

Questions Frequently Asked by Middle School and High School Parents

Is my child going to receive high school credit for world language classes taken in middle school?

Yes. The grade your child received in middle school will automatically appear on the high school transcript. It is recommended that if a child receives less than a satisfactory grade in middle school that s/he take the course over again in high school before moving on to the next level of world language study. Please refer to the MCPS web page for more information on the Grading and Reporting Policy.

If my child earned D's in middle school, should he/she register for the next level in high school?

Parents should consult with the current middle school teacher for guidance. In general, this level of achievement in beginning levels does not adequately prepare the student for advanced studies in the upper levels. The course can and should be repeated in high school in order to provide a solid foundation for future language learning.

How does my child prepare to take Honors level courses?

Honors level preparation begins in levels 1 and 2. Students must demonstrate excellent study and work habits, and high motivation to learn and use the language.



How is level 3 honors different from level 3 regular?

The course content, required vocabulary, and structures are the same for both courses. However, the countywide semester exams require additional tasks in the speaking and writing components.

The honors instructors implement a faster pace to the program, allowing for enrichment of the basic curriculum, and a more in-depth approach to the linguistic structures.

What differentiates students in honors and regular courses is the degree of personal motivation, seriousness in study and work habits, and a risk-taking attitude in using the language to communicate.

My child has not been recommended by his/her teacher to take the honors level, but I disagree. What can I do?

It is recommended that the student receive a grade of A or B in the previous level of the language studied. Discuss the expectations of the course with your child. Read the [Honors Courses Guidelines](#) and the [Criteria for Enrollment in Honors, Advanced Placement and Review Process](#) on the MCPS web page.

When can my son/daughter take the Advanced Placement courses and exams?

Students must complete through at least level 4 honors and/or be recommended by their current teacher to enroll in the Advanced Placement language courses. It is expected that all students enrolled in an AP course take the corresponding AP exam second semester. Students can earn college credit by scoring at least a 3 on the AP examination.

Will my child receive world language credit if s/he decides to take a different language in high school than in middle school?

Colleges and universities expect to see a rigorous world language program of study on student transcripts. Students are strongly encouraged to continue with a foreign language through the advanced levels. Students can receive high school credit for multiple languages taken at the beginning levels, however it is not a recommended pathway for earning world language credit.