

## MVHS Freshman Forecasting FAQ

**Q: Can I schedule an individual meeting with my student's school counselor to go over their course options for next year?**

**A:** Counselors will not be able to meet individually with families of incoming freshmen. Parents and students will have the opportunity to receive and review student schedules during Cougar Kickoff in August 2020. *If a student has been placed in the wrong course or if there is a need for a level placement change in a core subject, requests for changes can be made at that time.*

**Q: How many core credits and alternate choices should my student select?**

**A:** **All freshmen should select exactly 7.5 credits' worth of courses** for next year. At MVHS, freshmen are pre-scheduled into Freshman Foundations (0.5 credit), Biology 1 (1.0 credit), and Health 1 (0.5 credit). That means your student will choose 5.5 credits' worth of other classes. Those must include language arts, math, and social studies classes (1.0 credit each); the rest of your student's credits will come from electives like world languages, PE, fine arts, career and technical classes, performing arts, and other subjects.

**Q: How will I know appropriate placement for my student's core courses when forecasting?**

**A:** Students and parents should refer to our [Freshman Curriculum Guide](#) for information on courses available to freshmen and to determine which placement is appropriate. If you are considering Honors Lit and Comp 1 and/or AP Human Geography, be sure to read those course descriptions thoroughly. These are rigorous courses with high expectations of student performance. Help your student have a successful and enjoyable freshman year by working with them to choose classes that are appropriate for *their* academic interests and ability.

**Q: Can my student enroll in AP classes?**

**A:** AP courses are college-level classes. For this reason, we allow freshmen to take only one AP course: AP Human Geography. Please be sure to read this course description in the [curriculum guide](#) before deciding whether it is the right social studies course for next year.

**Q: How do I know the appropriate math sequence and placement for my student?**

**A:** Please see the [curriculum guide](#) for a full listing of math courses as well as the math course progression and prerequisites. **In general:**

- *If a student has completed and passed 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, take Algebra 1 (MA231SMA).*
  - *Most incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders will take Algebra 1.*

- *If a student has completed and passed 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math and the current math teacher has indicated the student can take Geometry next year, take Geometry (MA240SMA **and** a semester of Algebra 1 (MA231SMA9).*
- *If a student has completed and passed high school Algebra 1 (must be labeled and coded as Algebra 1 on their middle school transcript), take Geometry (MA240SMA).*
- *If a student has completed and passed high school Geometry (must be labeled and coded as Geometry on their middle school transcript), take Algebra 2/Trigonometry (MA250SMA).*

**Q: Can my student have an open period?**

**A:** At MVHS, all 9th grade students have a full schedule. This translates to 7.5 credits when choosing classes. *If there are extenuating circumstances, a student may discuss this with their counselor at the start of the school year.*

**Q: Can my student request to have classes at specific times or with specific teachers?**

**A:** In order to successfully schedule 1,400 students into a 7-period day, it is not possible to accommodate specific requests regarding class meeting times and teachers. *If your student has a serious concern due to a medical need, please contact your student's counselor at the start of the school year to discuss options.*

**Q: If my student changes their mind regarding the classes they want to take, can they change their schedule in the fall?**

**A:** We build the school schedule around students' class requests. For each student who requests a specific class, we reserve a seat in that class and work hard to make sure that student's other class times don't conflict with it. For this reason, it is important that all students, with parent/guardian involvement, request courses thoughtfully. There will be an opportunity for parents and students to receive and review student schedules during Cougar Kickoff in August 2020. *If a student has been placed in the wrong course or if there is a need for a level placement change in a core subject, requests for changes can be made at that time.*

**Q: When do I need to have my forecasting completed?**

**A:** Online forecasting must be completed no later than Friday, March 20, 2020.

**\*\*** If you have questions about forecasting that cannot be answered by this document or the email you received about forecasting, [click here to email us](#). Please understand we are without a full staff during the school closure and may not be able to respond to you immediately. **\*\***