

CSMS Presents: Earning High School Credit in Middle School

Thursday, February 8, 2024

NYS requires...

- Opportunities to take high school classes in at least 2 areas, and one of them has to be math.

CSMS offers...

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|--|------------------------|
| ● Math -Algebra 1 CC | 1 HS Credit |
| ● Science -Living Environment (Biology)/ lab | 1 HS Credit |
| ● Art (Studio in Art) | 1 HS Credit |
| ● Technology (Materials Processing) | 1/2 HS Elective Credit |
| ● LOTE (Languages Other Than English) | 1 HS Credit |

Credit-bearing vs. Honors

- Our goal is to provide opportunities to allow students access to pursue additional learning in areas of high interest when they reach high school
- Classes are not weighted in overall class average (unlike Honors courses at PVM)
- Class averages and Regents grade **do** go on final High School Transcript

8th Grade Technology Electives

- **Technology 8** - Students will get a well rounded exposure to many different types of technology with a wide range of projects. Includes basic machining, engineering, computers & problem-solving activities.
- **Materials Processing** - Creating projects using different materials - plastic, metal, wood. It is geared towards self-motivated students who might go on to complete a pathway to graduation in Technology, and be interested in a career in industry or manufacturing. (Counts as ½ HS elective credit)
- **Robotics** - Completely centered around robotics; Building & programming; lego robotics; VEX robots. Geared for students that are self-driven with a engineering or “tinker” mindset.
- **Computer Modeling and Design** - (Largely Computer Based) for students with an art or engineering “vibe”; Students will be creating projects using 3D CAD and working with 3D printers, Scanners CNC and Laser engraving..

What kind of student is successful in...

Studio in Art :

- A student who has been successful in 6th and 7th grade art.
- A student who has a love for art and enjoys working in and out of the classroom.
- A student who is self motivated.
- A student with good attendance and a strong work ethic.
- Enrollment is limited due to staffing and based on recommendation from the Art Dept.

Studio in Art Course Description

Studio in Art (replaces Art 8)

- Studio Art is an introductory course centered on the elements of art and principles of design.
- Students will experience a variety of materials and techniques.
- This course is recommended prior to taking other art offerings at the high school level.
- This class meets daily for the whole year.
- Students earn a high school credit upon completion.
- A sketchbook is required.
- Students can also take this in High School, there is limited class size and placement available for 8th grade.

Questions about Technology and Art

In Algebra and Living Environment, a successful student is...

- A student who genuinely enjoys mathematics and/or science, wants to be in an advanced program, and is looking forward to being challenged
- A student who is conscientious and has excellent work ethic (1200 minute Lab requirement in Bio).
- A student is highly self-motivated and displays mature behavior.
- A student who is an active participant in their learning and discussions; will seek help
- A student who is well organized and has a strong ability to focus on the task at hand.
- A student who has mastered solving multi-step equations with mathematical reasoning.
- A student who is a problem solver.

Our Recommended Criteria:

- 7th grade math/science test average of >90
- STAR Math Percentile Rank > 70
- Star Reading Percentile Rank >70
- Critical thinker, participates in class discussions, completes work regularly, demonstrates understanding of content
- A student who attends school regularly

What's different for students in Algebra and Living Environment?

- The students have probably never been challenged like this before. This class will require most to develop better work and study habits. Students will begin to discover how to study for math and science.
- These courses are more rigorous than 8th grade classes. They require more inquisitiveness, grit, and perseverance. The student's grades might drop from the usual 95-100% range.
- The student will need to be self-motivated and learn how to ask questions and how to ask for help. This will be new for many and it will take time for them to understand this new way of learning.

Algebra and Living Environment

The goal of the course is to provide meaningful learning experiences that will encourage you to:

- Think about your thinking
- Strive for accuracy
- Apply your past knowledge to new situations
- Think and communicate with clarity and precision
- Think interdependently
- Persevere and stay with a task until it's finished

Algebra and Living Environment Courses

- It is worth high school credit and remains on your transcript that colleges see.
- We will move very quickly from topic to topic which requires you to be in school to stay caught up.
- Homework will be assigned after every lesson and is due the next class.
- Failure to do homework will adversely affect your grade and will make it difficult for you to keep up with the class.

For Algebra- TI-84 Graphing Calculator – You will need a graphing calculator for the course and Regents Exam. You may sign one out for the year at no cost.

Grading Policies

Algebra:

Homework / Class work / Participation: 25%

Quizzes & Tests: 75%

Biology:

Class work 20%

Quizzes 20%

Homework 10%

Tests 50%

We expect you to maintain an 85% class average.

Next Steps...Scheduling Notes

- Students taking **Living Environment-Biology** can ***NOT*** take **BOTH Band and Chorus**

- Students taking **Studio In Art** can ***NOT*** take ***BOTH* Band and Chorus**

(due to lab time requirement and scheduling, or other course requirements and scheduling)

Questions...

If you have any questions after the presentation, please contact Mrs. Winchek at 315-668-4218. Pwinchek@cssdapps.org