

spire

STEM Program for Innovation, Rigor, and Excellence

9th Grade

Year-long Honors/Gifted Biology integrated with Language Arts and Oral/Written Communication

Or

Honors/Gifted Chemistry with embedded Foundations of Engineering

10th Grade

Year-long H/G Chemistry integrated with Language Arts and Foundations of Engineering

Or

AP Biology with embedded Scientific Research

11th Grade

Year-long H/G Physics with embedded Concepts/Application of Engineering or Mechatronics

Or

AP Physics C with embedded Concepts and Applications of Engineering

12th Grade

AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics, Robotics, Advanced Scientific Research, Mechatronics/AP Computer Science Principles, Anatomy & Physiology/Essentials of Health Sciences, Forensics Science, AP Environmental Science

Is SPIRE the right fit?

Do you like to...

- Work collaboratively to find solutions to real-life problems?
- Think of new ways to do things or come up with outside of the box ideas?
- Guide your own learning?
- Read stories and articles related to other things that you are learning or that you care about?
- Present your findings in new and different ways?
- Engage in scientific inquiry?

If you answered “yes” to these questions, SPIRE may be for you!

SPIRE Approach

Focus on Project Based Learning

Students work individually, in pairs, and in small teams **during class time** to engage in multiple interdisciplinary projects throughout the year, providing a unique learning experience. These projects will allow students to experience the world as it exists outside of classroom walls.

Integration across Content Areas

Class activities and projects will allow students to work on mastery of skills and standards for multiple content areas. This allows for class experiences to have greater relevance to the student.

Emphasis on 21st Century Skills

SPIRE students explicitly practice and improve their 21st century skills such as critical and creative thinking, collaboration, communication, leadership development, and technology skills.

How does a year-long class work into my schedule?

A Typical 9th Grade Schedule

Fall

1st Block: Math

2nd Block: AP Human Geography

3rd Block: PE/Health

4th Block: Elective

Spring

1st Block: **Biology**

2nd Block: AP Human Geography

3rd Block: Elective

4th Block: **Language Arts**

A 9th Grade SPIRE Biology/Language Arts Schedule

Fall

1st Block: **H/G Biology/Lang. Arts**

2nd Block: AP Human Geography

3rd Block: PE/Health

4th Block: Elective

Spring

1st Block: **H/G Biology/Lang. Arts**

2nd Block: AP Human Geography

3rd Block: Elective

4th Block: Math

A 9th Grade SPIRE Chemistry Schedule

Fall

1st Block: Math

2nd Block: AP Human Geography

3rd Block: PE/Health

4th Block: Elective

Spring

1st Block: **H/G Chemistry/Engineering**

2nd Block: AP Human Geography

3rd Block: Elective

4th Block: Language Arts

Which SPIRE path is right for me?

SPIRE Biology/Language Arts

- Science and engineering focus
- Year-long, slower pace
- Language arts integrated into science
- Project-based, collaborative learning
- Leads to AP level science, only if desired, beginning 11th grade year

SPIRE Chemistry

- Science and engineering focus
- Rigorous, fast-paced
- Science fair and independent research
- No language arts component
- Project-based, collaborative learning
- Leads to AP level science courses, beginning 10th grade year

What do students have to say about SPIRE?

