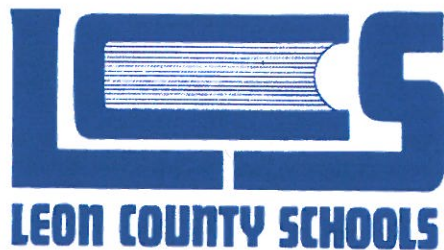


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August 21, 2012

Dear Parents and Students:

Important Information for Middle School Students taking High School Courses

Leon County Schools provides opportunities for qualified middle school students to enroll in high school credit courses. These courses begin the sequence of college preparatory coursework and count towards high school graduation credits. As we begin the 2012-2013 school year, it is important that you are informed of the long-term implications of taking high school credit courses in middle school.

Careful planning of a student's post-secondary goals should be considered before accelerating coursework. All high school courses taken in middle school will appear on the student's high school transcript and be included in his or her high school grade point average (GPA). A middle school student who receives a grade of C, D, or F in a high school course may retake the course to replace the grade, but each course will appear on his or her transcript. Only the higher of the two grades will be included in the student's GPA.


Even though middle school students may begin high school courses in seventh grade, it is important for students and parents to understand not all middle school students are prepared for the rigor and pace of high school courses. Middle school students who do not earn a grade of B or higher during the first grading period may be placed in an appropriate middle school course. It is perfectly acceptable for many students to begin their college preparatory work in the ninth grade.

Middle school students enrolled in Algebra 1, Algebra 1 Honors, Geometry Honors, and Biology Honors must take and pass the state assessment to receive credit in the course. A student's grade will be the average of the four nine-week period grades. However, a passing grade in these courses does not guarantee credit. Credit is only earned by passing the End-of-Course exam.

Success in high school coursework is dependent on a student's self-motivation, organizational skills, initiative, and intellectual capacity. Parents and students should monitor progress frequently, remembering that each high school course will be included on the student's transcript.

If you have questions concerning the impact of these courses, please contact your school's assistant principal for curriculum. We appreciate your commitment to meeting the challenge of accelerated coursework and will provide resources and strategies to ensure your success.

Sincerely,


Scotty Crowe, Assistant Superintendent
Division of Teaching & Learning

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www.leonschools.net

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