

January 9th, 2009

To: Families of MTHS Students Planning to Register for AP/Honors Courses

From: MTHS Administration, Counselors, and AP Teachers

Congratulations! Your student has requested one or more AP (Advanced Placement) or Honors courses for the 2009-2010 school year. Chances are your student will be scheduled into his/her requested classes. Please ask your student to meet with the appropriate department chairs/teachers during the Electives Fair on February 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:20 to 8:10 am. At the Electives Fair, some teachers will have samples of assignments that will give students an idea of the type and amount of work that will be required of them. It is important that we share the following information with you at this time before your student sign up for courses.

### **Honors**

The Honors experience engages students with differentiated curriculum and instruction that promote a lively, complex, and rigorous classroom environment. Students in Honors are expected to develop disciplined and independent work habits leading to academic success. Honors students read, write, and communicate with creativity, depth and complexity. Honors courses are taught at accelerated paces and at advanced level of instruction. Because of this, most students in Honors courses spend more time out of school reading, writing, communicating, creating, imagining, and learning.

### **AP**

Advanced Placement is currently offered at Mountlake Terrace High School and other high schools in the Edmonds School District. All Advanced Placement classes fulfill the graduation requirement and, at the same time, prepare students to take the Advanced Placement exam. By successfully meeting standard on the exam, students may earn college credit for the course taken. For more information about Advanced Placement, students/parents should visit the [AP Central website](#) and see their high school counselor.

AP classes are taught at the college level. Teachers receive specialized training and are expected to teach the class as it would be taught in a college setting. Each AP class taught at the high school is the equivalent of a 5-credit college class. A full-time college student takes a total of 12 – 15 credits per semester.

Advanced Placement students read, learn, study, create, think, experiment, and engage more independently than in other courses. Students enrolled in one AP course should expect an average of 60 minutes of homework per school day. Some students may require even more time than this.

It is important to note that once students are enrolled in AP and/or Honors courses, room in general education (high school level) classes has not been held for them. Teachers are trained and assigned to teach these courses and this does not allow for students to change these courses during the year. Therefore, please speak to your student and help them to understand the importance of making continuous effort in these courses so that they are successful.

Congratulations once again! You should be very proud that your student has elected to challenge themselves academically.

**Please sign and return this form to confirm that you received this information regarding your child's AP courses for the 2009-2010 school year.**

STUDENT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF STUDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

AP/Honors Courses requested:

1 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

**This form must be completed and returned to the MTHS main office to maintain your child's registration for the Advanced Placement courses for the 2009-2010 school year.**

\*Note: In the case of students with disabilities, the instructor must adhere to the accommodations set forth in the IEP or 504.