

SPOTSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL



“Home of the Knights”

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Kelly Guempel, Principal

DIVISION LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Spotsylvania County is located fifty miles south of Washington, D.C. and includes 400 square miles along the southern boundary of the Rappahannock River Region of Virginia. Until recently, Spotsylvania was one of the fastest growing school divisions in the United States. Urban communities emerged in the northern parts of the county while the southern part of the county remains rural. The school district serves approximately 24,000 students and is comprised of 33 schools, including a career and technical center, 2 special academies, and John J. Wright Educational and Cultural Center. In addition, SCPS participates with area school divisions to offer The Commonwealth Governor’s School.

SPOTSYLVANIA SUMMARY

Spotsylvania High School opened in 1994 and is located in a rapidly growing suburban area southwest of Fredericksburg. Spotsylvania offers a wide variety of academic, CTE (career and technical education) courses, and specialized programs to meet student needs. Spotsylvania staff maintain a focus on high academic achievement while creating a learning environment in which all students can be successful. Students are encouraged to select rigorous courses that will provide an intellectual challenge and will better prepare them for future educational and career pursuits. Students are considered full-time when they are taking at least five units of credit.

CURRICULUM SUMMARY

Spotsylvania High School (SHS) offers appropriately rigorous learning opportunities that include regular, advanced/honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and Dual Enrollment (DE) courses. SHS offers the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme--an academically challenging and balanced program designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being of students. IB courses are noted individually on the transcript. Students at SHS may also pursue acceptance into the Commonwealth Governor’s School (CGS). CGS provides highly motivated students with a challenging, differentiated and interdisciplinary program in science, mathematics, social studies and English. Students enrolled in CGS have a designation in the notes field indicating their participation in this rigorous academic program.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Rachael Bentley-Goode	Director of Counseling, A-Col	x5423
Keely Ott	Counselor, Com-J	x5424
Kimberly Coverson	Counselor, K-Rn	x5426
Jennifer Waterman	Counselor, Ro-Z	x5425
Doris Buzzell	Secretary	x5421
Terry Byrd	Registrar	x5422

ASSESSMENT AVERAGES

Test	SHS	VA	US
SAT Reading & Writing	538	567	536
SAT Math	497	550	531
SAT Total	1035	1117	1068
ACT Composite	21.0	23.9	20.8

GPA CALCULATION AND CLASS RANK

Advanced Placement (AP) and Dual Enrollment (DE) courses are weighted in the GPA calculation for students. Advanced/honors courses provide a higher level of rigor, but are not weighted in the GPA calculation. Courses graded on a pass/fail basis do not impact a student's GPA. GPA is calculated for each student at the end of each school year. For seniors, an additional GPA calculation is made at the end of the first semester. After calculation of the GPA for all students, students are ranked within their class. Partially-enrolled students and students pursuing an applied studies diploma are excluded from class ranking.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

GPA	Number of Students
1.0-1.99	35
2.0-2.99	115
3.0-3.99	203
4.0-up	98

MARKING SYSTEM

A - Excellent	90-100
B - Above Average	80-89
C - Average	70-79
D - Below Average	60-69
F - Failing	59 and below

STANDARD DIPLOMA

Students entering the 9th grade in school years 2011/12 and beyond must earn 22 standard units of credit and 6 verified credits:

Discipline Area	Standard Units of Credit Required	Verified Credits Required
English	4	2
Mathematics	3	1
Lab Science	3	1
History & S Science	3	1
Health & PE	2	
World Language/ Fine Arts/ CTE	2	
Econ./Personal Finance	1	
Electives	4	
Student Selected Tests		1
Total	22	6

ADVANCED DIPLOMA

Students entering the 9th grade in school years 2011/12 and beyond must earn 26 standard units of credit and 9 verified credits:

Discipline Area	Standard Units of Credit Required	Verified Credits Required
English	4	2
Mathematics	4	2
Lab Science	4	2
History & S Science	4	2
Health & PE	2	
World Language	3	
Fine Arts/ CTE	1	
Econ./Personal Finance	1	
Electives	3	
Student Selected Tests		1
Total	26	9

10-point Grading Scale	4.5 Scale Unweighted Courses		5.5 Scale Weighted Courses	
90 = A	98-100 = 4.50 95-97 = 4.25 90-94 = 4.00	A	98-100 = 5.50 95-97 = 5.25 90-94 = 5.00	A
80-89 = B	88-89 = 3.75 86-87 = 3.50 84-85 = 3.25 80-83 = 3.00	B	88-89 = 4.75 86-87 = 4.50 84-85 = 4.25 80-83 = 4.00	B
70-79 = C	78-79 = 2.75 76-77 = 2.50 74-75 = 2.25 70-73 = 2.00	C	78-79 = 3.75 76-77 = 3.50 74-75 = 3.25 70-73 = 3.00	C
60-69 = D	68-69 = 1.75 66-67 = 1.50 64-65 = 1.25 60-63 = 1.00	D	68-69 = 2.75 66-67 = 2.50 64-65 = 2.25 60-63 = 2.00	D
F	59 or less = 0	F	59 or less = 0	F