

# Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors Night

My child has been recommended for high school credit classes. What does that really mean for us?

# FMS wants to challenge your student ...

We have diverse offerings to help find  
the right mix for every student

- Standard MS Courses
- Honors MS Courses (Accelerated Pre-Algebra)
- Honors Spanish I
- Honors Algebra I
- Honors Physical Science
- Honors Biology I

# Requirements

- Honors Spanish I
  - 93% or above in ELA on standardized testing
  - Enrolled in and remain in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors ELA

# Requirements

- Honors Algebra I
  - Honors 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math with a C average
  - Your child is **completely skipping** one year of math coursework
    - Accelerated Pre-Algebra may be the best fit

# Requirements

- Honors Physical Science
  - 90% or above in Science on standardized testing, Honors 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science with a C average and teacher recommendation
  - Enrolled and remain in Algebra or above
  - Should have an interest in a STEM field

# Requirements

- Honors Biology I
  - 93% or above in Science on standardized testing, enrolled and remain in Honors Algebra I or above, and enrolled and remain in Honors ELA
  - Should have an interest pursuing additional and higher level science classes in high school – three additional credits needed
  - **STUDENTS MUST MEET AND MAINTAIN ALL REQUIREMENTS TO BE IN AND REMAIN IN HONORS BIOLOGY I**

# Pros

- Full year v. semester
- High school credit before high school
- Ability to take upper level, additional, AP, and/or dual enrollment class in the future
- Unique opportunity

# Considerations

- High school expectations = Be READY
- High school transcript and GPA
- Impact on middle school schedule
- Spring Semester high school course choice(s)
- Impact on after-school activities



# Considerations

- High School Credit Courses begin your student's official high school transcript and GPA
- Students with a grade below a C will be automatically removed after the first 30 days
- Students with a final grade below a C are generally not allowed to retake the class in high school
- Student's final grade will include a TNReady EOC score (if available)
- Teachers are available to support and help students, but daily tutoring, assignment and/or test retakes, extra credit work, etc. are not offered
- Effect on high school progression
  - Must take four math classes in high school to graduate
  - Expected to take four science classes; three of which must be lab science credits
  - Spanish counts toward graduation requirements, but the expectation is to take at least two more in high school

# Final Thoughts

- High school credit classes are a great opportunity, but they aren't for everyone
- Having a solid foundation is what is important
- We have turned down opportunities to offer other HS credit classes. "We want 8th graders to still be kids" and "Middle School honors is a great opportunity to be challenged"
- Take some time and have a good discussion as a family about what is best for next year and what is best for their future in high school and beyond

# What is next?

If you and your student have received an invitation letter(s) for a high school credit class in Biology and/or Spanish, review your options and understanding of the class expectations that are explained on the email. If you have not responded or wish to change your original response, please email Mrs. Schult to receive a course change form.

# Questions

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact:

- Weston Edmonds, Principal  
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- Marie Schult, Curriculum Principal  
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- Melissa Wright, 8th Grade Counselor  
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