

Expectations for Students in Honors Classes

- Students will be expected to maintain an 80% average or higher.
- Students will study, discuss, research, and be held accountable for learning advanced concepts in honors classes. Their studies will be more rigorous, more in-depth, and broader in scope. One goal of these classes is to begin preparation for Advanced Placement classes in high school.
- Students will be more engaged in higher order and critical thinking skills; this includes completing writing assignments and writing-based assessments (such as essays) throughout the school year (Higher Level = Application, Analysis, Synthesis and Evaluation of concepts studied).
- Students will spend more time reading inside and outside of class for their studies and assignments (Ex. novels, research documents, research articles on the Internet, etc.).
- Students will be engaged in more work and studies outside of class.
- Students will develop their research skills and be engaged in more inquiry-based and project-based learning with authentic applications.
- Students can expect to collaborate and work in teams with classmates and/or professional experts, as well as work independently as a self-motivated learner.
- Students can expect to see more focus and emphasis on advanced communication and presentation skills, including sharing their final projects with authentic audiences and submitting their own work for publication and/or public viewing.
- Students will participate in academic extra-curricular competitions and/or opportunities for publication throughout the school year (Ex. Science Fair, Social Studies Fair, Oratorical Contest, Young Georgia Authors, etc.). Students can expect to work on these activities both inside and outside of class.
- Students will be highly encouraged to participate in service-oriented clubs and/or activities at the school or in the community.

Other Factors to Consider

- Honors classes will not be given more weight than regular classes.
- Honors class teachers will offer “support sessions” for students struggling to maintain a B in their class. The student will be expected to take advantage of these support sessions before or after school.
- At the 6 week juncture of the first semester, honors class teachers will take note of any student who is struggling in their class and communicate their concerns to the student and parent.
- If a student is not maintaining an 80% average, a conference will be held and a formal probation letter will be received by the student with requirements and/or strategies necessary to bring the grade up to the B level.
- At the first 9 week juncture, the parent and student can choose to not continue in the honors class. *If not voluntarily withdrawn at this point, students will be expected to remain in the honors class for the rest of the semester and preferably the school year.*
- Students already on probation who end the semester with a grade lower than 80% will be removed from the class at the end of the year and may not be allowed to re-enroll the following year.