

## Middle School Students

### General Middle School Requirements

Beginning with the 2009-10 school year and thereafter students in grades 6-8 will use the credit system by semester instead of a yearlong point system. Students will be awarded 0.5 credit for the first semester and 0.5 for the second semester to earn 1 full credit each year with a minimum of a "D" or higher in both semesters in the following core subject areas:

- Mathematics (3 credits)
- English (3 credits)
- Science (3 credits)
- Social Studies (3 credits)

The above promotion requirements for middle school students also apply to students with disabilities following Sunshine State Standards and Sunshine State Standards for Special Diploma at the independent level.

In addition to the four core subjects:

- Middle school students will receive instruction in, reading, and a selection of electives chosen from, but not limited to, art, music, and foreign language. The scheduling of this instruction shall be determined annually by the School Board (F.S. 1001.40)
- The student must complete a minimum of six (6) semester units (whether from year-long semester or wheel courses) including:
  - At least one (1) semester unit per year of physical education or two (2) semester units per year of performing arts.
  - One semester unit chosen from the exploratory career and technical education elective courses offered, band, chorus, or orchestra.
- Modified curriculum as per IEP.
  - As part of the requirements for middle grades promotion to ninth grade (for entering sixth graders in 2006-07), the student will have been enrolled in a career and education planning course in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The course may be taught by any member of the instructional staff. It must include career exploration using CHOICES for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century or a comparable cost-effective program; must include educational planning using the online student advising system known as Florida Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students (FACTS.org) at the internet website <http://www.facts.org>; and shall result in the completion of a personalized academic and career plan (ePEP). Each student's plan must be signed by the student's guidance counselor or academic advisor and the student's parent/guardian.
- Provisions will be made for teaching Critical Thinking and other related skills in the context of the courses specified above. NOTE: As part of the District's Science Initiative, certain District specified courses will require a science project that could include, but is not limited to, affiliated science fair, formal presentation of research or active participation in formal competitions
- Students taking Intensive Math (1204000) can only count it one time as a math course during grade 6,7 or 8 even if taken multiple times.