



2019-2020 Middle School Course Placement - Suggested Criteria

Course Placement Process

Appropriate course placement decisions ensure a successful academic experience and avoid disruption to a student's schedule during the school year. In order to determine which course is most appropriate for your child, a committee, led by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, analyzed the results from the STAR assessment. **Please take the recommendations established through the placement process seriously** as the STAR assessments are used to measure students on their reading and math achievement levels. **STAR™ assessments** are also used to monitor student growth throughout the year, to estimate students' understanding of state standards, and predict students' performance on the state test; therefore, we are very confident that the established placement criteria is appropriate. These scores can be seen in your child's Home Access Center profile on the test score tab.

The purpose of the placement process is not to limit student or parent choice, but to ensure that such choices are based on the best available information about a student's tenacity and perseverance relative to the curricular challenges they will encounter in the coming year. Students wishing to enroll in an advanced course for the 2019-2020 school year should refer to the suggested criteria outlined below prior to making their course requests.

Please Note: Teacher recommendation will be considered in the course placement process. STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading and STAR Math are computer-adaptive assessments that are used for screening, progress monitoring and diagnostic assessment of students. These applications meet all criteria for scientifically based progress-monitoring tools set by the National Center on Student Progress Monitoring.

7 th Grade Language Arts Courses	Suggested Criteria
<i>Language Arts 7</i>	No placement criteria required
<i>Honors Language Arts 7</i>	Suggested criteria for placement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 6 STAR scaled score of 961 or higher

8 th Grade Language Arts Courses	Suggested Criteria
<i>Language Arts 8</i>	No placement criteria required
<i>Honors Language Arts 8</i>	Suggested criteria for placement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 7 Reading Winter STAR scaled score of 1102 or higher • Successful completion of Language Arts 7 or Advanced Language Arts 7

7 th Grade Math Courses	Suggested Criteria
<i>Math 7</i>	No placement criteria required
<i>Accelerated Math 7</i>	Suggested criteria for placement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher recommendation AND Winter STAR scaled score of 838 or higher Successful completion of Math 6 or Advanced Math 6
<i>Algebra 1</i> <i>*Subject Accelerated Course</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criteria for placement: • Teacher recommendation AND Successful completion of Accelerated Math 7. *NOTE: Students enrolled in this class will take the Algebra HS End of Course Test



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8 th Grade Math Courses	Suggested Criteria
Math 8	No placement criteria required
Algebra 1	Criteria for placement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher recommendation AND successful completion of Accelerated Math 7. <i>*NOTE: Students enrolled in this class will take the Algebra HS End of Course Test</i>
Geometry <i>*Subject Accelerated Course</i>	Criteria for placement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher recommendation AND successful completion of Algebra 1 <i>*NOTE: Students enrolled in this class will take the Geometry HS End of Course Test</i>

7 th Grade Science Courses	Suggested Criteria
Science 7	No placement criteria required
Honors Science 7	Criteria for placement: Concurrently enrolled in Accelerated Math 7 OR teacher recommendation.

8 th Grade Science Courses	Suggested Criteria
Science 8	No placement criteria required
Honors Science 9 <i>*Subject Accelerated Course</i>	Criteria for placement: Successful completion of Accelerated Science 7/8 *HS Credited Course

7 th Grade Social Studies Courses	Suggested Criteria
Social Studies 7	No placement criteria required
Advanced Social Studies 7	Suggested criteria for placement: Grade 6 Winter STAR Reading scaled score of 961 or higher

8 th Grade Social Studies Courses	Suggested Criteria
Social Studies 8	No placement criteria required
Creating America	Suggested criteria for placement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 7 Winter STAR Reading scaled score of 1102 or higher • Successful completion of Social Studies 7 or Advanced Social Studies 7