

**Should Junior High courses receive High School credit?**

>>> "Steve Heck" <sheck@iasp.org> 9/14/03 11:28:00 AM >>>  
Would you ask the membership to share their expertise/experience on Algebra I students receiving high school credit in the 8th grade?

Thank You,  
Sterling Boles  
Principal  
Hamilton Heights High School  
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317.984.3551

**Response:**

At Concord High School, students who take Algebra I in the eighth grade earn credit if they earn a B- or better. The grade also counts for cumulative GPA. Let me know if you have any other questions.

Renee' Cocanower

Renee' Cocanower  
Director of Student Services  
Concord High School  
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New Albany-Floyd Co. School Corp. offers Algebra I to seventh and eighth graders and we give high school credit. There are and were some issues.

The high schools had a fear that this would affect jobs at the high school level because once kids passed all their math there would be no need to have more math, i.e., teachers. Not true--we began offering computer programming and are looking at Statistics/Probability. Some, very few, even take second year Calculus at IU Southeast. The credit and grades count for graduation, and this makes parents nervous because of the hard-sought-after GPA, but little by little parents are learning that it's the learning that counts, not just the numbers. Any more questions? Email or call me (812-949-4240)

Barbara Barger  
Director of Secondary

Kokomo-Center 8th graders have the opportunity to receive high school credit for Algebra I. Those students are identified by standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation at the end of their 6th grade year. They take pre-algebra as 7th graders. Those students who continue to be successful are then given the Algebra I credit opportunity. They follow the same curriculum and take the same finals as those students taking the course at KHS. Occasionally a student drops out of 8th grade algebra or takes Algebra I again in high school.

The large majority of students are successful and earn the credit, allowing them to take higher level courses in high school. Parents, students, staff, and administrators are pleased with the program. (We also offer Spanish I for high school credit. Seventh graders take first semester Spanish I; eighth graders take second semester Spanish I.) Linda Medlen, Lafayette Park Middle School, Kokomo I would say that make sure that the curriculum is in-line with the state standards for 9th grade and that they are able to get as much as the high school gets done.

David L. Mangel  
President Award Winner Mathematics  
Principal

At North Montgomery we are working on integrating our high school algebra curriculum at the 8th grade to enable students to earn credit for the high school. They have to meet a minimum of 75 clock hours, use the high school algebra book and curriculum. In approaching math curriculum in this manner we hope to enable students to take calculus by their senior year.

Hope this helps.

T. Russell

At Yorktown Middle School, we have a section of 8th graders identified to take high school Algebra using the same book and curriculum as the high school. They get high school credit for this as a high school class. These students are identified through our GT/Advanced Program at YMS.

Doug Jacobs  
Principal, YMS

We do not give credit for 8th graders for the following reasons:

1. If we give credit, we believe it should count on their GPA and for some students it could put them out of the running for valedictorian/salutatorian before even entering high school,
2. We have some students who want to take Alg. I again in high school and if they get credit in 8th grade this would not be possible,
3. Alg. I for 8th graders is more by invitation than by choice and we believe that would be unfair to award credit in that situation.

This is a concern we deal with from time to time, but so far we are generally pleased with not awarding credit at the 8th grade level.

Ed Baker  
Sheridan High School/Middle School