

2008-2009 Course Challenge Process Technology Connections: Required 9th Grade Course Bellingham School District

Technology Connections is a required course for ninth grade students at Bellingham, Squilicum and Options high schools. Students at Sehome High School meet these requirements through the World Connections Course, which cannot be challenged.

The Technology Connections course is designed to equip students with organizational skills and technology tools needed to accomplish high level learning goals. Students also work on a variety of educational and career planning activities. We value previous experiences and skills that students bring to ninth grade, and activities in the Technology Connections classes build on and extend technical skills. The course is performance-based and requires students to demonstrate proficiency in each of the skill modules. Mastery of the Technology Connections performance tasks is a prerequisite for further computer-related courses such as Web Design, Programming, Computer Applications, Networking, and Computer Maintenance.

Technology Connections can be challenged by completion of all required performance tasks. Students who review the Technology Connections modules and tasks, and believe they have already mastered all of the competencies, are invited to participate in a demonstration of their skills. **Students who wish to challenge the class will:**

- **Attend an informational meeting** at Bellingham High School **or discuss requirements** with a counselor or librarian.
- **Fill out and return the “Student Interest/Parent Permission Form”** with student and parent signatures to the librarian by **October 31**.
- Make appointment with librarian and **complete demonstration of network navigation, email skills, computer basics, search skills and using databases by November 7**.
- **Successfully complete a series of performance tasks on Saturday, November 15.**
 - ✓ Bellingham H.S. Room 152. See map. Use Kentucky St. entrance to classroom.
 - ✓ Students will use their network and email accounts to complete tasks.
 - ✓ 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- **Turn in remaining projects to designated Tech Connections teacher by December 17.** Parents and students will affirm that the projects are the students’ individual and authentic work. Students will receive notification about process by **January 16**.
- **Complete the educational and career planning activities as scheduled through the Career Center by February 27.**

Information about the Technology Connections course and modules is available online at <http://www.bham.wednet.edu/technology/TechWeb/default.htm>. Students may access *MicroType 4* (keyboarding tutor program) at school computers: Start / Programs / South-Western Keyboarding.

Attached is a list of the performance tasks for the Technology Connections challenge process.

Deadline for registering for the challenge process is Friday, October 31.