
PHILOSOPHY AND HONORS PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Lockport Township High School District 205 believes that students are entitled to educational opportunities that will aid them in developing their potential.

Recognizing the needs of these students, Lockport Township High School has developed an Honors Program, which presents a challenging curriculum in English, Fine Arts, Foreign Language, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies to academically talented students.



PROGRAM DEFINITION

The LTHS Honors Program incorporates both acceleration and enrichment. The course content is both broader scope and more demanding than that found in regular classes. In addition, the course work expects mastery of fundamental material and stresses analytical skills and critical thinking.

The Mathematics program actually begins with student's eligibility for the Eighth-Grade Algebra 1 class. All other content-area honors classes begin at the ninth-grade level.

Recommended students may be enrolled in multiple areas of honors work; however, students are considered enrolled in the Honors Program with their inclusion in any one course.

"All educational programs and activities are open to all students without regard to race, national origin, religion, age, gender, or disability. "

PROCEDURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The department chairpersons recommend the incoming freshmen for the Honors Program based on the program's matrices. At any point during a student's enrollment at Lockport Township High School a teacher may recommend that a student be evaluated for placement into the Honors Program.

Students not recommended but who are interested in participation in the Honors Program should begin inquiry with their classroom teacher. Department chairpersons will review these recommendations.

Should any concerns arise; the department chairperson and the principal will confer and make the final decision.

IDENTIFICATION OF STUDENTS

The screening and recommendation process for the Honors Program includes the following criteria:



- intellectual aptitude
- achievement test score
- past school performance (grades)
- teacher recommendation

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS IN HONORS COURSES

Since the program has been established to serve students who need challenging and accelerated work, students in honors courses are expected to maintain a level of performance considerably above that which is expected in the typical grade-level offerings. Also, students are expected to continue their advanced course of study, which may include Advanced Placement courses and exams throughout their four years of enrollment in the Honors Program. A student's performance in an honors class or classes is reviewed on a regular basis.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE/CLASS RANK

A dual system of grade weighting will be in effect for all honors courses. The second G.P.A. will reflect a student's performance in one or more honors courses in which the grades will be weighted. Honors courses require previous mastery of entry-level skills and emphasize enrichment and acceleration beyond what would normally be taught in the traditional sequence of courses.