Pemberton Township High School STEM Academy

Science

5257 55 KS



Engineering

Mathematics

Pemberton Learning Community: Pursuing Excellence One Child at a Time

Pemberton Township High School STEM Academy

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics



It is the expressed mission of the Pemberton Township High School STEM Academy to provide motivated students with a specialized, yet comprehensive high school education that meets or exceeds the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards as it prepares students for success in STEM related career fields. A full range of STEM opportunities will be explored as students pursue the wide variety of coursework provided by the program.

The program includes summer enrichment programs, design experiences, mentoring, job shadowing, work study opportunities, and opportunities for volunteer experiences in addition to career-related coursework and the opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school.

The program will create multiple career pathways that will enable students to develop the skills and knowledge

base needed to successfully transition from high school to college and a career in the sciences and engineering fields. The program accomplishes this by providing coursework and experiences that prepare students for early career exploration and preparation for the full range of STEM-based career opportunities.

"Technology has advanced more in the last thirty years than in the previous two thousand. The exponential increase in advancement will only continue." —Niels Bohr, Physicist

Philosophy and Goals

Students in the PTHS STEM Academy are encouraged to progress at their own pace, exploring, investigating, and taking responsibility for their learning. As they begin to recognize their area of interest and skills, staff members provide full support for their endeavors, enabling them to achieve and excel.

The Goals of the STEM Program are to:

- Provide the knowledge, skills, and experiences in high school that provide an excellent foundation to pursue STEM related careers.
- Provide opportunities for STEM career awareness (speakers, job shadowing, career days, internships).
- Allow students to tailor their course sequences based on individual interests and still provide the core courses necessary for students to get an excellent background in all STEM fields.
- Provide the support of a cohort of students and teachers in the core courses throughout their high school career.

Providing Hands-On Experience and Projects



The emphasis throughout the STEM program is on giving students hands-on experience and allowing them to learn through doing. During the junior and senior years, the course sequence provides flexibility for students to take additional science, technology, engineering, or mathematics courses that suit their individual interests.

Key Highlights of the STEM Course Sequence Include:

Science – Physics, Chemistry, Biology (all honors), AP Physics and/or AP STEM Science Electives

Technology – Java I or AP Computer Science Principles

Mathematics – Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, (all honors), AP Calculus and/or AP A-STEM Math Electives

Engineering – Engineering I, II, III & IV (Senior Project/Internship)

Each engineering honors level course is a hands-on, project-based experience where students develop working projects of increasing complexity involving several fields of science and technology. Access is provided to a broad range of the latest software tools and technologies. As students progress, projects are geared to each student's areas of interest.

By junior and senior year, students are encouraged to focus on two main areas of interest and choose their courses accordingly. During senior year, if selected, students will use their excellent foundation to participate in an internship or senior project of his or her choice.

The course sequence below serves as a guideline. Students have the option to accelerate within the sequence, with prior approval.

STEM Career Academy Requirements: STEM students are required to complete 5 AP STEM-related courses or equivalent to graduate as a member of the A-STEM Academy.

STEM Academy Course Sequence

| Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grade 11 | Grade 12 |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| English I | English II | English III | English IV |
| Physics Honors | Chemistry Honors | Biology Honors | **AP Physics C:Mechanics |
| Algebra I Honors/ Algebra II Honors | Geometry Honors | Pre-Calculus Honors | **AP Calculus |
| AP Computer Science Principles | AP Computer Science A/ Java I | AP STEM Elective | AP STEM Elective |
| World History | US History I | US History II | Elective |
| World Language | World Language | Elective | Elective |
| Health/PE | Health/PE | Health/PE | Health/PE |
| Lunch/Band/Chorus/ AVID/JROTC | Lunch/Band/Chorus/ AVID/JROTC | Lunch/Band/Chorus/ AVID/JROTC | Lunch/Band/Chorus/ AVID/JROTC |
| Engineering I | Engineering II | **Engineering III | **Engineering IV |

**An alternative AP STEM elective may be chosen.

Preparing for the Future



Students in the STEM Academy will learn software tools and have access to technology that the professionals use, including:

- Web-based Design Collaboration (Discussions Forums, Google Docs, LiquidPlanner)
- Software Tools (Autodesk Inventor, 123D Design, Arduino IDE, Eclipse IDE, Xmind)
- Electronic Circuit Design, Programming Embedded Systems (Arduino, Raspberry Pi, Propeller)
- Cost Benefit Trade-off Analysis Skills, Perform Technology Area Market Surveys
- Engineering Design Review Process Skills, Communication/Presentation Skills

"One learns by doing a thing; for though you think you know it, you have no certainty until you try." ~ Sophocles



