

REQUIREMENTS FOR 8TH GRADE HONORS COURSES AND WORLD LANGUAGES

The determinations for acceptance into the Honors program will be made based upon average of the grades earned through the student's seventh grade year.

Instruction in the honors program is at a very brisk pace with course content being introduced and covered quickly. Parents should have discussions with their child regarding the amount of challenge that is appropriate for their child. An important factor to consider during such discussions is the amount of time students have available at home in relationship to their other outside activities and their ability to shoulder the increased amount of independent work the honor's courses require.

8th grade Honors English Language Arts

Students must be reading at a 4 level on the district benchmarks and writing at a 4 level on the district benchmarks. Students must have a minimum grade average of A- in 7th grade English Language Arts.

Students considering honors English Language Arts should be serious readers and writers with strong literacy skills. Honors English Language Arts students are expected to be capable of independent work and to demonstrate higher level critical thinking skills. A component of the honors English Language Arts course is an **independent project** where the students have their **work published** outside of the school. This opportunity allows for the students to develop their critical thinking, investigate a topic of interest, further develop independent work habits, as well as opens the door to future opportunities.

8th grade Honors Social Studies

Students must be reading at a 3 level or better on the district benchmarks and writing at a 3 level or better on the district benchmarks. It is highly recommended that students are reading and writing at a 4 level on the district benchmarks in each. Students must have a minimum grade average of A- in 7th Social Studies.

Students considering honors social studies should be serious readers and writers with strong literacy skills. Honors social studies students are expected to be capable of independent work and to demonstrate higher level critical thinking skills. A component of the honors social studies course is an **independent research project, History Day**. This opportunity allows for the students to develop their critical thinking, investigate a topic of interest, further develop independent work habits, as well as opens the door to future opportunities.

REQUIREMENTS FOR 8TH GRADE HONORS COURSES AND WORLD LANGUAGES

8th Grade Honors Science

Students must have a minimum grade average of A- in 7th Science. Students must be reading at a 3 level or better on the district benchmarks and writing at a 3 level or better on the district benchmarks. It is recommended that students are taking an advanced math course.

Students considering honors science should be serious readers and writers with strong literacy skills. Honors science students are expected to be capable of independent work and to demonstrate higher level critical thinking skills. A component of the honors science course is an **independent research project, science fair**. This opportunity allows for the students to develop their scientific thought, investigate a topic of interest, further develop independent work habits, as well as opens the door to future opportunities.

Please note that students must take 8th grade honors science to be eligible to take honors Biology in 9th grade.

World Language

It is recommended that a student must have a minimum grade average of B in seventh grade English Language Arts. Students must be a Proficient or Advanced reader as shown on the 7th grade PSSA ELA assessment.

Throughout the school year, students should be considering which world language they wish to study, **German, French, or Spanish**. Often due to the high number of qualified students selecting Spanish, students may not get their first choice of language.