

**2016-2017**

# **Freshmen**

**Course Description Book**



**Soldotna Prep School**

## KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

### Introduction

The purpose of establishing graduation requirements is to set guidelines that will ensure each high school graduate is exposed to a variety of learning experiences necessary for living in the changing world of today. Graduation requirements should be specific enough to direct students into major curricular areas, and yet flexible enough to provide for individual student's abilities, needs, and interests. Completion of such requirements is viewed as a minimal educational experience to be enriched through the selection of additional courses of the student's choice. All credits must be completed before the student may participate in graduation exercises.

### Credit Requirements

All students must satisfactorily complete 22 credits for graduation (and diploma) to include the following requirements:

English	4 credits	Science	3 credits
Math	3 credits	(minimum of 1 credit of life and 1 credit of physical science)	
World History	1 credit	Physical Education	1 credit
U.S. History	1 credit	Electives	4 ½ credits
Government	1/2 credit	Practical and/or Creative Arts	3 credits
AK Studies	1/2 credit	(minimum of ½ credit practical art and ½ credit creative art)	
Health	1/2 credit		

### Credit Standing: "How Many Do I Need?"

Students often are unsure of their credit status in terms of receiving a diploma. Students are promoted based on the number of years they have attended high school; however, if they have not earned sufficient credits, they may not be on track to graduate. Progress toward graduation can be reviewed on students' PowerSchool accounts.

### Enrollment Guidelines

- One (1) credit equals the successful completion of a course for one year; ½ credit equals the successful completion of a course for one semester.
- Six courses per semester is the required class load. Do not schedule fewer than six (6) courses.
- Students may only enroll in one physical education (P.E.) course per semester.
- Your grades are kept on an official transcript in the Counseling Office. This is your official record of courses passed and credits earned.
- Correspondence/Distance Delivery/Credit Recovery Courses

Students wishing to enroll in correspondence/distance delivery/credit recovery courses must first meet with their counselor to discuss registration procedures and complete necessary paperwork.

### Recommended High School Curriculum for College-Bound Students

Colleges look for students with high potential abilities that have worked to their capacity in high school. Whenever a particular college is being considered, a student should be sure to study the college catalog or website for specific entrance requirements. Students may also consult the AK Career Information System (AKCIS) available on the Internet for college information.

#### College/Alaska Performance Scholarship/NCAA

- 4 years of college preparatory English
- 4 years of social studies
- 2-3 years of world language
- 3-4 years of laboratory science
- 3-4 years of college preparatory math (algebra and beyond)
- SAT/ACT test scores in ranges acceptable to specific schools

## Recommended High School Curriculum for Career & Technical Education Students

Career & technical education (CTE) courses are a component of a sequence of courses leading to an occupational outcome and/or further related training/education in current or emerging occupations. Programs are competency based and include occupationally-specific skills. Many CTE courses are listed in this course description book. The purpose of these programs is to train an individual with job-entry-level skills, and to help the individual become gainfully employed upon completion of high school.

Employers want students to know and be able to use mathematical skills, writing skills, communication skills, and interpersonal skills well. Employers constantly inform students that they must do well in English and math, must have the proper attitude about work, and must have the technical skills necessary to perform the job satisfactorily. CTE courses and programs provide these skills. Students should understand the purpose, the need, and the ways that CTE courses can help. The next question for students to decide is: "What type of job would I like to have when I graduate, and what training is necessary to secure this job?" Remember, many beginning jobs may need additional training after high school. Whenever a particular career/technical school is being considered, a student should be sure to study the school's catalog or website for specific entrance requirements. Students may also consult the AK Career Information System (AKCIS) available on the Internet for more information.

### Schedule Changes - Drop/Add

The goal of the Counseling Department is to have all approved schedule changes completed within the first five (5) days of any given semester. Because choices students make during the registration process help determine course offerings for a given year, **SCHEDULE CHANGES WILL BE LIMITED**. The drop/add period will only be able to accommodate changes due to placement error or holes in a schedule. If a student receives a schedule that reflects the choices she/he made at registration, she/he will be expected to keep that schedule. Students withdrawing from any courses **prior to** the end of the drop/add period will not have the courses recorded on their transcripts. Students may not change courses after the drop/add period unless the principal approves due to extenuating circumstances. Students withdrawing from any courses **after** the drop/add period will have the course withdrawal recorded on their transcripts.

### Grades:

- A-D grades: Sufficient progress in the subject to merit granting of credit for the course
- F grade: Insufficient progress in the subject to merit granting of credit for the course
- Withdrawal grades: Student has withdrawn from the course with current grade; used only in extenuating circumstances.
- NG No grade is issued to indicate a withdrawal from course after the 10 day add/drop period or is used for courses that do not receive high school credit (e.g. College Release, etc.) or at principal's discretion.

### Incompletes

In order to accommodate students in extenuating circumstances, teachers may assign a grade of "Incomplete." Incompletes must be made up within two weeks of the grade verification date, or they will automatically become F's. Exceptions may be made for 504 accommodation plans or extenuating circumstances. Any grade changes after the two-week period will require principal signature.

### Progress Reports

Current progress in any course may be obtained through PowerSchool

- Go to the District web site - [kpbsd.k12.ak.us](http://kpbsd.k12.ak.us). Click on the schools tab, scroll down and click on Soldotna Prep School, then scroll down on the right to the PowerSchool Student/Parent Portal. Log in. If you need an activation code, please contact our attendance secretary, Beth Fowler at 260-2300.

## Retaking of a class for increased knowledge/better grade

Students may elect to repeat a course for the purpose of improving his/her knowledge of the subject matter and improving his/her grade. The higher of the two grades will count toward the completion of graduation Requirements; the lower grade will be counted as elective credit only. Both grades will be calculated in the GPA.

## Honor Roll/Grade Point Average/Class Rank

An "Honor Roll" is published in the *Peninsula Clarion* and is computed on a semester basis.

There are three categories of Honor Roll:

- Honor Roll                      Students must have earned a grade point average of 3.00 – 3.49
- High Honor Roll                Students must have earned a grade point average of 3.5 – 3.99
- Straight A Honor Roll        Students must have earned a grade point average of 4.0

Grade Point Average (GPA) is computed on a 4.0 scale, considering letter grades earned in all classes (with the exception of "P" and "S"). Students earning a "D" in any class or a "C" in three or more classes for any grading period will not be eligible for honor roll.

Class Rank shall be determined by computing the total number of quality points on a semester basis. This total shall include all quality points earned during the regular school year by the end of the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) semester.

### Quality Points for Courses

- A        = 4 points
- B        = 3 points
- C        = 2 point
- D        = 1 point
- F        = 0 points

To determine rank in class, students' total quality points shall be listed in order from the highest to the lowest and numbered accordingly, starting with rank one for the highest. Equal GPA's will share the ranking.

## School Activities

Any activity that can give students the opportunity to demonstrate that they are responsible, dependable, and motivated will be important to them when applying for college admission, scholarships, and their first full-time jobs.

## Eligibility - High School Athletics

A student can compete when the following conditions are met:

- Must be enrolled in a minimum of five classes.
- Must have passed five classes the previous semester.
- Must not reach the age of 19 on or before August 1 of his/her senior year.
- Must not have participated in more than four seasons for a particular activity.
- Seniors who are on track to graduate, must take at least four (4) semester classes.
- All students must maintain an overall 2.0 GPA to remain eligible.
- For *mid-quarter checks only*, students may regain their eligibility after seven calendar days if they meet the 2.0 GPA minimum and are passing all their classes within the next five school days. Otherwise, they will remain ineligible until the next eligibility check.

Individual school districts may establish athletics/activities participation eligibility rules above and beyond Alaska Schools Activities Association (ASAA) requirements. In order to participate in athletics/activities, the Kenai Peninsula Schools Activities Association (KPSAA) has established a no pass/no play rule, which means a student may not be failing any class. Eligibility is processed each quarter and mid-quarter, (approximately every 4 ½ weeks). The preceding information is condensed from the KPSAA Handbook. For further explanation, please consult the handbook or the high school athletic director.

## **NCAA Clearinghouse Statement**

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), an organization founded in 1906 that has established rules on eligibility, recruiting, and financial aid, regulates many college sports. The NCAA has three membership divisions – Division I, Division II, and Division III. Institutions are members of one or another division according to the size and scope of their athletic program and whether they provide athletic scholarships. NCAA Clearinghouse applications are available online at [ncaa.org](http://ncaa.org).

## **Career Education Sequence**

The Counseling Department at Soldotna Prep School provides students with career education activities designed to develop necessary skills that will enhance their personal and educational development. These career education activities can help students as they plan their high school program by encouraging students to look at their interests and abilities as they relate to possible future career pathways.

\*The Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS) is available to students throughout their four years of high school. Students may access information on educational/career opportunities, scholarship and college searches, military information, and much more. This program is available on school computers over the SPS network and through the Internet. Students and parents may obtain the user name and password via the link to AKCIS on the 1 Stop Portal on the KPBSD district website, as well as in the Counseling Office.

## **Scholarship Opportunities – *Planning Ahead***

Underclassmen should begin preparing for their junior/senior year by volunteering in the community, participating in leadership events (check g-mail, Advisory class announcements and the scholarship drawer in the Counseling Office for information about upcoming opportunities), taking advantage of Workforce Development Center Academy's offerings and participating in extra-curricular school events. Remember to keep a log of activities, awards, certificates and community service performed. The Alaska Performance Scholarship is a great opportunity for Alaska's students. More information about the Alaska Performance Scholarship is available on the next page.

## SOPREP COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2016-2017

Please Note: Two semesters is equivalent to one year.

### LANGUAGE ARTS

Title: **9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS** LL705 Length: Two Semesters  
Students will continue to develop their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Emphasis will be placed on analysis and interpretation of a variety of world literature, which will lead to a wide range of writing assignments based upon class readings and discussions. Several novels will also be read and studied in detail. Special projects will supplement the in-depth study of the novels selected for study.

Title: **DISTANCE EDUCATION, 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS (KPBSD Online)** LL705 Length: Two Semesters  
Students will continue to develop their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Emphasis will be placed on analysis and interpretation of a variety of world literature, which will lead to a wide range of writing assignments based upon class readings and discussions. Several novels will also be read and studied in detail. Special projects will supplement the in-depth study of the novels selected for study.

Title: **9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS, HONORS** LL706 Length: Two Semesters  
Prerequisite: Based on writing assessments, standardized test scores, and grades.  
Honors English 9 is an academically challenging course for highly motivated students who have a solid grasp of grammar and mechanics and who exhibit excellence in written and oral expression, and reading comprehension. In order for students to meet the challenges of the honors program, an emphasis is placed upon higher order thinking skills. Students will read a variety of world literature, in addition to reading selected supplementary novels from which discussions, essays, and projects are derived. Extensive reading outside of class is required. By experiencing a rich variety of reading and writing activities, Honors 9 prepares students for Honors 10, 11, and Advanced Placement English.

### MATHEMATICS

Title: **ALGEBRA READINESS** MM706 Length: Two Semesters  
Prerequisite: Middle School Teacher Recommendation  
This course focuses on mastery of computational skills and teaches the fundamentals necessary for algebra.

Title: **ALGEBRA** MM725 Length: Two Semesters  
Prerequisite: Middle School Teacher Recommendation  
This course uses real-life situations to teach algebraic issues including the addition, multiplication, and factoring of algebraic expressions; solving and graphing linear and quadratic equations; systems of equations; introduction to matrices, probability, and radical and logarithmic functions. A scientific calculator is required.

Title: **GEOMETRY** MM730 Length: Two Semesters  
Prerequisite: Algebra with a grade of a "C" or better and teacher recommendation  
This course integrates coordinate and transformational approaches with real-world applications while developing deductive proof. Two-dimensional geometry focuses on similarity and congruence, perimeter and area, circles, and scatter and linear graphs. Uses algebraic skills such as linear and quadratic equation solving, factoring, and graphing. Explores solid geometry topics including nets, surface area, and volume. A scientific calculator is required.

Title: **DISTANCE EDUCATION, GEOMETRY (KPBSD Online)** MM730 Length: Two Semesters  
Prerequisite: Algebra with a grade of a "C" or better and teacher recommendation  
This course integrates coordinate and transformational approaches with real-world applications while developing deductive proof. Two-dimensional geometry focuses on similarity and congruence, perimeter and area, circles, and scatter and linear graphs. Uses algebraic skills such as linear and quadratic equation solving, factoring, and graphing. Explores solid geometry topics including nets, surface area, and volume. A scientific calculator is required.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

Title: **ALASKA HISTORY** TT730 Length: One Semester  
 The Alaska History course gives students the opportunity to learn about Alaska, and to learn why active Alaskan citizenship is important. The course emphasizes Alaska's distinctive physical and human geography. It examines historical events, economic resource development, and the changing political structures of Alaska. The major federal laws that govern Alaska's lands and waters are studied, as well as Alaska's changing geopolitical significance. Public ownership dominates Alaska's land and water resources, a situation requiring informed citizen-owners who will need to continue managing the state for a sustainable future.

Title: **DISTANCE EDUCATION, ALASKA HISTORY** TT730 Length: One Semester  
 A comprehensive introduction into the geography, culture, and history of the state of Alaska. Key topics include how the state's physical geography affects human communities; the culture, traditions, and history of Alaskan Native communities; the history and influence of Russian colonization; key events in transforming the state after purchase; the statehood movement and resulting state constitution and government; and the economic and cultural landscape of modern Alaska.

Title: **GEOGRAPHY** TT745 Length: One Semester  
 Course keeps geography relevant and up-to-date through country-by-country coverage and helps students understand how geography affects their lives.

Title: **DISTANCE EDUCATION, GEOGRAPHY (KPBSD Online)** TT745 Length: One Semester  
 Course keeps geography relevant and up-to-date through country-by-country coverage and helps students understand how geography affects their lives.

## SCIENCE

Title: **BIOLOGY 1** SS710 Length: Two Semesters  
 Prerequisite: None Fee: Lab \$10 for the year  
 Recommended for freshmen. This course will study plants and animals, followed by a more intensive investigation of the genetics, anatomy, and ecology of both plants and animals. Learning experiences will include laboratory work, projects, activities, and lectures. Biology is the prerequisite for Marine Biology, Human Anatomy, and Advanced Placement Biology. Fee \$10

Title: **DISTANCE EDUCATION, BIOLOGY 1 (KPBSD Online)** SS710 Length: Two Semesters  
 Prerequisite: None  
 This science course is an in depth look at the fundamental characteristics of living organisms. It is designed to promote scientific inquiry and discovery. Students will be introduced to the structure, function, diversity, and evolution of living matter. Engaging in the study of biological science broadens the picture of the world around us.

## HEALTH

Title: **HEALTH** JJ705 Length: One Semester  
 The focus of this course is to provide accurate knowledge and information to students so they will be able to make informed and responsible decisions. Ten topic areas are covered: mental and emotional health; family living; growth and development; nutrition; personal health; alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; communicable and chronic diseases; injury prevention and safety; consumer and community health; and environmental health.

Title: **DISTANCE EDUCATION, HEALTH (KPBSD ONLINE)** JJ705 Length: One Semester  
 This course will help students develop the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy decisions that allow them to stay active, safe and informed. The lessons and activities are designed to introduce the student to important aspects of the main types of health: emotional and mental, social and consumer, and physical. Among other topics, students will explore nutrition, understanding and avoiding disease, first aid and CPR, and human sexuality. Students will find out about the components of a healthy lifestyle and ways to approach making healthy choices and decisions.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Title: **LIFE ACTIVITIES**

PP705

Length: One Semester

This course will provide a variety of well-rounded movement experiences designed to increase student knowledge and skills about their physical well-being. Students will be provided opportunities to make appropriate choices in their pursuit of positive, enjoyable, life-long recreational and fitness activities. This course is required for one semester for all ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) grade students and is a prerequisite for all other physical education courses at the high school level. The curriculum is designed to give students the confidence and motivation to improve and maintain an active, healthy body, mind, and lifestyle, and to pursue the challenges of new physical activities throughout their lives.

### Title: **PHYSICAL TRAINING**

PP715

Length: One Semester

Designed for any male or female who has a need or desire to increase strength, power, agility, and strength endurance. This course will introduce key concepts related to lifetime personal fitness. Lifts and strength exercises will be taught to strengthen, condition major muscle groups, and to ensure a well-rounded program for each individual student. Although this is not designed as a body building class, the physique may also be improved.

## ELECTIVES

### PRACTICAL ARTS ELECTIVES

### Title: **CONSTRUCTION TRADE**

I1725

Length: One Semester

Fee: Project fees

This course is a beginning level construction class designed to teach students the basic information and techniques that apply to the building trades industry. Safe equipment use and processes will be covered.

### Title: **ROBOTICS 1**

SS795

Length: One Semester

Fee: \$25

Robotics is an elective course. Students will explore engineering design and applications through a hands-on approach of building and programming robots using a variety of different building platforms. Student outcomes will include a history of robotics technology in society, a working knowledge and practical application of the engineering design process, principles in momentum, velocity, & torque, beginner to advanced programming, and an introduction to 3D CAD drawing software. Students will be challenged to solve real world problems using technology.

### Title: **WORLD ISSUES AND RELATIONS**

TT780

Length: One Semester

The focus of the class will be on preparation and participation in videoconferences, interactive virtual field trips, formal instruction, and dialogue with students, educators, and experts from around the world. Over the course of the semester students will connect with peers from places such as Ghana, Malaysia, Palestine, Afghanistan, Australia, Canada and various US state. Topics covered range from social and political issues to cultural enrichment. The course will include a culminating assignment that is a student driven collaborative project using video conferencing technologies and other web platforms.

### Title: **COMPUTER APPLICATIONS 1 (KPBSD Online)**

BB765

Length: One Semester

Prerequisite: None

Computer Applications 1 provides a solid foundation in understanding basic computer technology. Students are introduced to computer hardware, scanners, digital cameras, and uses of various software programs. This course includes a review of keyboarding, basic word processing, Internet applications, web page publishing, image-editing software, animations, and the integration of skills in all academic subject areas.

### Title: **COMPUTER APPLICATIONS 2 (KPBSD Online)**

BB770

Length: One Semester

Prerequisite: Computer Applications 1

Computer Applications 2 gives students mastery abilities in word processing and integration of technology. Students will be introduced to electronic spreadsheet applications, databases, Internet publishing, advanced animations, and networking essentials.

Title: **COMPUTER APPLICATIONS 3 (KPBSD Online)** BB775 Length: One Semester  
 Prerequisite: Computer Applications 2  
 Computer Applications 3 emphasizes mastery of Microsoft Office skills, Student's will perform advanced integration of technology applications, and maintain school computer labs. Mastery of graphics of graphics and animations software are also covered. Computer science topics will be incorporated. This course will address state and national vocational education standards.

Title: **EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS 1 (KPBSD Online)** I1930 Length: One Semester  
 Employability Skills is an introductory online course designed to prepare the user for entering the workplace. You learn business etiquette, communications skills, the job search process, effective work habits and how to be effective in the workplace. This is a required pre requisite for CAN training Course and is helpful for all Career Pathways.

## CREATIVE ARTS ELECTIVES

Title: **INTRO TO ART** AA705 Length: One Semester  
 Prerequisite: None Fee \$20  
 You do not have to know how to draw, paint, or sculpt to take this course. You will learn how to draw, to create sculptures and you will be introduced to painting with acrylics, watercolors and medias during this semester. Grading is in terms of the student's individual development

Title: **DISTANCE EDUCATION, INTRO TO ART (KPBSD Online)** AA705 Length: One Semester  
 This course is an introductory course that covers a very wide variety of art topics meant to familiarize students with Art. It is a very hand-on class where students get to try out all different types of techniques. Students submit pictures of their work for feedback.

Title: **DRAMA 1** VV705 Length: One Semester  
 This course is an introduction to basic acting skills, and studying plays as a literary form. It involves improvisation, movement, character analysis, stage terminology, mime, and scripted material.

Title: **CONCERT CHOIR (At SOHI)** UU710 Length: One or Two Semesters  
 Open to all treble voices. This choir is designed especially for the younger voices. New vocal techniques and basic music reading are taught to prepare female voices for vocal performance.

Title: **CONCERT BAND (At SOHI)** UU730 Length: Two Semesters  
 Prerequisite: Must have played an instrument in Middle School  
 This band is designed especially for less experienced players who want more training. The level of music is identical to that of the Symphonic Band. This band performs in conjunction with the Symphonic Band at all concerts and out-of-class band activities. Concerts are mandatory.

## WORLD LANGUAGES

Title: **SPANISH 1** WL765 Length: Two Semesters  
 Spanish I introduces students to the language and culture of Spanish speaking countries in Central America, South America, and Spain. In this course students will learn to read, write, speak, and listen in Spanish. They will also have the opportunity to participate in customs from numerous regions and broaden their cultural understanding and world perspective. It is suggested that students enrolling in this course have received a passing grade in the previous year's Language Arts class.

Title: **DISTANCE EDUCATION, SPANISH 1 (KPBSD Online)** WL765 Length: Two Semesters  
 Spanish I introduces students to the language and culture of Spanish speaking countries in Central America, South America, and Spain. In this course students will learn to read, write, speak, and listen in Spanish. It is suggested that students enrolling in this course have received a passing grade in the previous year's Language Arts class.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

Prerequisite: Students must meet KPBSD Special Education criteria

The Special Services Department at Soldotna Prep School develops and implements individualized education programs (IEPs) designed to meet the unique learning needs of specifically identified students, as those students earn high school diplomas and plan for their futures. Special Services staff works closely with parents and students to develop these individualized education programs. In a very broad sense, the focus of these individual programs falls into three categories:

1. The least restrictive individual program is highly inclusive; students with special needs take all or most of their classes within the general education program. Students are usually enrolled in a study skills course facilitated by a Special Services teacher to support their general education courses.
2. A slightly more restrictive individual program provides direct instruction to the student with special needs within the area of his/her disability, such as mathematics or reading. This program may include a more structured vocational program offering supplemental career exploration and more intensive on-the-job training opportunities than are available through the general education program.
3. The most restrictive individual program offers the student a competency-based curriculum designed to focus on the acquisition of life skills. (LIFE LIVING SKILLS) within the academic areas. The development of a student's vocational work habits and job-specific skills are also included as priorities.

Title: **LIFE LIVING SKILLS**

YY705

Length: One Semester

Students will learn independent living skills, which may include vocational and community skills; managing personal finances; caring for personal needs; buying, preparing, and consuming food; and buying and caring for clothing. This course may be substituted for math, practical arts, social studies, and biological science credit. Students may repeat this course for credit in one or more of these substitution areas until competencies are met.

Title: **STUDY SKILLS**

XX710

Length: One Semester

Study Skills is designed for the student who is enrolled in one or more general education courses for which he/she may need additional assistance or time to do the work required. This course also provides an alternate location for test taking and other projects. In addition to assistance with general education courses, students will be given individualized assistance in the skill areas of: organization, note taking, testing, listening, studying, behavior, and other areas as needed.