

Dierks High School



Course Catalog

2019 – 2020

Dierks High School

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Published by Dierks High School

Course Catalog is available online at visiting the school's website at

www.dierksschools.org

Table of Contents

Graduation Requirements4

General Requirements for Promotion8

Policy Concerning Smart Core and Core9

Correspondence Work11

Course Credits12

Required Courses per Grade17

Academic Policies19

Course Descriptions23

Remediation Classes & AIPs41

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation from senior high school will require 24 credits of academic credit (of which 4 may be P.E./Athletics) and 72 quality points. The graduation requirements include the following:

1. REQUIRED COURSES FOR GRADUATION

4 credits English

4 credits Math

Core Requirements are Algebra I, Geometry, Financial Algebra, Algebra II, Trigonometry or Algebra III

3 credits Science

Core Requirements are Biology, Physical Science, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Science, or Computer Science & Mathematics

1/2 credit Civics

1/2 credit Economics

1 credit World History

1 credit American History

1 credit Computerized Business Applications

1/2 credit Fine Arts

1/2 credit Health

1/2 credit Physical Education

1/2 credit Speech

1/2 credit Intro to Finances

1/2 credit Investments and Securities

18 credits (Electives of 6 credits will remain)

Students attending Dierks High School that complete the required 24 credits will be allowed to graduate at the end of the school year in which they attain the 24 credits if the student desires to graduate early. The early graduation is in accordance with Act 275 passed in 1997 by the State Legislature. It is understood that this Act only applies to graduation and does not affect Prom attendance, Sr. rings, etc. Act 275 passed in 1997 by the state legislature allows students to graduate early if they complete the required courses. Students of Dierks High School that complete the required 24 credits (both state and district requirements), will be allowed to graduate at the end of the school year in which they complete the required credits. Due to scheduling problems, no student will be allowed to enter senior level classes before their senior year. (This may not apply to students that transfer to Dierks High School from other schools. They may have already taken some of our required senior classes elsewhere.) Therefore, to graduate early, there are certain classes students will be required to take outside the regular school day. These are English IV, Financial Literacy/Investments and Securities and a 4th Math. These classes may be taken at any college and the student must request credit for these college classes via the concurrent credit system. Classes that may be substituted are Composition I and Composition II for English IV. Success Strategies may be substituted for Intro to Finance only if a student is attempting to graduate early.

2. The Dierks School District will attach seals to the transcripts and diplomas of students who complete the core curriculum with a 2.75 GPA. (Act 977 of 1977)

3. ELECTIVES

All students must take 8 subjects each semester. No high school diploma will be awarded to any student having an insufficient number of quality points based on the following:

- A four points (five points for weighted courses)
- B three points (four points for weighted courses)
- C two points (three points for weighted courses)
- D one point (two points for weighted courses)
- F no points (no points for weighted courses)

When two or more students have the same number of quality points their rank in the graduating ranking shall be the same.

The Valedictorian and Salutatorian are determined at the end of the eighth semester of work by the total number of quality points obtained. (Grade point is not a consideration). No student shall be eligible for Valedictorian or Salutatorian who has not attended Dierks High School the last three (3) consecutive semesters before graduation.

Participation in graduation exercises will be limited to those students who are receiving diplomas.

The Valedictorian and Salutatorian and Honor Students will be determined after eight (8) semesters. Beginning with the Class of 2005, all students who have a 3.50 cumulative grade point average at the end of the eighth semester of work will be recognized as Honor Students at graduation. This shall be based on a 4.00 grade point. (No weighted quality points will be added to help a student achieve a 3.50) cumulative grade point average means for all work from the ninth grade through the second semester of the 12th grade. (See Concurrent Credit Policy) Also, for a student to be recognized as valedictorian, salutatorian, or honor student, he/she will have completed the graduation requirements for Dierks High School. They must have also completed the Smart core curriculum.

For the purpose of arranging the honor students only to march in at graduation, they shall be arranged according to quality points obtained at the end of the eighth semester of work. Quality points for weighted classes will count for graduation walking arrangements. The remainder of the class will march in, in alphabetical order. For the purpose of walking, students wishing to graduate early will walk at the end of this year's class or the end of the honor graduates, whichever applies to that student.

4. Act 1326-Graduation--Math and Science School Seniors

Students who attended school at the Dierks School District prior to acceptance to the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences may elect to participate in graduation activities.

Students attending the Math and Science School will be sent a questionnaire at the beginning of their fourth year of high school in which they are to indicate which activities they plan to attend. The questionnaire will be sent to the last address of record in school district records. Failure to return the questionnaire by October 1 will constitute a waiver of the election to participate. Students who will graduate early and who intend to participate in any activities must notify the senior high principal, in writing by October 1 that they will graduate early and plan to participate in graduation activities.

Math and Science students will be responsible for the costs of these activities to the same extent as Dierks students, and agree by participating to abide by the Student Handbook of the Dierks School District at these functions. Math and Science students may be barred from attending one or more future events upon recommendation of senior high school principal, subject to appeal to the superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

Math and Science students who participate in the graduation ceremony are not eligible to be recognized as valedictorian or salutatorian, but upon presentation of an official transcript from the Math and Science School, at least, 7 school days before graduation, will be recognized as honor graduates. Math and Science students who choose to participate in graduation ceremonies will not receive diplomas issued by the Dierks School District, but will instead be presented with certificates of recognition.

5. Participation in Graduation

Students fulfilling all graduation requirements will receive a diploma from Dierks High School.

Students not fulfilling all requirements for graduation may be permitted to participate in graduation only under the following conditions:

A student may fail up to two required courses during the spring semester of the graduation year, but this student must have made-up all required courses for graduation, that has been failed during the 9th, 10th, 11th, and the 1st semester of the 12th grades, by the end of the fall semester of the graduation year. Also, this student must have at least 23 credits completed by the end of the spring semester of the graduation year. The student will receive a certificate of attendance until all graduation requirements have been successfully completed.

6. Rules Regarding the Graduation Ceremony

- Students will be required to sign a behavioral contract prior to graduation insuring proper behavior.
- All diplomas will be withheld until the week after graduation (an empty folder will be presented during the ceremony).
- Appropriate attire (dress pants or skirt with dress shoes-no flip flops, tennis shoes or jeans/shorts) will be strictly enforced.
- If students are not dressed appropriately they will be denied the right to walk and will be escorted from the building.
- If students misbehave during the ceremony they will be escorted out of the gym: Their diploma will be withheld until they serve in school suspension through the end of the last regular day of school.

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PROMOTION
MINIMUM CORE COURSES FOR SMART CORE**

Beginning with the 2003-04 school year, to qualify for valedictorian, salutation, honor graduate, or membership in the National Honor Society, students must successfully complete the Smart Core curriculum. These requirements are in addition to those established.

Junior High School (Grades 7-8)

All Junior High pupils must pass four (4) subjects, excluding P.E., or repeat the entire grade.

High School Students (Grades 9-12)

High School students do not have to repeat all classes failed, but must repeat any state-required subject and satisfy all graduation requirements in order to graduate.

In order to be considered a member of a particular class, a student must have earned a specified number of credits. The number of credits will be used to determine a student's eligibility to participate in class activities such as the Jr. /Sr. Prom, the ordering of caps and gowns, etc.

To be classified a student must have earned:

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Sophomore | 3 credits |
| Junior | 10 credits |
| Senior | 17 credits |

Twenty-four (24) credits of academic credit are required for graduation. Students will be classified at the beginning of the school year and will keep their classification the entire school year.

POLICY CONCERNING SMART CORE AND CORE

Beginning with the 2004 – 2005 Seventh grade class, all students will be encouraged to participate in the Smart Core of classes unless a signed waiver from the parent is returned to school. All students will be required to participate in Smart Core unless a waiver is signed and returned. If returned, the student will be allowed to participate in the Core curriculum. Likewise, the students must pass the classes prescribed or graduation may be in jeopardy. If at all possible, the students will be allowed to return to the smart core if the course of study can be completed before the end of their Senior year.

SMART CORE (22 CREDITS)

English–4 credits (years)

- English 9th Grade
- English 10th Grade
- English 11th Grade
- English 12th Grade

Oral Communications–1/2 credit (½ year)

Mathematics–4 credits (years); one credit must be taken in 11th or 12th grade

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Algebra II
- Choice of: Algebra III, Pre-Calculus, Computer Science & Mathematics an AP mathematics
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable.)

Natural Science–3 credits (years) with lab experience chosen from the list below (or 2 credits with lab experience and Computer Science)

- Biology 1 credit
- Two credits from the following three options
- Physical Science
 - Chemistry
 - Physics

Social Studies–3 credits (years)

- Civics or Civics ½ credit
- Economics ½ credit
- World History
- U.S. History

Physical Education–1/2 credit (½ year)

Health and Safety–1/2 credit (½ year)

Fine Arts–1/2 credit (½ year)

Career Focus–6 credits

CORE (22 CREDITS)

English—4 credits (years)

- English 9th Grade
- English 10th Grade
- English 11th Grade
- English 12th Grade

Oral Communications—1/2 credit

Mathematics—4 credits (years)

- Algebra or its equivalent* 1 credit
- Geometry or its equivalent* 1 credit
- All math credits must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills
- Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable

*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two (2) credits of the 4 (4) credit requirement.

Science—3 credits (years) or 2 credits with lab experience and 1 credit of Computer Science.

- At least one (1) credit of Biology
- At least one (1) credit of Physical Science, Chemistry, and/or Physics

Social Studies—3 credits (years)

- Civics or government, ½ credit
- Economics ½ credit
- World History, 1 credit
- U.S. History 1 credit

Physical Education—1/2 credit (½ year)

Health and Safety—1/2 credit (½ year)

Fine Arts—1/2 credit (½ year)

Career Focus—6 credits

CORRESPONDENCE WORK

The Dierks High School does not encourage correspondence work toward graduation, but in some instances feels that it is necessary to permit a student to use this means to achieve a diploma. Listed below are guidelines that may be used in determining whether a student is eligible to take correspondence work:

No one will be allowed to take correspondence toward a degree if he/she can attend regular classes.

Students who drop regular class work at the school's request, will be permitted to take four credits of correspondence work.

Students who fail will be permitted to make up this deficiency while attending a regular term. A student will not be allowed to take over two credits of correspondence work.

If a physical disability keeps a child from attending school, he may take an unlimited amount of correspondence.

Any course of correspondence must be approved by the school administration and all such work must be from an accredited institution.

Students doing correspondence work toward a degree from Dierks High School, must meet all the graduation requirements of regular students.

Students will not be permitted to take correspondence courses for the purpose of making quality points to overtake other students in quality points. Quality points will only be counted for correspondence courses if needed to meet the minimum required for graduation.

Students, who complete their school work by correspondence after their scheduled class graduates, will receive a diploma but will not be permitted to take part in graduation exercises. Students must be in attendance in order to take place in graduation ceremonies.

| LANGUAGE ARTS | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| English 7 | 7 | 1 Year | --- |
| English 8 | 8 | 1 Year | --- |
| English 9 | 9 | 1 Year | 1 |
| English 10 | 10 | 1 Year | 1 |
| English 11 | 11 | 1 Year | 1 |
| English 12 | 12 | 1 Year | 1 |
| Oral Communications | 11-12 | ½ Year | ½ |
| Creative Writing | 11-12 | ½ Year | ½ |
| Pre-AP English 11 | 11 | 1 Year | 1 |
| AP English | 12 | 1 Year | 1 |
| Concurrent Composition I | 11-12 | ½ year | 1 |
| Concurrent Composition II | 11-12 | ½ year | 1 |
| Journalism | 9-12 | 1 Year | 1 |
| Yearbook/Annual | 9-12 | 1 Year | 1 |
| Drama | 9-12 | 1 Year | ½ |

| MATHEMATICS | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Common Core Math 7 | 7 | 1 year | -- |
| Common Core Math 8 | 8 | 1 year | -- |
| Algebra I | 8-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Geometry | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Algebra II | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Pre-Calculus/Trig | 11-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Financial Algebra | 11-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Algebra III | 11-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Pre-AP/Pre-Cal | 11 | 1 year | 1 |
| AP Calculus | 12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Computer Science & Math | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Concurrent College Algebra | 9-12 | ½ year | 1 |

| SOCIAL STUDIES | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Social Studies7/Geography | 7 | 1 year | -- |
| Social Studies 8/Arkansas History 8 | 8 | 1 year | -- |
| Civics | 9-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| Economics | 9-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| World History | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Pre-AP World History | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| American History | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| AP U.S. History | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Sociology | 9-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| Psychology | 9-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| Contemporary American History | 9-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| World Geography | 9-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| Concurrent American History I | 11-12 | ½ year | 1 |
| Concurrent American History II | 11-12 | ½ year | 1 |
| Concurrent World Civilizations I | 11-12 | ½ year | 1 |
| Concurrent World Civilizations II | 11-12 | ½ year | 1 |

| SCIENCE | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Science 7 | 7 | 1 year | -- |
| Science 8 (Earth Science) | 8 | 1 year | -- |
| Biology | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Physical Science | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Chemistry | 11-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Environmental Science | 11-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Physics | 12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Anatomy/Physiology | 11-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Pre-AP Chemistry | 11-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| AP Biology | 11-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Computer Science & Mathematics | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |

| BUSINESS EDUCATION | | | |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Keyboarding Applications | 7-8 | ½ year | -- |
| Computer Business Applications | 9 | 1 year | 1 |
| Office Management | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Financial Planning & Wealth Mgmt | 12 | 1 year | 1 ½ |
| Securities, Insurance, Risk & Investments | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Career Ready 101 | 10-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| EAST I | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| EAST II | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| EAST III | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| EAST IV | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |

| FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Facs Investigations | 7 | ½ year | -- |
| Family & Consumer Science | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Foods/Nutrition | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Child Development/Parenting | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Entrepreneurship | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Orientation to Teaching | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |

| AGRICULTURE | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Survey of Ag. Systems | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Ag Mechanics | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Forestry | 10-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| Ag Metals | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Ag Electricity | 10-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| Animal Science | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Managing Natural Resources | 10-12 | ½ year | ½ |

| FOREIGN LANGUAGE | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Spanish I | 11-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Spanish II | 12 | 1 year | 1 |

| ACADEMIC MISCELLANEOUS COURSES | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Health 7 | 7 | ½ year | -- |
| Health 8 | 8 | ½ year | -- |
| Health & Safety | 10 | ½ year | ½ |

| NON-ACADEMIC MISCELLANEOUS COURSES | | | |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Physical Education 7 | 7 | ½ year | -- |
| Physical Education 8 | 8 | ½ year | -- |
| Physical Education | 9 | 1 year | 1 |
| Athletics* | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |

*Athletics includes Football, Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Track, Golf, and Cheerleading (non-credit)

| FINE ARTS | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| COURSE | Grade Level | Duration | Credit |
| Art 7 | 7 | 9 weeks | -- |
| Music 7 | 7 | 9 weeks | -- |
| Art 8 | 8 | 9 weeks | -- |
| Music 8 | 8 | 9 weeks | -- |
| Instrumental Music 7-8 | 7-8 | 1 year | -- |
| Art I | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Art II | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Art III | 10-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Vocal Music | 9-12 | 1 year | 1 |
| Music Appreciation | 10-12 | ½ year | ½ |
| Instrumental Music I | 9 | 1 year | 1 |
| Instrumental Music II | 10 | 1 year | 1 |
| Instrumental Music III | 11 | 1 year | 1 |
| Instrumental Music IV | 12 | 1 year | 1 |

Required Courses per Grade

7th Grade-Courses Required

- English 7
- Science 7
- Common Core Mathematics 7
- Social Studies 7
- FACS Investigations
- Tools for Learning or Band
- Health 7
- Art 7
- Music 7
- Keyboarding Applications
- Ramp up to Literacy 7
- Ramp up to Math 7

Must have passed 3 of the 4 core subjects plus one to enter the 8th grade.

8th Grade-Courses Required

- English 8
- Science 8
- Common Core Math 8 or Algebra I (8th Grade)
- Social Studies 8 and Ark. History 8
- Career Development
- P.E. or Athletics
- Tools for Learning or Band
- Art 8
- Music 8
- Health 8
- Ramp up to Literacy 8
- Ramp up to Math 8

Must have passed 3 of the 4 core subjects plus one to enter the 9th grade.

9th Grade-Courses Required

- English 9
- Biology
- Algebra I or Geometry
- Civics
- Economics
- P.E. or Athletics
- Computer Business Applications (CBA)

10th Grade-Courses Required

- English 10
- Physical Science
- Geometry or Algebra II
- World History
- Health
- Art or Music Appreciation

11th Grade-Courses Required

- English 11
- Chemistry
- Algebra II, Algebra III or Pre-Calculus
- American History or AP U.S. History
- Speech
- Creative Writing

12th Grade-Courses Required

- English 12 or AP English
- Algebra III or Pre-Calculus (for students needing 4th Math credit)
- Financial Literacy and Investments & Securities

**DIERKS HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC POLICIES
SCHOOL RATING**

Dierks High School is a member of the Advanc-ED Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

To be a member of the association is a great honor for the school and for the community.

For a school to be a member of the Advanc-ED, it must have an adequate faculty that meets strict requirements, a physical plant that must pass rigid inspection, a library that contains a plentiful supply of books and materials, and hosts of other things that are essential in order that you might receive a good education.

To you, as a student, this means that your transcript of grades will be accepted by any college without question.

GRADING SYSTEM

The grading system in Dierks Public Schools is as follows:

| REGULAR SCALE | AP SCALE (Weighted) |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| A = 90-100 = 4 pts. | A = 90-100 = 5 pts. |
| B = 80- 89 = 3 pts. | B = 80- 89 = 4 pts. |
| C = 70- 79 = 2 pts. | C = 70- 79 = 3 pts. |
| D = 60- 69 = 1 pt. | D = 60- 69 = 2 pt. |
| F = 59 and Below = 0 pts. | F = 59 and Below = 0 pts. |

I = Incomplete (Incompletes automatically convert to an "F" two weeks after the end of the grading period, unless extenuating circumstances exists.)

GRADING, TESTING AND RELATED REGULATIONS

All daily, weekly, etc., tests are to be graded on an individual teacher's basis to establish the raw score in points, such as 87 point score. This score is to be recorded in the daily record book and/or in the computer with a backup disk. A letter grade may also be assigned for the student's benefit, but is not necessarily needed. At the end of each nine (9) weeks, a teacher may average daily grades and credit tests for the nine (9) weeks grade. If a teacher feels a nine (9) weeks test is needed, a total of all daily, weekly and other scores are totaled and averaged.

This and other scores are totaled and averaged. This average counts $\frac{3}{4}$ on the points score for the nine weeks grade. The nine weeks exam points are added to the average daily score (tripled) for the nine weeks total point score. The final nine weeks letter is then determined by the point score on the letter grade scale. All teachers in all classes will be required to give a semester test at the scheduled test time. The tests may consist of skills proficiency rather than a written exam based upon the curriculum of the course and at the principal's discretion.

To determine a student's semester average, add the two nine weeks grades and divide by two. This average counts $\frac{3}{4}$ of the score for the semester grade. The semester exam points (based on a 100-point scale) are added to the nine weeks average and make up $\frac{1}{4}$ of the semester grade. The semester grade is then determined by the point score on the letter grade scale.

Grades assigned to students for performance in a course shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed academic objectives of the course. Grades that reflect other educational objectives such as the student learning expectations contained in the curriculum frameworks may also be figured in. It is the objective of Dierks High School that a student's grades reflect only the achievement of educational objectives.

Students transferring to Dierks High School with grades given in Advanced Placement courses shall have the same notation placed on their transcript at Dierks High School. AP courses shall be recognized as AP courses. (Additional quality points may not be awarded unless the course is currently a weighted course at Dierks High School).

ACCELERATION OF A STUDENT

The following are the criteria a student must meet to be eligible for acceleration to a higher grade:

1. Request by parent
2. 99% on an Achievement Test
3. 130+ on an Intelligence Test
4. Psychological Test
5. Recommended by a panel of teachers
6. High School students must meet all graduation requirements

SPECIAL EDUCATION SECONDARY

1. Students enrolled in special education classes receive full credit for the courses.
2. Special education students enrolled in regular classes will not be failed if they have completed assigned work on their performance level. Remedial grades will be given in these classes and the student receives full credit and full value of quality points assigned to the grade that is earned.

WEIGHTED COURSES

The following courses will be graded on a 5.0 scale: AP classes (Advanced Placement), IB (International Bacc .), and ADE approved honors classes will be graded on a weighted 5.0 scale. Students must take the AP exam to obtain weighted credit and teachers must be properly trained.

HOMESCHOOLING/STUDENTS TRANSFERRING IN FROM A NON-ACCREDITED SCHOOL

Students who enter Dierks Public Schools from non-accredited schools or have been schooled at home will be given a standardized test such as Stanford 9 to establish grade level. These students will not be eligible to be ranked because of unavailable grades. Therefore, these students will be ineligible to qualify for honor graduate status if they transfer in after their 8th grade year. A student requesting course credit for a specific course offered in grades 9-12 will be tested for that specific course. (For example: A student requesting credit in algebra one will be given a test covering the course objectives for algebra one.) A score of 70% or higher will be required to receive “credit” for the course.

Act 400 of 1997 requires parents to register as home-school only once a year with the superintendent of their resident district, and they may withdraw a student from school mid-year or anytime during the year and register to provide a home school then.

Home-school will be tested on the same schedule as public school students and the test will be administered by education service cooperation; financial responsibility for the testing will be assumed by the Department of Education.

Students who re-enroll in local school districts must attend classes for at least nine months to be eligible to receive a diploma.

COLLEGE CREDIT - ACT 60 OF 1989

Statute 6-18-221 states a public school student who is enrolled as a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior in a public high school in Arkansas shall be eligible to enroll in a publicly supported community college or four-year college or university in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by each institution. A high school student who enrolls in and successfully completes a course or courses offered by an institution of higher education shall be entitled to receive appropriate academic credit in both the institution of higher education and the public high school in which such student is enrolled which credit shall be applicable to graduation requirements.

College credit earned by Dierks High School students in grades 9-12 will not be used in determining class rank unless the class is taken during a regularly scheduled class period under the direction of a predetermined school employee. The maximum number of quality points that can be earned per semester for these specified college courses to determine class rank is 4 even though the students may earn 1 full high school credit for 1 semester of college credit. However, concurrent credit classes will be used to compute grade point.

Students taking college classes for high school credit may experience scheduling problems. When their class is taking the course in high school, students that have already taken that course in college for high school credit may be forced to take a class they may not want to take or like.

DIERKS HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

LANGUAGE ARTS

ENGLISH I - The student will study the mechanics and grammar of the English language. Emphasis will also be placed on reading skills with a thorough survey made of all types of literature.

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

ENGLISH II - Serves as a sequential review of the mechanics and grammar previously studied with the addition of more advanced material. The student will study sentence structure, parts of speech, spelling, and vocabulary building. Composition will emphasize the perfection of the single paragraph. A thorough survey is made of all types of literature.

Grade Level: 10

Credit: 1

ENGLISH III - Extends the study of grammar and mechanics from the 10th grade with continuing emphasis on correctness of expression in both oral and written composition. The length of composition writing is increased with special emphasis given to research work. American literature is studied in all forms.

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1

PRE AP ENGLISH III - Same course content as English III with the rigors of the AP curriculum included.

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1

ENGLISH IV - Is the final year in the student's study of English. Emphasis is placed upon lifetime communication skills with a review of basic grammar, experience in written composition, and further development of reading skills. Efforts are made to meet the differing needs of students who are college bound and those who are vocationally oriented.

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1

AP ENGLISH IV - Study of Literature and Composition that adheres to the rigors of the AP curriculum.

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1

JOURNALISM - Teaches collecting, writing, editing, and disseminating news in the mass media: newspapers, magazines, radio, television, advertising, and book publication.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

YEARBOOK - The course emphasizes organizational skills, time management, and cooperation. Its goal is to cover the entire spectrum of daily school life in any given school year. We publish "The Outlaw".

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

CREATIVE WRITING - This course focuses on analytical thinking and writing, creative thinking and writing; and research and critique writing. It will encourage these kinds of thinking and writing processes, which will culminate in structured essays, narrative essays, descriptive essays, persuasive essays, literary analysis, process papers, and letters of application resumes.

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1/2

SPEECH - This course emphasizes building skills and self confidence in one's ability to speak with expression and understand the importance of public speaking.

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1/2

DRAMA - This course emphasizing building skills and self confidence in expressing one's self in dramatic format.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1/2

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

SPANISH I - Is a basic conversational Spanish. Students will learn to converse freely, as well as learning basic Spanish grammar. Offered through Virtual Arkansas.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

SPANISH II - An extension of Spanish I, dwelling more on conversational Spanish and extended vocabulary. Offered through Virtual Arkansas.

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1

ELEMENTARY SPANISH I (CONCURRENT CREDIT) - An introduction to the essentials of the Spanish language. It is designed to develop the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It emphasizes standard pronunciation, functional syntactical structures, vocabulary, and idiomatic expressions, as well as an awareness of Hispanic cultures. Offered through Early College High School Program through University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

ELEMENTARY SPANISH II (CONCURRENT CREDIT) - A continuation of the essentials of the Spanish language in Spanish 1003. It is structured to develop a solid foundation of the four basic language skills with major emphasis on the oral and written communicative skills and an understanding of Hispanic cultures. Offered through Early College High School Program through University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA I - A required mathematics course based upon algebraic concepts. Students will learn concepts through many venues including hands on experiences.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

FINANCIAL ALGEBRA - An application of algebraic thinking patterns and functions in a financial context.

Grade level: 11-12

Credit: 1

GEOMETRY - This course involves a study of the basic properties of geometric figures in both two and three dimensions. Deductive reasoning is correlated with algebraic skills in applications of pertinent principals.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

ALGEBRA II – The extension of the concepts learned in Algebra I and Geometry bridging the way toward higher level mathematics courses.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

PRE AP or GENERAL PRE CALCULUS/TRIG - Advanced Math encompasses and extends topics and concepts of intermediate algebra, analytical geometry, and functions. It is intended for use by students who have completed two years of high school algebra and one year of geometry.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

AP CALCULUS - Deals with circular functions, vectors, trigonometric function and identities, and many practical applications of trigonometry. Scientific calculators are used in Advanced Math and Trigonometry. This is an advanced placement course.

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1

ALGEBRA III - Part of the Smart Core that bridges the gap between Algebra II and College Algebra.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

COMPUTER SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS – Designed to provide students with opportunity to explore the uses of mathematics and computer science as tools in creating effective solutions to complex problems. Offered through Virtual Arkansas.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

COLLEGE ALGEBRA (CONCURRENT CREDIT) – Functions, graphs, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, systems of equations, applications of algebra, matrices, and the binomial theorem. Offered through Early College High School Program through University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

SOCIAL STUDIES

CIVICS - Is a study of the organization, structure and role the national, state and local governments. The Constitution, and the basics of American citizenship are emphasized.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: ½

PRE AP OR GENERAL WORLD HISTORY - A general introductory course to acquaint students with the major political, intellectual, and cultural achievements of mankind's greatest civilizations. Emphasis is on meaning and an attempt to understand the "big picture" rather than on minutia--dates, maps, memory work, facts, facts & facts. Questions such as how have people from the past shed any light on the nature of humanity, are there any ways all people are the same, the causes of war--these topics are pursued with specific historical examination. Pre AP will include the rigors of the AP curriculum.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

AMERICAN HISTORY - This course is designed to develop appreciation and understanding of the development of our country from past to present. Students will study the history, economics, geography, government, and law with special emphasis placed on current affairs. This course is geared to senior high students of average in potential. Major emphasis will be placed on 1865 to the present.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

SOCIOLOGY – A Study of the history of society and its changes over time.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: ½

PSYCHOLOGY – A study of the human mind and its functions

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: ½

ECONOMICS – A required course that presents the concepts of world and national economics.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: ½

AP US HISTORY – A Credited States history course based upon advanced placement principles set forth by the College Board in which the students do in depth studies into the philosophies that founded the Credited States.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

American History I (Concurrent Credit) - The growth of the Credited States from the discovery of America to 1876. Offered through Early College High School Program through University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

American History I (Concurrent Credit) - The Credited States from 1876 to the present. Offered through Early College High School Program through University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

Survey of World Civilizations I (Concurrent Credit) - Civilization to 1660. European and world development emphasizing cultural, economic, religious, and political changes. Some attention is given to non-western civilization. Offered through Early College High School Program through University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

Survey of World Civilizations II (Concurrent Credit) - Civilization to 1660. European and world development from 1660 to the present, emphasizing cultural, economic, religious, and political changes. Some attention given to nonwestern civilization. Offered through Early College High School Program through University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

SCIENCE

PHYSICAL SCIENCE - Study of the elements of the physical world around us.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE - Study of the elements of the environmental world around us.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

BIOLOGY - Is a study of the fundamental concepts of a beginning course. This required course gives the students a good understanding of cytology, invertebrates, vertebrates, human anatomy, plants, ecology, and the chemistry of living things, genetics, microbes, and health.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

PRE AP OR GENERAL CHEMISTRY - This course is designed for the student planning to study pre-med, pharmacy, engineering, etc. It offers an introduction to the principals and theories of chemical reactions. Practical familiarity with chemicals, reactions, and techniques are developed by means of laboratory experiences. Pre AP will follow the rigors of the AP curriculum.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

PHYSICS - This course offers an introduction to the various forms of energy and the properties of math. It includes laboratory work in heat, magnetism, motion, electricity, sound and light.

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1

AP BIOLOGY- This course offers in depth study into biology and follows the rigors of the AP curriculum.

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY – This course offers the study of the human body in an in depth fashion in which hands on laboratory experiences are present.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

COMPUTER SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS – Designed to provide students with opportunity to explore the uses of mathematics and computer science as tools in creating effective solutions to complex problems.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

PRACTICAL ARTS/BUSINESS EDUCATION

COMPUTER BUSINESS APPLICATION - Computer Technology is a one-year course designed to prepare students with an introduction to computers and business applications which are necessary to live and work in a technology society. Emphasis is given to data entry, computer concepts and operations, programming and design, computer software, implications of technology in society, and ethics. This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the business, industrial and scientific areas in which the computer is used.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

FINANCIAL LITERACY - Designed to increase financial literacy and prepare students to successfully manage financial resources. This course also focuses on the individual's role and financial responsibilities as a student, citizen, consumer, and active participant in the business world. Emphasis is also placed also on activities and competitions within career technical student organizations

Grade Level: 12

Credit: ½

INVESTMENTS AND SECURITIES - This is a one semester course designed to familiarize students with knowledge of finance needed for real life situations.

Grade Level: 12

Credit: ½

OFFICE MANAGEMENT – This course offers the best practices in managerial skills necessary for students to operate a business.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

EAST I, II, III, and IV – (Environmental and Spatial Technology) this course includes a curriculum designed to allow students to familiarize themselves with technology while at the same time helping their community or school. Students will learn to use: Geographic Informational Systems, computer animation, computer modeling, video editing, GPS, and CAD.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

COMPUTERIZED ACCOUNTING – This course provides students with the principles of sound accounting practices utilizing the latest in computer technologies along with business simulations.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

CAREER READINESS – This course is based upon the Arkansas Career Readiness Certification system.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

INTRO TO TRAVEL AND TOURISM – An in-depth study of worldwide travel, transportation and tourism. Students are introduced to the industry as a whole and the job opportunities that are available. The course covers resource allocation, technology, social, organizational, and technological systems.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: ½

INTRO TO HOSPITALITY – One semester course that provides students with an overview of the hospitality industry and career opportunities within the industry. Students learn operation procedures in front office operations, guest services, marketing and sales, bank office functions, ownership and management, food, beverages, and housekeeping.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: ½

LODGING MANAGEMENT – Has everything a student needs to get started in a hospitality career with the classroom lessons and activities that teach valuable lodging skills and knowledge.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: ½

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE - A one-year course designed to develop basic skills that can make a difference in the quality of life. Emphasis is given to health and safety procedures when caring for children, consumer practices money management, wardrobe planning and selection, nutrition and food selection, meal planning and family and individual health.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

FOODS AND NUTRITION - A one-semester laboratory course providing students with a knowledge of food preparation and food values.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1/2

CHILD DEVELOPMENT - A one-semester course in which students learn to anticipate and recognize changes which accompany the developmental stages in the life circle. Emphasis is given to the development of competencies related to the effects of heredity and environment of human development; stages of physical, mental, emotional, and social development, and personality development.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1/2

Prerequisite: None

PARENTING – Teaches skills necessary for the development of the teenager who will one day become a parent and/or counselor, teacher, social worker, or child care professional.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1/2

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES - A one-semester laboratory course designed to assist students in developing skills necessary for management of individual and family wardrobes and for decision making as a clothing consumer. Emphasis is given to clothing selection and care, characteristics of natural and synthetic fibers, and fabric finishes.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1/2

HOUSING - This semester course encompasses the study of housing selection as related to human and environmental factors, housing design, selection and financing of housing, and the selection and care of home furnishings and equipment. Although it is basically a non-laboratory course, learning is enhanced through field trips, resource persons, audiovisual materials, and class experiences, including demonstrations and some laboratory activities.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: ½

HUMAN RELATIONS – Focuses on the development of skills needed in order to build and maintain successful relationships in the home, community, and workplace. Upon completion of this course, the student should have a better understanding of self, know how to communicate effectively and be able to establish and maintain effective relationships with family members.

Grade level: 9-12

Credit: ½

ORIENTATION TO TEACHING I – Designed to provide students with knowledge that will help prepare them as future teachers. Upon completion of this course, a student should have a better understanding of the roles of the teacher in the profession, understand developmental characteristics of learners, identify teaching strategies, be creative in lesson delivery and understand historical and current educational issues, policies, and practices.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

ORIENTATION TO TEACHING II - Designed to integrate psychological, sociological, and philosophical foundations which prepare students for positive field experiences. This course encourages prospective teachers to become responsible, professional, and ethical as they explore the teaching profession. The students will research and examine foundations within the educational system. Upon completion of this course, a student should have a working knowledge of and employability skills for the education profession.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Orientation to Teaching I

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE MECHANICS - Tool sharpening, small gas maintenance, arc welding, oxygen-acetylene welding, cold metal, sheet metal, tool fitting, and power tools.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

ANIMAL SCIENCE - Livestock breeds, selecting breeding stock, breeding, fitting and showing, nutrition, parasites and diseases. Emphasis on cattle, swine, sheep and poultry.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: ½

FORESTRY - Structure and physiology of trees, nutrition, environmental factors, plant propagation, timber stand, improvement, surveying, land location, thinning timber, seeding and planting, marketing forest products.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1/2

Prerequisite: Ag Science and Tech

AG METALS- Arc welding, heli-arc, micro-wire welding with blueprint reading included as needed. Oxy-acetylene welding and cutting are taught in depth.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit 1

SURVEY OF AG SYSTEMS - Parliamentary procedure, record keeping, FFA, public speaking, supervised occupational experience programs, agriculture, occupation, shop safety. Survey of livestock production, horticultural crops, water conservation, welding, metal works and sketching and drawing.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

BIOLOGICAL ANIMAL SCIENCE – Based upon scientific aspects of animal science. Builds upon the initial Animal Science course.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: ½

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES – Studies the natural resources available in the area as well as the career potential that each resource contains.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: ½

MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES – Studies the ways that industry and individuals are working to conserve the environment and ways that need to be implemented. This course also researches the career potential available in conservation.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: ½

ELECTRICITY – This course provides the students with knowledge of wiring of 12 basic circuit configurations that would be found in any household. Students have hands on experiences in the wiring techniques.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: ½

SPECIAL EDUCATION

RESOURCE ROOM - Students receive individualized instruction plans in reading and math content areas, emphasizing basic review and practical compensatory skills, tutoring in any academic or vocational class.

In order for a student to be enrolled in Special Education, the following procedures are required:

1. Referral process - student may be referred by parent, teacher, principal or counselor.
2. Referral conference
3. Evaluation - comprehensive psychological test
4. Evaluation conference
5. Additional evaluations if necessary
6. Evaluation and placement conference
7. End of the conference.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH - Sr. Health is divided into 7 different parts and has an objective of teaching students to live a longer and healthier life. The various areas include mental health, making healthy choices, nutrition, physical fitness, human development, substance abuse and modern health problems.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1/2

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Physical Education provides the students with knowledge of the importance of regular exercise on the human body as well as lifetime leisure sports that can become hobbies for the students.

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1

FINE ARTS

ART I - This is an introduction to creative work in drawing, painting and pottery.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

ART II - This is problems utilizing a variety of media and subject matter and will be covered in drawing, painting and pottery.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

ART III - Students will be allowed to develop their individual talents in drawing, painting and pottery.

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

NON-ACADEMIC FINE ART COURSES

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC - Performing organization designed to stress marching and concert band experience with additional small ensemble and solo performances. Covers all periods and styles.

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 1

VOCAL MUSIC - Designed to expose students to more challenging types of literature in which music fundamentals are developed in ensemble singing experiences. Drilled in proper rehearsal techniques as well as sight-singing exercises.

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1

REMEDICATION CLASSES & AIP - Students who score below basic or basic on State Tests will be required to take a remediation course and have an academic improvement plan (AIP) the following year to receive credit for the corresponding course. The students shall receive a grade for the remediation course but no credit will be given. Science remediation shall occur within the course of the science class with extra work assigned at pre-determined intervals that helps to remediate the students with AIP's.

Students in grade 3-8, identified for an AIP who do not participate in the remediation program shall be retained. The district shall determine the extent of the required participation in remediation as set forth in the student academic improvement plan (AIP).

Remedial instruction provided during high school years (grades 7-12) may not be in lieu of courses required for graduation, or core subjects for junior high students. Any student who does not score at the proficient level on the criterion-referenced assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics shall continue to be provided with remedial or supplemental instruction until expectations are met or the student is not subject to compulsory school attendance.

Any student that has an AIP and fails to remediate, but scores at or above proficient level on the criterion referenced assessments, shall not be retained.