

# Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents' Night!

English/Language Arts & Social Studies  
January 17, 2024

# The English/Language Arts Department

Dr. Elizabeth McKenna  
Supervisor of Language Arts/English, K-12

# 9th Grade English

- Genre-based course, emphasizing critical reading and writing across genres (both fiction and non-fiction)
- Combination of in-class and independent texts
- Integrated vocabulary and grammar instruction
- Focus on providing students with skills to become critical readers and writers on the high school level

# Electives

## Open to 9th graders

- Public Speaking
- Acting with Dramatic Literature
- Digital Video Production
- Introduction to Broadcast Journalism and Studio TV
- Journalism
- Photo-Journalism/Yearbook
- Creative Writing A



# Extra Curriculars

*Muse*

*Culmen* (Yearbook)

*Fanscotian* (Newspaper)

Raider News (TV Station)

A row of approximately 15 old, leather-bound books is displayed on a shelf. The books vary in color, including shades of red, brown, and gold. Some have ornate designs on their covers. The background is a dark, textured surface with a repeating diamond pattern.

# The Social Studies Department

Noel Baxter  
Supervisor of Social Studies, K-12

# 9th grade Social Studies

- US History I
- Civil War through the Great Depression
- Integration of history, civics, geography and economics
- Focus on writing, research, document analysis

# Social Studies Electives

Open to 9th graders: Economics and Financial Literacy  
(fulfills financial literacy requirement)

## Other electives:

Philosophy (11-12)

You and the Law (10-12)

Racism, Genocide

and the Holocaust (10-12)

Psychology (10-12)

Sociology (10-12)

American Popular Culture (10-12)

## AP electives:

African American Studies (11-12)

Art History (11-12)

Economics (10-12)

European History (11-12)

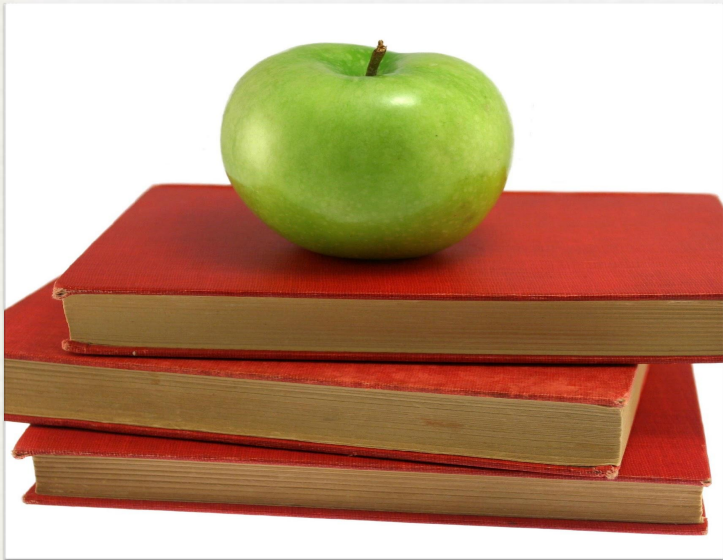
Psychology (11-12)

US History (12)

US Government and Politics (11-12)



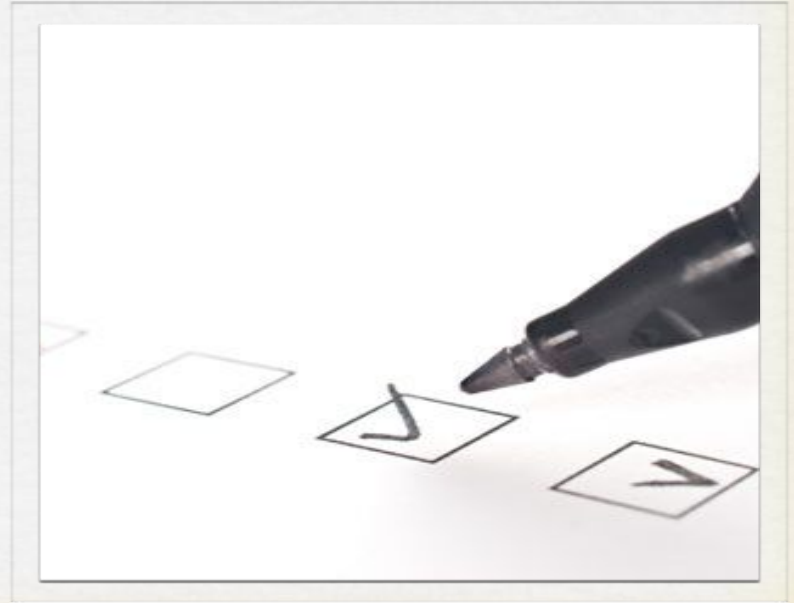
# Levels



- Accelerated
- Academic

# Level recommendation criteria

- Grades
- District-administered writing sample scores
- Student Placement Criteria Rubric



# Students in accelerated courses...

- Possess exceptional self-direction, initiative, and perseverance
- Are highly organized and possess excellent time-management skills.
- Analyze, evaluate and synthesize more complex and in depth concepts.
- Are expected to complete more independent work at home.
- Will have shorter timelines for project completion.
- Will be expected to analyze more difficult texts, often independently.
- Are expected to make sophisticated connections between concepts.
- Are motivated to apply what they learn beyond the classroom.
- Have genuine interest in the subject and the work associated with it.

# Academic Support

- Middle vs. high school support
- Study Hall period for 9th graders
- Importance of self-advocacy

# Contact information

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