



# AP OPPORTUNITIES

## January, 2011

Frankenmuth High School

Student Presentation



# What is the AP Program?

- Advanced Placement
- Rigorous academic program
- Wide variety of courses offered nationally; FHS will offer **8** in 2011-2012
  - AP Biology
  - AP English (Language and Composition)
  - AP German
  - AP Government & Politics
  - AP Psychology
  - AP Physics (B in 2011; C in 2012)
  - AP Statistics
  - AP US History
  - \*\*\* Will be adding AP Literature (12<sup>th</sup> gr. 2012-13)



# What is the AP Program?

- Provides academically prepared high school students with the opportunity to study and learn at the college level
- Courses modeled on comparable college courses, aligned with college-level standards
  - Some courses require summer work.



# How do students earn college credit through AP course work?

## AP EXAMS

- Exams contain a free-response (essay) section and multiple-choice section
- Scored on a scale ranging from 1-5
- Passing scores consist of 3,4 & 5
- 90% of U.S. 4-yr colleges and universities grant students credit, placement or both on the basis of AP exam scores
- Cost = \$87 (2011)

# Weighting of AP Courses

- Frankenmuth High School – beginning with the class of 2013 and beyond – will use a weighted grading system for calculating students' grade point averages.
- AP courses are calculated on a 5.0 weighted scale
- Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and top 10 are determined through use of the weighted gpa and class rank.

## Non-AP courses:

A = 4.0

B = 3.0

C = 2.0

D = 1.0

E = 0.0

## AP Courses:

A = 5.0

B = 4.0

C = 3.0

D = 2.0

E = 0.0

# Weighting of AP Courses

- Why “weight” these grades?
  - AP courses undergo a rigorous “audit” process with the College Board to ensure they are college-level and more rigorous than traditional high school courses.
  - Weighted grading allows students concerned about their GPA to attempt a more rigorous schedule without being penalized by a lower grade.
  - Most colleges and universities use the GPA sent in by the high school whether weighted or not...
    - This provides students from “weighted” GPA schools an advantage in admissions and scholarships.

# What does this mean for my GPA?

- Example 1: Meredith earns all As in high school:
  - Unweighted GPA = 4.0
  - If Meredith took 2 AP classes with all As and attended a weighted GPA school...
    - 22 credits @ 4.0 = 88
    - 2 credits @ 5.0 = 10

$$98 / 24 = 4.083$$

# And if I'm not a 4.0 student?

- The only way an AP course “hurts” your GPA is if you earn more than 1 grade LOWER than your average grades.
- Example 2 – Heinrich is a B student. He decides to take an AP class and gets a...
  - A: Heinrich’s GPA goes up!
  - B: Heinrich’s GPA boosts above a B average b/c of the AP class.
  - C: Heinrich’s GPA stays the same.
  - D: Heinrich’s GPA goes down.

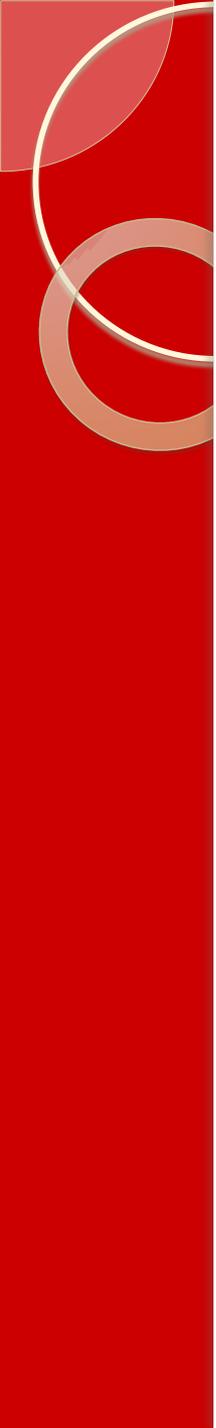
# Heinrich's GPA

- Traditional GPA: 3.0 (B Average)
- Weighted GPA:
  - 1 AP class w/ an A:
    - $3.0 * 23 \text{ credits} = 69$
    - $5.0 * 1 \text{ credit} = 5.0$
$$\frac{74.0}{24 \text{ total credits}} = 3.083$$
  - 1 AP Class with a B
    - $4.0 * 1 \text{ credit} = 4.0 (+69) = 73/24 = 3.041$
  - 1 AP Class with a C
    - $3.0 * 24 \text{ credits} = 72/24 = 3.000$
  - 1 AP Class with a D
    - $2.0 * 1 \text{ credit} = 2.0 (+69) = 71/24 = 2.958$



# ENROLLMENT INTO AN AP COURSE

- Meet the prerequisites
- Carefully consider the required work load and time investment
- Include the course(s) in your Skyward requesting
  - Feb 8<sup>th</sup> with counselors
- Attend the AP meeting and obtain/complete the AP Course Contract Letter for each course.



Questions???

Thank you for your  
time and attention!