

Gunning Bedford Middle School
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Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to provide you with information about the Honors projects that will be offered to Gunning Bedford students for the 2012-2013 school year.

Honors projects are extension activities which require students to utilize both research and technology in their final product. These assignments are intended to be projects that the student works on individually outside of school. Rubrics will be provided to students in advance so that they understand the criteria used when grading the project. The projects will change each marking period so that they correlate with the major concepts and themes of the marking period in which the project is offered. Honors projects will be due a week before the end of each marking period. No late Honors projects will be accepted. The due dates for each marking period are as follows:

Marking Period 1: October 22, 2012

Marking Period 2: January 14, 2013

Marking Period 3: March 25, 2013

Marking Period 4: June 4, 2013

Although every student has the opportunity to complete Honors projects each marking period, the requirements differ slightly depending on your child's cohort.

Your child is currently in one of two groups:

1. in an Honors class
2. in a non-Honors class

****If you are unsure of your child's group, please contact your child's grade level counselor.****

If your student is currently in an Honors cohort he/she:

- Is required to complete at least two Honors projects each marking period. The team of teachers will determine which two projects will be required of the Honors cohort (i.e. Math and Science, Social Studies and English, etc.). The projects will rotate so that by the end of the school year, students in the Honors cohort will have completed two Honors projects in each of the four major content areas of study, Math, English, Social Studies and Science. Each marking period the two required Honors projects will count towards the students' marking period grades for those two content areas. If a student does not complete the required Honors projects, this will be reflected in the student's grade. Additionally, the student's Honors status will be

revisited by administration, the team of teachers and the counselor to determine if the student has been placed inadvertently in the Honors cohort.

- Can complete more than the two required Honors projects for extra credit if the projects are completed in a satisfactory manner according to the grading rubric.

If your student is currently in a non-Honors cohort, he/she:

- Has the option of completing as many of the four Honors projects as he/she wants. With a satisfactory completion of these projects, students will receive extra credit or it will be used as a grade replacement.
 - If the student has at least a 93% in a particular class BEFORE satisfactorily completing an Honors project for that course, he/she will receive Honors status for that course for the marking period.
 - Example: Student A has a 95% in Science for marking period 1. Student A completes the Science Honors project and receives a satisfactory grade. Student A will receive an Honors certificate for Science for marking period 1.
 - If the student has a 92% or lower in a class and completes an Honors project for that course, he/she may receive extra percentage points for the marking period grade. However, if the student receives a 93% or better as a result of completing an Honors project, he/she will not receive an Honors certificate.
 - Example: Student B has a 91% in Social Studies for marking period 1. Student B completes the Social Studies Honors project and receives a satisfactory grade. Student B may receive two percentage points which will bring his final grade to 93%. Student B will not receive an Honors certificate for Social Studies for marking period 1, but will receive an "A" as a final marking period grade.

If you have any further questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's grade level counselor or your child's team leader. We look forward to a successful school year for your child.

Sincerely,

Gunning Bedford Administration Team

Gunning Bedford Middle School
"Empowering through Excellence"

