WAYSIDE
YOUTH & FAMILY
SUPPORT NETWORK

Building Strength, Hope & Resiliency

WAYSIDE ACADEMY
PROGRAM of STUDY

Our Program of Study

At Wayside Academy, we recognize that each student has his or her own unique needs, abilities, goals and way of learning. Wayside Academy offers comprehensive middle and high school curriculum aligned to the *Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks*. The instructional approach is multisensory and designed to address the learning style of each student. Attention to organizational strategies, time management, study skills, social pragmatics, and self-advocacy are integrated into curriculum and instruction.

Overview of Curriculum
SY 2011-2012

The curriculum has been organized and aligned to the *Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks*. The goal to prepare students to be successful, competent learners is acknowledged as a critical part of a therapeutic-educational approach to improving emotional health functioning. The presentation of concepts, content, expectations, and assessment practices are tailored to address the complex and unique profiles of our students.

Middle School

English Language Arts

The middle school English Language Arts program includes oral language development, reading literature, and composition. Instruction focuses on speaking, reading, listening, and writing. Composition classes focus on improving each student's ability to write clearly, concisely and correctly. Students practice the process of idea/concept development, writing, conferencing, editing, and revising. Literature is selected from a variety sources including the anthology published by Prentice Hall. Students read myths, fairy tales, legends, and stories about *King Arthur, Beowulf and Grendel,* and *Robin Hood*. Poetry and plays are chosen to represent different American and British writers. Remedial reading instruction is available to students requiring direct instruction in decoding and fluency.

Math

The mathematical strands integrated throughout instruction include: numeration and number theory; geometry and measurement; number systems; operations with whole numbers, integers, fractions and decimals; percents; estimation; probability and statistics; patterns and sequences; problem solving; coordinate systems and graphing; data analysis; algebraic concepts; variables; and expressions. Problem-solving includes applications in the real world. The basic text is the Glencoe McGraw Hill Math Series.

Science

The middle school science curriculum emphasizes instruction in basic principles and skills related to scientific inquiry, observation, data collection, analysis and reporting. Students study scientific concepts through readings, group activities and selected lab activities. Topics from the Earth and Space strand include Earth's History; Mapping the Earth; Earth's Structure; Heat. Transfer in the Earth System; and The Earth in the Solar System, Life Science (Biology) topics include Cells, Diversity of Life, Systems of the Human Body, Genetics, Evolution and Changes in the Ecosystem. Physical Science (Chemistry & Physics) includes Properties of Matter, Elements, Compounds, Motion of Objects, Forms of Energy and Heat Energy. Topics of technology and engineering are integrated when appropriate. The Prentice Hall, *Science Explorer Series* is the basic text.

Social Studies/History
The curriculum for the middle school includes *The Ancient World, World Geography, and World History I. The Ancient World* explores the origins of human existence in Africa and the civilizations that flourished in the Mediterranean area. Students study religions, governments, trade, philosophies, and art of these civilizations. *World Geography* is a systematic study the world beyond the United States and North America. Five major concepts: location, place, human interaction with environment, movement, and regions are embedded in the exploration or political and physical geography. *Word History I* examines the major empires that emerged after the fall of the Roman Empire, including the Byzantine Empire, the Ottoman Empire, the Moghul Empire, and the Chinese dynasties. The curriculum also includes the major pre-Columbian civilizations that existed in Central and South America.

Study Skills/Tutorial
Students have a scheduled class each day devoted to teaching strategies to improve organization of materials and assignments, time management, outlining, note-taking, test taking and reading comprehension. Academic support is available for completion of homework and projects. This class is structured to address the individual needs of the students learning to cope with academic mastery. Technology is used and integrated when appropriate.

High School

English Curriculum
The English Curriculum is designed to teach each student the skills necessary to read and comprehend the texts found in high school courses, college, career training programs and the everyday world. Students are provided with explicit skill instruction in reading and writing.

Freshman and Sophomore Survey of Literature and Composition
These courses are designed to help students improve their reading and writing skills to be successful at the high school level. Topics for writing will be based on literary selections, career interests, and contemporary issues. Reading will include novels, short stories, non-fiction essays, at least one play, and epic poems selected from a variety of time periods and cultures. Examples of the major texts that all students read are *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Odyssey,* and *To Kill a Mockingbird.* Students will be expected to write essays with well-organized paragraphs, complete sentences, correct grammar, and proper punctuation. Students will be introduced to literary terms to increase their understanding of literature.

American Literature and Composition
Students will examine an array of American poems, novels, essays, short stories, and plays by a wide variety of writers. Selected readings may include: *Death of a Salesman, The Crucible, The Great Gatsby, The Catcher in the Rye,* and *Huckleberry Finn.* Selected poetry, short stories American documents and non-fiction pieces are introduced. Students will be expected to advance their ability to express their ideas in a variety of forms including expository, persuasive, journal writing, memoir, creative writing, poetry, and playwriting.

World Literature and Composition
Students will read and analyze selections representing African, Asian, European, South American writers. The course will also include sacred literature of the major world religions. Composition will focus on increasing skills and ability to express thoughts and point of view in different genres of writing.

Math Curriculum

The math curriculum is aligned to the *Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks* and organized according to standard high school sequence. However, given the range in mastery demonstrated by students, instruction is paced to address the individual needs of each student. Texts available include Glencoe McGraw Hill Math series (*Pre-Algebra*, *Algebra 1*, *Geometry* and *Algebra 2*) and the Prentice Hall *Mathematics Course*. A primary goal is to provide the mathematical foundation necessary for competency determination on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS).

Integrated Math

This course is intended for students who have not mastered the fundamentals of mathematical understanding and application required for more abstract math courses. This may be part of a two-year sequence for selected students. The standards included in the curriculum are number sense, patterns, relations, functions, geometry measurement, statistics and probability, Preparation for MCAS is a focus.

Algebra 1

This is a traditional first course in Algebra. The course may be presented to selected students as a one or two year option. Students learn the language of Algebra, solution of open sentences, axioms of the real number system, operations with real numbers and with polynominals, order in the set of real numbers, factoring, graphing, relations, functions, irrational numbers and quadratic equations.

Geometry

The course develops techniques of logical reasoning through the study of plane and solid geometric figures. Algebraic skills are continuously reviewed and expanded. MCAS preparatory work is integrated into the curriculum.

Algebra 2

This course utilizes a traditional approach to the study of Algebra 2. Emphasis is placed on the learning of the basic principles and laws or algebra that will facilitate problem solving.

Social Studies

The social studies/history curriculum is structured to teach concepts, facts and context of historical events through the study of different government structures, economic trends, political movements, and cultures.

U.S. History I: 1763-1877

In U.S. History I, students examine the origins of the United States during the revolutionary and constitutional eras. Students study the basic framework of American democracy and the basic concepts of American government, America's westward expansion, the establishment of political parties, economic and social change, sectional conflict, the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

U.S. History II: 1877-2011

The course covers the post-civil War era to post-Cold War America. Students learn to analyze the causes and consequences of the Industrial Revolution, America's growing role in international relations and the rise of the nation state in Europe. The curriculum includes: the causes and consequences of World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, and the Cold War.

Modern World History: 1800- Present
This course examines the economic, social, and political roots of the modern world from the rise of Napoleon through the present. Topics explored include the Democratic and Industrial Revolutions, Imperialism, Communism, Totalitarianism, the World Wars, and the historical impact on contemporary issues.

Science
In accordance with the *Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks*, the science curriculum is designed to increase students' capacity to make observations, raise questions, formulate hypotheses, design and conduct scientific investigations, analyze and interpret results of scientific investigations, communicate and apply the results of scientific investigations. The courses and instruction teach students the skill needed for MCAS success. Prentice Hall science texts are the basic instructional source.

Biology
Students study cells, genetics, anatomy and physiology, evolution and biodiversity and ecology. This will be offered as a two year course for selected students.

Chemistry
The curriculum will include the required content typical of high school level courses.

Conceptual Physics: To be developed.

Support Programs
MCAS Prep
MCAS prep will be available to any student needing instruction in science, math or English.

Academic Support
Academic support will provide student with opportunities to improve organization and study skill. Individual programs will be tailored to maximize student's capabilities and reinforce deficits. Assistance completing assignments will be available. A major goal of this class is to encourage independence and generalization of skills.

All students participate in art, physical education, and counseling. Students have access to technology as in integrated feature of the curriculum.