



January 7th, 2019

Dear Mercer Students and Families,

As second semester approaches, I would like to clarify a few changes that you may experience as Mercer works through the process of providing students the opportunity to earn honors designation in their block classes.

What to expect:

- Students whose Lexile reading level was advanced for their grade level, received an honors designation self-assessment. (On the back of this letter) Students who would like to earn Honors for the Semester must complete and turn the self-assessment in to their block teachers for approval by **January 18th**.
- Students who earned honors, including students designated by the District as an Advanced Learner will continue to see an “H” or honors designation next to their block classes in the Source and on Progress reports.
 - In 8th grade, the “H” is attached to the LA course.
- Students who did not earn honors first semester will no longer see an “H” or honors designation next to their course.
- To accommodate for our honors designation process, block classes will finalize first semester grades **one week earlier** than other content areas. This means students will need to make sure all assignments for block classes are turned in by **January 23rd**.

We are proud to partner with you to provide opportunities for students to stretch themselves as readers and writers. Please reach out to your block teacher or myself if you have any questions.

In partnership,

Christy Bowman-White
Literacy Assistant Principal
Asa Mercer International Middle School
cbowmanwhit@seattleschools.org

Name: _____

Grade _____ Block Teacher _____

Self-Assessment for Honors Designation (1 Page Edition)

My Lexile Score is Advanced for my grade level. My Lexile: _____

Lexile Proficiency (Circle)

Grade 6 Advanced	Grade 7 Advanced	Grade 8 Advanced
1071 and above	1121 and above	1186 and above

My Narrative On-Demand exceeds grade level standard.

My Narrative writing is stapled to this sheet.

I have provided evidence on the back of this page.

(Write to show how two or more parts of your narrative exceeds grade level standard on the rubric. Quote the specific parts of your writing that demonstrate this and explain how.)

TC Overall Narrative Writing Rubric (Circle)

Grade 6 Standard	Grade 7 Standard	Grade 8 Standard	Grade 9 Standard
I wrote a story that had tension, resolution, and realistic characters and conveyed an idea or lesson.	I created a narrative that has realistic characters, tension, and change and that not only conveys, but also develops an idea, lesson or theme.	I not only created a narrative with well-developed characters who change, I used the story to comment on a social issue, teach a lesson, and/or develop a point of view.	I created a narrative with well-developed characters whose interactions build tension and change over time. I used this story to comment on a social issue, teach a lesson, and/or develop a particular point of view.

Based on the evidence provided,

Has Honors Designation Been Earned for First Semester?

Yes!

Not Yet

Block Teacher Agrees: (Signature) _____

Second Opinion Requested? Yes No Literacy AP Signature _____