

EMS Grade 7: 8th Grade Math and Science choices for the 2018/2019 school year

Dr. Sapienza, Principal

Mrs. Kelly-Gorman Director of Math Science and Tech

Mrs. Hull, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction



Welcome to the course selection process

Tonight you will be given information to help you begin the Science and Math course selection process for the 2018-2019 school year.

Open Enrollment In Elwood

Open enrollment is an option the school district provides to encourage all students to challenge themselves.

On the next several slides, we will give you some points to consider when making the decision to accelerate in math and/or science with your child.

Math Course Descriptions

Grade 8 Math Overview: Eighth grade mathematics focuses on formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations. Students begin to grasp the concept of a function and use functions to describe quantitative relationships. The eighth grade curriculum also requires students to analyze and transform two- and three-dimensional figures using distance, angle, similarity and congruence. Students enrolled in Grade 8 Math will take the New York State Mathematics Assessment in the Spring and a final exam at the end of the school year.

Common Core Algebra I Overview: This is a **one-year** acceleration that allows students to take their first year of high school mathematics in eighth grade. Students who enroll in this course will take the Algebra I Regents in June 2019. The grade the student earns on the Regents exam will appear on his/her high school transcript. It is the first course in the three-year Regents sequence. Students continuing in this program would enter the accelerated math program at the high school. The workload and expectations of this course are suited for strong and highly motivated math students.

The purpose of this course is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The course is designed to deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships. Students also engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions, factoring and completing the square.

Grade	Extended Regents Program		Regents Program	Honors Program	Accelerated Program
8					CC Algebra I Honors
9	CC Algebra I (alternate day lab class) June Regents		CC Algebra I June Regents	CC Algebra I Honors June Regents	CC Geometry Honors June Regents
10	CC Geometry (alternate day lab class) June Regents		CC Geometry June Regents	CC Geometry Honors June Regents	CC Algebra II Honors June Regents
11	CC Algebra II with lab	Financial Algebra	CC Algebra II June Regents	CC Algebra II Honors June Regents	Pre-Calculus Honors and/or AP Statistics
12	Financial Algebra or College Algebra	CC Algebra II with lab or College Algebra	Pre-Calculus, College Algebra, Financial Algebra, and/or AP Statistics	Pre-Calculus Pre-Calculus Honors and/or AP Statistics	Calculus AP Calculus and/or AP Statistics

Science Course Descriptions

Grade 8 Science Overview: Eighth grade science focuses on physical science topics, with the exception of a unit on ecology. Topics of study in Grade 8 Science include: the rock cycle, density, phase changes and mineral properties. Students enrolled in this course will take the New York State science assessment at the end of the year. This course provides a strong foundation for students preparing to take Earth Science the following year.

Earth Science Overview: This is a **one-year** acceleration that allows students to take their first high school science course in eighth grade. Students who successfully enroll in this course will take the Earth Science Regents in June of eighth grade. The grade the student earns on the Regents exam will appear on his/her high school transcript. Students enrolled in Earth Science will have a double period of science every other day to allow time to complete the required science labs. Students continuing in this program would enter the accelerated science program at the high school. The workload and expectations of this course are suited for strong and highly motivated science students.

Grade	Extended Regents Program	Regents Program	Honors Program	Accelerated Program
8	*JGHS also offers an Independent Science Research Class			Earth Science Honors
9	Earth Science (alternate day lab class)	Earth Science	Earth Science Honors	Living Environment Honors
10	Living Environment (alternate day lab class)	Living Environment	Living Environment Honors	Chemistry Honors
11	Chemistry and/or General Chemistry Physical Science	Chemistry and/or AP Biology, AP Environmental	Chemistry Honors and/or AP Biology, AP Environmental	Physics and/or AP Biology, AP Chemistry AP Physics AP Environmental
12	Physics and/or General Chemistry Physical Science	Physics and/or AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Environmental	Physics and/or AP Biology, AP Chemistry AP Physics AP Environmental	AP Biology and/or AP Chemistry AP Physics AP Environmental

Considerations

- Performance on NYS Assessments, when applicable
- Report card grades, test averages and comments
- Teacher Recommendations
- Social and Emotional Development
- Your child's interest in the areas of math and science

Parent/Student Self Assessment

- Do I have a passion for the subject area I am considering?
- Am I willing to put in the extra time that might be necessary to be successful?
- Am I self motivated to complete my coursework?
- Do I have a sense of time management and the ability to prioritize?
- Does my extracurricular activities allow me the time to be successful in advanced coursework?
- Do I enjoy being challenged?
- Would I describe myself as resilient?
- Am I organized?

What happens next?

- An email will be sent letting you know when you can view the teacher recommendation on the Parent Portal
- Speak to your child about the recommendations and their feelings about it.
- Review the Self-Assessment
- If you agree with the recommendation, there is nothing more you need to do.
- If you have questions about the teacher recommendation, please reach out to your child's teacher.
- After speaking to your child's teacher, if you still want to consider a change, call your child's Guidance Counselor.

Choose Appropriately!

- Select challenging courses in subject areas which you feel confident that you will do well.
- Ask yourself: Do I have a passion for the subject matter? Do I meet the recommended criteria for success? Has my teacher recommended me for the course?
- Remember you want to find a good balance....know your limits, don't overextend yourself. Remember to take into consideration the social and emotional challenges of adolescence.