* **What is a Learning Expedition and why are English and Science courses paired?** At River Bluff, 9th-grade students complete cross-curricular learning expeditions through paired English and Science courses. Students must select either Honors level in English and Science (Biology HN) or Theory level (college preparatory) in English and science courses (Physical Science). Learning Expeditions are a signature EL Education curricular structure. They make standards come alive for students. These long-term, in-depth studies offer real-world connections that inspire students toward higher levels of academic achievement. Your student will get details about his/her learning expedition through his paired English and science courses. These Learning Expeditions are similar in nature to those experienced in the 6th, 7th and 8th grade at Meadow Glen Middle School if your student attended there: such as the Faces of the Community Learning Expedition in 6th Grade and the Take a Stand Learning Expedition in the 8th Grade.
* **What should I do if I plan to audition for an upper-level Fine Art placement?** Students should select the entry-level course (Chorus 1, Dance 1, Orchestra 1, etc) for any course for which they plan to participate in an audition. High school counselors are provided with rosters the teachers of these courses create after the audition process and will update the student requests for those who place into a higher level. Parents nor students do not need to contact the high school regarding placement since they will receive this information from the instructors.
* **What if I do not know what level classes I should take?** Talk to your teachers and ask for their recommendation for what level you should take. If you have further questions about the level, you may ask your counselor during your IGP.
* **What if I do not know if I need to retake an HS credit class based on my current grades?** Parents should contact the high school counselor AFTER final middle school report cards are issued in June to request a retake if they did not do so before the March deadline. Adjustments can be made after March if a parent/student wants to retake a course from 8th grade. Parents/students should be aware that requesting to make these changes in June could impact and require changes to other courses for which the student may already be scheduled.
* **How does retaking a course impact a student’s transcript and GPA?**The SC Uniform Grading Policy states that a student who retakes a high school credit course from middle school must complete it before the beginning of the second year of high school or before the next sequential course (whichever comes first). A student in grades nine through twelve must retake a course by the end of the next school year or before the next sequential course (whichever comes first). For all grade levels, all courses will remain on the transcript. However, only the highest grade will be used in figuring the student’s GPA.
* **What about World Language retakes?** Make sure to find out if you are receiving HS credit for your World Language course. In most cases, HS credit courses are French 1 and higher, Spanish 1 and higher, Latin 1 and higher, Chinese 1 and higher.Be sure to talk to your World Language teacher about if you need to retake a course.
* **Which course should a student in Chinese Immersion or French Immersion select if they are planning to remain in immersion but are not ready for Level 4?** All immersion students who wish to be in the immersion cohort should select the immersion course. We can place students in different “levels” within the course once schedules have been created. Selecting the immersion class ensures placement in the immersion cohort class for 9th grade.
* **Does Marching Band count for PE?** All Band/Percussion students are expected to participate in the marching band and are eligible to receive one PE credit. Those students must be enrolled in the Marching Band with PE class in addition to their Band/Percussion class. Marching Band with PE does not affect their class schedule as it is scheduled as a late bird course after school.
* **Are students who enroll in Band required to be a part of Marching Band?** Any student participating in band is expected to participate in marching band. Exceptions can be made for fall sport athletes only as they are likely to have games/meets that conflict with marching band season. If they are a fall student-athlete and have signed up for Band, they should contact Mr. Hebert. He has a form that their coach will need to sign stating they are involved in another sport during this time.
* **If my student is already taking math or English for high school credit in 8th grade will they need to take one each year in high school?** To graduate, students are required to have 4 English credits and 4 math credits. It is an RBHS expectation and practice that students continue to enroll in English and math each year in high school.
* **Do summer classes on Virtual SC count towards my overall course load for the school year (i.e. - 8 credits)?** Students are required to take 8 credits during the school year. Summer classes do not count towards the total for the upcoming year. Students cannot reduce the 8 credit requirement by taking a summer course.
* **If I play a sport at RBHS, how do I sign up for PE 4?** The process for being added to a PE 4 class is similar to that of upper-level Fine Art. The coaches of the various sports will provide RB Counselors with a roster of students that should be in each PE 4 and counselors will drop an elective to add this course. We will not be able to take requests about which elective course the parent/student would like to have dropped. If the coach does not put the student's name on the roster, they will not be added to the course. Typically, only players from the previous year are listed on the roster but this would be up to the coach. FOOTBALL PLAYERS ONLY should request PE 1 and all 9th-grade football players will be grouped together in a PE 1 class. RB does not put 9th-grade football players in PE 4.