

2019-20 Course Selection

Key Information for rising 8th Grade Students

Course Selection Timeline

Teachers complete Recommendations Online

Friday, February 1 through Tuesday, February 12

Students view Recommendations and Choose Electives - Online

February 13 - February 20

First Course Change Window

March 4 - March 15

7th Grade course change requests are to be submitted to Mrs. Selgrath

Second/Final Course Change Window

March 18 - March 22

All course change requests are to be submitted to Mrs. Selgrath

Course Change Deadline - Friday, March 29

Course Recommendations

- ▶ Placement of students into appropriate courses is an important factor that contributes to student success. To make appropriate decisions, middle school principals will consider multiple data points in the decision-making process. These data points will include student performance on PSSA assessments, PVAAS, student performance in class as evidenced by their report card grades, and their current teacher's recommendation. In addition, additional assessment data may be considered should any be available for individual students.
- ▶ In most cases, you will be recommended to continue in the same course level.

English

- ▶ 7th Grade Teachers will complete online recommendations
- ▶ Course Options
 - ▶ 8009 Accelerated English
 - ▶ 8001 English Level 1 Above Grade Level
 - ▶ 8002 English Level 2 On Grade Level

Mathematics

- ▶ 7th Grade Teachers will complete online recommendations
- ▶ Course Options
 - ▶ 8024 Geometry
 - ▶ 8021 Algebra 1 Above Grade Level
 - ▶ 8022 Pre-Algebra On Grade Level

Science and Social Studies

- ▶ 7th Grade Teachers will complete online recommendations
- ▶ Science Course
 - ▶ 8041 Science 8 Level 1 - Above Grade Level
 - ▶ 8042 Science 8 Level 2 - On Grade Level
- ▶ Social Studies Course
 - ▶ 8031 US History 1754-1915 Level 1 - Above Grade Level
 - ▶ 8032 US History 1754-1915 Level 2 - On Grade Level

World Language

- ▶ Students will be recommended for World Language or Reading
- ▶ Teachers recommend students for a second year of World Language
- ▶ Language Options
 - ▶ 8400 Spanish 1
 - ▶ 8405 Spanish 2 (pass Spanish 1 with teacher recommendation)
 - ▶ 8401 French 1
 - ▶ 8406 French 2 (pass French 1 with teacher recommendation)
 - ▶ 8404 Latin 1
 - ▶ 8402 Italian 1
 - ▶ 8403 German 1
- ▶ Students recommended for World Language may *choose* to take Reading and Writing for Life

Unified Arts Elective Course Options

2 Day Courses

- ▶ 2 Day Electives (all NON-Performing Music students will be assigned these courses)
 - ▶ Teen Impact, Exploring Design, Real World Design, Classroom Music

- ▶ All 8th grade Students will be scheduled for:
 - ▶ Health, Physical Education
 - ▶ Guidance 1, Guidance 2, Computer Science 1, Computer Science 2

Performing Music

- ▶ Chorus, Band, and Orchestra
 - ▶ Students will perform individually, in small groups, and in an ensemble at two concerts during the school year
 - ▶ Students receive a grade
 - ▶ Students have an interest in improving their singing or playing an instrument



Unified Arts Elective Options

4 Day Electives

- ▶ 4 Day Electives (One per marking period will be scheduled.)
 - ▶ Art in 2 Dimension, Art in 3 Dimension
 - ▶ Popular Music
 - ▶ Early Child Development, Creative Chef
 - ▶ Sustainable Design, Transportation Engineering and Design
- ▶ Please note carefully, that the 4 day electives fill up quickly and a seat in any one course is not guaranteed.
- ▶ If you do not select your electives, they will be selected for you

What do I need to do in Parent Portal?

- ▶ Click the [Course Registration](#) Tab
- ▶ Review the Teacher Recommendations
- ▶ Choose a Language or Reading and Writing for Life
 - ▶ French 1, French 2, Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Latin, Italian, German
- ▶ Choose One Music Class
 - ▶ Band, Chorus, Orchestra, or Classroom Music
- ▶ Choose Four (4) Electives
 - ▶ Art in 2 Dimension, Art in 3 Dimension, Popular Music, Creative Chef, Child Development, Sustainable Design, Transportation Engineering and Design

Unified Arts Electives Courses

- ▶ Students will go online via Parent Portal and choose electives
 - ▶ Students who select performing music
 - ▶ Health, PE, Computer Science, and Guidance will all be selected
 - ▶ Choose Music (Band, Orchestra, Chorus, Classroom Music)
 - ▶ Choose 4 of the 4-day elective options
 - ▶ Performing Music Students may not register for Popular Music
 - ▶ Students who do not select performing music
 - ▶ Health, PE, Computer Science, and Guidance will all be selected
 - ▶ Choose 4 of the 4-day elective options
 - ▶ At a later date, students will be scheduled for Teen Impact, Exploring Design, Real World Design, Classroom Music 8

Course Placement Waiver Agreement (Parent Override)

Parents *MAY* complete a waiver to change a course or courses. There are two opportunities to do this.

March 4 - March 15

March 18 - March 22

Course change requests are to be submitted to Mrs. Selgrath and all are subject to administrative approval.



WEST
CHESTER
AREA
SCHOOL
DISTRICT

COURSE PLACEMENT WAIVER AGREEMENT

782 Springdale Drive, Exton, PA 19341 • Phone: 484-266-1000 • Fax: 484-266-1175 • Web: www.wcasd.net

During the course selection process, teachers make recommendations for individual students carefully after considering a variety of data. If you have questions about the course and/or level that you feel would be most appropriate for your child, or would like more information on your child's current recommendation, it is strongly encouraged that you contact your child's recommending teacher or counselor. If, after consideration, you still wish to override the teacher recommendation, please complete the following section of this form:

Student's Name : _____ Current School: _____

School Counselor: _____ Grade: _____ Homeroom: _____

Recommended Course/level to be changed: **Parent/Student Selected Course/Level to be added:**

Course Name/Level: _____ Course Name/Level: _____

Course Name/Level: _____ Course Name/Level: _____

Course Name/Level: _____ Course Name/Level: _____

- I request that my child be placed in the courses I have selected and listed above. I have discussed the selections with my child's teacher and understand why my child did not meet the criteria for the particular courses. However, after careful consideration of these criteria, I still believe that the courses we have selected represent the appropriate placement for my child.
- I understand and accept full responsibility to provide my child with any support or remediation that may be needed to ensure his/her success in this course.
- I fully understand that a request to reverse this waiver and place my child in the class originally recommended by the teacher is not guaranteed. Placement in the original teacher recommended course after my request is approved is based upon availability, considering predetermined class sizes. If the original teacher recommended course has reached the maximum capacity, my child will remain in the course I requested.
- I fully understand that waiving into this course does not guarantee placement in this course.
- I understand that this agreement does not allow a student to skip prior coursework needed to fulfill a course prerequisite.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Approval Routing:

- Guidance Counselor
- Building Administrator
- District Supervisor