

Encouraging Rigor through Advance Curriculum Coursework

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is encouraging students to challenge themselves academically by enrolling in rigorous courses. Parents are encouraged to become more involved in their student's course selection process by following these easy steps:

1. Become knowledgeable about rigorous course options (i.e. AIG, AP, IB and Honors) at your students school (for information on these programs visit www.collegeboard.com, www.ibo.org, <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/ec/development/gifted/>, <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/honorsguide>)
 - a. Visit the school or school districts website
 - b. Communicate with school officials (school counselor, principal)
 - c. Become actively involved in school related events (attend school related events, join the PTA, become a parent advocate in council groups, network with other parents)
 - d. Read information about the benefits of advance curriculum coursework on the academic achievement of students
 - e. Visit NC DPI AP/IB website at www.ncpublicschools.org/apinitiatives
2. Prepare students to take advance curriculum coursework early:
 - a. Read to your child
 - b. Consider enrolling students in pre-K program
 - c. Advocate for student enrollment in the local school districts AIG program
 - d. Keep student academically engaged by enrolling in summer enrichment programs
 - e. Establish routines and good study habits early
 - f. Limit the amount of television and video game time
3. Help students make decisions about course options during school registration:
 - a. Have students explore their interest and values (visit www.cfnc.org and complete the Career Key, complete a four or more year educational plan and beyond, become involved in extracurricular activities that reflect interest and skill)
 - b. Visit colleges and college websites in order to have a good understanding of college expectations, admissions requirements, and dual credit acceptance policies
 - c. Encourage student to challenge her/ himself academically in order to prepare for college, the workforce, and the 21st century

