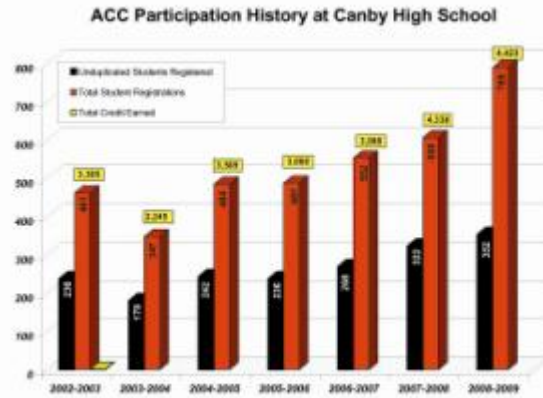


MORE

That's what an increasing number of Canby High School students want out of these years

By: Peggy Savage

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A history of Canby High School's participation in the **CCC Advanced College Credit program** shows a healthy increase in the number of students taking college credit courses at Canby High School since the program was first offered in 2004.

A good number of Canby students today want more than a high school education with their degree — they want college credits under their belt when they leave Canby High School.

CHS Principal Pat Johnson said a regular question fielded by CHS academic counselors and administrators is, "How can my student earn college credits while they attend high school?"

Earning college credits in high school is considerably less expensive than earning them as college freshmen and sophomores and gets students off to a good start in their college careers.

There are three dual credit course options made available at CHS, where young adults can earn high school and college credits simultaneously —advanced placement, online courses through Clackamas Community College and the College Now program. Johnson offered the information in a letter to parents last week, outlining the different programs.

"In recent years, we have provided more opportunities for students to earn college credit while attending Canby High School," he said. "It is not unusual for college-bound graduating seniors to tell me they earned more than 30 college credits prior to graduating. Yes, it only costs them \$10 per credit."

Currently, there are 35 dual credit classes offered at CHS. Each instructor teaching a College Now course is required to meet stringent standards approved by Clackamas Community College faculty. Last year, 352 students earned 4,423 college credits through the College Now program. In 2004, 179 students earned 2,245 college credits through the former Advanced College Credit (ACC) program, now known as College Now.

The cost of ACC-College Now credit is significantly less in high school than the cost of the same course taken as a student at college. College Now dual high school-college credits cost \$10 per credit.

With Advanced Placement, or AP, the school offers four courses where students must take an exam in the late spring produced by the College Board, with strict guidelines for proctoring each exam.

Students pay a fee, approximately \$90, to take the exam and earn credits by receiving passing scores of three or greater (on a scale of one to five) on the exam.

Currently, the school offers the following AP courses: US history, English literature and composition, physics and calculus. In 2004, 54 students took AP exams in English literature and composition and US history, with 72 percent earning scores of three or greater. Last year, 112 students took the AP exams in English literature and composition, US history, physics and calculus. About 70 percent earned scores of three or greater and 95 percent of the 37 students who took the AP calculus exam earned a passing score, he said.

Another way students can earn college credits while attending Canby High School is by taking online classes through Clackamas Community College. In 2008-09, four students earned 15 college credits through online classes. This option didn't exist in 2004, Johnson said.

Lastly, students can earn college credit by participating in the College Now program. Students sign up for high school credit classes which are also College Now-Advanced College Credit classes. The classes are listed in the school's course guide used during forecasting.

Students earn dual high school and college credit through the program. The College Now enrollment period is open now and runs through Oct. 23. Students will need to register each term or trimester they are taking College Now courses. The registration site offers information on the cost, payment and more at http://depts.clackamas.edu/acc/High_Schools/CanbyHS.htm.

For more information, contact a CHS academic counselor at 503-263-7219.