



April 24, 2026

Dear MMHS students & families,

At the April 22 Board of Education Work Study Session, a recommendation for Advanced Placement programming was presented for consideration with the goal of aligning AP programming to both student needs and district priorities.

Previously, Manistee High School had offered seven in-person Advanced Placement (AP) courses. In recent years, enrollment in these courses has declined significantly across multiple subject areas, and the trend is continuing. This concern prompted a review of program sustainability, staffing efficiency, and continued student access to AP coursework. Based on this review and resulting recommendation, a revised AP course model was adopted to better align student interest, ensure equitable access across content areas, and maintain responsible use of district resources.

Beginning in the 2026–2027 school year, MHS will implement a structured AP model that includes both consistent course offerings and a rotating selection of additional AP courses:

Core Courses (Offered Every Year):

- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP Calculus

Rotating Courses (Two Offered Each Year):

Two additional AP courses will be offered each year on a rotating basis. Rotation will ensure representation across the four core content areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

Rotation Schedule for In-Person AP Courses

2026–2027 School Year:

Course Name	Who can take this course?
AP English, English Literature and Composition (English)	12th
AP Calculus (Math)	12th
AP Psychology (Social Studies)	10th, 11th, 12th
AP Chemistry (Science)	11th, 12th

2027–2028 School Year:

Course Name	Who can take this course?
AP English, English Literature and Composition (English)	12th
AP Calculus (Math)	12th
AP U.S. History (Social Studies)	10th, 11th, 12th
AP Environmental Science (Science)	11th, 12th

In addition to in-person offerings, students will continue to have the opportunity to enroll in a variety of other AP courses through approved online platforms during the school day. This ensures that students are not limited by the in-person rotation model and can still pursue AP coursework aligned to their individual interests, postsecondary goals, and academic plans.

This rotational model better aligns course offerings with student demand, allowing for more efficient use of staffing while maintaining meaningful class sizes. By ensuring representation across all core content areas, students will continue to have access to a well-rounded selection of AP coursework throughout their high school experience.

The district will continue efforts to communicate AP opportunities and benefits to students and families, as well as ASM Tech programs, dual enrollment, Career and Technical Education (CTE), and work-based learning to ensure students and families are informed about the full range of college and career credit options.

More information about course offerings is available on our website at: <https://www.manistee.mariners.org/student-academic-resources/>. Please direct any enrollment or programming questions you may have to Chelsea Hammer, School Counselor chammer@manistee.org.

Sincerely,

Morgan Nowicki, Principal
Manistee Middle High School