



April 2024

Dear Red Elephant Families,

It is that time to register for classes for your child's 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. Yes, the last year of middle school! While we want to treasure every day of middle school, we also want to offer some high school options for your child while in middle school. There are advantages to taking high school classes and advantages not to taking high school classes in middle school. Academic maturity, dedication to school work and future plans in high school are all factors to consider when making the decision for high school classes in middle school.

Your child may enroll in high school credit classes during the 2024-25 school year by selecting the class on the online form on the GMS East website. Successful completion of a high school credit course is equivalent to earning a high school credit. The semester one and semester two grades are averaged together for a final grade. The grade, if above a 70, earns CREDIT that will appear on the high school transcript, satisfying the graduation requirement for the course. If the grade is a 69 or below, the student will not receive CREDIT for the course. High school credit classes taken in middle school count as CREDIT. The grade appears on the transcript, but the grade is not calculated into the GPA, for HOPE credit, or into class rank.

Criteria for all students and specific courses offered:

- Students should be passing **all** 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes with a 70 and above, including exploratory
- Strong work ethic for education
- Time daily dedicated to complete work and study for high school courses
- Good attendance
- **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature:** Recommended for students who have an 80 or higher in 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA, scoring at or above grade level diagnostic assessment on the universal screener, scoring a high 3 or 4 on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA Milestones, teacher recommendation, and parent approval.
- **Algebra 1:** Recommended for students who have an 80 or higher in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math, 70 or higher on the Algebra assessment given in spring of 7<sup>th</sup> grade, scoring at or above grade level diagnostic assessment on the universal screener, scoring a high 3 or 4 on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math Milestones Teacher recommendation, and parent approval
- **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science:** Recommended for students who have an 80 or higher in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math, scoring above grade level diagnostic assessment on the universal screeners (Reading and Math), scoring a high 3 or 4 on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math and ELA Milestones, Teacher recommendation, and parent approval
- **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Health and Physical Education:** Recommended for students who have passed all 7<sup>th</sup> grade courses and parent approval  
*NOTE: Students who plan to take Weight Training at GHS will earn 9<sup>th</sup> grade health and physical education credit as part of the high school so you will not take in middle school*
- **Spanish 1:** Recommended for students who have an 80 or higher in 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA and parent approval
- **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Business:** Recommended for students who have an 80 or higher in 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA and parent approval

You have options for enrolling your child for each high school class. Please read the recommendations on the back of this letter and make your choice carefully so that the appropriate placement may be made for next school year.