



# Swift Creek Middle School

## Bridge to AP



***Why Choose Swift  
Creek Middle School  
For Your High  
Achieving Student?***





# The Program

- *Pre-AP* curriculum adjustments are made to increase rigor and better prepare students for academic success in AP courses.
- A rigorous *Pre-AP* will equip a student with the tools and habits to transition into a high school *AP* program and realize success within those courses.
- The main advantage of taking a *Pre-AP/AP* course is better preparation for school and college success.

# Program Intent:



The Swift Creek *Bridge to AP Program* is the only one of its kind in Leon County.

- Flexibility in Advance Placement courses
- A seamless transition to Advanced Placement at the high school level
- Close monitoring of students' success
- Special Bridge to AP Field Trip

# Thoughts to Consider



- Is your child a self-motivated, organized, independent worker?
- Does your child need and/or have support with organizational and study skills on a daily basis?
- How well does your child handle the rigors of a demanding academic workload?
- Are they realistic about performance expectations for themselves?
- Is your child involved in too many outside-of-school activities?
- Will your child be able to complete required outside-of-class work assignments without having to give up other activities he/she truly enjoys?

# Thoughts to Consider



- The key is to find the right balance for your child when requesting Pre-AP classes...keeping him/her “challenged” but not “overwhelmed”. Which is why our program is customizable
- Parents are key to helping us better understand where that balance might be for an individual student. We can provide you with information regarding the program, but it is up to you and your child to decide whether or not you wish to participate in the rigorous Bridge to AP Curriculum.
- Your child’s input is essential.

# Pre IB or Bridge

## Pre-International Baccalaureate

- Academic courses are assigned in all four academic areas.
- Students have an opportunity to earn up to 8 high school credits in:
  - Algebra I, Geometry, Biology, Physical Science, Journalism I & II.

## Bridge



- Students individual needs and strengths are considered. Students can be assigned all four core Bridge classes and exceptions for individual strengths will be considered. Bridge is not a “one size fits all program”.
- Bridge students at the Creek are part of the whole school community
- Students have the opportunity to earn up to 8 high school credits in:
  - Algebra I Honors, Geometry Honors, Earth Space Science Honors, Physical Science Honors, Honors Biology I, Spanish I and II, Digital Design

# Admissions

The *Bridge to AP Program* is open to rising 6th graders who meet the admission criteria.

- **Test Scores**

FSA level 4 and above in Reading\* and/or Math\*\*  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade FSA will be considered

- **Work Habits**

All E's in work habits during 5th grade

- **Grades**

A B average in the four core areas during 5th grade

- **Teacher Recommendation**

\* A Level 4 or 5 FSA Reading score allows a student to be considered for Bridge Language Arts, Science and Social Studies.

\*\* A Level 4 or 5 FSA Math allows a student to be considered for Bridge Math.



# Once Admitted a Student Must:



- Maintain a “B” Average in core classes.
- ❖ If a student’s average falls below a cumulative B he/she will be on probation for the following semester.
- ❖ If a core course grade is not raised to a B in the semester of the probation, the student may be removed from the Bridge to AP program.

# A Successful Bridge Student



- Has a genuine interest in the value of being challenged academically
- Demonstrates excellent study skills and habits
- Carefully considers time commitments
- Asks questions and participates in class
- Perseveres when faced with challenging material
- Asks for assistance when needed
- Plans and works ahead on long term projects
- Advocates for themselves!

**English****Math****Science****Social  
Studies****Electives**

6th

Language  
Arts 1 BridgeMath I  
Advanced  
BridgeComprehensive  
Science 1  
BridgeWorld History  
Bridge**Required**  
Computers  
**Choice of**  
Band, Orchestra,  
Chorus, PE, Art,  
Dance, Math Comp.,  
Forensics Science  
**TBD**

7th

Language  
Arts 2 BridgeMath 2  
Bridge or  
**Algebra 1**  
**Honors-**  
**H.S. credit**Physical  
Science ,  
Bridge  
**Physical**  
**Science H.S.**  
**Credit**Civics  
BridgeSpanish 1, Guitar,  
Band, Orchestra,  
Chorus, Art, Drama,  
Dance, Media Aide,  
PE, STEM, Culinary,  
Musical Theater,  
Math Comp.,  
Leadership  
**TBD**

8th

Language  
Arts 3 Bridge**Algebra 1**  
**Honors-**  
**H.S credit**  
**or**  
**Geometry**  
**Honors-**  
**H.S Credit****Earth/Space**  
**Honors H.S.**  
**Credit or**  
**Biology 1**  
**Honors H.S.**  
**Credit, 8th**  
**Grade Bridge**  
**Science**

US History

Spanish I & II,  
Band, Orchestra,  
Chorus, Drama,  
Art, PE, Dance,  
Guitar, Culinary,  
Aide, STEM, Musical  
Theater, Math  
Comp., Leadership,  
Digital Design  
**TBD**

**Swift Creek has many opportunities to offer high achieving students in addition to advanced/Accelerated core course work:**

- SCMS offers STEM I and STEM II
- SCMS offers Math Competition Course
- SCMS offers Digital Designs (High School Credit)
- SCMS offers the SCMS Science Club
- SCMS offers the SCMS Forensic Club
- SCMS offers Chess Club
- SCMS offers Spanish Club
- SCMS offers a Myriad of Electives

# **SCMS Capital Regional Science and Engineering Fair Results**

**In 2018, 7 SCMS students qualified for the 2018 Capital Regional Science and State of Florida Science and Engineering Fair – the highest number of students from any school in the county.**

# SCMS 2019 Capital Regional Science and Engineering Fair Results

- 11 students earned Top-3 medals
  - 1 State Qualifier
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place environmental engineering, intelligent machines and robotics, plant sciences
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place animal science, biomedical sciences, cellular and molecular biology, engineering
  - 4<sup>th</sup> place chemistry and engineering

# SCMS 2018 Capital Regional Science and Engineering Fair Results

- 17 SCMS students earned awards.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – 8
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – 3
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – 2
- Honorable Mention – 4
- Special Awards – 5
- “Most Outstanding Research Project” in the Fair

## Math Competition Team and Class

Our Math Competition Team continues to grow. We have 28 members this year. We are attending 7 competitions this year and we also hosted our second annual Swift Creek mini mu with great success. Our #Geeks@theCreek are also placing higher at competitions as we have multiple students finish in the top 15 or just placing higher individually from previous performances.



- **SCMS offers the SCMS Math Club and Class! with participation in local and state competitions (Mu Alpha Theta, Mini Mu, and Math Counts).**

**In 2019, the SCMS Math Team accomplished the following:**

- **Algebra 1 Team finished 4<sup>th</sup> at the Chiles Mu Alpha Theta Competition**
- **Algebra 1 Team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Lincoln Mu Alpha Theta Competition**
- **5 members of our SCMS Math Team finish in the top 25% nationally in the AMC8 math competition in November.**

## In 2019, the SCMS Math Team accomplished the following:

- Rickards Invitational FAMAT competition
  - Algebra 1 Team 4th place
  - Multiple individual awards in Pre-algebra, Algebra 1 and Geometry
- Chiles Invitational FAMAT competition
  - Algebra 1 Team 5th Place
  - Multiple individual awards in Pre-algebra, Algebra 1 and Geometry
- Lincoln Invitational FAMAT Competition
  - Algebra 1 Team 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
  - Geometry Team 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
  - Multiple individual awards in Pre-algebra, Algebra 1 and Geometry
- Math Counts FSU Competition
  - 5th place Team – Target and Sprint round
  - Spirit/Sportsmanship Award

- In 2018, the SCMS Math Team accomplished the following:
  - Algebra 1 Team finished 4<sup>th</sup> at the Chiles Mu Alpha Theta Competition
  - Algebra 1 Team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Lincoln Mu Alpha Theta Competition
  - 5 members of our SCMS Math Team finish in the top 25% nationally in the AMC8 math competition in November.

- **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Bridge Students participate in History Fair**

The past 4 years, we have sent 4 projects to the State History Fair, made several top 3 placements at District History fair, and also had several Honorable Mention recognitions at the District & State levels. The National History Day theme each year pushes our Bridge students to conduct in depth research to become experts on a topic of their choice. Their application of their research is put on display at our school fair in January, Districts in February, and the State competition in May.

## **SMCS Chorus**

- **Consistent top scores at MPA**
- **1-3 All State Chorus students per year**
- **Most comprehensive chorus program in Leon County Schools**
- **Community performances at Cascades Park, nursing homes, and the Old Historic Capito**

## **SCMS Band**

The SCMS Band Program consists of the Beginning Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, and Pep Band. The SCMS Band has been a longstanding part of the Swift Creek and Tallahassee community, performing at concerts, school events, and local events. They have traveled to perform at many festivals around the state, including Festival Disney in Orlando. No prior experience is required to join beginning band, and please note that 6<sup>th</sup> grade is the **ONLY** time that you can sign up for band!

- **SCMS offers Science Olympiad which participates in local/regional/state competitions- add results**
- **SCMS offers the First Lego League Robotics program as part of the STEM 2 Program**

- **SCMS Offers participation in the LCS Black Brain Bowl competition** (In the past 6 years SCMS has received five 1<sup>st</sup> place and one 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes)
- **SCMS offers participation in the Scripps National Spelling Bee competition along with the Tropicana Speech competition.**
- **Just this past weekend we placed first in the MS Battle of the Brains!**

- **SCMS offers the SCMS Brain Bowl Club which participates in tournaments locally, regionally and nationally (SCMS Brain Bowl Club has placed 1<sup>st</sup> in regional competition, 1st place in National Academic Quiz Tournaments (NAQT) in FL and participated in the NAQT in Chicago last year!**
- **We have won the Big Bend Middle School Brain Bowl, won or placed in the top three at the Bainbridge Quiz Cat several years in a row (one of these wins was in the high school division), won the Marianna Bulldog Invitational , and competed in the NAQT National competitions in Atlanta, Dallas, and Chicago.**
- **SCMS has an active National Junior Honor Society**



# Sports!

## **19-20 Sport Championships**

Football

## **18-19 Sport Championships**

Girls Cross Country

Football

Boys Soccer

## **17-18 Sport Championships**

Girls Cross Country

Girls Basketball

Boys Soccer

# Looking ahead to High School ...



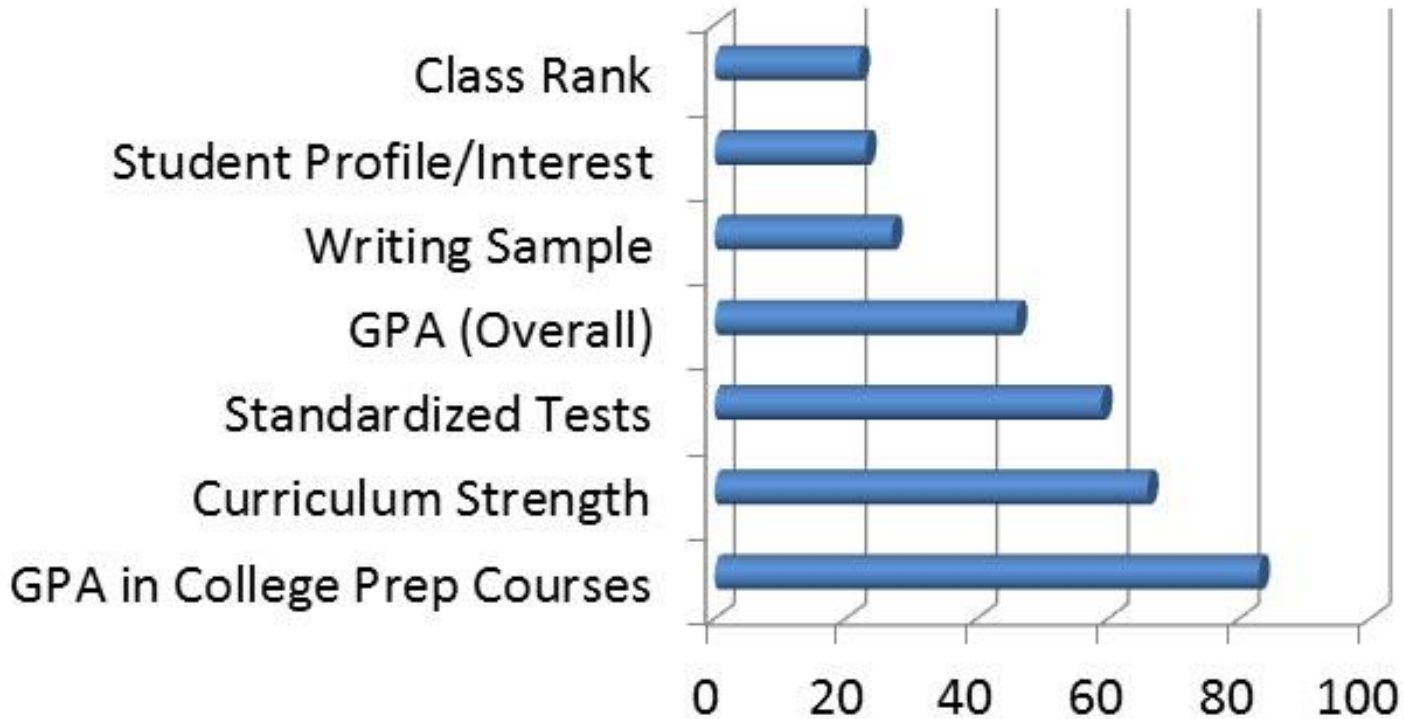
85% of AP students continue their education beyond high school.

76% of students who take two or more AP courses attain a bachelor's degree (regardless of whether they earn qualifying scores on AP courses and exams).

61% of students who take two or more AP courses and exams complete a bachelor's degree in four years or less.

*Research from College Board*

## What Counts in College Admissions



*Source: 2015 State of College Admission report from the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) (+/- 2%)*

# SCMS Transition Events for Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Graders

Shadowing for Bridge to AP will be February 12, 2020

To be Announced:

SCMS Administrators Visit to Feeder Schools

5<sup>th</sup> Graders to Visit SCMS

# Bridge Program Questions?