

Re: re- Bio honors contract

From: Lisa <lisamichel@ccusd.org>
To: Young, Erica <EricaYoung@ccusd.org>
Cc: Elsy Villafranca <elsyvillafanra@ccusd.org>

Sun, Mar 17, 2019 at 1:42 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)

I think you probably want to make more clear in the explanation that the class is in addition to science 8, rather than a replacement for it. I know the bullet points say that, but parents may gloss over that.

Thanks,

Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 17, 2019, at 1:03 PM, Young, Erica <EricaYoung@ccusd.org> wrote:

For current 7th grade students deciding on their 8th grade schedule next year, some courses are offered for acceleration. At CCMS, 7th grade students who meet the prerequisites will have the opportunity to take Biology Honors at Culver City High School in their 8th grade year. Biology Honors at CCHS meets Monday- Friday from 7:05-8:00. It is a high school course, taught by a high school instructor, which requires summer work. The grade that students earn in Biology Honors is on their transcript, and will be seen by colleges when students apply. Also when deciding on taking this course keep in mind that this course is more rigorous in order to prepare you to take AP Biology at a later time. For these reasons, all students must meet the criteria. If interested turn in the application to Mrs. Leonor Flores, Counseling Secretary, in the CCMS Main office no later than Friday, April 12th. If you choose not to take the course in the 8th grade year students can also take it in 9th grade. To see science pathways at the high school please see the pdf link from the informational meeting that was held this past Thursday during PAWS. If you have any specific questions please email Erica Young at ericayoung@ccusd.org, TK-12 Science Teaching Learning Partner.

The criteria required for enrollment in Biology Honors as an 8th grade student are as follows:

- **Cumulative CCMS 3.5 GPA**
- **All As or B+s in Science for 6th and 7th grade**
- **Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1**
- **Concurrent enrollment in Science 8**

[Link for application](#)

[Link to pdf of presentation during paws](#)

On Sun, Mar 17, 2019 at 10:23 AM Elsy Villafranca <elsyvillafanra@ccusd.org> wrote:

Okay. Send me exactly what you what going out, Erica. I'll put it in for this week.

On Mar 17, 2019, at 9:41 AM, Michel, Lisa <lisamichel@ccusd.org> wrote:

This is fine with me.

Thanks, Erica!

Lisa Michel, Ed.D.

Director, Secondary Teaching & Learning
(310) 842-4220 x4250

On Sat, Mar 16, 2019 at 11:32 AM Young, Erica <EricaYoung@ccusd.org> wrote:

Thanks Lisa for getting back to us,

What do you think of this?

I updated the contract with the 3.5 and B+. In addition I put on the contract my contact information so if they have a question they can email me and I can call them back. I feel comfortable fielding questions from parents in addition to deal with any parent or student who noticed that the criteria has changed. I can work with both of you to help me message it in whatever way you want me to in why there was a change. Then at that point if parents still want to talk to someone higher in the food chain then I can loop you in. Lisa and Elsy how you feel about this?

Link for student contract (with update) [here](#)

Link to presentation to students (with update):

What I know still needs to be done:

- communicating to parents re the Honors Bio through Elsy's weekly parent letter. If sending out this information this week is not possible let me know if you want to extend the application window. Currently we have it due the first week back from break.

Thanks again for your support. Let me know anything I can do.
Erica

On Fri, Mar 15, 2019 at 5:23 PM Michel, Lisa <lisamichel@ccusd.org> wrote:

Uh oh...I'm sorry I didn't chime in earlier...I know I was copied on some of the emails going around. I think it was me who dropped the ball--not you. I think 3.0 GPA is way too low at this point--mostly because we will not be able to serve that many students. There should be a difference in the criteria that we use at the high school. Jonique had not been on any of the conversations previously, so I don't think she was thinking about the differences that we've talked about among the science teachers. Personally, I think we should have used the same criteria as last year. Be honest, is it too late? Can we keep the contracts the way they were? I feel like I want to honor what Jonique agreed to as well, but I just don't think she knew everything from past conversations. Can we split difference--3.5 GPA and not less than B+ in science?

Lisa Michel, Ed.D.

Director, Secondary Teaching & Learning
(310) 842-4220 x4250

On Fri, Mar 15, 2019 at 1:41 PM Young, Erica <EricaYoung@ccusd.org> wrote:

Hey Lisa,

I hope your conference is going well. I wanted to loop you into conversations re the honors bio. This past week I ran an information meeting re the honors bio and before the meeting I ran the qualifications by MS and HS. The HS (Burton) said the qualifications could change from 3.95 and all A's in science to 3.0 GPA and all A's and B's in science. One of the reasons she said it was okay was because those are the qualifications for other honors courses at the HS. I ran this by Mike and he gave the green light too. So I ran with these new qualifications when I met with students during an informational meeting this past Thursday during PAWS (around 30-40 students showed up to the meeting).

In the mix of all the emails back and forth I somehow missed an email from Elsy. She had some concerns that she wanted me to run the new qualifications by you first. The concern that she brought up was the amount of students who may be interested and would want to take this course which would affect the HS Bio numbers.

During the informational meeting, I did communicate to students that this course may become a first come first serve situation depending on the amount of applications we get. I also did state that the due date for the application is the Friday when we come back from break (its a short application window). This may help to negate the concern of higher numbers in the Bio class.

Again I am sorry, I typically run everything by you, and this time I dropped the ball. At this point we (Elsy and I) wanted to find out how you felt about the qualifications that were communicated (3.0 GPA and all A's and B's in science) and steps to move forward. Also so you know, we haven't emailed parents through the weekly email Elsy sends out or posted this on our website yet. So there still may be a way to change messaging if we need to.

Link for student contract 

Best,
Erica

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bosler, Michael** <michaelbosler@ccusd.org>

Date: Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 1:28 PM

Subject: Re: re- Bio honors contract

To: Brown, Terence <TerenceBrown@ccusd.org>

Cc: Monroy, Christina <ChristinaMonroy@ccusd.org>, Jonique Burton <joniqueburton@ccusd.org>, Lisa Cooper <lisacooper@ccusd.org>, MSAdmins <MSAdmins@ccusd.org>, MSCounselors <MSCounselors@ccusd.org>, Young, Erica <EricaYoung@ccusd.org>

Hi all-

I had the opportunity to touch base with Erica this morning and I'm on board.

Michael Bosler

Assistant Principal

Culver City Middle School

(310) 842-4200 ext. 3341

On Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 12:43 PM Brown, Terence <TerenceBrown@ccusd.org> wrote:

Sounds good to me as well.

Terence Brown

On Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 10:47 AM Monroy, Christina <ChristinaMonroy@ccusd.org> wrote:

Sounds good to me!

On Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 10:25 AM Young, Erica <EricaYoung@ccusd.org> wrote:

Sorry to spam your box,

I just ran into Jonique so we had a quick meeting. She said we can switch the GPA to 3.0 and A's and B's in science, this is the same as the other honors classes at the HS. Sound good team?

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From: **Young, Erica** <EricaYoung@ccusd.org>

Date: Tue, Mar 12, 2019 at 10:06 AM

Subject: Fwd: re- Bio honors contract

To: Michael Bosler <michaelbosler@ccusd.org>, Elsy Villafranca <elsyvillafanra@ccusd.org>, Markussen, Julie <juliemarkussen@ccusd.org>, Jonique Burton <joniqueburton@ccusd.org>, Lisa Cooper <lisacooper@ccusd.org>

Hey admin team,

I am meeting with the 7th grade students this Thursday during paws who are interested in honors bio. I just wanted to follow back up on what criteria we wanted to use. Last year when I checked each students criteria those that were close we let through. A few examples: having all A's but one B+ or a very close GPA we let through.

So I wanted to find out do we want to go with the same criteria as last year and those that are close we let through? Do we want to go with something else? Please let me know.

Link for student contract [here](#)

Best,
Erica

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From: **Villafranca, Elsy** <elsyvillafanra@ccusd.org>

Date: Wed, Mar 6, 2019 at 1:42 PM

Subject: Re: re- Bio honors contract

To: Jonique Burton <joniqueburton@ccusd.org>

Cc: Young, Erica <EricaYoung@ccusd.org>, MSCounselors <MSCounselors@ccusd.org>, MSAdmins <MSAdmins@ccusd.org>, Lisa Cooper <lisacooper@ccusd.org>, Leonor Flores <leonorflores@ccusd.org>, Ciara Mansour <ciaramansour@ccusd.org>

Hi all,

Last year, I believe, we had a few students who did not meet the "All As in science criteria." They might have gotten a B in one semester in 6th grade but were, otherwise, pretty good students. We, then, debated whether or not to allow them to take the class. Do we still want to go that route? If they don't meet the requirements, they can appeal? Just wanted to mention that before we move forward. Other than that, I think the form is great.

Thanks, everyone!

Elsy Villafranca, Principal
Culver City Middle School
[4601 Elenda Street](#)
[Culver City, CA 90230](#)
(310)842-4200 x3323



On Wed, Mar 6, 2019 at 12:51 AM Jonique Burton <joniqueburton@ccusd.org> wrote:
The information has not changed. After Spring Break is fine to receive the contract.

Again thank you Erica for organizing this platform.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 5, 2019, at 9:09 PM, Young, Erica <EricaYoung@ccusd.org> wrote:

Hey team,

I am planning on hosting an informational meeting next Thursday for next years 8th grade students who are interested in taking the zero period honors bio class. I am in communication with Ciara to make sure that I communicate on behalf of the HS bio team. At this meeting I plan on handing out the contract.

This is what I will need from you before next Thursday:

1. I want to verify that the criteria to be in this class has not changed (if one of the HS admin could give me your blessing that would be great)
2. I need an updated deadline to turn in the contracts. MS will collect the contracts, I will check to make sure they meet all qualifications, and then send a list over (HS when would you want this information by)

Link for student contract [here](#)

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Christina Monroy, MA
School Counselor
Last Names (R-Z)

310-842-4200 x3342

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Best Regards,

Terence Brown, M Ed
Guidance Counselor (L - Q)
Culver City Middle School
(310) 842-4200 ext 3045

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To: Lisa Michel <lisamichel@ccusd.org>
Cc: Elsy Villafranca <elsyvillafanra@ccusd.org>

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