RISING 8TH GRADE COURSE SELECTION PRESENTATION

MERCER MIDDLE SCHOOL
Mercer Counselor
Contact Information

Sonja Ulvedal (7th Grade, Last names A-O)
(Long Term Sub for Kimberly Kenny)
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Daniel.H.Kim@lcps.org

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Agenda

- Academies of Loudoun, TJHSST
- Diploma Types
- Required Courses
- Elective Courses
- Course Selection Timeline
- Selecting Elective Courses in StudentVUE/ParentVUE
- Making Changes to Course Requests
ACADEMIES OF LOUDOUN

The mission of the Academies of Loudoun is to empower students to explore, research, collaborate, innovate, and to make meaningful contributions to the world in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

- Academy of Engineering & Technology (AET)
- Academy of Science (AOS)
- Monroe Advanced Technical Academy (MATA)

Website: www.lcps.org/aol

NOTE: AET, AOS, and MATA programs all have different admissions criteria
ACADEMIES OF LOUDOUN

Opening Fall 2018
42075 Loudoun Academy Drive
Leesburg, VA 20175
ACADEMIES OF LOUDOUN
ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACADEMY OF SCIENCE</th>
<th>ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Successful completion of Algebra I by end of 8th grade (students who plan to</td>
<td>• Successful completion of Geometry by end of 8th grade (students who plan to take Geometry in summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>take Algebra I in summer school after 8th grade cannot be considered)</td>
<td>school after 8th grade or Virtual Loudoun Term 2 cannot be considered)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Student in good standing, passed all courses</td>
<td>• Student in good standing, passed all courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• PSAT Scores from October testing</td>
<td>• Algebra I SOL scores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• California Critical Thinking Disposition Inventory scores (CCTDI)</td>
<td>• California Critical Thinking Disposition Inventory scores (CCTDI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Letters of Recommendation from eighth grade math and science teachers*</td>
<td>• California Critical Thinking Skills Test (CCTST-N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• California Critical Thinking Skills Test (CCTST-N)*</td>
<td>• Writing Prompt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Writing Prompt*</td>
<td>• Interest Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Interest Statement*</td>
<td>• AET pathway choice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Finalists only
THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Provides an innovative, specialized learning environment for highly motivated students who have a genuine interest in the biological, physical, mathematical, technological, and computer sciences.

Students are selected for TJHSST through a competitive admissions process. They are looking for highly motivated students with diverse backgrounds, talents, and skills, who demonstrate:

• High ability, aptitude, and interest in Math, Science, and Technology.
• Intellectual curiosity and self-motivation to pursue scientific research.
• A desire to be challenged with an extensive curriculum focused in math, science, and technology.
• The highest academic and personal integrity.
• An aspiration to become a member of a community of learners, explorers, mentors, and leaders.

Students may apply in 8th grade and must be enrolled in Algebra I or a higher level Math course to apply.
High School Diploma Types
## Advanced Studies Diploma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Areas</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>SOL Verified Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(World Studies (2), US/VA Government, and US/VA History)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or above level of Algebra II)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(From 3 of the 4 disciplines: Biological, Chemical, Physical, Earth)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
<td>3 or 4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3 years of one language or 2 years each of two different languages)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health/Physical Education</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts or Career &amp; Technical Education</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics &amp; Personal Finance</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Selected Verified Credit</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (depends on foreign language option)</td>
<td>26 or 27</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Standard Diploma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Areas</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>SOL Verified Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Studies</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(World Studies, US/VA Government, and US/VA History)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(Algebra I, Geometry, Functions, Algebra II or above level of Algebra II)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(From 2 of the 4 disciplines: Biological, Chemical, Physical, Earth)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health/Family Life/Physical Education</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foreign Language, Fine Arts, or CTE</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Economics and Personal Finance</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Electives (Must include 2 sequential electives)</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Selected Verified Credit</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
All current 7th graders at Mercer, will move together to 8th grade at Willard Intermediate School next school year. The core classes (per teacher recommendation) AND Electives you select for will transfer over to Willard for 8th grade.
8TH GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

- Math 8 OR Algebra I (High School Credit) OR Geometry (High School Credit)
- English (Academic or Honors)
- Physical Science (Academic or Honors)
- Honors Civics
- Health/PE 8
- Two Electives
- Full Block of Resource or Spectrum
# 8th Grade Math Courses

## Sample Math Progressions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6th</th>
<th>7th</th>
<th>8th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 6</td>
<td>Math 7</td>
<td>Math 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 6</td>
<td>Math 7</td>
<td>Algebra 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accelerated Math 6/7</td>
<td>Math 8</td>
<td>Algebra 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accelerated Math 6/7</td>
<td>Algebra 1</td>
<td>Geometry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8TH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES

- **Music**
  - Band (prerequisite: Band 7)
  - Guitar (prerequisite: Guitar 7)
  - Strings (prerequisite: Strings 7)
  - Chorus

- **Art 8**

- **Communications Studies**

- **Family & Consumer Science**

- **Technology Education**

- **Technology of Robotic Design**

- **Foreign Language**
  - French I/II
  - German I/II
  - Latin I/II
  - Spanish I/II

- **Reading Strategies Workshop** (Teachers identify appropriate students)
FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES

Spanish I/II, German I/II, Latin I/II, French I/II, *Spanish for Fluent Speakers*

3 years of one language or 4 years of two different languages are the minimum required for an Advanced Studies Diploma

(example: Spanish 1, 2, 3 OR Spanish 1, 2 and French 1, 2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample World Language Progression</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start in 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start in 8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start in 9th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AP
New Elective:
TECHNOLOGY OF ROBOTIC DESIGN

- Students engage in the study of computers and microprocessors and their applications to manufacturing, transportation, and communication systems.
- Topics include computer equipment and operating systems, robotics, programming, control systems, and social/cultural impact of these technologies.
- Problem-solving activities challenge students to design, program, and interface devices with computer systems.
- Learning activities include robotics, computer-aided design, computer-aided manufacturing and design, and control of electromechanical devices.
- High School credit-bearing course.
Communication Studies

• This course introduces students to the basic principles of human communication, including interpersonal and small group, intercultural, and mediated (mass or electronic) communication and public speaking
• Focus is multi-media
• Publication (yearbook, literary magazine, newspaper)
• Public speaking (broadcasting, morning announcements, Public Service Announcements and movies)
THE COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

- **Mid-December through January 10th**: Core subject recommendations are made by your child’s teachers and are automatically loaded into your child’s course requests for next year.

- **Week of February 5th**: Counselors assist students with elective course selections during Social Studies classes.
THE COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

To change an ELECTIVE...
Until March 17th, Parents/Students can make changes directly in ParentVue/StudentVue under the course request tab through March 17th. After that date, contact a counselor to change an elective through June 1st, 2018.
Please select an alternate elective in case the first two electives are full.

To change a CORE CLASS...
Step 1: First contact the teacher to gain an understanding of the reasons behind the recommendation.
Step 2: If you would still like to make a change after speaking with your child’s teacher, please contact your counselor (Ms. Ulvedal or Mr. Kim directly. Only counselors can make changes to core courses.
Selecting Elective Courses in StudentVUE/ParentVUE
STEP 1: STARTING COURSE SELECTIONS

Students must log into their StudentVUE account to make course selections.

1. In a web browser go to https://portal.lcps.org.

2. Click on I am a student>>.

3. Enter your user name and password and click on Login.
4. Click on Course Request in the navigation menu. The Course Request screen appears with any pre-loaded courses and/or teacher recommendations (school dependent).

5. Click on Click here to change course requests. The Selected Course Requests screen appears. Students may add or remove core, elective or alternate courses with this screen (school dependent).
## Selected Course Requests

The 16-17 Course Request window will open on January 4, 2016 and close on April 29, 2016. Your school counselor and teacher will work with you and your child to select the appropriate courses for the following school year. Key dates will be communicated by each school.

**Selection Time Period:** 12/1/2015 - 4/29/2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course ID</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>College Prep</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>English 10H</td>
<td>152000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Health and PE</td>
<td>Health &amp; PE 10</td>
<td>466000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Math Analysis I</td>
<td>498000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Concert Band 2</td>
<td>274000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Biology A</td>
<td>165000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Social Science and Global Studies</td>
<td>AP World History</td>
<td>751000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>Currently enrolled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Alternate Elective Requests (in preference order)**

No alternate course requests have been selected or assigned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course ID</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>College Prep</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Password:**

- Lock Course Requests
SELECTING COURSES

Core Courses (locked):

- Math
- Science
- History
- English

Students/families select two electives- (All are full-year classes)- and one alternate elective in case the other electives are full

- Art 8, Chorus 8, Guitar 8, Band 8, Strings 8
- World Language (Spanish, French, German, Latin I/II)
- Family Consumer Science, Communication Studies, Technology Education, Technology of Robotics and Designs
- Reading Strategies Workshop (*Teachers identify appropriate students)
STEP 2: ADDING A COURSE

1. Select a subject area from the Department dropdown menu and click on the Search Courses button.

   Department: Career and Technology Education

   Click here to move selected requests to Selected Course Requests

2. Messages may appear in the Comment column.
   - Student is currently enrolled.
   - Student has not met pre-requisites/co-requisites.
   - Student has taken the course (grade displays).
3. Click on the **Request** radio button next to the course to be selected, then click on **Click here to move selected requests to Selected Course Requests**. The request is added to the list at the top.
Procedures on Making Changes to Course Requests

**DEADLINE: June 1st, 2018**

To change an ELECTIVE…

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To change a CORE CLASS…

**Step 1: Contact the teacher** to gain an understanding of the reasons behind the recommendation.

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Questions?