



# PINEY GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Advanced Studies  
Course Information



# Presentation Overview

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# Advanced Studies Guiding Principles

## Forsyth County Schools Learner Profile

### PGMS Mission and Vision

*"Embrace Opportunities,  
Unlock Potential,  
Inspire Excellence"*



# Advanced Studies Guiding Principles

- Advanced Studies Courses allow students to...
  - Challenge themselves academically through a variety of learning opportunities
  - Follow their interests and aptitudes
  - Engage in the content in deeper, more meaningful ways than in a typical class
  - Build and develop strong personal qualities

# Course Information

Advanced Studies Courses will be offered in grades 6 through 8 in the four core subjects!

English/Language Arts

Mathematics

Science

Social Studies

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Course Options

Students may select UP TO THREE of the following Advanced Studies Courses

English/Language Arts

Science (Earth Science)

Social Studies (Geography)

Advanced 6<sup>th</sup> Math OR Accelerated 6th Math\*

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Course Options

Students may select UP TO THREE of the following Advanced Studies Courses

English/Language Arts

Science (Life Science)

Social Studies (Geography)

Advanced 7<sup>th</sup> Math OR Accelerated 7th Math\*

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Course Options

Students may select UP TO FOUR of the following Advanced Studies Courses

English/Language Arts

Physical Science (High School Credit)

Social Studies (Georgia Studies)

Advanced 8<sup>th</sup> Math OR GSE Accelerated Algebra  
1 / Geometry A Honors\*

Spanish (High School Credit) is also offered



# Additional Information about Mathematics Course Offerings

## Advanced Math (All Grades)

- Open to all students by course selection/registration
- Students are exposed to grade level standards
- Additional standards and depth of content will be explored as appropriate for each student/group
- Appropriate for MOST students who have shown strong aptitude in math

## Accelerated Math (All Grades)

- Students are *identified and placed based on demonstrated need for acceleration*
- Students must qualify through placement testing AND class performance from year to year to remain in Accelerated Math
- Students are exposed to more than one year/course worth of content standards in one academic year (Pace is Key!)
- Appropriate for students who have SUPERIOR aptitude in math

# Additional Information about Mathematics Course Offerings

Grade	On-Level	Advanced	Accelerated
6 <sup>th</sup>	GSE 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics	Advanced GSE 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	GSE Accelerated Math 6 / 7A
7 <sup>th</sup>	GSE 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics	Advanced GSE 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	GSE Accelerated Math 7B / 8
8 <sup>th</sup>	GSE 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics	Advanced GSE 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	<b>GSE Accel Algebra I / Geometry A</b>
9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GSE Algebra I</b>	<b>GSE Accel Algebra I / Geometry A</b>	<b>GSE Accel Geometry B / Algebra II</b>
10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GSE Geometry</b>	<b>GSE Accel Geometry B / Algebra II</b>	<b>GSE Accel Pre-Calculus</b>
11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GSE Algebra II</b>	<b>GSE Accel Pre-Calculus</b>	<b>AP Calculus AB/BC AP Statistics Dual Enrollment</b>
12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GSE Pre-Calculus GSE AMDM AP Statistics</b>	<b>AP Calculus AB/BC AP Statistics Dual Enrollment</b>	<b>AP Calculus AB/BC AP Statistics Dual Enrollment</b>

# Recommendations and Registration Guidelines

## Piney Grove Middle School – Advanced Studies Course Recommendation Rubric

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ 16-17 School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Categories	Evaluation Criteria	ELA	Math*	Science	Social Studies
<b>Georgia Milestones Assessment Results</b>	Distinguished Learner = 10 Pts Proficient (550 and above) = 7 Pts Proficient (Below 550) = 5 Pts Developing Learner = 3 Pts Beginning Learner = 1 Pt	Score: _____	Score: _____	Score: _____	Score: _____
<b>Lexile Score</b>	Lexile: _____	Points: _____	Points: _____	Points: _____	Points: _____
<b>Class Performance / Academic Achievement</b>	100 – 90 = 10 Pts 89 – 80 = 5 Pts 79 – 70 = 3 Pts Less than 70 = 1 Pt	Class Grade: _____	Class Grade: _____	Class Grade: _____	Class Grade: _____
<b>Motivation &amp; Work Habits</b> <small>(Responsibility, Assignment Completion, Interpersonal Skills, Participation)</small>	Exemplary = 10 Pts High = 7 Pts Average = 5 Pts Below Average = 3 Pts Low = 1 Pt	Points: _____	Points: _____	Points: _____	Points: _____
<b>Overall Rating / Total Points Earned</b>		ELA Total: _____	Math Total: _____	Science Total: _____	Social Studies Total: _____
<b>Overall Course Recommendation</b> <small>(Circle the recommendation for each subject area, On-Level or Advanced and sign/initial under Teacher)</small>		OL    ADV Teacher: _____	OL    ADV Teacher: _____	OL    ADV Teacher: _____	OL    ADV Teacher: _____
<b>Advanced Studies Recommendation – Point Scale</b> Excellent Candidate for Advanced Studies Courses = 26 to 30 Points Candidate for Advanced Studies Courses = 18 to 25 Points Candidate for On-Level Courses = 17 or Fewer Points  Student schedules and recommendations may be adjusted based on demonstrated need for additional support and/or enrichment. Course recommendations provided may not reflect the student's actual course load.		<b>Directions for Teachers: Complete ONLY ONE form for each student!</b>  1. In each box, provide the information requested and the assigned point values. 2. Add the points in each column to determine total points earned for each subject. 3. Use the Overall Rating / Total Points Earned and the Point Scale to determine the recommendation for each subject.			

## PGMS Advanced Studies Course Registration Form "Embrace Opportunities, Unlock Potential, Inspire Excellence!"

At Piney Grove Middle School, students may enroll in Advanced Studies courses based on their passions and interests in the subject matter, as well as their pursuit of additional academic challenge beyond the typical course offerings at the middle school level. This chance to select the academic offering that suits your interest and abilities aligns to the Forsyth County Schools Learner Profile, and our continuing work here at Piney Grove to offer "personalized" learning opportunities for our students through course selection.

For students and parents, we would offer the following factors to consider when making these course requests. All course requests must be received by the deadline provided below.

- Research suggests that students who pursue and achieve success in a challenging curriculum in middle school, are better prepared as they enter high school, and are more likely to be successful throughout their high school career.
- Pursuing the most academically rigorous course schedule possible may not be beneficial for every student. Additional consideration should be given to the following as scheduling requests are made.
  - Outside of school interests and commitments, including family and friends?
  - Overall academic ability, maturity and work habits of the individual student?
  - Willingness to pursue challenge if grades start to slump?
  - Increased outside of class load (i.e. homework) and higher expectations for student work (including collaboration with peers and more inquiry-driven learning).
- The key factors in student success are individual student motivation, along with appropriate support from parents and teachers based on the student's academic needs.
  - To provide families with additional information about student readiness, your student's current teachers have made course recommendations based on information available to them, including but not limited to standardized test data and classroom performance.

### PGMS Advanced Studies Course Offerings

We are pleased to offer Advanced Studies courses in all subjects (English/Language Arts, Mathematics\*, Science and Social Studies) for the upcoming school year. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to enroll in any or all of these courses, based on their interests/passions AND demonstrated abilities in each subject. Consideration should be made for the overall load\*\* that students are taking on as a part of their schedule, and additional guidance is available. Should it be necessary, students may withdraw from an Advanced Studies course within the first Nine Weeks of school.

\*Additional information, including placement testing, is required for Accelerated Math course placement.  
\*\*In addition to four core subject courses, 8th Graders are also eligible for Spanish I (1st Credit).

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student #: \_\_\_\_\_

We understand that our rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade student may register for as few as one, but no more than three Advanced Studies classes. Additionally, we have considered the information provided, including a review of the teacher recommendations, and the overall load being undertaken, we (student/parent) request placement in the following Advanced Studies Courses for the 2017-2018 School Year.

1<sup>st</sup> Course – \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Course – \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Course – \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Requests due to the Piney Grove Main Office by 5:00pm on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.

# Recommendations and Registration Guidelines

- Teachers have provided recommendations to inform course selections by students
- Students will NOT be placed into Advanced Studies Courses based on Recommendations
- Students and Parents must select these course placements by submitting the Course Registration Form to the PGMS Main Office by the deadline!

# Advanced Studies Course Withdrawals

- Students/Parents may select in to Advanced Classes through the Registration Window
- If teachers identify students that have significant struggles in Advanced Studies Courses, teachers will reach out to parents discuss the student's progress to date.
- Students may be withdrawn from Advanced Studies Courses within the first nine-weeks of the school year by request with parent consent.
- After the end of the first quarter, students will continue their enrollment in Advanced/Accelerated courses for the remainder of the school year.

# Frequently Asked Questions

- How many Advanced Studies Courses can/should my student take?
- What support is provided to students taking Advanced Studies Courses?
- How will Advanced Studies Courses be graded? Will those grades be weighted?
- What is the difference in homework between on-level and advanced courses?
- What if my student doesn't take Advanced (or Accelerated) classes this year?

# Additional Questions?

- For questions about course recommendations and additional input on their readiness for Advanced Classes, contact your student's teachers!
- For specific questions about course offerings and the registration process, see one of the Administrative Team representatives this evening.

**Thank you for joining us this evening!**