

USD #377 Atchison County Community Schools News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Honors and Advanced Placement Classes Approved for 2007-08

The Curriculum Council of the Atchison County Community Schools has enthusiastically approved the addition of advanced math and advanced language arts classes at the middle school and the formation of Advanced Placement (AP) classes at the high school to the USD #377 curriculum. Building principals will present the final plans (scheduling, staffing, logistics, etc) for implementing these classes to the Board of Education for the board's approval once those plans are completed.

In response to a proposal from ACCMS principal Tom Sack, the curriculum council approved the formation of honors language arts and honors math classes at the middle school. The goal of the honors classes is to help students better prepare for the advanced course work required in honors classes at the high school level and to succeed in AP (Advanced Placement) classes during their senior year.

Taking honors classes will require that students commit to doing what it takes to become highly successful thinkers, readers, and writers. The challenging work load of honors classes that will require a commitment to excellence from participating students, parents, and teachers.

Honors classes are open to all students and require parental permission. Students who require additional support to succeed in honors classes may find it by taking advantage district academic support opportunities. The goal of our district is to make honors classes the curricular standard for all students in our district.

In response to a proposal from ACCHS principal, Mark Preut, the curriculum council approved the formation of advanced placement (AP.) classes at the High School. Advanced Placement classes are taught in conjunction with the College Board (which conducts the SAT and PSAT college entrance exams).

According to the College Board, “Advanced Placement classes provide motivated high school students with the opportunity to take college-level courses in a high school setting. AP courses follow the course descriptions developed and published by the College Board. Following successful completion classes students have the opportunity to take an A.P. exam, which determines whether the student will receive college credit. “

Advanced placement classes are specifically designed for high school students who want to

- Gain an edge in college preparation
- Stand out in the college admission process
- Broaden their intellectual horizons

The College Board offers 35 AP courses in 20 subjects. The class offerings that will be available at ACCHS are presently being determined. District patrons are encouraged to visit with school principals or guidance counselors with questions.