

George Walton Academy

Course Catalog

2010-2011

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of George Walton Academy, a college preparatory school, is to establish a safe environment, to promote lifelong learning, and to assist students in becoming responsible, self-disciplined adults who will contribute positively to a rapidly changing society.

BELIEFS

- We believe all students have the right to receive an education in a safe environment.
- We believe each student is a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs.
- We believe learning is a lifelong process.
- We believe it is crucial to monitor a student's progress so that curriculum modifications and staff development can be structured to enhance noted strengths and weaknesses.
- We believe that students should demonstrate their understanding of essential knowledge and skills, and be actively involved in solving problems and producing quality work.
- We believe a student's self-esteem is enhanced by positive relationships and mutual respect among and between students and staff.
- We believe our school staff and stakeholders in the community should present themselves as positive role models for students.
- We believe that part of our job as educators is to help students learn the value of taking personal responsibility for their work and actions.
- We believe that assessment of student learning and our school's effectiveness should be ongoing in order for us to work continuously to improve the learning process.

GEORGE WALTON ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG

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PHILOSOPHY

George Walton Academy is an independent, non-profit, coeducational school dedicated to providing an academically challenging learning environment in which a young person can grow, learn, and find success. Since students desire to succeed not only in college, but also in life, GWA strives to foster and promote the necessary life skills our students seek to be productive citizens. We foster the development and well being of the total child as a person, scholar, citizen, and athlete. A supportive administration and a dedicated faculty facilitate open communication between students, teachers, and parents ensuring a stable and supportive atmosphere that enhances self-esteem and learning.

Because each child is a different individual, GWA has high expectations consistent with each child's unique capabilities in all aspects of his school experiences and encourages each to excel wherever he/she has talent. The Academy emphasizes the importance of individual responsibility through honesty and integrity, respect for the rights of others, and proper social conduct. Our school encompasses a strong college-preparatory program, a competent and caring faculty, and individualized attention which molds a young person who is confident and ready for the adult world.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION. PLEASE READ!

The courses listed in the **Course Offerings** section of this guide reflect the general curriculum for the Upper School. Listings permit each student to view the total curriculum in order to plan his/her sequential course of study.

George Walton Academy reserves the right to cancel a course if there is insufficient student enrollment or insufficient faculty availability. If a course is cancelled, the admissions and/or counseling office will notify students to make another selection.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS AND POLICIES

1. **REVIEW** the GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS for the George Walton Academy diploma and the schedule examples in this guide.
2. **READ** and **STUDY** all of the COURSE OFFERINGS. Discuss with your parents the requirements, your specific academic needs and interests, and your possible college/career goals.
3. Please read and have your parents read the following statement:

COURSE POLICY

George Walton Academy reserves the right to place students in a course or courses when first choice requests cannot be honored or when the student's previous achievement and learning characteristics suggest a specific level. The final placement decision is based on the student's mastery of basic skills, previous achievement and level of maturity.

4. HONORS/ADVANCED PLACEMENT:
 - a. Placement of a student in an Honors or AP level course will depend upon the recommendation of the teacher. A student interested in being selected may discuss his interest with his current teacher or a former teacher in that subject area. Final selection is based on the student's mastery of basic skills, previous achievement, level of maturity, and recommendation of the department.
 - b. Students selected for Honors/AP courses must have displayed exceptional ability and interest in previous work. The student should be highly self-motivated and willing to commit significant time to the course. Enrollment in previous Honors/AP courses does not mean automatic re-enrollment in these sections.
 - c. Once enrolled in an Honors/AP course, the student is expected to maintain above-average performance as evaluated by the instructor (semester grades of B or higher) and above-average interest in the subject matter. Any student not maintaining these requirements may be removed from the class at the conclusion of the semester.
5. Advanced Placement students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination as their spring semester final examination. The cost of the AP standardized examination is not included in the tuition. A student who fails to score a two or better will have his/her final transcript changed from Advanced Placement to honor status.
6. George Walton Academy advises each student and his/her parents to maintain for future reference a cumulative file which contains this catalog, copies of progress reports, and letters concerning academic or conduct standing.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. A student shall meet the graduation requirements in effect at the time of enrollment in the ninth grade, regardless of changes in requirements affecting subsequent classes.
2. **Minimum Carnegie Units Required to Graduate: 22**
Graduation credits (Carnegie Units) are awarded for courses taken in grades 9-12.

Minimum Carnegie Units to enter Grade 10: 5
Minimum Carnegie Units to enter Grade 11: 11
Minimum Carnegie Units to enter Grade 12: 17
3. **Specific Carnegie Units/Courses Required of all Students:**

(4 units)	English:	English 9, English 10, English 11, and English 12 are required.
(1 unit)	Composition:	($\frac{1}{2}$ unit) Junior Composition, ($\frac{1}{2}$ unit) Senior Composition
(4 units)	Mathematics:	Algebra I*, Geometry, Algebra II, and one additional math are required. *If Algebra I is completed in middle school, the student must earn a unit in a higher level math course.
(3.5 units)	Social Science:	World History, U.S. History, Government and Economics ($\frac{1}{2}$ unit) are required.
(2 units)	Foreign Language:	Latin or Spanish: 2 units of the same language are required.
(4 units)	Laboratory Science:	Biology and Chemistry are required. The two remaining units are the students choice.
(1 unit)	Computer Technology /Fine Arts	
(1 unit)	Physical Education (1/2 unit required)/Health (1/2 unit required)	
(1.5 units)	Electives	
22 units	Total Carnegie Units required to receive a George Walton Academy diploma.	
4. **Course Load Per Semester/Per Year:** The Upper School operates on a two semester calendar consisting of two nine-week grading periods with classes meeting 55 minutes daily. Four (4) academic courses a day are required.
5. George Walton Academy offers on-campus tutors for any student who wishes to receive extra assistance. The cost of these tutors is not included in the tuition. Availability is subject to the schedules of the individual tutors.

* Beginning with the class of 2012, all students will be required to successfully complete 4 units of Science in order to meet graduation requirements as set by the Georgia State Board of Regents.

The graduation requirements in specific disciplines are minimum requirements toward a George Walton Academy diploma. The school expects each student to select the maximum number of courses appropriate for his/her abilities, his/her interests, and his/her college/career goals. A transcript indicating in-depth preparation in specific disciplines is beneficial since colleges often evaluate a student's selection of courses as either "demanding" or "average." The student and his parents should carefully consider any decision to discontinue advanced courses in such disciplines as mathematics and science. Above all, a student should attempt to maintain a balanced curriculum and to avail himself /herself of various elective courses and honors/advanced placement courses if he/she meets the criteria for selection.

Semester Grade Reporting

WEIGHTING SYSTEM

George Walton Academy applies the following system of weights only to determine honors such as Headmaster's List, Beta Club, and National Honor Society:

Academic Advanced Placement Courses.....	+ 10
Academic Honors Courses.....	+ 5

All regular academic, business, and fine arts courses receive no weighted value: courses which receive letter grades are not counted in the G.P.A. In order for a George Walton Academy Senior to receive Advanced Standing Status, he/she must take and pass four Advanced Placement Courses.

WITHDRAWAL FROM A COURSE

After a written request from his/her parents to the involved teacher and after the teacher's notification to the Headmaster, a student may withdraw from a course only upon approval from the Headmaster. A course withdrawal will not be approved later than the middle of the first nine-week grading period, except in unusual circumstances such as extended illness. Regardless of dropped courses, each student must carry at least four academic courses. The normal academic load is five courses.

PROGRESS REPORTS AND REPORT CARDS

Each marking period, students will be graded on their effort, work habits, and attitude toward the course. These reports will be sent home with the student and must be signed by the parent and returned to the first period teacher. **Parents may also access their child's grades via Edline from GWA's web site. Each family is issued an ID for their personal access to their child's grades. The grades will be updated every two weeks.**

A = 90-100	1 - Outstanding Behavior
B = 80-89	2 - Satisfactory Behavior
C = 70-79	3 - Bordering Unsatisfactory Behavior
F = 69-Below	4 - Unsatisfactory Behavior

SENIOR RE-EXAMINATION POLICY

Seniors who fail a semester or year course by failing the final exam have the option of a re-examination. Passing this exam with a score that will give a passing average will result in a pass for the course. The grade issued will be no higher than a 70.

EIGHTH GRADE COURSE OF STUDY

The curriculum for the eighth grade is a set curriculum. No units of credit are offered until the 9th grade. However, eighth graders do have the option of choosing 1-2 electives.

All 8th grade students will take the following courses:

ENGLISH 8

Eighth grade English emphasizes the mastery of traditional grammar and mechanics as a means of improving composition skills. Students read works of fiction, drama, and poetry; study corresponding vocabulary; and are introduced to basic analysis, listening and note-taking skills. Students are introduced to library/research skills and the basics of the formal essay. A three to five page research paper is required at this level

PRE ALGEBRA

ADVANCED MATH TOPICS

ALGEBRA I HONORS

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

PHYSICAL SCIENCE (H)

This course is an introduction to physics, chemistry, and astronomy. Topics include nuclear energy, chemistry of the home, magnetism, astronomy, electricity, etc.

GEORGIA HISTORY

Georgia History will acquaint students with Georgia's past by focusing upon the personalities and events which have shaped the state.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/COMPUTER SKILLS

The physical education curriculum encompasses instruction in the areas of lifetime sports, physical fitness, and nutrition. Each student will have nine weeks in computer skills instruction.

PLUS

Two (2) of the following semester courses:

Art	Drama
Survey of the Bible	Speech

OR

One (1) of the following year-long courses:

Band	Concert Choir
Foreign Language	

NINTH GRADE COURSE OF STUDY

All ninth grade students will take one (1) course from each category below:

English 9
English 9- H *

Algebra I
Algebra I- H *
Euclidean Geometry
Euclidean Geometry - H *

Biology
Biology - H *

World History
World History - H*

Physical Education / Health

In addition, freshmen should choose one and one half (1½) more units from the courses listed below:

(1/2) Semester Courses:

Drawing and Painting	Computer Technology	Drama	Sculpture
Internet Research	Art - H *	Speech	Photography
Communication Arts	Survey of the Bible		

(1 unit) Year-long Courses:

Foreign Language	Concert Choir	Band
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*** See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.**

Foreign Language: Two levels of foreign language are required for graduation. Two consecutive levels of the same language must be taken. These classes may be taken any year during the 9th - 12th grades.

TENTH GRADE COURSE OF STUDY

All tenth grade students will take one (1) course from each category below:

English 10
English 10 - H *

Euclidean Geometry
Euclidean Geometry - H *
Algebra II
Algebra II - H *

World History
World History - H *
US History
US History – H *
US History - AP*

Chemistry
Chemistry - H *

In addition, sophomores should choose two (2) more units from the courses listed below:

(1/2 unit) Semester Courses:

Drawing and Painting	Music Appreciation
Sculpture	Computer Technology
Art - H *	Internet Research
Photography	Personal Finance
Physical Education	Web Design and Development
Health	Speech
Weight Training	Drama
Survey of the Bible	

(1 unit) Year-long Courses:

Foreign Language	Studio Art – AP*	Band
Foreign Language - H *	Communication Arts	
Journalism Yearbook	Concert Choir	

* See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

ELEVENTH GRADE COURSE OF STUDY

All eleventh grade students will take one (1) course from each of the categories below:

English 11
English 11 (Language) - AP *

Composition I – (Required Semester Course)

Algebra II
Algebra II - H *
Advanced Algebra III
Precalculus
Precalculus - H *

U.S. History	US Government
U.S. History - H *	US Government & Politics – AP*
U.S. History - AP *	
Economics (1/2 Unit)	
European History – AP*	

Chemistry II H*	Chemistry - AP *
Biology - AP *	Anatomy - H *
Physics	Physics – H*
Statistics – AP*	

In addition, juniors should choose one and one-half (1 1/2) more units from the courses listed below:

(1/2 unit) Semester Courses

Drawing and Painting	Environmental Science	Computer Technology
Sculpture	Geology	Internet Research
Art – H*	Astronomy	Personal Finance
Photography	Marine Biology	Statistics
Web Design & Development	Psychology	Health
SAT Review	Music Appreciation	Weight Training
Drama	Survey of the Bible	Physical Education

(1 unit) Year-long Courses

Foreign Language	Art – AP*	Foreign Language - H *
Communication Arts	Journalism Yearbook	Band
Concert Choir		

* See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

TWELFTH GRADE COURSE OF STUDY

All twelfth grade students will take one (1) course from each of the following categories:

English 12
English 12 (Literature) - AP *
Composition II - (Required Semester Course)

U.S. History - AP *
European History - AP *
Economics (1/2 Unit)
Government
U.S. Government & Politics – AP *

Advanced Algebra III
Pre-calculus
Pre-calculus - H *
Calculus
Calculus AB - AP*
Calculus BC - AP*
Statistics - AP*

In addition, seniors should choose three (3) more units from the courses listed below:

(1 unit) Year-long Courses

A fourth year of science is recommended but not required for graduation.

Chemistry II H*	Biology AP*	Chemistry - AP *
Physics	Physics – H*	Anatomy - H *

(1/2 unit) Semester Courses

Drawing and Painting	Environmental Science	Computer Technology
Sculpture	Geology	Internet Research
Photography	Astronomy	Personal Finance
Art – H*	Marine Biology	Web Design and Development
Psychology	Health	SAT Review
Music Appreciation	Weight Training	Drama
Survey of the Bible	Physical Education	Statistics

(1 unit) Year-long Courses:

Foreign Language	Foreign Language-H *	Art – AP*
Communication Arts	Journalism Yearbook	Band
Concert Choir		

* See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

ENGLISH

The English curriculum provides the student with experiences that lead to a mastery of composition skills and an appreciation of literature. Traditional grammar with practical applications necessary for success in college, formal expository writing, literary analysis, and vocabulary building receive emphasis. A student must complete each of the four levels of English, grades 9 through 12, in order to graduate.

Both college preparatory and honors courses provide a strong background in grammar and literature. Students are prepared for college writing. The advanced placement courses offer the opportunity to cover more material at a more challenging pace.

ENGLISH 9

ENG 100

23.06107

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Ninth grade English is an integrated study of grammar, vocabulary, literature, and composition. This course develops the student's reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through the study of literary genres and elements and provides an introduction to Shakespearean theater. A research paper is required.

ENGLISH 9 (H)

ENG 110

23.06117

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

Honors English 9 is an accelerated course covering the material in English 9 and emphasizing composition and independent reading. A research paper is required.

ENGLISH 10

ENG 200

23.06207

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Tenth grade English continues the study of grammar, vocabulary, and composition and explores literary genres and terminology introduced in English 9. This course includes a survey of fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry in world literature. Independent reading is required as well as the writing of essays. A research paper is required.

ENGLISH 10 (H)

ENG 210

23.06217

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

Honors English 10 is an accelerated course covering the material covered in English 10. This course emphasizes in-depth analysis of world literature. Students are challenged to apply knowledge of literary elements and techniques to specific literary works. Independent reading skills are refined, and analytical thinking and writing skills are emphasized. A research paper is required.

ENGLISH 11

ENG 300

23.05107

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Eleventh grade English builds on the student's knowledge of traditional grammar and emphasizes college-level writing. The course concentrates on American literature and is designed to orient students to their American literary heritage by setting the literature in its historical context. The development of critical thinking skills is emphasized at this upper level. A research paper is required.

ENGLISH 11 (LANGUAGE) (AP)

ENG 3AP

23.04327

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

The AP language course, a course in literary and rhetorical analysis, engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Emphasis is on nonfiction. A research paper is required.

COMPOSITION I (Required the Junior Year)

ENG CO3

23.03107

Units: ½ Offered: Fall and Spring Semester

Composition I focuses on the writing process – planning, writing, and revising – as it introduces students to narration, description, exemplification, process analysis, cause and effect, and argumentation. Students will study examples of to discover techniques and strategies for improving the content, organization and style of their writing.

ENGLISH 12

ENG 400

23.05207

Units: 1 Offered: Year

English 12 sharpens and refines students' writing by emphasizing elements of style. Students are exposed to English Literature using a chronological approach which emphasizes the historical, cultural, and political contexts. A critical research paper is required.

ENGLISH 12 (LITERATURE) (AP)

ENG 4AP

23.06527

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

The twelfth grade advanced placement course in literature and composition is a challenging, college-level course in literary analysis of some of poetry, drama, and fiction. Extended independent study, including reading, essay, and journal, is required. The goal of the course is to produce independent critical readers, writers, and thinkers, and to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination. A research paper of at least ten pages is required.

COMPOSITION II (Required the Senior Year)

ENG CO2

23.03107

Units: ½ Offered: Fall and Spring Semester

Composition II is designed to help students produce clear, mature writing that reflects a command of both organizational and stylistic devices. The course emphasizes the writing process—planning, writing, and revising—and on stylistic devices: students are expected to understand and apply the characteristics of strong, clear sentences; the variety of ways to compose strong sentences and the techniques for joining and organizing sentences to create a flow of ideas. Students will examine the work of professional and student writers as part of their own writing. Students will read and evaluate the writing of their classmates; to better recognize the qualities of effective writing and to develop a vocabulary for discussing the strengths and weaknesses of writing. The student should finish the course prepared to succeed in the writing-intensive courses they will encounter as they enter college.

SPEECH

ENG 4SP

23.04207

Units: ½ Offered: Fall and Spring Semester

Speech class is designed to help the student realize the power of the spoken word, improve formal and informal oral communication skills, discover various levels of communication, learn confidence-building techniques, and draft and present effective speeches. Various forms of public speaking and debate are emphasized, including persuasive, extemporaneous, humorous, and oral interpretation of literary works.

JOURNALISM

ENG 4JR

23.03207

Units: 1 Offered: Year

This class is designed to produce the school yearbook, *The Resume*. **Students must apply for admission to this class.**

Attendance at a spring workshop is recommended. Practical instruction includes layout and design, copy writing, photography, critical editing, and the use of basic word processing and desktop publishing skills. Students are expected to learn teamwork, to complete all assignments, to sell a specified amount of advertisements, and to attend additional meetings when required by specific deadline dates. Journalism also includes publication of a monthly student newspaper and an annual literary magazine.

MATHEMATICS

Four years of mathematics are required at George Walton Academy. Each student must take Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II. Other mathematics credits may be chosen according to the student's ability and interests.

All mathematics courses, traditional and honors, provide a strong foundation and promote a positive attitude toward mathematics. The honors level in each course includes additional concepts and enrichment activities, thus the pace of the class is accelerated.

ALGEBRA I

MTH 100

27.06107

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or equivalent

This course provides a thorough development of the fundamentals of algebra. It covers basic topics such as operations of real numbers and polynomials. Solving and graphing the solutions of equations and inequalities in one and two variables leads to the study of linear, quadratic, exponential, radical and rational functions. Application of such functions is included.

ALGEBRA I (H)

MTH 110

27.06117

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or equivalent; See qualifications for Honors/AP courses

This course will include all topics from Algebra I (T) at an accelerated pace. It involves more investigation of extended material and emphasizes theoretical development of fundamentals.

Any 8th grade student taking this course must maintain a high average and show evidence of good mathematical understanding in order to move on to the next course the following year.

GEOMETRY

MTH 200

27.06307

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I

The main purpose of this course is to develop the ability to solve problems from a geometric and algebraic viewpoint. Topics covered include identifying and analyzing geometric figures, using coordinate geometry to solve problems, logical reasoning, and proving theorems. Class discussion is imperative. Several projects may be required in addition to class assignments.

GEOMETRY (H)

MTH 210

27.06317

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I; See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This course will cover the same topics as in Geometry (T), but will include more challenging problems and rigorous class discussions. Additional attention is paid to logic and proofs.

ALGEBRA II

MTH 300

27.06407

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course reviews Algebra I topics and expands the algebraic investigation into complex numbers, conic sections, exponential and logarithmic functions, and matrices. A very strong foundation of functions will be set.

ALGEBRA II (H)

MTH 310

27.06417

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I; See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This course covers the same topics as Algebra II (T) but at an accelerated pace and with more rigorous discussions.

ADVANCED ALGEBRA AND TRIGONOMETRY

MTH 320

26.06617

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Algebra II

This course focuses on the study of functions, specifically polynomial, rational, root, exponential, and logarithmic functions. graph the functions and solve related equations and inequalities. An introduction to trigonometric functions will also be included. Other algebraic topics, such as conic sections and matrices, may be included.

PRECALCULUS

MTH 340

27.06507

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Algebra II

This course is an extensive study of functions, including polynomial, rational, root, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Students completing this course should have the foundation needed for a calculus course taken on the high school or the college level.

PRECALCULUS (H)

MTH 350

27.06517

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II; See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This is an accelerated course covering the topics from Pre-calculus (T). The honors level class is more theoretical in nature than the traditional course. Students must be able to use mathematical concepts and logical reasoning to prove various mathematical statements. Most calculus topics such as limits, derivatives, and integrals, will be introduced in an effort to prepare the student for AP Calculus.

CALCULUS

MTH 400

27.07107

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Pre-calculus

This course is a survey of introductory calculus. It is the study of single variable functions. Limits, derivatives, integrals and applications will be studied thoroughly.

STATISTICS

MTH 330

27.05107

Units: 1/2 Offered: Fall and Spring Semester

Prerequisite: Algebra II

This course is an activity-based course designed to introduce statistics through application. By gathering and exploring real-life data, students will represent and interpret information, observe and anticipate patterns, decide what to measure and how long to measure it, design and carry out basic studies, understand and simulate basic probability models, and logically express conclusions based on results. The purpose of this course is to help prepare students for a college level introductory statistics course.

CALCULUS AB (AP)

MTH 4AB

27.07227

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Honors Pre-calculus; See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This course is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and pre-calculus. Calculus AB is a course in introductory calculus with elementary functions. An objective of this course is preparation for the AP Calculus AB Exam, which is given in the spring.

CALCULUS BC (AP)

MTH 4BC

27.07327

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Honors Pre-calculus; See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

Calculus BC is an intensive course in the calculus of functions of a single variable. In addition to all of the topics covered in Calculus AB, the Calculus BC course includes a few extra topics such as infinite series and parametric and polar equations. An objective of this course is preparation for the AP Calculus BC Exam, which is given in the spring.

STATISTICS (AP)

MTH 4ST

27.07427

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II; See Qualification for Honors/AP Courses

This course is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of algebra. It is an activity-centered course investigating four conceptual themes: 1) exploring data, observing patterns; 2) planning a study, deciding what to measure and how to measure it; 3) anticipating patterns, introducing probability, and simulation; and 4) statistical inference, confirming models for explanation of patterns. An objective of this course is preparation for the AP Statistics Exam, which is given in the spring.

SCIENCE

George Walton Academy offers a wide variety of college preparatory science courses. These include advanced placement courses for those students that meet the prerequisite requirements. Students are required to complete up to 4 units (4 years) of science beyond the 8th grade in order to graduate. Students are encouraged to take 4 units in order to better qualify for many colleges, universities and technical schools. Those students who wish to enter fields of study such as engineering, medicine, or other science related areas should complete 4 units.

All science courses in the Upper School are laboratory oriented.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE 100

SCI 100

40.01107

Units: 1 Offered: Year

This course provides a thorough development of the fundamentals of chemistry and physics. Topics include the nature of matter, elements and their properties, organic and biological compounds, interaction of matter, energy and motion, electricity and energy resources, waves, and light and sound.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE 110 (H)

SCI 110

40.01117

Units: 1 Offered: Year

This course covers the same topics as Physical Science 100 but at an accelerated pace and with more rigorous discussion.

BIOLOGY 200 LAB COURSE

SCI 200

26.01207

Units: 1 Offered: Year

This is a general course in biology. The student will become proficient with many laboratory procedures. DNA, genetics, and the cell are studied in detail. The chemical basis of life is covered as well as human systems. Included is a survey of all the kingdoms: Plants, Animals, Fungi, Protzoan and Monera.

BIOLOGY 210 (H) LAB COURSE

SCI 201

26.01217

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Honors Physical Science 110 (H); See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This course covers the same topics as Biology 200 but at an accelerated pace and with more rigorous discussion. In-depth lab activities are required each quarter.

BIOLOGY 220 (AP) LAB COURSE

SCI 2AP

26.01427

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Biology 210, Chemistry 310; See Qualifications for Honors/ AP Courses

This course is offered as an accelerated second year in biology. It is designed to give the student an in-depth background in biology and also to prepare the student for the rigorous Advanced Placement Test that each student takes at year's end. This course offers the opportunity to earn college credit.

CHEMISTRY 300 LAB COURSE

SCI 300

40.05107

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This is an introduction to the study of matter, energy, and how they interact and are related. Students with good math skills will be better prepared for this course. The use of math, measurement, and observation in a lab oriented setting should be expected. This is a lab oriented course that requires the student be safe and responsible.

CHEMISTRY 310 (H) LAB COURSE

SCI 310

40.05117

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This course covers the same topics as Chemistry 300 (T) but at an accelerated pace and with more rigorous discussion.

CHEMISTRY 310 (AP) LAB COURSE

SCI 3AP

40.05327

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Chemistry 310 See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This Advanced Placement course is a more demanding version of Chemistry 320 (H). Good math skills are a must. Students will take the Advanced Placement Standardized test at year's end with the chance to earn college credit. Students will be challenged with advanced problem solving.

CHEMISTRY II LAB COURSE

SCI 320

40.052017

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Chemistry I, Calculus

This course will include a review and mastery of concepts from first year chemistry and will include qualitative and quantitative analysis, organic chemistry and some biochemistry, a more in-depth study of chemicals, kinetics and equilibrium, thermodynamics and electrochemistry. This course is for students who are serious about science and engineering and love problem solving.

PHYSICS 400 LAB COURSE

SCI 400

40.08107

Units: 1 Offered: Year

This is the classic introduction to heat, light, sound, mechanics, nuclear energy, electricity, etc. using a concepts-before-computation approach to physics. Problem solving will be part of this course.

PHYSICS 410 (H) LAB COURSE

SCI 410
40.08117

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisites: Algebra II; See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

This course is more demanding than Physics 400. Some pre-calculus concepts are covered.

ANATOMY 420 (H) LAB COURSE

SCI 4AN
26.07317

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Biology 210 (H) and Chemistry 310 (H)

See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This course provides those students wishing to go into medicine or related fields, an opportunity for an in-depth study of the structure and function of the human body. Dissections are a required part of this course.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE LAB COURSE

SCI 4ES
26.06107

Units: ½ Offered: Fall Semester

A course designed to encompass not only the study of science but how it applies to real-world environmental issues. It involves in-class laboratory experiments as well as field studies and is intended to sharpen student skills in critical thinking and scientific process.

MARINE BIOLOGY 430 LAB COURSE

SCI 4MB
40.07107

Units: 1/2 Offered: Spring Semester

Students in this course study living organisms of the oceans. This includes the microscopic to the cetaceans (whales) and contains lessons on the Arctic/Antarctic biomes.

ASTRONOMY LAB COURSE

SCI 4AST
40.02107

Units ½ Offered: Fall Semester

Biology 210 (H) and Chemistry 310 (H)

This course will serve as an introduction to the science that describes the solar system, galaxy, and the universe. It will include evening observations, lab work.

GEOLOGY LAB COURSE

SCI GEO
40.06307

Unit: ½ Offered: Spring Semester

This lab course on descriptive geology includes the study of rocks, minerals, fossils, and the geophysics of such processes as plate tectonics. This course includes lab work and field trips.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies Department requires students to earn three units for graduation. Students are required to take World History and United States History which earn one credit and United States Government and Economics each of which earn a half credit. Advanced placement and honors courses are offered in many of these subjects to challenge students to learn additional concepts and move through material more rapidly.

WORLD HISTORY

SSC 200

45.08307

Units: 1 Offered: Year

A comprehensive study of the human story from the prehistoric to the present, this World History course places major emphasis on the economic, social and political structure of western civilization.

WORLD HISTORY (H)

SSC 210

45.08317

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

The World History Honors course will cover the same historical time periods as the traditional class; however, materials such as additional readings, projects and essays will enrich the class.

EUROPEAN HISTORY (AP)

SSC 2AP

45.08427

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

This course is a comprehensive critical evaluation of historical events spanning the Renaissance to the present. Course work will include selected readings, written analysis and interpretation of subject matter, and application of historical research methods. The class will conclude with preparation for taking the National Advanced Placement Examination.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

SSC 300

45.08107

Units: 1 Offered: Year

The purpose of the United States History course is to broaden the student's understanding of events, issues, and personalities in United States History from the colonial period to the present. Through a chronological investigation of social, economic, and political history, students should come to an understanding of the ideals and realities which have shaped American culture and government.

UNITED STATES HISTORY (H)

SSC 310

45.08117

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisites: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This course covers the same topics as US History but at an accelerated pace and with additional reading and written analysis.

UNITED STATES HISTORY (AP)

SSC 3AP

45.08227

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisites: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

A course designed to provide a college-level survey of United States History, students will acquire factual knowledge of political, economic and social history and develop the analytical skills which should enable them to assess and interpret historical data. The class will prepare students for the AP exam.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SSC 434

45.05707

Units: ½ Offered: Semester

The purpose of the United States Government course is to provide the student with a basic knowledge of the role of the law in society, of the functions of our national government, and of the various forms of national governments throughout the world.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT (H)

SSC 435

45.05717

Units: ½ Offered: Semester

This course will cover topics similar to those discussed in the traditional government class with greater emphasis placed on additional readings, analysis of documents and writing skills.

US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (AP)

SSC 4AP

45.05227

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics offers students an opportunity to study both the general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and analyze specific examples. It will expose students to the Constitutional foundations, institutions, beliefs, groups and ideas that make up the U.S. government and political system. Students will be required to learn specific facts, analyze patterns, and determine consequences of political behaviors. The course is reading and writing intensive and will require students to learn independently.

ECONOMICS

SSC 444

45.06107

Units: ½ Offered: Semester

The purpose of the economics course is to provide the student with a basic knowledge of economic concepts, an understanding of the origins of the U.S. economic system, and an introduction to today's economic problems.

ECONOMICS (H)

SSC 445

45.06117

Units: ½ Offered: Semester

Students will study topics similar to those in the economics classes with greater emphasis on current economic issues.

TWENTIETH CENTURY HISTORY

SSC 410

45.012

Units: ½ Offered: Semester

Prerequisite: World History

Twentieth Century History is a semester course which will focus on the time period from 1914 to 1975. Topics will include studies of major events of the 20th century from U.S. and world history.

PSYCHOLOGY

SSC 333

45.01507

Units: 1/2 Offered: Semester

Psychology will introduce students to the theories of major psychologists and encourage students to speculate about why we think and behave as we do. The first part of the course is concerned with the psychological development of the individual, and the second portion of the course is concerned with group behavior.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

OFFERINGS IN SPANISH

8th GRADE SPANISH

FLG MDSP1

Offered: Year

A year-long Spanish course for middle school students wanting to build a strong foundation for High School Spanish I. Basic grammar structure and extensive vocabulary words are introduced. A complete unit is focused on “Dia de los Muertos” in the fall semester and development of basic communication throughout the year is fostered. The Spanish speaking country of Mexico is emphasized in cultural study.

SPANISH I

FLG SP1

60.07107

Units: 1 Offered: Year

The first year of study presents the beginning student the basic structure of the Spanish language. Basic grammar concepts are introduced directly and communication exercises require active student participation in order to bring learners to a realistic level of proficiency. Development of listening and speaking skills are emphasized while reading and writing skills are gradually introduced. Short compositions are required during the second half of the course in order to expand writing skills. Spanish culture is introduced through readings, magazines and video presentations.

SPANISH II

FLG SP2

60.07207

Units: 1 Offered: Year

The second year continues to emphasize speaking and listening skills through rapid drills thus enabling the student to speak, read, and write with greater fluency. Students write short compositions in order to develop their writing skills.

SPANISH II (H)

FLG S2H

60.07217

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisites: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

Designed for the accelerated Spanish II student, this course permits the student to cover material at a more rapid rate and to do in-depth study. Supplementary reading is required and writing skills are emphasized.

SPANISH III (H)

FLG SP3

60.07317

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

Spanish III is offered as an honors course for the advanced Spanish student. Spanish I and II grammar are reviewed. Emphasis is given to all aspects of proficiency, therefore expanding the student's vocabulary, conversation, writing, and reading. Culture is studied through literature and reading.

SPANISH IV (H)

FLG SP4

60.07417

Units: 1

Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

Spanish IV is an advanced level, college preparatory course with a primary focus on language and culture. Emphasis is placed on conversation and communication through the study of literature and vocabulary expansion. Supplementary texts, magazines, and video presentations will aid the students in achieving a high proficiency level of reading and writing.

OFFERINGS IN LATIN

Middle School Intro to Latin

FLG LTM

The objectives of this course are to introduce students to Greek and Roman culture. The first semester will be spent studying Greek culture from the Minoan Civilization through the rise and fall of Alexander the Great. The second semester will be spent studying Roman culture beginning with the founding of Rome in 753 BC and ending with the Fall of Rome in 476 AD. The second semester will include an introduction to basic principles of the Latin Language.

LATIN I

FLG LT1

61.04107

Units: 1

Offered: Year

The objectives of this course are to prepare students to read Latin confidently, to provide an introduction to Roman culture, and to develop an awareness of the Latin roots of English vocabulary and the Latin terms still used in English. In the first year, students will learn basic grammatical concepts and vocabulary, study the daily life of the Romans both through their textbook and through outside reading assignments, and become familiar with a number of Latin expressions which have become a part of modern culture.

LATIN II

FLG LT2

64.04207

Units: 1

Offered: Year

The objective of this course is to continue building skills developed during the first year of Latin. During the first semester, students will learn the more advanced grammatical concepts. During the second semester, they will refine their skills by reading connected Latin prose and selections from original Latin authors. While students continue to study an aspect of Roman culture through outside reading, they will also learn about mythology and Roman history in connection with daily class assignments. Students will continue to develop English vocabulary skills through an extensive study of roots and affixes from Latin and Greek.

LATIN II (H)

FLG LT 310

61.0437

Units: 1

Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses

This course incorporated all that is included in Latin II, but allows the accelerated students an opportunity to cover material more rapidly and in greater depth and to explore additional materials.

LATIN III (H)

FLG LT3

61.04307

Units: 1 Offered: Year

This is primarily a reading course covering material and authors from the Silver Age of Latin literature, through the Golden Age. Through outside reading, students will explore further Roman history, culture, and civilization. A brief review of Latin grammar and syntax will introduce this course.

LATIN IV (H)

FLT LT 410

61.04417

Units: 1 Offered: Year

Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

Latin IV (H) will mirror the curriculum of Latin III (H) with material alternating each year so that students will experience new material. Latin IV (H) students are expected to achieve more quantitatively and qualitatively than third year students.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY I

COM 201

11.41207

Units: 1/2 Offered: Fall

- * Computer equipment components - building PCs**
- * Internet Technology and Research**
- * Computer Discovery ñ History, Technology**
- * Computer Operating Systems and Maintenance**

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY II

COM 202

11.41307

Units: 1/2 Offered: Spring
Prerequisites: Computer Technology I

- * Computer equipment components - building PCs**
- * Networking Technology**
- * Internet Technology and Research**
- * Software Analysis, Design and User Interface**
- * Microsoft Access Database Programming**

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING I

COM 203

11.01307

Units: 1/2 Offered: Fall

- * Software Analysis and Design**
- * Introduction to JAVA programming**
- * Microsoft Access Database Programming with Visual Basic**

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING II

COM 204

11.01407

Units: 1/2 Offered: Spring
Prerequisites: Computer Programming I

- * Software Analysis and Design**
- * JAVA programming**
- * Database and SQL programming**

WEB DESIGN I

COM 205

11.43107

Units: 1/2

Offered: Fall

- * Website Design and Analysis
- * Intro to Website Development using Adobe Dreamweaver
- * Intro to Adobe Flash

WEB DESIGN II

COM 206

11.43207

Units: 1/2

Offered: Spring

Prerequisites:

Web Design I

- * Website Design and Analysis
- * Advanced Website Development using Adobe Dreamweaver
- * Advanced Adobe Flash

MICROSOFT OFFICE ADVANCED

COM 207

11.42207

Units: 1/2

Offered: Fall and Spring

Prerequisites:

Working knowledge of MS Office (Word, PowerPoint, and Excel) required.

- * Computer Operating Systems and Maintenance
- * Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- * Personal Finance

FINE ARTS

VISUAL ARTS COURSE OFFERINGS

The Visual Arts Department offers opportunities for all students to develop an awareness of art as a visual expression of creative thought. Courses are offered for both novice and experienced students. Advanced courses provide the opportunity for further concentration.

INTRO TO ART

ART 410

50.031307

Units: ½ Offered: Fall and Spring Semester

This course introduces drawing, painting and painting media. It also stresses critical analysis of master paintings and drawings of different styles and historical periods in addition to emphasizing problem-solving techniques to achieve desired results in personal work.

DRAWING AND PAINTING II

ART 420

50.031407

Units: ½ Offered: Fall and Spring Semester

This course enhances level-one drawing and painting skills and provides opportunities to apply painting and drawing techniques in a variety of media. In addition, it stresses critical analysis of master paintings and drawings of different styles and historical periods and emphasizes problem-solving techniques to improve techniques and mastery of materials.

ART (H) HONORS ART

ART 500

50.021717

Units: ½ Offered: Fall and Spring Semester
Prerequisite: See Qualifications for Honors/AP Courses.

Previous art experience, art teacher's recommendation or submission of portfolio and an interview are required. Honors Art enhances level-six skills in art history, art criticism, aesthetic judgment and studio production. In addition, it provides opportunities to use two- and three-dimensional art media and process in the development of individual portfolios used in job, art school and college applications; stresses research, planning and proposal writing for the production of artwork; and investigates idea development and theme in master artworks of historical and contemporary societies.

ART HISTORY (AP)

ART 550

50.0922137

Units: 1

Offered: Year

This course conforms to College Board topics for the Advanced Placement History of Art Examination and covers prehistory to Egyptian, Greek and Roman, Early Christian, Byzantine, Early Medieval, Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance and Mannerist, 17th and 18th century, 19th century, 20th century and non –Western art.

COMMUNICATION ARTS I

ART 998

50.072107

Units: 1

Offered: Year

The first semester of the course is an introduction to the creative utilization of the computer as a layout and graphics tool. Students will gain knowledge of specialized equipment and software applications. Skills utilizing a flatbed/negative scanner, digital cameras, drawing tablets, and color laser printer will be addressed. Students will become proficient in the industry standard software applications: Adobe Photoshop, Image ready, and Illustrator. Second semester introduces the basics of video production and the design and creation of interactive CD's. Students will use digital video cameras and non-linear editing software to produce their own short films and public service announcements. The interactive CD will be created to showcase the student's portfolio of work from first and second semester.

PERFORMING ARTS COURSE OFFERINGS

CONCERT CHOIR

CHO 111

53.0731

Units: 1

Offered: Year

The Concert Choir, composed of boys and girls grades 8-12, provides students the opportunity to learn and perform many styles of music. Choral performances are held each quarter with special performances included periodically for Grandparents' Day, Baccalaureate, and other special events. Attendance at concerts and extra rehearsals are mandatory unless excused in advance by the choral director. In class, students learn basic music theory, music sight-reading, and good vocal technique. Students are encouraged to audition for GISA All-Select Chorus and Small Group/Solo Literary Competition. Students may be held responsible for providing their own performance attire.

CONCERT BAND

BND 110

53.03627

Units: 1

Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Permission of the Instructor for semester course.

This course is designed for musicians with some middle school experience. Different styles of music are studied through an emphasis on performance. The focus for fall semester will be the marching band and the Christmas concert. Afternoon rehearsals are held weekly for marching band and basketball band during those seasons. The focus for the spring semester will be the classical concert and the pops concert. Concert attendance is mandatory.

HONORS SYMPHONIC BAND

BND 111

53.03817

Units: 1

Offered: Year

MUSIC APPRECIATION

53.01447

Units: ½

Offered: Fall/Spring

This course is designed to better understand the many styles and periods of music through listening, composing, and research projects. The course will include music of other countries, classical European, jazz and electronic music.

DRAMA

ENG 4DR

52.02107

Units: 1

Offered: Year

Beginning drama is designed to expose students to the fundamentals of theatre. The students will be introduced to the history of the theatre, to types of dramatic performance such as pantomime and improvisation, to the fundamentals of acting, and to the basics of technical theatre including stagecraft, lighting, make-up, props, costumes, and sound. The students will produce at least one full-scale production which offers first-hand experience in all elements of drama.

ADVANCED DRAMA

ENG 5DR

52.05107

Units: 1

Offered: Year

Prerequisite: Beginning drama or permission of the instructor by audition.

Advanced drama is a performance driven class. Emphasis will be on character development through scene work, further specialization in technical theatre, and other advanced drama related topics. The advanced drama class will present the one-act competition play during fall semester. One other full-scale production will be produced during the school year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

GIRLS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHY 901 (9th Grade)

17.01107

Units: $\frac{1}{2}$ Offered: Fall and Spring Semesters

The Physical Education course will provide students with an opportunity to learn the history, rules, basic fundamental skills, team play, and strategy associated with team sports and lifetime sports.

This course will also introduce weight training and physical conditioning which will provide the girls a chance to participate in a variety of activities to enhance flexibility, muscular strength and endurance, agility, coordination, balance, reaction time, speed and power. The student will be able to develop a lifetime fitness program adapted to her individual needs upon completion of this course.

GIRLS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHY 110 (10th – 12th Grades)

36.01117

Units: $\frac{1}{2}$ Offered: Fall and Spring Semesters

This course will provide students with an opportunity to learn the history, rules, basic fundamental skills, team play, and strategy associated with team sports and lifetime sports.

This course will also introduce weight training and physical conditioning which will provide the girls a chance to participate in a variety of activities to enhance flexibility, muscular strength and endurance, agility, coordination, balance, reaction time, speed and power. The student will be able to develop a lifetime fitness program adapted to her individual needs upon completion of this course.

BOYS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHY 901 (9th Grade)

17.01107

Units: $\frac{1}{2}$ Offered: Fall and Spring Semesters

This course will provide students with an opportunity to learn the history, rules, basic fundamental skills, team play, and strategy associated with team sports and lifetime sports.

The sports covered will be the following: soccer, basketball, football, badminton, volleyball, and track.

BOYS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHY 200 (10TH – 12TH Grades)

36.01127

Units: $\frac{1}{2}$ Offered: Fall and Spring Semesters

This course will provide students with an opportunity to learn the history, rules, basic fundamental skills, team play, and strategy associated with team sports and lifetime sports.

The sports covered will be the following: soccer, basketball, football, badminton, volleyball and track.

WEIGHT TRAINING

PHY 400

36.05407

Units: ½

Offered: Fall and Spring Semesters

This course offers a full weightlifting program designed for all sports and personal fitness.

This program requires approval from the Athletic Director.

HEALTH

BOYS PHY 901

GIRLS PHY 903

17.01107

Units: ½

Offered: Fall and Spring Semesters

The Health course is designed to develop awareness of the need for good health through the following topics:

personal health and fitness

emotional and mental health

family life education

prevention and control of disease

alcohol and drug awareness under the supervision of the Georgia State Patrol

nutrition

community and environmental health

consumer health

first aid and safety

Students will be encouraged to apply this knowledge to their lifestyles now and in the future.

SPECIAL ELECTIVES

S.A.T. REVIEW

SAT 300

35.06607

Units: ½

Offered: Fall and Spring Semester

This course is designed to familiarize students with the format of the test, address test taking skills, and intensely examine every portion of the S.A.T. verbal topics covered will include analogy, critical reading, vocabulary, and sentence completion. Math topics covered will include interpretation of graphs and solving problems algebraically and geometrically. Class participation and independent practice is required.

SURVEY OF THE BIBLE

SBL 100

45.01407

Units: ½

Offered: Year

This class offers students a survey of the Bible's major events and teachings from a non-sectarian perspective. Its aim is to educate rather than indoctrinate. By examining the historical, literary, geographic and cultural setting of the Bible, students are given the necessary background to interpret.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

George Walton Academy admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded to or made available to students at the school. George Walton Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, athletic and other school-administered programs.

Yearly Planner 2010 - 2011

First Day of School	Tuesday, August 10
Labor Day School Holiday	Monday, September 6
Dawgs Unleashed Run & Festival	October 2
Exams (Upper School)	October 5-7
Fall Break School Holidays	October 8, 11
Thanksgiving School Holidays	November 22 - 26
Exams (Upper School)	December 15 - 17
Christmas School Holidays	December 20 - 31
School Holiday	Monday, January 17
Winter Break School Holidays	February 14 -18
Exams (Upper School)	March 9 - 11
Class Trips	March 14 – 18
Lucky Dawg Auction	March 18
Prom	March 25
Spring Break School Holidays	April 4 – 8
Baccalaureate	May 15
Middle School Awards	May 17
High School Awards	May 19
Graduation	May 21
Exams (Upper School)	May 25 - 27
Last Day of School	May 27