

# WELCOME TO HERNDON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Rising 7th Grade Course Selection &  
Transition Information Meeting



# AGENDA

- 9:00 - 9:10 Welcome, Introductions, & Trivia
- 9:10 - 9:35 Transition & Course Selection Information
- 9:35 -10:00 Classroom visits
- 10:00-10:15 Debrief



# ADMINISTRATION




Assistant Principals: Tory Swanson, Kim Shott, and Dr. John Bordenkecher.

Director of Student Services: Shirnesha Simpkins Church.

Interim Principal: Marti Jo Jackson



# STUDENT SERVICES



HERNDON MIDDLE SCHOOL

## STUDENT SERVICES

### 2025-2026

**DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES**  
Shirnesha Simpkins Church  
sasimpkinsch@fcps.edu

SCHOOL COUNSELORS	SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS
<b>Ms. Mackoul</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor (A-K) cmackoul@fcps.edu	<b>Mrs. Lee</b> Gen Ed/SWD slee7@fcps.edu
<b>Mrs. Headen</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor (L-Z) sbheaden@fcps.edu	<b>Mrs. Van Gelder</b> CSS avangelder@fcps.edu
<b>Mrs. Luczak</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor cluczak1@fcps.edu	

**SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS**

<b>Mrs. Wells</b> CSS kmwells@fcps.edu	<b>Mrs. King</b> Gen Ed/SWD elking@fcps.edu
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PARENT LIASION	REGISTRAR/SSA
<b>Fanny Salazar</b> fmsalazarlas@fcps.edu	<b>Susanna Fry</b> smfry@fcps.edu



# ADVANCED ACADEMIC RESOURCE TEACHER



**Nicole Collantes**



# TRIVIA



**HOW MANY STUDENTS ARE CURRENTLY  
ENTROLLED AT HMS?**

- A) 901**
- B) 1150**
- C) 1045**
- D) 890**



**WHAT IS THE HMS MASCOT?**

- A) PIGEONS**
- B) HAWKS**
- C) HORNETS**
- D) EAGLES**



## TIE BREAKER

WHAT IS THE NAME OF OUR PRINCIPAL?



**WHAT PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS TAKE AT  
LEAST ONE HONORS LEVEL CLASS?**

- A) 15%**
- B) 38%**
- C) 55%**
- D) 89%**



# HMS Collective Commitments

We will approach our work with the following commitments:

## All students are our students

- We ask, "How am I keeping in mind all students?"
- We work together to achieve our vision
- We work together to support all students, not just the ones within our classroom

## Relationships are essential

- We ask, "What conversation do I need to have most right now?" and "What conversation might I be avoiding?"
- We engage in dialogue, not monologue
- We seek opportunities to strengthen relationships with students, families, and each other

## Rigorous instruction is for every student

- We ask, "What does this student need in order to learn at high levels?" and answer with things within our control
- We set high expectations for all students
- We design instruction that encourages students to engage in higher level thinking

## Data is embraced

- We ask, "What does this data tell us about our students' learning and needs?" and "What data is still needed to get the full picture of a student?"
- We act on data to influence change

## We collaborate, reflect, and adapt

- We ask, "How can we work together towards our goals?" and "What can we do to continually improve for each individual student?"
- We see the opportunities in challenges



# BELL SCHEDULE

## Herndon Middle School 2025-2026 Bell Schedule



Red	Black	Time
Warning Bell 7:25		
1st Learning Seminar		7:30 - 8:35
2nd (second breakfast)		8:40-9:30
3rd	4th	9:34-10:49
5th Lunch Blocks	6th Lunch Blocks	10:53-12:56
7th	8th	1:00-2:15 Staggered Dismissal 1st Floor 2:12    2nd Floor 2:15

Lunch & Break Schedule 5th & 6th Periods		
A Lunch Block	B Lunch Block	C Lunch Block
Lunch: 10:53-11:23 Recess: 11:23-11:38 Class: 11: 38-12:56	Class: 10:53-11:43 Lunch: 11:43-12:13 Recess: 12:13-12:28 Class: 12:28-12:56	Recess: 10:58- 11:13 Class: 11:13-12:26 Lunch: 12:26-12:56



# SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Period/Time	Red Day	Black Day
1st. Period 7:30-8:35	1 <sup>st</sup> Period Learning Seminar	
2nd Period 8:40-9:30	English 7 Honors AAP	
3rd/4th Period 9:34-10:49	Algebra I Honors	French I
5th/6th Period 10:53-12:56	Band	Science Honors AAP
7th/8th Period 1:00-2:15	History 7 Honors AAP	HPE



# TRANSITION & COURSE SELECTION



# COURSE SELECTION EVENTS

- HMS Transition and Curriculum Overview for Elementary Schools
  - November 6th (9:00-10:15 am) HMS AVID Conference
- Advanced Academic Parent Coffee
  - November 21st (6:00-7:00 pm) HMS Library
- Curriculum Fair Night (In-Person)
  - Thursday , December 11th (5:30-7:00 pm) HMS Auditorium
- HMS Tour & Academic Advising Presentation: (December 2025)
  - HMS Mini Tour
  - Performance Showcase
  - Academic Advising Presentation



# FULL-TIME CLUSTER GROUPING AAP

Herndon Middle School continues to see an increase in Full-Time AAP eligible students choosing to remain at HMS instead of opting for placement at their designated AAP center. To further provide supports to our students, Herndon Middle School will be starting a Full-Time advanced academic cluster model for 7th grade students during the 25-26 school year. This cluster group model will allow us to provide targeted support for Full-Time eligible students in English, Social Studies, and Science within clustered classroom settings.



# FULL-TIME CLUSTER GROUPING AAP

Students who are currently receiving Locally Level 4 instruction at their Elementary Schools will be enrolled in the full time cluster grouping of AAP at Herndon Middle School.

This includes students who may not be considered Local Level 4., but who are receiving local level four curriculum work and enrichment.



# CORE COURSE OFFERINGS

- All students are required to take the four core subjects:
  - English, History, Math, Science.
- Next year, we will offer on-level, honors, and advanced academic placement honors for each of the core subjects.
- English course code example for general education and Honors example:
  - 111000 (General Education)
  - 111036 (Honors)
  - 111038 (Advanced Academics Honors)



# MATH COURSE OFFERINGS

- Students may select between the following Math course offerings: Pre Algebra and Pre Algebra HN. There will be self-contained Math 7 for students with disabilities.
- Students who are in advanced Math currently in 6th grade should continue into Pre Algebra HN. Students who are not currently in advanced Math but receiving a 425 or higher SOL score should be placed in Pre Algebra HN.
- Placement in Algebra 1 HN is determined by SOL score only.
- Appeals for Algebra 1 HN will be reviewed on an individualized basis.



# YOUNG SCHOLARS

- Young Scholars are expected to enroll in at least one honors class. You can still identify students!
  - 47 Young Scholars are taking 4 honors courses
  - 25 Young Scholars are taking 3 honors courses
  - 45 Young Scholars are taking 2 honors courses
  - 35 Young Scholars are taking 1 honors course
  - 58 Young Scholars are not taking any advanced course
- The AART works with teachers to develop wraparound supports so that our young scholars can be successful in advanced coursework.



# HEALTH & PE COURSE OFFERINGS

- **All students must enroll in Health and PE.** This course will appear as two semester electives in student course requests.
  - **Course Request Example**
  - 712033 Health PE 7 (Semester 1)
  - 712034 Health PE 7 (Semester 2)
- The semester based Health PE course allows for flexibility in scheduling student electives



# SPECIAL EDUCATION & MLL

- Special Education and Multilingual Learner Course Offering Meetings will be held next year.
  - More information to come from Department Chairs
  - Meetings will be scheduled January 2026



# SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Levels of service and course placement are discussed and proposed through the IEP.
  - Honors
  - General Education
  - Team Taught
  - Self-Contained
  - Cat B
  - Comprehensive Services Sites (CSS)
- Special Education Electives: Literacy, Strategies for Success, Personal Development, Life Skills, WAT



# MULTILINGUAL LANGUAGE LEARNERS

## Level 1 & 2:

1. Beginning English 7
2. Life Science 7
3. ESOL History 7
4. Math 7 Team Taught ESOL
5. HPE
6. Beg ESOL 7
7. Rational Numbers 7

## Level 3 & 4

1. General Education English or Team Taught ESOL
2. General Education Science or Team Taught ESOL
3. General Education History
4. General Education Math 7 or Team Taught ESOL
5. HPE
6. English Language Development or Academic Language
7. Elective

# ELECTIVE OPTIONS

- We offer year long and semester electives
- Students will have two elective periods that may be comprised of the following:

OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
Year long 1	Yearlong 1	Semester 1 Semester 2
Year long 2	Semester 1 Semester 2	Semester 3 Semester 4



# YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES

- **AVID:**

- Highly recommended for first generation college students. Please consider recommending students in honors courses for the first time who will need support.

- **Band, Chorus, Orchestra:**

Students will sign up for general level courses only. HMS Music teachers will determine the appropriate level after placement assessments and communicate this information to students, and parents.



# WORLD LANGUAGE YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES

- French 1
- Spanish 1
- Spanish Immersion 1
- Spanish 1 Heritage Speakers



# YEAR-LONG SUPPORT ELECTIVES

- SPED: Determined by transition IEP
- MLL: Collaboration with ESOL Department Chair
- Any elective a student selects may be replaced by a support elective, if needed. These decisions are based upon student SOL scores and reading levels.



# READING SUPPORT ELECTIVE

- Read 180/LAP (Reading Support Class) accessible to all students.
- Grades 7 or 8 students currently reading 2-4 years below expected grade level expectations should be placed into Read 180 (Course code: 110867)
- Please enter course code 110867 into SIS for any student who reads 2-4 years below grade level.
- Teacher suggestions, SOL, and reading data will be used for initial projections into the Read 180 course.



# SEMESTER ELECTIVES

- Art Foundations
- 3D Art
- Computer Solutions
- Coding
- Music Participation Lab
- Tech Engineering
- Theatre Arts Appreciation
- Tech Theatre

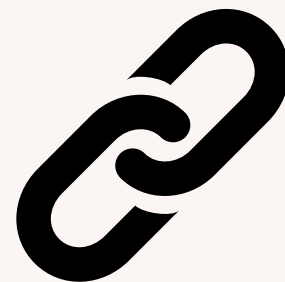


# COURSE SELECTION RESOURCES



# COURSE SELECTION RESOURCE LINKS

- [Curriculum Night Flyer](#)
- [Course Selection Timeline](#)
- [Middle School Course Catalog](#)
- [Course Selection Sheets: English, Spanish](#)
- [SIS Course Input Sheet](#)



# NEXT STEPS

- Please schedule date of HMS Tour.
- Encourage families to attend our HMS Curriculum Night!
- Send a representative to attend the Multilingual Learner and Special Education Meetings in January



# NEXT STEPS

- After your teacher representatives have attended the January meetings for Special Education and Mutli-lingual Learners, you may begin helping students input course selections into SIS.
- Please notify Shirnesha Simpkins Church and Susanna Fry once SIS Course Input is complete.
- Course Verification will be emailed to your point of contact person to review with you and your team.



# DEADLINES

- Please complete the course selection process by February 14th.
- The AVID Application will be available by December 10th. Students should submit their application no later than February 27th.
- Send a representative to attend the Special Education Meetings in January



**QUESTIONS?**



# CLASSROOM VISITS



# CLASSROOM VISITS

Core Courses	Elective Courses
Science 7 HN AAP Room 106	AVID 7 Room Tech 2
Math 7 HN TT SWD Room 101	3D Art Room Art 2
History 7 TT SWD Room 106	Spanish for Heritage Speakers 1A Room 256
Math 7 HN AAP Room 236	Orchestra Room Orchestra
History 7 Room 212	Theatre Room Drama
Science 7 TT ML Room 136	Band Room Band



# SAVE THE DATE

- **Advanced Academics Night**
  - November 21st @ 6:00-7:00
  - HMS Library
- **HMS Fall Play**
  - Thursday, November 21st @ 7:00 PM
  - Auditorium
- **Rising 7th Grade Curriculum Night**
  - Wednesday, December 11th @ 5:30-7:00 PM
  - Auditorium



# SAVE THE DATE

- **Special Education Overview Meeting**
  - January 2026
  - Department Chair: Aimee Conrad
  
- **AAP Family Breakfast**
  - January 23, 2026
  - 8:00-9:00 am
  - HMS Cafeteria



What day would you like  
the students to come  
tour their future school?



Would your school  
community benefit from  
an HMS night event at  
your school?



# TRANSITION TIMELINE

Date	Task	Details
November 6	Rising 7th Grade Transition Meeting	Course/Transition Information shared with ES School Representatives
November 21	Advanced Academic Parent Coffee	For Rising 7th Grade Families
December 11	Curriculum Night	For Rising 7th Grade Families
December 15-19	ES Tours & Academic Advising Lesson	Enjoy student performances, tour HMS, and review academic advising presentation
January	Multilingual Learner & Special Education Meetings	Teacher representatives will meet with Special Education and Multilingual Language Learner Department Chairs to Review Course selection processes.

# TRANSITION TIMELINE

Date	Task	Details
January	Course Selection Input begins	ES Staff will assist students and parents with inputting course selections into SIS
January 23rd	Advanced Academic Family Breakfast at Herndon Middle School	AAP students and parents will learn more about AAP featuring a student panel.
February 7th	Specialized Course Suggestions Shared with HMS	Course Selections forms with projections for MLL and Special Education Students
February 27th	Deadline: Course Info Submitted via SIS due from Elementary Schools	Course Selections forms with projections for MLL and Special Education Students
March 1st	Course Verification	Review courses in SIS and Parent Vue

# TRANSITION TIMELINE

Date	Task	Details
March 1st	Initial course verification review	Schools will receive a spreadsheet. Parents may review course selections in Parent Vue.
April	Transition Meetings	Elementary school staff and middle school staff will meet to provide feedback on individualized student supports and intervention
May/ June	Final Course Verification	Course Verification will be mailed to families and available in Parent Vue

QUESTIONS?



# Thank you!



We look forward to seeing you and our future  
Hawks soon!