

March 16, 2011

Dear 7th Grade Parents/Guardians and Students:

Attached you will find your child's course selection sheet for 8th grade. Please notice that students are automatically scheduled for most classes and recommended for three subject areas, Integrated Algebra, Earth Science, and Art 9.

Placement in Integrated Algebra was determined when students entered 7th grade and were placed in Math 7-1. This course is a pre-requisite to Integrated Algebra. For Earth Science and Art 9, a readiness evaluation matrix is used to assess each student's ability within the content areas of Earth Science and Art 9. If the student meets the pre-determined criteria, he/she will be recommended for the accelerated course(s).

If the student does not meet the criteria, he/she will be programmed for Science 8 and/or Art 8. However, parents have the option to self-select their child into an accelerated course. If you choose to self-select for an accelerated course, please contact Mrs. Spaterella, your child's guidance counselor, to discuss your decision. You must contact her and complete a Self Selection Form if you wish to request an accelerated course. Staffing and scheduling for the entire school is based on students' course requests. We cannot accommodate requests for accelerated courses after April 29, 2011.

It should be understood that because of our middle school structure (I.E. teams), we do not have a lateral class for students to move into. If a child is not experiencing success and wishes to drop an accelerated course after the start of the school year, he/she will most likely have to change his/her entire schedule, including teachers.

Our goal remains success for all students in an environment that supports personal development and provides significant academic challenges. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Spaterella if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Dean Mittleman
Principal

DM/ck
Attachment