

9th Grade Honors Placement Information for SY 2025-2026

English Language Arts

The following criteria are used for placement in English 9H:

- An average grade of at least 90 in Grade 8 English for Terms 1 and 2
- Placement of “mid- or above grade level” on January iReady diagnostic
- A score of 510 or higher on the Grade 7 ELA MCAS exam
- 8th grade teacher recommendation based on work habits (quality of work, effort, homework completion)
- Outstanding skills in writing

Fine and Performing Arts

Band, Treble Choir, Concert Choir, and Orchestra classes may be taken as a Level 1 (Honors) course with the approval of the instructor and the Fine Arts Coordinator if the student agrees to complete the following requirements.

Student must:

- Meet grade level performance expectations as indicated by the ensemble director.
- Perform for a Faculty Jury once a semester during finals.
- Maintain an Honors Portfolio.
- Prepare and audition for the Junior (Grade 9) or Senior (Grades 9-12) District Ensembles
- Honors students are strongly encouraged to participate in other performance music activities outside of school.
- While not required, private lessons on your voice or instrument are HIGHLY recommended.
- Students must earn a grade of 90 or higher in their ensemble to enter or continue in Honors.

Mathematics

To be considered eligible for the High School Honors Program, students enrolled in Accelerated Math must meet a combination of the following criteria:

- **Grade 7 Math MCAS:** Achievement Level of *Exceeds* (score range: 530–560).
- **Winter iReady Diagnostic:** A score of 575 or higher.
- **Continental Math League Test:** A score of 18+ out of 30 points.
- **Accelerated Grade 8 Math Average:** An average grade of 95% or higher for Terms 1 and 2.
- **Teacher Recommendation:** Based on work habits, including quality of work, effort, and homework completion.

Each criterion contributes to identifying students who demonstrate strong academic performance, readiness, and commitment.

Science

Recommendation of Environmental Science teacher; incoming freshman must have term average of 93 or higher in 8th grade science and 3 of the following:

- Benchmark average in the exceeding range
- Placement into honors math or exceptional performance in other math levels
- Advanced score on the grade 7 ELA MCAS Exam
- Teacher recommendation

Social Science

The following criteria is used for placement Honors Modern World History:

- An average grade of A to A+ (at least 93) in Grade 8 Social Sciences and ELA for Terms 1 and 2.
- Possesses and demonstrates high quality communication, investigation and evaluation skills.
- Eighth-grade teacher recommendation based on observed behaviors that promote strong academic success (participation, inquiry, thoroughness and motivation).

World Language

Grade 8 students who are currently enrolled in a World Language class who wish to be considered for French 2 Honors or Spanish 2 Honors must meet the following criteria:

- Be recommended by their current World Language teacher for an Honors placement.
- Earn an average of A or above for Terms 1 and 2.
- Achieve Novice High or above proficiency on the Grade 8 proficiency assessment
- Possess a strong work ethic and positive attitude towards language learning.