



Amherst Central School District

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Notification of Advanced Coursework

Dear Middle School Student Families,

The purpose of this letter is to fulfill the requirements of Board of Education policy #7223 to inform you of the benefits and opportunities for students to participate in advanced coursework. While advanced coursework provides an opportunity for students to gain skills and demonstrate competencies at a higher level, advanced coursework provides other benefits as well. Other benefits of participation in advanced coursework may include:

- challenging a student with a more rigorous curriculum that promotes critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills
- demonstrating a student's preparedness for college-level coursework.
- earning college credit(s) prior to graduation.
- reducing future costs for higher education.
- reducing the amount of time that the student must spend in secondary and/or postsecondary school.
- foster independence and responsibility
- support critical thinking

The advanced courses offered in our middle school, including selection criteria, prerequisites and course descriptions, can be found on the [Curriculum and Instruction webpage](#).

The following supports are provided by your child's school to help students succeed in advanced courses: academic support of peer tutoring and non-academic support through the AMS school counselors.

All families are encouraged to complete the [Community Eligibility Provision Income Form](#). By filling out this form annually, you may become eligible for fee waivers for college applications, AP exams and admissions tests (i.e. SAT, ACT, PSAT).

Questions related to your child's participation in advanced coursework may be referred to their AMS school counselor.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lynn Shanahan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Technology