ABOUT THE HEALTH SCIENCE ACADEMY
The Health Science Academy is a full-time, four-year program offered at Mercer County Technical School. The Health Science Academy offers self-motivated students a comprehensive preparation for careers in the health, medical and biological sciences. Students work and study in a creative environment enhanced by contact with specialists in the health care fields. Personal and career counseling coupled with field experiences prepares each student for college and careers. The Health Science Academy is affiliated with colleges, universities, private practitioners and medical and research facilities in order to enhance a rigorous curriculum.

MISSION STATEMENT
It is the mission of the Health Science Academy to provide a highly specialized learning environment which promotes the development of a confident, well-rounded health care professional through unique academic experiences specific to the field of health care.

This will be achieved by:
• implementing challenging cross curricula experiences that promote critical thinking skills and foster opportunities for leadership,
• embracing high professional standards in ethics and character development,
• providing authentic clinical experiences and internships through professional and community partnerships and
• utilizing state-of-the-art equipment technology that will enhance employment and academic opportunities in an ever-changing environment.

ADMINISTRATION
Dr. Kimberly J. Schneider, Superintendent
Dana Hice DePugh, Assistant Superintendent
Angelo DeStefano, Principal
Doug Shunk, Supervisor of Secondary Education

GUIDANCE
Megan Ferdetta, School Counselor

LOCATION
Health Science Academy
Assunpink Center
1085 Old Trenton Road
Trenton, NJ 08690
T: 609.586.5144
www.mcts.edu

Subscribe to our podcast “The MCTS Experience” for more information.
ACCREDITATION
The Mercer County Technical School District is certified by the New Jersey State Department of Education and accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

CERTIFICATIONS
Students will work toward certifications in American Red Cross First Aid and American Heart Association’s Health Care Provider CPR.

CLASS LENGTH
Classes are 80 minutes in length and are offered on a rotating A/B block schedule.

CLASS RANK
The Health Science Academy does not rank its students.

CURRICULUM
The Health Science Academy provides students with a focused program in the medical and biological sciences. Options are afforded for a Health Science Academy student to pursue goals of post-secondary education at the college or university level, or to enter the workforce directly upon high school graduation. Students receive a solid foundation in the core subjects and a rigorous health sciences program of study. A major learning component of the program is the opportunity for students to attain practical experience in the workplace as well as in academic settings.

ENROLLMENT
More than 100 students are enrolled in grades 9-12 at the Health Science Academy.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
All 12th grade students are required to complete a structured learning experience (internship). This involves the completion of a minimum of 160 internship hours, to be completed at an approved worksite.

FACULTY
The average teacher-to-student ratio is 1:13.

LOCATION
The Health Science Academy is located at the Assunpink Center in Trenton, New Jersey.

COLLEGE CREDIT
Articulation Agreements with Mercer County Community College (MCCC) and Rutgers School of Health Related Professions allow students to earn valuable college credit upon successful completion of high school classes. Students can earn up to 21 college credits.

Seniors may participate in the Career Prep program which is offered in partnership with Mercer County Community College. Students can enroll in courses at Mercer County Community College and earn up to 13 college credits. This is an exceptional elective opportunity for students to simultaneously earn high school and college credits.

HONORS COURSES
Honors courses are offered in English. The material covered will be done so in greater depth and at an accelerated pace as compared to a regular course. Students must meet minimum requirements established by the district in order to be recommended for honors courses.

Admission Criteria for Honors Program:
- A grade of 90 or above in CP level courses qualifies the student to appeal for admissions to an honors level course.
- A grade of 85 or above in previous honors classes qualifies the student to automatically gain admission to an honors course.
- Students may be required to submit a writing sample or other assessment where applicable.
COURSES OFFERED

BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES
Biology BIO113 (MCCC)
Microbiology BIO115 (MCCC)
Chemistry
Anatomy and Physiology I (Rutgers)
Physics
Anatomy and Physiology II (Rutgers)
Organic Chemistry

ENGLISH
English I—World Literature
English II—American Literature
English III—American Literature II
English IV
Creative Writing (1/2 year)
English Composition I ENG101 (MCCC)

HEALTH SCIENCES
Dynamics of Health Care (Rutgers)
Medical Terminology (Rutgers)

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
Art
High School Program at Princeton University
Music Appreciation (Acellus online)
Senior Internship
Personal Financial Literacy (1/2 year)
Career Prep at MCCC

MATHEMATICS
Algebra I
Algebra II
Geometry
Pre-Calculus (MCCC)
Calculus (MCCC)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Fitness & Health I
Fitness & Health II and Drivers Education
Fitness & Health III
Fitness & Health IV
Intro to Personal Fitness
Concepts of Health Fitness HPE 110 (MCCC)

SOCIAL STUDIES
World History
US History I (US History to 1865)
US History II (US History Since 1865)
Introduction to Sociology SOC101 (MCCC)
Introduction to Psychology PSY101 (MCCC)

WORLD LANGUAGE
Spanish I
Spanish II
Spanish III

GRADING SYSTEM
Grades earned are determined by instructors at the end of each marking period and are recorded on the student’s grade report which is maintained by Student Pupil Services.

Letter grades have the following quality point values: A+=4.0, A=3.9, A-=3.8, B+=3.7, B=3.5, B-=3.0, C+=2.7, C=2.5, C-=2.0, D=1 and F=0. Other grades do not count in the quality point average.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

COMMUNITY SERVICE
Every student must complete a minimum of forty (40) hours of community service at the end of Senior year to earn Rutgers University credits.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
Students have the opportunity to demonstrate what they’ve learned by participating in co-curricular student organizations such as HOSA: Future Health Professionals. In addition, students may elect to participate in the Debate Team, Student Council, Yearbook, Math League and Model UN.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Nominal %</th>
<th>QPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-96</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74-76</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>70-73</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S Satisfactory 60-100
NC No Credit 0-59
WP Withdrawn Passing–No evaluation N/A
WF Withdrawn Failing–No evaluation N/A

Temporary Grades
N No grade report by the instructor N/A
I Incomplete–no credit earned N/A

"I" indicates that the instructor is affording extra time for a course grade to be earned. The amount of extra time is determined by the instructor, up to a maximum of two calendar weeks after grades are submitted. An "I" grade not resolved with two calendar weeks is changed to an F grade as appropriate to the course.
OUR GRADUATES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO THESE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Arcadia University  Boston University  Bradley University  Capital Technology University  Carnegie Mellon University  Case Western University  Centenary College  Cheney University of Pennsylvania  Coastal Carolina University  Copin State University  Cornell University  Dixie State College  Drew University  Drexel University  Duke University  Duquesne University  Emory University  Fairleigh Dickinson University  Florida Southern College  Georgian Court University  Hollins University  Howard University  Johns Hopkins University  Juniata College  Keiser University  Lehigh University  Lemoine College  Louisiana State University  Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences  Massachusetts Institute of Technology  Mercer County Community College  Monmouth University  Montclair State University  New England College  New Jersey Institute of Technology  New York Institute of Technology  New York University  Northeastern University  Pace University  Pennsylvania State University  Philadelphia University  Princeton University  Purdue University  Quinnipiac University  Ramapo College  Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  Richard Stockton College of New Jersey  Rider University  Roanoke College  Rowan University  Rutgers University, New Brunswick  Saint Bonaventure University  Saint Peter’s University  Seton Hall University  Smith College  Stevens Institute of Technology  Stockton University  Syracuse University  Temple University  The College of New Jersey  The George Washington University  University of Bridgeport  University of Delaware  University of Illinois  University of Maryland College Park  University of Massachusetts Amherst  University of Pittsburgh  University of Rochester  University of the Sciences  University of Virginia  University of Washington  Ursinus College  Villanova University  West Chester University  Western Washington University  William Paterson University  Virginia Commonwealth University  Washington College  West Virginia State University  Westminster College  Widener University  William Patterson University  York College of Pennsylvania

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2010—2011
• Eight students won at the New Jersey State HOSA Competition.

2011—2012
• A sophomore launched a Model UN club.
• Two sophomores from the Health Science Academy were elected as New Jersey HOSA State Officers.
• Seven students attended the National HOSA Conference.

2012—2013
• A sophomore was selected as a finalist in the Education Hero - Individual category in the 2012 Healthcare Heroes awards program.
• KidsBridge, a local non-profit organization, honored the junior class with a group Humanitarian Award for the thoughtful implementation of Cultural Day.
• Three juniors attended the HOSA Washington Leadership Academy.
• Three Health Science Academy students were elected as HOSA state officers.
• One student participated in the Governor’s School Program in Science.
• Five students attended the National HOSA Conference.

2013—2014
• Five students served at the State HOSA Officer level.
• Health Science Academy students participated in the Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey’s 4th Annual ‘U Got Brains Champion Schools Program
• A senior was selected by First Lady Mary Pat Christie as a 2014 Spirit of a Hero Scholarship recipient.
• Nine students qualified for the National HOSA Competition.
• The first class of 19 students graduated.

2014—2015
• Four students were elected as NJ HOSA State Officers.
• A 2014 graduate was elected as HOSA’s National Executive Council Regional III Vice President.
• Mercer County Community College awarded the MCTS Health Science Academy with the 2014 Partner in Learning Award.
• A Senior received the Student Leader of the Year Award from the New Jersey Association of Student Councils.
• Four students were elected as NJ HOSA State Officers.
• A Senior was selected to participate in the 2015 Public Health Leadership Seminar with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response and the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General led by the Medical Reserve Corps.
• A Junior was selected by Columbia University to participate in the Science Honors Program (SHP) during the 2015-2016 school year.
• A Junior was selected to participate in the Kean University summer program for Bio chemical research.
• Two students participated in the New Jersey’s Governor’s School programs in Science or Engineering.
• Seven students attended the National HOSA Conference.
AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2015—2016
• US News and World Report’s Best High School List—Bronze medal
• Three students were named Commended Students in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program
• A Sophomore self-published a book about a teenage girl’s journey leaving a South Asian country to live in the United States
• A Student was elected as NJ Association of Student Councils President
• Three HOSA NJ State Officers elected
• The Professional Engineers Society of Mercer County awarded Mr. Pfeffer the STEM Teacher of the Year and a senior a scholarship
• A Student won the Plainsboro Human Relations Council’s Youth Award
• A Student won the Mercer County Commission on the Status of Women’s Young Women of Achievement Award
• Two students earned a summer internship with the Surgeon General in Washington, D.C.

2016—2017
• A Senior was named as a U.S. Presidential Scholar
• Three HOSA NJ State Officers elected
• Two students earned a summer internship with the U.S. Surgeon General
• A Senior earns diploma and MCCC Associate Degree in Mathematics
• Students earned 212 Rutgers credits
• Student Council received Standards of Excellence award from the NJ Association of Student Councils
• Sophomore student selected by First Lady Mary Pat Christie as the 49th NJ Hero

2017—2018
• One student was elected to serve as the NJ Association of Student Council Vice President
• One student was elected to serve as the NJ Future Health Professionals (HOSA) Vice President
• The NJ Governor’s School of Engineering & Technology at Rutgers University School of Engineering accepted one student
• One graduate was accepted to the Rutgers University ODASIS (Office for Diversity and Academic Success in the Sciences) strategic planning program
• The Professional Engineering Society of Mercer County awarded Mr. Wiest the STEM teacher of the year.
• A total of 372 Mercer County Community College credits were earned this school year.
• The Class of 2018 earned 218 Rutgers credits last year.
• Assunpink Center was named as a US News and World Report America’s Best High School.
• A member of the Class of 2019 attended the Governor’s School in Engineering at Rutgers University.
• Three HSA students served as New Jersey HOSA State Officers. One student ran for National HOSA Executive Council at the 2018 International Leadership Conference and was also presented with the New Jersey Outstanding State Leader.
• 14 students medaled at the State Leadership Conference in Competitive Events.
• New Jersey Association of Student Councils (NJASC) Honor School: This award recognizes accumulated consecutive years that schools follow criteria recognized by NJASC as being important for developing and maintaining a successful Student Council program.
• NJASC Community Smile: This award recognizes Student Councils throughout New Jersey for their many student-hours of service to school and community throughout the school year.
• NJASC State Charity $1,000 club: Each year, student leaders at all member schools raise thousands of dollars for a special State Charity that is chosen by their State Officers each April. At the Spring Awards Program in May the new State Charity for the coming year is announced, while awards are presented for various levels of support.
• In Spring 2017, received the highest award possible from NJASC, Standards of Excellence: The most difficult and prestigious award presented by NJASC; schools can receive it only once every five years. Participating student councils will conduct a rigorous self-evaluation and then be evaluated by a visiting team from another participating school.