students are expected to produce regularly personal essays and to engage routinely in rich student-focused classroom discussions.

Foundations English 10

Grade 10

1 credit

F

Foundations of English 10 is systematically structured to ensure consolidated instruction in reading development, study skills, and life skills. Emphasis on visual and oral characteristics of words, using a variety of teaching materials and techniques, are hallmarks of this program. The reading strategies are presented in small groups and/or individualized instruction. The program is diagnostic and prescriptive, with the development of speaking, writing, and reading relationships. The classroom environment promotes and encourages a positive attitude toward reading in conjunction with fostering the improvement of self image. The reading material, in-class writing assignments, and classroom activities are also geared toward developing life skills. Materials include learning how to read cookbooks and recipes, medicine labels, newspapers, job applications, job postings, etc. Enrollment will be limited and determined by standardized reading test scores.

CCR English 10

Grade 10

1 credit

CCR

In the course, students will explore the English Department's 10th Grade Essential Question "What is the purpose of critical thinking?" Students will

apply critical thinking skills to deconstruct complex texts and analyze the author's choice of structure through guided readings of canonical texts, such as Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451 and William Golding's Lord of the Flies. Students will produce clear, coherent writing, in which development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience in both thesis papers and narrative reflections. Students will continue their preparation for the SAT through focused instruction regarding "SAT Writing & Language" skills and the English Department's scaffolded "Wordly Wise" vocabulary program.

Honors English 10

Grade 10 1 credit H

In the course, students will explore the English Department's 10th Grade Essential Question "What is the purpose of critical thinking?" Students will apply critical thinking skills to deconstruct complex texts and analyze the author's choice of structure through guided readings of canonical texts, such as Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451 and William Golding's Lord of the Flies. Students will produce clear, coherent writing, in which development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience in both thesis papers and narrative reflections. Students will continue their preparation for the SAT through focused instruction regarding "SAT Writing & Language" skills and the English Department's scaffolded "Wordly Wise" vocabulary program. Students are expected to produce regularly critical analyses and to engage routinely in rich student-driven classroom discussions.

Foundations English 11

Grade 11 1 credit F

Foundations of English 11 is systematically structured to ensure consolidated instruction in reading development, study skills, and life skills. Emphasis on visual and oral characteristics of words, using a variety of teaching materials and techniques, are hallmarks of this program. The reading strategies are presented in small groups and/or individualized instruction. The program is diagnostic and prescriptive, with the development of speaking, writing, and reading relationships. The classroom environment promotes and encourages a positive attitude toward reading in conjunction with fostering the improvement of self image. The reading material, in-class writing assignments, and classroom activities are also geared toward developing life skills. Materials include learning how to read cookbooks and recipes, medicine labels, newspapers, job applications, job postings, etc. Enrollment will be limited and determined by standardized reading test scores.

CCR American Literature

Grade 11

1 credit

CCR

In this course, students will explore the English Department's 11th Grade Essential Question "What does it mean to be an American?" Students will apply their critical thinking skills to understand the complexities of cultural identity and to examine different authors' approaches to similar themes in America's canonical texts, such as Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, and Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*. Students will produce persuasive arguments with evidence supporting a thesis and narrative reflections with details from multiple sources. Students will continue their preparation for the SAT through focused instruction regarding "SAT Essay" strategies, "SAT Writing & Language" skills, and the English Department's scaffolded "Wordly Wise" vocabulary program.

Honors American Literature

Grade 11

1 credit

H

In this course, students will explore the English Department's 11th Grade Essential Question "What does it mean to be an American?" Students will apply their critical thinking skills to understand the complexities of cultural identity and to examine different authors' approaches to similar themes in America's canonical texts, such as Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, and Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*. Students will produce persuasive arguments with evidence supporting a thesis and narrative reflections with details from multiple sources. Students will continue their preparation for the SAT through focused instruction regarding "SAT Essay" strategies, "SAT Writing & Language" skills, and the English Department's scaffolded "Wordly Wise" vocabulary program. Students are expected to produce regularly critical analyses and to engage routinely in rich, relevant student-driven classroom discussions.

Honors College Composition

Grade 11

1 credit

H

In this course students learn to write clearly and effectively for defined audiences through a variety of strategies. Emphasis is on the writing process from pre-writing through drafting, revising and editing. Formal essays and a research paper are required. This course will also help prospective college students understand the steps that need to be taken in order to apply and get ready for college. Topics that will be covered will include the terminology that is used in reference to college life, the college search process, college major/degree programs, preparation for

PSAT/SAT/SAT-2 testing, the college application process, interviewing, and financial aid and scholarship programs. The course will also cover selected novels and poetry from American and British Literature, as well as the significant writing of descriptive, narrative and expository essays for students planning to attend college. This course is offered for Project Running Start credit.

Honors Creative Writing Grades 11-12 1 credit H

Students in this writing course will examine different genres: poetry, fiction, memoir, and nonfiction. Students taking this course will be expected to write intensively as they move through each genre studied. In addition to writing, students will be expected to read and examine poems, short stories, novels, and nonfiction writing. Each student will be responsible for creating a portfolio of original work with a goal of submitting revised pieces for publication. This course is a writing course supplemented by full texts and excerpts of memoirs, as well as articles about memoir. Students enrolled in the class will write extensively, the final assessment being a portfolio of personal writing and a polished piece of memoir. Students will learn to appreciate and write poetry in a variety of closed forms, including the sonnet, villanelle, sestina, ballad, and haiku, and will also explore the open form of free verse. Students will read poets from the 16th century through the present, and will examine how their use of imagery, word order, tone, diction, sound devices, and symbol can augment meaning. Students will produce a final portfolio of original work which primarily will focus on their own poetry, but will also include some analysis of the poetry they have studied. Other assessments may include tests and quizzes. This course is offered for Project Running Start credit.

CCR Journalism Grades 10-12 1 credit CCR

In this writing, intensive course students experience elements of printed and electronic media. Students will study wide-ranging aspects of written and photographic journalism with a focus on the reporting, writing, and publishing of news items, with the goal of developing and publishing a student-run newspaper or magazine. Students enrolled in this course should expect daily writing assignments geared toward the student newspaper. Students will be expected to use resources outside of the classroom to fully appreciate the challenges of providing accurate and interesting news items with the goal of improving the school and community.

Speech and Debate

Grades 10-12

1 credit

CCR

Speech and Debate focuses on developing skills centered on the ability to create and defend an argument. Students will gain an understanding of persuasion and argument through careful study of meaningful research, speaking, and the use of rhetoric. Through the study of language and different theories of persuasion, students will become better speakers and thinkers through research skills, persuasive writing, active listening, and public speaking.

Media Literacy

Grades 11-12

1 credit

CCR

This course will help students develop from passive consumers to critical readers of mass media. Students will study film, animation, print media (newspapers and magazines), advertising, internet, social media, television, and radio, with a goal of understanding how each employs specific formats for specific purposes, how persuasive strategies are employed with a variety of target audiences, and how media messages are constructions which do not necessarily represent the truth. Media literacy is designed to help students develop an informed and critical understanding of the nature of an ever expanding and increasingly dominating mass media –as information sources, as entertainment, and as an industry–as well as to examine, interpret, and evaluate the messages contained within, and their social, cultural and political implications. Students will be required to read and view analytically and will themselves utilize a variety of media to conventions.

Foundations English 12

Grade 12

1 Credit

F

Foundations of English 12 is systematically structured to ensure consolidated instruction in reading development, study skills, and life skills. Emphasis on visual and oral characteristics of words, using a variety of teaching materials and techniques, are hallmarks of this program. The reading strategies are presented in small groups and/or individualized instruction. The program is diagnostic and prescriptive, with the development of speaking, writing, and reading relationships. The classroom environment promotes and encourages a positive attitude toward reading in conjunction with fostering the improvement of self-image. The reading material, in-class writing assignments, and classroom activities are also geared toward developing life skills. Materials include learning how to read cookbooks and recipes, medicine labels, newspapers, job applications, job postings, etc. Enrollment will be limited and determined by standardized reading test scores.

Senior Seminar

Grade 12

1 credit

CCR

In addition to fulfilling an English 12 requirement or an elective credit, this course will be a conduit for Guidance to support students in the college admissions process. Students will receive assistance in the college search, application, and admissions process. Students will also work towards college readiness as they go prepare and take the SAT, complete FAFSA forms, and prepare for the college environment. Students will experience traditional college freshman instructional formats, participate in SAT / ACT preparations and complete a capstone senior performance-based assessment.

AP Literature and Composition

Grade 12

1 credit

AP

According to the Course Description, "An AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism and tone." A variety of works from primarily Western authors will be the focus of the course. Reading will be extensive and demanding. Students will also be asked to write to develop: "a wide-ranging vocabulary used with denotative accuracy and connotative resourcefulness; a variety of sentence structures, including appropriate use of subordinate and coordinate constructions; a logical organization, enhanced by specific techniques of coherence such as repetition, transitions and emphasis; a balance of generalization with specific illustrative detail; and an effective use of rhetoric, including controlling tone, maintaining a consistent voice, and achieving emphasis through parallelism and antithesis." Writing assignments will be frequent and rigorous, focusing on analysis, synthesis, and rhetorical strategies. Students will be prepared to take the AP Literature and Composition national exam after taking this course and Honors American Literature. This course is offered for Project Running Start credit. (AP course offerings are determined on an annual basis).

Surviving the Apocalypse

Grades 11-12

1 credit

CCR

An apocalypse is defined as "an event involving destruction or damage on an awesome or catastrophic scale." All signs point to massive change in human societies: climate change leading to more powerful storms and rising seas,

through use of pretesting to determine student needs. Concepts are introduced in an appropriate manner and pace, with time for development of understanding of the branches of mathematics. The course topics will include numbers and operations, problem-solving skill development using real-world and non-routine problems, reading and analyzing word problems, and basic Algebra and Geometry skills. Students will be assessed using a variety of methods including performance based applications, daily formative assessments, and exams. *Prerequisite: Integrated Math 1A & 1B*

CCR Geometry

Grade 10

1 credit

CCR

Students in this course will study geometric figures, congruence, similarity, transformations, trigonometry, coordinate geometry, circles, area and volume with an emphasis on proper communication of mathematics. This course provides a thorough development of reasoning skills and includes informal and formal proof, while emphasizing the connection between geometry and the physical world. Previous course competencies will be built on, and it is the expectation that the knowledge and skills have been retained. Students will be required to use a variety of mathematical tools such as compasses, rulers, protractors, and progressive software. Student assessments will include writing proofs using mathematical logical statements and justifications, performance-based application problems, and exams. *Prerequisite: Algebra 1A & 1B.*

Honors Geometry

Grade 9-10

1 credit

H

Students will study Geometry with a focus on geometric figures, congruence, similarity, transformations, trigonometry, coordinate geometry, circles, Area and volume with an emphasis on proper communication of mathematics. This course provides a thorough development of reasoning skills and includes informal and formal proof, while emphasizing the connection between geometry and the physical world. Previous course competencies will be built on, and it is the expectation that the knowledge and skills have been retained. Rigorous and complex problems and proofs will be solved and/or explained. Students will be required to use a variety of mathematical tools such as compasses, rulers, protractors, and progressive software. Student assessments will include writing proofs using mathematical logical statements and justifications, performance-based application problems, and exams. *Prerequisite: Algebra 1A & 1B.*

Integrated Math 3

Grade 11

1 credit

F

Students in this course will continue to develop the math foundation built in Math 9 and 10. Previous course competencies will be built on, and it is the expectation that the knowledge and skills have been retained. Concepts are introduced in an appropriate manner and pace, with time for development of understanding of the branches of mathematics. Students will develop their problem-solving and critical thinking skills as well as a foundation in algebra and geometry. Students will be assessed using a variety of methods including performance based applications, daily formative assessments, and exams. *Prerequisite: Integrated Math 2*

CCR Algebra 2

Grade 10-11

1 credit

CCR

Students will study Algebra 2 with a focus on linear programming, three variable systems of equations, matrices, complex numbers, polynomial functions, function operations, inverse functions, and quadratic functions. This course provides a thorough development of functions and will deepen the understanding of the structure of algebraic topics through teacher-led discussions and independent reading. Previous course competencies will be built on, and it is the expectation that the knowledge and skills have been retained. Students will be required to use a graphing calculator. Student assessments will include performance based assessments, real-world application problems, and exams. *Prerequisite: Algebra 1A & 1B.*

Honors Algebra 2

Grade 10-11

1 credit

H

Students will study Algebra 2 with a focus on linear programming, three variable systems of equations, matrices, complex numbers, polynomial functions, function operations, inverse functions, logarithmic functions, conic sections, and sequences and series. Previous course competencies will be built on, and it is the expectation that the knowledge and skills have been retained. This course provides a thorough development of functions and will deepen the understanding of the structure of algebraic topics through teacher-led discussions and independent reading. Previous course competencies will be built on, and it is the expectation that the knowledge and skills have been retained. Students will be required to use a graphing calculator. Students will work towards solving highly complex problems to lay foundation for Precalculus and Calculus. Student assessments will include performance based assessments, real-world application problems, and exams. *Prerequisite: Algebra 1A & 1B, Geometry.*

CCR Statistics and Probability Grade 10-12 1 credit CCR

This college level course is designed to provide students with a foundation elementary statistics for college or career. Previous course competencies will be built on and it is the expectation that the knowledge and skills have been retained. Topics include organizing numerical data, frequency distributions, probability of events, random variables, binomial and normal distributions, the Central Limit Theorem, estimation and hypothesis testing, graphical analysis, correlation, and regressions. Emphasis is on applications from areas of economics and science. Students are required to read and write arguments typically used in the decision making process for business and pharmaceutical studies. *Prerequisite: Algebra 2.*

Honors Pre-Calculus Grade 11-12 1 credit H

The primary goal of this course is to provide students with the required skills and understandings for further study in mathematics, particularly calculus, at the high school and college level. Previous course competencies will be built on, and it is the expectation that the knowledge and skills have been retained. Topics covered will include polynomial, rational and trigonometric functions and their graphs, trigonometry and the unit circle, trigonometric equations and identities, composite and inverse functions, polar coordinates and complex numbers, and an introduction to calculus. Modeling real world data and the use of graphing calculators is an integral part of the course. Reading the textbook for understanding will be emphasized throughout the course. *Prerequisite: Honors Algebra 2.*

Advanced Math Concepts Grades 11-12 1 credit CCR

This course is designed to expose the student to a wide range of general mathematics. Problem solving and critical thinking skills, along with the use of technology, will be emphasized and reinforced throughout the course as the student becomes actively involved solving applied problems. Topics to be covered include: Number Theory and Systems, Functions and Modeling, Finance, Geometry and Measurement, Probability and Statistics. Other selected subtopics may be included. This course is also offered as a Running Start course. *Prerequisite: Algebra 2.*

Math Applications Grades 11-12 1 credit CCR

Studies in the past few years have shown that there are a significant number of American students who are not prepared to take college math courses.

AP Statistics

Grade 10-12

1 Credit

AP

According to the AP Statistics Course Description that went into effect in Fall of 2010: "The purpose of the AP course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes:

1. Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns
2. Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study
3. Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation
4. Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses

Students who successfully complete the course and exam may receive credit, advanced placement or both for a one semester introductory college statistics course. This does not necessarily imply that the high school course should be one semester long. Each high school needs to determine the length of its AP Statistics course to best serve the needs of its students...

(AP course offerings are determined on an annual basis).

Vocational Math

Grade 12

1 Credit

CCR

This senior math elective is offered for students who are participating in a corresponding Huot or other Career Technical Educational program. This is a self-guided class utilizing online modules and programming and is supported by a math instructor.

Music

Topic	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Band	Symphonic Band	Symphonic Band Jazz Band	Symphonic Band Jazz Band	Symphonic Band Jazz Band
Choir		Concert Choir	Concert Choir	Concert Choir
Elective	Mixed Chorus, History of Rock and Roll and Hip Hop			

Symphonic Band

Grades 9-12

2 Credit

CCR

In this course, students will be continuing your growth as an instrumental musician with the aid and understanding of technique, theory, tone quality, evaluation, and the collaboration of social aspects through performance and assessments. Advanced instrumental music literature will be explored for competition, community service, school pride and lifelong skills of enjoyment. Advancement in musicality, individually as well as an ensemble, is the backbone of the course. The year is divided into several seasons, marching (field shows and parades), concerts (school, festivals, and competitions), small ensemble and solos. Each year individual growth as an instrumental musician can be attained.

Students are encouraged to audition for state festivals. Students will be assigned a uniform that is used for concert and marching performances. There is a one-time (unless either needs to be replaced) of \$35 shoe fee and \$8 method book fee of which students keep both. There is no rental fee for the large nontraditional instruments that are only offered to advanced students. There is no cleaning fee of uniforms.

This class may be taken multiple times for additional credit.

Prerequisite: Students must have either

- Played a band instrument and completed two levels of instrumental music by the end of eighth grade through a middle school band program at Standards of Excellence, Levels 1 and 2
- Taken private lessons by a certified music educator completing the two levels listed previously
- Previously been enrolled in band in high school

Jazz Band

Grades 10-12

1/2 Credit

CCR

In this course, you will explore the style of jazz as well as, swing, bebop, fusion, rock, and improvisation. With the aid and understanding of technique, theory, tone quality, evaluation, and the collaboration of social aspects through performance and assessments, you will grow and advance in jazz literature. Performance opportunities include competition, community service, school pride and lifelong skills of enjoyment. Advancement in musicality, individually as well as an ensemble, is the backbone of the course.

Each year individual growth as an instrumental jazz musician can be attained. The ensemble and individual students will be given opportunities

to grow through competitions and festivals. Students are encouraged to audition for these state festivals. Therefore, this class can be taken additional times and students will have the option to advance to an Honors Level. Students will be required to wear the all black concert attire. There is a \$20 jazz shirt fee of which students keep the shirt. This is a one time fee unless the shirt needs to be replaced.

This class may be taken multiple times for additional credit.

Prerequisite: The student must be enrolled in Band and play a jazz instrument.

Mixed Chorus

Grades 9-12

1 credit

CCR

In this course, students will be given the opportunity to explore vocal music through choral singing and grow as a vocal musician with the aid and understanding of technique, theory, tone quality, evaluation, and the collaboration of social aspects through performance and assessments. Opportunities to perform include concerts for community service, school pride and the lifelong skills of enjoyment. Advancement in musicality, individually as well as an ensemble, is the backbone of the course. Each year offers advancement and growth for every student. Therefore, this class can be taken additional times. Students will be required to wear the traditional black and white concert attire.

Concert Choir

Grades 10-12

1/2 Credit

CCR

In this course, you will be continuing your growth as a vocal musician with the aid and understanding of technique, theory, tone quality, evaluation, and the collaboration of social aspects through performance and assessments. Advanced choral music literature will be explored for competition, community service, school pride and lifelong skills of enjoyment. Advancement in musicality, individually, as well as an ensemble is the backbone of the course. Each year individual growth as a vocal musician can be attained. The year is divided into several seasons, concerts (school, festivals, and competitions), small ensemble and solos. Each year individual growth as a vocal musician can be attained. Students are encouraged to audition for state festivals. Therefore, this class can be taken additional times and students will have the option to advance to an Honors Level. Students will be required to wear the traditional black and white concert attire as well as receive a tux or gown for competitions and performances. There is a \$35 shoe fee of which students retain. This is a one time fee

unless the shoes need to be replaced. There is no cleaning fee for tuxedos and gowns.

Prerequisites: The student must be enrolled in Mixed Chorus and pass an audition requirement which assesses pitch, tone quality, solfège, and rhythm counting. This audition is held in January for the following school year.

Physical Education and Health

Topic	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Physical Education	PE Weight Training Exercise & Nutrition	Elective	Elective	Elective
Health	Health	Human Growth and Development	Human Growth and Development	Human Growth and Development

Wellness

Grade 9

1 credit

CCR

This course is a combination of lifetime fitness activities and health education. Learning will focus on healthy living and life-style choices, self-management, healthy nutritional and consumer choices, and the impact exercise has on functional health. Students will be assessed on their written work, self-assessment and activity records, personal fitness plans, reading and discussion from Fitness for Life text, projects, and participation. The class is designed to help all learners become informed, independent decision makers capable of planning for enjoyable lifetime fitness and physical activity, while at the same time achieving personal fitness and activity goals for the present.

Physical Education

Grade 9-12

1 credit

CCR

This course will be designed for students to develop fundamental skills, basic knowledge and rules on a variety of team recreational activities such as: soccer, flag football, volleyball, softball, team handball, floor hockey, speedball, ultimate Frisbee, and basketball as well as individual and dual activity sports such as: archery, golf, badminton, bocce and croquet. A flexibility and fitness component will be included in conjunction with the activities. Students will be assessed with a daily participation rubric on their

behaviors and enable students to avoid or reduce health risk behaviors by engaging peers, parents, families, and other positive adult role models in the student learning. Advanced Health builds on previously learned concepts and skills and provides opportunities to reinforce health-promoting skills to achieve longer-lasting results. *Prerequisite: Health.*

Science

Levels	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Foundations	Physical Science	Biology	Integrated Science	Elective
CCR	Physical Science	Biology (Sophomores only)	Chemistry Physics any Elective	Elective
Honors/AP	Biology	Chemistry	Physics any Elective	Elective
Electives	Anatomy & Physiology Forensic Science Earth and Space Environmental Science AP Chemistry Honors Physics II Surviving the Apocalypse (Can be taken for SCI or ENG credit)			

Foundations Physical Science Grade 9 1 credit CCR

The concept of matter and its properties and changes along with energy, forces and motion will be investigated in an activity-based fashion. This course explores the fundamental laws and theories of chemistry and physics. The developing fundamental skills of literacy and numeracy will be emphasized.

CCR Physical Science Grade 9 1 credit CCR

The concept of matter and its properties and changes along with energy, forces and motion will be investigated in an activity-based fashion. This course explores the fundamental laws and theories of chemistry and physics. *Prerequisite: Algebra 1A & 1B, which may be taken concurrently.*

Foundations Biology Grade 10 1 credit F

This course investigates areas of biology such as ecology, cell biology, genetics, and evolution. This course is activity directed and students are expected to participate in indoor laboratory activities as well as outdoor ecological field studies with guidance from the teacher. This is a lab-oriented

Environmental Science Grades 10-12 1 credit CCR

This course will provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study, including current topics. At the end of the year, students are encouraged to take the Advanced Placement examination, which provides an opportunity for possible college credit. Prerequisite *recommended: Chemistry, Algebra 1A & 1B and Biology.*

Bio-Medical Technology Grades 10-12 1 credit H

Bio-Medical Technology provides students with authentic laboratory experiences to explore careers as a researcher, geneticist, biochemist, epidemiologist, forensic scientist, pharmacist, or doctor among others. The field of biotechnology is the practice of using plants, animals, and microorganisms to create some benefit usually in a medical, health science, or agricultural field. Students learn about DNA and genetics, microbiology, genetic engineering, cellular and molecular biology, biochemistry, and immunology. The use and application of advanced laboratory techniques and equipment that replicate the work being done by biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies around the world will be taught. Prerequisite: *Physical Science, Biology and Algebra IA & 1B. Chemistry is highly recommended.*

Surviving the Apocalypse Grades 11-12 1 credit CCR

An apocalypse is defined as “an event involving destruction or damage on an awesome or catastrophic scale.” All signs point to massive change in human societies: climate change leading to more powerful storms and rising seas, increased political instability, epidemics like Ebola and other viruses sweeping the globe at a time when fewer and fewer people are being vaccinated, and increased mistrust of “others.” People can also experience a personal apocalypse, an event after which life has forever changed or altered. Humankind has experienced periods of rapid transition many times in the past- and we’ve always bounced back. Have you experienced this before, and what will it take to survive the next apocalypse?

What will you learn about in this class? The following units are mere suggestions: Nutrition, Domsday Preppers, Survival after Extinction Events,

Climate Change and Natural Disaster Survival, Teamwork, Exercise, Epidemiology, and Staying Safe. During the first weeks of class we will be understanding the variety of apocalypses that have been survived and then choosing our units from the suggestions below. As a class, we will write the syllabus, one topic at a time.

Students will have the option to take this course for English OR Science credit and will determine this at the start of the term.

Social Studies

Levels	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Foundations	Foundations Geography	Foundations Citizenship	Foundations US History	Elective
CCR	CCR Geography	CCR Citizenship	CCR America in Crisis CCR Tech in America	Elective
Honors/AP	Honors Geography	Honors Citizenship	Honors US History AP US History	Elective
Electives	CCR World War and Genocide, Honors World Religion, Movies Make History, Sports in America, CCR Psychology, AP Psychology, AP World History, Honors Social Justice			

Foundations World Geography and Cultures Grade 9 1 credit F

This course will explore the relationship between people around the world and the physical environment as well as the uniqueness and commonalities of cultures around the world. Students will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in reading maps and data tables. The major goal of this course is for students to learn about various regions of the world and the people in them. Fundamental skills in reading and writing will be emphasized.

CCR World Geography and Cultures Grade 9 1 credit CCR

This course will explore the relationship between people around the world and the physical environment as well as the uniqueness and commonalities of cultures around the world. Students will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in reading maps and data tables. Students will be expected to show competence in various methods of argument. There will be major projects and essays. The major goal of this course is for students to learn about various regions of the world and people in them. This course will explore the relationship between people around the world and the physical environment as well as the uniqueness and commonalities of cultures around the world. Students will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in reading maps and data tables. The major goal of this course is for students to learn

about various regions of the world and the people in them. Students will be expected to read, write, and problem solve independently. Class discussion.

Honors World Geography and Cultures Grade 9 1 credit H

Citizenship Grade 10-11 1 credit H/CCR/F This semester-long course emphasizes the responsibilities and powers of our constitutional form of government and the fundamentals of our economic system. Students will be expected to understand and articulate the specific roles of the three levels and branches of government in the United States. The course is centered on the idea that individuals can influence government and business. Students are expected to understand that to protect our personal liberty, safety, property and rights as consumers it is essential we know how our government works and how to act as responsible citizens. This course fulfills the graduation requirements for Civics and Economics.

Foundations US History Grade 11 1 credit F

This course covers the history of the United States from the Colonial Period to the present. Students will examine major events and movements, important historical figures, inventions and their impact, and economic developments. Students will gain an understanding and appreciation of how the United States evolved from a colony of England to a world power in the post-World War II era. Students will read and analyze primary and secondary sources and learn to understand the history of our nation from a variety of perspectives and fundamental skills in reading and writing will be emphasized.

Technology in America Grades 10-12 1 credit CCR

Can you imagine a world without the Internet or the cell phone? From the cotton gin and the telegraph to the supercomputer and the web, American lives have been shaped and changed in many ways by our technology. These changes have caused dramatic changes in American society, affecting social structure, culture, economic prosperity, geographic patterns, human behavior and demographic trends. This course will help students gain an understanding of how new technology is developed and the benefits and consequences of those innovations. This course fulfills the US History requirement.

Evolutions & Revolutions

Grades 10-12

1 credit

CCR

This course studies the history of the unheard and the dispossessed in American history, including women, the working class, African-Americans, Hispanics, immigrants and Native Americans. It specifically targets dissenters whose efforts have pursued social and economic justice and political equality in American history from the colonial period to the present day. Topics will include the fight for worker's rights, the women's movement, Nativism, the Progressive and Populist reformers, slavery and Jim Crow, the Red Scare and Cold War politics, the Great Migration and the anti-war and Counterculture movements of the 1960's. This course fulfills the US History requirement.

Contemporary Issues

Grades 10-12

1 credit

CCR/H

Ripped from the headlines, the curriculum for this course is the news of the day, via newspapers, magazines and the Internet. Students will explore a wide range of contemporary issues in America and the world and complete two research projects on a topic of their choice. Possible subjects could include the role of film in American culture, scientific discoveries, immigration and ethnic diversity, the impact of social media and the growth of global terrorism. Students should expect significant reading, writing and independent research as they explore their areas of interest. The course will culminate in performance assessments and exhibitions by the students.

Movies Make History

Grades 9-12

1 credit

CCR

In this course you will discover the political, economic and cultural impact of film in American history. You will see that movies and television have significantly influenced the course of our nation, often mirroring, predicting and even influencing political and legal changes in America and around the world. You will also consider the role of film in our modern economy, including the rise of global companies like CBS, Fox, Netflix, and Amazon. You will speculate on the future of cable television and movie theaters, both struggling to adapt to new streaming technologies and market competition. Students will also learn how film has been used as a powerful tool of cultural and social change, allowing people to speak out on the critical issues facing our world.

Sports in America

Grades 9-12

1 credit

CCR

Sports have had an enormous impact on American history, culture and law. American history contains examples of professional athletes testifying before Congress about performance-enhancers, federal laws like Title IV that mandate gender equality, lawsuits over player safety and head injuries in the NFL, as well as a wide variety of illegal gambling schemes. This course will also consider the important role both amateur and professional sports now serve in our modern economy. As you break down the revenue streams and massive annual budgets for team owners in these billion-dollar industries, you will finally be able to explain why a basketball player could be paid \$30 million per year, while the average salary in America is less than \$60,000 and even the President only gets \$400,000. You will also speculate on the future of sports betting, a multi-billion-dollar industry, in America. Additionally, you'll learn how sports have been a powerful tool for social change, often when other efforts have failed. Racial integration, gender equality, inclusion of people with disabilities, and increased social mobility are some social issues in American history that have been affected by sports.

Social Justice

Grades 11-12

1 credit

H

Adams, Bell, and Griffin (2007) define "social justice as both a goal and process". This course is intended to help students conceptualize, critique, and reformulate social justice as an outcome while working towards a better understanding of how their social identities and systems of oppression contribute to and/or work against the social justice process. To achieve the latter, we will focus on research and theories of social justice, multiculturalism, democratic engagement, and facilitation. To move towards understanding how we can contribute to the process of social justice we will engage in dialogue, experiential activities, meaning-making exercises, and self-care practices that combine to push us into areas of discomfort for maximum learning while not being harmful. These two strands of the course will be integrated at various points to help students think deeply about how to find congruence around social justice in their personal and professional lives and between theory and practice.

World War II and Genocide

Grades 10-12

1 credit

CCR/H

This course will examine the diplomatic, political, economic, social causes and ramifications of the World Wars of the 20th and 21st centuries. World

War I represented the first total war in history, based on new weapons systems developed during the Industrial Revolution. By the end of the First World War, a flawed peace treaty resulted in a twenty-year truce before the next global war. The rise of Communism in Russia, the Great Depression, and the rise of Fascism in Europe and Japan led to the outbreak of World War II. World War II embraced a new component of warfare through the elimination of “undesirable social and racial elements” through the Holocaust. The Allied Powers ended the war only to see the growth of the Cold War between the Soviet Union and the Western Allies.

CCR Psychology

Grades 10-12

1 credit

CCR

This is the study of human behavior that explores the basic and more complex concepts of psychology. The teaching methodology will stress increased hands-on learning activities and will be more concrete than theoretical in nature. Students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in the articulation of how and why animals and humans behave as they do. This course is a rigorous introduction to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles and phenomena associated with each of the major schools within psychology. They will also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. The course is specifically designed to prepare students to take the AP Psychology exam in May. This course is offered for Project Running Start credit. (AP course offerings are determined on an annual basis)

AP/Honors US History

Grades 10-12

1 credit

H/AP

AP US History is a college-level course designed to provide students with the content knowledge and critical thinking skills for a deep understanding of United States history. The course begins with the Exploration and spans to the present period. Through in-depth study, students will learn to analyze and assess primary and secondary sources to help them interpret the past and understand the history of our nation from a variety of perspectives. The AP Program in U.S. History strives to provide the student with the skills necessary to draw and communicate their own conclusions based on an understanding of the broad scope of American History and evidence. This course will be team-taught with the teacher of the Honors American Literature. Students will be prepared to take the AP US History national exam after taking this course. (AP course offerings are determined on an annual basis)

AP World History

Grades 11-12

1 credit

AP

This is a challenging course that integrates the skills of historical argumentation, chronological reasoning, comparison and contextualization, historical interpretation and synthesis into content areas that focus on the interaction between humans and the environment, the interactions of cultures, state building, economic systems, and social structures. The course is divided into six periods. Reading and writing assignments will be frequent and rigorous. Students will be prepared to take the AP World History national exam after taking this course. This course is offered for Project Running Start credit. (AP course offerings are determined on an annual basis)

AP Government and Politics

Grades 10-12

1 credit

AP

AP United States Government and Politics introduces students to key political ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the political culture of the United States. The course examines politically significant concepts and themes, through which students learn to apply disciplinary reasoning, assess causes and consequences of political events, and interpret data to develop evidence-based arguments. This course is designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester introductory college course. (AP course offerings are determined on an annual basis)

World Language

Levels	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
CCR	Spanish 1 French 1 Spanish 2 French 2	Spanish 2 French 2		
Honors		Spanish 3 French 3	Spanish 3 French 3 Spanish 4/5 French 4/5	

CCR French 1

Grades 9-12

1 credit

CCR

French 1 is an introduction to the French language and culture. At the end of this course students will have a foundation of the French language.

CCR French 2 Grades 9-12 1 credit CCR

Students in French 2 continue to build on their foundational reading, writing, and speaking of French. At the end of this course students will have more skills necessary to communicate in the target language in a variety of situations and will gain more understanding of life in a Francophone culture.

**Prerequisite: French 1.*

Honors French 3 Grades 10-12 1 credit H

French 3 students conduct and participate in an intensive study of the French language. Emphasis is placed on speaking, reading and writing in the language. At the end of this course students are prepared with a deeper understanding of the French language and culture. **Prerequisite: French 2.*

Honors French 4 Grades 11-12 1 credit H

This course is designed to increase fluency and competency in French. French culture will be studied through literature, art and history. Fine points of language structures will be studied to prepare the students for college placement exams. **Prerequisite: French 3.*

Honors French 5 Grades 11-12 1 credit H

This highest level of French study is geared toward the student who is interested in life-long communication ability in French. There is an emphasis on advanced communicative skills. At the end of this course students will have a genuine appreciation of the language and its culture. Prerequisite: French 4.

CCR Spanish 1 Grades 9-12 1 credit CCR

This course is an introduction to Spanish language and culture. At the end of this course students will have a foundation of the Spanish language.

CCR Spanish 2 Grades 9-12 1 credit CCR

Students in Spanish 2 continue to build on their foundational reading, writing, and speaking of Spanish. At the end of this course students will have more skills necessary to communicate in the target language in a variety of situations and will gain more understanding of life in a Hispanic culture. **Prerequisite: Spanish 1.*

Honors Spanish 3 Grades 9-12 1 credit H

Spanish 3 students conduct and participate in an intensive study of the Spanish language. Emphasis is placed on speaking, reading and writing in the language. At the end of this course students are prepared with a deeper understanding of the Spanish language and Hispanic culture. **Prerequisite: Spanish 2.*

Honors Spanish 4 Grades 11-12 1 credit H

This course is designed to increase fluency and competency in Spanish. Spanish culture will be studied through literature, art and history. Fine points of language structures will be studied to prepare the students for college placement exams. **Prerequisite: Spanish 3.*

Honors Spanish 5 Grades 11-12 1 credit H

This highest level of Spanish study is geared toward the student who is interested in life-long communication ability in Spanish. There is an emphasis on advanced communicative skills. At the end of this course students will have a genuine appreciation of the language and its culture. **Prerequisite: Spanish 4.*

Huot Program of Studies

Link to the 2020-2021 Huot POS:

https://htclaonia.weebly.com/uploads/5/1/9/0/51903427/2020-2021_htc_program_of_studies.pdf

Appendix A – VLACS Pre-Approval Form



Laconia High School

Virtual Learning Academy Charter School (VLACS) Pre-Approval Form

VLACS is an approved high school by the NH Department of Education (NH DOE). VLACS credits can be applied to meet LHS graduation requirements. Students should meet and talk with both their school counselor and parents/guardians before making a decision to participate in VLACS as it can significantly impact academic progress and course sequencing.

It is the policy of Laconia High School to reflect all academic endeavors, attempted and/or completed throughout a student's entire high school career on their final transcripts. If a VLACS class is approved and a student commences a VLACS class, the student is expected to complete the class in the agreed upon timeframe. If a student withdraws from a VLACS class a "WP" (Withdraw Passing) or "WF" (Withdraw Failing) will be assigned to the student's transcript.

VLACS grades will be included on a student's transcripts and will count towards a student's GPA. If the class is designated honors through VLACS students will receive honors weighting in their LHS GPA.

Please indicate your reason for taking a VLACS class:

- Course not offered at LHS
- To take a course that is required for LHS graduation, but does not fit my schedule
- Other: _____

VLACS Course Name: _____

Start Date: _____

End Date: _____

I intend to take this VLACS Course:

Using an LHS block (please specify which block): _____

On my own free time (Yes/No): _____

Through our experience supporting students who are successful taking VLACS candidates, students who experience the most success on VLACS:

- Are independent workers
- Possess excellent organizational and time management skills
- Are highly motivated
- Have consistent access to a computer
- Possess the ability to conduct independent research

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

School Counselor Signature: _____

LHS Department Head Signature : _____

LHS Administrative Signature: _____

APPENDIX B – Honors Contract

Department: _____ Student: _____

2020-2021 Laconia High School Honors Contract

Students may sign a contract to take this course for Honors credit. The student must commit to completing the additional requirements to receive Honors credit and consent from a parent or guardian. The expectations and requirements for you will be greater, but some of the benefits of taking a course for Honors are as follows:

- * Your grade is weighted more heavily,
- * You will be able to explore additional topics to study,
- * You will improve your ability to read and write critically,
- * You will learn how to write annotated research papers,
- * You will have the opportunity to develop your time management and organizational skills,
- * You will apply higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills,
- * You will have the opportunity to hone your presentation skills,
- * You will be challenged.

Honors courses are more challenging, and strong academic habits and skills are necessary to be successful. These habits and skills include:

- * Self-motivation and self-discipline,
- * Strong organizational skills,
- * Strong writing, reading, speaking and listening, and problem-solving skills,
- * The ability to work independently and collaboratively,
- * Being on time and showing up for class,
- * Draw conclusions based inferences and on information from a variety of sources,
- * Using inductive and deductive reasoning skills.

(over)

To earn honors credit for this course, you must:

- * {Insert Content}
- * {Insert Content}

I, _____ (student name), agree to take this course for Honors credit. I understand that the rigor and workload will be greater than the students not taking the course for

Honors credit. I also understand that this will go on my transcript as an Honors course and that I cannot opt to return to CCR later in the semester.

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian name: _____

Parent or Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Teacher name: _____

Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____

Department head name: _____

Department head signature: _____ Date: _____

Administrator name: _____

Administrator signature: _____ Date: _____

Appendix C – Add/Drop Form

Laconia High School



COURSE ADD/DROP REQUEST

This form is a ***REQUEST for CONSIDERATION*** to add or drop an LHS course. A student must **schedule an appointment with their school counselor and discuss this request with both their current teacher (the course they wish to drop) and the future teacher (the course they want to add).**

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

The course I want to add: _____

The course I want to drop: _____

Please list the reason for this request:

Current Teacher Signature: _____

The student's current grade is (for current teacher use): _____

Future Teacher Signature: _____

School Counselor Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

School Counseling Office/Administrator Use Only

Request Approved: YES NO