



KITTATINNY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

77 Halsey Road • Newton, New Jersey
Phone 973-383-1800 • Fax 973-383-4392
www.krhs.net

March 2020

RE: Scheduling - Honors Placement Criteria

Dear Seventh Grade Parent/Guardian:

Seventh grade students will be scheduling classes for the 2020/2021 school year after the third marking period. Students who are eligible may be placed in an eighth grade honors section for English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. The practice of using a scoring rubric to determine the correct placement of students into any of the honors courses will continue this year. Please be aware of the specific criteria for placement into an 8th grade honors course.

8th grade English Language Arts

The rubric consists of three components, all of which must be met by seventh grade students *in both ELA 7-1 and ELA 7-2 courses* to be recommended by their teachers for the Honors program. Please note that students do not need to be accepted into the Honor English Language Arts program in order to be accepted into 8th grade Honors Social Studies. The rubric is as follows:

- A minimum average grade of 93/100 at the end of MP3.
- A writing sample score based on standardized testing rubrics.
- A minimum score of 80 for teacher observations.

8th grade Social Studies

The rubric consists of four items which must be met by seventh grade students to be recommended by their teachers for the Honors program.

The rubric is as follows:

- A minimum average grade of 95/100 at the end of MP3.
- 95% Homework completion.
- A minimum score for teacher observations.
- A writing sample score based on standardized testing rubrics.

8th grade Mathematics

The math rubric has two components; academic average through the first three marking periods of 7th grade and teacher observations through the first three marking periods of 7th grade. Each component is worth up to 100 points, for a total of 200 possible points. There is no minimum for each component, however students must attain at least 180 total points in order to be placed in the 8th grade honors math program.

1. Academic average, out of 100, at the end of MP3.
2. Teacher observation, out of 100, at the end of MP3.
3. Total of academic average and teacher observation is 180 or greater.

Kittatinny Regional Board of Education
"Imparting Knowledge That Works for Our Children"
Sussex County's First Star School

8th grade Science

The science rubric has three components, student average through the first three marking periods, 95% of all homework completed for the first three marking periods, and a teacher observation score over 85.

1. A minimum grade of 93/100 at the end of MP3.
2. A minimum grade of 95/100 on homework at the end of MP3.
3. A teacher observation score of 85/100.

For all honors courses, the student must maintain the minimum grades listed above for their final grade for the year and the final homework grade average.

Principal Brian Bosworth
and the Kittatinny Administrative Team

Note: Please review the most frequently asked questions listed on page 3 of this letter

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q1: What if my son/daughter only meets the criteria for ELA 7-1 but not ELA 7-2? Can they still go into honors English as an 8th grader?

A1: No. A student being accepted into 8th grade honors English Language Arts must meet the criteria for both courses and receive the recommendation by their 7th grade English and Lit. Reading teachers.

Q2: Can my son/daughter be in honors Social Studies without going into honors English Language Arts?

A2: Yes. A student may be recommended for 8th grade honors Social Studies and not the honors English Language Arts program.

Q3: Can a student schedule for honors English Language Arts or honors Social Studies without completing the written essay?

A3: No. All students must complete the written essay which is administered in March before the end of MP3.

Q4: Is there a parental waiver into honors?

A4: No. There is no parental waiver process.

Q5: Is there an administrative appeal process?

A5: Yes. Administrative appeals may be made to the junior high guidance counselor and department supervisor if criteria in one area of the scoring rubric falls within one point of the target cut scores for honors. Scores are used based on grades at the end of MP3.

Q6: Who administers and grades the written essays?

A6: The seventh grade teachers will be administering and grading the essays based on the scoring rubric used on the PARCC assessment.

Q7: Is there a probationary period for students?

A7: Yes. Students are expected to complete assigned summer assignments prior to the first day of school. Students who do not complete it by the due date are rescheduled for a regular class. Students must also satisfactorily complete the first marking period with an 80 percent minimum at the midpoint and end of the first marking period. Students may be recommended by their teacher to reschedule into a regular class at that time if they do not meet the minimum score.