

Housatonic Valley Regional High School

LEVEL CHANGE FORM

Teachers recommend courses and levels that appropriately challenge each student based on performance, observation of strengths and weaknesses, abilities, and motivations. Although all courses at Housatonic Valley Regional High School are rigorous, intellectually stimulating, challenging, and provide rich experience and excellent preparation for college work, Advanced Placement (AP), UCONN ECE, and Honors level courses require a significantly higher level of time, energy, and effort in comparison to College Placement (CP) courses. For this reason, careful consideration is given to each placement decision based on the teacher's knowledge of the student. Course specific prerequisites for AP, UCONN ECE, and Honors courses can be found in the Program of Studies under each department's section. Students need to be aware that AP and UCONN ECE level courses are college courses with comparable workloads and expectations; the workload, depth of content and acceleration of coverage will be intense. Upon enrollment in an AP or UCONN ECE course, students will commit to the following: fully prepare and complete all work within the designated time frame it is assigned, including summer assignments which are due within the first week of the school year; and contribute to the learning environment of the class.

A student must receive a recommendation from his or her teacher for placement in an AP, UCONN ECE, or Honors level course. If necessary, a meeting with the student's School Counselor should be scheduled. If, after this meeting, the parent/student chooses to override the teacher recommendation, this level change form needs be completed.

In doing so, the parent and student needs to be aware that the change in level will place new demands on the student. Should the student experience difficulty in meeting the demands of the new placement, the student must make use of appropriate resources (i.e., confer with the teacher, seek extra help, seek peer tutoring, etc). No override will be rescinded unless the student has made consistent use of these resources. If the override is rescinded, the student's grade will stand as earned in the override placement. Significant changes in the student's schedule and/or closed classes may make it impossible to move the student to a different level. Any student requesting an override into a course that requires summer work must complete that summer work.

I, _____, acknowledge that my enrollment in _____

is contrary to the advice and recommendations of my teacher. I realize that I will have to work harder to succeed than I would have if I had accepted my recommended placement. I understand that priority will be given to teacher-recommended students, and that this request will be honored only if space permits. I also understand that if this placement request is honored, I may not be able to change back and only if there is room in the class.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____