

# Haycock ES Parent Coffee



**March 14, 2025**

## Today's Presenters

**Ms. Thaisa York** - School Counselor - Longfellow MS

**Ms. Kathleen Otal** - School Counselor - McLean HS

**Mr. Steve Myers** - Educational Specialist - FCPS



# Academic and Career Planning



**And Beyond!**

# Longfellow Middle School Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Selection Information Session





# Learning Targets

**In this presentation, we would like to cover:**

- Some differences between elementary and middle school
- Course offerings at Longfellow
- High School considerations
- Steps you can take now with your child

# What's different in Middle School?

## **School Hours**

- 7:30am - 2:15pm

## **Learning Seminar**

- SEL/Intervention/
- Break Block

## **Lunch**

- 4 different lunch periods based on student's schedule

## **After School Program**

- 5 days a week
- Academic/Activity Blocks
- Late buses

## **Lockers**

- All students are assigned a locker

# What's different in Middle School?

## **Cellphones**

- Away for the Day

## **Agendas**

- All students receive an agenda

## **Recess**

- 15 minute recess daily

## **PE Boys/Girls**

- PE Locker and uniforms required

## **Counselors & Admin**

- Assigned to each student by grade level

## **Schoology**

- Posting of assignments for organization

# Longfellow Student Schedule

**-Math (levels vary- no AAP)**

**-Investigations in Environmental Science Honors or AAP**

**-English Honors or AAP**

**-U.S. History Honors or AAP**

**-Health and PE**

**-Elective (1 full year or 2 semester choices)**

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**-Learning Seminar- All students are automatically placed in this class. Students are taught a social-emotional learning (SEL) lesson and may complete work, get extra help or participate in enrichment**



5 minutes  
passing time  
between  
classes

# Sample Schedule

**Anchor:** All periods

**Blue:** 1, 3, LS, 5, 7

**Silver:** 2, 3, LS, 6, 8

## Schedule Information

Per	Term	Section ID	Course	Meet Days	Teacher	Room
<b>Final</b>						
1	YR	411502-09	411502 - Invest Env Sci AA	All Odd	Hill, S.	132
2	S2	139065-02	139065 - Tech Theatre Appr	All Even	Talmadge, P.	161
3	YR	235502-21	235502 - US History 7 AA	All Odd	Kellams-Berger, N.	143
4	YR	000111-37	000111 - Learning Seminar 1	All Even	Hill, S.	132
5	YR	311136-08	311136 - Mathematics 7 HN	All Odd	Pamas, G.	208
6	S2	910532-04	910532 - Art Foundations	All Even	Gibson, D.	105
7	S2	712034-14	712034 - Health & PE 7	All Odd	Shapiro, K.	Gym 1
8	YR	111002-02	111002 - English 7 AA	All Even	Wilson, B.	145



# Jump Start

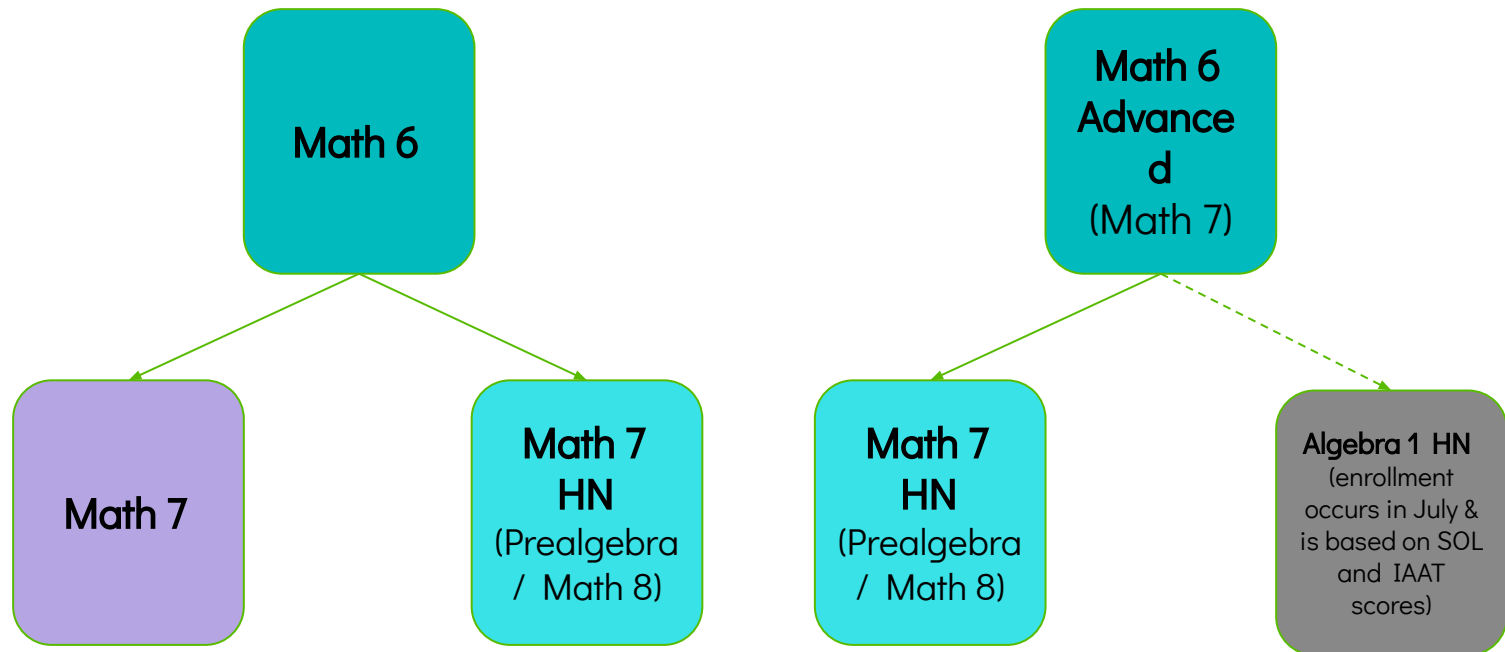
- Usually first week in August (2 sessions)
- Two Day Orientation
- Get to know the building, meet teachers and new friends
- Ms. Gangwani-Colaco
- Info coming in the Spring



# Math Course Options

Math 7 HN is an option for ALL students

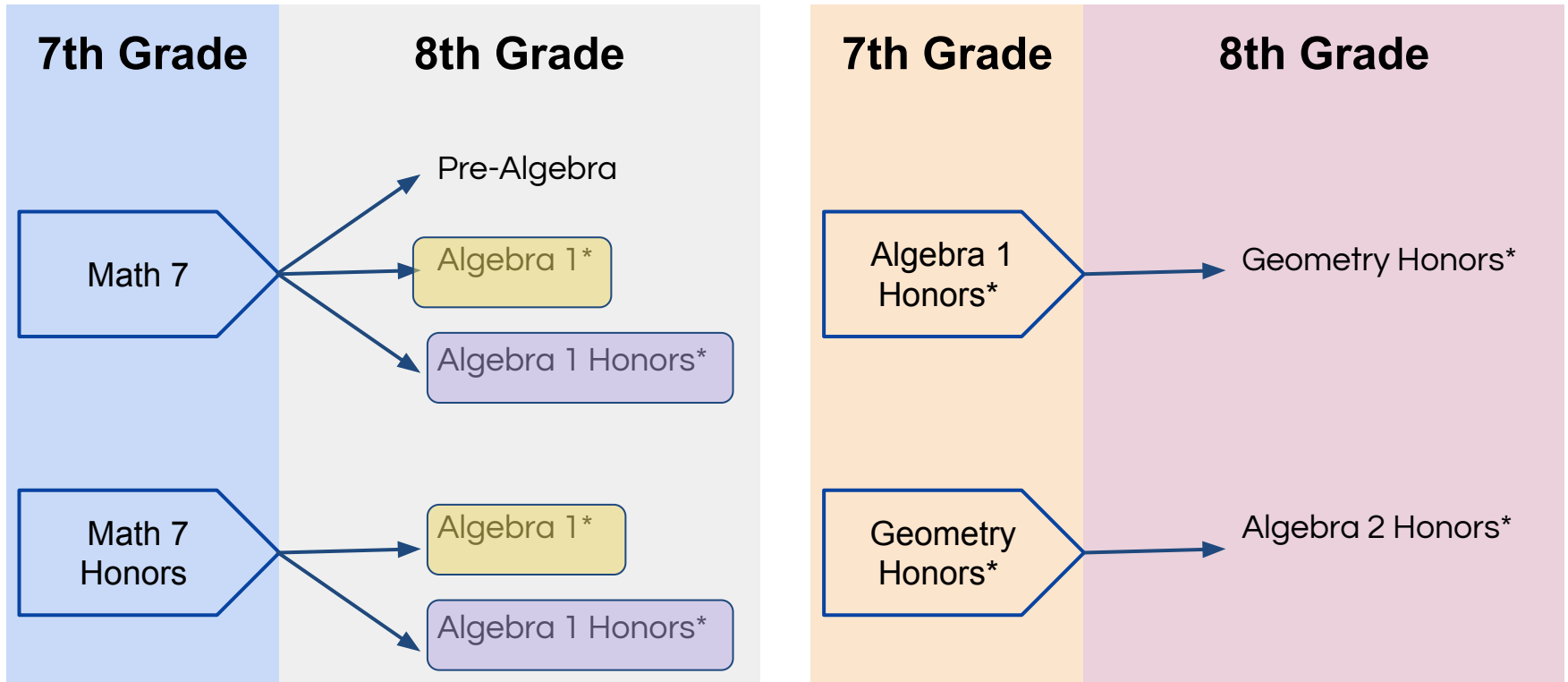
Math 7 HN is PREALGEBRA content and is the best pathway to successful completion of Algebra 1 before 9th grade



# Rising 7th Grade Course Selection

Math 7	Math 7 Honors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Math 7 SOL</b></li><li>● <b>Students:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <u>Reinforce</u> understanding of integers and rational numbers</li><li>● Solve <u>one and two step</u> equations &amp; inequalities</li><li>● Receive <u>targeted scaffolds to support</u> problem solving</li><li>● Complete most work <u>in class</u></li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Math 8 (Prealgebra) SOL</b></li><li>● <b>Students:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <u>Apply</u> understanding of integers and rational numbers</li><li>● Solve <u>Multi-Step</u> Equations &amp; Inequalities</li><li>● Connect prior math learning to problem solve <u>independently</u></li><li>● Complete <u>daily homework</u> and classwork</li></ul></li></ul>

# Middle School Math Sequence



**\*High School Credit Courses will appear on the high school transcript.**

# Algebra 1 Honors Eligibility for 7th Grade

- ✓ Successful completion of the Advanced Mathematics Grade 6 curriculum or a year-long accelerated mathematics program
- ✓ Score at or above the 91st percentile on the IAAT
- ✓ Score 500 or higher on the Grade 7 Math SOL Test

*Students who meet the qualifications are automatically enrolled in Algebra 1 HN over the summer. Parents will receive an email with the opportunity to opt-out when scores are processed*

- ★ Alg I HN is open enrollment for ALL 8th grade students



# Elective Courses

- Classes are exploratory and students should consider their interests and talents
- Semester electives
  - Half year courses- students receive a new schedule after 2nd quarter with new elective
- Full year electives
  - World Languages, Band, Orchestra, Chorus
- Students should NOT pick classes to try to be with friends
- Student must select 4 alternate electives
  - Sometimes students do not get their top choices due to conflicts or availability
- What if you don't like your elective?
  - It is challenging to change electives and may result in your whole schedule being changed



# Elective course scheduling options

Option 1	Option 2		Option 3	
1. Full year elective	1. Full year elective		1. Semester elective	2. Semester elective
2. Full year elective	2. Semester elective	3. Semester elective	3. Semester elective	4. Semester elective

Students have two periods in their schedule for electives



# World Languages Course Offerings - Full Year Classes

	<b>Chinese</b>	<b>French</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>Latin</b>
<b>7th Grade</b>	Chinese 1*	French 1A French Immersion 1*	Spanish 1A Spanish 1*	
<b>8th Grade</b>	Chinese 1* Chinese 2*	French 1B* French Immersion 2* French 1*	Spanish 1B* Spanish 1* Spanish 2*	Latin 1*

**\* High School Credit Class** - will appear on the high school transcript

# Music Department - Full Year Electives

**Music courses are full year electives**

- **Band**
- **Chorus**
- **Orchestra**

***\*Music teachers will work with their elementary school counterparts to schedule auditions and placements.***

***Use code on course selection sheet***

# Semester Electives - Half Year Classes

<b>Art Foundations</b>	<b>Coding</b>	<b>Media Communications</b>
<b>3D Art</b>	<b>Creative Writing</b>	<b>Music Lab</b>
<b>Art Extensions</b>	<b>Engineering</b>	<b>Strategies for Success</b>
<b>Computers in Art</b>	<b>Family and Consumer Science</b>	<b>Technical Theater</b>
<b>Computer Solutions</b>	<b>Journalism</b>	<b>Theater Arts Appreciation</b>
<b>Photojournalism</b>		

- Semester 1 = 1st and 2nd quarter / Semester 2 = 3rd and 4th quarter
- Students do not select which semester they take an elective
- Students get a new schedule after 2nd quarter which shows their 2nd semester elective
  - Only the elective and sometimes Health and PE period will change
- Most semester classes will contain 7th and 8th grade students



# Support Classes at Longfellow

Sometimes students are recommended for “academic support” class which takes the place of an elective

- Read 180
- Action Literacy
- Strategies for Success

**Our #1 goal  
is to prepare  
students for  
high school**



# Considerations for High School Planning

## Many Opportunities in High School:

- Academic Planning (AP, IB, DE, HN) - Balance is important!
- Academy Courses
- Sports and Activities
- Work-based Learning
  - Service Learning
  - Job Shadowing
  - Internships

# Steps You Can Take Now With Your Child

There are many activities that you can explore with your child during the elementary years including:

- Begin Having Career Conversations
- Explore Strengths and Interests
- Find Community Service Activities and Events
  - Volunteer Fairfax
- Summer Enrichment Experiences
  - FCPS CTE Summer Tech Adventure Camp

# Steps You Can Take Now With Your Child

- Make sure your child has chores around the house.
  - INVOLVING CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD TASKS: IS IT WORTH THE EFFORT?
- Ensure that your child has unstructured time in which they can learn to explore, create, self-regulate, and find their own interests.
- Let your child know that they are valued for who they are, not what they achieve. Praise character traits, and use phrases of encouragement.

**Thank You!**

**Time for Questions**

