



Math and Science Opportunities for 9th Grade Students

Students entering high school in the 9th grade are placed into a math course based on their work in middle school and may select a science course based on their middle school performance. In all cases, it is our goal to ensure the following:

- All students have access to rich, rigorous, college-preparatory math and science courses.
- Students are placed into the most appropriate course for their level of mathematics ability because readiness increases the likelihood of a successful start and the greatest gains in understanding and enjoyment of mathematics.
- No *one* score, grade or observation data is used for placement into a high school program. The combination of middle school grades and test scores gives an overall picture of readiness that is the most useful in determining placement or selecting options.

MATH PLACEMENT GUIDELINES

For Students currently enrolled in Algebra I

Students who complete two semesters of Algebra I and who earn a grade of D or higher can receive one high school credit in Math and are recommended for placement in Geometry in grade 9.

For Students currently enrolled in 8th Grade Math

Students who complete two semesters of 8th Grade Math and who earn a grade of D or higher are recommended for placement in Algebra I in grade 9. By using student achievement data, MAP (Measures of Academic Progress for Math) Scores, and WASL (Washington Assessment of Student Learning) Math scores, teachers will recommend a student from 8th grade Math for placement into Algebra I or Algebra Ia.

SCIENCE SELECTION GUIDELINES

Entering 9th Grade students may choose to enroll in Honors Biology if they meet criteria 1 **or** criteria 2 below.

1. Students receive an "A" or "A-" for two semesters in Science classes. One semester must include the Fall of 8th grade science and one semester of 7th grade science. Students receive an "A" or "A-" for two semesters in Mathematics classes. One semester must include the Fall of 8th grade Algebra I and one semester of 7th grade mathematics.
2. Students receive a level "4" (exceeds standards) in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics on the Washington Assessment of Student Achievement (WASL) taken in Grade 7.

If you have questions about math placement or science choices, you may talk with your math and science teachers or the counselor at the middle or high school.