

Dear Parents/Students:

Effective for the 2022-2023 school year, we have instituted a MAJOR change in the continuation requirements for our current 8th graders who wish to move from our middle school to high school program for the following school year.

All arts students will be given a midterm exam that will assess the skills and abilities that students should have developed in their arts classes, and will reflect the rigor needed for their educational journey to high school. Students who score 80% or above on the midterm will receive magnet continuation for high school at NWSA.

Any student who scores between 60-79% on their midterm can request a reassessment opportunity, to be completed within the guidelines of the grading plan no later than May 31, 2023. The student must attend any required tutoring or workshops in order to prepare for the re-audition. Students who score 59% or lower on their mid-term can request a reassessment for grade purposes, but will not be awarded magnet continuation.

Regardless of midterm performance, students that end the 8th grade school year with an 80% average or higher in their arts major class will receive magnet continuation.

Regardless of midterm performance, students that end the 8th grade school year with a 59% average or below in their arts major class, will NOT receive magnet continuation. Please read below for more information about students in danger of failing their majors class.

An 8th grade student who wishes to add or change their major must request, schedule and pass an audition prior to the magnet lottery to be guaranteed a seat. Students will only be given one opportunity to add or change a major. If the student passes the audition, they are guaranteed a seat for high school. (If the student passes the audition, there is nothing else to do, except to be aware of this very important step to continue at Northwest.)

Please note the Audition Request Forms and Audition Requirements currently listed online at nwsaauditions.com should not be used, as they apply to the 2021-2022 school year. The site will be updated sometime after Labor Day. Please do not prepare for auditions or send requests until the updated information is published.

Personalized Education Plan

Any student (grades 6-12) who is failing or in jeopardy of failing an arts class is required to be placed on a Personal Education Plan (PEP). The purpose of this plan is for the student, family, and teacher to work collectively to implement strategies to assist the student in achieving academic/arts success.

It is CMS policy that any student who does not earn a passing final grade in their arts major is exited back to their assigned home school. Hence, the PEP is a vital tool to ensure that plans are in place for positive student outcomes. There are no exceptions for students to remain at NWSA if they fail their major at the end of any academic year.