



High School Course Selection

**8th Grade Parent
Scheduling Information Night**

February 11, 2020

Welcome

Mr. David Rilatt – HS Principal

In Attendance Tonight

- High School Administrators
- Middle School Administrators
- High School Counselors
- Middle School Counselor
- Department Supervisors & Content Specialists

Build a Firm Foundation

Mr. David Rilatt – HS Principal

- Choose courses with the end in mind
- Select courses with appropriate rigor
- Take advantage of elective offerings
- Teacher recommendation protocols
 - ◆ English, Math, Social Studies & Science

Placement Protocol: 9th Grade Honors English

Criteria for consideration for Honors English 9:

- 1. A student's ELA 7 final grade must be at least a 90%.**
- 2. A student's first semester ELA 8 grade (average of the first and second quarters) must be at least a 90%.**
- 3. A student's ELA 8 Midterm grade must be equal or greater than a 90%.**

Placement Protocol: 9th Grade Social Studies

Honors Ancient History Requirements:

- Average grade of at least 90%:
 - 7th grade Social Studies
 - MP 1 & 2 of 8th grade Social Studies
- Score of at least 90% on 8th grade midterm exam
- Completion of outline/graphic organizer and reflection on a reading excerpt

CP Ancient History Requirements:

- Average of less than 90%:
 - 7th grade Social Studies
 - MP 1 & 2 of 8th grade Social Studies
- Score of less than 90% on 8th grade midterm exam

Placement Protocol:

Algebra 1

Placement into CP Algebra 1 (1 year course):

- 80% or greater average for the first semester AND
- 60% or greater probability of passing the Keystone Exam
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into CP Algebra 1A (year 1 of 2):

- 70-79% average for the first semester OR
- 20-59% probability of passing the Keystone Exam
- Students need a teacher recommendation and proficient or advanced on PSSA to take 1 year Algebra 1 course

Placement into Pre-Algebra

- Below 70% average for the first semester AND
- Below 20% probability of passing the Keystone Exam

Placement Protocol: Algebra 2

Placement into H Algebra 2:

- 85% or higher for semester 1 average AND
- Advanced on Alg 1 Keystone Exam

Placement into CP Algebra 2:

- Successful completion of Algebra 1 course with a 70% to 84% at Semester 1 break OR
- Proficient on Alg 1 Keystone Exam

Placement into CP Algebra 1:

- Below 70% average for the first semester OR
- Basic or Below Basic on Keystone Exam

Placement Protocol: Geometry

Placement into H Geometry:

- 80% or higher for semester 1 average in Algebra 2

Placement into H Algebra 2:

- 60-79% for semester 1 average in Algebra 2

Placement into CP Algebra 2:

- Below 60% for semester 1 average in Algebra 2

Placement Protocol: 9th Grade Science

Placement into H Physical Science:

- Successful Completion of Alg. 1
- 89% - 100% average in 7th & 8th Grade Science

Placement into CP Physical Science:

- Enrolled in Algebra 1
- 78% - 88% average in 7th & 8th Grade Science

Placement into CP Life Science:

- 0% - 77% average in 7th & 8th Grade Science

10th Grade Students take CP or Honors Biology. Placement in H and CP in 9th grade does NOT lock a student into that Level. Students may move between levels as long as prerequisites are met.

Placement in 9th Grade Science Using PSSA Data

- If 8TH grade PSSA Science and Math scores are Advanced or Proficient: Physical Science
- If 8TH grade PSSA Science and Math scores are Basic or Below Basic: Life Science
- Any changes to placement based on PSSA scores will be made by a HS Administrator.

Summer School

- Summer school information for 8th grade course credit recovery will be released by the MT Middle School in the spring.
- Summer School Courses offered live at the High School:
 - Physical Education
 - Advanced Physical Science
- Summer School takes place between the middle of June and the end of July

Summer School Opportunity for Science and Physical Education

- Advanced Physical Science:
 - 1 full credit in Physical Science taken Pass/No Pass.*
A passing grade allows students to take Biology in 9th grade to facilitate advancement in science coursework in HS
 - Recommendation is successful completion of Algebra 1 and Proficient/Advanced PSSA scores for Science & Math
- Physical Education:
 - ½ credit in Physical Education
- Interested individuals should speak with their school counselor

**not included in HS GPA, does not count towards NCAA requirements*

HS Course Selection Process

- **January 16-February 11** – MS Teachers have entered recommendations for World Languages & Core Courses (English, Math, Science, Social Studies)
- **February 10-11** – Counselors met with all 8th grader students to talk about course selection
- **February 12-March 1** - Online course selection window is open until 11:59 pm on 3/1/20. MS Counselors will meet with all 8th graders to help them complete their selections.
- **March 11-30** - Parents may complete and submit course override forms to request a change in the teacher recommended level for their child
- **March 31-May 1** - Master Schedule is created
- **May 20** - Student course list is distributed to students
- **May 26-July 26** - Drop & Add period begins. Student requests entered electronically. Counselors address these throughout the summer. This is the only drop/add period available.

HS Course MS Selection By Team

- 2/11 Thunder, Period 2
- 2/11 Streaks, Period 2
- 2/11 Chargers, Period 3
- 2/12 Lightning, Period 3
- 2/13 Makeup Date

Framework of Schedule

- **Seven-period day**
- Students must carry a **minimum of 6 credits** = 6 or more classes
- Most courses meet 5 days per week for a semester/half year (.5 credit) or a full semester/all year (1.0 credit)
- We also have virtual classes that do not occupy a specific period in the day

A Typical Schedule

Period	Semester 1	Semester 2
1	English	
2	Social Studies	
3	Science	
4	Mathematics	
5*	Physical Education	Elective
6*	World Language , year-long elective, or two semester electives	
7*	Study Hall or elective	Study Hall or elective

* **Support courses:** Academic Support, Strategic Literacy, Pre-Algebra, Core Values, ... will be placed into a slot reserved for an elective.

Counselor's Advice

- Maintain a balanced schedule
- Identify alternate selections
- Participate in extracurricular activities
- Choose challenging programs that build needed skills for the future
 - Testing Purposes (PSAT, SAT, ACT, Keystones)
 - Higher Education
 - CTC
 - Employment Opportunities
- Consider all 4 years of High School

Graduation Requirements

Graduation Requirements are given 1st priority in scheduling.

All students must accumulate a **minimum of 22 credits** in required and elective courses to graduate.

Graduation Requirements

- English: 4 Credits
- Social Studies: 4 Credits
- STEM: 7 Credits
 - Science (Biology + 2 minimum)
 - Technology Education (Any number)
 - Math (Alg 1 + 2 minimum)
- Health: ½ Credit
- Physical Education: 1 ½ Credits (3 classes)
- Financial Literacy: ½ Credit
- Arts & Humanities: 1 credit
- Other Courses: 3 ½ Credits
- Career Readiness Portfolio

Note: Graduation Requirements are given 1st priority in scheduling

Appropriate Rigor

Core courses are offered at three levels of rigor:

Level 1 – Students are identified using PSSA scores and/or are in need of additional support in reading and have had difficulty in the past with in the content area. Students are placed in this level by teacher recommendation, their school counselor, or an administrator.

College Prep* – Courses are designed to prepare students for success at the post-secondary level. Students are identified using PSSA/Keystone scores and previous achievement in subject area.

Honors, AP, IB* – Courses are more challenging and designed to provide greater depth & breadth of material. AP & IB courses are taught at the college level and can provide college credit through rigorous end of course examinations.

****Potential College Athletes must select College Prep, Honors, AP or IB level courses displaying the NCAA symbol***



Grading System

- MTHS uses *numeric grades* from 0 to 100 which reflect the percentage of points earned in class
- **Grade Point Average (GPA)** = The student's grades over the marking period, school year, and career are averaged together
- **Weighting** – To recognize the rigor associated with Honors, AP & IB level courses, the numeric grade is multiplied by 1.05 or 1.1 before it is factored into the GPA*

*Ex. A student earning 90% in an Honors level course would have 94.5 factored into their GPA ($90 \times 1.05 = 94.5$)

Course Selection Information & Course Selection

- Nearly “Paperless”
- Educational Planning Guide and other Course Selection Information available at www.mtwp.net under High School/Quick Links and High School/Counseling Office.
- Students will register their selections online. Directions are available on the website.
- Students must enter their selections February 12 - March 1. (Window closes at 11:59 pm)
- The “Request to Reconsider Teacher Recommendation” form may be submitted March 11 -30 and is available in the Middle School office or online.



International Baccalaureate

Dr. Larry Penner - I.B. Coordinator

The **International Baccalaureate Program** offers **MT students** the opportunity to earn an internationally recognized diploma by completing a specially designed curriculum during their junior and senior years.



IB Curriculum

- Multicultural
 - Interdisciplinary
 - Accelerated
 - Student-centered
-
- Advantaged college admissions
 - Substantial college credit
 - Stronger preparation for competitive post-secondary schools

IB Scheduling Consequences

Considerations for interested Freshmen:

- Select upper-level courses where possible
- Take Level 2 of world language (Preferred)
- Maintain high marks
- Students should schedule graduation requirements early when possible

www.ibo.org

www.mtwp.net/ib

Department of World Languages:

**Dr. Katelyn Barlet- World Languages
Supervisor**

**Dr. Doug Mast-World Languages Content
Specialist**

Language Opportunities at MTHS

Grades 9-12:

- Chinese 1,2,3,4
- Spanish, French, German:
 - 1,2,3
 - IB I and IB II
 - 4 and AP
- Spanish Culture and Civilization

World

Languages-Important:

1. Students should have a 75% final average to continue to next level
2. If a student has an 80% or higher, the student will automatically be placed in the next level of the language
3. HS WL Courses receive high school credit for college requirement
4. Travel opportunities
5. IB language requirements

Department & Program Information

A representative from each department and program discussed in tonight's presentation will be available in the Main Lobby Area to answer your questions.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING TONIGHT!

**OUR GOAL: SUPPORT & NURTURE YOUR CHILD FOR
SUCCESS IN THEIR CHOSEN FUTURE**