



Langston Hughes Rising 8th and 9th Grade Information 2024



RISING 8th GRADE



Langston Hughes Counselors



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Rising 8th Grade Important Dates

January 12 - LHMS Registration Site link in News You Choose

February 20th - 23rd - Meet with LHMS Counselors for Academic Advising (through history classes)

March 1st - Course Selections Sheets Due - Signed by Parent/Guardian

Late March - Parents confirm course selections in SIS ParentVUE/Course Selection Verification mailed home

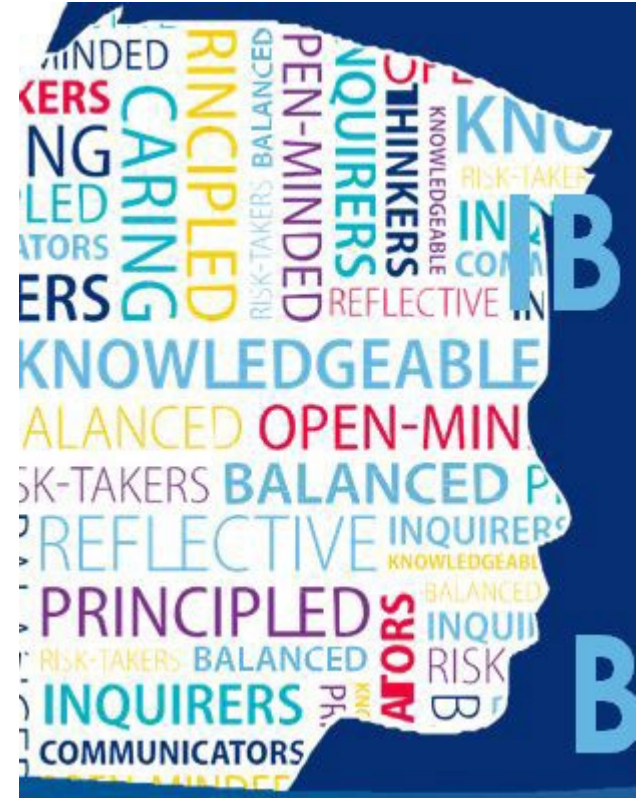
7th Grade vs 8th Grade Key Points

- 3 End of Year SOL tests (Reading/Writing, Math, and Science) instead of 2 and 1 SOL Local Authentic Assessment Tasks (Civics)
- Increased options for high school credit courses (math and world language)
- Spanish, French, Japanese, and German foreign language options (Japanese and German are taught at SLHS - extended day)
- Summer school online campus opportunities:
<https://www.fcps.edu/academics/summer-learning>
- Advanced arts, music, and design classes
- Increased independence and self-advocacy
- Finance Park experience for all 8th grade students (through Civics)
- 15 hour requirement for community service *by the end of 8th grade
- National Junior Honor Society



The IB Middle Years Program

1. Best development and preparation for honors work and the Diploma Program
2. Learning with an emphasis on inquiry, critical thinking, and rigor
3. Ease of preparation for the college application process (essays, interviews, perspective)



Preparing for the IB Diploma Program

All students in grades 7-10 at Langston Hughes and South Lakes are part of the IB Middle Years Program

If students are considering the IB Diploma Program at SLHS, they should take Algebra and a world language by the end of 8th grade. Honors level/AA (advanced academics) classes are the best preparation for the IB Diploma classes.



Considering applying to TJ?

If students are considering applying to Thomas Jefferson High School, they should take the following courses in 8th grade:

- Algebra HONORS or higher level math
- Science 8 HONORS or Science 8 AA
(students receiving full-time AA services will be placed in Science 8 AA.)



Honors Classes

- Open access to honors classes (exception - Geometry HN - the prerequisite is Algebra in 7th grade)
- Students may choose honors English, Science, or Algebra classes. **Civics honors is the standard class at LHMS. We recommend that all students who are successful in Math 7 take Algebra 1 in 8th grade.*
- Similar curriculum as full-time AAP classes—Rigorous academic program using extensions to the Program of Studies

Both Honors and Level IV Center

May accelerate or compact curriculum

Choices for exploring interests and deeper understandings

Emphasize creative and critical thinking skills

Open-ended work; added depth and complexity

Simulate the work of experts in the field


Ongoing professional development for teachers

Why Should my Student take an Honors Class in Middle School?

Middle school is an excellent time to explore the honors extensions.

- Allows students to explore passions, interests, and career possibilities.
- Allows students to challenge themselves before high school and prepare for a more rigorous path in high school.

Math Course Sequence

7 th Grade	Math 7	Math 7 Honors	Algebra 1 Honors*	Geometry Honors*
8 th Grade	<p>- Pre-Algebra or - Algebra 1* or - Algebra 1 Honors *</p> <p><i>*high school credit course</i></p> 	<p>- Algebra 1* or - Algebra 1 Honors *</p> <p><i>*high school credit course</i></p>	<p>Geometry Honors*</p> <p><i>*high school credit course</i></p>	<p>Algebra 2 Honors*</p> <p><i>*high school credit course</i></p>

High School Credit Courses

- Algebra 1 and Algebra 1 HN
- Geometry HN
- Algebra 2 and Algebra 2 HN (offered at SLHS)
- World Languages - Spanish, French, German, and Japanese

*German, Japanese, and Alg 2 are offered through SLHS and transportation is offered only to students in the SLHS boundary- extended day



Support Classes Offered

- Math
- Reading
- Special Education
- ESOL
- Study Skills

* Students in need of remediation (determined by grades, SOL tests, Math and Reading Inventory scores, and other data) will take a support class in place of an elective.

Student with Special Needs - ESOL, 504, and IEP

ESOL - Students are placed in classes (core and support classes) based on their WIDA scores and teacher input. WIDA scores are received in June.

504/IEP - 504/IEP teams will hold transition meetings which may include schedule requirements and/or recommendations.



RISING 9th GRADE

South Lakes

Course Catalog



What are the options for courses for 9th

English 9/English 9 Honors

World History and Geography 2/World History and Geography 2 Honors

Algebra 1/Geometry/Geometry Honors/Algebra 2/Algebra 2 Honors

Environmental Science/Biology/Biology Honors

Health & PE 9

World Language or Elective

Elective



Standard Diploma

Subject	Standard Credits	Verified Credits
English	4	2
Math	3	1
Lab Science	3	1
History and Social Science	3	1
World Language, Fine arts or CTE	2	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Electives	4	
Health and physical education	2	
Total Credits	22	5



Advanced Diploma

Subject	Standard Credits	Verified Credits
English	4	2
Math	4	1
Lab Science	4	1
History and Social Science	4	1
World Language	3	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Electives	3	
Health and physical education	2	
Fine Arts or CTE	1	
Total Credits	26	5



World Languages

- Spanish
- French
- German
- Japanese
- Latin (tentative)

*Other options are available online



Get Involved! Athletics

- **Fall Sports:** Football, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Dance, Field hockey, Golf, Volleyball
- **Winter Sports:** Basketball, Gymnastics, Swim & Dive, Wrestling, Indoor Track
- **Spring Sports:** Baseball, Soccer, Tennis, Lacrosse, Softball

Eligibility, try-out, and other information can be found here:

<https://southlakesathletics.net/>



SLHS Get Involved - Clubs and Activities

- South Lakes offers World Language clubs, Honor Societies, Student Government groups, and more!
- Just a few of our clubs:
 - Aeronautics Club
 - Black Student Union
 - Bollywood Club
 - Entrepreneurship Club
 - Improv Club
 - Science Olympiad
 - Ultimate Frisbee
 - Chess Club
- For a list of clubs, honor societies, club forms, and other activities, please visit:
<https://southlakeshs.fcps.edu/student-life-activities/clubs-honor-societies>



Elective Options for 9th Graders*

* Offerings are subject to change based on staffing/course selections

- Studio Art
- Ceramics
- Dance
- Strategies for Success
- Guitar
- Theatre Arts/Tech Theatre
- Band/Chorus/Orchestra
- Journalism/Photojournalism
- Business Law/Business Mgmt.
- Auto Tech 1
- Intro to Culinary
- Computer Science Foundations
- Cybersecurity
- AVID
- Cyber Security
- Film Study
- Information Systems
- Digital Art
- Exploring the Language of Medicine
- Accounting
- Intro to Marketing
- Marketing
- Fashion Marketing
- STEM Design
- JROTC
- African American History
- Musical Theater
- Technical Drawing



Rising 9th Course Selection Timeline

- Thursday, January 11 th 6:30 pm- SLHS Curriculum Night
- February 5th - February 8th - 9th Grade Overview - through Civics Classes
- February 12th - 15th - SLHS Counselor Visits for Course Selection
- Find the SLHS Course Catalog here: [SLHS Rising 9 Course Catalog](#)

**If students are scheduled for Herndon HS, a HHS counselor will be visiting students in Connections on Jan 11th.*

Questions?

Contact Michele Beard at mbeard@fcps.edu or
your student's counselor:

Langston Hughes Counselors

Karen Bach - kabach@fcps.edu

Marissa Brooks - mlbrooks@fcps.edu

Mark Blocker - mfblocker@fcps.edu

South Lakes HS - Heather Thomas, Director of Student Services
hathomas@fcps.edu

