

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: April 22, 2008

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **CONSIDERATION OF THE LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM
PREK-12**

ORIGINATOR: Sonia Diaz, Chief Academic Officer

**RESOURCE
PERSON(S):** Yvonne Barhight, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Humanities
Jean Wilson, Principal on Assignment
Heather Miller, Coordinator, Secondary English/Reading

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education approve, as reviewed by the Board of Education's Curriculum Committee, the Language Arts PreK-12 curriculum guides as directed by Policy 8130 and Policy 6000.

Attachment I – Executive Summary Packet for Language Arts PreK-12 Curriculum Guides

Executive Summary
Language Arts PreK-12 Curricula
March 2008

There are 51 curriculum guides for 101 language arts courses currently being taught in Baltimore County Public Schools. Some of the curriculum guides were designed to include the curriculum for more than one course. For example, the curriculum guide for English 9 also includes differentiated curriculum for English 9 Honors and English 9 Review. The curriculum guide for each course describes the instructional path needed to progress from the standards and objectives of the course towards the target assessments created as part of the curriculum guide. Each guide includes the portion of the scope and sequence for PreK-12 language arts that includes the grade/course before, the course, and the grade/course after in order for teachers to see the path of instruction and the importance of the current course objectives in the discipline of language arts. The Articulated Instruction Module (A.I.M.) provides the lens through which the curriculum can be viewed for alignment with the Voluntary State Curriculum (VSC) and the state Core Learning Goals.

Curriculum guides vary depending on the content of the courses but each guide provides teachers with the necessary framework to plan and implement that particular language arts program. Every curriculum guide is aligned to appropriate standards. For example, prekindergarten through Grade 8 curricula are aligned to the Voluntary State Curriculum; English 9 and English 10 are aligned with the state Core Learning Goals; and other curricula are aligned with state, national, or industry standards. With the release of the new Voluntary State Curriculum for High School English, all applicable secondary curricula written or revised from this date will be aligned with that document. These state standards are aligned to the National Council of Teachers of English standards. Advanced placement course for English 11: *Language and Composition* and English 12: *Literature and Language* also are aligned to College Board standards. Each curriculum is designed to be an integral part of the PreK-12 language arts program for meeting the county performance goals outlined in the *Blueprint for Progress* and to help students meet state and county standards. Each is also designed to enable students to become critical readers who can understand and interpret a text at multiple levels, confident communicators who understand the power of words, and effective writers who can perform in a variety of modes.

During 2006-2007, all language arts curriculum guides were reviewed by auditors from Phi Delta Kappa (PDK). The audit report was presented to the Board of Education of Baltimore County in February 2007. The overall ratings, out of a total of 15 points attainable for the curriculum guides, ranged from two points in kindergarten language arts to 13 points awarded to three different secondary courses. The average rating for the prek-8 curriculum guides was 10.2 of 15 points, and 6.96 points for the high school guides. The score was derived by reviewing five criteria: Objectives, Assessment, Prerequisites, Resources, and Strategies. A rubric was provided by Phi Delta Kappa for each criterion to explain how a maximum of three points could be achieved.

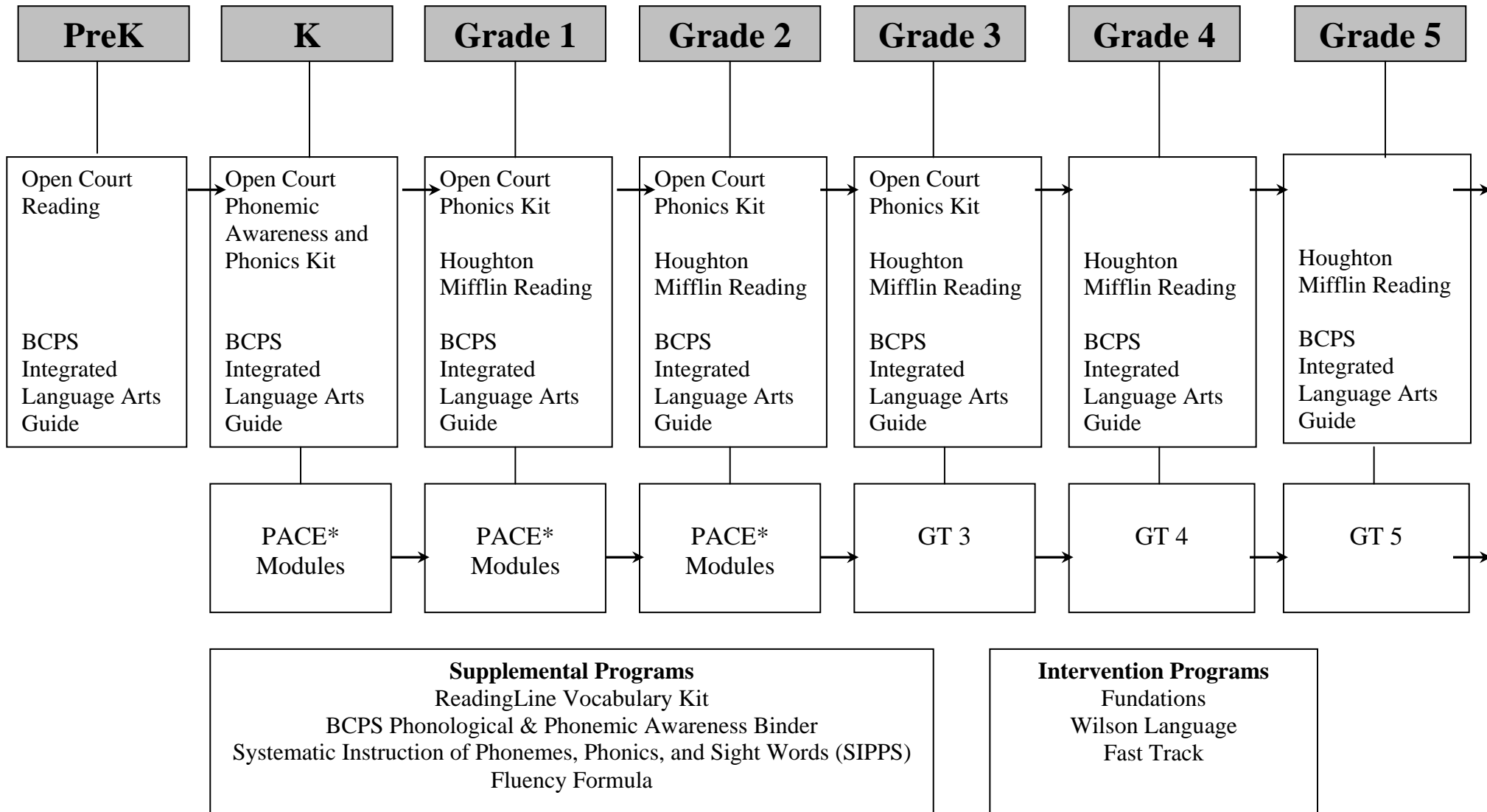
Curriculum personnel from the Office of Language Arts PreK-12 have reviewed the audit findings to determine the areas that need to be added, strengthened, or supplemented. As curriculum guides are revised, these findings will provide the roadmap for the revisions and improvements so that all of the necessary components, as identified in the rubric, will be included in the guide. The first revision has taken place with the Kindergarten Language Arts Curriculum Guide. English 11 and English 12 courses are scheduled for revision in the spring of 2008.

Plans for subsequent revisions to the language arts curricula in response to the PDK Audit have been submitted to the Chief Academic Officer and are part of the five-year plan for curriculum development. The budgetary resources needed for these curricula revisions will be identified in the curriculum development schedule approved by the Chief Academic Officer.

The Office of Language Arts PreK-12 is seeking approval for the language arts curriculum guides. All future revisions of these guides will reflect an alignment of the written, taught, and assessed curriculum, an expectation that will lead to a high-quality language arts program for all students in Baltimore County Public Schools.

BCPS ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAM

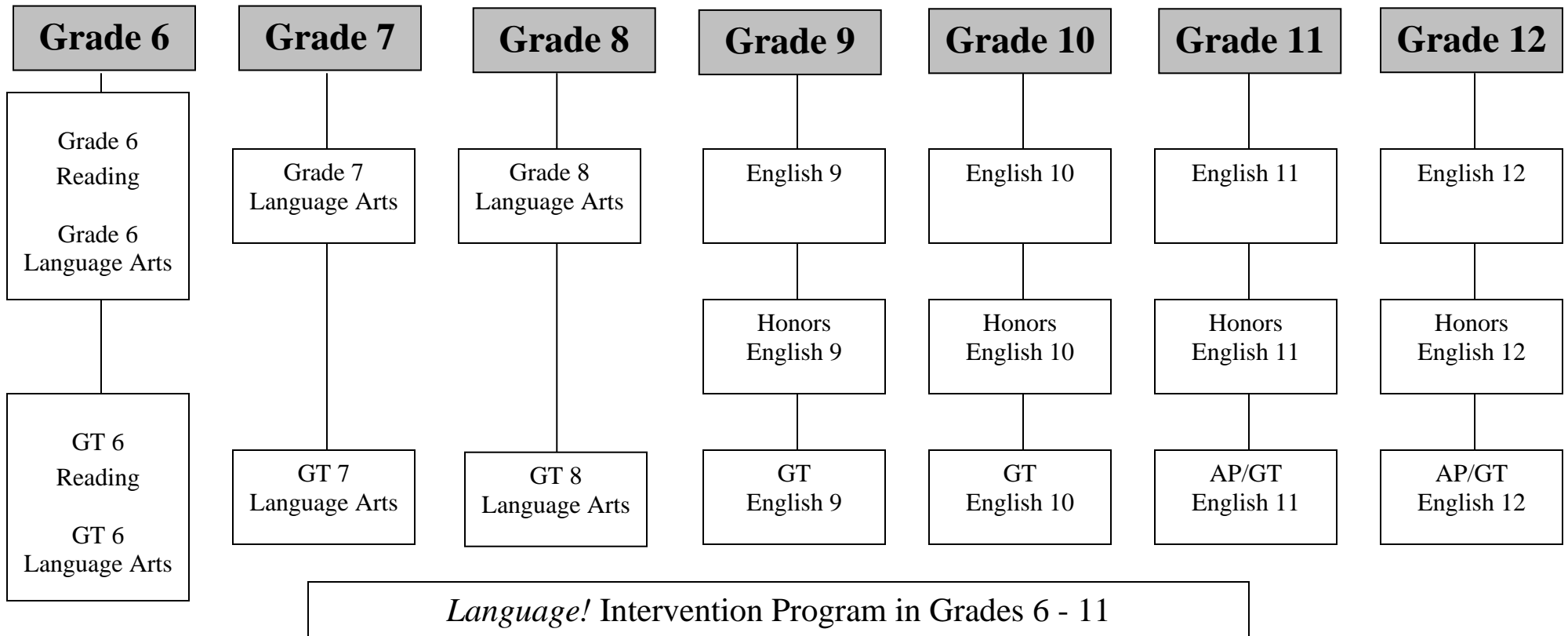
Grades PreK-5



*PACE Primary Achievement Curriculum Enrichment

BCPS ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAM

Grades 6-12



English Electives

Journalism I
 Journalism II
 Journalism II: Desktop Publishing
 Journalism III
 Journalism IV
 Advanced Desktop Publishing
 Literature Seminar

Language and Composition
 Film Appreciation and Criticism
 College Readiness: Writing
 College Readiness: Writing II
 College Readiness: Reading
 Accelerated English
 Speech I, II, III, IV

Technical Theatre I, II
 Theatre Arts I, II, III, IV
 Technical Writing
 Introduction to Creative Writing
 Advanced Creative Writing
 Yearbook I, II, III, IV
 Yearbook II: Publishing Enterprises

English/Language Arts Curriculum Board Approval

| Number of Courses | Groupings of Curriculum Guides | Course Description | Course | Date of Curriculum Guide |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Prekindergarten Reading | 0580900 | Revised 2008 |
| 2 | 2 | Kindergarten Language Arts | 0580000 | Revised 2008 |
| 3 | 3 | Grade 1 Language Arts | 0580100 | 2006 |
| 4 | 4 | Grade 2 Language Arts | 0580200 | 2006 |
| 5 | 5 | Grade 3 Language Arts | 0580300 | 2006 |
| 6 | 6 | Grade 4 Language Arts | 0580400 | 2006 |
| 7 | 7 | Grade 5 Language Arts | 0580500 | 2006 |
| 8 | 8 | <i>Language!</i> A-F | 1006300-1099400 | Purchased 2006 |
| 9 | 9 | Language Arts 6 | 1006000 | 2006 |
| 10 | 9 | Language Arts 6 Review | 1006009 | 2006 |
| 11 | 10 | Reading 6 | 1006100 | 2004 |
| 12 | 11 | GT Language Arts 6 | 1006005 | 2006 |
| 13 | 12 | Language Arts 7 | 1007000 | 2005 |
| 14 | 12 | Language Arts 7 Review | 1007009 | 2005 |
| 15 | 13 | GT Language Arts 7 | 1007005 | 1999-2000 |
| 16 | 14 | Language Arts 8 | 1008000 | 2006 |
| 17 | 14 | Language Arts 8 Review | 1008009 | 2006 |
| 18 | 15 | GT Language Arts 8 | 1008005 | 2006 |
| 19 | 16 | English 9 | 1009000 | 2006 |
| 20 | 16 | English 9 Honors | 1009004 | 2006 |
| 21 | 16 | English 9 Review | 1009009 | 2006 |
| 22 | 17 | GT English 9 | 1009005 | 1982 |
| 23 | 18 | English 10 | 1010000 | 2005 |
| 24 | 18 | English 10 Honors | 1010004 | 2005 |
| 25 | 18 | English 10 Review | 1010009 | 2005 |
| 26 | 19 | GT English 10 | 1010005 | 1992 |
| 27 | 20 | English 11 | 1011000 | 1994 |
| 28 | 20 | English 11 Honors | 1011004 | 1994 |
| 29 | 20 | English 11 Review | 1011009 | 1994 |
| 30 | 21 | English 10-12 AP/GT Language & Composition | 1011006 | 2006 |
| 31 | 22 | English 12 | 1012000 | 1987 |
| 32 | 22 | English 12 Honors | 1012004 | 1987 |
| 33 | 22 | English 12 Review | 1012009 | 1987 |
| 34 | 23 | Journalism I | 1015100 | 1991 |
| 35 | 23 | Journalism I Honors | 1015500 | 1991 |
| 36 | 23 | Journalism I Semester | 1018100 | 1991 |
| 37 | 24 | Journalism II | 1018204 | 1991 |
| 38 | 24 | Journalism II Honors | 1015604 | 1991 |
| 39 | 24 | Journalism II Semester | 1015204 | 1991 |
| 40 | 25 | Desktop Publishing Journalism II | 1016204 | 1991 |
| 41 | 25 | Desktop Publishing Journalism II Honors | 1016404 | 1991 |
| 42 | 25 | Desktop Publishing Journalism II Semester | 1016504 | 1991 |
| 43 | 26 | Journalism III Honors | 1015304 | 1991 |
| 44 | 26 | Journalism III Honors 2 Credits | 1015704 | 1991 |
| 45 | 26 | Journalism III Honors 1/2 Credit | 1018304 | 1991 |
| 46 | 27 | Journalism IV GT | 1018405 | 1991 |
| 47 | 27 | Journalism IV GT 2 Credits | 1015805 | 1991 |
| 48 | 27 | Journalism IV Honors 1/2 Credit | 1015405 | 1991 |
| 49 | 28 | Advanced Desktop Publishing | 1016304 | 1991 |

| Number of Courses | Groupings of Curriculum Guides | Course Description | Course | Date of Curriculum Guide |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| 50 | 29 | Literature Seminar | 1092000 | 2005 |
| 51 | 29 | Literature Seminar Semester | 1092100 | 2005 |
| 52 | 29 | Literature Seminar Honors | 1092605 | 2005 |
| 53 | 29 | Literature Seminar Honors Semester | 1092705 | 2005 |
| 54 | 30 | Film Appreciation & Criticism | 1070004 | 2006 |
| 55 | 30 | Film Appreciation & Criticism Sem | 1070104 | 2006 |
| 56 | 31 | Speech I | 1025100 | 2003 |
| 57 | 31 | Speech I Honors | 1025500 | 2003 |
| 58 | 32 | Speech II | 1025604 | 2003 |
| 59 | 32 | Speech II Honors | 1025204 | 2003 |
| 60 | 33 | Speech III | 1025304 | 2003 |
| 61 | 33 | Speech III Honors | 1025704 | 2003 |
| 62 | 34 | Speech IV | 1025805 | 2003 |
| 63 | 34 | Speech IV Honors | 1025405 | 2003 |
| 64 | 35 | Technical Theatre I | 1031100 | 2006 |
| 65 | 35 | Technical Theatre II | 1031204 | 2007 |
| 66 | 36 | Theatre Arts I | 1030100 | 2006 |
| 67 | 36 | Theatre Arts II | 1030109 | 2007 |
| 68 | 36 | Theatre Arts II | 1030500 | 2007 |
| 69 | 37 | Theatre Arts II Honors | 1030204 | 2007 |
| 70 | 37 | Theatre Arts II Honors Semester | 1030604 | 2007 |
| 71 | 38 | Theatre Arts III Honors | 1030304 | 2007 |
| 72 | 38 | Theatre Arts III Honors Semester | 1030704 | 2007 |
| 73 | 38 | Theatre Arts III Honors 2 Credits | 1037304 | 2007 |
| 74 | 39 | Theatre Arts IV GT | 1030405 | 2007 |
| 75 | 39 | Theatre Arts IV GT semester | 1030805 | 2007 |
| 76 | 39 | Theatre Arts IV GT 2 Credits | 1037405 | 2007 |
| 77 | 40 | Technical Writing | 1045100 | 1998 |
| 78 | 40 | Technical Writing Honors | 1045104 | 1998 |
| 79 | 40 | Technical Writing semester | 1046100 | 1998 |
| 80 | 40 | Technical Writing Honors semester | 1046104 | 1998 |
| 81 | 41 | Intro to Creative Writing | 1013600 | 2005 |
| 82 | 41 | Intro to Creative Writing 1/2 Credit | 1013700 | 2005 |
| 83 | 42 | Advanced Creative Writing | 1014204 | 2005 |
| 84 | 42 | Advanced Creative Writing 1/2 Credit | 1014704 | 2005 |
| 85 | 43 | Yearbook I | 1019100 | 2004 |
| 86 | 43 | Yearbook I Honors | 1020100 | 2004 |
| 87 | 43 | Yearbook I Semester | 1020500 | 2004 |
| 88 | 44 | Yearbook II | 1020604 | 2004 |
| 89 | 44 | Yearbook II Honors | 1020204 | 2004 |
| 90 | 44 | Yearbook II Semester | 1019204 | 2004 |
| 91 | 45 | Yearbook III | 1019304 | 2004 |
| 92 | 45 | Yearbook III Honors | 1020304 | 2004 |
| 93 | 45 | Yearbook III Semester | 1020704 | 2004 |
| 94 | 46 | Yearbook IV | 1020805 | 2004 |
| 95 | 46 | Yearbook IV Honors | 1020405 | 2004 |
| 96 | 46 | Yearbook IV Semester | 1019405 | 2004 |
| 97 | 47 | Yearbook II Publishing | 1021004 | 2004 |
| 98 | 48 | College Readiness: Reading | 1093600 | 2005 |
| 99 | 49 | College Readiness: Writing I | 1093400 | 2005 |
| 100 | 50 | College Readiness: Writing II | 1093500 | 2006 |
| 101 | 51 | Accelerated English | 1011500 | 2007 |