



Thomas Edison Energysmart Charter School

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Program of Studies

2017-2018

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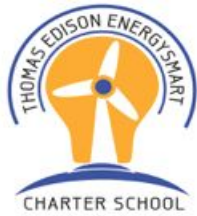
Department Chairs

Mrs. Victoria Vendemia, ELA / Social Studies Department

Mrs. Shrijaya Bhattad, Math Department

Mrs. Maya Ghosh, Science Department

Mrs. Tara Esposito, Physical Health & Athletics Department



Message from the Lead Person

Dear Students and Parents:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2017-2018 Program of Studies for Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School - High School. The administration and faculty are excited to introduce the Dual Enrollment High School Education Program. The quality of education is reflected in both the Academy and College Prep Classes. The program allows high school students to earn an Associate Degree as they complete the requirements for their high school degree. It's a great opportunity for students to discover what college classes are really like and this program can help them reduce the overall tuition costs of college. Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School (TEECS) is ranked #2 among all public schools in the State of New Jersey.

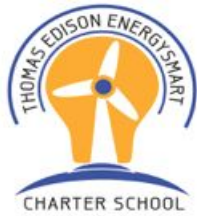
By the end of high school, students will receive a High School Diploma from TEECS and an Associate Degree from Raritan Valley Community College. Raritan Valley Community College Associate of Science (AS) Degree Program is designed to comply with the New Jersey Community Colleges General Education Foundation which supports transfer of courses to NJ public four-year colleges and universities.

Classes in Science, Math, English, and other interesting electives allow students to earn both high school and college-level credit as they learn. Information on each academic program is available from the school's administration and guidance staff who will meet with parents and students on an individual basis.

We are looking forward to all our students rising to this opportunity and developing mentally, socially, and academically during their studies in our high school.

Sincerely,

Oguz Yildiz
Lead Person



Mission Statement

The Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School's (TEECS) mission is to engage students within a dynamic environment inspired by a love of learning, enriched by a diversity of backgrounds and perspectives, and guided by an agreement of common trust. Because of the nature of its mission, Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School does not discriminate against any member of its community on the basis of gender, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities or handicap in educational programs or activities.

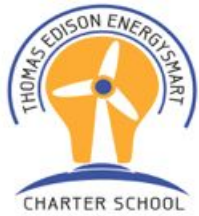


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High School Graduation Requirements:

In order for TEECS' students to receive a High School Diploma, each student must:

- A. Meet the PARCC requirements as specified by New Jersey Department of Education, <http://www.nj.gov/education/assessment/parents/GradReq.pdf>
- B. The State mandates 120 credits for high school graduation; however, TEECS' students must successfully earn 120 credits including the following required courses:

NJDOE Required Assessments	Class of 2021 and above.
English/Language Arts Literacy	20 credits aligned to Grades 9 through 12.
Mathematics	15 credits including Algebra I and Geometry or the content equivalent** and a third year of math that builds on the concepts and skills of Algebra and Geometry as well as prepares students for college and 21st century careers.
Science	15 credits including at least five credits in Laboratory Biology/Life Science or the content equivalent**; an additional laboratory/inquiry-based science course including Chemistry, Environmental Science, or Physics; and third laboratory/inquiry-based science course.
Social Studies	15 credits including satisfaction of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-1 and 2; five credits in world history; and the integration of Civics, Economics, Geography and global content in all course offerings.
Financial, Economic & Entrepreneurial Literacy	2.5 credits.
Physical Education, Health & Safety	A minimum of 3.75 credits in physical education, health & safety* during each year of enrollment.
Visual & Performing Arts (Art, Music, Drama, Dance)	5 credits.
Electives	15 credits.
World Languages	5 credits.



21st Century Life & Careers (Family/Consumer Science, Business Administration & Technology, Technology Education)	5 credits
Total Credits (State Minimum) Total Credits for Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) Associate Degree	120*** credits. In addition, to receive an Associate Degree from RVCC, students have to satisfy all the credit requirements for the Academy Program.

*TEECs may establish course and/or credit requirements which exceed the State minimums.

** "Content equivalent" means courses or activities that include the same or equivalent knowledge and skills as those found in traditionally titled courses which are required for high school graduation and which are aligned with Common Core Standards. This content must be taught by certified teachers, may be integrated in one or more courses, may be titled differently, or may present material in an interdisciplinary or spiral format.

***The 120 credit total is greater than the sum of the individual requirements above, to allow for student electives.

*** Students will be able to satisfy the state requirement of demonstrating proficiency in English Language Arts and Mathematics by achieving a passing score on a Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) English Assessment in grades.

Additional Requirements:

- ELA and Math Assessment Requirements for the Class of 2021
- Take and pass PARCC ELA Grade 10
- Take and pass PARCC Algebra 1



EARLY GRADUATION

Parents/Guardians of a student seeking early graduation may initiate a written request for special consideration. The written request by the student's parent/guardian must be filed in the Guidance Office before March 15 of the student's sophomore year for consideration for the following year. The request must include the reasons for the student's plan for fulfilling graduation requirements. A meeting with the student's guidance counselor must follow this request. The principal will review and either approve or deny the request.

There is no option for graduating early with Raritan Valley Community College Associate Degree.

Grading Scale for High School

Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	Pass/Fail	GPA
A+	97-100	PASS	4
A	93-96	PASS	4
A-	90-92	PASS	3.66
B+	87-89	PASS	3.33
B	83-86	PASS	3
B-	80-82	PASS	2.66
C+	77-79	PASS	2.33
C	73-76	PASS	2
C-	70-72	PASS	1.66
D+	67-69	PASS	1.33
D	65-66	PASS	1
F	0-64	FAIL	0

A student's Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by multiplying the number of credits per course by the grade achieved in the course. The totals for each course are added and then divided by the number of credits taken to compute a student's grade point average.



There are three levels of courses utilized for the purpose of calculating weighted grade point average. Weighted courses are Advanced Placement (AP), Honors (H) and College Prep (CP). Unweighted courses are courses not designated AP, H or CP.

Courses' Weight:

AP/College Level Courses 1.3325

Honors 1.2500

College Prep 1.0825

Weighted GPA: A weighted GPA is computed to provide information for scholarships and to determine valedictorian, salutatorian, and students graduating with honors. Class Rank does not engage in the automatic calculation and reporting of class rank for students.

VALEDICTORIAN/ SALUTATORIAN

A student's class weighted GPA shall be calculated to determine valedictorian or salutatorian. A student's class rank will only be released to a requesting institution (such as a service academy) or a scholarship provider.

TECCS computes two averages for students. The first computation is an unweighted or "true" average for all courses attempted. The second is a weighted average to determine valedictorian, salutatorian, and honor students.

HIGH HONOR ROLL & HONOR ROLL:

The high honor roll and honor roll serve as a mark of excellence to recognize students who excel academically. The principal's list and honor roll are prepared at the end of each marking period. They are based on letter grades and include all subjects. To qualify for Principal's List a student shall have all A's. To qualify for Honor Roll a student shall have all A's and B's. An email of excellence will be sent to the parents.

Course Add/Drop

Students are placed in courses after serious discussion among students, parents and counselors. Students are encouraged to develop persistence and resilience in honoring their commitments to course selection by attending and satisfactorily completing the courses in which they enroll.



Full/Half Year Courses:

High School, Grades 9-12: Students who FAIL a course MUST retake the course either at TEECS or at an approved institution by TEECS.

Level Changes

(e.g., Advanced Placement to Honors, Honors to College Preparatory and College Preparatory to General Ed.). All level changes should be made in consultation with the department supervisor, guidance counselor, teacher, and parent(s)/guardian(s). It is imperative that all parties reflect carefully on the proposed changes to determine whether they are in the student's best interest; they might have an influence on the overall student schedule. All level changes occurring after the completion of marking period 1 will result in a record of WP (Withdrawal Passing) or WF (Withdrawal Failing) on the official transcript and report card. The unweighted grade earned at the time of the level change will be transferred to the new course and will be included in the cumulative average.

Requests for discretionary schedule changes will not be considered (e.g., teacher, elective courses, physical education, and early dismissal). Only changes that are deemed educationally beneficial for the student will be considered and reviewed. Of course, parents and students will be involved in this process before any final decisions are made.

Academy Program

All students who apply for the Academy Program must:

- Have an outstanding academic record,
- Complete Algebra I, also pass PARCC Algebra I with Level 4 or 5,
- Have Teacher & Counselor Recommendation,
- Have Good Accuplacer Results & Attend an interview with RVCC Representatives.

AP/Honors Course Placement

All students who would like to get Honors/AP courses must meet with guidance counselor and get his/her approval.



Option 2 / Alternative Pathway

All students who would like to pursue Option 2 must:

- Fill out an Option 2 form, which can be found on the school's website and submit it by May 1st,
- Choose an approved institution by TEECS Academic Committee,
- Get an Approval from TEECS' Academic Committee.

Original Credit – To earn credits outside of TEECS for academic advancement or meet graduation requirements: Credits are awarded after the course/program and successful completion, receiving at least 70% grade. Option II courses will only be included on the student's transcript after the course and the assessment are complete. A P (pass) or F (fail) will be recorded on the student's transcript and will not be included in the G.P.A. If the course is taken at an accredited college or university, a letter grade will be recorded on the student's transcript; this will not be calculated into the G.P.A. A copy of the transcript from the institution where an alternate class was taken must be provided to the Guidance Office.

***Please note that Algebra I is a full year course and can not be taken in another school for original credit purpose, unless the student is a transfer student.**

High school courses taken in middle school, (such as Algebra I, Geometry & Algebra II) will be transferred into high school transcript with the name of the course, year taken and the letter grade that they have received. The grade received in the course will not be included in the GPA calculation. However, if the parents and the students want to include the received grade in the high school GPA must contact the guidance counselor after the completion of the course(s).



2017-2018 Course Catalog

ELA

English 1

This course engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming writers who compose for a variety of purposes. The course enables students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers.

Prerequisite: ELA 8

Honors English I

This course engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming writers who compose for a variety of purposes. The course enables students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers.

Prerequisite: ELA 8

Mathematics

Algebra-1

Some of the concepts learned include real numbers, linear, exponential, quadratic graphs and their properties, translating the graphs on the coordinate grid, applications of equations, factoring polynomials, radical and rational expressions. Graphing calculator is required(TI-84).

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

Geometry

Some concepts learned include drawing nets, deductive and inductive reasoning, writing proofs, properties of parallel and perpendicular lines, properties of polygons, equations of circles, trigonometry, probability, permutations and combinations. Graphing calculator is required (TI-84).

Prerequisite: Algebra 1



Honors Algebra-2

Some of the concepts learned include solving systems of equations, simplifying polynomials, real and complex number systems, using powers, roots and radicals, logarithms, sequences and series, functions, techniques for graphing non-linear equations and trigonometry. Graphing calculator is required (TI-84).

Prerequisite: Algebra I and/or Geometry

Science :

Honors Biology:

Honors Biology is a lab based course at TEECS. The course of study takes the student through six major areas of biological study; Science as a Process, Structure and Function of Life, Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems, Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems, Inheritance and Variation of Traits, and Natural Selection and Evolution. The Biology Honors course differs from the regular college preparatory courses in terms of the level of expectations placed on the students, the amount of independent work expected, the pace of coverage of content, the expected skill level and the breadth and depth of the content covered. The Honors Biology course is a 2 marking period course. The rest of the topics will be covered in Junior Year Biology Course.

Prerequisite: Admission to Academy Program

General Biology:

General Biology is a laboratory science course designed for students in the 9th grade to gain conceptual understandings and skills in biology. The course will build upon making connections between the concepts of biology and their everyday world. Students are introduced to biological topics including: From Molecules to Organisms, Structure and Processes, Matter and Energy Transformations in Ecosystems, Natural Selection and Evolution, Inheritance and Variation of Traits, Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems.

The appropriate NJ students learning standards for science will be addressed so as to raise the level of student discourse and develop essential scientific reasoning skills. Students completing this biology course will be prepared and required to take NJ State assessment which is not yet released by NJDOE.

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Science



Social Studies :

World History

This course offers a colorful and exciting section of social studies subjects covering Early Civilizations to The Cold War Era. By the end of the year, you will have a solid foundation for entering 10th grade and a comprehensive understanding of the world around us as well as your part in it.

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Social Studies

World Languages

French I

French I is an introduction to French language and culture. The fundamentals of French pronunciation, grammar, and culture are presented through a balanced development of all four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The importance of communication and cultural awareness is stressed through a wide variety of activities (group/pair work, video, audio recordings, computer assignments, etc.). This course is designed for students with little or no knowledge of French language or culture. This course expects students to meet the New Jersey Standards of Learning for French Level I by developing the four basic language competencies (reading, writing, speaking, and listening).

Prerequisite: None

Spanish I

Spanish I will provide the student with a general introduction to the Spanish language: sound system, pronunciation, functional vocabulary related to everyday life, cultural information and basic grammatical structures. Emphasis will be on the acquisition of four skills: listening, speaking, reading and limited writing. There are two main objectives to the course: foremost is to give the students the ability to carry on a simple conversation. The second is to provide the students with instruction that teaches a basic understanding of Spanish culture, vocabulary, and grammatical concepts.

Prerequisite: None

Fine Arts:

Music Theory

Music Theory is a course designed to help students write and perform their own music. It covers note and rhythm reading and writing, intervals, chords, and chord progressions, as



well as advanced guitar lessons. Students will explore the foundations of music and composition.

Prerequisite: None

Technology

Intro to Computer Science (ICS)

ICS is designed as a math-oriented introduction to computer science for students with little-to-no programming experience. The course begins by building a foundational knowledge concerning the history and legacies of the industry - from the abacus to vacuum tubes to the German Enigma code to Silicon Valley and projections for the future of computing. The bulk of the course thereafter will focus on building the basic skills required for competent algorithm design. Students will learn to plan, test, and write (then test again) their own programs to solve simple, real-world problems using flowcharts. This course will use Java as its instructional language, however ICS is a computer science course first, and a “programming” course second. As such, many features specific to the Java programming language will be deliberately omitted.

Prerequisite: None

AP Computer Science A

AP Computer Science A emphasizes object-oriented programming methodology with an emphasis on problem solving and algorithm development and is meant to be the equivalent of a first-semester course in computer science. It also includes the study of data structures and abstraction.

Prerequisite: Intro to Computer Science or Basic Computer Science.

Physical Education & Health Department

Physical Education helps develop physically educated individuals who have the knowledge, confidence and skills necessary to enjoy a lifetime of healthful physical activity. Our students will know the benefits of their choice to be involved in physical activity and have a healthy mindset that values physical activity and benefits in a healthy lifestyle. Coverage of content: Soccer, Fitness, Volleyball, Handball, Ultimate Frisbee, Basketball, and Recreational Games.

Prerequisite: None