

# Rising 8th Grade Curriculum Night

**January 10, 2024**

# Administrative Team



**Cindy Conley**  
**Principal**

**Shawn Spear**  
**Assistant**  
**Principal**

**Katie Shea**  
**Assistant Principal**

**Sarah Padilla**  
**Assistant Principal**

**Meg Gollinger**  
**Dir. Student Services**

# Student Services Team



**Suzy Kiefaber**



**Dave Frenck**



**Cynthia Pareja**



**Ashlee Nelson**

# Empowered. Skilled. Fulfilled.

## WIMS Mission:

Irving Middle School prepares students with a strong foundation academically, behaviorally, socially, and emotionally for rigorous learning. We promote lifelong learning for students and staff by providing a variety of learning opportunities and ways to showcase learning.

## WIMS Vision:

The Irving Middle School community is committed to providing a strong foundation for all students set in the attributes of Fairfax County Public School's Portrait of a Graduate.

## PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE



COMMUNICATOR



ETHICAL AND GLOBAL CITIZEN



CREATIVE AND CRITICAL THINKER



COLLABORATOR



GOAL-DIRECTED AND  
RESILIENT INDIVIDUAL



## Objective

- ✱ Provide information about the 8th grade core classes at Irving
- ✱ Describe difference between general education and honors classes

# The Registration Process

- January 10 - Curriculum Night
- January 30 - Students get course selection sheets in Advisory
- February 8 - Course selection sheets due to English teacher
- February 12 - Students begin to enter classes into SIS during English classes
- March-June - Families will be asked to log into SIS to verify the classes students are registered to take are accurate. This shows the classes registered for, but not the actual schedule.
- June 7 - Last day for schedule change requests

\*We will continue to review class placements until school begins and will contact parents/guardians if we have a concern

## Classes at Irving

- ✱ All students must take English, social studies, math, science and health/physical education.
- ✱ Students will be choosing their electives at the same time as their core classes this year.

# Core Classes at Irving

## General Ed

- Use VA Standards of Learning and FCPS Program of Studies
- Open Enrollment

## Honors

- Extensions to general education curriculum
- Open Enrollment

## AAP Level IV

### Honors

- Extensions to on level curriculum
- Only Level IV (Full Time) eligible students

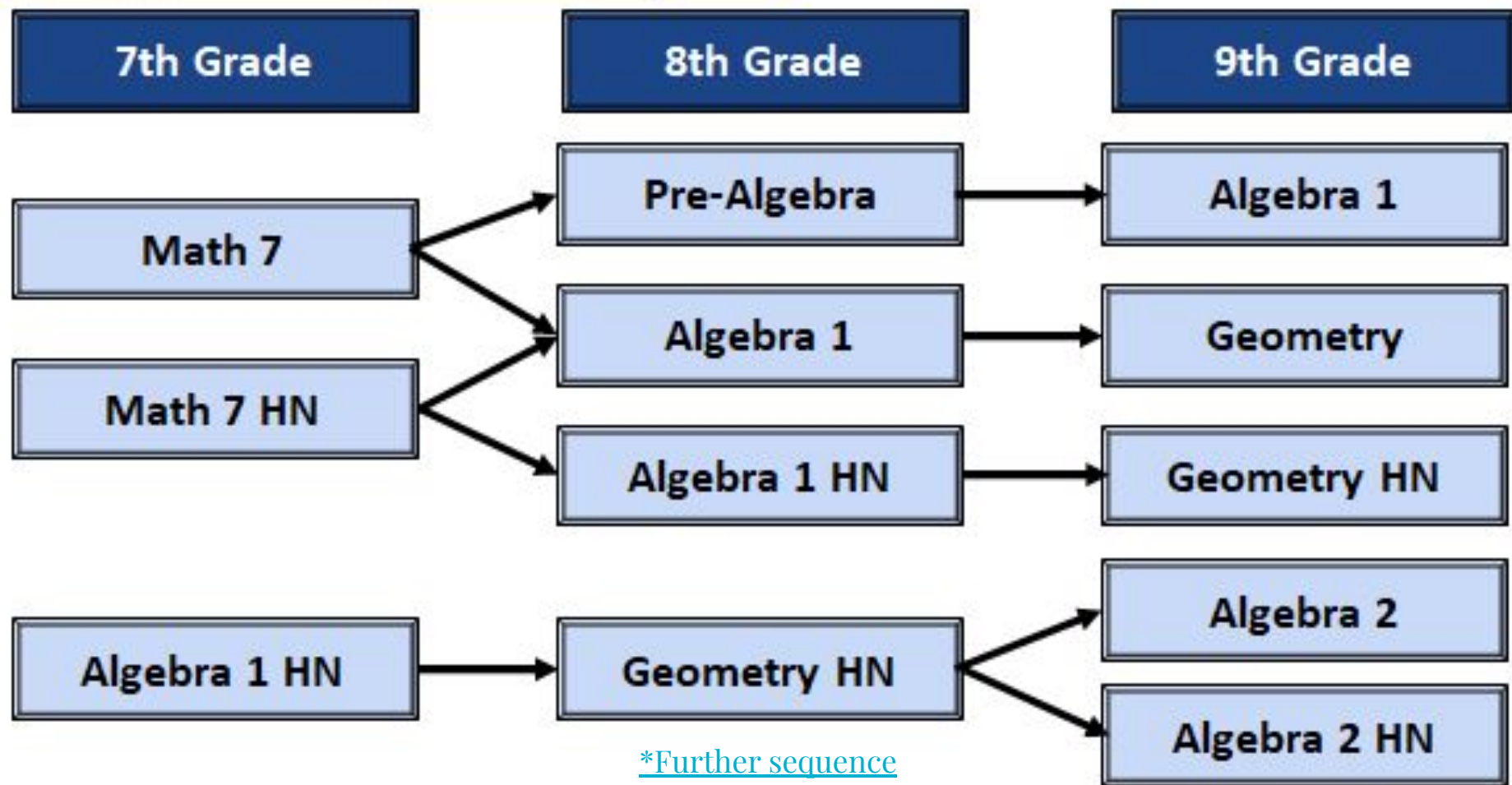
## What is an honors class?

- ✳ Classes in the four core content areas of mathematics, English, social studies and science at every middle school
- ✳ An extended FCPS Program of Studies designed for high-ability and high-achieving learners
- ✳ Provides for ascending levels of intellectual demand and helps prepare for advanced classes in high school

## What else is an honors class?

- ✴ Uses advanced reading and research materials
- ✴ Accelerates the pace of teaching and learning which allows students to explore deeper understanding and apply new knowledge
- ✴ Assigns work that requires greater levels of independence

# Math - General Course Sequence



# Math Options - Content

## Pre-Algebra

- Number Sense and Consumer Math
- Multi-step Equations & Inequalities
- Proportional Reasoning & Functions Basics
- Introduction to Linear Relationships
- Geometry & Measurement
- Probability & Statistics

## Algebra 1

- High-level Equations & Inequalities
- Extensive Exploration of Function Families
- Problem-Solving with Linear Equations
- Systems of Equations & Inequalities
- Polynomials and higher level functions
- Solving Quadratic Equations

# Math Recommendations

## Pre-Algebra

- ❑ Student needs more support and practice to be successful
- ❑ Student needs to improve work habits

## Algebra\*

- ❑ Student has excellent problem solving skills
- ❑ Student is prepared to skip 8th grade math content
- ❑ Student is prepared to take a high school course
- ❑ Student is willing to work on Math most days after school

\*High school credit course with final exam; grade included in high school GPA

# Math Recommendations - Honors Options

## Algebra I Honors\*

- ☐ Student has excellent critical thinking and work habits
- ☐ Student really enjoys math
- ☐ Student is willing to work on math most days after school
- ☐ Student is ready for a fast-paced curriculum

## Geometry Honors\*

- ☐ Student successfully completed Algebra I Honors during 7th grade
- ☐ Student's grade at the end of the year from Algebra I Honors is a B (3.0) or higher
- ☐ Student has excellent critical thinking and work habits
- ☐ Student really enjoys math
- ☐ Student is willing to work on math most days after school

\*High school credit course with final exam; grade included in high school GPA

General Ed Civics	Honors Civics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Focus on vocabulary and skills that will help students understand concepts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students learn concepts that need to be applied to real-life situations, which is different than the facts and events from history.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Classwork is modeled as a class before moving to independent work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The class moves quickly and students are expected to work independently on assignments.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students will work as a class to analyze charts, images and documents.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students are expected to analyze charts, images, and documents on their own.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● More time is spent on fully understanding the concepts before applying them to real-world situations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Time spent on applying concepts to real world situations with greater depth.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students will learn reading and writing strategies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students are challenged in their writing and class discussions with extensions.</li> </ul>

<b>English</b>	<b>English HN</b>
<b>Grade Level Standards</b>	<b>Standards, Extension, &amp; Enrichment</b>
<b>Reading comprehension of appropriately leveled texts and analysis</b>	<b>Reading comprehension of mid to higher range texts, analysis, and interaction with the text</b>
<b>More support, guided learning</b>	<b>Compacted curriculum, faster pacing, less support, more independent learning</b>
<b>Grade level writing, persuasive</b>	<b>Analytical writing, persuasive</b>
<b>Grammar Instruction</b>	<b>Grammar Instruction</b>
<b>Introduction to Project or Problem Based Learning (PBL)</b>	<b>Advanced PBL</b>
<b>Oral presentations, communication, &amp; collaboration skills</b>	<b>More oral presentations, communication, and collaborative &amp; independent projects</b>

# English: General Ed vs. Honors

Your child should consider **English 8** if he/she:

- Resists leisure/choice reading
- Needs more guided and structured support with reading or writing assignments
- Lacks essay writing skills

Your child should consider **English 8 Honors** if he/she:

- Enjoys reading and does so on a regular basis without prompting
- Has strong reading stamina
- Has a strong foundation in writing and essay formation

Texts are carefully selected for each classroom based upon the readiness and lexile of the students, so if your student needs regular support or leveled texts, a On Level environment would be the best fit. If your student is reading higher level texts and does not require support with comprehension or analytical skills, then the Honors' level classroom would be a good fit.

# 8th Grade Physical Science

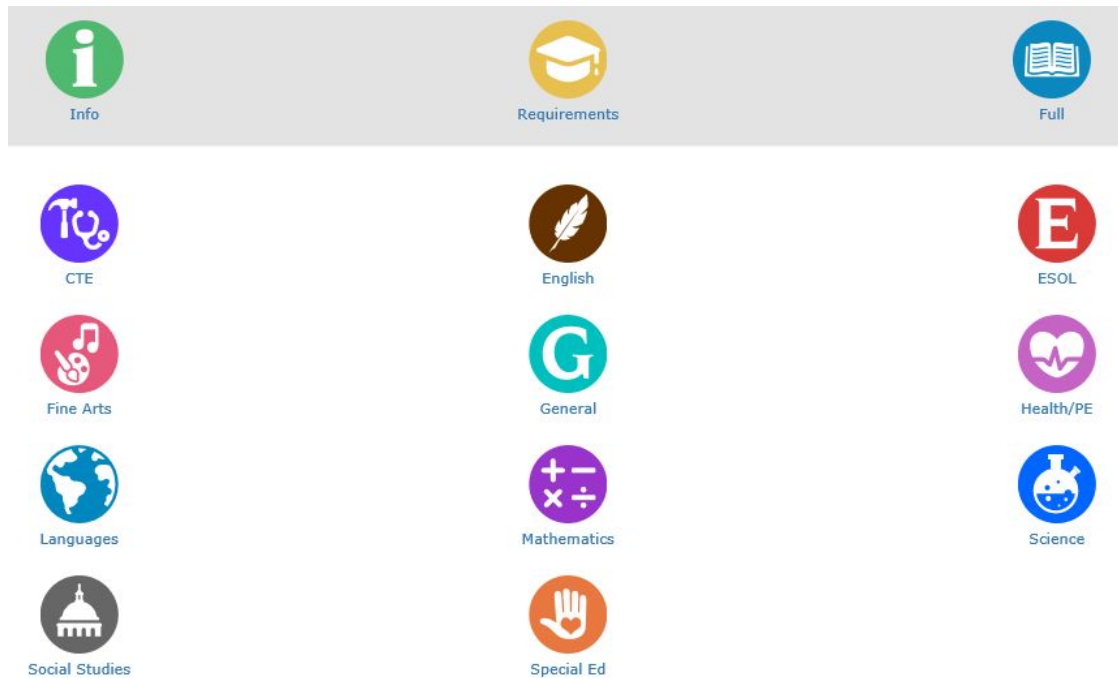
General Ed	Honors
Focus on essential curriculum	Students learn essential curriculum and extensions
Projects focus on reinforcing essential understanding	Projects focus on application to real-world problems and solutions
Tests are differentiated to show mastery of curriculum	Tests are differentiated to show mastery of curriculum, as well as the ability to apply the learning to real-world issues
Students are provided guided support to find solutions to problems	Students are challenged during activities to find solutions to problems independently
Assessments provide students a number of ways to demonstrate learning and are exposed to some open-ended responses	Assessments are more open-ended with the expectation of unique answers

# Intervention Classes

- Irving offers intervention classes in the areas of reading, math, and executive function skills for students that need additional support.
- Intervention classes take the place of one elective and may be semester or year long depending on student need.
- Irving will review student data and reach out to families if we think your student could benefit from one of these classes. You can also reach out to student services if you think your child would benefit from an intervention class.

# Course Catalog

[Link to 8th grade course catalog:](#)



# Questions?

- ✦ English: Ms. Miciak at [mtmiciak@fcps.edu](mailto:mtmiciak@fcps.edu)
- ✦ Civics: Mr. Dachille at [dmdachille@fcps.edu](mailto:dmdachille@fcps.edu)
- ✦ Math: Ms. Rhodes at [jlrhodes@fcps.edu](mailto:jlrhodes@fcps.edu)
- ✦ Science: Mr. Donovan at [gmdonovan@fcps.edu](mailto:gmdonovan@fcps.edu)
  
- ✦ Counselors:  
Ms. Kiefaber at [smkiefaber@fcps.edu](mailto:smkiefaber@fcps.edu)  
Ms. Nelson at [aenelson@fcps.edu](mailto:aenelson@fcps.edu)