

ZCHS 9th Grade Honors Placement Criteria and Protocols

English 9 Advanced Curriculum

Course Selection Guidance

ZCS knows the importance of foundational literacy skills, which is why students are placed in the appropriate instructional setting in grades K-8. However, once a student is entering high school, ZCS wants to further honor student voice by giving them the opportunity to make more choices in their educational journey. This is why electing to take English 9AC is a family decision. We ask families to have a discussion about the bulleted points below to determine if English 9AC is the right choice for their student.

We have found most students benefit from signing up for English 9AC when they have achieved the following:

- Consistently perform at the 85th percentile or higher on NWEA Reading in grades 6-8
- Receive first semester final grades of B or higher on the majority of the English 8 standards
- Receive a grade of B or higher on the majority parts of the argumentative writing assessment given to all students in English 8/HA or English 8. This assessment is scored by their teacher using a rubric based upon high school writing expectations.
- Understand that the content is more advanced and the class moves at a quicker pace than the English 9 course.
- Possess a self-motivation and personal desire to take on the rigor of this advanced course.

Geometry Honors

Automatic qualification: Students who are enrolled in Algebra Honors, receive a first semester final grade of a B or above on all standards, and maintain these grades through the second semester automatically qualify for Geometry Honors. These students will be automatically enrolled in Geometry Honors by their counselor unless a parent requests otherwise.

Reviewed qualification: Students who do not meet the criteria above for automatic qualification but meet all of the following criteria will be notified by their middle school counselor that they are eligible to enroll in Geometry Honors:

- 95th percentile or higher on NWEA Fall math assessment
- first semester final grade of B or higher on all Algebra or Algebra Honors standards
- grade of A on all standards on the December Assessment in Algebra or Algebra Honors

These students will be automatically enrolled in Geometry Honors unless a parent requests otherwise. Students not eligible for enrollment, based upon the criteria above, may also seek review for placement in Geometry Honors. Middle school counselors can provide information on how to appeal for placement into Geometry Honors.