



# PELHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Lynn M. Sabia, Principal*  
*Maria H. Thompson, Assistant Principal*



January 22, 2026

Dear Students and Families,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the benefits and opportunities for your child to participate in advanced coursework at Pelham Middle School as per the NYSED Student and Parent Notification of Advanced Coursework.

On September 7, 2023, Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law Chapter 355 of the Laws of 2023, requiring that each New York State school district and charter school provide notification of the benefits and opportunities of participating in advanced courses. Beginning July 1, 2024, advanced course notification must be provided annually to parents and students electronically or by mail. Parents and students must receive this notification by the end of 5th grade or one prior to the first year that advanced coursework is offered by the school district or charter school, whichever comes first. This information must also be posted on the school district or charter school's website.

While advanced coursework provides an opportunity for your child 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:

- Improving a student's self-confidence and image of self.
- Demonstrating a student's preparedness for high school-level coursework.
- Earning high school credit(s) before entering high school.
- Reducing future costs for higher education.
- Reducing the amount of time that the student must spend in secondary and/or post-secondary school.

The following advanced/honors courses are offered at Pelham Middle School:

- Available to 7th graders:
  - Math 7 Accelerated
  - World Languages Level 1 (Grades 7 and 8)
- Available to 8th graders:
  - Algebra
  - Studio in Art
  - World Languages Level 1 (Grades 7 and 8)
  - English Honors
  - Social Studies Honors

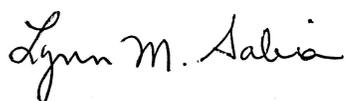
Parents and students may visit the Pelham Middle School website under “Teaching and Learning” to view our [Program of Study/Course Catalog](#) with course descriptions and prerequisites.

The following supports are provided by Pelham Middle School to help students succeed in advanced courses:

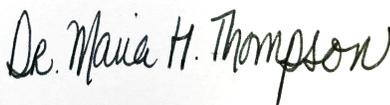
- Academic Supports
  - Drop in math tutoring is available to all students looking for additional help in math before/after school.
  - Academy Period is available to all students daily from 2:51-3:11pm after school with any teacher and in any subject.
  
- Non-Academic Supports
  - Counseling services are available to all students ( 1:1) with the student’s counselor.

If you have any questions related to your child’s participation in advanced coursework, please reach out to your school counselor or the administration.

Sincerely,



Lynn M. Sabia  
Principal



Maria H. Thompson  
Interim Assistant Principal

*“An IB World School and National School of Character”*

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