

# **Executive Summary**

## **Proposal for changes Bedford High School Program of Studies 2020-21**

**January 28, 2020**

\*Grammar, punctuation, and stylistic changes highlighted in document for all content areas

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CENTER		
<i>Page(s)</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	Revised course description of AAC	More accurately reflects the future vision of the program and courses
	Renamed AAC Tutor to AAC Scholar	More accurately reflects the role of the scholars in class
	Removed Math Center course	Was previously MCAS prep course that has been shifted to the Math department through Math Lab
COUNSELING		
<i>Page(s)</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	Change course name of “School to Career” to “Work Experience” and revised description	More accurately reflects the experience to students
	Shifted academic advising timeline for counselors to begin with juniors	Course selection of juniors is more complicated and allows for additional adjustment time
	Added Massachusetts state university admission requirements	Provide additional information to students and families and encourage a balanced schedule during a student’s high school career
ENGLISH		
	Change course name of “Writing Lab” to “Writing Essentials”	Rebranding the course to provide targeted writing curriculum to those in need of additional support, as demonstrated in their most recent MCAS achievement scores
GENERAL		
<i>Page(s)</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	Removed waiver stipulation for student-athletes for Phys Ed requirement	Unable to offer this as a provision

	Provide clarity around parameters of pass/fail option for students.	Shifted to team approach in determining a pass/fail option
	Revised course levels and introduced Foundational and Introductory College Prep	Wanted to accurately reflect the level of instruction offered to students in our reporting practices
<b>LITERACY</b>		
<i>Page(s)</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	Shifting department language from reading to literacy	More accurate and current terminology recognized by professional organizations and the secondary literacy team
	Restructure and rename courses: Individualized Reading, Reading for College and Reading Elective to Reading Skills, Targeted Reading, and Reading Strategies	Align correctly with the middle school course structure and progression
<b>MATH</b>		
<i>Page(s)</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	New course: Foundations of Algebra I	Replace STEM course that would be removed from the Program of Studies; provide additional math instruction to students
	Amend "Math Lab" course description	Emphasis for the course will be to work with students who are not meeting expectations on the MCAS exam
<b>SCIENCE</b>		
<i>Page(s)</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	Change "AP Physics 1 & 2" to "AP Physics 2"	Content for AP 1 largely covered in High Honors Physics; emphasize depth over breadth
	Course level addition: Honors Environmental Science	Will run concurrently with AP Environmental Science and allows a higher number of students to take a course without the additional pressure of an AP exam
	New course: Science and Engineering Practices	Will replace the Science curriculum that was previously covered in the proposed dissolution of STEM; Focused on MCAS STE prep

<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>		
<i>Page(s)</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	Add notation about the dual enrollment option available in Law course	Reflects current practice; provides information to students and families
<b>VISUAL ARTS</b>		
<i>Page(s)</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	New course: Digital Photography II	Course would likely be overlayed with Digital Photography I but allow for students who may have an interest in pursuing the field to deepen their skills and knowledge
<b>WELLNESS</b>		
<i>Page(s)</i>	<i>Proposed Change</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
	New course: Fashion Design I and II	Transition from Clothing course offered; Courses would be overlayed but allow for students who may have an interest in pursuing the field to deepen their skills and knowledge