



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

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Action By:
Information Only

TO: Secondary School Principals
FROM: Edward C. Tierney / Deputy Superintendent/Chief of Schools
SUBJECT: **FY26 SUGGESTED ACCELERATED PATHWAYS**

The Department of Secondary Education recognizes the importance of providing appropriate and rigorous courses for all students. To assist schools with making scheduling decisions for FY26, the attached recommended progressions provide suggested course sequences for students of varying needs while maintaining high standards and rigorous expectations. As always, student placement should be based on several factors, including teacher input, multiple sources of assessment data, and parent/student requests.

Essential Notes for Middle School Principals:

- **Cambridge Lower Secondary (L/S) Courses** - L/S Courses are meant for all students. Students in these courses take the grade level Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.). These courses require an educator certification of Middle Grades. These courses are weighted as an honors credit and are not designated as acceleration.
- **Pre-AICE (IGCSE) or Pre-Advanced Placement (AP) Courses** - when taken in middle school, these courses are accelerated and are high school credit equivalents. It is suggested that teachers follow the District provided Scope and Sequence for the appropriate course as students will be required to take the grade-level F.A.S.T. or End-of-Course (EOC) Exam.
- **Course Codes and Availability** - linked below are the available L/S and pre-AICE courses for instruction in middle school. These courses can only be adopted by Cambridge-approved schools.
- It is recommended that middle school counselors do not approve student enrollment in AP courses offered by FLVS outside the above listed exception for world language courses.

Essential Notes for High School Principals:

- **Pre-AICE (IGCSE) or Pre-AP Courses** - students in these courses take the grade level F.A.S.T. These courses are weighted as an honors credit.
- **Cambridge or AP Courses** - students taking these accelerated courses will have an opportunity to receive college credit upon passing the end-of-year exam. Students in core courses will be required to take the grade-level F.A.S.T. exam so it is important that teachers prepare students for both assessments.
- **Cambridge Diploma Programme (DP)** - students who earn the Cambridge DP may be eligible for a Bright Futures Scholarship. It is important that all students are encouraged to complete their Bright Futures application.

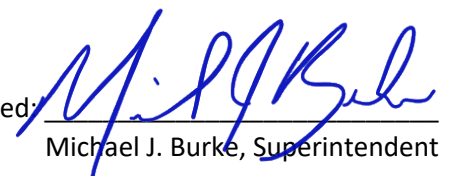
Suggestions for FY26:

It is recommended that each child have an opportunity to enroll in at least one advanced or accelerated course prior to graduation.

- High school students should have the opportunity to enroll in both AP and Cambridge course work as articulation agreements between states and schools vary. Students should check with their college/university to review course equivalencies prior to enrolling in accelerated coursework. The attached AP/AICE pathway was created with the current Florida Articulation Agreements as a guide.

Links:

[Middle School Cambridge Lower Secondary/Pre-AICE Courses](#)
[High School AP/AICE Suggested Pathways](#)
[Pre-AICE and Pre-AP Course Equivalencies](#)
[AICE Diploma Tracking Guide w/Codes](#)

Approved: 
Michael J. Burke, Superintendent