

Issaquah Middle School
2018-19
7th Grade Core Class and Elective Choice Information

Please Print Clearly

Student Name (first and last): _____

Address: _____ Primary Phone: _____

I will **not** be attending IMS next year. I will be attending _____
(School, City, State)

***Note – Do NOT check this box unless you are 100% certain you will not be attending IMS. If you check this box, you do not need to make course or elective selections. Just sign and return the packet to your teacher.**

7th graders take the following classes:

- Full-year classes – Language Arts, Social Studies, Math and Science
- Homeroom 7 – 25 minutes used for reading, advisory, school business and academic assistance
- PE 7 (two trimesters), Health 7 (one trimester)
- Elective – Pick from Option 1 **or** Option 2
 - Option #1 – One year-long music elective (Band, Orchestra, Chorus)
 - Option #2 – Three single-trimester electives (rank the electives 1 - 12 with 1 being your favorite)

PLEASE NOTE: Students with an IEP for Special Education, or who require ELL services or academic support in Reading or Math, will take a support class in place of an elective.

Sample Schedule

	Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
Period 1	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom
Period 2	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts
Period 3	Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies
Period 4	Math	Math	Math
Period 5	Science	Science	Science
Period 6	PE	Health	PE
Period 7	Elective Option 1 or 2	Elective Option 1 or 2	Elective Option 1 or 2

IMPORTANT: Choosing Core Classes – Families will make their own decision about taking regular or advanced Language Arts and Math. The district has provided information and recommended criteria to help you make an informed decision when selecting the appropriate courses for your child. The information is included in this packet. Please read it carefully **before** making your selections. **You can find additional information and guidance in a PowerPoint posted on the IMS website.**

Course descriptions are available on the IMS website: www.ims.issaquah.wednet.edu

Please contact the IMS Registrar if you have questions. apmanj@issaquah.wednet.edu or 425-837-6818.

Core Class and Elective Choice Form

STEP ONE – Pick your elective. Directions: Pick **one** elective from Option 1 **OR** rank the trimester elective choices in Option 2 in the box below.

Elective Option 1 – Please mark your choice by putting a (✓) by one of the electives below. Go online to enter your choice. It is not necessary to pick alternates. These classes are a yearlong commitment. For Band and Orchestra, instrument rental and practice is required. Attendance and participation at concerts are part of the student’s grade in all music classes.

_____ **Intermediate Band** _____ **Chorus 7/8** _____ **Intermediate Orchestra**

Elective Option 2 – If you did **not** mark an elective in Option 1, please rank these electives from 1 - 12 with 1 being your favorite choice. Go online to enter your top three choices (1-3) and your three alternate choices (4-6). Note: Trimester electives are scheduled around core classes and are blocked for scheduling purposes. Students may get electives that are not top choices.

_____ ASB/Leadership _____ Digital Photography _____ Studio Art
_____ Automation & Robotics _____ DMQ – Daily Morning Quah _____ Study Hall
_____ Backyard Forest _____ Peer Tutor for ELL or Special Ed _____ 3D Art
_____ Design & Modeling _____ Science Fiction _____ Yearbook

If you would like to be an Office, Library or Teacher TA, you may chose these as an alternate only (4-6):

_____ Teacher TA _____ Office TA _____ Library TA

STEP TWO – Choose your core classes. After reading the information in your packet and carefully reviewing the PowerPoint on our website, pick the level of Language Arts and Math you wish to take. Mark your choices below. Go online to make your selections.

_____ Regular Language Arts 7 **OR** _____ Advanced Language Arts 7
_____ CC Math 7 **OR** _____ CC Math 7/8

Note: If your child is on Science Path 2 or, took advanced math in grade 6, he/she has already been assigned to the next level course for grade 7.

I affirm that I reviewed the course selection materials provided to me before making these course selections

Parent Signature: _____ Student Signature: _____



- 565 NW Holly Street, Issaquah, WA 98027
- (425) 837-7000
- www.issaquah.wednet.edu

February 26, 2018

Dear Incoming 7th Grade Parents:

The purpose of this letter is to explain the Issaquah School District’s advanced and accelerated options for Language Arts, and Math. Your student will automatically be enrolled in the appropriate Science class, based on last year’s self-select decision.

Issaquah School District offers advanced and/or accelerated options for 7th graders in English Language Arts and Math. Families interested in Advanced Language Arts, or the accelerated math path, should consider the following guidance.

Students who have demonstrated success in advanced courses have the following:

- excellent study habits and organizational skills.
- consistently high scores in math and reading on report cards and standardized tests.
- strong communication and reading skills for engaging with rigorous material.
- motivation, emotional readiness/maturity, perseverance and stamina for learning challenging material.
- ability to handle the increased rigor and vigorous pacing of the Compacted Pacing math pathway which condenses a year and a half of math into one year.
- desire to be an active participant in all aspects of the classroom, including discussions, group or individual projects, and labs.
- readiness to devote more time to studies outside of the school day. *Please consider your child’s time commitments to all extra-curricular activities e.g., sports, music and club affiliations.*
- willingness to accept the possibility that grades could be lower than if student took the typical course sequence(s).
- strong work habits and initiative, and high desire to engage in learning

This is an important decision for students and families. In Language Arts, this decision will be made yearly. However, for math, once a student starts compacted pacing it is not possible to change course without repeating content at some point in time. Below is additional information to consider as you make your course selections.

Advanced Language Arts Readiness Criteria	CC7/8 Math Compacted Pacing Readiness Criteria
Report Card Grades in Language Arts: B+ or higher	Grades on CC6 Tests and Quizzes: 90% or higher
5 th Grade SBA in ELA: 2672 or higher	5 th Grade SBA in Math: 2685 or higher

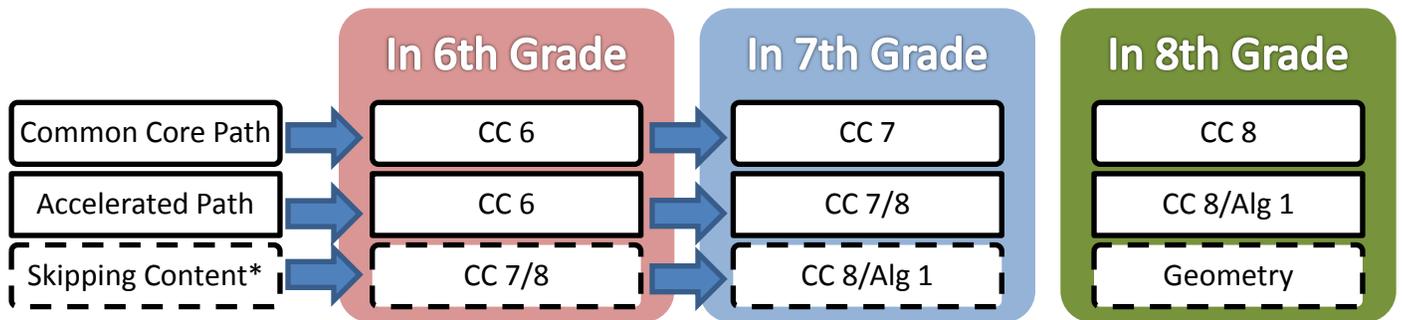
Sincerely,

Emilie Hard
 Assistant Superintendent
 Teaching and Learning Services

Board of Directors

Lisa Callan • Harlan Gallinger • Marnie Maraldo • Anne Moore • Suzanne Weaver

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH COURSES



STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN COMMON CORE 6: You will decide between *Common Core Grade Level Pacing* and *Compacted Pacing*. Here are some considerations as you make this decision.

- **COMPACTED PACING:** Students who select *Compacted Pacing* have the same expectations as *Common Core Grade Level Pacing* in terms of achieving the Common Core Mathematical Content and Practice standards. No content will be skipped so, with faster pacing, students will complete three years of Common Core Mathematics in two years of instruction. Therefore, students who select *Compacted Pacing* should be prepared for increased rigor and vigorous pacing. Students who will be most successful with *Compacted Pacing* exhibit strong organizational skills, maturity, self-motivation, and affinity for mathematics.

- **HOW DOES THE PACING DECISION AFFECT HIGH SCHOOL?** There will no longer be a self-select decision at the end of 8th grade. Students who select *Common Core Grade Level Pacing* will begin high school in **CC Algebra 1**. Students who select *Compacted Pacing* will begin high school in **CC Geometry**. **Our recommendation is to select the middle school math pacing that best meets the student's current level of readiness.**

- **READINESS CRITERIA:** Families who wish to select *Compacted Pacing* should ensure that their student meets the following Readiness Criteria:
 - An average of **90% or higher** on **Tests and Quizzes** category of their current 6th grade math course.
 - A score of **2685 or higher** on the **5th grade Math SBA**.
 - Consistently demonstrates **Standards for Mathematical Practice**.
 - **STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICAL PRACTICE:** Common Core expects much more than just procedural skill and fluency. Students are expected to achieve deep conceptual understanding, to demonstrate critical thinking skills, to make connections, to persevere in problem-solving, to apply their learning to solving problems in real world contexts, to justify their reasoning, and to clearly communicate their math thinking. Read more about the Standards for Mathematical Practice at <http://www.corestandards.org/Math/Practice>.

NOTE: STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN COMPACTED COMMON CORE 7/8: You will automatically be enrolled in **CC 8/Algebra 1** for 7th grade and you will continue with **CC Geometry** in 8th grade.

QUESTIONS? Please visit <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/academics/core/math/Default.aspx>, talk to your child's counselor, or contact Kathryn Coffin, Secondary Math Specialist, at coffink@issaquah.wednet.edu or Dawn Wallace, Director of Teaching and Learning, at wallaced@issaquah.wednet.edu.