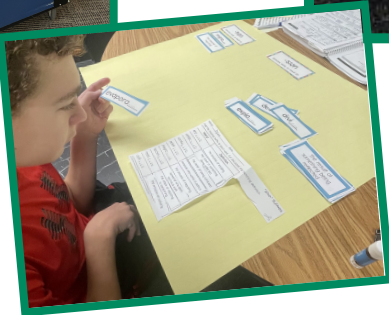


# 2023-2024 Program of Studies

# BANYAN HIGH SCHOOL



Wendy McNeill, Banyan School Director.....[wmcneill@banyanschool.org](mailto:wmcneill@banyanschool.org)

**Banyan High School Administration:**

Ms. Janet Seabold, Principal.....[jseabold@banyanschool.org](mailto:jseabold@banyanschool.org)

Ms. Rachel Lott, Assistant Principal..... [rlott@banyanschool.org](mailto:rlott@banyanschool.org)

Ms. Margaret Kiwior, Supervisor.....[mkiwior@banyanschool.org](mailto:mkiwior@banyanschool.org)

**Related Service Team:**

Mrs. Rosalie Gabriele-Quinn, LDTC.....[rgabriele-quinn@banyanschool.org](mailto:rgabriele-quinn@banyanschool.org)

Mrs. Kimberly Krafft, Behaviorist.....[kkrafft@banyanschool.org](mailto:kkrafft@banyanschool.org)

Ms. Erin VanWert, Psychologist.....[evanwert@banyanschool.org](mailto:evanwert@banyanschool.org)

Mrs. Angela Randion, Social Worker.....[arandion@banyanschool.org](mailto:arandion@banyanschool.org)

Ms. Allyson Daly, Social Worker.....[adaly@banyanschool.org](mailto:adaly@banyanschool.org)

Ms. Haleigh Zaccaria, Speech Pathologist.....[hzaccaria@banyanschool.org](mailto:hzaccaria@banyanschool.org)

Ms. Tracy Ramos, Speech Pathologist.....[tramos@banyanschool.org](mailto:tramos@banyanschool.org)

Ms. Ashley Rogalski, Occupational Therapist.....[arogalski@banyanschool.org](mailto:arogalski@banyanschool.org)

Ms. Erin Mulroony, Occupational Therapist.....[emulroony@banyanschool.org](mailto:emulroony@banyanschool.org)

Mr. Christopher Paserchia, Physical Therapist.....[cpaserchia@banyanschool.org](mailto:cpaserchia@banyanschool.org)

Ms. Lauren O'Connell, Physical Therapist.....[loconnell@banyanschool.org](mailto:loconnell@banyanschool.org)

**Banyan School Office**

Ms. Rachel Moss, Secretary.....[rmoss@banyanschool.org](mailto:rmoss@banyanschool.org)

Mrs. Rebecca Borkowski, School Nurse.....[rborkowski@banyanschool.org](mailto:rborkowski@banyanschool.org)

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## EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

It is the policy of Banyan School not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin, handicaps, social, or economic status in the educational programs or activities and employment policies as required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and N.J.A.C.6:4.1 et seq.

\*\*All courses are opened to all students who have met the academic requirements. No student may be excluded from a course on the basis of race, creed, sex, place of national origin, religion, ancestry, handicaps, social, or economic status.

More detailed information regarding course offerings may be obtained from the instructor or from the curriculum guide for each course.



# MESSAGE TO STUDENTS

Welcome to the next leg of your journey as a student at Banyan High School. As Principal, I welcome you and your family to the BHS family and wish you continued success as you travel through our hallways. Banyan High School offers you a comprehensive experience in academics, co-curricular activities, athletics, and social activities that will mold you into a productive and active member of our society. Every student who attends will graduate ready to enter LIFE Academy, a career, or college. Most importantly, every graduate will be prepared to enjoy the rewards that life has to offer with the same level of humility and self-discipline we expect of them as students.

Please read through this document carefully. It will serve you well as a guide to help you determine the best course and program options for you during your years with us. Remember, you can always contact us for support with accessing this document and for answering any questions you may have about the journey that lies before you. Whether you are a freshman or a senior, you will always need guidance. While you are with us, you will be surrounded by teachers, staff, administrators, counselors, and many other professionals who are responsible to ensure your daily experience is a great one. With that said, use these professionals as much as possible while you are here. Make the most of every day. Finally, remember that chance favors a prepared mind. At BHS, we will prepare your mind to find a personalized path to lifelong success and happiness.

Enjoy the journey!

Sincerely,

*Janet Seabold*

Principal



## ◆ ENGLISH ◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9	English I	5
10	English II	5
11	English III	5
12	English IV	5

### **English I**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 9**

English I introduces students to the reading, writing, speaking and listening concepts fundamental to high school English. Readings include a variety of genres including both fiction and non-fiction. Fictional works include: short stories, novels, plays, and poetry. Non-fiction works include: autobiographies, essays, speeches, and news articles. The course also stresses the development of writing skills and the study of vocabulary within the context of reading.

### **English II**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 10**

One of the goals of the English II class is to strengthen the reading and writing skills the students developed in English I. Students will gain a deeper appreciation for literature by helping them see parallels between characters' experiences and their own. In addition to studying various literary genres, students will work to improve writing and vocabulary skills. By the end of sophomore year, students will feel more confident in their abilities to succeed in subsequent English classes.

### **English III**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 11**

English III challenges students to read and respond to literature in a variety of ways. Students interact with many different types of text, including fiction (novels, short stories, dramas, poetry) and nonfiction (essays, historical texts, speeches, articles) in order to strengthen their skills in reading comprehension and literary analysis. In addition, students engage in many types of writing assignments, especially those designed to synthesize and respond to literary texts studied in class. Writing assignments include, but are not limited to literary analysis essays, research simulation tasks, argumentative, expository, narrative, and creative pieces. Vocabulary and grammar instruction will be incorporated throughout the school year.

**English IV****Credits: 5****Grade: 12**

English IV is a study of English literature, by means of a chronological approach to the development of various literary genres and major English writers from the Anglo-Saxon time to the 20th century. Emphasis is placed on the linguistic, historic and geographic changes that occurred during this time period in England. The main objective of the course is the recognition of the evolution of literature and the recognition of the contribution of major English writers to American writers. Further development of the ability to write and to criticize topics and problems that have been generated from the literature read is a major goal.

## ◆ READING ◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9	Reading 1 or Reading Comprehension 1	5-10
10	Reading 2 or Reading Comprehension 2	5-10
11	Reading 3 or Reading Comprehension 3	5-10
12	Reading 4 or Reading Comprehension 4	5-10

### Reading

**Credits: 5-10**

At Banyan, a student's reading instruction is determined by individual student needs. The Wilson Reading System® is the primary program used at Banyan High School for students who are not making expected growth in their current intervention or who may require more intensive instruction due to a language-based learning disability, such as dyslexia. Wilson Language Training® (WLT) programs feature research-based, systematic, and multisensory structured language curricula grounded in the science of reading to help every student succeed. Students learn to read step-by-step, starting with our language's basic structure and its rules, then build to more advanced lessons over time. Trained teachers utilize a multi-sensory approach to enable students to build their decoding and encoding skills, enhance their vocabulary, and improve their fluency, comprehension, and written expression.

For students that are more successful with the use of visuals and more frequent review and repetition, Banyan uses the Edmark Reading Program's Level I and Level II. This program uses a highly repetitive word recognition method and frequent teacher interaction. This process reduces incorrect responses and helps students view themselves as readers. Edmark Reading utilizes Research-Based Instructional Strategies such as using manipulatives, frequent review of previously learned and current sight word vocabulary, short stories with controlled vocabulary, reinforcement of learning through comprehension activities, and continuous progress monitoring.

## Reading Comprehension

Credits: 5

Our Reading Comprehension classes are designed to enhance students' comprehension skills while refining receptive and expressive language.

The *Science of Reading* stresses that engaging with text—whether through reading widely, discussing and analyzing texts read, or writing about, is central to developing students' reading comprehension.

Banyan High School utilizes a variety of programs and resources to facilitate confidence and the love of reading. The Visualizing and Verbalizing® (V/V®) program assists students in developing their concept imagery which is their ability to visualize the overall picture from what they have heard or read. News2you provides weekly news and current event articles for various topics with visuals to assist with comprehension. Newsela creates passages about people and topics to which our students can relate. The passages are differentiated at five different reading levels as well. Scholastic Action and Scholastic Scope motivate struggling readers with accessible real world stories and skill-building support differentiated on three different levels. For our more proficient readers, CommonLit provides engaging texts- fiction and nonfiction, that target students' reading needs on grade level. Finally, Epic! and Learning Ally are our online individual 'libraries' that include numerous fiction and nonfiction books across Lexile levels to enable independent listening and reading opportunities. These resources are incorporated in the development, practice and refinement of our students' language and reading skills.

Teachers are trained in these programs/resources and are provided professional development to keep up-to-date with the latest research.

## ◆SOCIAL STUDIES◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9	World Culture	5
10	United States History I	5
11	United States History II	5
12	Financial Literacy	5

### **World Culture**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 9**

This course involves the study of the development of western civilization. The topics include: the rise of national states, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Reformation, democracy, the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution and the World Wars. Throughout the course of the year, students will participate in class discussions, take notes, complete projects, and utilize primary and secondary sources to further their understanding of the topics discussed. Current events will also be discussed in a weekly assignment.

### **United States History I**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 10**

The study of American political, economic and social significant events through the mid-19th century is the major emphasis of this course. Topics include the evolution from English colonies to an independent nation, the United States Constitution, Manifest Destiny, slavery, The Civil War, and Reconstruction. Throughout the course of the year, students will participate in class discussions, take notes, complete projects, and utilize primary and secondary sources to further their understanding of the topics discussed. Current events will also be discussed in a weekly assignment.

### **United States History II**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 11**

This course continues the study of U.S. History starting at the end of the 19th century. A selection of topics covered includes U.S. overseas expansion, World War I, political and social developments of the 1900's, the Great Depression and the New Deal, U.S. Foreign policy, World War II, and America's rise to becoming the superpower it is known as today. Throughout the course of the year, students will participate in class discussions, take notes, complete projects, and utilize primary and secondary sources to



further their understanding of the topics discussed.. Current events will also be discussed in a weekly assignment.

**Financial Literacy**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 12**

In this introductory course, students learn the basic principles of economics and best practices for managing their own finances. Students learn core skills in creating budgets, developing long-term financial plans to meet their goals, and making responsible choices about income and expenses. They gain a deeper understanding of capitalism and other systems so they can better understand their role in the economy of society.

## ◆ MATHEMATICS ◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9	Algebra I	5
10	Algebra II	5
11	Geometry	5
12	Algebra/Geometry(ALGEO)	5

### **Algebra I**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 9**

This course introduces students to the language and fundamental laws of algebra. A review of prior mathematics precedes the teaching of the following topics: signed numbers, monomials, polynomials, exponents, radicals, ratio and proportions, factoring, fractions, graphing, coordinate geometry, quadratics and solutions of many types of equations, formulas, and word problems.

### **Algebra II**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 10**

This course reviews the information taught in Algebra I and extends it to more advanced topics. Areas studied include system of equations, the complex number system, logarithms and graphing of linear and quadratic functions.

### **Geometry**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 11**

This standard course in geometry covers the required concepts of Euclidean geometry including definitions, postulates, and theorems. Areas of study include angles, parallel lines, congruent and similar triangles, rectilinear figures, polygons, circles and arcs, and the Pythagorean Theorem. Special topics covered include coordinate and spatial geometry, introductory trigonometry, and constructions and loci. Students will be required to solve algebra-based problems. The process of “proving” theorems is introduced.

### **Algebra/Geometry(ALGEO)**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 12**

This class will cover various concepts that the students were not exposed to or did not cover in depth in the past three years. The students will cover the basic concepts and

will eventually work on word problems using those concepts in SAT questions. The main focus of the class is to help students independently determine how to solve word problems.

The students will cover such topics as fractions, proportions, percents, trigonometry, measures of central tendency, reading charts and graphs, probability, solving quadratic equations, and systems of equations.

## ◆ MATHEMATICS ◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9	Math Strategies I	5
10	Math Strategies II	5
11	Math Strategies III	5
12	Consumer Math	5

### **Math Strategies I**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 9**

This course helps prepare students for basic mathematics they will encounter throughout life. Students will develop a strong understanding of arithmetic operations, including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. They will learn to work with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percentages while utilizing multisensory mathematics.

### **Math Strategies II**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 10**

This course reviews arithmetic operations with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percentages while encouraging mental math and estimation skills. Students will expand these concepts and collect, organize, interpret data, and explore the concepts of probability. Students will develop and apply these skills for proportional reasoning in real-life situations.

### **Math Strategies III**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 11**

This course will allow students to develop critical thinking skills through mathematical reasoning and apply appropriate skills and techniques to solve real-world problems. Students will engage in complex problem-solving tasks through the reinforcement of their foundational math skills. Students will be introduced to basic consumer math topics.

### **Consumer Math**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 12**

Consumer math is a practical mathematics course that focuses on applying mathematical concepts to real world financial situations and everyday life. This course is designed to provide students with knowledge and skills necessary to make informed

financial decisions and manage personal finances effectively. The course covers a range of topics related to personal finance, budgeting, taxes, and consumerism. Throughout the course, students will engage in practical, real life scenarios and problem solving activities. They will develop skills in critical thinking, financial literacy, and mathematical reasoning, enabling them to make sound financial decisions and navigate the complexities of personal finance.



## ◆ Science ◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9, 10	Environmental	5
9, 10, 11	Biology	5
10, 11, 12	Chemistry	5
10, 11, 12	Physics	5

\*\*Science courses are one school year in length. Course can be taken during any of the grades indicated

### **Environmental**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 9 or 10**

Environmental Science is an introductory course in which students will engage in scientific practices as they relate to the main ideas and concepts of ecological interaction, earth, biomes, energy sources, managing human impact, and protecting the environment. Students will use laboratory techniques and technology to investigate claims, perform experiments, collect data, interpret results, and draw conclusions. There will be a strong emphasis on lab report writing in this course.

### **Biology**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 9,10 or 11**

Biology is an introductory course in which students will engage in scientific practices as they relate to the main ideas and concepts of life science. The course provides an introduction to the five main areas of biology: biochemistry, cellular structure and processes, taxonomy, genetics, and human body systems. Students will use laboratory techniques and technology to investigate claims, perform experiments, collect data, interpret results, and draw conclusions. There will be a strong emphasis on lab report writing in this course.

### **Chemistry**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 10,11 or 12**

Chemistry is an introductory course in which students will engage in scientific practices as they relate to the main ideas and concepts of chemistry. The course provides an introduction to the five main areas of chemistry: structure and properties of matter, conservation of matter, reaction rates and chemical equilibrium, nuclear chemistry, and applications of chemistry. Students will use laboratory techniques and technology to investigate claims, perform experiments, collect data, interpret results, and draw conclusions.

## **Physics**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 10,11 or 12**

Physics is an introductory course in which students will engage in scientific practices as they relate to the main ideas and concepts of Physics. The course provides an introduction to several areas of Physics: Forces, Energy, Motion, Machines, Heat energy, Electricity, Magnetism, and applications of Physics. Students will use laboratory techniques and technology to investigate claims, perform simple experiments, collect data, interpret results, and draw conclusions.

## ◆ FINE ARTS ◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9,10,11,12	Art I & II	5
11,12	Art III & IV	5
9,10,11,12	Digital Art/Photography	5

### **Art I & II**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12**

Art I & II is for beginning art students who would like to gain an appreciation for the field of art. Basic drawing and painting skills will be developed throughout the year, in addition to other fundamental art techniques and concepts. Finally, the elements of art and principles of design will be addressed during the creation of various art works.

### **Art III & IV**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 11, 12**

Art III & IV is for skilled students who wish to further explore art processes and develop their artistic skills. In this level, the students will explore the history of art, with a focus on the art movements of the last few centuries. While examining these art movements, the students will be required to produce various works of art that reflect those particular styles learned.

### **Digital Art/Photography I, II, III, and IV**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12**

This class applies elements of art to creating expressive photographs. Students will learn to operate a DSLR camera, and to digitally edit and print their photographs. In addition, students will create digital art using Adobe Creative Suite, with a focus on Photoshop.

## ◆PERFORMING ARTS◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9, 10, 11, 12	Chorus I, II, III, IV	5
9,10,11,12	Rockband	5
9,10,11,12	Guitar I & II	5

### **Chorus I, II, III, IV**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12**

The class is geared to help students in the study and performance of various periods of music history and to lead them to greater appreciation of vocal music from different genres. Students are given the opportunity to enjoy music through active participation. Students will develop the skill and technical ability leading to increased music facility, and become acquainted with the wide and varied repertoire for large vocal ensembles. Students are encouraged to perform in the winter and spring concerts.

### **Rockband**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 10, 11, 12**

This course will train students in a variety of musical styles. Emphasis will be on techniques that develop quality ensemble playing. Students are required to perform in the winter and spring concerts.

### **Guitar I & II**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12**

In this course, students will become familiar with the parts of the guitar, including the body, neck, strings, and tuning pegs. They will learn proper posture, hand placement, and basic guitar maintenance. Students will also be introduced to different types of guitars and the different sounds they make. This course is designed to introduce students to the art of playing the guitar and develop their skills as performers. This course caters to students interested in learning how to play the guitar and progress to more advanced techniques and repertoire.

## ◆ Physical Education/Health ◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9	Physical Education/Health 1	5
10	Physical Education/Driver's Education	5
11	Physical Education/Health 2	5
12	Physical Education/Health 3	5

### **Physical Education I/Health 1**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 9**

Physical Education focuses on involving multidimensional qualities of movement as they relate to the dynamics of mental and physical growth. The program provides the continuous development of the participant within the context of perceptual, cognitive, psychomotor, and affective learning experiences. The health curriculum is "Finding Your Individuality" which focuses on student personal health and concepts related to relationships.

### **Physical Education II/Driver's Education**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 10**

Physical Education focuses on involving multidimensional qualities of movement as they relate to the dynamics of mental and physical growth. The program provides continuous development of the participant within the context of perceptual, cognitive, psychomotor and affective learning experiences. The curriculum is organized in terms of individual activities and team sports. The driver's education course covers licensing; registration of vehicles; insurance requirements; rules of the road; driving techniques and driver attitudes. The final exam is the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission test. A grade of 80% for the driver's education course is required to receive credit toward a safe-driving insurance discount. If a passing grade is achieved, the student will receive a card to take to the DMV.

### **Physical Education III/Health 2**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 11**

Physical Education focuses on involving multidimensional qualities of movement as they relate to the dynamics of mental and physical growth. The program provides for continuous development of the participant within the context of perceptual, cognitive, psychomotor, and affective learning experiences. The curriculum is organized in terms of individual activities and team sports. The health curriculum is "Finding Your



Individuality” which focuses on student personal health and concepts related to relationships.

**Physical Education IV/Health 3**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 12**

Physical Education focuses on involving multidimensional qualities of movement as they relate to the dynamics of mental and physical growth. The program provides for continuous development of the participant within the context of perceptual, cognitive, psychomotor, and affective learning experiences. The curriculum is organized in terms of individual activities and team sports. The health curriculum is “Finding Your Individuality” which focuses on student personal health and concepts related to relationships.

## ◆ TECHNOLOGY ◆

GRADE

COURSE

CREDITS

11,12

Microsoft Office Class

5

### **Intro to Technology**

**Credits: 5**

**Grade: 11, 12**

This course provides the students with the opportunity to learn all of the aspects of the Microsoft Office suite of programs. Students will be provided with lessons on word, powerpoint, and excel spreadsheet. This course is offered through William Paterson University and is virtual. Students will receive industry level Microsoft Office certification once they complete this class.

## ◆ WORLD LANGUAGE ◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9,10, 11	Spanish I	5
10, 11, 12	Spanish II	5

### **Spanish I**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 9, 10, or 11**

The first course is a communicative introduction to the Spanish language using an oral-aural approach. Each unit includes conversation, reading, grammar, vocabulary study, pronunciation and listening practice. Culture is emphasized in reading passages, photos, newspaper items and magazines. Students are exposed to the basics of practical conversation and to the character, lifestyle and social customs of the Spanish people.

### **Spanish II**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 10, 11, or 12**

This second year course stresses the continued development of the Five C's: Communication, Culture, Comparisons, Community, and Connections. Cultural readings, vocabulary building and grammar study lead to reading and listening comprehension and to more advanced conversation and writing. As students' skills are increased, they take part in more advanced conversation and repeated short original dialogues and skits. An overview of the major contributions of Spaniards to world culture in such fields as art, architecture, music, science, government and culture in general is presented.

## ◆ WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL)/COMMUNITY BASED INSTRUCTION(CBI) ◆

GRADE	COURSE	CREDITS
9,10	Intro to WBL/CBI	5
11	Work Based Learning I	5
12	Work Based Learning II	5

### **Intro to WBL/CBI**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 9, 10**

In students' freshman and sophomore year, the focus is on building career awareness and introducing students to various industries and job sectors. Students will be introduced to the concept of work based learning and community based instruction through exploratory experiences. Students will begin developing essential soft skills such as communication, teamwork, problem solving, and time management.

### **Work Based Learning I**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 11**

This course focuses on helping students explore various career pathways and industries. They will learn and experience different job roles, industry trends, and required skills. This course prepares students for internships and work experiences. They will learn about workplace etiquette, professional communication and workplace safety. The course will also cover topics such as time management, problem solving, and teamwork. As a junior, students will be immersed in the workforce one time a week.

### **Work Based Learning II**

**Credits: 5**

#### **Grade: 12**

In this course, students will have the opportunity to gain real world experience through work placements. They will apply the skills and knowledge acquired in previous courses to a professional setting, gaining practical experience and insight in the workforce. This course focuses on further developing students' professional skills and preparing them for the transition from school to work. Students will learn about workplace rights and responsibilities. As a senior, students will be immersed in the workforce two times a week.

*\*\*Because transportation is provided to our students through their sending school districts, clubs and extracurricular activities are offered during the school day. The following are the offerings for all students.*

## ◆ CLUBS ◆

Clubs are offered on alternate Wednesday afternoons during the last period of the school day. Clubs are operated semi-annually and students have the opportunity to choose two clubs per year. Our club offerings include:

Woodshop  
Cooking  
Student Council  
Video Game  
Arts & Crafts  
Book

Movies  
Yearbook  
Fitness  
Theatre  
Chess

## ◆ EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ◆

Interscholastic sports are offered during certain times of the year. Games and practices are held during the school day and schedules are provided during the season. All students have the opportunity to participate in all sporting activities. The interscholastic sports offered are as follows:

Winter:	Basketball
Winter:	Cheerleading
Spring:	Bowling

**Welcome all of our students and their families to Banyan High School. This Program of Studies helps explain the academic and extracurricular offerings at our school. We hope that you will join us as a bulldog!**

# ◆ ◆ ◆ GO BULLDOGS! ◆