Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The Journalism I course offers the terminology necessary for an understanding of the communication process and the opportunity to explore and compare the different forms of mass communication: print and electronic. The curriculum includes the study of the American newspaper past and present and the rights and responsibilities of the journalist.

The heart of the course involves learning about gathering and writing news. Class lesson assignments focus on writing in-depth news articles, feature stories, editorials, columns, reviews, and sports. Matters of style involve the students in proofreading. Copyreading practice improves the reporter's writing and develops the ability to edit, e.g., re-organize, reduce, re-focus in order to achieve clarity, conciseness, and completeness, or simply to make a story fit the space allocated in a layout.

Headlining, page makeup and design, photography, and the principles of advertising are other essentials of this course.

PREREQUISITE
None

REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK
News Reporting and Writing, Tenth Edition, Melvin Mencher
READING SELECTIONS
The reading selection includes variety of resources related to professional publications, broadcasters, and famous journalists.

ACTIVITIES
Individual writing  Taking photographs
Discussing current events  Working in the darkroom
Oral critiquing of newspapers and/or stories  Typing stories
Critiquing the work of fellow classmates  Rewriting stories
Small group interviewing  Creating advertisements
Large group interviewing  Layout activities
Researching in library and/or classroom  Headlining activities

MAJOR LEARNING OBJECTIVES
1.1 Indicate familiarity with the history and the legal and ethical aspects of journalism.
   E 1.1.1 Understand the concepts applicable to laws and ethics governing the press.

1.2 Learn the role of mass communication within our society and the world.
   E 1.2.1 Understand why mass communication is important to modern living.

1.3 Demonstrate proficiency in a variety of journalistic writing styles.
   E 1.3.1 Develop skills in news gathering.
   E 1.3.2 Cultivate awareness of audience and purpose.
   E 1.3.3 Write straight news articles, features, editorials, and commentaries consistent with journalistic standards.
   E 1.3.4 Provide focus with appropriate captions and headlines.

1.4 Familiarize themselves with available resources pertaining to computer software, photography, and other technology which enhance production and increase the impact of the publication.
   E 1.4.1 Use available computer software and other technology in production of the publication.
Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

Virginia Beach City Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation/gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, disability, marital status, age, genetic information or veteran status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. School Board policies and regulations (including, but not limited to, Policies 2-33, 4-4, 4-6, 4-43, 5-7, 5-19, 5-20, 5-44, 6-7, 7-48, 7-49, 7-57 and Regulations 4-4.1, 4-4.2, 4-6.1, 4-43.1, 5-44.1, 7-11.1, 7-17.1 and 7-57.1) provide equal access to courses, programs, counseling services, physical education and athletic, vocational education, instructional materials and extracurricular activities.

To seek resolution of grievances resulting from alleged discrimination or to report violations of these policies, please contact the Title VI/Title IX Coordinator/Director of Student Leadership at (757) 263-2020, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451 (for student complaints) or the Section 504/ADA Coordinator/Chief Human Resources Officer at (757) 263-1133, 2512 George Mason Drive, Municipal Center, Building 6, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 (for employees or other citizens). Concerns about the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be addressed to the Section 504 Coordinator/Executive Director of Student Support Services at (757) 263-1980, 2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 or the Section 504 Coordinator at the student’s school. For students who are eligible or suspected of being eligible for special education or related services under IDEA, please contact the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at (757) 263-2400, Laskin Road Annex, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Teaching and Learning, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone 263-1070 (voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email her at Cameron.Vadersen@VBSchools.com

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(Revised August 2017)