

### **Rationale for AP compared to Dual Credit**

Newport High School, in recent years, has not offered Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Instead, we have focused on dual credit opportunities for our students. Below is a rationale outlining the strong benefits of dual credit options for our students.

#### **AP:**

1. Taken on campus.
2. Requires teacher certification to teach AP courses (which incurs a financial cost).
3. There is a fee for each test, whether the student passes or fails (\$100).
4. Institutions vary in how they articulate a passing score.
5. Students must pass a summative exam with a certain score to be eligible for college credit.
6. On an honors scale, GPA may receive a small boost for passing the class, even without a passing exam score.
7. Students must pass the exam to be college-ready.
8. Studies show that urban and high-poverty communities often struggle with standardized tests (KY LRC, 2013).

#### **Dual Credit:**

1. Typically taken off-campus at a local college. NHS offers Gateway and YSA courses at NKU.
2. Students earn both high school and college credits by passing the course. This does not rely on one single measure to receive college benefits.
3. A larger variety of class offerings are available.
4. Students can follow their specific learning plan while earning college credit.
5. Passing the course is considered evidence of being college-ready.
6. Students who take dual credit courses are more likely to enter and complete college.
7. There is a strong financial benefit for families. NHS students typically graduate with 24 college credit hours—close to a full collegiate year. YSA students have the opportunity to earn an associate's degree.
8. Credits are transferable to any state school and most schools in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission (781 schools).

#### **Schools Similar to Newport:**

Bellevue - Does not offer AP, Dual credit only.

Dayton - Does not offer AP, dual credit only (ended AP after pass rates were consistently low)

Lloyd (1 Class offered, pass rate not shared)

Holmes - Limited AP offerings. 20% Pass rate