



Community-Based Level IV Advanced Academics Program Parent Orientation

February 1, 2024

Information Session Overview

Part 1

Overview of AAP/Honors programs at the middle school level

Part 2

Structure of the Local Level IV Community Based Program at Thoreau Middle School

Honors Classes

(in all 26 middle schools)

Open Access
to Honors
courses-
available in
four core
subjects

Students
select Honors
in
1, 2, 3, or 4
core classes

Students learn
with others
who also
selected
advanced
courses

Teachers
differentiate
to meet
students'
academic
needs

Teachers
participate
in **AAP**
**Professional
Learning**

Students eligible for full-time AAP services may choose to stay at their base school and take Honors courses.

Thoreau MS Honors Classes

Science 7 HN and
US History 7 HN
for all

*(some exceptions for
students with identified
needs)*

Students may
add English 7 HN
and Math 7 HN

Teachers use
AAP curriculum
and resources

Full-Time AAP Center

(14 of 26 middle schools are designated centers)

Students are found eligible through a **central screening process**

Students access advanced curriculum for **4 core subjects**

(mathematics placement is based on readiness)

Students are in classes with other eligible students-- **academic peer group**

(mathematics class may be a mix)

Teachers **differentiate** to meet students' academic needs

Teachers participate in **AAP Professional Learning**

Thoreau Middle School

Community Based Local Level IV AAP Program

AAP Level IV Center eligible students select Thoreau Middle School, which is their base school, instead of the designated AAP center school

Students stay with their base school for grades 7 & 8
These students then continue to their base high school for grades 9-12

Level IV Center eligible students are placed in classes only with other Level IV center eligible students for 3 of 4 core subjects

(English, science and social studies)

Honors Classes

- Open enrollment: students and families self-select classes in areas of strength or interest
- Increased depth and complexity in specific subject areas
- Students learn with other students who have chosen to be challenged academically in that subject area
- Students may enroll in 1, 2, 3, or 4 Honors courses
- Offered in all middle schools

Full-Time AAP Services

- Students are found eligible through central screening process
- Increased depth, complexity, and pace in all subjects
- Students identified as having high intellectual ability are clustered in classes with peers
- Students are in advanced classes for all 4 core subject areas (math class is based on readiness)
- 14 schools are designated as centers

Looking forward to High School

What are the AAP opportunities in high school?

Open enrollment opportunities:

- [Honors](#) (grades 9-12)
- [Advanced Placement \(AP\) courses](#) (primarily in grades 11-12)
- [International Baccalaureate \(IB\) courses](#) (grades 11-12)
- [Dual-enrollment courses](#) (grades 11-12)

Looking forward to High School

Additional opportunities for which students can register or apply:

- [FCPS High School Academies and Specialized Programs](#) (for juniors and seniors)
- [Summer Residential Governor's Schools](#) (rising 11 and 12)
- [Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology](#) (apply in grade 8)

Community Based Local Level IV AAP Services

**How do we meet the needs of our
advanced learners at Thoreau?**



THOREAU
MIDDLE SCHOOL

A key difference to note

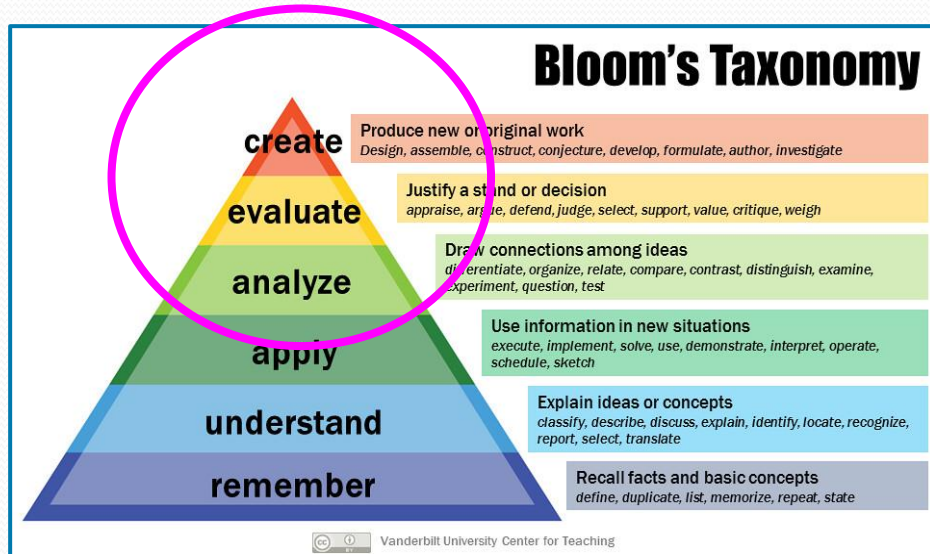
At the middle school level, there is not a separate AAP curriculum. Instead, there are **extension standards** infused into the curriculum.

Here is an example from the Science 7 program of studies:

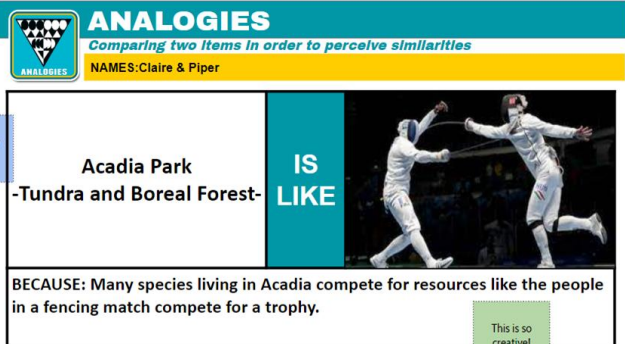

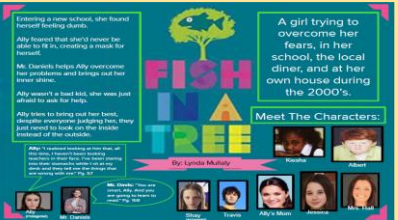
LS 1 Plan & Conduct Investigations

Indicator 1.c.1 Essential: Select and use appropriate tools and techniques for collecting data

- **Extension:** Evaluate the need for a universal system of measurement.



Differentiation

Content	Quantity and immersion with extension standards and tasks that elicit higher levels of Bloom's outcomes	History 7 example: Essential standard: USII.3 The student will apply social science skills to understand the effects of Reconstruction on American life Extension standard: Interpret the influences of federal government policies on westward expansion from multiple perspectives.
Process	<p><u>Critical & Creative Thinking Strategies</u></p> <p><u>Thinking Routines</u></p> <p><u>Portrait of a Graduate</u></p>	 <p>ANALOGIES Comparing two items in order to perceive similarities NAMES: Claire & Piper</p> <p>Acadia Park -Tundra and Boreal Forest- IS LIKE</p> <p>BECAUSE: Many species living in Acadia compete for resources like the people in a fencing match compete for a trophy.</p> <p>This is so creative!</p>
Product	Project-based assessments Real-world assessments Assessments that offer choice	  <p>FISH IN A TREE Meet The Characters: A girl trying to overcome her fears, in her school, the local diner, and at her own house during the 2000's.</p>

So, how do we meet the needs of advanced learners?

Differentiation Features			
Acceleration	Complexity	Depth	Creativity
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fewer tasks assigned to master standard• Assessed earlier or prior to teaching• Clustered by higher order thinking skills• Advanced resources employed• Sophisticated content used	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used multiple higher level skills• Added more variables to study• Required multiple resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Studied a concept in multiple applications• Conducted original research• Developed a product• Cross-disciplinary applications made• Reasoning made explicit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designed/constructed a model based on principles or criteria• Provided alternatives for tasks, products, & assessments• Emphasized oral & written communication to real world audience

So, how is Community Level IV AAP different from honors?

Class Composition: grouped with other level IV AAP students
Often resulting in a higher level of discourse & discussion






Differentiation Features

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What feedback might you have?

Try YOUR hand at a Critical & Creative Thinking AAP Strategy!

Plus 	Minus 	Interesting 
What stands out to you as positives?	What do you maybe have concerns about?	What stands out to you as interesting or surprising?



Middle School Mathematics

Math 7

7th grade curriculum

Math 7 Honors

8th grade curriculum

Algebra I Honors

91% on IAAT and

Pass Advanced (500+) on Grade 7th SOL

Community-Based Level IV AAP Services

Why do we offer this program?

Student Transition

Community School

Parent Request and Support



Structure of Our Program

Section

- The equivalent of a “class” in middle school
- We use sections to group and schedule students
- Each section in the master schedule has a unique course ID
- Level IV *center eligible* students that choose to come to TMS are placed in sections according to this unique course ID designated for center eligible students for English, science and social studies (pre-loaded in SIS and ends in -38)

Math Placement

- Based on individual student data

Electives and Health & Physical Education

- Scheduled with grade level peers

Current Registration Information

Center-eligible students currently attending Local Level IV elementary schools are already **assigned to Thoreau Middle School- you are in our system already**

Center-eligible students currently attending Level IV center elementary schools are already **assigned to Luther Jackson or Kilmer MS- you are not in our system**

**The deadline to make a change to this placement is
Friday, March 1, 2024**

The choice is yours!

Community Based Local Level IV Experience at Thoreau Middle School

**Center-based Level IV Program at
Luther Jackson Middle School
or Kilmer Middle School**

***... until March 1, 2024 when we will
be on a space-available basis***



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Resource Teacher
Thoreau Middle School
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AAP Office:

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MS Education Specialist,
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Visit our classrooms!



Open House Core & Elective Offerings 5:30 PM-7:30 PM

Class		Room #
Core Classes		
<input type="checkbox"/>	English 7 & English 7 Honors	A-107
<input type="checkbox"/>	Science 7 Honors	A-231
<input type="checkbox"/>	Science 7: AAP Local Level IV Program	A-219
<input type="checkbox"/>	History 7 Honors	A-109
<input type="checkbox"/>	English 7 HN & US History 7 HN: AAP Local Level IV Program	A-119
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health & Physical Education	Gym 1