

# 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE COURSE REGISTRATION FAQS

**Q: How are my child's classes selected?**

**A:** Your child was recommended for all of his/her academic classes from their current 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. Your guidance counselor will schedule your student per teacher recommendations. Your child will have the option to select his/her foreign language and elective classes.

**Q: What are the different levels of classes?**

**A:** Freshmen classes are offered at the General, College Prep, Advanced, and Honors levels. Advanced & Honors level courses require independent work. Freshman year courses and grades are just as important as any other year! Take the most challenging courses that you are able to manage successfully.

**Q: What is the freshmen cohort?**

**A:** During freshman year only, English and World Culture classes are cohorted. This means that the two teachers will work together to ensure a cohesive transition into the high school. For this reason, your recommendation level for both classes will need to match. For example, if you are in Advanced English you will also be in Advanced World Cultures.

**Q: Do I have to take a study hall?**

**A:** Study Hall is required for freshmen students. The transition from middle school to high school is the most difficult process a student will encounter in his/her academic career. Study hall is the vehicle by which EHTHS makes the freshman transition a smooth one through orientation programs facilitated by our Senior Ambassadors and contact with the guidance counselors. Additional time, supervised by certified teaching staff, will be used by students to stay current with their coursework through self-study or visits to tutoring centers.

**Q: Can I request to change my elective?**

**A:** Elective changes are allowed during our two DROP/ADD periods in March and April. Requests after May 1 will be considered on a space available basis only. The Guidance Department will need sufficient time to plan class sections for 2,400 students who have made over 20,000 individual course requests. This cannot be done efficiently if selections change during the planning process. It is expected that students will think seriously about their selections.

**Q: But I'm in over my head with my English and Math class and now I can't change my schedule?**

**A:** You can. There will be times when you can adjust the *level* of a course even after the last DROP/ADD week has taken place. For example, if being in HN English turns out to be the wrong placement, your schedule can be altered to have Advanced English instead (though this may involve moving other classes in your schedule, so it is best to do an honest assessment of your abilities during initial course selection).

**Q: I am an incoming freshman. Do I need backups for my World Language selection?**

**A: Yes.** Incoming freshmen should assign a priority number to three languages (i.e. 1st choice-French, 2nd choice-Spanish, 3rd choice-Latin). Every effort will be made to accommodate your requests but please keep in mind that the school's master schedule will always have limitations due to staffing and the amount of class sections offered.

**Q: What if I want to apply to one of the academies?**

**A:** Please continue to check the High School Guidance Website for links to the academy applications. If you plan to apply to an academy, you will still select your courses for next year as if you are not in an academy. If and when you are accepted into an academy, your guidance counselor will alter your schedule accordingly.

**Q: I am an incoming freshman who does not plan to attend EHTHS. Do I still have to pick classes?**

**A:** We are sorry that you won't be joining us here at EHTHS next year. However, you will still be obligated to complete the course registration process.