

Science Department Course Placement Criteria

Teachers in the science department are asked to make course level placements. These placements reflect the current teacher's assessment of the most appropriate level for each student for the next year. **Accurate placement is intended to maximize the ability of each student to be productively engaged, motivated, organized, and successful.**

SCIENTIFIC THINKING *

- Model development
- Investigate to show relationships
- Examine and Interpret Data
- Explain and Argue using evidence
- Synthesize and communicate information

MATHEMATICS

- Number sense
- Basic algebra facility
- Calculator Use

READING

- Critical reading and thinking
- Inferential reasoning
- Pace, fluency

WRITING

- Structure, logic, and development of ideas
- Crafting and defending a claim
- Mechanics
- Expression

* from DESE 6-8 science and engineering practices

Honors:

Excellent ability; demonstrates independence in the above areas.

College Prep:

Above average to average ability; needs some support in the above areas.

College Prep II:

Average to below average; needs ongoing support in the above areas.

DATA POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION

- Student X2 Grades for **Science and Math** - 1st trimester and 2nd trimester progress report (2nd Trimester end if time)
- Common Assessment scores on unit tests, including challenge tests
- ELA MCAS
- Math MCAS
- Student Work

Additional data points for consideration:

- ELA STAR Assessments
- Math STAR Assessments