

## Exxon Mobil Finances AP Courses at NCCS High School

Conventional wisdom says that college-bound high school seniors who want to prepare themselves for higher education should take challenging courses. The trend in high school education is to offer college level courses to seniors. These courses give students both college and high school credit.

Currently NCCS High School offers College Advanced Placement (CAP) courses in accounting, CAD drawing, statistics, finite math, pre-calculus, calculus, physics, English composition, French, and Spanish. These courses, which are offered through Clinton Community College and Paul Smiths College, are accepted at most SUNY schools.

A different college option for high school students is an AP (advanced placement) course. AP courses are nationally recognized by just about every US university. They are very challenging courses that require students to take a high stakes test at the end in order to receive the college credit.

While most high schools around the area and around the country offer AP courses, NCCS does not. However, thanks to the generosity of the Exxon Mobil Company, that is about to change.

NCCS has received a \$500 Exxon Mobil Educational Alliance grant. This money will be used to finance the creation of three new AP courses at NCCS for the 2009-2010 school year. AP Calculus AB, AP English Literature and Composition, and AP United States Government and Politics will be added to the master schedule for next year. The grant will be used to pay for training for the AP teachers and for supplies for the new classes.

NCCS is very excited to be able to bring this opportunity to our students. AP courses are very challenging. They will push our top students to levels beyond those reached in most regular high school courses. AP courses are valuable additions to transcripts and college applications. Many top colleges won't seriously consider student applicants unless they have a selection of AP courses on their resume.

Our school district would like to thank Exxon Mobil for their generosity and for making this great opportunity possible for our students.