



December, 2019

Dear Parents /Guardians,

Your child may have the opportunity to participate in the Regents Earth Science class as an eighth grader. The Earth Science class is taught with a lab component and will culminate in a New York State Regents exam in June. Upon successful completion of Earth Science in eighth grade your child will have the opportunity to take Honors Biology in ninth grade and Honors Chemistry in tenth grade. A final class average of 90% and a Regents exam grade of 90% in Earth Science is needed for Honors placement in high school courses.

In order to be considered for Earth Science in eighth grade the following criteria are used.

- 30 week average in Science 7 class
- 30 week average in Math 7, Math 7+ or Math 7 accelerated class
- Science skills assessment
 - This will be given in the spring by current 7th grade science teachers
 - No studying needed
 - Assesses how well students can interpret data from a reference table
- Final exam in Science 7
- AIMSWEB math percentile
- Team teacher feedback
 - Work ethic
 - Preparedness, timeliness, respect
 - Academic performance and potential
 - Grades, curiosity, contribution

You will be notified over the summer should your child be eligible to participate in the Earth Science program. If your child does not take Earth Science in eighth grade, they will be enrolled in grade eight science and take Earth Science in high school.

On behalf of the science department, we look forward to a wonderful school year with your child.

Sincerely,

Heather Schmidt

GFMS Science Department Chair