PROFILE OF BLACKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL  
2020-2021

Principal  
Guylene Wood-Setzer  
Blackburg High School  
3401 Bruin Lane  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  

Assistant Principals  
Michelle Flynn  
Adam Simpson  
Melissa Hipple  

School Counselors  
Debbie Combs  
Chad Cox, Lead Counselor  
Emily Dwoyer  
Erin Lucy  
Carolyn Noble, Guidance Administrative Assistant  
Tammy Wright, Registrar  
Bland Newman, Testing Assistant  
Mary Madeline Webster, Career Coach  

CEEB Number: 470225  
Department of Education Number: 0760  

SCHOOL:  
Blackburg High School is a comprehensive school with a wide range of academic and career and technical education courses, and 1,280 students. Historically, approximately 90% of the graduates attend college upon graduation - 70% to four-year colleges. Virginia Tech, the largest university in Virginia, is located in Blacksburg, a town with a population of 43,000. Blackburg High School won the Wells Fargo Cup for Academics in 2018-19, 2016-17, and 2014-15 and has won the Wells Fargo Cup for athletics ("the state champions' state champion") on fourteen occasions since 1989-1990 including 2018-19, 2017-2018 and seven of the past nine years.

ACCREDITATION:  
Blackburg High School, a public secondary school, is accredited by the Virginia Department of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

SENIOR RECOGNITION:  
Beginning with the Class of 2019, Montgomery County Public Schools does not calculate a numerical class rank. Seniors who have attained the same levels of achievement will be recognized as follows:

Distinguished Scholar: GPA of 4.0 and above; Scholar: GPA of 3.80 – 3.99
Honor Graduate: GPA of 3.60 – 3.79

Calculating Grade Point Average (GPA)  
MCPS will calculate Grade Point Average (GPA) for each high school student using a four-point system for all high school credit courses (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0). The number of credits earned for each course will be multiplied by the numerical value of the final course grade to obtain the number of grade points earned for each course. The total grade points earned will be divided by the total credits attempted to determine each student’s GPA (rounded to two decimal places).

Additional Grade Points for Advanced Courses  
For each passing grade earned in an advanced course (Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment, and approved courses taken at an accredited college/university), students will be awarded one additional grade point. The total additional grade points will be divided by 32, and the result will be added to the GPA. The resulting GPA will be comparable to a “weighted GPA” using a five-point system (A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2, F=0). When calculated, the final GPA will be rounded to two decimal places.

TRANSCRIPT NOTATIONS:  
-R = No credit for courses repeated that were previously passed  
DL or V = Distance Learning or Virtual  
AP = Advanced Placement H = Honors  
DE = Dual Enrollment and Collegiate/University Courses

AP COURSES:  
Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, Statistics, Chemistry (2 class blocks), Biology (2 class blocks), Physics (2 class blocks), Environmental Science (2 class blocks), European History, U.S. History, U.S. Government and Politics, World History: Modern, English Language and Composition (11th Grade), English Literature and Composition (12th Grade), Psychology, three Art courses, Spanish, French, Seminar, and Research

VIRTUAL VIRGINIA AP COURSES:  
AP SCORES: Scores three or higher: 2015 - 91% 2016 - 82% 2017 - 88% 2018 - 85% 2019 - 89% 2020 - 83%

SAT CUMULATIVE MEAN SCORES: 2017 = 1,220 2018 = 1,236 2019 = 1,184 2020 = 1,240

HONORS AND ADVANCED COURSES: Dual Enrollment Transfer Courses with New River Community College: Math DE Calculus, English 111-112-English Composition I-II (11th or 12th grade), English 243-244-Survey of English Literature I-II (12th grade), DE US History I/II, DE Chemistry started in 2019-20, Human Anatomy and Physiology started in 2019-20; English 9 Honors, English 10 Honors; Geography and History of the World I Honors and II Honors. In addition, Honors Biology I, Honors Chemistry I, Geometry Honors, Algebra II Honors, DE Pre-Calc w/ Trig, Also, Physics I, Biology II: Advanced Survey (Botany/Zoology), and four years of foreign language (French, Latin, and Spanish may also be taken in 8th grade; and Spanish VI is offered for those with high school credit in 7th and 8th grades).

HIGHEST LEVEL COURSES OFFERED: Art - AP Art courses; English - AP English Language and Composition (11th Grade), AP English Literature and Composition (12th Grade), DE English Composition (11th or 12th grade), and DE Survey of English Literature (12th grade); Mathematics - DE Calculus (since 2014-15), AP Calculus AB / DE (2017-18 initial year), AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Computer Science (since 2015-16), AP Statistics, DE Pre-Calculus and Calculus (prior to 2014-15), DE Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry; Social Studies - AP European History, AP World History, AP United States History, AP Government (AP U.S. Government and Politics), AP Psychology; Physical Science (2 blocks and credits) - AP Physics, DE/ AP Chemistry; Biological Science (2 blocks and credits) - AP Biology, AP Environmental Science, DE Human Anatomy and Physiology started in 2019-20; Foreign Languages - American Sign Language IV, AP French, German IV, AP Latin through Virtual Virginia, AP Spanish and Spanish VI. Also, AP Seminar starting in 2018-19, AP and DE Research in 2019-20. New River Community College Dual Enrollment courses are only available to juniors and seniors except with special permission under extenuating circumstances.

CURRICULUM: The curriculum at Blacksburg High School offers a rigorous college-preparatory track for college-bound students and a wide selection of career and technical and work training courses. Talents and skills are developed through a variety of academic work in: art, music, theater, career and technical education, work and family studies, and various trade and industrial courses. Special education is provided, and faculty, peer, and student tutorial assistance are available free to students. Students may apply for a limited number of slots in the Southwest Virginia Governor's School half day STEM program for 11th and 12th grades.

Southwest Virginia Governor's School
Students who meet established criteria in science and mathematics may apply to attend the SWVGS in Dublin, Virginia. Students attend SWVGS in the morning and return to their home school in the afternoon. All classes taken at SWVGS are dual enrolled with New River Community College.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: Candidates for graduation are required to earn a minimum of 22 units of credit in grades 9-12. Eighteen of the 22 are specified. The Advanced Studies Diploma (26 credits) is available for those who meet requirements of 22 specified courses including foreign language.

KEY TO GRADING SYSTEM
A = 90 - 100
B = 80 - Less than 90
C = 70 - Less than 80
D = 60 - Less than 70
F = Below 60
P = Pass (used for students taking courses outside the United States; also home schooled student transfer courses and courses transferred from non-accredited schools). Credit may be awarded based on successful performance by examination. Pass/Fail grades are not included in grade average. Recently, Economics and Personal Finance credit was evaluated with pass/fail and returned to A-F evaluations in 2019-20.

COVID - 19 UPDATE
**During the 4th quarter of the 2019-2020 school year, the Virginia Governor mandated that all school buildings be closed. Consequently, MCPS continued the school year with remote teaching and learning. Students were given the option of choosing to accept A-D traditional grades or Pass/Fail final grades for second semester and full-year courses. Pass/Fail grades are not included in our GPA calculations.

Class of 2020
Number of graduates: 284        Applied Studies Diploma: 6
Advanced Studies Diploma: 218        Standard Diploma: 60
Percent continuing their education: 94% -- (67% to 4-Year institutions, 27% to 2-Year institutions)