

# Are Honors Classes Right For You?

Please thoughtfully consider the following criteria as you are making a decision about whether or not a junior high honors level course will provide the most appropriate learning environment. A student should:

- 1) Have scored a 3 or 4 on the previous year's end-of-level subject test.
- 2) Have earned an A or B in previous year's subject class.
- 3) Have a **high level of interest** and a **strong desire to be challenged** in the subject area.
- 4) Consistently exhibit most or all of the following characteristics:

## Learning/Intellectual Characteristics:

- ⇒ Enjoys tasks that are more challenging than average
- ⇒ Has a ready grasp of underlying principles and can quickly make valid generalization about events, people, and things
- ⇒ Tries to understand complicated material by separating it into its respective parts; reasons things out
- ⇒ Analyzes problems and considers alternatives.
- ⇒ Enjoys complex concepts and processes

## Motivational/Affective Characteristics:

- ⇒ Becomes absorbed and truly involved in certain topics or problems
- ⇒ Needs little external motivation to follow through in work completion
- ⇒ Requires little direction from teachers
- ⇒ Is highly self-motivated and persistent
- ⇒ Has high expectations of self and others

## Math/Science:

- Is interested in numerical analysis
- Has a good memory for storing main features of problems and solutions
- Reasons effectively and efficiently
- Organizes data and experiments to discover patterns or relationships
- Is flexible in solving problems

## Social Studies/Language Arts

- Has advanced vocabulary for age or grade level
- Reads a great deal; does not avoid difficult material
- Enjoys language/verbal or written communication; has advanced communication skills
- Organizes ideas and sequences in preparation for speaking and writing
- Likes study and research in areas of interest