

## Pre-AP to AP Overview

### Why should a student enroll in Pre-AP?

Enrolling in Pre-AP is based on the belief that we can prepare every student for higher intellectual engagement by starting the development of skills and acquisition of knowledge as early as possible. Pre-AP strategies and tools engage students in active, high-level learning, thereby ensuring that every middle and high school student develops the skills, habits of mind, and concepts needed to succeed in college. Pre-AP courses are designed to prepare students for Advanced Placement courses in high school and for the rigor of college.

### Who can be in a Pre-AP class?

Any student with the guidance of a parent, teacher, and/or counselor can enter a Pre-AP course. Students are able to enroll in Pre-AP with the understanding that the courses will contain rigor and high expectations.

### What if a student is struggling in a Pre-AP class?

If at any time the student's performance is 69% or below for more than three consecutive weeks, teachers will conference with the student and his/her parents to develop a plan for academic improvement.

### How does Pre-AP differ from AP?

Pre-AP courses are embedded with instructional strategies that specifically target middle and junior high school students, providing the knowledge, concepts, and skills needed to engage in a higher level of learning that prepares them for the rigor of Advanced Placement coursework and college.

## AP Potential

In AP classes, just like in college, you'll face new challenges and learn new skills in the subjects you care about, all with the support of your classmates and teachers.

### Get more.

With AP, you get to dig deeper into subjects you love. Subjects directly reflect your interests.

### Get hands-on.

In AP's immersive courses, you get to learn how things really work; you will tackle concepts that will remain with you long after the class is over.

### Get involved.

In AP classes, learning means sharing your ideas and expressing yourself. Add your unique perspective—the dialog and debate contributes to the knowledge that everyone shares.

### Get support.

With AP, you get to explore new ideas with your classmates and AP teachers. See and feel what college work is actually like, while receiving the support needed to help you get there.

### Get to know yourself.

In AP classes, you can set goals for yourself and do things you never thought possible. AP students really test and push themselves in a familiar setting while gaining confidence, developing good study habits, and enjoying a great learning experience.



**LITTLE ROCK**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Advanced Placement Program

**Romona Cheneval,**

**K-12 GT Director**

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**Jennifer Thomas,**

**Secondary Facilitator**

Tel: 501-447-3390



# ☰ Advanced Placement Prepares Students for College

## Advanced Placement (AP)

Advanced Placement (AP) allows students to take college-level courses while in high school. At the end of the school year, students take the national AP examination for the courses they've completed and may earn college credit for AP exam scores of 3 or higher. The College Board develops the scope and sequence of AP courses and provides training for teachers. During the college application and admissions process, students who have taken AP classes in high school distinguish themselves by having completed AP coursework as evidenced in their high school course records. Students identified as gifted in grades 6th-12th grades are encouraged to consider enrollment in PAP and AP coursework to continue on a gifted education track and remain challenged in their coursework.

## Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP)

LRSD offers Pre-AP courses in middle school and high school. Students are encouraged to take these rigorous courses designed to prepare them for AP classes. Students must be willing to invest more time and effort into these courses.



## Honors Diploma Seal

A special Honors Seal may be affixed to the diploma and transcript of a student who meets the following criteria

- Completes the units required for the Little Rock Scholars curriculum
- Successfully completes a minimum of eight Pre-Advanced Placement or Advanced Placement courses over a four-year period.
- Earns a grade-point-average of at least 3.5.

*NOTE: Specifics for high school recognition may vary from school-to-school.*

## AP Readiness Indicators

- ◆ Performs in the top 25th percentile on state test
- ◆ Attends to tasks until they are completed
- ◆ Maintains an 85% grade or higher in coursework
- ◆ Self-motivated
- ◆ Works independently
- ◆ Likes to be challenged
- ◆ Organized
- ◆ Performs well in Pre-AP or other prerequisites

## Who chooses a student's courses for Pre-AP?

The decision about placement ultimately rests with the student and their parents. The school provides powerful input through teacher recommendation, counselor input and communication regarding the challenges of the Pre-AP curriculum.

## How does Pre-AP affect AP?

Since Pre-AP teachers' professional development explicitly supports the goals of college as an option for every student, it is important to have a recognized standard for college-level academic work. Pre-AP instructional strategies are implemented in classrooms by teachers who are highly trained to help all students reach their maximum potential. Participating in Pre-AP courses will better prepare students who wish to pursue a more rigorous course of study by taking AP courses.

## Are there any pre-requisites for Pre-AP classes?

Pre-AP courses are open to everyone; however, student, parent, and counselor input is imperative.

## Will a student have time for after school activities if enrolled in Pre-AP courses?

As in any coursework where there are additional challenges, students who choose to enroll should be prepared for the added academic rigor of the course.