**Middle School Students Taking High School Courses**

**Family Resource**

Please review this information carefully before starting a high school course with your middle school student.

**Per our Parent-Student Handbook:**

Our school will grant high school elective credit for high school **math, world language, and CTE** pathway courses taken by 7th and 8th grade students. As a parent-choice school, we allow 7th and 8th graders to take high school courses, but it is important to consider how taking courses in middle school will affect high school and college before choosing this option for your student. Please contact your Homeschool Teacher to discuss starting high school courses early prior to enrolling in high school level courses.

**It’s important to know…**

* Middle school students can earn **elective** credit for taking high school math, world language, and CTE courses.
* Students who take high school courses while in middle school will have the courses placed on their transcript **at the start of 9th grade**.
* Students who take high school courses while in middle school must **complete the full high school course**. This means they will need to either take a course that is a-g as is, or complete a course outline (for CTE, they will need to take a CTE course with a credentialed CTE teacher). Your HST will monitor the high school course(s) with the same practices as any other high school course.
* High school courses completed in middle school **will not be included in the high school GPA**.
* Students who take high school courses while in middle school must “opt in” to a report card so the grades can be reported.
* Please keep in mind that not all high schools or districts will accept high school credits earned during middle school. Should the student transfer, it is up to the receiving school or district to grant credit.
* If your student is interested in playing sports in college they may want to take NCAA approved courses so that the courses can count towards NCAA requirements. Let your HST know if your student is interested in playing sports in college.
* Students **have to meet the state minimum graduation requirements while in grades 9-12**. This means that even if they take high school courses in middle school, while in grades 9-12 they have to take:
	+ Three years of English
	+ Two years of Math
	+ Two years of Science (one life and one physical)
	+ Three years of Social Science (world history, US history, government, and economics)
	+ One year of Visual Performing Arts or World Language

\* For example, if a student takes Algebra 1 and Geometry in middle school, they will need to take Algebra 2 and Precalculus in high school to meet the math graduation requirement

**Is your student ready?**

* For World Language and CTE, students do not need to demonstrate subject matter readiness, but should be ready for a high school level course in general.
* For Algebra 1, your HST will verify that Math 8/Pre-Algebra has been completed, and your student is ready for Algebra 1.

**When your middle school student takes a high school course:**

* We will create an Individualized Graduation Plan (IGP) so you can see how this will impact high school.
* We will add the high school course to your student’s MA (and remove Math 6, 7, or 8 if applicable).
* We will collect one work sample per LP for any high school courses your middle school students take.
* We will complete a report card each semester.
* If your student starts to struggle in the high school course, and doesn’t want it reflected on their transcript, please contact your HST right away so we can adjust your student’s schedule.

**If you have any questions about this policy, please let your HST know before signing up for the high school course(s).**