

Polaris K-12 School

Leading the Pack!



Program of Study & Course Descriptions

Some courses are not offered every semester, please check the current course schedule.

HIGH SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

High school students need a minimum 22.5 credits to graduate.

Specific Requirements:

- Math: 3.0 Credits
based on placement, including completion of Algebra
- Language Arts 4 credits
.5 Intermediate Composition, .5 Comp Workshop,
.5 World Literature, .5 American Literature, .5 Literature Elective
.5 Advanced Composition, and 1 LA Elective
- Science 3 credits,
1 Life and 1 Physical, and 1 Elective science
- Social Studies 4 credits
.5 Alaska Studies, .5 Social Studies elective, 1 World History, 1 US History,
.5 US Government, .5 Economics
- Health & PE 1.5 credits
1 ½ credits of Physical Education Electives
- Elective 5 Credits (class of 2018 and after); Plus 2 credits Advisory (.5 each year)

9 th Grade Typical Coursework				
Math Algebra Geometry Algebra 2	Language Arts Intermediate Composition American or World Lit.	Social Studies Ak Studies Social Studies Elective US or World History	Science Biology Geology Astronomy Science Electives: Projects, Natural Sci of AK, Climate, Forensic, Environ.	PE/ Fine Arts/ World Lang PE Drama Band/Orch. Spanish 1 or 2 Art
10 th Grade Typical Coursework				
Math Geometry Algebra 2 Pre-Calculus	Language Arts Composition Workshop American or World Lit. Creative Writing	Social Studies US or World History AK Studies Social Studies Elective	Science Biology Chemistry Concept. Physics Science Electives	PE/ Fine Arts/ World Lang PE Band/Orch./Art Drama Spanish
11 th Grade Typical Coursework				
Math Algebra 2 Pre-Calculus AP Statistics AP Calculus	Language Arts Comp Workshop Creative Writing LA Elective AP Lang or Lit	Social Studies US or World History AP History Economics Government	Science Chemistry AP Physics Genetics Marine Bio BioTaPP 1/2	PE/ Fine Arts/ World Lang PE Band/Orch/Art Drama Spanish
12 th Grade Typical Coursework				
Math Algebra 2 Pre Calculus AP Calculus AP Statistics	Language Arts Advanced Comp. Creative Writing LA Elective AP Lang or Lit	Social Studies Economics Government AP History	Science AP Physics BioTaPP 1/2 Human Anatomy Genetics	PE/ Fine Arts/ World Lang PE Drama Band/Orch/Art Spanish

SCHEDULING

High School Students will work with their advisor and parents to create a schedule request each spring for the following year. They will review their transcripts and credits to ascertain which classes are still needed. Students will be scheduled in classes based on student interest, space availability and grade level, with priority given to meeting graduation requirements.

INTENSIVES & ELECTIVES

All high school students will have a choice of electives that will allow them to broaden their learning. Students must complete 5 credits. Elective credits include any core class credit beyond the minimum requirements.

Intensives allow students to spend all day for 2-3 weeks “intensively” studying a topic. Intensives allow Polaris to offer experiential education, field trips, and multi-age courses on unique and timely topics. Intensives are offered the first two weeks of fall semester (0.25 credit), the first two weeks of spring semester (0.25 credit) and the last three weeks of spring semester (0.5 credit)

Electives are curriculum experiences designed to help students discover and/or examine learning related to their changing needs, aptitudes and interests.

- Typical Electives: Visual Arts, World Language, Theater Arts, Band/Orchestra, School Business Partnership, Computer Fundamentals, Yearbook, Newspaper, any core class credit beyond requirements, Gifted Mentorship, and King Career Center courses.
- Gifted Mentorships are open to 11th-12th grade students. KCC is open to 11th- 12th grade students and courses can also apply to core graduation requirements. KCC also offers afternoon exploratory classes open to 9th/10th grades.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT, HONORS, AND ACCELERATED COURSES

The majority of high school courses taught at Polaris are taught at an Accelerated/Honors level. AP Courses are offered based on student demand, and certain courses may only be available in alternating years. Additionally, some students elect to take AP courses via online classes, or may choose to take an AP exam independently (ie a Polaris Chemistry student may do additional exam preparation to take the AP Chemistry exam). We currently offer concurrent enrollment with UAA for Writing A111 (11th/12th grade). Students are encouraged to discuss opportunities for additional challenge with their teachers, advisor and counselor. The Credit by Choice program offers numerous options for extending learning.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Credit By Choice

Credit by Choice options include Challenge Courses, Independent Studies, PE Waivers, and Correspondence, as well as others. Students must contact the secondary counselor and complete the Credit by Choice Application before starting the coursework.

- Challenge Course/Peer Taught Course: Student designed course that is not currently offered in the Polaris program of studies.
- Independent Study: A student works with a teacher to develop an independent class study, either in pursuit of interest or to meet graduation requirements.
- PE Waiver: Students can meet Physical Education requirements by participating in an organized ASD sport. Each season of sports can waive .25 credits of PE.
- Single Course Enrollment: Students may attend a neighborhood school to take coursework offered by the Anchorage School District that is not available at Polaris. Students may take up to two courses per term at a neighborhood school.
- Dual Credit & local colleges (UAA courses, UAF online and APU's Early Honors): Students may take university courses that count as both high school credit for graduation and college credit.
- Correspondence: Students choose a non-ASD program for online classes and work with that program towards completing course requirements.

Other Course Options

Students demonstrating readiness for work beyond the typical courses offered at each grade level may be recommended for higher level courses. Classroom teachers use a three-part process to determine readiness:

- Grades of A or B or teacher placement recommendations from pre-requisite courses.
- PEAKS proficiencies: Students must be advanced proficient in their grade for all strands of the PEAKS in the subject area under consideration.
- Students must complete the end of the year assessment for the courses that will be skipped and pass with a 90% or higher.

LEARNING LAB MENU

Those most likely to succeed in the 21st century will have a lot of practice in the areas of collaboration, creativity, communication, critical thinking, citizenship, and character. The Learning Lab is a kind of sandbox to play and practice these skills. Learning labs can take endless shapes and sizes. What are you curious about? Once you answer that question, consider how you will design a learning lab to help you achieve your purpose. This is your chance to really own your education. Go for it!

Study Hall

This is a space to complete homework at school. The study hall environment is an independent learning opportunity and well suited for students with strong skills in self-direction and independence. One (but not more) study halls are recommended each semester.

Independent Study

A student works with a teacher to develop an independent class study, either in pursuit of interest or to meet graduation requirements. The teacher and student decide on the course content, evidence of learning, and achievement expectations. The student works independently through their course, and their supervising teacher provides periodic support. [Read more about the independent study process here.](#)

Learning Lab Supervisor

Responsible high school students who are self disciplined and interested in a leadership opportunity are invited to apply for a learning lab supervisor position. The supervisor would be responsible for maintaining a productive and quiet learning environment, checking electronic devices in and out of the “cell phone hotel,” and reporting absences to the front office.

Challenge Course

Students at Polaris can create and design curriculum for a course that they would like to work through. Students may follow a model that they have found at another school or institution, or they can create exactly the course that they are interested in taking. For example, students have planned scientific studies with field research, studied types of architecture of a region of nations, and read selections from a genre of literature and networked to find a literature circle in the community to discuss those works. Additionally, access to world class and free education online is constantly expanding. Consider these resources to get more ideas:

- <https://www.lynda.com/portal/sip?org=library.muni.org>
- <https://openstax.org/subjects> (Free textbooks)
- <https://www.edx.org/> (Free self-paced courses)
- <https://www.hoopladigital.com/>
- <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
- <http://www.openculture.com/freeonlinecourses>
- <https://adl.overdrive.com/>
- <https://muni.freegalmusic.com/homes/index>

Gifted Mentorship

The Gifted Mentorship Program is for exceptional high school juniors and seniors who are self-disciplined and interested in pursuing an independent study under the direction of a professional/expert in a field of great interest to the student. The program is for high-ability, high-achieving students who have completed advanced coursework. The program gives motivated, mature high school students an idea of what it is like to work in a field of their interest by being teamed with a professional who acts as their mentor. Students spend 45-60 hours with their mentor and earn half an elective credit for the mentorship when they successfully complete several assignments, including a final project. [Read more about the gifted mentorship process here.](#)

CTE Internships

Internships in a CTE pathway are an exciting extension of the high school classroom into the workplace. They are an excellent way for students to employ their skills, gain real-world experience, build their resume, and earn high school credit at the same time. Students grow both personally and professionally, while contributing to the goals of the organization in which they are working.

CTE internships are open to high school Juniors and Seniors who:

Have completed 1 credit (2 semesters) in a CTE Pathway, related to the internship (ie BioTapp or KTHS Course), have a minimum of 3.0 GPA in all CTE courses completed, have 90% attendance at school, have reliable transportation to and from internship site and receive a CTE teacher recommendation and pass an interview. [Read more about CTE Internships here.](#)

Independent Capstone

The Polaris Capstone Project is a student-centered approach to instruction. Students form their own investigation of a guiding curiosity, to develop valuable research skills and new knowledge as they engage in design, problem solving, decision-making, creativity, and investigative activities. The teacher plays the role of facilitator, working with students to frame worthwhile questions, structuring meaningful tasks, coaching both knowledge development and weekly missions, and carefully assessing what students have learned from the experience. With this type of active and engaged learning, students will be inspired to obtain a deeper knowledge of the subjects they are curious about. A public exhibition is required in order to complete this class for credit.

Paint a Mural

The intent of Polaris public art is to reflect our diverse community. Murals are encouraged to be unique designs and styles. The artwork should be tasteful and transcend the boundaries of time. Make one! [Read more about the mural process here.](#)

Leadership Endorsement Work time

The Polaris Leadership Program is used to encourage, develop, and recognize the leadership efforts made by high school students during their time at Polaris. Through this program, students have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in leadership through multiple avenues. Upon completion of the program, students will receive a graduation cord and endorsement at graduation. [Read more about this program here.](#)

Plan an Intensive or Peer Taught Course

Students create a quarter or semester long curriculum in conjunction with a teacher advisor and deliver that course. Students create a course syllabus, develop lesson plans and implement them working with the advisor to evaluate students and assign grades.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Advanced Literary Analysis

This course is designed to engage you in the careful reading and critical analysis of literature. Through the close reading of texts, you will come to a deeper understanding of the ways writers use language to provide meaning for their readers. As you progress through this class you will learn to consider a work's structure, style and themes, as well as its use of figurative language. Careful attention to both textual detail and historical context provides a lens for literary interpretation and illumination. This approach to analyzing and interpreting literature requires you to learn how to make careful observations of textual detail.

Grades: 10-12

ASD Name: Advanced Lit Analysis

Polaris Credit: .5 Literature Elective

Zangle #: H0180ALT

Applied Composition

Success at school and in your career, will depend in large part on your ability to precisely communicate your ideas to a specific audience. This course focuses on effective listening, speaking, reading, and writing in life and at work. Students will demonstrate their skills both individually and in groups – developing marketing and multi-media campaigns. We will consider and study communication in a broader context - how it is changing in our digital world – and how negotiate new methods of communication while remaining effective and proficient.

Grades: 8-12

ASD Name: Digital Composition

Polaris Credit: .5 LA Elective

Zangle #: H0252qalt

American Literature

Courses in American Literature are designed to deal with the major writers and works of American literature from colonial times through the 20th century. Students will consider major social and political issues of American life as reflected in poetry, fiction, nonfiction, drama, and film. Students will examine philosophies that pervade American thought with emphasis on the relationship between the literature and the growth of the United States.

Possible Course Offerings: American Literature Survey, Modern American Novel, Classic American Short Story, Film as Literature: American Film, Native American Literature, Poetry, or Author Studies

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: American Literature

Polaris Credit: .5 American Literature

Zangle #: H0370salt

Creative Writing

This course focuses on developing artful writing.

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: Creative Writing

Polaris Credit: .25 or .5 LA-Elective

Zangle #: H0240qalt

Composition Workshop

This course focuses on continued development of academic writing including emphasis on the academic essay and research writing as well as development of professional technical writing. (This course was previously titled Composition 1 and Composition 2)

Grades: 10-11

ASD Name: Composition Workshop

Polaris Credit: .5 Composition Workshop

Zangle #: H0210

LANGUAGE ARTS

Debate

Speech and Debate is a one-semester introductory course that covers a variety of styles of public speaking and formal debate. Through research and practice students will become familiar with these styles through instruction, research, and practice. Each unit will culminate in performance assignments that require students to demonstrate their abilities within the classroom setting. Opportunities to take their knowledge to competition at the local and state level may be made available to students as well through extracurricular programs.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 LA-Elective

ASD Name: Debate
Zangle #: H0520

Digital Composition

This course focuses on a collaboration of the writing process and digital media. Students will interact, collaborate, and publish with peers using a variety of media. We will create PSAs, a classroom website, podcasts, podcasts, electronic portfolios, and more. Accompanying our compositions will be philosophical and ethical discussions in relation to digital literacy.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .25 or .5 LA Elective

ASD Name: Digital Composition
Zangle #: H0252qalt

Individualized Writing

This course focuses on a variety of forms based on student interest and student need.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .25 LA Elective

ASD Name: Individualized Writing
Zangle#: H0230Qalt

Intermediate Composition

This course focuses on the fundamentals of academic writing with an emphasis on the academic essay.

Grades: 9-10
Polaris Credit: .5 Intermediate Comp

ASD Name: Intermediate Composition
Zangle #: H0221

Journalism (Sispillé)

This course focuses on journalistic forms of writing. Students will play an active role in creating the student newsletter. Each student will write three-four articles per quarter in various journalistic styles. Those looking for more freedom and less structure in writing will enjoy taking Sispillé. For interested students there is the possibility of working with layout or taking photos.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 LA-Elective

ASD Name: Journalism I: Theory & Practice
Zangle #: H0244

Journalism 2 (Sispillé)

Students will play an active role in managing the student newsletter and building the class. Students write three-four articles per quarter in various journalistic styles. Students take on editing and page layout roles and learn the basics of publication management and distribution.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 LA-Elective

ASD Name: Journalism 2: Writing Publication
Zangle #: H0761

LANGUAGE ARTS

Memoirs (Creative Nonfiction)

Creative writing is the process of writing, the process of making something new and different, something made-up. But the writing also has roots in real-world experiences and the memories of the writer - fact and fiction blending together. In this class we will explore several modes of creative writing grounded on what we know best - ourselves.

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: Creative Writing

Polaris Credit: .25 LA Elective

Zangle #: H0240qalt

Nonfiction

Explore the world of literary nonfiction. Together we will read and discuss nonfiction a variety of texts including biographies, essays, monographs, and travel narratives. This course will include writing, extensive reading, projects and discussion

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: Literature, Nonfiction

Polaris Credit: .25 or .5 Literature Elective

Zangle #:H0440qalt

Poetry

In this course we will be concerned with experiencing poetry. We will focus less on what poetry "means" than what it does: what needs and desires does poetry fulfill in its writers and readers? When does it leave the static page and become something performed, ritually memorized, communally celebrated, or otherwise brought to life?

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: Poetry

Polaris Credit: .5 Literature Elective

Zangle #: H0430ALT

Humanities (Literature, Art, or Social Studies Elective)

Italian Renaissance

In the early 1400s, the world woke up. From its beginning in Florence, Italy, this renaissance, or rebirth, of culture spread to Rome and Venice, then, in 1500, to the rest of Europe. Technical innovations and creative discoveries exploded and have been influencing the world ever since. We will study the art, literature, science, and social patterns of this moment in human history.

Harlem Renaissance

The purpose of this class is to explore the many art forms that exploded during the Harlem Renaissance. We are going to examine music, poetry, and art from this time period to gain a deeper understanding of America during the roaring 20s. Creative thinking will be required as the students write, listen, read, and speak about art, music, and literature from this period. This lesson is largely influenced from the ReadWriteThink.org lesson Plan "A Harlem Renaissance Retrospective: Connecting Arts, Music, Dance, and Poetry."

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: Humanities

Polaris Credit: .5 Lit or SS Elective

Zangle #: H0415

LANGUAGE ARTS

Rhetoric

The purpose of this class is to help students gain the ability to analyze and act on understandings of audiences, purposes, and contexts in creating and comprehending texts. Much of our class will be designed to help students analyze a situation/text and make thoughtful decisions based on that analysis through writing, reading, and research. Our time together will help students cultivate intellectual and practical skills that relate to the following habits of mind; curiosity, openness, engagement, creativity, persistence, responsibility, flexibility, and metacognition.

Grades: 11-12

Polaris Credit: .5 Literature Elective

ASD Name: Language Arts, Special Topics

Zangle #: H0430ALT

Shakespeare

Friends, Polarians, countrymen, lend me your ears! Shakespeare is renowned as the English playwright and poet whose body of works is considered the greatest of English literature. Join in a study of Shakespeare, his work, his times, and his continuing impact.

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: Literature, Shakespeare , H0460 Polaris Credit: .5 World Literature

Socratic Seminar (Literature or Social Studies Elective)

The course will require students to participate in active learning through discussion in a dynamic and engaged learning community. Students will master critical reading and listening skills and gain the confidence to explore new subject matters. Texts from literature, history, philosophy, and art will be examined as students improve their vocabulary and comprehension, evaluate arguments, present evidence, consider context, and learn to respect the opinions of others.

Grades: 7-12

ASD Name: Language Arts Seminar, H3241S1

Polaris Credit: .5 Lit or SS Elective

Technical Writing in the 21st Century

Student outcomes are derived from the ASD Technical Writing in the 21st Century curriculum guide.

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: Technical Writing, H0250 Polaris Credit: .5 LA-Elective

Writing Across Contexts: WRTG A111

This class meets the Advanced Composition requirement for seniors. Writing Across Contexts (WRTG A111) is an introduction to writing strategies and processes for reading and responding to rhetorical situations across a variety of public and academic contexts. We will study how writing responds to different situations and practice writing for different contexts.

By the end of the semester, you will be able to:

1. Establish credibility and persuasive power for an audience.
2. Interpret the meaning of a text based on its features, context, design, and relationship to other texts.
3. Respond purposefully to specific rhetorical situations.
4. Understand that composing is a process that uses different genres, communicating through different media to various audiences.

Grade: 12

ASD Name: ENG A111 UAA, H0126UAA Polaris Credit: .5 Advanced Comp, .5 Literature

LANGUAGE ARTS

World Literature

Courses in World Literature provide an overview of major writers and works from areas of the world other than the United States. Novels, short stories, plays, poems, and other nonfiction documents will be studied to enhance student's understanding of various world cultures.

Possible Course Offerings: Theme Focus (i.e. Family, Change), World Classics, Shakespeare, Ancient Literature, Poetry, Contemporary Authors, Mythology, Dramatic Literature, Children's Literature, Science Fiction and Fantasy, Film as Literature: World Film.

Grades: 9-12

Polaris Credit: .5 World Literature

ASD Name: World Literature

Zangle #: H0410salt

SOCIAL STUDIES

Alaska Studies

Alaska Studies is an in-depth exploration of the rich geographic and cultural background of the state and its people from the early native peoples to the Russian era through statehood to the present. This course includes examination of the geography, history, and the political and economic forces that have shaped Alaska. This course seeks to ensure that students have a strong foundation in the historic and cultural contexts of issues facing the state so they will develop a broad sense of community and strengthen skills that will encourage thoughtful consideration of issues and choices facing Alaska.

Grades: 9-11

Polaris Credit: .5 Alaska Studies

ASD Name: Alaska Studies

Zangle #: H3110

AP European History

AP European History covers the political, cultural and economic developments that constitute European history from 1450 to the present. Beginning with the conclusion of the Hundred Years War, the fall of the Byzantine Empire, and the invention of the printing press the story of European history will unfold through themes such as the emergence of modern nation states; the clash between opposing views on economics embedded within the capitalist and socialist paradigms; the development of European political power via the Industrial Revolution and the subsequent era of imperialism; the struggle for the individual to obtain a voice through representative government; the various systems of collective security and bargaining which emerged as a part of balance of power politics. These themes are supported by the many intellectual and philosophical ideas of which humanism, empiricism, rationalism and existentialism are but a few.

Grades: 10-12 ASD Name: AP European History, H3441 Polaris Credit: 1.0 World Hist or SS elective

Contemporary Problems

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have time to sort out what is happening in our world and understand these complex issues beyond what we see on the news or read on the internet? This course will focus on the social, political, cultural and geographic forces that have created contemporary world "hot spots". We will discuss and research the evolution of these issues on the world stage and the implications of their resolution or non-resolution.

We will work together to:

- Understand important current issues and the significant factors involved with the issues.
- Determine the relationships of current events to the past.
- Improve reading and research skills.
- Understand the short and long term implications of current events and propose viable solutions to these problems.
- Develop your critical thinking and public speaking skills.

Grades: 9-12

Polaris Credit: .5 Social Studies Elective

ASD Name: Contemporary Problems

Zangle #: H3655

SOCIAL STUDIES

Economics

This class will introduce students to economic ideas and concepts. Students will learn to apply economic principles to their personal lives. Topics discussed include supply and demand, economic philosophy, price setting, the stock market, credit, savings and checking accounts and loans.

Grades: 11-12

Polaris Credit: .5 Economics

ASD Name: Economics

Zangle #: H3080

Geography/Area Studies

Geography/Area Studies courses focus on different regions in the world on a rotating basis, and may include Asia (H3415), Europe (H3638), Africa (H3430), the Middle East (H3455), or closer to home in South Central Alaska (H3637). Credit may count as social studies elective or may be applied to World History requirement.

Africa Studies

This course is designed for those who are curious about exploring the different regions of Africa. This project-based course concentrates on developing geographic skills and concepts so that students can ask stimulating questions about their world, and more specifically, Africa. Students will hone the skills to then gather, organize, analyze, and apply the geographic information to their inquiries. Culture, current events, conflict, migrations, belief systems, and people's daily lives are heavily emphasized in this course. Be ready to become a better writer, project manager, and informed citizen of the world.

Grades: 9-12 ASD Name: Geography/Africa Studies, H3430 Polaris Credit Type: .5 Social Studies

Euro Studies/Ancient Civilizations

This class will cover ancient civilizations and is an in-depth study of early worlds from the Americas to China, India, Africa and Mesopotamia. This course explores why and where early civilizations developed and compares their religion, culture, literature, science, technological achievements and their economic and political systems. Sample topics include: pyramids, rise and fall of great empires, high technology of the day, myths, arts, sports, foods and leisure of the ancients.

Psychology

Why are people the way that they are? This class may help answer that age-old question.

Psychology is the scientific study of human behavior from early childhood through old age. This class will examine how a person's physical and mental states, as well as their environment, affect their personality. Topics we will cover include developmental, perceptions, dream analysis, altered mental states, types of psychological thought, psychological disorders, treatment, ESP and much, much more.

Grade Level: 10-12

Polaris Credit: .5 Social Studies Elective

ASD Name: Psychology I

Zangle #: H3685

SOCIAL STUDIES

Humanities (Literature, Art, or Social Studies Elective)

Italian Renaissance

In the early 1400s, the world woke up. From its beginning in Florence, Italy, this renaissance, or rebirth, of culture spread to Rome and Venice, then, in 1500, to the rest of Europe. Technical innovations and creative discoveries exploded and have been influencing the world ever since. We will study the art, literature, science, and social patterns of this moment in human history.

Harlem Renaissance

The purpose of this class is to explore the many art forms that exploded during the Harlem Renaissance. We are going to examine music, poetry, and art from this time period to gain a deeper understanding of America during the roaring 20s. Creative thinking will be required as the students write, listen, read, and speak about art, music, and literature from this period. This lesson is largely influenced from the ReadWriteThink.org lesson Plan “A Harlem Renaissance Retrospective: Connecting Arts, Music, Dance, and Poetry.”

Grades: 9-12

Polaris Credit: .5 Lit or SS Elective

ASD Name: Humanities

Zangle #: H0415

Socratic Seminar (Literature or Social Studies Elective)

The course will require students to participate in active learning through discussion in a dynamic and engaged learning community. Students will master critical reading and listening skills and gain the confidence to explore new subject matters. Texts from literature, history, philosophy, and art will be examined as students improve their vocabulary and comprehension, evaluate arguments, present evidence, consider context, and learn to respect the opinions of others.

Grades: 7-12

Polaris Credit: .5 Lit or SS Elective

ASD Name: Social Sciences Inquiry

Zangle #: H9471SALT

United States Government

This course is concerned with the nature of the American political system, its development over the past two hundred years, and how it works today. We will examine in some detail the principle processes and institutions through which the political system functions, as well as some of the policies that these institutions establish and how they are implemented. We will look primarily at the national government and national policies. This course is designed to increase understanding of the American political system – its traditions, values, and framework – as well as to understand how its components work together smoothly for the most part, but at times with substantial friction.

This course aims to provide objective instruction and an intellectual classroom environment characterized by students who are pushed to exercise higher order thinking skills in their efforts to understand the full range of each issue, and therefore, become independent citizens capable of fulfilling their responsibilities as active and informed members of a democracy.

Grades: 11-12

Polaris Credit: .5 US Government

ASD Name: United States Government

Zangle #: H3075

SOCIAL STUDIES

United States History

This class will continue the study of World and American History, with the focus on American History. Geography, economics, government, religion, philosophy, science/technology and humanities will all be used to examine this period of turmoil in History and the growth of the United States as a world power. Extensive reading, writing, research and project development will be required.

Grade Level: 9-12
Polaris Credit: 1 U.S. History

ASD Name: United States History
Zangle #: H3317

World History

This class continues the study of world history, focusing on the Byzantine Empire and Medieval Europe. We will study the growth of cultures, government and religion in Europe and their impact on us today. We will examine these topics through reading, discussion, projects, and research.

Grade Level: 9-12
Polaris Credit: 1 World History

ASD Name: World History
Zangle #: H3315

MATH

Algebra I

This class reviews and extends problem solving, data analysis, use of technology, the theory, use and understanding of the fundamental operations on real numbers, expressing quantitative statements in the language of algebra, solving equations and inequalities, polynomials, matrices, the use of rational expressions in equations, coordinate graphing, irrational numbers, solutions of quadratic equations, and related applications. Prerequisite- Grade of "C" or better in Pre-Algebra or recommendation of most recent math instructor.

Grades: 7-10
Polaris Credit: 1 Algebra I

ASD Name: Algebra I
Zangle #: H1352

Survey of Algebra

This class is taken concurrently with Algebra 1 for students who need additional support. This Tier 2 intervention course provides students with access to CCSS Algebra I concepts while they receive intensified and accelerated instruction to prepare them for Algebra I.

Grades: 9-10
Polaris Credit: 1 Math Elective

ASD Name: Survey of Algebra
Zangle #: H1326

Geometry

This class covers the study of plane and three-dimensional geometry. The emphasis is on clarity, precision of language, and the logical development of geometric principles in deductive reasoning and proofs. It includes work with lines, planes, angles, congruent triangles, circles, polygons and transformations. Prerequisite- Grade of "C" or better in Algebra I or permission of the previous math instructor.

Grades: 8–11
Polaris Credit: 1 Geometry

ASD Name: Geometry
Zangle #: H1502

Algebra II

This class includes problem solving, data analysis, use of technology, basic operations with polynomials, solving equations and inequalities, sequences and series, relations and functions, systems of equations in two and three variables, matrices, irrational and complex numbers through the solution of quadratic functions and polynomial functions of higher than first degree and an introduction to logarithms. Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Geometry or permission of the previous math instructor.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: 1 Algebra II

ASD Name: Algebra II
Zangle #: H1377

MATH

Pre-Calculus Intensive

The first semester of this class covers polynomial, rational, radical, logarithmic and exponential functions as well as complex numbers, sequences, series, probability, and inductive proof. The second semester covers analytic geometry and trigonometry, which includes functions, laws, identities, inverses and their applications. The emphasis of this course is on concepts that build toward understanding calculus and improvement of algebraic skills. Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Algebra II and Geometry or permission of previous math instructor.

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: Math Special Topics

Polaris Credit: .25 Math elective

AP Calculus AB

This course covers three main topics. The first topic is functions, which includes analyzing graphs, finding limits, defining asymptotic behavior, and discussing continuity as a property of functions. The second topic, derivatives, covers derivatives at a point, derivatives as a function, and second derivatives and the application. Integrals, the last topic will include properties of definite integrals, applications, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Pre-Calculus or permission of previous math instructor.

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: AP Calculus AB

Polaris Credit: 1 AP Calculus

Zangle #: H1706

AP Statistics

As with other courses designated with Advanced Placement, this course is introductory college level material. The student is expected to meet this college level workload to be successful. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be expected to be able to use appropriate technology to interpret data and will be expected to be able to communicate their results in an understandable form. Prerequisite: Grade of "B" or better in Algebra II and Geometry or permission of previous math instructor.

Grades: 10-12

ASD Name: AP Statistics

Polaris Credit: 1 AP Statistics

Zangle #: H1701

SCIENCE

Biology I

This is the basic biology course and prerequisite for all biology electives. This course will include a study of the chemical basis of life such as the process of photosynthesis, respiration, osmosis and diffusion. Cell division, DNA and enzyme action will also be covered. The course also includes an extensive treatment of introductory human anatomy/physiology, genetics and evolution. Prerequisite: 10-12 None. Grade 9 students are eligible if they have: 3.5 or higher GPA in 8th grade, science teacher recommendation, B or higher in Ecology and Cells & Genetics, and taking Geometry or higher math.

Grades: 9-12

Polaris Credit: 1 Life Science

ASD Name: Biology I

Zangle #: H2232

Animal Biology

Study Animals of the world: creatures of the deep like sharks and nautilus and creatures on high like mountain goats and eagles. We will study habitat, characteristics, evolutionary relationships, environmental relationships, and hot topics.

Grades: 8-12

Polaris Credit: .5 Life Science

ASD Name: Science, Biological

Zangle #: H2210

Conceptual Chemistry

This course provides an opportunity for students to study the basic concepts in chemistry as they relate to home and life. Chemical concepts will be used to explain many of the processes we observe in our daily lives. While examining these concepts, the student will develop problem solving and lab skills.

Grades: 9-12

Polaris Credit: .5 Physical Science

ASD Name: Chemistry, Conceptual

Zangle #: H2411

Chemistry

This course includes the study of the following concepts: atomic structure, mole, chemical periodicity, writing formulas and equations, nomenclature of compounds, kinetic molecular theory of solids, liquids and gases. 9th Grade students eligible if they have: 3.5 or higher GPA in 8th grade, B or higher in chemical and physical science, science teacher recommendation, and are taking Geometry or higher math.

Grades: 10-12

Polaris Credit: 1 Physical Science

ASD Name: Chemistry 1

Zangle #: H2421

Environmental Science

This course allows students to gain a personal understanding of some of the scientific principles and tradeoffs involved in obtaining their desired "quality of life". Simultaneously, students will develop a global perspective by investigating issues from the point of view of people in different regions of the world. Curriculum materials are based around rigorous scientific investigations of important concepts in biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science.

Grades: 9-12

Polaris Credit: .5 Science Elective

ASD Name: Science, Environmental

Zangle #: H2285

SCIENCE

Natural Science of Alaska

Students study the geography, major landforms, weather, plants and animals of Alaska. This course will focus on environmental science topics important to Alaska such as ecosystems, water resources, soil quality, natural resources, game management principles, human influences and pollution.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Life Science

ASD Name: Natural Science of Alaska
Zangle #: H2330

Forensic Science

This course will familiarize students with the basic principles and uses of forensic science. Forensic science is the study and application of science to the processes of law and involves the collection, examination, evaluation and interpretation of evidence. This field encompasses many scientific skills, when if used properly, can make invaluable contributions to the resolution of social and legal disputes. The course will review the basic applications of the Fundamentals of Forensics, Physical Properties of Evidence, Genetics, Document Analysis, Print Analysis, Toxicology, Trace Evidence, Serology, and Crime Scene Reconstruction and Analysis. Course will require emphasize qualitative and quantitative data record keeping and critical thinking skills.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Physical Science

ASD Name: Forensics I
Zangle #: H2560

Geology

This course deals with the formation and evolution of the earth's surface as revealed by the rocks and fossils and of the applications of geology. Areas of concentration will be on the development of crustal features as well as weathering and erosion forces. Special emphasis will be placed on Alaskan areas. Geologic time, rock dating, and exploration of natural resources will be covered.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Physical Science

ASD Name: Earth Science
Zangle #: H2610

Astronomy: Solar System

Students investigate the development of astronomy from the ideas of the ancients to the modern technological exploration of our solar system. The course focuses on the origin, dynamics and physical characteristics of member of the solar system (sun, planets, satellites, meteoroids, asteroids and comets). Through a study of planetary geology, students will gain an appreciation for the interdisciplinary nature of astronomy. Class activities may include planetarium observations, as well as laboratory experiences based on data provided by NASA, Harvard-Smithsonian Micro-Observatory and other astronomy-based facilities.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Physical Science

ASD Name: Astronomy: Solar System
Zangle #: H2621

SCIENCE

Astronomy: Universe

Students investigate astronomy from the stellar and galactic view. They begin with the physical properties of stars and stellar evolution (how an astronomer infers a star's origin and eventual demise). They progress to studies of galaxies, using the Milky Way as the standard for comparison. The universe on a grand scale then becomes the topic for analysis for discussions on clusters of galaxies and cosmology (the origin and evolution of the universe).

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: Physical Science

ASD Name: Astronomy: Universe
Zangle #: H2622

Anatomy & Physiology

This class involves the study of the structure and function of the various parts of the human anatomy. This course is recommended for those students interested in medical/health related fields. Will include several field trips to physician offices and to the UAA cadaver lab. Prerequisite: Biology required, chemistry recommended

Grades: 10-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Life Science

ASD Name: Human Anatomy/Physiology Adv.
Zangle #: H2301QALT

Genetics

In this basic genetics course we will be studying heredity among living organisms. Topics will include adaptations of organisms to the environment, the process of natural selection and evolution. Special emphasis will be placed on human genetics and fruit fly genetics. Prerequisite: Biology

Grades: 10-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Life Science

ASD Name: Genetics
Zangle #: H2290

Conceptual Physics

Designed to give students an appreciation and understanding of the physical laws of the universe. It is the study of the basic force of nature. Topics include gravity, electricity, magnetism and atomic and nuclear forces.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: 1 Physical Science

ASD Name: Physics, Conceptual
Zangle # H2511

AP Physics 1

AP Physics is equivalent of a first-semester college course in algebra based physics. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves and sound. It will also introduce electric circuits. Prerequisite: Algebra 2 completed, or taken concurrently with instructor permission.

Grades: 11-12
Polaris Credit: 1 Physical Science

ASD Name: AP Physics 1
Zangle #: H2530

SCIENCE

Phenomenon (Projects-based) Science

This course uses an inquiry-based approach to community science. Students will work individually or in small groups using social or scientific inquiry about the local community. Each student selects an area of study from one of the active monitoring projects at Polaris and prepares a project presentation using the Alaska State Science Fair format. Frequent fieldwork supports these projects; students must be prepared to be outside in wet, muddy, and freezing weather conditions. Students should plan to present at the fair in March.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Science Elective

ASD Name: Science Projects
Zangle #: H7049QALT

Climate Science Seminar

In this course, students will describe climate and the factors that affect local and global climates, including the science behind natural and man-made effects. Students will study mitigation and adaptation options based on current forecasts of climate change.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Science Elective

ASD Name: Science Seminar/Environmental Issue
Zangle #: H7050QALT/H2289QALT

Lego Robotics / Underwater Robotic

Teams create robots that complete various tasks. The lego robots are controlled by a programmable brain, so programming ability is key here. But so is building a 'bot that can accomplish the missions. The underwater robotics class will create submersible rovers to compete in the ROV Riot.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .25 Science elective

ASD Name: Robotics
Zangle #: H8503QALT

Inventors' Workshop

This course is a hands-on introduction to circuit design and computer programming. We will work with Arduino processors; the small, new, low-powered, open-source processors that are taking the world by storm. We will start off by building simple circuits, controlled by the Arduino brain. Step by step we will advance to more complex and sophisticated circuits. During the second quarter, students will build a mechanized contraption of their own design, powered by the Arduino.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Science elective

ASD Name: Applied Tech and Engineering
Zangle #: H8577

Biotechnology I & II (BioTaPP)

BioTaPP (Biotechnology Training and Preparatory Program) is a full year program designed to give students experience in some of the fundamental biotechnological techniques used in biological research and industry. Partnerships at Biorad, UAF, UAA, USGS and other related companies will guide and review the types of activities instructed to give students the best possibility of getting job right out of high school or a job while attending college. BioTaPP is for those students who wish to learn more biotechnological techniques and want to work independently on a science project involving laboratory and library research. BioTaPP is designed for students who are resourceful, responsible, patient and interested in understanding the future of science in our lives.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology I (B), Algebra 1 and Chemistry C or higher. Genetics is strongly recommended.

Grades: 11-12

ASD Name: BioTaPP 1/ BioTaPP 2

SCIENCE**Oceanography**

Students in the course will study the physical aspects and interactions with the atmosphere ocean interface including geology, chemistry, physics, meteorology and pollution of oceans. Included will be the study of the effects of geology, geochemistry, geography and physical forces on marine organisms.

Grades: 9-12

ASD Name: Oceanography

Polaris Credit: .5 Physical Science

Zangle #: H2306

Hot Topics in Science

Examine the latest in science in the areas of climate, the ocean, genetics, artificial intelligence, and more! How do these areas relate to your life, and how do we see the future world with the rapid changes on science frontiers?

Let's check it out!

Grades: 8-12

ASD Name: Science Seminar

Polaris Credit: .5 Life or Physical Science

Zangle #: H7050QALT

Community Science

A field-based class where students explore scientific topics through community service and outreach opportunities. We will partner with community organizations such as the Anchorage Parks Foundation, Food Bank of Alaska, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, UAA, etc. Weekly field trips will take students into the community and parents/guardians will need to support transportation efforts.

Grades: 8-12

ASD Name: Community Involvement

Polaris Credit: .5 Science Elective

WORLD LANGUAGES

Polaris Spanish Program: Spanish I and Spanish II are year long classes. Advanced Spanish is taught in 6 rotating semester-long blocks (A-B-C-D-E-and F). Students who have completed the advanced Spanish courses may continue on to AP Spanish or coursework through a university.

Spanish I

This course is an introduction to the language and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. This course trains students in the skills of listening and speaking during the first semester with almost all assessments being speaking assessments. Writing and reading are introduced in the second semester. Various cultural topics are introduced and songs and skits are practiced daily.

Grades: 7-12
Polaris Credit: 1 Elective

ASD Name: Spanish I
Zangle #: H4021

Spanish II

This course continues developing skills learned in Spanish I and reinforces Spanish language skills and cultural studies. Students will be speaking meaningfully in various tenses about a broader range of topics including home, school, travel and interests. Students will complete various projects including videos and songs and the geography of the Spanish-speaking world.

Grades: 7-12
Polaris Credit: 1 Elective

ASD Name: Spanish II
Zangle Number: H4031

Advanced Spanish

Advanced Spanish classes are taught in quarter-long block classes. A student may take them sequentially (A-->F) or as their schedule allows, and may take up to 8 quarters. These courses build on the knowledge acquired in levels I and II. An emphasis is placed on fluency of the written and spoken language. The course is conducted in Spanish. This class prepares students to have marketable Spanish skills in the real world. Students practice speaking with and listening to fluent speakers and cultural themes are more advanced and in depth. Real sources and short stories are used for reading and cultural prompts. Students set goals for learning in culture, speaking, writing, reading and listening. Reading selections may come from college level materials and in writing and speaking stress is on correct grammatical structures. While this is not an AP course, students may decide to take the AP Spanish exam after completing it.

Grades: 7-12
Polaris Credit: .5 to 4 Elective

ASD Name: Spanish III, IV, V, AP
Zangle #: H4041, H4051, H4061, H4071

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Sports Fitness

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of activities that emphasize physical fitness. These would include individual, dual, and team activities that provide students the opportunity to achieve success and have fun. Repeatable course.

Grades: 9-12 ASD Name: Phys/Health Special Topics H6068 Polaris Credit: .5 PE

Recreational Games

The purpose of this course is to offer a variety of activities to the student who enjoys the fun of games. The games will be recreational in nature. These activities may include: basketball, ultimate Frisbee, volleyball, soccer, floor hockey and non-contact lacrosse. Each activity will be a maximum of two weeks in length. In addition, this course will provide opportunities to improve physical fitness, acquire knowledge of fitness concepts, and practice positive personal and social gain an understanding of how a wellness lifestyle affects one's health, fitness and physical performance. Repeatable course.

Grades: 9-12 ASD Name: Recreational Games H6665 Polaris Credit: .25 PE

Weight Training-Basic

The purpose of this course is to promote the development of muscular strength and endurance and to enjoy the benefits of regular physical activity. Students learn to identify the major muscle groups and how to increase the performance of each through weight lifting and how to stabilize the body core. The discussion and practice of weight lifting techniques and principles guide students toward the eventual implementation of a personal fitness program. The primary class activity involves regular conditioning exercises supported by lecture and discussion. Repeatable course.

Grades: 9-12 ASD Name: Weight Training-Basic H6450 Polaris Credit: .25 PE

Lifetime Personal Fitness

The purpose of this course is to promote the development and maintenance of personal fitness. It is conceptually based and focuses on healthy living and lifestyle choices, with particular emphasis on the role of exercise and physical activity including nontraditional and noncompetitive activities. Course content includes fitness assessment, regular physical activity, laboratory sessions based on fitness concepts and lectures based on the value and benefits of exercise in daily living. In addition to setting and working toward personal fitness goals, students have an opportunity to practice positive social skills as they gain an understanding of how a wellness lifestyle affects the quality of life.

Grades: 9-12 ASD Name: Lifetime Personal Fitness H6380 Polaris Credit: .5 PE

Movement & Dance for the Stage

Learn basic "traditional" as well as non-traditional dance steps and movement practices, popular for the stage. Students will become familiar with different musical theatre styles and selections, while working toward a finished piece to share with an audience. Performance is optional. Prepare to move!

Grades: 9-12 ASD Name: Intro to Dance H6650 Polaris Credit: .50 PE

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Headspace

Google, General Mills, the Seattle Seahawks, and the U.S. military have all embraced mindfulness as a means of boosting performance and productivity. Becoming aware of the monkey mind and practicing stillness can also improve attention, reduces stress, result in better emotional regulation, and increase our capacity for compassion and empathy. Each week we will focus on a new kind of awareness activity to strengthen our ability to pay attention to the present moment.

Grades: 6-12

ASD Name: Phys/Health Sp TopicsH6068

Polaris Credit: .50 PE

Yoga and Wellness

Students will practice Hatha Yoga focusing on yoga for strength, flexibility, and relaxation. The class will also cover techniques for increasing concentration and decreasing anxiety which leads to stronger academic performance. Breathing exercises, nutrition and healthy fitness activities will also be taught.

Grades: 6-12

ASD Name: Yoga H6761

Polaris Credit: .50 PE

VISUAL ARTS, GRAPHIC DESIGN, & PUBLICATION

Artist Workshop

This class will be a balance of studio time where students are expected to be engaged in their own creative projects, a study of master artists through history, and assignments designed to strengthen basic artistic and design skills. Ability to work independently strongly recommended.

Grades: 6-9
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Art Studio
Zangle #: H5120

Drawing and Design

This class is an exploration of fundamental drawing principles such as value, scale, proportion, and perspective. Assignments will alternate between specific skill building projects and self-directed artwork. We'll use a variety of tools and materials to draw with, and learn about selecting the best medium to achieve particular effects. Art lab fee \$10

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Draw & Design
Zangle #: H5070

Ceramics

Designed for students with little or no previous experience in ceramics, this class will explore the process involved in creating clay sculpture and pottery. Students will learn and develop the fundamentals of hand built ceramics and receive an introduction to wheel thrown pottery. Various decorating, glazing, and firing methods will also be studied. Art lab fee \$25

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Pottery
Zangle #: H5155

Printmaking

This course is an introduction to the printmaking process and the creative use of printing techniques to produce artwork. Students in this course will explore a variety of printing methods including rubber stamps, Gytaku (printing with natural objects), block printing, collagraph printing, and monotype printing. Students will be expected to generate their own subject/themes and be able to communicate their ideas with an assortment of preliminary sketches and notes.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Printmaking
Zangle #: H5630

VISUAL ARTS, GRAPHIC DESIGN, & PUBLICATION

Exploring Paint

This course is an exploratory course with an emphasis on painting. Students will experiment with different kinds of paint, such as watercolor, tempera, and acrylics, and learn techniques unique to each one. We'll explore the variety of surfaces appropriate for each type of paint and learn about some unusual painting techniques such as fresco (plaster), egg tempera and encaustic (wax).

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Painting
Zangle #: H5140

Yearbook 1

Yearbook provides experience in design, preparation, production and finance of the school yearbook, with emphasis on photography, copy writing and layout. This course demands student responsibility in order to meet publisher's deadlines.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: 1 Elective

ASD Name: Yearbook 1
Zangle #: H9671

PERFORMING ARTS

Concert Band

This course is for students who wish to learn the fundamentals of music through playing a wind or percussion instrument. Correct breathing, tonguing, posture, proper care of the instrument and reading musical notation will be learned in a large group setting. Limited public performances may be required. Students provide their own instrument.

This is a year-long course, students are expected to take both fall and spring semesters.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: 1 Elective

ASD Name: Concert Band
Zangle # H5631

Symphonic Strings Orchestra

This course is for students who wish to learn the fundamentals of music through playing a orchestra instrument. Basic left and right hand techniques, posture, proper care of the instrument and reading musical notation will be learned in a large group setting. Limited public performances may be required. Students provide their own instrument.

This is a year-long course, students are expected to take both fall and spring semesters.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: 1 Elective

ASD Name: Orchestra, Symphonic Strings
Zangle #: H5691

Movement & Dance for the Stage

Learn basic "traditional" as well as non-traditional dance steps and movement practices, popular for the stage. Students will become familiar with different musical theatre styles and selections, while working toward a finished piece to share with an audience. Performance is optional. Prepare to move!

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .50 Elective or PE

ASD Name: Intro to Dance
Zangle #: H6650

PERFORMING ARTS

Intro to Drama

This course is an introduction to drama and the art of performing. Students will explore acting techniques, styles and stage movement while working toward a finished piece to share with an audience. Performance is optional.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Acting 1
Zangle #: H9610

Play Production

Acting 1 in high gear! Students will participate in the process of play production- start to finish. Skills practiced in Acting 1 (also learned in this course) will be further developed as the "cast" works toward opening night. Performance is mandatory (and a lot of FUN!).

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Acting II
Zangle #: H9612

BUSINESS EDUCATION & PROJECT BASED LEARNING

Keyboarding

This course offers a fun and entertaining typing curriculum. It features engaging exercises, interactive typing games, and positive reinforcement. Key concepts taught in the keyboarding course include:

* Key memorization * Software literacy * Typing accuracy * Speed typing
* Home row familiarity * Google Drive * Digital Citizenship

Grades: 6-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Computer Fundamentals
Zangle #:

School Business Partnership

This class operates the school store, Journé Café. But we do so much more. Learn about resumes, job applications, interview skills, managerial and cash handling responsibilities, scheduling, work skills, customer service and have FUN!!

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: School Business Partnership
Zangle #: H8518

Teacher Aide/Office Aide/Counseling Aide

Grades: 7-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Aide, Teacher or Aide, Office
Zangle #: H9090 or H9200

Peer Tutoring

Students in this course receive basic instruction in facilitating tutoring work in multiple subject areas and are then paired with elementary teachers to implement their programs.

Grades: 7-12
Polaris Credit: .5 Elective

ASD Name: Aide, Tutor
Zangle #: H9400

BUSINESS EDUCATION & PROJECT BASED LEARNING

Peer Teacher

Students create a quarter or semester long curriculum in conjunction with a teacher advisor and deliver that course. Students create a course syllabus, develop lesson plans and implement them working with the advisor to evaluate students and assign grades.

Grades: 9-12
Polaris Credit: .25 Elective

ASD Name: Peer Teacher
Zangle #: H7031qalt

Advisory

This multi-age class meets twice weekly for 80 minutes. During advisory students actively participate in their own student government, explore the qualities of leadership, select and implement community service projects and continually ask themselves “What am I doing to make my community a better place?” Advisory also provides an environment to form meaningful relationships with their peers and to form a bond with their academic advisor.

Grades: 6–12
Polaris Credit: .5 General Elective/year

ASD Name: Advisory
Zangle #:

Capstone

The Polaris Capstone Project is a student-centered approach to instruction. Students form their own investigation of a guiding question, to develop valuable research skills and new knowledge as they engage in design, problem solving, decision-making, creativity, and investigative activities. The teacher plays the role of facilitator, working with students to frame worthwhile questions, structuring meaningful tasks, coaching both knowledge development and weekly missions, and carefully assessing what students have learned from the experience. With this type of active and engaged learning, students will be inspired to obtain a deeper knowledge of the subjects they are curious about. A public exhibition is required in order to complete this class for credit.

Students may earn general elective or subject specific credit, depending on the focus/content of their project.

Grades: 8-12
Polaris Credit: .5 or 1 General Elective or subject specific

ASD Name: Independent Study (content area)