



## South Valley Junior High Honors Program

Please indicate below for which course(s) your student is seeking Honors consideration:

- \_\_\_\_ Honors English 8  
\_\_\_\_ Honors History and Social Sciences 8  
\_\_\_\_ Honors Science 8  
\_\_\_\_ Honors Algebra 1A/1B (\*This course covers the AZ Mathematics Standards for Algebra 1A/1B. The letter grade received in this course will be documented in the high school transcript and will be factored into the student's high school GPA.)

South Valley Jr High Honors courses are designed and implemented to demand more challenging involvement on the part of students. The coursework is significantly more rigorous than their standard course counterpart and provides students multiple opportunities to take greater ownership of their learning. Honors courses are distinguished by differences in the quality and composition of their coursework, not by the quantity of the work required. Honors courses are designed for students who have demonstrated a high level of interest and academic achievement in a given subject area. Students and parents should understand that Honors courses are more demanding and have requirements beyond those of standard, grade-level courses.

### Honors Courses:

- Contain additional depth and breadth of content
- Are taught at a more rapid pace
- Are aligned to subject-area state standards
- Often integrate two or more different content areas
- Are inquiry-based
- Require content application through research
- Emphasize critical and reflective thinking

### Indicators of Honors Level Student Readiness:

- Demonstrates interest and curiosity in the subject area.
- Previous attainment of prerequisite skills and vocabulary in the subject area.
- Motivation remains high in face of challenges. (High frustration threshold.)
- Reads above grade-level
- Self-motivated, well-organized, and apt to work independently for extended periods.
- Demonstrates ability to self-advocate, seeking help and guidance when needed.
- Consistently completes and submits assignments on time.
- Actively participates in class activities and discussions with appropriate peer interactions.
- Extends learning by voluntarily going beyond the parameters of the assignment.
- Enjoys learning, making connections between subjects and with the larger world.

The guiding principles of our Honors Program are based on the expectation that all students can perform at rigorous academic levels, and that students should be continuously challenged to expand their knowledge and skills to the next level.

**Performance in the Honors program is evaluated on a quarterly basis.** This evaluation may include a review of standardized assessment scores, completed coursework, participation, grades and attendance. Failure to demonstrate a preparedness to meet the rigor of an accelerated course could result in withdrawal from the program.

**Your signature below indicates that you have read and understand the above statements and, if requesting participation in an Honors course, are committing to its demands and expectations. \*Eligible students placed on priority and space availability.\***

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Students that have been formally identified as gifted/talented are eligible for priority placement in the Honors course(s) most closely aligned with the area of G/T identification.

Students that have not been previously identified as gifted/talented may be placed, space available, with evidence of meeting eligibility guidelines below.

**Honors English 8 / Honors History and Social Sciences 8**

- ☐ 7th grade AASA ELA Performance Level = Proficient/Highly Proficient
- ☐ 7th grade District Level Assessment (EOY) Performance Level = Proficient/Highly Proficient
- ☐ 7th grade Report Card ( $\geq 3.5$  g.p.a.) and/or Subject-Area Teacher Recommendation

**Honors Algebra\* / Honors Science 8**

- ☐ 7th grade AASA Math Performance Level = Proficient/Highly Proficient
- ☐ 7th grade District Level Assessment (EOY) Performance Level = Proficient/Highly Proficient
- Students who wish to be considered for placement in Honors Algebra I must demonstrate mastery of Math 8 (AzCCRS) standards.*
- ☐ 7th grade Report Card ( $\geq 3.5$  g.p.a.) and/or Subject-Area Teacher Recommendation

**HONORS ALGEBRA IA/IB\***

This course will conduct an in-depth study of linear, quadratic, and exponential functions, including sequences, and also explore absolute value, and piecewise-defined functions. Students will develop fluency writing, interpreting and comparing functions given graphically, numerically, symbolically, and verbally and use them to solve problems. Students will also explore a formal means of assessing how a model fits data. This course will be comparable to a first-year high school algebra course. *Upon successful completion of this course, students will receive one math credit on their high school transcript. The letter grade received in this course will be documented on the high school transcript and will be factored into the student's high school GPA.*

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★ Applications submitted without the appropriate documentation will delay the review process for students. ★ Eligibility and course placement decisions will be communicated by mail.

*Placement concerns are directed to the campus grade-level administrator.*