

## **Jr. High Honors Courses Indicators for Student Success**

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

1. Score as “Proficient” on the Sage Test in a specific subject area before considering enrolling in an Honors level course in that subject area.
2. Consistently earn an “**A**” or “**B**” (or a “**3**” for 6<sup>th</sup> graders) for the subject in which they desire to take an Honors course.
3. Have a **high level of interest** and **strong desire to be challenged** in the subject in which they would like to take an Honors course.
4. Consistently exhibit most 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
- Often requires little direction from teachers
- Is highly self-motivated and persistent
- Has high expectations of self and others

**When deciding whether or not to enroll a student in a particular subject area honors course, please consider the following subject specific characteristics:**

### **Math/Science:**

- Is interested in numerical analysis
- Has a good memory for storing main features of problem 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