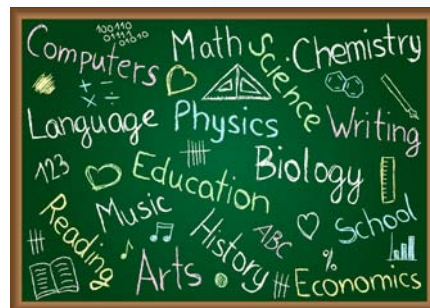


PSAT 8/9 Assessment

Students in 8th grade are provided with the opportunity to take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) at no cost. This assessment provides parents, students, and teachers with baseline information which will be used for personalized practice to prepare for pre-collegiate exams. Personalized practice may be accessed online from anywhere at www.SATPractice.org.

Middle School Advanced Pathways

What parents need to know about academic options for middle school students on the pathway to high school.



PCSB LOGO

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E-mail: someone@example.com

World Languages

Students may choose to take elective courses in a world language in any year while in middle school. Languages offered include Spanish, French, Chinese and American Sign Language. The language(s) offered at each school vary.

6th Grade:

M/J Beginning World Language

7th Grade:

World Language 1 (HS) **OR**

M/J Beginning World Language

8th Grade:

World Language 1 (HS) **OR**

World Language 2 (HS) **OR**

M/J Beginning World Language

Students who complete an elementary dual language immersion program have the option to participate in higher level language acquisition courses while in middle school. These courses are not listed above.

High School Options

Students who participate in the advanced pathways while in middle school have increased opportunity to participate in courses which may provide college credit while in high school including Advanced Placement (AP) and Dual Enrollment options.

Students may also wish to consider participation in one of our District Application Programs to enrich their high school education.

Students who wish to enroll in an International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), Center for Advanced Technologies (CAT), or Institute for Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (ISTEM) must meet specific entrance requirements including successful completion of Algebra I Honors and passing the Algebra I EOC in middle school.

Please visit our website for additional information on our District Application Programs and specific programs with entrance criteria: www.pcsb.org/choice

Technology

Students may choose to take elective courses in business and technology at varying levels in any year while in middle school. Courses are either semester long or year long. The courses offered at each school vary.

Semester	Year Long
6th Grade: Business Keyboarding & Computer Applications 1 (or other elective)	Information & Communication Technology 1
7th Grade: Computer Applications 1 & 2 OR Computer Applications 2 & 3	Information & Communication Technology 2
8th Grade: Computer Applications 3 & 4 OR Information & Communication Technology 3	Information & Communication Technology 3 OR Digital Information Technology (HS)

Students can move between semester and year long pathways at any time during middle school. Students should complete at least one full year of technology coursework to be eligible for the high school credit course, Digital Information Technology.

Middle School Advanced Pathways

There are a variety of options for students to participate in advanced or accelerated coursework while in any Pinellas County Middle School. This document provides information on many of the opportunities available to students. The advanced pathways represented in this document are independent of each other, allowing students to access areas of strength or interest. The advanced pathway a student takes in middle school can have an impact on the student's options for high school programs.

Students in middle school who participate in advanced or accelerated coursework may take high school courses prior to completion of middle school. High school courses taken in middle school will count for credit toward the student's high school diploma and will be part of the student's permanent GPA/transcript.

Glossary:

Summer Supplement: an online opportunity for students to review and expand their knowledge in a subject area. For students seeking to transition to an Advanced Pathway, Summer Supplement provides an online opportunity through Pinellas Virtual School to learn the additional topics necessary to be prepared for the advanced level course in the following school year.

Summer Virtual Course: a full year course taken online which provides students with the advanced course they must take in order to move from an advanced pathway to an accelerated pathway. Students who wish to take advantage of this opportunity must register for and begin the online coursework during the third quarter of the academic school year. Coursework must be completed before the start of the following school year. These courses are offered through Pinellas Virtual School.

English / Language Arts

Students who participate in the advanced pathway have a recommended FSA level of 3, 4, or 5 in English/Language Arts. Students who take English I Honors in 8th grade must have taken M/J Language Arts 2 Advanced in 7th grade.

6th Grade:

M/J Language Arts I Advanced

7th Grade:

M/J Language Arts 2 Advanced

8th Grade:

M/J Language Arts 3 Advanced
OR
English I Honors (HS)

Social Studies

Students who participate in the advanced pathway have a recommended FSA level of 3, 4, or 5 in English/Language Arts.

6th Grade:

M/J U.S. History Advanced

7th Grade:

M/J Civics Advanced (2106020)

8th Grade:

M/J World History Advanced

How to Transition to an Advanced Pathway in English/Language Arts or Social Studies:

English/Language Arts and Social Studies students may transition from the traditional pathway into the advanced pathway between any academic year. Students may transition because of an increase in FSA score, teacher recommendation, or parent request.

Mathematics

Students who participate in the advanced pathway have a recommended FSA level of 3, 4, or 5 in Mathematics. Students who participate in the accelerated pathway have a recommended FSA of 5 in Mathematics.

Students who wish to take an accelerated pathway and scored a level 4 on the Mathematics FSA should take M/J Math 6 Advanced through Pinellas Virtual School during the second semester of 5th grade or in the summer between 5th and 6th grades. Some schools may offer the accelerated track as a block (two period) class where students take M/J Math 6 Advanced first semester and M/J Math 7 Advanced second semester.

	Advanced	Accelerated
6th Grade:		
	M/J Math 6 Advanced	M/J Math 7 Advanced
7th Grade:		
	M/J Math 7 Advanced	Algebra I Honors (HS)
8th Grade:		
	Algebra I (HS) OR Algebra I Honors (HS)	Geometry Honors (HS)

How to Transition to an Advanced Pathway in Mathematics or Science:

Mathematics or science students may transition from the traditional pathway into the advanced pathway by participating in a Summer Supplement course to learn the additional topics in the advanced course allowing students to jump from the traditional to advanced pathway. Mathematics or science students may transition to an advanced pathway between 6th and 7th grades or 7th and 8th grades.

How to Transition to an Accelerated Pathway in Mathematics:

Mathematics students may transition from the advanced pathway into the accelerated pathway by participating in a Summer Virtual Course to complete the full course they wish to "jump" in order to move to the accelerated pathway. Please review the information in the glossary regarding Summer Virtual Courses. Mathematics students may transition from the advanced pathway to the accelerated pathway either between 6th and 7th grades or between 7th and 8th grades.

How to Transition to an Accelerated Pathway in Science:

Science students may transition from the advanced pathway in 6th grade into the accelerated pathway in 7th grade by participating in a Summer Supplement course to complete the additional topics necessary to move to the accelerated pathway. Science students may transition from the advanced pathway in 7th grade to the accelerated pathway in 8th grade by participating in a Summer Virtual Course to complete the 8th grade science course they wish to "jump" in order to move to the accelerated pathway. Please review the information in the glossary regarding Summer Virtual Courses.

Science

Students who participate in the advanced pathway have a recommended FSA level of 3, 4, or 5 in Science OR Mathematics AND English/Language Arts. Students who participate in the accelerated pathway have a recommended FSA of 5 in Science OR Mathematics AND English/Language Arts.

	Advanced	Accelerated
6th Grade:		
	M/J Science 1 Advanced	M/J Science 1 Accelerated Honors
7th Grade:		
	M/J Science 2 Advanced	M/J Science 2 Accelerated Honors
8th Grade:		
	M/J Science 3 Advanced	Integrated Science I Honors (HS)