WELCOME

To Cooper's 8th Grade Orientation

Curriculum Information

Divided into academic areas

- **Core Curriculum**
  - **English**
  - **Social Studies**
  - **Science**
  - **Math**
  - **Health & Physical Education**
- **Electives**

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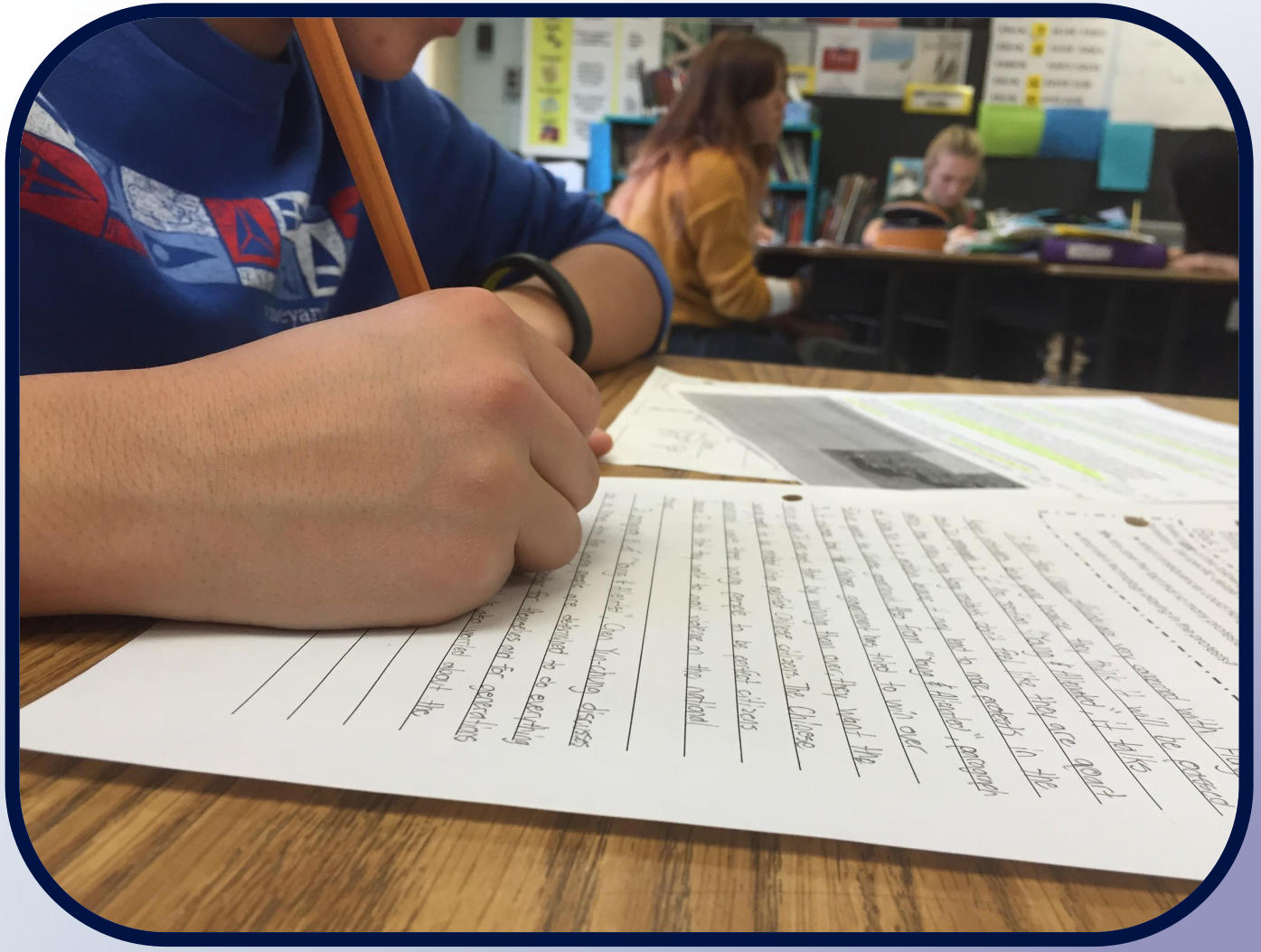
English, **Social Studies**, **Science** - Advanced Academic Program

English 8



Reading a Variety of Literature

- Comprehend
- Apply
- Analyze
- Synthesize
- Evaluate

***Apply Reading Strategies**

In-class reading of four full length texts
Independent reading of three full length texts

Writing Process

- Pre-writing
- Drafting
- Composing
- Revising
- Editing
- Proofreading
- Publishing

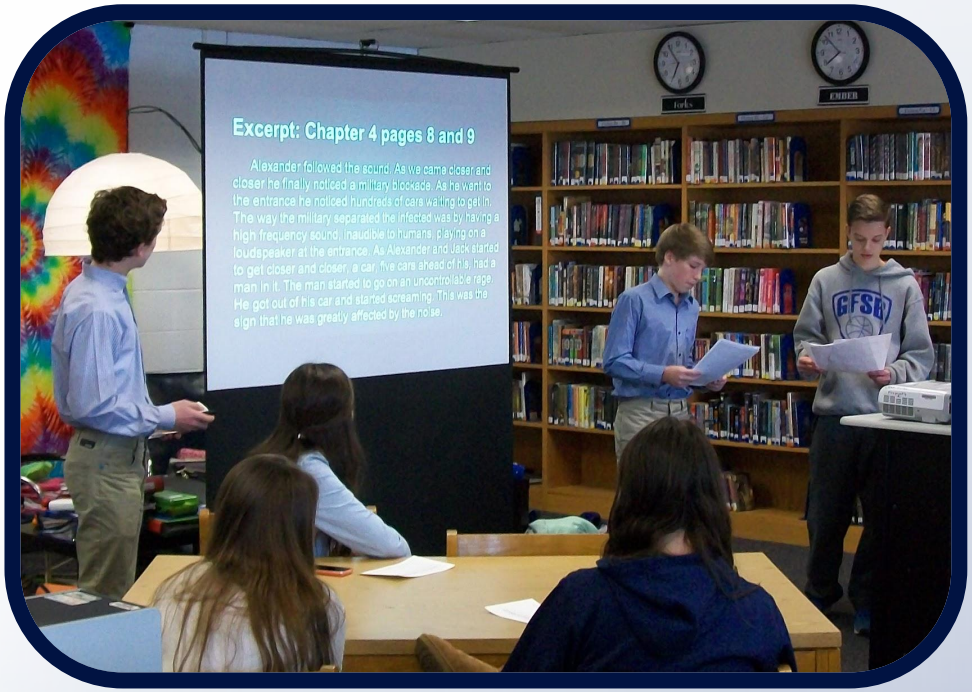
**Full writing process used for multi-paragraph writings*

**Genres include expository, persuasive, narrative, and literary analysis*

Language Studies

- Vocabulary Building
  - Prefixes, roots, and suffixes
- Direct Study and Application of Grammar
- Language Usage
  - Connotation/denotation

Oral Communication



- Academic Conversations
- Research Presentations
- Book Projects/ Clubs
- Collaborative Work
- Interviews
- Informational Reports
- Summarizing
- Debates
- Socratic Seminars

English 8, English 8 Honors English 8 AAP

English 8

- Student choice
- Teacher and student-led
- Assumes some prior knowledge/application
- Focuses on fundamentals
- Reading Analysis
- On-pace with general standards
- Extended standards for learning available
- Some independent reading
- Grammar/Mechanics
- Writing Instruction

English 8 Honors

- *Mimics Standard but:*
- Choice, but classics encouraged
- Primarily student-led and teacher moderated
- Assumes strong prior knowledge/consistent application
- Touches on Fundamentals
- Accelerated pace with further extensions
- Extended Standards for Learning
- Reading analysis
- More independent reading
- More student accountability

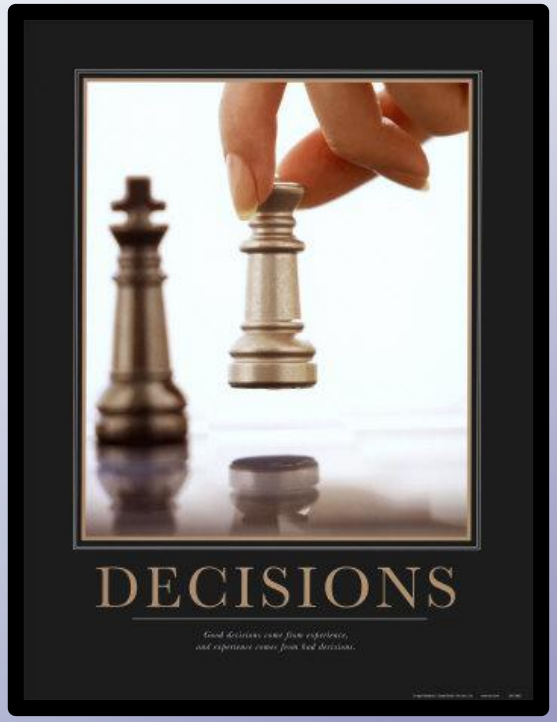
English 8 AAP

- *Mimics Honors but with:*
- Texts surpassing grade level expectations (scaffolds available)
- PBL foundations for 3-4 units
- POG skills built into project requirements and expectations
- Cross curricular ties with Science and Civics
- More student accountability
- More writing with further writing extensions
- More independent reading

Decision Point:

English 8 vs. English 8 Honors

- Is your child an avid reader?
- Is your child a fluent writer?
- Is spelling and vocabulary acquisition above grade level?
- Does your child use critical thinking skills?
- Does your child have a strong work ethic taking ownership of his/her own learning?

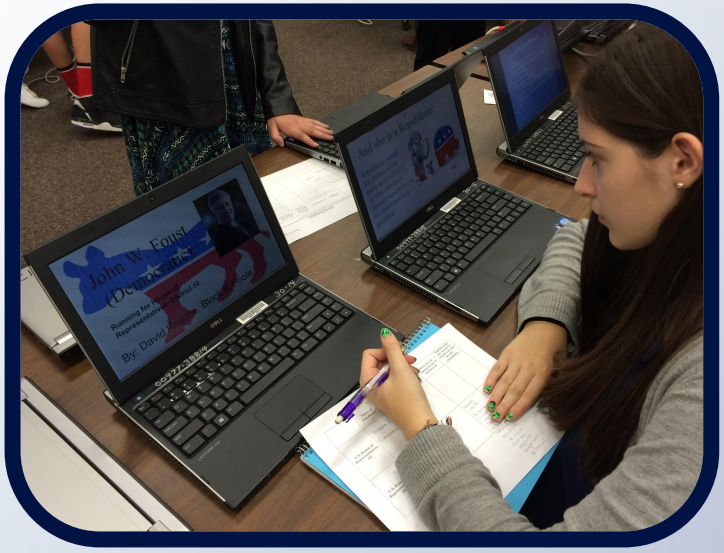


Civics and Economics

Prepares Students to be Citizens

- **Duties, responsibilities, and rights of a U.S citizen.**
- **Examine the roles citizens, the media, political parties, interest groups and individuals within government play in influencing public policy.**
- **US Government: Examine the functions of local, state, and federal governments.**
- **U.S. economy: how it operates domestically and in a global marketplace.**

Project Based Learning



- Media Project
- Mission to Mars
- Alien Invasion
- Bill Simulation
- Finance Park
- Local Government PSA
- Shark Tank
- Service Learning

Civics and Economics

Civics

- Teacher and student-led
- Teacher models expectations
- Writing/DBQ fundamentals
- Writing support
- PBL/cross-curricular activities

Civics Honors

- Teacher and student-led
- More student accountability
- DBQ essays
- PBL/cross-curricular activities

Civics AAP

- Primarily student-led and teacher moderated
- Deeper analysis on challenging concepts expected
- More student accountability
- Flipped lessons
- DBQ essays
- PBL/cross-curricular projects

Investigating Matter and Energy

Three Strands are Emphasized

- **Investigating Matter and Its Changes**
- **Investigating Energy and Its Transformations**
- **Investigating Forces and Motion**

Focus on Scientific Skills

Students are taught scientific skills such as:

- **Designing Experiments**
- **Collecting Data**
- **Organizing Data**
- **Interpreting Results**
- **Constructing Models to Illustrate Concepts**

Science 8

Science

- Teacher and student-led
- Critical thinking
- Integration of basic math skills
- Specific laboratory design followed
- Whole class and group activities
- POG skills nurtured and evaluated for application in labs

Science Honors

- Teacher and student-led
- Deeper critical thinking; more analysis
- Integration of higher level mathematics
- Laboratory design can be more open-ended
- More small group activities
- POG skills expected and evaluated mainly during labs and cooperative group work

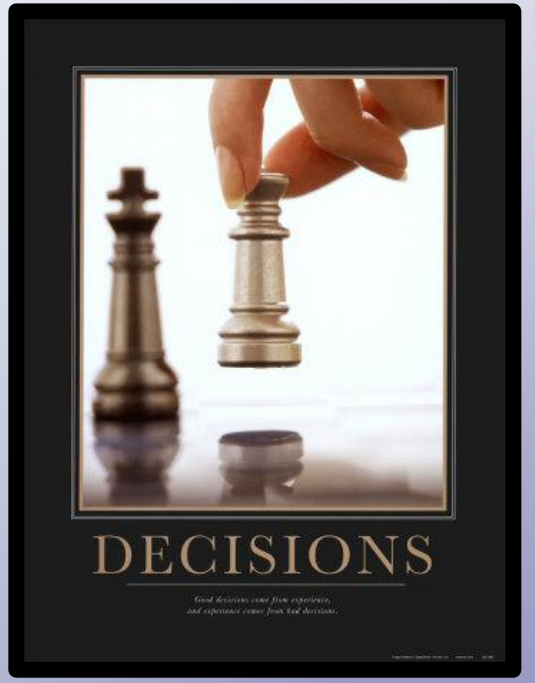
Science AAP

- Primarily student-led and teacher moderated
- Mostly analysis and evaluation
- Integration and application of higher level mathematics
- Laboratory design more open-ended and sometimes student generated
- Mostly small group activities
- POG skills expected and evaluated through PBLs

Decision Point:

Science 8 vs. Science 8 Honors

- **Higher order thinking skills (synthesis, analysis, and evaluation)**
  - **Does your child have the ability to apply algebraic concepts in science?**
  - **Does your child possess exemplary quantitative analytical skills?**
- **Reading and writing intensive**
  - **Does your child have the ability to independently write a lab report?**
  - **Does your child have the ability to integrate background knowledge to understand science and technology literature?**
- **Students are highly motivated and self-disciplined**
  - **Does your child have a strong interest in the Physical Sciences?**



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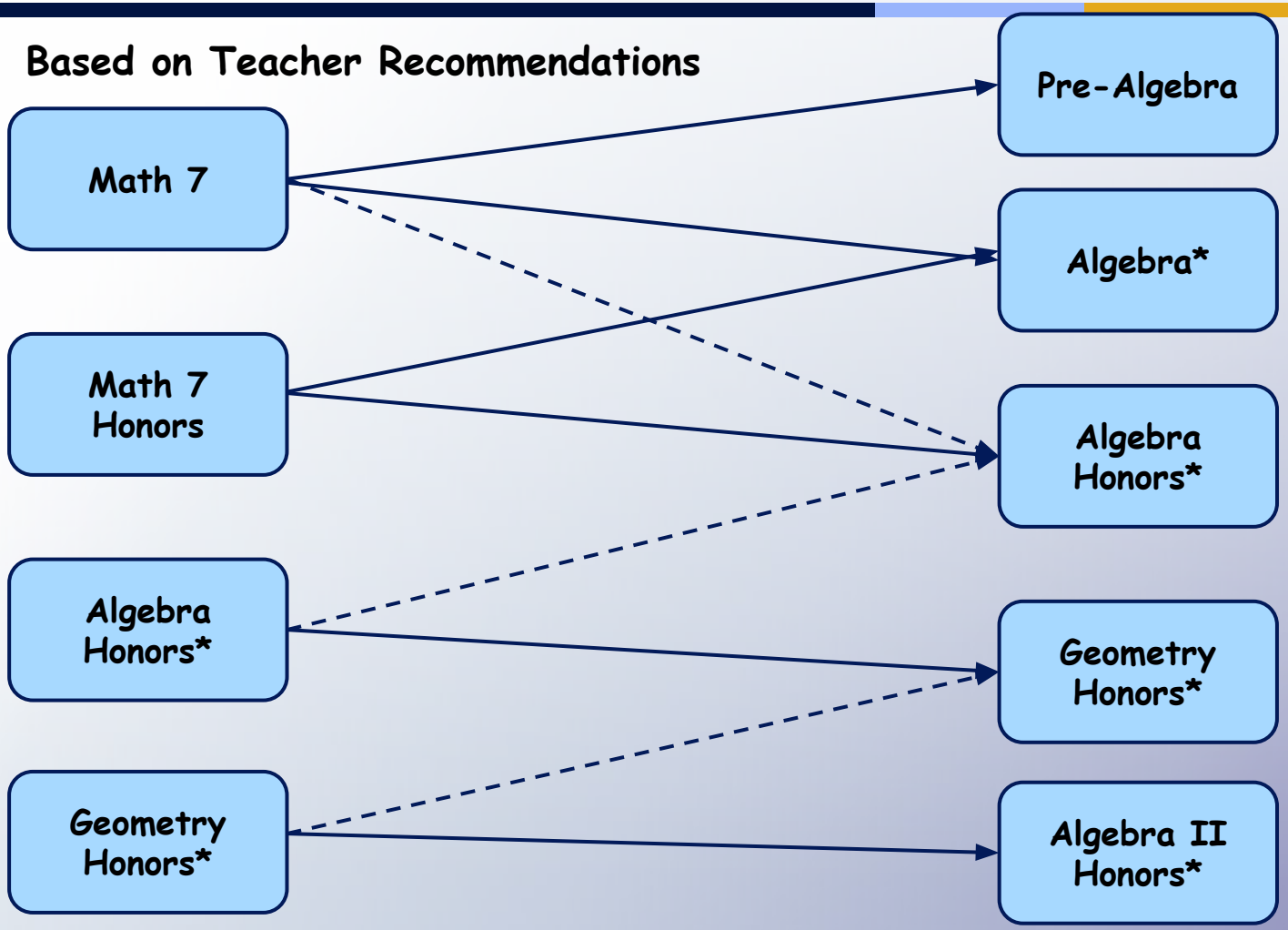
Mathematics

8th Grade Math Placement



* Indicates High School Credit Class

Pre Algebra

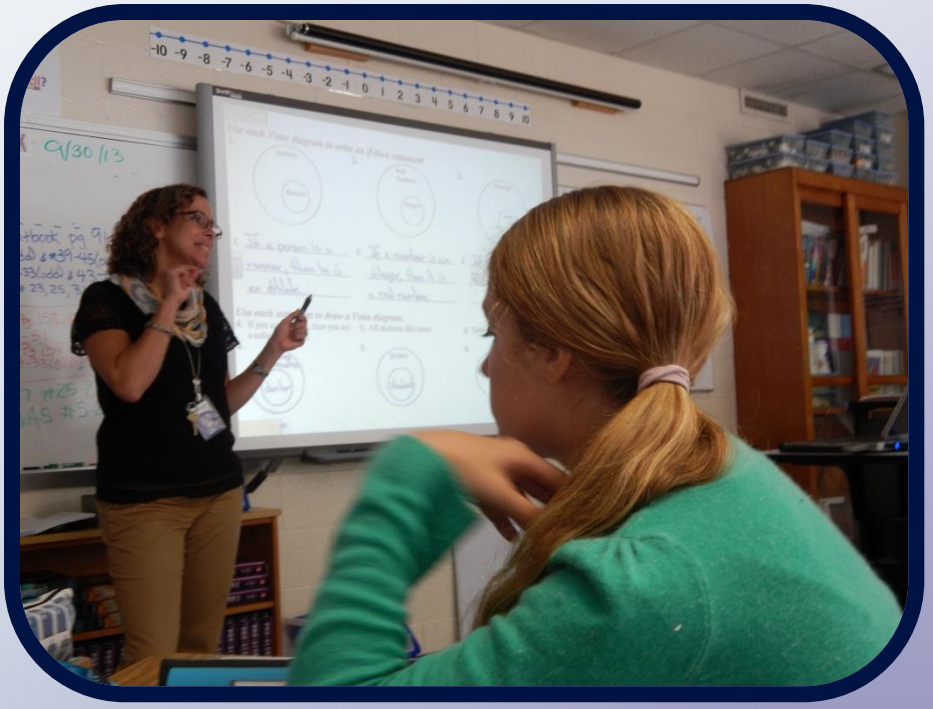
Emphasizes a hands-on learning environment

- **Focuses on critical math fundamentals**
- **Examine algebra and geometry-preparatory concepts and skills**
- **Strategies for collecting and analyzing data**
- **Problem solving**
- **Making connections among mathematical ideas**

Algebra 1

one high school credit

- Numerical and Algebraic Expressions
- Linear Equations and Inequalities
- Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities
- Linear Relations and Functions
- Polynomials and Factoring
- Quadratic Equations and Functions
- Exponents and Exponential Functions



Algebra 1 Honors

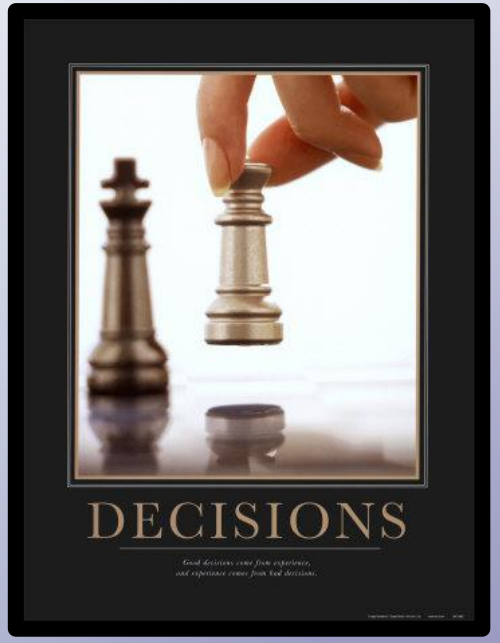
one high school credit and ½ point bump for honors

Honors Extension Topics include:

- **Absolute value inequalities**
- **Advanced work with inequalities**
- **Fractional exponents**
- **Exponential growth and decay**
- **Difference/sum of cubes**
- **Divide polynomials by binomials**
- **Derivation of quadratic formula**

Algebra 1 vs. Algebra 1 Honors

- Does your child really like math?
- Does your child thrive in a fast-paced class?
- What was your child's SOL score?
- Is your child really good at problem solving?
- Does your child consistently perform at the highest level?
- Can your child reason abstractly?
- Does your child easily make connections?
- Has your child shown self discipline, motivation, and maturity as a learner?
- Will your child be able to devote the time needed to be successful in the class?



Honors Geometry

Must have completed Algebra 1 Honors in the 7th grade

- **Investigate properties of geometrical objects using inductive and deductive reasoning**
- **Conjectures about properties and relationships are developed inductively and then verified deductively**
- **Connections to real world applications are emphasized.**
- **Geometer's Sketchpad software, calculators and manipulative are used as teaching tools**
- **Increased emphasis on various styles of proof (paragraph, indirect, two-column)**

Algebra II Honors

Must have completed Algebra 1 Honors and Geometry Honors

- **VERY RIGOROUS AND CHALLENGING HIGH SCHOOL HONORS CLASS**
- **Requires an extremely strong base in Algebra I**
- **The course covers:**
  - **Functions**
  - **Factoring and Quadratic Functions**
  - **Conic Sections**
  - **Polynomial Expressions and Functions**
  - **Exponents and Radicals**
  - **Rational Expressions and Functions**
  - **Exponential and Logarithmic Functions**
  - **Sequences, Series and Statistics**

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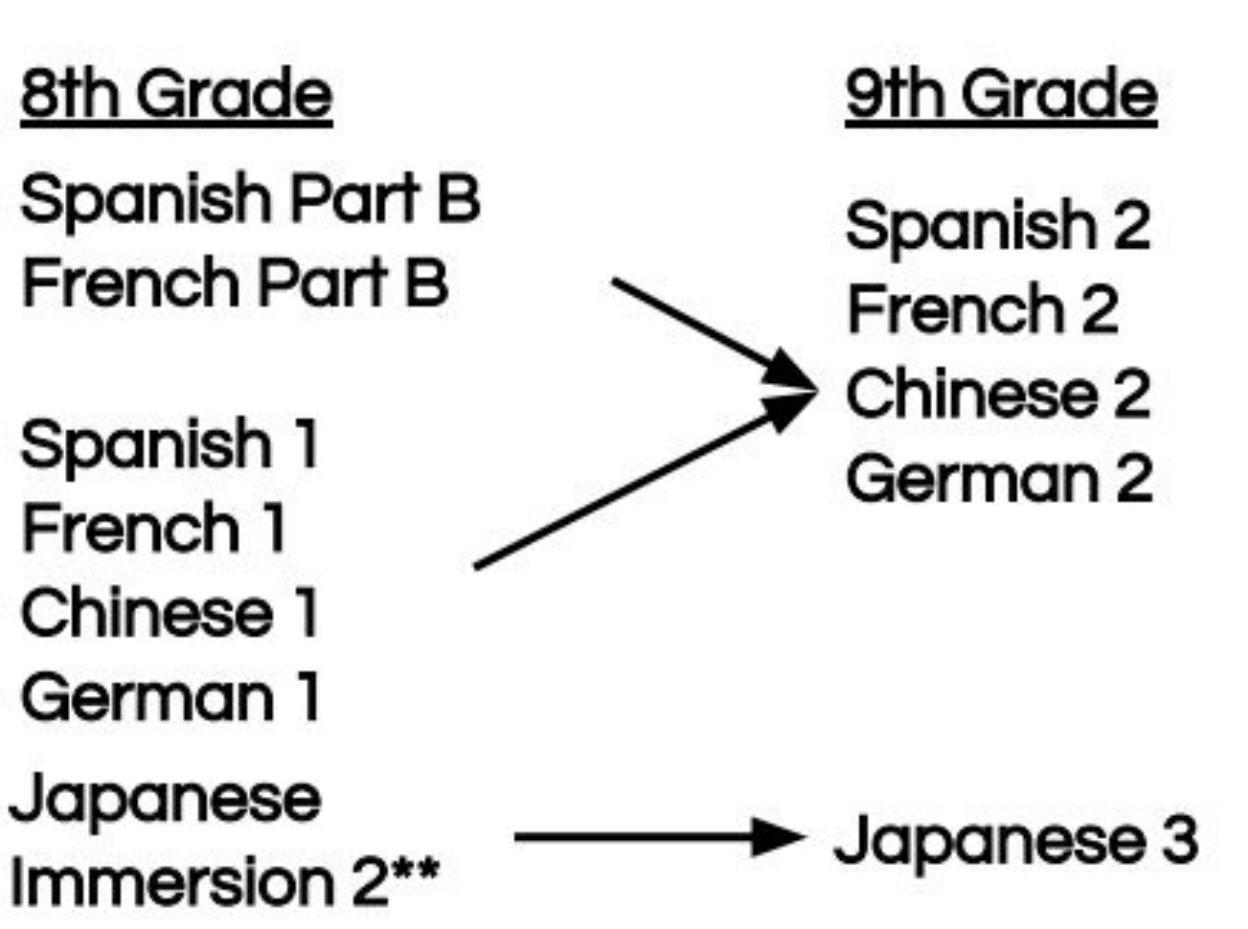
Continuing 8th Grade Options



Continuing 8th Grade Options

ALL 8th grade World Language courses are worth 1 high school credit.

Level 1 classes will move FASTER than A & B classes.

Elective Options

- Option 1: Two full year electives
- Option 2: One full year elective and two semester electives
- Option 3: No full year electives and four semester electives

DUE:
Monday, February 10

to Student Services (Place in your Team's Box)

COOPER MIDDLE SCHOOL
8TH GRADE COURSE REQUEST SHEET

Due On or Before: February 10, 2020

More Info:

Student Name: _____
Last First Middle

Current 7th Gr Electives: 1._____ 2._____ 3._____ 4._____

STEP 1: SELECT REQUIRED 8TH GRADE COURSES

A. ENGLISH, SOCIAL STUDIES, SCIENCE, & HEALTH/PE

Please circle the appropriate course/level below.
Only students who are AAP Level 4 eligible may select AAP Level courses.

	Grade Level Course	Honors	AAP
English 8	112000	112036	112002
Civics	235700	235736	235702
Science 8	412500	412536	412502
Health/PE	720033/720034		

B. MATH REQUEST (Check 1):

	311200	Pre-Algebra
	313000 + 011010 *(enter both course IDs)*	Algebra 1 + Algebra Support *This 2-block course would provide students with additional support to gain a strong foundation in Algebra. This would replace 2 semester electives OR 1 year-long elective*
	313000	Algebra 1
	313036	Algebra 1 HN
	314336	Geometry HN (Prereq: Algebra 1 HN)
	313536	Algebra 2 HN (Prereq: Geometry & Alg 1 HN)
	316036	Pre-Calculus HN (Prereq: Alg 2 HN, Geometry & Alg 1 HN)

Math Communication Timeline:
Start of 3rd quarter: Course advisements from current math teacher will be emailed home
Start of 4th quarter: Current progress monitored, and additional communication as needed.
June: Students who may require a course adjustment based on year end completion contacted. Math placements finalized.

If your student has an IEP, please select a course for each subject area above.
After the IEP transition meeting, should it be required, we will adjust their course(s) as needed.

STEP 2: SELECT ELECTIVE COURSES (FULL YEAR AND/OR SEMESTER

****You will need: 2 full-year electives OR 1 full-year and 2 semester electives OR 4 semester electives to complete your schedule****

FULL YEAR ELECTIVES

If applicable, place a check mark next to the full-year elective(s) you'd like to select

WORLD LANGUAGE (HS Credit Courses)

	551000	Spanish 1
	551500	Spanish 1 Part B*
	511000	French 1
	511500	French 1 Part B*
	521000	German 1
	592068	Japanese Immersion 2
	581000	Chinese 1

*Only for students who have successfully completed Part A

MUSIC (Placements made by June)

	923311	Intermediate Band^^
	923810	Intermediate Orchestra^^
	928510	Chorus

^^ Course request in SIS will say Intermediate until your placement is determined by audition

SPECIAL EDUCATION (determined by IEP)

	110881	Reading 8 (LAP)
	110850	Read 180
	781980	Strategies for Success
	781540	Personal Development

FINE ARTS/LITERACY ARTS

	110865	Broadcast Journalism (will show as Creative Writing)
	911500	Art Extensions
	116160	Journalism/Yearbook
	139568	Adv Theater Appreciation

MATHEMATICS

	011010	Algebra Support (Readiness)++

++This course is ONLY intended for students who have selected Algebra 1 and would like additional support to gain a strong foundation in Algebra.

SEMESTER ELECTIVES (HALF YEAR)

Please RANK in order (1-6) even if you have chosen 1 or 2 full-year electives

MUSIC & ART

	910532	Art Foundations
	911562	Computers in Art
	910632	3D Art Exploration
	924562	Guitar

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

	846332	Engineering Simulation & Fabrication

BUSINESS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/ FINE & LITERARY ARTS

	660932	Computer Solutions
	006632	Using Systems (Coding)
	616032	Intermediate Coding
	110862	Creative Writing

GENERAL EDUCATION

	826332	Family & Consumer Science 1
	980717	Peer Helping
	781962	Strategies for Success

FINE & LITERARY ARTS

	116168	Journalism
	139062	Media Communications
	139067	Theater Arts Appreciation
	139065	Technical Theater Appr.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT+

	011048	Action Literacy 8
	011049	Responsive Writing
	011068	Power Mathematics 8

+ A support class may replace 1 half-year elective if a student is not demonstrating consistent mastery of grade level curriculum. Students who fail an SOL test are REQUIRED to take an elective academic preparation class (often a full year course).

I UNDERSTAND THAT STAFFING IS BASED ON COURSE SELECTIONS AND MY STUDENT'S SELECTIONS REPRESENT A COMMITMENT. Schedule changes requested after June 1, 2020 must be requested in writing and approved by administration. I understand that the school reserves the right to change a student's schedule based on scheduling needs, course availability due to enrollment and/or other conflicts. Your signature indicates approval of this course selection sheet. Please sign and return this form to the box in Student Services no later than **Monday, February 10th**.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature _____ Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Life at Cooper

A Culture of Kindness!

The Cooper Code of Conduct

Courteous
- We use appropriate language
- We follow the dress code
- We accept others' uniqueness
- We cooperate and have a positive attitude

On Time
- For school
- For class
- For lunch

On Task
- We focus
- We participate in class activities
- We follow procedures

Prepared
- We advocate for ourselves
- We bring supplies to class
- We complete assignments in a timely manner

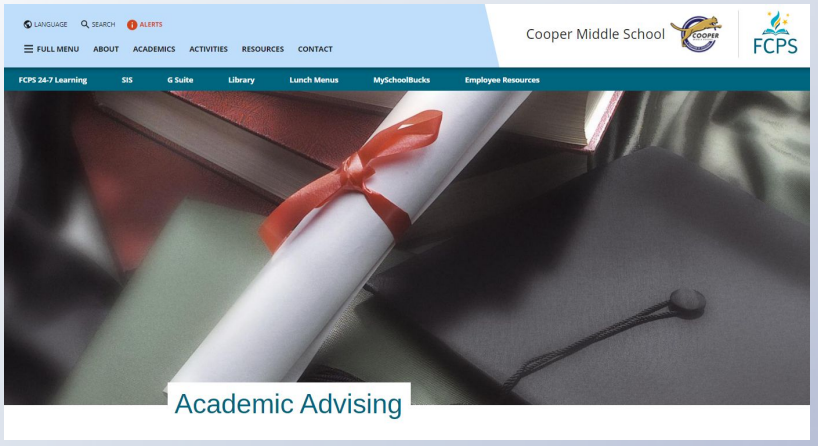
Excellence
- We follow the Cooper Honor Code
- We give our best effort
- We take responsibility for our actions and learning

Respectful
- To staff
- To students
- To property

Additional Information:

CooperMS Website → Student Services → Curriculum Information

https://cooperms.fcps.edu/student-services/academic-advising



Questions?

Arlene Randall, Principal

- acrandall@fcps.edu

Michael Rath, Assistant Principal

- mjrath@fcps.edu

Dana Scabis, Director of Student Services

- djscabis@fcps.edu

Thank you!