



Dear Parent or Guardian:

In an effort to provide some new and important information that may impact enrollment decisions we have provided this letter. We hope that this information about 7th grade elective offerings will help our incoming 7th graders make good informed decisions. We also wanted to provide an explanation about a series of course name changes you may notice (a change from Pre AP courses to Honors courses.)

For Sixth Grade Parent/Guardian:

We understand that enrolling your child in junior high is very exciting. This will be the first time your student is able to select an elective course. There are many wonderful elective choices available to incoming seventh grade students, however we would like to caution you on one thing. Band is the only elective that is challenging to enroll in for the first time as an eighth grader. Students can enroll in and out of all other electives as they wish, except for band. **To participate in band, a student needs to enroll as a seventh grader.** So, if you and your child think they may be interested in band, it is imperative that they enroll in 7th grade band. For example, if you are debating between STEM and band, we strongly encourage you to select band. There is a great deal of research that ties together high achieving students with the ability to read music. In addition, getting involved in band is a great way to build a strong and lasting friendship group that creates a sense of belonging in school, which in turn, further increases student's achievement and graduation rates. If your student enrolls in band as a seventh grader and decides later that band is not something they are interested in pursuing, they can always drop band the following year and select any other elective. Please let us know if we can answer any further questions.

Pre AP Course Name Changes

We would like to make you aware of a change in Moore Public School's Course Catalog. A company called College Board has always owned the SAT test and Advanced Placement testing and coursework. College Board recently acquired the copywrite to the term "Pre-AP". They are no longer allowing schools to use the term Pre-AP in their catalogs and transcripts unless the Pre-AP course work and teacher professional development programs align with their curriculum. However, their Pre-AP program does not align with Oklahoma Academic Standards and is very expensive to implement. Therefore, the decision has been made to change the name of advanced classes from Pre-AP to Honors. Here is what you need to know:

- The Honors courses, curriculum, and content will remain the same as when called Pre-AP.
- The Honors classes will be weighted on a five-point scale just as the Pre-AP classes were weighted on a five-point scale.
- Other large districts around the state are also changing from Pre-AP to Honors, so that students who move will have consistent transcripts.
- Advanced Placement (AP) classes in high school will continue to be listed as AP because MPS teachers currently adhere to College Board's requirement for curriculum and training for AP classes.
- Students who enroll in high school AP classes still can test for college credit in the spring.

Sincerely:

Shannon Thompson, Dean of Academics

David Peak

Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education