

HONORS PROGRAM

The 7th and 8th grade mathematics program does not offer an honors option. The students are placed by their math needs into one of the following courses:

8 th grade High School Algebra	7 th grade Math II (Regular Curriculum)
8 th grade Math III (Small Group)	7 th grade Math I (Regular Curriculum with inclusion students)
8 th grade Math III (Pre-Algebra)	

The student's placement is permanent for the school year when the curriculum will be effected (i.e., High School Algebra, Math III, and Math II/I are three separate curricula). There is no movement from one class to another during the school year. If a student is placed in 8th grade Algebra or a 7th grader is placed in an 8th grade Math III class, then the student's parents are sent a letter in June of the preceding year and concerns are resolved before the school year begins and schedules are finalized.

Eighth grade High School Algebra is for high school credit. The grades will become part of the student's high school grade point average (A=4.0, B=3.0, C=2.0, D=1.0, F=0.0). If the student fails, then the student has two options:

1. retake the course in high school
2. retake the course in summer school at the student's expense.

To receive an Honors Geometry recommendation, a student must have at the end of second quarter an overall grade point average of at least 3.0 and an Algebra grade point average of at least 3.25.

This program cannot be offered if the Grade 8 teacher does not hold high school math certification.

Criteria for 7th and 8th Grade Honors

Honors options are offered in the following disciplines:

Language Arts, Science and Social Science

Process

1. The CMS counselor will compile sixth grade test data and teacher recommendations to assist teachers and parents in determining which incoming seventh graders have demonstrated academic performance consistent with choosing an honors option.
 - choice is based upon willingness to meet and maintain requirements and grades.
 - data is used as a predictor but not as a disqualifier.
2. Students may choose an honors option in one or more academic disciplines in each of eight quarters during their seventh and eighth grades consecutively.
 - the honors option is a continuous quarterly process from beginning seventh through ending eighth.
3. The honors option requires higher level projects, an expected minimum grade standard, and more advanced work than found in a regular classroom.

- there will be a difference in what is read and how projects and activities are assessed.
 - youngsters who choose an honors option must maintain an "A" or "B" average in that discipline.
4. Guarantee - Students who are successful in the honors option are guaranteed priority placement in honors classes at CHS on a scale basis: 1st = 8 of 8 successful quarterly honors options in a discipline; 7 of 8, etc. The priority for an individual student may differ by discipline.
 5. Students who fail to maintain an "A" or "B" in an honors option for any quarter may not choose the option in that particular discipline for the next quarter, but are not prevented from re-enrolling at a later quarter.
 - the requirement extends through the last quarter of grade seven through the first quarter of grade eight; summer vacation does not break the continuous progress requirement.
 - the quarters are continuous from first quarter in grade 8 through enrollment at CHS.

Criteria for 9th -12th Grade Honors/Advanced Placement

1. Honors/AP courses shall be open to all students who have the desire to pursue and have demonstrated academic excellence. Honors/AP courses will be offered in the academic disciplines of mathematics, science, and language arts.
2. A student will be recommended for initial placement and continuation in the program for the following school year at the end of the first semester. This recommendation will be accomplished by the respective teacher in the particular academic discipline. A student, however, may enroll or continue in the program without a teacher recommendation provided permission has been granted for this enrollment or continuation by the parent or legal guardian.

Guidelines for student recommendation will include:

- a. overall grade point average of 3.0
 - b. grade point average in the discipline of 3.25
 - c. attendance consistent with current Ohio standards
3. Students new to the district who have previously been enrolled in an Honors/AP program shall be considered for enrollment in the program immediately. Placement will be accomplished by the guidance counselor in consultation with the teacher of the Honors/AP course.
 4. The student is one of the critical components responsible for the success of the Honors/AP program. Therefore, students who select Honors/AP courses 'will be required to meet the following expectations:
 - a. possess intellectual curiosity and self-motivation
 - b. demonstrate creativity, independent thinking, and planning
 - c. be flexible, accept new ideas, and adjust to new situations
 - d. demonstrate adequate background knowledge
 - e. be able to grasp, retain, and apply knowledge easily
 - f. be able to relate knowledge and apply skills across disciplines
 - g. be able to apply critical thinking skills - analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and problem solving
 - h. communicate ideas effectively, both in speech and writing
 - i. desire and demonstrate academic success

- j. demonstrate competency in the basic academic competencies as delineated by the College Board

Student Withdrawal From Honors/Advanced Placement, Grades 9-12

A. School Initiated

A student receiving a grade of "D" or "F" for a grading period will be placed on probation and may be counseled to look at alternative courses.

A student receiving a second grade of "D" or "F" for a grading period in an academic year will be automatically withdrawn from the Honors course and placed in a more appropriate course.

B. Student and Parent Initiated

1. Changes - Honors/AP students will be able to request course changes (i.e. drops) at any time provided:

- a. the student's grade in the Honors/AP course is a "D" or "F"
- b. the change is within the same discipline

Example: Honors Language Arts to Language Arts
 Honors Chemistry to Chemistry
 Honors Algebra II to Algebra II

2. Grades - Students meeting the above criteria must be advised of the following at the time of their request for a change:

- a. Progress to date in the Honors/AP course will be transferred to the regular course - just as they would if the student were transferring into the Columbia Schools (i.e. they cannot "start over").
- b. As final course grades are determined only at the "end" of the course, credit will be awarded in accordance with the weighting for the course in which the student spent the final day (i.e. an "Honors" weighted course will NOT be converted to its numerical equivalent on the regular grade scale - a "B" is a "B"; a "weighted" B of 4 points will become a "regular" B of 3 points. (applies only to grades 9-12)

Adopted: February 16, 1994

Revised: July 1, 1996

Revised: February 21, 2001

Revised: August 14, 2001