

January 2010

Dear 8th Grade Parents/Guardians:

In an effort to be as accurate as possible when placing students in their 9th grade classes, teachers will be looking at each student's performance throughout the school year to determine the best placement for next year.

To determine the appropriate course level, the following criteria will be considered:

- Grades for the first two terms
- Work habits (based on quality of work, effort, homework completion)
- Results of past MCAS tests (if applicable)
- Results of the placement tests

Since 9th grade honors classes are rigorous and require extensive reading, analysis, and higher level thinking skills, it is important that students be placed accurately. English language arts, science, social studies, foreign language, and mathematics placement tests will be given. In the event a student's performance decreases significantly, a change in placement might occur. Placement criteria for specific subject areas and the course selection timeline can be found on the middle school or high school webpage.

If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact the subject curriculum coordinator.

Sincerely,

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