

Grade 7 Accelerated Science to Regents Earth Science

Purpose: To promote a love of science and continuous learning opportunities for our students. Students will be able to challenge themselves academically and build upon their science knowledge and skills.

Pathway: Students will begin accelerated science in 7th grade. This will be a more rigorous course than 7th grade general science. Students will be exposed to more content and will have the opportunity to build their skills and independence with science. In 8th grade, students will continue on to take the Regents Level Earth Science course. If successful, students will earn a high school science credit. This score will show on their high school transcript whether successful or not.

Entering into the Accelerated Program:

- Students who have demonstrated high achievement in 6th grade science will be considered for 7th grade acceleration
- Students in 7th grade who have not completed the accelerated course, but have demonstrated strong performance in science will be given the opportunity to join Earth Science in 8th grade
- Students will not be accepted into the Earth Science class after the 5 week mark of 8th grade

Criteria: Students are chosen based on multiple data points and considerations

- A student's Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI 925+) and Math Inventory (MI 785+) will be evaluated in relation to grade level standards.
- 6th grade common unit assessments
- All 7th grade students will participate in 2 State required Laboratory Investigations and a benchmark assessment for Science.
- A rubric identifying strengths in work ethic and academic skills will be completed by the current Science teacher.

Process for Appeal:

If a student is not placed in the Accelerated Science class and would like to be included they need to do the following:

- Write a letter stating why they should be considered for Accelerated Placement. The letter will respond to the prompt
 - Using our CCMS Matrix, how have you demonstrated Respect, Responsibility and Readiness in school? How does this prepare you for the challenges of an accelerated course?

- The House Administrator will meet with the student about expectations and the responsibilities of a student in an accelerated course. They will discuss the following
 - Why are you interested in the Accelerated Science Program?
 - What prevented you from being accepted to the Accelerated Science Program?
 - What steps will you take to help you be successful?
 - What supports do you have and/or need to be successful?
 - What extracurricular activities are you involved in?

Discontinuing Accelerated Science

- The majority of students who are involved in accelerated courses do meet with success. When students in the course are not meeting with success, they will meet with the teacher to establish a plan to get back on track.
- If students and families question the appropriateness of the placement for the scholar, they should notify their teacher to see if support can be provided to meet with success. If not, a change in schedule should be requested with the counselor at the 10 week mark.
- This process will be in collaboration with parents, teachers, and students

Profile of a Successful Accelerated Student

- Responsible- complete labs, make up any missing assignments, works independently to complete classroom assignments, seeking help when confused