



Shenendehowa
Central Schools

2026-2027 Accelerated Technology Informational Packet

Mr. Nagy

Technology Teacher

Mr. Travis

Technology Teacher

Mr. Armstrong

Technology Teacher

Mrs. Kristen Lennon-McMahan

Academic Administrator for Integrated Business, FACS, and Technology

Application Form

Opens 2/09/2026 immediately following the presentation held at 6:00 PM.

Application closes 3:30 PM Monday, 2/23/2026.

[Link to Application Form / https://bit.ly/2627ShenDDE](https://bit.ly/2627ShenDDE)

Please Note:

Students must access the application form through their shenschools.org account on their school-issued Chromebook.

****Your child will receive a response after submitting their application. If there's no response in their Shenschools account, they did not submit the application.****

Greetings!

We are excited to introduce an opportunity that may interest you as you prepare to enter 8th grade this September. With high school just around the corner, now is the perfect time to consider accelerating your studies in Technology. If you are passionate about technology and eager to explore pathways that align with your interests, we invite you to learn more about the **Accelerated Technology Program**.

Program Overview

The Accelerated Technology option for 8th graders is **Design and Drawing for Engineering (DDE)**, a high school credit course offered during **Period Zero (before school)** or as part of the regular school day. This program provides students with a head start on high school electives and opens the door to advanced Technology Education opportunities. By accelerating, students can access more upper-level electives throughout their high school years.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us:

- **Mr. Nagy** – Technology Teacher
Email: nagyterr@shenschools.org | Phone: 518-881-0310 ext. 61646
- **Mr. Travis** – Technology Teacher
Email: travrock@shenschools.org / Phone: 518-881-0470 Ext: 54481
- **Mr. Armstrong**-Technology Teacher
Email: ArmsThom@shenschools.org / 518-881-0310
- **Mrs. Lennon-McMahan** – Academic Administrator for Integrated Business, FACS, and Technology
Email: lennkris@shenschools.org / 518-881-0310 Ext: 61691

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Technology Education?

Technology Education encompasses pathways that prepare students for careers in fields such as construction, architecture, engineering, automotive technology, computer science, and more. These courses combine project-based learning with skill development in math, science, and technology.

How do students elect this program?

For rising 8th-grade students, participation requires an application and acceptance into the program.

What does acceleration mean?

Acceleration allows students to begin their high school Technology Education sequence early. One option includes a 5-unit Career and Technical Education (CTE) sequence over five years instead of the traditional four. Students must apply for and be accepted to be part of this program. In addition, the course must fit in the student's schedule as an 8th grader.

What course is offered for acceleration?

- **Design and Drawing for Engineering (DDE):**

DDE is the first course in the Pre-Engineering sequence. Students who are strong in Math & Science and who are interested in Technology are best suited for DDE. In this course, students are challenged to solve relevant design problems using a variety of skills and techniques. This course introduces students to engineering concepts through problem-solving and design. Students learn to communicate ideas through technical drawings and 3D modeling using Autodesk Fusion. Students may also qualify for **college credit** through Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) based on their performance on the RIT exam. In order to sit for the RIT exam, students must maintain an average of 85 or higher.

Note: students that qualify for RIT credit will be notified the summer following successful completion of DDE. Instructions regarding purchasing the college credit will be included at that time.

When is Accelerated Technology offered?

- **Period Zero:** Two sections before the middle school day starts. Period zero meets daily. Transportation information will be shared by the middle schools when it becomes available.
- **Within the School Day:** One section in a 60-minute block, two out of three days.

Students are scheduled based on what works for their academic schedule/needs. Requests are not allowed.

Please note that daily attendance is mandatory and students enrolled in the Period Zero class will not be able to participate in other before-school activities (ex: intramurals).

Do 8th-grade students earn high school credit in Accelerated Technology?

Yes, students earn **1 unit of high school credit**, which satisfies the graduation requirement for Art or Music. The final grade will appear on the student's high school transcript.

Is DDE part of one of the NYS-approved CTE Pathways?

No, DDE is not part of an approved NYSED CTE Pathway. If your child is interested in completing an approved pathway in Automotive Trades or Building Trades, they should consider taking DDP (Design Drawing for Production) in grade 9.

If a student accelerates in Technology, will that student still take 8th-grade Technology?

While students are not required to take Tech 8 if they are enrolled in DDE, and it fits into their schedule, students will be encouraged to take Tech 8.

What are the benefits of acceleration?

- Greater flexibility to distribute high school electives over five years.
- Fulfillment of the high school Art or Music graduation requirement before entering high school.
- Opportunity to earn college credit through RIT.
- Preparation for advanced Technology Education electives.

What are the selection criteria?

- Current 7th-grade student (2025-2026) entering 8th grade in 2026–2027.
- Strong attendance record.
- Strong math, and science grades.
- Demonstrated interest and skill in design, drawing, and 3D modeling.
- Strong work ethic and problem-solving skills.
- Submission of an online application, including a statement of interest.
- Willingness to work in a fast-paced curriculum.

Minimum Math/Science Grades to apply based on the student's 7th-grade current average:

Science 7	90
Math 7	90
Math 7H	90
Math 7/8	88
Math 8H(7)	88
Algebra 1 H	88

We have a maximum of **75 seats** available for this accelerated program. Student selection will be based on a comprehensive review of their **academic achievement, attendance records, and the strength of their application**. *If you do not take DDE in 8th grade, you can take it in 9th or 10th grade.*

Should the number of qualified applicants exceed 75, students will be offered enrollment based on their GPA of their current courses.

In addition, DDE must be able to fit into the student's schedule. Unfortunately, based on other courses a student may elect to take, DDE may/may not fit into the schedule for 8th grade. Students/families should work with their school counselor if approved. Applicants will be informed of their status in May.

How do students enroll in Accelerated Technology?

Applications open **on February 9, 2026**, immediately following the information presentation and close at **3:30 PM on Monday, February 23, 2026**. Late applications will be added to a waiting list. Students must submit the application via their school-issued Chromebooks using their shenschools.org account. **PLEASE NOTE: Students will receive a confirmation email with their application responses. If your child does not receive the confirmation, they did not apply correctly.**

We look forward to seeing you at the **information presentation** and helping you take the first step toward this exciting opportunity!