

8th Grade Parent Presentation 2021

FAQs for Freshman Year, Scheduling, Attendance

1. What is the timeline for scheduling?
 - Virtual 8th Grade Parent Night- 1/21/21- Recording will be posted on the JTHS Guidance website
 - February 8, 2021 -February 12, 2021- Parents and students complete course requests in Realtime Parent Portal, information to follow
 - February 16, 2021- February 19, 2021- Counselors will set up Google Meets sessions with students to review course selections

2. What courses does my son or daughter get to select on their own?
 - Students will schedule 8 classes: Math, English, Science, Social Studies, World Language based on Teacher Placement; Physical Education is required; students select 2 Electives- See Program of Studies or Course Selection sheet for choices

3. What courses does my son or daughter have to take?
 - Students must take the following six courses: Math, English, Science, Social Studies, World Language based on Teacher Placement; Physical Education

4. What does the schedule look like on any given day?

Block	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom
A	Period 1	Period 4	Period 3	Period 2
B	Period 2	Period 1	Period 4	Period 3
C	Period 3	Period 2	Period 1	Period 4
Lunch/ Academic				

D	Period 5	Period 8	Period 7	Period 6
E	Period 6	Period 5	Period 8	Period 7
F	Period 7	Period 6	Period 5	Period 8

5. What clubs and extracurricular activities are available for my child to join?
(insert link to clubs/activities list- page 20 of student handbook)

6. **What science courses should my child take if they want to study medicine, engineering etc?**

While there are many variations of the course sequence, our most advanced learners who wish to pursue careers in STEM are advised to take the following progression: Biology Honors (grade 9), Chemistry Honors AND AP Biology (grade 10), AP Physics 1 AND AP Chemistry or Anatomy and Physiology Honors (grade 11), AP Physics 2 (grade 11).

7. **What math courses should my child take if they want to study medicine, engineering etc?**

While there are many variations of the course sequence, our most advanced learners who wish to pursue careers in STEM are advised to take the following progression: Geometry Honors (grade 9), Algebra 2 Honors (grade 10), Precalculus Honors (grade 11), AP Calculus (AB/BC) (grade 12).

8. **My child did not take Algebra 1 in 8th grade and they now want to get ahead during high school. What should they do?**

If your child has shown legitimate interest and passion for mathematics, they could double up as freshman and take Algebra 1 CP and Geometry CP. Provided they do well, they would then take Algebra 2 Honors as sophomores. A word of caution-this doubling up should not be done merely to meet certain prerequisite requirements for science course placement. Using the waiver process would be a better choice for that situation.

9. Is my child able to study two languages at the high school? Yes, after consultation with a school counselor and pre-planning, a student may choose to study two languages at the high school simultaneously. Our students are encouraged to continue to study their selected middle school language at the high school level in order to achieve a higher level of communicative proficiency. Most colleges and universities require two full years of high school study of the same world language while more competitive colleges recommend three or four years of high school WL study.

10. Is my student eligible to enroll in Symphonic Band Honors or Chorus Honors as a rising freshman student? Yes--freshmen musicians and vocalists audition for Band Honors or Chorus Honors in September of each school year with the Band Director or Choral Director. Rising student musicians and vocalists must select the CP section of each course as an elective in the portal first. (This includes Lunch/Academic Band CP and Lunch/Academic Chorus CP as well.)

11. Which AP courses are offered to freshmen at JTHS?
The only AP course available is AP Computer Science Principles.

12. What incoming freshmen electives are offered at the honors level?
The honors level electives are: Chorus H, L/A Chorus H, Symphonic Band H, L/A Band H, CAD 1 H, and Architecture 1 H.