

Dear 8th Grade Parents, Guardians, and Students:

8th grade students are about to embark on the next big step of their educational career. "Course Selection" will take place over the next several weeks in which students will select their courses for 9th grade. Selecting the right courses will help start a solid foundation while building transcripts and resumes for their futures. The New York State graduation requirements are that all 9th grade students take English, Social Studies, Math, Science, and Physical Education. Other courses students are likely to take include Foreign Language, Art, Music, and an Elective.

There is a course selection planning worksheet included for you to look over and discuss before students meet with me. Course descriptions, graduation requirements, and high school 4 year plans are located in the "Program of Studies" booklet on our website. Extra copies of information and handouts are on my website. Information is also included if students want to apply to take Accelerated English or Accelerated Social Studies as a 9th grader. For accelerated courses, signatures by recommending teachers are required on the course selection planning worksheet. Individual selection does vary based on current courses, academic achievement, and recommendations for future courses by teachers, counselors, and administration.

I will be giving a presentation to all 8th graders on Friday, March 15th during their Social Studies class. Each student will then meet with me about their specific course selection on Friday, March 29th during Social Studies class. All parents, guardians, and students will also have an opportunity to learn more about the course selection process and ask any questions at:

Course Selection Night for Parents, Guardians, and Students:

Tuesday, March 19th

6:30pm

Middle Level LGI

Please discuss this important process with your child and contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Adam M. Laycock
Grades 6-8 School Counselor
East Rochester UFSD
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8th Grade Course Selection

Planning Worksheet



Name: _____

English - English 9 9-Enriched
Marou Signature: _____

Soc St - Global Global 9 Enriched
Nuhfer Signature: _____

Science - Earth Science Living Environment

Math - Algebra Geometry

Foreign Language -

Spanish I

Spanish II Hernandez Signature: _____

Italian II Barnes Signature: _____

This sheet due:
Friday, March
29th

OVER

Art or Music → 1 credit

- Art Appreciation (.5) and Music Appreciation (.5)
- Design & Drawing for Production
- Studio in Art (for students with high interest in Art)
- Ensembles: Wind Percussion Jazz
- Chorus

PE/Lab/PE/Skills

Study Hall or Elective _____

- Career and Financial Management
- Studio Art
- Design & Drawing for Production

Lunch

Signatures

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

This Sheet Due: Friday, March 29th

East Rochester Grades 6-8 Accelerated Process: 2019-2020

This yearly process will apply to all accelerated courses. If a student is currently enrolled in accelerated courses, they are not guaranteed recommendation to advance. New students can now apply for eligibility for next school year.

The recommendation criteria generated by the collective professional judgment of the staff outlined below will include, but not be limited to:

- Averages in current course – 85%
- Final exam score in current course
- Teacher information form
- State assessment and other benchmark scores
- Strong work ethic, citizenship, and leadership skills within the classroom
- 95% attendance rate
- Evaluative measure



1. Prospective students will take an evaluative measure that assesses current abilities, writing skills, reading comprehension, and critical functioning. A teacher will then grade the assessment, which will be used as one of the measures to determine appropriate placement.
2. Once all outlined criteria above is analyzed, final recommendations will occur and parents will be notified of the decision either way.
3. If a student is not recommended, but the parent wishes to appeal the decision, the student and parent/guardian will submit a written statement to the counselor, to be reviewed by staff, including:
 - Which accelerated course(s) they would like to take
 - Reasoning and why they should be considered
 - Date and signature
 - Statements are due by July 31st
 - The parent, student, principal, and counselor will meet to discuss the written statement, criteria, grades, assessments, and process to determine the most appropriate placement. A decision will then be made and appropriate documentation will need to be completed and signed.
 - Meetings will occur from June through August
4. Enrollment in accelerated courses will be reviewed on a quarterly basis. Students must maintain an 80% overall average and 95% attendance. Not being able to maintain may result in removal from the program. **OVER**

East Rochester Grades 6-8 Accelerated Criteria: 2019-2020

Subject	<u>6 → 7</u>	<u>7 → 8</u>	<u>8 → 9</u>
English	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 85% overall average in Eng 8 - Teacher information form - NYS ELA assessments and benchmark data - Strong work ethic - 95% attendance
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 85% overall average in Math 6 - Teacher information form - NYS Math assessments and benchmark data - Strong work ethic - 95% attendance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 80% overall average in current accelerated Math course or 85% in current Math 7 course - Teacher information form - NYS Math assessments and benchmark data - Strong work ethic - 95% attendance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Successful completion of Algebra I (CC) Class and Regents Exam - 85% on Regents highly encouraged - Teacher information form - Strong work ethic - 95% attendance *Unsuccessful completion of Algebra I (CC) and/or Regents → summer school for Algebra I
Social Studies	n/a	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 85% overall average in SS 8 - Teacher information form - Strong work ethic - 95% attendance *Global 9 Enriched is a two year program leading to a 10th grade Advanced Placement course*
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 85% overall average in Sci 6 - Teacher information form - Strong work ethic - Benchmark data - 95% attendance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 80% overall average in current accelerated Science course or 85% in current Science 7 course - Teacher information form - Benchmark data - Strong work ethic - 95% attendance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Successful completion of Earth Science Class and Regents Exam - 85% on Regents highly encouraged - Teacher information form - Strong work ethic - 95% attendance *Unsuccessful completion of Earth Science and/or Regents → summer school for Earth Science*

****All accelerated course availabilities are dependent upon student need, budget, and staffing constraints****