

## ZCHS CRITERIA FOR PLACEMENT FOR 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE STUDENTS (ENGLISH, MATH, and SCIENCE)

### English 9 Honors

Automatic qualification: Students who are enrolled in high ability English 8, receive first semester final grades of a **B** or above on all standards, and maintain these grades through the second semester automatically qualify for English 9 Honors. These students will be automatically enrolled in English 9 Honors by their counselor unless a parent requests otherwise.

Reviewed qualification: Students who do not meet the criteria above for automatic qualification but meet 3 of the following criteria will be notified by their school counselor that they are eligible to enroll in English 9 Honors:

- 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on NWEA Fall Reading assessment
- 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on NWEA Fall Language Arts assessment
- first semester final grade of A on all English 8 standards
- grade of A on all parts of the argumentative writing assessment given to all students in English 8/HA or English 8 during the first semester and scored by their teacher using a common rubric based upon high school writing expectations

These students will be automatically enrolled in English 9 Honors unless a parent requests otherwise. Students not eligible for enrollment, based upon the criteria above, may also seek review for placement in English 9 Honors. Middle school counselors can provide information on how to appeal for placement into English 9 Honors.

### Geometry Honors

Automatic qualification: Students who are enrolled in Algebra Honors, receive a first semester final grade of a **B** or above on all standards, and maintain these grades through the second semester automatically qualify for Geometry Honors. These students will be automatically enrolled in Geometry Honors by their counselor unless a parent requests otherwise.

Reviewed qualification: Students who do not meet the criteria above for automatic qualification but meet all of the following criteria will be notified by their middle school counselor that they are eligible to enroll in Geometry Honors:

- 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on NWEA Fall math assessment
- first semester final grade of B or higher on all Algebra or Algebra Honors standards
- grade of A on Algebra or Algebra Honors on all parts of the first semester final exam

These students will be automatically enrolled in Geometry Honors unless a parent requests otherwise. Students not eligible for enrollment, based upon the criteria above, may also seek review for placement in Geometry Honors. Middle school counselors can provide information on how to appeal for placement into Geometry Honors.

### Freshman Science Placement into

The default science course for all freshman students is Integrated Chemistry and Physics (ICP) which lays strong foundational knowledge and lab experience for advanced Chemistry and Physics application. **Any** freshman with strong interest in science **who has completed Algebra I or will be enrolled in Algebra I during the freshman year** may take both ICP and Biology

during the freshman year. Entering freshmen with demonstrated advanced skill in math and science may opt to take Biology only **or** Biology **concurrently with** Chemistry or Physics based on the following guidelines:

Automatic qualification: Students who are enrolled in Honors Algebra (or Geometry) **and** 8<sup>th</sup> grade high ability science who receive a first semester final grade of a **B** or above on all standards in **both** courses, and maintain these grades through the second semester in all standards in **both courses** will be automatically enrolled in Biology and are not required to take Integrated Chemistry and Physics (ICP). They **may also opt** to take Chemistry or Physics concurrently with Biology during the freshman year. These students will be automatically enrolled in Biology only by their counselor unless a parent requests otherwise.

Reviewed qualification: Students who do not meet the criteria above for automatic qualification but who meet 3 of the following criteria will be notified by their school counselor that they are eligible to enroll in Biology **without concurrent enrollment in ICP:**

- 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on NWEA Fall Math assessment
- 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on NWEA Fall Reading assessment
- first semester final grade of A on all 8<sup>th</sup> grade science standards
- first semester final grade of A on all Algebra standards

These students will be automatically enrolled in Biology **without concurrent enrollment in ICP** unless a parent requests otherwise. They are not required to take Integrated Chemistry and Physics (ICP). They **may also opt** to take Chemistry or Physics concurrently with Biology during the freshman year. Students not eligible to waive ICP based upon the criteria above may also seek review of their science placement decision. Middle school counselors can provide information on the review process.