



Franklin Township Public Schools

Office of Curriculum & Instruction

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08873

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Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

Our district's administrative leadership has been engaged in a deeply reflective process this school year as we examine our students' access to the outstanding courses we offer in the Franklin Township Public Schools. As a result of this work, our district supervisors and directors have come to a shared understanding that it is best practice to review district placement criteria on an ongoing basis to determine whether these criteria help us effectively place students into our Gifted & Talented, Honors, Advanced Placement, and Concurrent Enrollment Program (CEP) courses.

At this time we would like you to know that we have carefully examined the placement criteria in our various academic content areas and have made revisions to many of them. Attached to this letter, please see our current placement criteria.

Research indicates that when a student has the desire to be challenged in an upper level course and embraces the extra time and effort it takes to succeed in such a course, more often than not the student succeeds. It is for this reason that we encourage students and their families to take advantage of our **waiver process, as follows:** If a student wishes to be placed in one of the district's upper-level courses but has not quite met the placement criteria, he or she should ask his/her parent or guardian to reach out to one of the district supervisors listed on the attached document to express this desire. The supervisor/director will consider the request and may reach out for further communication with the student, his/her family, the student's counselor, the student's teacher, the principal, and any other appropriate stakeholders to consider the best placement for the student. Please keep in mind that for schools to complete their scheduling for the following year all waiver requests should be made no later than **July 19th** this summer.

By all means, if you wish to discuss your child's recent performance and current placement, please contact the appropriate supervisor. If additional information is needed, please also feel free to contact the Office of Curriculum and Instruction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel C. Loughran".

Daniel Loughran



Franklin Township Public Schools
*Criteria for Placement in
Advanced Placement, Honors, and concurrent
Enrollment Program Courses*

This document is intended to serve as an easy reference tool for students and their parents. Academic Supervisors and Directors will place students in the courses below based on these criteria, but it is also important for students to know that if they are motivated to enroll in a course for which they have not met these automatic placement criteria, students are strongly encouraged to reach out to their teacher and/or the appropriate content area supervisor listed below to have a discussion about whether they ought to be reconsidered for placement in any of these Advanced Placement, Honors, or Concurrent Enrollment Program courses.

Honors, AP, G&T Content Area Supervisors/Directors:

English, Grades 6-12: Dr. Carolyn Armstrong (carmstrong@franklinboe.org)

Fine, Visual, Performing and Practical Arts, K-12: Ms. Roberta Mitchell (rmitchell@franklinboe.org)

Gifted and Talented, Grades K-5: Mr. David Heras (dheras@franklinboe.org)

Math, Grades 6-12: Ms. Nubeja Allen (n-allen@franklinboe.org)

Science, K-12: Mr. Eric Siegal (esiegal@franklinboe.org)

Social Studies and World Languages, K-12: Mr. Justin Miller (jsmiller@franklinboe.org)

Instructional Technology K-12: Mr. Edward Ward (eward@franklinboe.org)

ENGLISH COURSES

Placement into English Honors, Grades 6-8

Students are placed in Honors English in one of two ways:

- Students currently in English Honors with a grade of ≥ 85 in the first semester

For students who are not currently placed in Honors, placement is determined via multiple measures:

- Most recent PARCC ELA Literacy Score; when a PARCC score is not available, a Mid-Year Cold Read Assessment will be used in lieu of a PARCC score
- Highest grade on a writing assessment in first semester
- First semester report card grade
- Teacher recommendation

Placement into English Honors, Grades 9-12

Students are placed in Honors English in one of two ways:

- Students currently in English Honors with a grade of ≥ 85 in the first semester

For students who are not currently placed in Honors, placement is determined via multiple measures:

- Most recent PARCC ELA Literacy Score; when a PARCC score is not available, a Mid-Year Cold Read Assessment will be used in lieu of a PARCC score
- Highest grade on a writing assessment in first semester
- First semester report card grade
- Teacher recommendation

Placement into AP English Language and Composition (11th grade) and/or AP English Literature and Composition (12th grade)

Students are placed in AP English courses in one of two ways:

- Students currently in Honors or AP English with a grade of ≥ 85 in the first semester

For students who are not currently placed in Honors or AP English, placement is determined via multiple measures:

- Most recent PARCC ELA Literacy Score; when a PARCC score is not available, a Mid-Year Cold Read Assessment will be used in lieu of a PARCC score
- Highest grade on a writing assessment in first semester
- First semester report card grade
- Teacher recommendation

Placement into the Concurrent Enrollment Program (CEP) English Course, CEP 12. Students can earn up to six credits with Raritan Valley Community College with a "C" or higher in the course.

For placement into CEP 12:

- Students need to pass the RVCC placement test and pay the RVCC course fee.

FINE, VISUAL, AND PERFORMING ARTS COURSES

All grades	Criteria
Dance Troupe	<input type="checkbox"/> Audition
Theatre Arts Fall Play /Spring Musical	<input type="checkbox"/> Audition
Grades 6 - 8: Advanced Dance	<input type="checkbox"/> Audition <input type="checkbox"/> and/or Teacher Recommendation

Grades 9-12: Music Program	Criteria
Freshman Band Honors/Marching Band Honors	<input type="checkbox"/> 8th grade band: Grade \geq 60 <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Recommendation
Symphonic Band Honors	<input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite: Freshman Band: Grade \geq 60 <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Recommendation
Wind Ensemble Honors	<input type="checkbox"/> Symphonic Band Grade \geq 60 <input type="checkbox"/> Audition <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher recommendation
Orchestra Honors	<input type="checkbox"/> Freshman Orchestra Grade \geq 60 <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Recommendation/Audition
Concert Choir Honors	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in the Middle School Competition Choir
Guitar III Honors	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Audition <input type="checkbox"/> Guitar II \geq 60
Jazz and Classical Guitar Honors	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Audition <input type="checkbox"/> Guitar III \geq 60
Piano Honors and Advanced Piano I - IV	<input type="checkbox"/> Audition <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Recommendation
Advanced Placement Music Theory	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Music Courses <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Recommendation

Grades 11 -12: Aspects of Video Program

Acting for Film and Television Honors/WANT TV

- Drama III
- Aspects II Grade \geq 60
- Teacher recommendation

Grades 10 -12: Placement into Honors Advanced Dance/Non- CTE Program

- Prerequisite Intermediate Dance
- Audition
- Teacher Recommendation

Grades 11 -12: Placement into The Company Honors/CTE Program

- Three years of previous dance classes through the CTE course sequence of Technique I - III
- Audition
- Teacher Recommendation

Grades 10-12: Placement into Advanced Placement Music Theory

- Teacher Recommendation
- Advanced Music Courses

Grades 9 -12: Placement into Piano Honors and Advanced Piano I - IV

- Audition
- Teacher recommendation

Grades 10-12: Art Program	Criteria
<p align="center">Art II Honors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisites Art 1A and Art 1B <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings OR <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Grade \geq 60
<p align="center">Art III Honors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite: Art II Honors <input type="checkbox"/> Grade \geq 60
<p align="center">Art IV Honors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite: Art III Honors <input type="checkbox"/> Grade \geq 60
<p align="center">Breaker's Space Honors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Interview

<p align="center">Grades 10- 12: Placement into Advanced Sculpture Studio</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite: Sculpture II Grade \geq 60 and/or Teacher Recommendation

<p align="center">Grades 10- 12: Placement into AP Art History</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prerequisite: English 9 Grade 90 or better OR English 9 Honors \geq 85 or teacher recommendation

GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

<p align="center">Placement into Gifted and Talented Pull Out Programming</p>
<p>Students are identified and recruited for Gifted and Talented programming based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> iReady achievement scores above grade level expectations <input type="checkbox"/> iReady growth scores reflecting one year's expectations <input type="checkbox"/> Math assessment scores in the top 10% <input type="checkbox"/> Writing assessment scores above grade level expectations <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher recommendation

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY COURSES

Placement into Middle School Grade 8 Programming

- Completion of Computer Applications 7 with a 90% or higher OR
- Teacher Recommendation and Enrolled in Algebra 1 or higher in grade 8

Placement into AP Computer Science Principles

- Completion of Computer Science I with a 80% higher OR
- Teacher Recommendation and Completion of Algebra 1 with 75% higher

MATH COURSES

Placement into Advanced Math 6

Students are placed in Advanced Math 6 in one of two ways:

- Students currently in Advanced Math that have maintained an average of ≥ 80

For students who are not currently placed in Advanced Math, placement is determined via weighted points assigned to multiple measures:

- Marking Period Average (10%)
- Unit Assessment Average (35%)
- Fluency Assessment Average (15%)
- IOWA Algebra Aptitude Test (15%)
- NJSLA (5%)
- Post Assessment (15%)
- Work Habit (5%)

Placement into Advanced Math 7 or 7th grade Honors Algebra 1

Students are placed in Advanced Math 7 or Honors Algebra 1 in one of two ways:

- Students currently in Advanced Math 6 that have maintained an average of ≥ 80

For students who are not currently placed in Math, placement is determined via weighted points assigned to multiple measures:

- Marking Period Average (10%)
- Benchmark/Fluency Assessment Average (50%)
- Unit Assessment Average (20%)
- NJSLA (5%)
- iReady (5%)
- Work Habit (10%)

Placement into 8th Grade Algebra 1

Students are placed into 8th Grade Algebra 1 in one of two ways:

- Students currently in Advanced Math 7 that have maintained an average of ≥ 80

For students who are not currently placed in Advanced Math 7, placement is determined via weighted points assigned to multiple measures:

- Marking Period Average (10%)
- Benchmark/Fluency Assessment Average (50%)
- Unit Assessment Average (20%)
- NJSLA (5%)
- iReady 5%
- Work Habit (10%)

Placement into 8th Grade Honors Geometry

Students are placed into 8th Grade Geometry Honors according to the following criteria:

- Students currently in Honors 7th Grade Algebra 1 that have maintained an average of ≥ 80

Placement into Honors Geometry

Students are placed into 8th Grade Geometry Honors according to the following criteria:

- Students that have maintained a grade average of 90 in their current math course.
- Students have maintained an assessment average of ≥ 85 in their current math course.

Placement into Honors Algebra 2

Students are placed into Honors Algebra 2 according to the following criteria:

- Students that have maintained a grade average of ≥ 90 in their current math course.
- Students have maintained an assessment average of ≥ 85 in their current math course.

Placement into Honors Pre-Calculus

Students are placed into Honors Pre-Calculus according to the following criteria:

- Students that have maintained a grade average of ≥ 90 in their current math course.
- Students have maintained an assessment average of ≥ 85 in their current math course.

Placement into Honors Calculus

Students are placed into Honors Calculus according to the following criteria:

- Students that have maintained a grade average of ≥ 75 in Pre-Calculus.
- Students have maintained an assessment average of ≥ 80 in Pre-Calculus.

Placement into AP Calculus AB

Students are placed into AP Calculus AB according to the following criteria:

- Students that have maintained a grade average of ≥ 90 in Pre-Calculus.
- Students have maintained an assessment average of ≥ 85 in Pre-Calculus.

Placement into AP Calculus BC

Students are placed into AP Calculus BC according to the following criteria:

- Students that have maintained a grade average of ≥ 90 in Calculus AB
- Students have maintained an assessment average of ≥ 85 Calculus AB

Placement into AP Statistics

Students are placed into Statistics according to the following criteria:

- Students that have maintained a grade average of ≥ 80 in either Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra 2, or Honors Pre-Calculus.
- Students have maintained an assessment average of ≥ 80 in either Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra 2, or Honors Pre-Calculus.

SCIENCE COURSES

Placement into Honors Physics

Students must meet TWO of the following criteria:

- PARCC Math Score > 4
- Grade of > 85 in Grade 8 Science
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into Advanced Placement Physics 1

Students must meet TWO of the following criteria:

- Grade of > 90 in Grade 8 Science
- AP Physics I Placement Test Score of > 80 %
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into Honors Chemistry

Students must meet TWO of the following criteria:

- > 75% in Honors Physics or > 87% in Biology
- PARCC score of a 4 or 5 in Math
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into Honors Biology

Students must meet TWO of the following criteria:

- > 75% in Honors Chemistry or > 87% in Chemistry
- PARCC score of a 4 or 5 in Math
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into AP Biology, AP Environmental Science, and AP Chemistry

- Open Enrollment

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Placement into United States History I Honors

Students must meet TWO of the following criteria:

- PARCC ELA Literacy Score ≥ 4
- Grade of ≥ 90 in Social Studies 8
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into United States History II Honors

Students must meet TWO of the following criteria:

- PARCC ELA Literacy Score ≥ 4
- Grade of ≥ 87 in United States History I Standard or ≥ 85 in United States History I Honors
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into AP United States II

Students must meet TWO of the following criteria:

- PARCC ELA Literacy Score ≥ 4
- Grade of ≥ 87 in United States History I Standard or ≥ 85 in United States History I Honors
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into A Changing World Honors

Students must meet TWO of the following criteria:

- PARCC ELA Literacy Score ≥ 4
- Grade of ≥ 87 in United States History II Standard or ≥ 85 in United States History II Honors
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into AP World History

Students must meet TWO of the following criteria:

- PARCC ELA Literacy Score ≥ 4
- Grade of ≥ 87 in US History II Standard **or** ≥ 85 in US II Honors
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into AP Government and Politics, AP Micro/Macro Economics

- Open Enrollment

WORLD LANGUAGES

Placement into Spanish for Native Speakers - Middle School

Students must meet the following criteria:

- ≥ 8 on Written Test
- ≥ 9 on Oral Interview
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into Spanish for Heritage Speakers - Middle School

Students must meet the following criteria:

- ≥ 4 on Written Teacher Recommendation
- ≥ 4 on Oral Interview
- Teacher Recommendation

Placement into Spanish III Honors, Spanish V Honors, AP Spanish, French V Honors, AP French, and Latin IV Honors

- Completion of previous course with a 80% or higher or
- Teacher Recommendation
- Proficient score on a multiple-measures including interpretive, interpersonal communications, and presentational assessments.

Placement into Spanish II Honors, Spanish IV Honors, French IV Honors, Latin III Honors

- Completion of previous course with a 90% or higher or
- Teacher Recommendation
- Proficient score on a multiple-measures including interpretive, interpersonal communications, and presentational assessments.