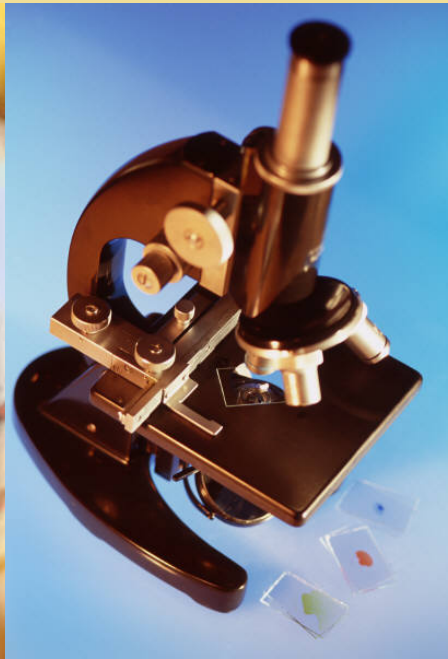


Planning for 6th Grade & Beyond

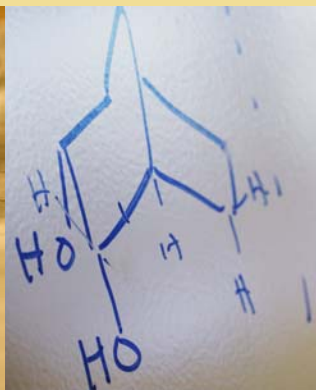
for Parents of 5th Grade Students

Plan now for your child's secondary
experience!



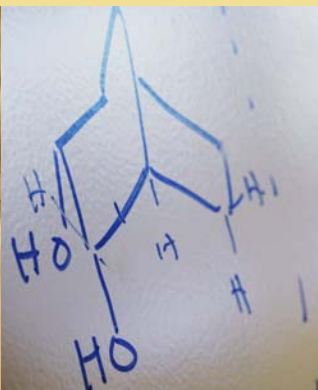
Welcome

- General information about the Pre-AP[®] and AP[®] programs in SBISD
- Pre-AP[®]/AP[®] courses are offered at all SBISD middle and high schools (except School of Choice)

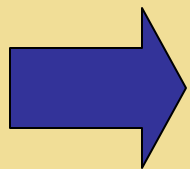


Agenda

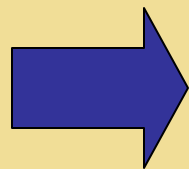
- Overview
- Curriculum Directors' Presentations
- Questions
 - Specific content area – Curriculum Director
 - Specific school – Campus Counselor
 - General questions – Adv. Academic Studies



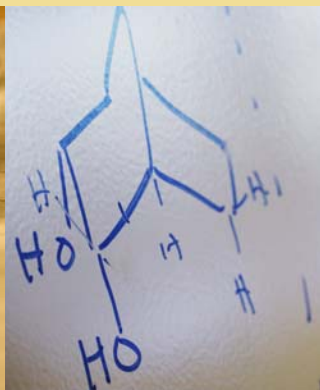
Pre-AP



AP

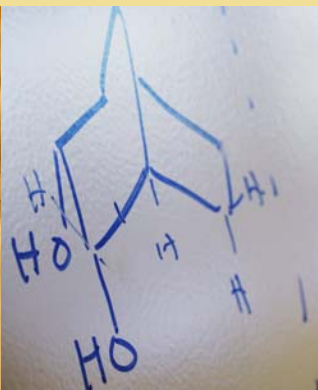


college



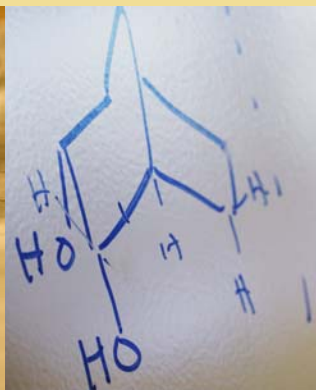
Advanced Placement (AP)[®]

- College-level courses offered in high school (usually junior and senior year)
- Corresponding end-of-course exams with college credit awarded based on scores



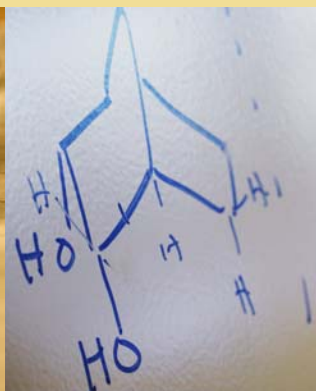
Advanced Placement (AP)[®]

- Course standards developed by The College Board
- Teachers' course syllabi approved through audit process
- Professional development in specific courses



Benefits of AP[®] Courses

- higher college GPAs
- higher 4-year graduation rates
- college credit or placement credit
- stand out in admissions process
- stand out in scholarship/award processes
- be prepared for college



From The College Board...

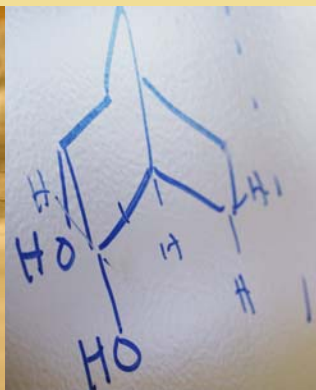
- Skills honed in AP classes can help you improve your work in other courses and even in college.
- Discussions are intense, probing, and demanding.
- AP homework involves thinking for yourself, expressing your ideas, and analyzing what you read.
- AP classes teach students to analyze, reason, and understand the world from a unique vantage point—their own. (College Entrance Examination Board. 2004. *Get with the Program*. page 6)

Who takes AP[®] courses?

- Anyone who chooses the challenge

“AP is the right choice for you if you have a healthy curiosity about a subject and are willing to work hard. If you enjoy an academic challenge and want to learn alongside classmates who are enthusiastic about learning and growing, consider signing up.”

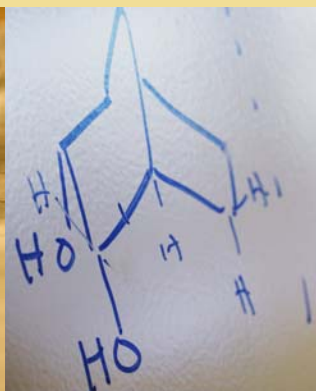
(College Entrance Examination Board. 2004. *Get with the Program.*)



Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP[®])

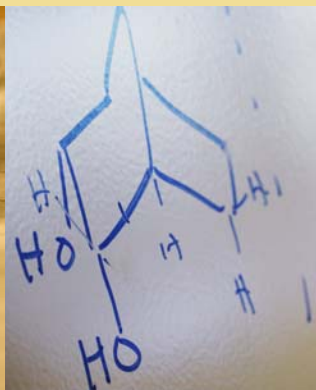
- Courses designed to prepare students for success in AP[®] courses.
- Courses designed to “engage students in active, high-level learning through which they develop the skills, habits of mind, and concepts needed to succeed in college.”

(collegeboard.com, Inc. 2007. <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/k-12/prepare/pre-ap>)



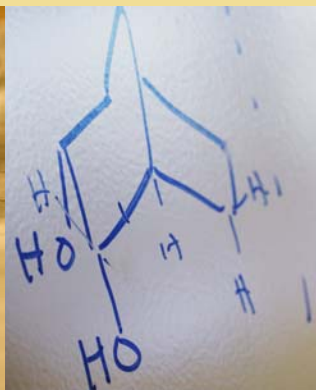
Pre-AP[®]

- Unlike AP[®], College Board does not set standards, approve courses, or offer exams.
- Like AP[®], College Board offers professional development in specific content areas and instructional strategies.



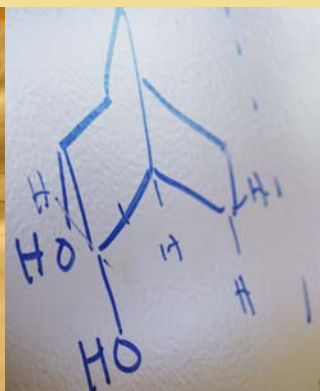
Pre-AP[®]

- These courses...
 - move at a faster pace
 - require more independent learning
 - require more homework (plan on 40 minutes per night per Pre-AP course)



Who takes Pre-AP[®] courses?

- Anyone who chooses the challenge
- SBISD has a commitment to open access

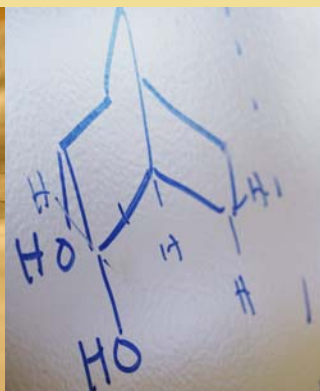


Potential Pre-AP[®] Students

- Successful completion of prerequisite coursework
- Current or previous successful performance in related area/course
- 85th percentile or above on the most recent standardized achievement test or other testing measure
- Teacher recommendation
- Careful consideration of demands of other activities and homework

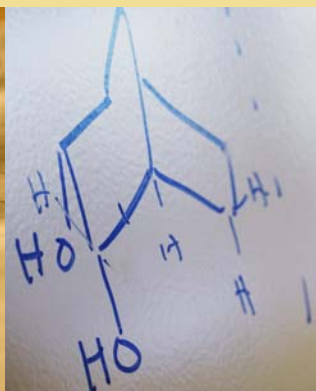
Exiting a Pre-AP[®]/AP[®] Course

- May exit at end of 1st grading period or 1st semester
- If fail a grading period, will be removed
- If no grade level equivalent, need a C at the end of the 1st grading period to stay



How to Register for Pre-AP[®]

- Turn in the PRE-AP/AP PARENT/STUDENT CONTRACT with the course selection form
- Elementary counselors distribute & collect course selection forms for 5th graders going into 6th grade



Spring Branch Independent School District PRE-AP/AP PARENT/STUDENT CONTRACT

This completed, signed contract must be submitted with your course selection form if you are choosing to enroll in Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) or Advanced Placement (AP) classes.

Student Name: _____ School: _____

Parent Name: _____ Grade Level: _____ School Year: _____

Please mark each Pre-AP/AP class in which you would like to be enrolled:

English Math Science Social Studies Elective(s): _____

The purpose of the Pre-AP/AP entrance and exit guidelines is to provide information to parents and students and to facilitate students' success in academically challenging courses. While Pre-AP/AP courses are open to any student wishing to enroll, parents and students should consider the profile of students who typically experience success in Pre-AP/AP courses. **The decision to enroll in Pre-AP/AP courses ultimately rests with the parents and the students.**

Pre-AP/AP classes in Spring Branch Independent School District stimulate and challenge students to perform at an advanced academic level. Therefore, Pre-AP/AP coursework requires students to engage in more independent analytical reading and writing assignments, both inside and outside the classroom.

Entrance Guidelines regarding Pre-AP/AP Courses

We encourage students who are interested in the Pre-AP/AP courses to enroll. The following guidelines provide a profile of a student who typically experiences success in Pre-AP and AP courses.

- Successful completion of prerequisite coursework
- Current or previous successful performance in related area/course
- 85th percentile or above on the most recent standardized achievement test or other district identified testing measure
- Teacher recommendation
- Careful consideration of demands of extracurricular activities, employment, community service, religious activities, and homework

Where to Direct Questions

- Specific content area – Curriculum Director
- Specific school – Campus Counselor
- General questions – Adv. Academic Studies
(713-365-5650)

