

## **COURSE LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS**

Each year, teachers, counselors and administrators, through articulation committees, assess the curriculum to determine whether the courses meet the state requirements in regard to framework and to determine the needs of students at each site. The courses are processed through various curriculum committees and then are presented to the Board of Education for approval.

The courses that the District anticipates offering are listed on the pages that follow; however, these courses are subject to change. Students may check with the counseling office for the most current course offerings at their school.

**Pilot courses:** Pilot courses are new courses that have been tentatively added to the curriculum. You will find pilot courses included in the course descriptions; they are denoted in *italics*. If a pilot course is successful, it may be fully integrated into the curriculum in the future.

**Course levels:** High school students select levels of courses depending upon their teacher recommendations, scholastic achievement, interests, aptitudes, and career plans. Each high school may not offer all levels of a course. The following course level descriptions will help you make decisions about your course selections.

**S** **Standard/Focus** level courses are for students achieving at or below grade level. These courses are designed for students planning to attend a community college, technical school or go directly to work. **None of these courses meet the requirements of the California State University system or the University of California.**

**CP** **College Preparatory** courses meet the requirements for admission to all four-year colleges and universities.

**H** **Honors** courses meet the requirements of all four-year colleges and universities. They offer in-depth coverage of various subject areas and provide added challenges and enrichment. Outstanding academic achievement is required for placement in these courses. All students in H/AP classes are reasonably expected to receive an "A" or "B" grade; therefore, consistent with the prerequisites for honors courses. Students that do not achieve a grade of "B" or better at each grading period may need to petition to remain eligible for this program. Initial placement depends on a combination of criteria and availability of space.

**AP** **Advanced Placement** courses are at the college level and prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Tests given by the College Entrance Examination Board. Students who meet the exam requirements may earn college credit for AP courses.

**IB** **International Baccalaureate** is a program that offers rigorous pre-university courses at the college level. This program is for highly motivated students and it prepares them to take the International Baccalaureate exams. Students who meet the requirements may earn college credit and an International Baccalaureate Diploma upon graduation. (Offered only at Newbury Park High School)

Additional information regarding any of the above may be obtained from your counselor. Students may select different levels for academic courses in their program (Standard in one course, College Prep in another); however, **CP or higher is required for college acceptance.**

**UC/CSU:** The University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems have specific course requirements. Courses meeting these requirements are noted throughout the directory. "UC a-g" refers to a course that meets one of the UC section "a-g" elective requirements. Consult your counselor for further information.