2023-2024
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

ACADEMIC Planning Guide

6TH - 8TH GRADE

DICKINSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2218 FM 517 East P.O. Drawer Z, Dickinson, Tx 77539 • Phone: 281-229-6000 • www.dickinsonisd.org

CAMPUS INFORMATION

DICKINSON JUNIOR HIGH

11611 Central Park Blvd
Texas City, TX 77591
Phone: TBD
Website: TBD

EUGENE KRANZ JUNIOR HIGH

72850 FM 3436
Dickinson, TX 77539
Phone: 281-309-3600
Website:
https://schools.dickinsonisd.org/page/15.homepage

R. D. MCADAMS JUNIOR HIGH

17475 Hughes Road
Dickinson, TX 77539
Phone: 281-229-7100
Website:
https://schools.dickinsonisd.org/page/09.homepage

OUR MISSION

Dickinson ISD will equip and empower all learners with skills and experiences to achieve academic excellence and make meaningful contributions to our world.

OUR VISION

Inclusive of all, Dickinson ISD will cultivate excellence, producing confident, collaborative, goal-driven learners who become empowered citizens in a global society.

OUR OBJECTIVES

All students will learn and apply life skills to meaningfully engage and impact their community.

All students will graduate college, career, and/or military ready.

All students will develop the communication skills necessary to work in a collaborative environment.

All students will learn to self-advocate by developing confidence in their ability to determine their own path for success.

All students will develop innovative technological skills and interact responsibly in a constantly evolving global society.

All students will demonstrate the ability to face adversity with perseverance, integrity, and leadership.

All students will demonstrate social and emotional skills and model positive character traits.

Visit www.dickinsonisd.org/strategicplan or scan the QR code on the left for more information on Dickinson ISD's Strategic Plan and Action Plan!

www.dickinsonisd.org

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DISCLAIMER: This document is to be used as a guide to help you and your student select courses for the 2023 ·2024 school year. The information is accurate as of the printing date. The campuses reserve the right to modify course offerings at any time, whenever it is deemed necessary. Notice of revision or modification will be given as is reasonably practical under the circumstances. This course guide does not, nor is it intended to, create contractual or legal rights between any parent or student and the district.

ABOUT THE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC PLANNING GUIDE:

We hope that you are starting to feel excited about joining your junior high school campus next year. Junior High provides wonderful opportunities to develop academically, explore career interests, refine your study skills, and prepare for the next level of your education. The planning guide exists to provide you information about the courses you can take and to explain available programs. Read this document carefully with your parents to learn more about what junior high has to offer. Junior High school administrators, counselors, and teachers are looking forward to getting to know you and are standing by to answer questions. We are all part of a team to help you make a positive transition to your new campus.

HOURS & SCHEDULE:

The instructional day for Junior High School is from 7:45 AM - 3:15 PM. Office hours are from 7:30 AM-3:30 PM. Students may enter the building at 7:15 AM. Students will enroll in seven instructional periods and move from class to class each day. Class periods are approximately 50 minutes.

LUNCH INFORMATION:

Students will have a 30-minute lunch. Menus, nutritional information, and the application for Free/Reduced lunch are available on the Dickinson ISD webpage. Parents may also add funds to their student's school lunch account and review lunch purchases at Lunch Money Now/Meal App Now.

TEXTBOOKS:

Textbooks are typically used in the classroom during the instructional day, though you may not refer to the textbook every day. If you will need to use a textbook at home, talk with your teacher about how to check out a book.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

In 6th through 8th grade, we want students to become even more comfortable managing their own supplies and materials. The Junior High School Supply List is found in the Back-to-School Packet posted on the Dickinson ISD webpage. During the first week, your teachers will let you know if there are any specific supplies that you will need for the course.

GRADES:

Grades will be reported on a 100-point scale. A grade of 70 or better is considered passing. You can read more about grading in board policy EIA (LOCAL) and check your grades regularly on Skyward Student and Family Access.

TUTORING:

Please check with each teacher about tutoring opportunities. Tutoring is a great way to reinforce information you've been studying in class as well as to prepare for upcoming assignments.

ATTENDANCE, DRESS CODE & TECHNOLOGY:

The Student Handbook contains information on attendance, dress code, technology use and much more. Please see the Student Handbook for complete dress code information.

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

REQUIRED COURSES

Every student is required to take Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. Two years (four semesters) of Physical Education is also required; Athletics and Dance in grades 7 and 8 count as Physical Education. DISD is proud to offer Honors classes in all core academic subjects for students who meet certain qualifications. Students enrolled in the STEAM Academy will also have specialized core academic courses providing rigor through STEAM.

6th and 7th Grade	8th Grade
1 RLA	1 RLA
1 Math	1 Math
1 Science	1 Science
1 Social Studies	1 Social Studies
1 PE/Athletics/Dance	

High School Credit Courses

DISD offers high school credit for students in junior high after successful completion* of the following courses:

Course	***High School Credits***
Algebra I	1 Credit/ 2 semesters
Art I	1 Credit/ 2 semesters
IPC (STEAM Academy at Kranz only)	1 Credit / 2 semesters
Gateway to Technology I & II	1 Credit/ 2 semesters
Principles of Human Services	1 Credit/ 2 semesters
Professional Communications	.5 Credit/ 1 semester
Spanish I	1 Credit/ 2 semesters
Spanish I and II for Native Speakers (1-year course)	2 Credits/ 2 semesters

*Successful completion includes earning a passing grade (70% higher) each semester and attending for 90% of the days the course is offered. Courses in which credit is earned prior to 9th grade shall not be included in the students' GPA for high school. Some courses require a portfolio for review to determine awarding of high school credit. See individual course listings for more information.

Special Programs

DISD offers a variety of specialized programs for students with individual needs. These programs include screening for special programs, dyslexia, Emergent Bilingual (EB), gifted/talented, Section 504, Americans with Disabilities Act, and other federal programs mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). Each program includes specific guidelines for qualification.

Schedule Process

During the second semester, students will request the courses they prefer for the following year. This initial request is completed in February. It is important for students to plan their choices carefully because class size and staffing decisions will be determined from their choices.

Schedule Changes

Requests for course changes by students and parents may not be honored after classes have begun. Students and parents are given the opportunity to make changes to course requests after the initial requesting period in the spring. Carefully consider all course requests. The campus reserves the right to change schedules at any time as deemed necessary by the principal.

ADVANCED ACADEMIC COURSES

EQUITY AND ACCESS

Opportunities for enrollment in Honors courses are open and made available to all junior high school students. Because Honors courses are designed as college preparation, students must have demonstrated their academic preparedness and their willingness to invest the time and effort required for success in the rigorous courses. College Board research clearly shows that students who participate in challenging coursework, including Honors coursework, have considerably higher success in college.

Benefits

A Different Kind of Class:

- Through increased rigor, Honors courses help students acquire the skills and academic habits needed for success in high school and beyond. Students will improve critical reading, writing, and problem-solving skills as a result of successful completion of these courses. In addition, students' time management, note-taking, and study skills will be greatly enhanced.
- An Honors course is different from an on-level class/course. Instruction in an Honors course focuses on intense discussions, rigorous real-world applications, analytical thinking, critical reading, and persuasive/ expository writing. Students are held to a high standard of academic engagement.
- Honors courses provide preparation for success in high school Advanced Placement courses and the corresponding College Board AP Exams through which students may earn college credits.

Selection Process

To place students in appropriate level classes, admission recommendations have been established for Honors courses. The academic records for all students who register for an Honors course will be evaluated against the following recommendations:

1. Previous Academic Performance. Students should have a yearly average of 90 (A) or higher in an on-level class/course or 80 (B) or higher in an Honors course immediately preceding the next-level Honors course.
2. STAAR Assessment. It is highly recommended that students achieve a "Masters Grade Level" STAAR score for entry into each Honors course. Demonstrated academic achievement on the state assessment indicates that the student has the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the rigorous Honors course.
3. Placement Appeal. Students who do not meet the recommendations for admission to Honors courses may submit an appeal to the campus principal.

Program Requirements

- Parent Meeting. All parents of students who are enrolled in an Honors course are encouraged to attend one of the parent meetings held in the spring.
- Commitment Statement. An electronic contract signed by both student and parent will be due during the first week of school or upon enrollment of new students.
- Appeal of Placement Decision. An appeal form must be completed and signed by the parent and submitted to the campus on or before the fifth day of school. Appeals will be reviewed by the

campus Selection and Review Committee made up of an administrator, a counselor, and at least one (1) Honors course teacher.

Exit from an Honors course

College and university admissions officers have repeatedly indicated that high school students who successfully complete Honors courses are given greater consideration when all other college admissions indicators are equal. A transcript that indicates that a student has earned a "C" in an Honors course is given higher consideration than one who earns an "A" in an on-level class/ course. Because junior high school Honors courses are designed to prepare students for high school and, ultimately, college success, we strongly advise advanced students to stay in these courses working through difficulties by attending tutorials, doing extra reading/work at home, joining a student study group, and using effective note-taking strategies in class.

If a student indicates that he/she wants out of the class and scheduled into the corresponding on-level course, the following timeline and procedure(s) must be followed:

Exit Point #1: Prior to Start of School

Students are registered for courses during the spring of the previous school year. It is important that students carefully select their coursework making wise decisions based on their time commitments, their interests, and their demonstrated academic achievement. The first exit point after initial registration will be made available to all students in May. All students will review their course selections and may request a schedule change prior to the start of school in the fall. A parent/primary caregiver signature is required for the schedule change.

Exit Point #2: End of the First Nine Weeks

Students who are failing the Honors course at the end of the first grading period are in danger of failing for the semester. Serious consideration must be given to the student's willingness to complete the rigorous coursework and to his/her time commitments for him/her to be successful and pass the first semester. Students who are failing an Honors course at the end of the first 9 weeks may be moved to the respective on-level class/course. Students with a 65 -69 may remain in the course if the student, parent, and teacher agree the student could pass for the semester. The student's parent or primary caregiver will be notified by the Honors teacher about the failing grade at the end of the first nine weeks.

Exit Point #3: End of the First Semester

Any student who fails an Honors course with a grade below 70 for the first semester may be removed from the course at the end of the first semester. The student's parent or primary caregiver will be notified by the Honors course teacher of the failing grade. The parent or primary caregiver may also request to remove the student from the course for the second semester. Written notification must be given to the school counselor before the first business day in December.

To request an exit from an Honors course at one of the three (3) Exit Points of a semester, students and parents/guardians must complete a Class Exit Request Form and submit it to the campus counselor prior to the Exit Point deadlines.

DICKINSON ISD STEAM ACADEMY

THE MISSION

The purpose of the STEAM Academy is to increase student achievement by engaging students in innovative science, technology, engineering, and math instruction.

THE VISION

The STEAM Academy will provide a continuous pathway of educational opportunities that create STEAMliterate graduates ready to accept the challenges of advanced education beyond high school, meeting the needs of future workforce.

STEAM ACADEMY PROGRAM DESIGN - Grades 5-8

The DISD STEAM Academy is designed as a rigorous academic cohort model for students in grades 5 - 12 who enjoy challenges and investigating the world around them. Students explore STEAM concepts through hands-on learning experiences, research, and exploration in every content. Teacher collaboration within team planning produces the cross-curricular lessons that allow students to focus on content through the lens of STEAM. All courses in the STEAM Academy are taught at a faster pace, while math and science courses also have an accelerated curriculum.

In addition to core advanced academic study, students also explore STEAM concepts through Brainiac Block, the STEAM Academy exploratory elective, which is taught during campus-wide club/intervention time. Through this course, students experience Project Lead the Way modules and project-based learning within the Texas Performance Standards Project. Students also participate in field experiences, guest lectures, and more.

STEAM ACADEMY REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY - Grades 6-8

STEAM Academy applicant criteria guidelines for application consideration:

- Currently enrolled in DISD at time of application.
- Meet the passing standard on each of the most recent STAAR assessments.
- Currently enrolled in the highest appropriate academic core courses offered at that grade level (i.e., advanced, Honors, etc.) for math, science, Reading Language Arts, and social studies.
- Recent semester average of 85 (B) or better in Math, Science, Reading, and Social Studies
- Discipline record that reflects no out-of-school suspensions, no DALC/DAEP placement or expulsion, and no more than 3 days of ISS placement

STEAM ACADEMY APPLICATION PROCEDURES

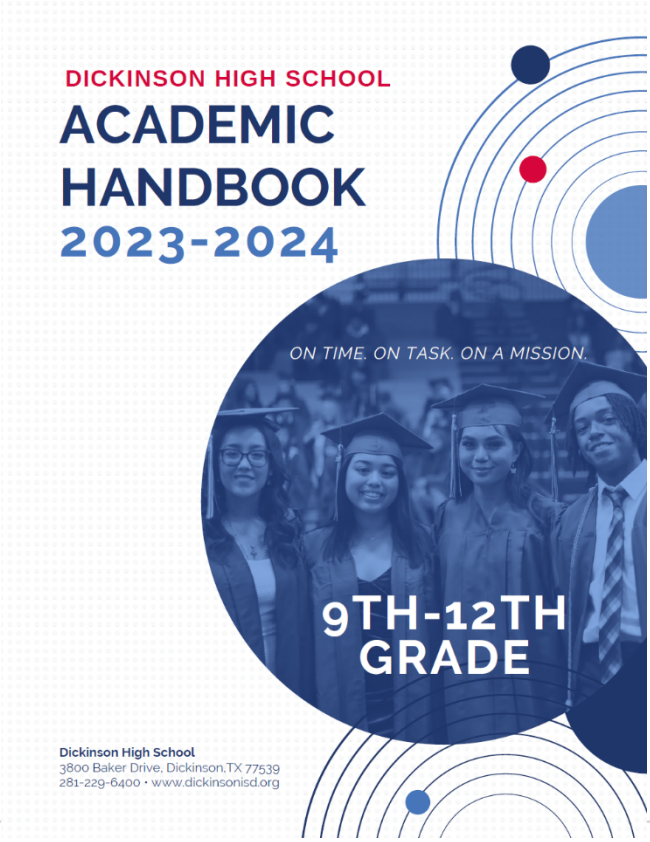
- All students must meet minimum eligibility criteria for applications to be considered.
- STEAM Academy applications are accepted for all DISD students in the spring semester for placement the following school year for all DISD students.
- Applications are also accepted prior to the start of school in the fall for students new to DISD only.
- Students may also re-apply to the STEAM Academy/Waiting List in the spring of each year.

PLANNING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Planning a four-year high school program is a serious undertaking. Although many of your courses will be determined by the graduation plan you select, you will still have many other choices to make during your years of school. Will you continue your education in college or in a trade or technical school? Do you want to learn a career skill to enter the full-time work force immediately after school? Are you interested in a technical field? Are you thinking of entering a profession that requires many years of specialized education? The answers to these questions are extremely important for making decisions about your course selections for all four years in high school. Your interests and abilities should also guide these answers. An overview of graduation plans/requirements can be found on page 14.

In addition, the High School Academic Planning Guide offers practical suggestions for planning your high school course of study to meet state graduation requirements and college admissions standards as well as future career planning. For more information on high school courses offered in DickinsonISD, including detailed descriptions, prerequisites, and grade points, please see the High School Academic Planning Guide.

To view the 2023-2024 DHS Academic handbook visit: https://schools.dickinsonisd.org/page/10.homepage



Scan here to access the DHS site with links to the high school handbook

STATE GRADUATION PLANS

Foundation Plan* 22 Credits	Foundation Plan* + Endorsement 26 Credits
English — 4 credits English 1, 2, 3 and one advanced English credit	**English — 4 credits** English 1, 2, 3, and one advanced English credit
Math — 3 credits Algebra I, Geometry, and one advanced Math credit	**Math — 4 credits** Algebra I, Geometry, and two advanced Math credits**
Science — 3 credits Biology and two advanced Science credits	**Science — 4 credits** Biology and three advanced Science credits
Social Studies — 3 credits World Geography or World History, U.S. History, Government, and Economics	**Social Studies — 3 credits** World Geography or World History, U.S. History, Government, and Economics
Languages other than English — 2 credits	**Languages other than English — 2 credits**
Fine Arts — 1 credit	**Fine Arts — 1 credit**
Physical Education — 1 credit	**Physical Education — 1 credit**
Electives — 5 credits	**Electives — 7 credits** See Endorsement 4 year plan
	Distinguished Level of Achievement-Student must take Algebra 2 as an advanced math.**

Endorsements

Please refer to the course plans for specific course requirements necessary to earn each endorsement.

Arts & Humanities	Business & Industry	Public Services	STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering,& Math)	Multidisciplinary Studies
• Fine Arts • Foreign Languages & Cultural Studies • Social Sciences	• Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources • Arts, Audio Video Technology & Communications • Business, Marketing, and Finance • Information Technology (COM) • Manufacturing • Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics	• AFJROTC • Education & Training • Health Science • Human Services • Law and Public Service	• Engineering • Advanced Math • Advanced Science	Student selects courses from each endorsement area and earns credits in a variety of advanced courses from multiple content sufficient to complete distinguished level under the foundation high school program

State Assessments Required for Graduation (EOC)		Performance Acknowledgements	
English I Algebra I Biology	English 2 US History	**Outstanding Performance:** Dual Credit coursework, bilingualism/biliteracy, AP Exam, PSAT, ACT- Plan, SAT or ACT	**Certification:** State, Nationally, or Internationally recognized business or industry certificate or license

*Algebra 2, World History and English 4 are highly recommended for college bound students. It is the student's responsibility to check prospective college requirements.

**Algebra 2 is required to be eligible for automatic admissions if in top 10% (6% for UT-Austin). The 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, passed SB 232 requiring school districts to notify parents that state graduation requirements do not require a student to complete an Algebra II course to graduate under the Foundation High School Program. Students who does not complete an Algebra II course will not be eligible for— automatic college admission or certain financial aid including: TEXAS grant program and Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program.

CORE ACADEMIC COURSES

READING LANGUAGE ARTS

[6LA2, 7LA2, or 8LA2] Reading Language Arts - Grades 6 - 8
Length: 2 Semesters
The Reading Language Arts class embodies the interconnected nature of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking through the seven integrated strands of developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author's purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The course focuses on academic oracy (proficiency in oral expression and comprehension), authentic reading, and reflective writing.

[6LA3, 7LA3, or 8LA3] Reading Language Arts (RLA) for ESL - Grades 6 - 8
Length: 2 Semesters
Reading Language Arts for ESL students is a 2-period course for 6th through 8th grade Emergent Bilingual newcomer students. This course is designed to develop a student's language and writing skills in the English language. Students will be provided learning opportunities that consist of the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) as well as the Reading Language Arts Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

[8LA4] Reading Language Arts Honors - Grades 8
Length: 2 Semesters
Prerequisite: Identified through the Honors course selection process
The Honors Reading Language Arts class embodies the interconnected nature of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking through the seven integrated strands of developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author's purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The course focuses on academic oracy (proficiency in oral expression and comprehension), authentic reading, and reflective writing. This course works at a quicker more independent pace than Language Arts. It includes higher-level vocabulary, grammatical structures, and various creative approaches to creativity and evaluation of diverse pieces of literature. It will prepare students for further studies and continued success in high school and even lower levels of college. It will assist in preparing the student for the ACT, SAT, and AP College Board Exam.

[6LA6 & 7LA6] Reading Language Arts STEAM - Grade 6 -7
Length: 2 Semesters
Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment
Reading Language Arts for STEAM students will master previously learned language arts skills while reading and writing increasingly complex, refined texts. The STEAM Reading Language Arts class embodies the interconnected nature of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking through the seven integrated strands of developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author 's purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The

course focuses on academic oracy (proficiency in oral expression and comprehension), authentic reading, and reflective writing. This course works at a quicker more independent pace than Language Arts. It includes higher-level vocabulary, grammatical structures, and various creative approaches to creativity and evaluation of diverse pieces of literature. It will prepare students for further studies and continued success in high school and even lower levels of college. It will assist in preparing the student for the ACT, SAT, and AP College Board Exam. Advanced level products, and independent research are required in this course.

[8LA6] Reading Language Arts STEAM - Grade 8 (KJH only)

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

Reading Language Arts for STEAM students will master previously learned language arts skills while reading and writing increasingly complex, refined texts. The STEAM Reading Language Arts class embodies the interconnected nature of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking through the seven integrated strands of developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author's purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The course focuses on academic oracy (proficiency in oral expression and comprehension), authentic reading, and reflective writing. This course works at a quicker more independent pace than Language Arts. It includes higher-level vocabulary, grammatical structures, and various creative approaches to creativity and evaluation of diverse pieces of literature. It will prepare students for further studies and continued success in high school and even lower levels of college. It will assist in preparing the student for the ACT, SAT, and AP College Board Exam. Advanced level products, and independent research are required in this course.

[6MA2] Mathematics - Grade 6

Length: 2 Semesters

The primary focal areas in mathematics grade 6 are numbers and operations, proportionality, expressions, equations, measurement and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of rational numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations. Students use concepts of proportionality to explore, develop and communicate mathematical relationships. Students use algebraic thinking to describe how a change in one quantity in a relationship results in a change in the other. Students use geometric properties and relationships, as well as spatial reasoning, to model and analyze situations and solve problems. Students use appropriate statistics, representations of data, and reasoning to draw conclusions, evaluate arguments and make recommendations.

[6MA6] Mathematics STEAM - Grade 6

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

6th Grade STEAM Math is a math course that integrates interdisciplinary units, 21st century learning skills, and the engineering design process. This course focuses primarily on numbers and operations, proportionality, expressions, equations, measurement, and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of rational numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations. Students use concepts of proportionality to explore, develop, and communicate mathematical relationships. Students use algebraic thinking to describe how a change in one quantity in a relationship results in a change in the other. Students use geometric properties and relationships, as well as spatial reasoning, to model and analyze situations and solve problems. Students use appropriate statistics, representations of data, and reasoning to draw conclusions, evaluate arguments, and make recommendations.

[6MA7] Mathematics STEAM Honors - Grade 6

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

6th Grade STEAM Honors Math is an accelerated math course that combines the 6th grade curriculum with an additional 25% of the 7th grade curriculum to ensure students are on track for Algebra I in grade 8 STEAM. Integrating interdisciplinary units, 21st century learning skills, and the engineering design process, this course focuses primarily on numbers and operations, proportionality, expressions, equations, measurement, and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of rational numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations. Students use concepts of proportionality to explore, develop, and communicate mathematical relationships. Students use algebraic thinking to describe how a change in one quantity in a relationship results in a change in the other. Students use geometric properties and relationships, as well as spatial reasoning, to model and analyze situations and solve problems. Students use appropriate statistics, representations of data, and reasoning to draw conclusions, evaluate arguments, and make recommendations.

[7MA2] Mathematics - Grade 7

Length: 2 Semesters

Mathematics in grade 7 focuses on the study of concepts and skills associated with the understanding of the place value system, numbers, and the basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) with fractions and decimals. Students will study problem-solving techniques, measurement concepts using both metric and customary units, exponents, properties, and relationships of geometric shapes. The major units are rational number operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, and inequalities; probability; multiple representations; geometry and measurement and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of rational numbers to explore mathematical relationships and patterns.

[7MA6] Mathematics STEAM - Grade 7

Length: 2 semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

7th Grade STEAM Mathematics is a math course that integrates interdisciplinary units, 21st century learning skills, and the engineering design process. This course focuses on the study of concepts and skills associated with the understanding of the place value system, numbers, and the basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) with fractions and decimals. Students will study problem-solving techniques, measurement concepts using both metric and customary units, exponents, properties, and relationships of geometric shapes. The major units are rational number operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, and inequalities; probability; multiple representations; geometry and measurement and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of rational numbers to explore mathematical relationships and patterns.

[7MA7] Pre-Algebra STEAM Honors - Grade 7

Length: 2 semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

Notes: Students will be required to take the 8th Grade Math STAAR exam

Math STEAM in grade 7 is an accelerated math course combining concepts from both the 7th and 8th grade math curriculum to ensure students are on-track for Algebra I in grade 8 STEAM. Using universal themes and interdisciplinary lessons, this course focuses primarily on developing skills in rational number operations, solving algebraic equations, proportional relationships and slope, non-proportional relationships, Pythagorean theorem, similarity and transformations, measurement, and data analysis. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of real numbers to explore mathematical relationships, solve complex problems, and communicate ideas in a real-world mathematical application.

Students should expect an additional time requirement and be willing to work independently. While the use of all types of technology is important, the emphasis on algebra readiness skills, STEAM investigations and the engineering design process necessitates the use of graphing technology, specifically the Desmos calculator.

[8MA2] Mathematics - Grade 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Mathematics in grade 8 focuses primarily on developing skills in rational number operations, solving algebraic equations, proportional relationships and slope, non-proportional relationships, Pythagorean theorem, similarity and transformations, measurement, and data analysis. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of real numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations. While the use of all types of technology is important, the emphasis on algebra readiness skills necessitates the use of graphing technology, specifically the Desmos calculator.

[8MA4] Algebra I Honors - Grade 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Credit: 1 High School Credit after successful completion of the course

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Mathematics - Grade 7· Identified through the Honors Course selection process

Notes: Notes: Students will be required to take the Algebra I EOC STAAR exam

Honors Algebra I in grade 8 is a fast-paced course that extends the pre-requisite 7th Honors Math concepts and continues the study of operations with real numbers and polynomials, relations and functions, creation and application of linear functions and relations, and an introduction to nonlinear functions with extensions. Opportunities for problem solving will be given to emphasize critical thinking and to develop college-readiness skills in mathematics, readying students for the challenges of Honors Geometry in grade 9. Students will use technology, specifically the Desmos calculator to enhance solving problems relevant to student experiences.

[8MA6] Algebra I STEAM - Grade 8 (KJH only)

Length: 2 Semesters

Credit: 1 High School Credit after successful completion of the course

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

Notes: Students will be required to take the Algebra I EOC STAAR exam

Algebra I STEAM in grade 8 is a fast-paced course that extends the pre-requisite 7th Honors Math concepts and continues the study of operations with real numbers and polynomials, relations and functions, creation and application of linear functions and relations, and an introduction to nonlinear functions with extensions. Using universal themes in STEAM, students have opportunities for problem solving to emphasize critical thinking and to develop college-readiness skills in mathematics, readying students for the challenges of STEAM Geometry in grade 9. While the use of all types of technology is important, the Desmos calculator and its graphing technology are necessary tools for algebraic manipulations within STEAM investigations and the engineering design process.

SCIENCE

[6SC2] Science - Grade 6

Length: 2 Semesters

Science in 6th grade is a hands-on course organized into recurring strands that build upon prior knowledge from elementary science, and establish a foundation for success in future intermediate and high school level science courses. Students will engage in science and engineering practices to investigate the physical, chemical, and life sciences. Students extend their knowledge of matter by exploring the properties & classification of elements, mixtures, and compounds. Investigations of force, motion, and energy will include Newton's Law concepts and calculations, as well as types and conservation of energy. Earth and space will be explored through phenomena such as seasons, tides, our solar system, and resource management. A study of organisms and their environments include cell biology, levels of organization and relationships that comprise an ecosystem – as well as impacts of environmental changes have on organism & ecosystem sustainability.

[6SC6] Science STEAM - Grade 6

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

6th Grade STEAM Science is a science course that integrates interdisciplinary units, 21st century learning skills, and the engineering design process. This hands-on course is organized into recurring strands that build upon prior knowledge from elementary science and establish a foundation for success in future intermediate and high school-level science courses. Students will engage in science and engineering practices to investigate the physical, chemical, and life sciences. Students extend their knowledge of matter by exploring the properties and classification of elements, mixtures, and compounds. Investigations of force, motion, and energy will include Newton's Law concepts and calculations, as well as types and conservation of energy. Earth and space will be explored through phenomena such as seasons, tides, our solar system, and resource management. A study of organisms and their environments includes cell biology, levels of organization, and relationships that comprise an ecosystem—as well as impacts of environmental changes have on organism and ecosystem sustainability.

[6SC7] Science STEAM Honors - Grade 6

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

6th Grade STEAM Honors Science is an accelerated science course that combines the 6th grade curriculum with 15% of the 7th grade curriculum to prepare students for IPC STEAM in 8th grade. This course integrates interdisciplinary units, 21st century learning skills, and the engineering design process. This hands-on course is organized into recurring strands that build upon prior knowledge from elementary science and establish a foundation for success in future intermediate and high school-level science courses. Students will engage in science and engineering practices to investigate the physical, chemical, and life sciences. Students extend their knowledge of matter by exploring the properties and classification of elements, mixtures, and compounds. Investigations of force, motion, and energy will include Newton's Law concepts and calculations, as well as types and conservation of energy. Earth and space will be explored through phenomena such as seasons, tides, our solar system, and resource management. A study of organisms and their environments includes cell biology, levels of organization, and relationships that comprise an ecosystem—as well as impacts of environmental changes have on organism and ecosystem sustainability.

[7SC2] Science - Grade 7

Length: 2 Semesters

Science in grade 7 is interdisciplinary in nature; recurring themes are pervasive in sciences, mathematics, and technology. These ideas transcend disciplinary boundaries and include change and constancy, patterns, cycles, systems, models, and scale. Scientific investigations are used to learn about the natural world. Matter and energy are conserved throughout living systems. Force, motion, and energy are observed in living systems and the environment in several ways. Both natural events and human activities can impact Earth systems. There are characteristics of Earth and relationships to objects in our solar system that allow life to exist.

[7SC6] Science STEAM - Grade 7

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

7th Grade STEAM Science is interdisciplinary in nature; recurring themes are pervasive in sciences, mathematics, and technology through integrating 21st century learning skills and the engineering design process. The ideas transcend disciplinary boundaries and include change and constancy, patterns, cycles, systems, models, and scale. Scientific investigations are used to learn about the natural world. Matter and energy are conserved throughout living systems. Force, motion, and energy are observed in living systems and the environment in several ways. Both natural events and human activities can impact Earth systems. There are characteristics of Earth and relationships to objects in our solar system that allow life to exist.

[7SC7] Science STEAM Honors - Grade 7

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

Notes: Students will be required to take the 8th Grade Science STAAR exam

Science for STEAM students offers an advanced level of experiences in the 7th and 8th grade concepts of science. Laboratory activities are presented as a combination of inquiry and confirmatory exercises. Instruction is more accelerated and in greater depth. Advanced level products and independent research are required in this course.

[8SC2] Science - Grade 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Science in grade 8 is a hands-on course in which students learn science skills and concepts. The skills and concepts are integrated in a learning environment stressing verbal and written communication as well as teamwork. Students will identify the roles of human activities and natural events in altering Earth Systems. Students will learn about the characteristics of the universe and work with the periodic table. Various laboratory experiments using scientific inquiry method will demonstrate an understanding of matter, energy, and chemical reactions. Interactions in matter, energy, and motion are explored in solar, weather and ocean systems.

[8SC4] Science Honors - Grade 8 (DJH & MJH only)

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Identified through the Honors course selection process

Honors Science offers an advanced level of experience in the concepts of science. Laboratory activities are presented as a combination of inquiry and validation of scientific processes and concepts. The concepts and skills that are a part of the on-level program are taught at an accelerated pace and in greater depth and complexity. Advanced level products and independent research are part of this course.

[8SCS] Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC) STEAM - Grade 8 (KJH only)

Length: 2 Semesters

Credit: 1 High School Credit after successful completion of the course

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

In IPC, students conduct field and laboratory investigations using the scientific method, and make informal decisions using critical-thinking and scientific problem-solving. This course integrates the principles of physics and chemistry which serve as a strong foundation to other courses of study in advanced sciences. Focuses include but are not limited to the following topics: motion, waves, energy transformations, properties of matter, changes in matter, and solution chemistry.

SOCIAL STUDIES

[6SS2] Social Studies - Grade 6

Length: 2 Semesters

In grade 6, students study people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. Societies for study are from the following regions of the world: Europe, Russia, and the Eurasian republics, North America, Central America and the Caribbean, South America, Southwest Asia-North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, and the Pacific realm. Students describe the influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in those societies and identify the locations and geographic characteristics of various societies. Students identify different ways of organizing economic and governmental systems. The concepts of limited and unlimited government are introduced, and students describe the nature of citizenship in various societies. Students compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religious institutions. Students explain how the level of technology affects the development of the various societies and identify different points of view about events. The concept of frame of reference is introduced as an influence on an individual's point of view.

[6SS6] Social Studies STEAM - Grade 6

Length: 2 Semesters

Social Studies STEAM is a more advanced level of study. Many of the concepts are the same as those in World Cultures: grade 6, except the presentation is more accelerated and in more detail. The emphasis upon critical thinking, independent study, research, and projects will be a part of this course.

[7SS2] Social Studies - Grade 7

Length: 2 Semesters

In Social Studies grade 7, students study the history of Texas from early times to the present. Content is presented with more depth and breadth than in grade 4. Students examine the full scope of Texas history, including Natural Texas and its People; Age of Contact; Spanish Colonial; Mexican National; Revolution and Republic; Early Statehood; Texas in the Civil War and Reconstruction; Cotton, Cattle, and Railroads; Age of Oil; Texas in the Great Depression and World War II; Civil Rights and Conservatism; and Contemporary Texas eras. Students use primary and secondary sources to examine the rich and diverse cultural background of Texas as they identify the different racial and ethnic groups that settled in Texas to build a republic and then a state. Students analyze the impact of scientific discoveries and technological innovations on the development of Texas in various industries such as agricultural, energy, medical, computer, and aerospace.

[7SS6] Social Studies STEAM - Grade 7

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

Social Studies STEAM is a more advanced level of study. Many of the concepts are the same as those in Texas History: grade 7, except the presentation is more accelerated and in more detail. In addition to covering major aspects of Texas history, the course extends the study to include more analysis of primary materials and documents, as well as a comparative study of Texas with the history of the United States. The emphasis upon critical thinking, independent study, research, and projects will be a part of this course.

[8SS2] Social Studies - Grade 8

Length: 2 Semesters

In Social Studies grade 8, students study the history of the United States from the early exploration through Reconstruction. The content in Grade 8 builds upon that from Grade 5 but provides more depth and breadth. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, religious, and social events and issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early republic, the Age of Jackson, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students describe the physical characteristics of the United States and their impact on population distribution and settlement patterns in the past and present. Students analyze the various economic factors that influenced the development of colonial America and the early years of the republic and identify the origins of the free enterprise system. Students examine the American beliefs and principles, including limited government, checks and balances, federalism, separation of powers, republicanism, popular sovereignty, and individual rights, reflected in the U.S. Constitution and other historical documents. Students evaluate the impact of Supreme Court cases and major reform movements of the 19th century and examine the rights and responsibilities of citizens of the United States as well as the importance of effective leadership in a constitutional republic. Students use critical thinking skills, including the identification of bias in written, oral, and visual material.

[8SS4] Social Studies Honors - Grade 8 (DJH & MJH only)

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Identified through the Honors course selection process

Honors Social Studies in grade 8 offers a more advanced level of study of the history of the United States. In addition to covering the same topics included in the on-level course, the Honors course is extended to include the use of primary and secondary source materials and documents for independent study of selected topics. Students will be introduced to types of logic used in historical arguments. Various projects and performance assessments and presentations will be required. Critical thinking, analysis, and evaluation skills will be emphasized daily. Advanced level products and independent research are a part of this course.

[8SS6] Social Studies STEAM - Grade 8 (KJHS only)

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: STEAM Academy Enrollment

Social Studies STEAM emphasizes critical thinking, independent research, projects, and analysis of primary and secondary sources in United States History. Students enrolled in this course will use these skills to learn about different periods through many different lenses, with an emphasis of STEAM within U.S. History. Topics of study include: Exploration and Colonization, Revolution and Independence, the Constitution and Government, Challenges Faced by Early Leaders, Industrialization and Urbanization, Westward Expansion, the Age of Jackson and Expanded Suffrage, Culture and Reform, Sectionalism and the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

ELECTIVE COURSES

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

[E7U1 or E8U1] Principles of Human Services - Grades 7 & 8
Length: 2 Semesters
Credit: 1 High School Credit for successful completion of both semesters
Principles of Human Services is a laboratory course that will enable students to investigate careers in the Human Services Career Cluster, including counseling and mental health, early childhood development, family and community, personal care, and consumer services. Each student is expected to complete the knowledge and skills essential for success in high skill, high-wage, or high-demand human services careers.

[ESG1] Gateway to Technology I - Grade 8
Length: 1 Semester (fall)
Credit: .5 High School Credit for successful completion of Gateway I
Gateway to Technology I is a Project Lead the Way® Gateway Course featuring the Flight and Space Module (ties to Aerospace at DHS) and the Computer Science Module (ties to Computer Science at DHS).

[E8G2] Gateway to Technology II - Grade 8
Length: 1 Semester (spring)
Credit: .5 High School Credit for successful completion of Gateway II
Gateway to Technology II is a Project Lead the Way® Gateway Course featuring the Design/Modeling Module (ties to Robotics at DHS) and the App Creators Module (ties to Computer Science/Robotics at DHS).

[E7Z1 or E8Z1] Professional Communications - Grades 7 & 8
Length: 1 Semester
Credit· .5 High School Credit for successful completion of course
Professional Communications blends written, oral, and graphic communication in a career-based environment. Careers in the global economy require individuals to be creative and have a strong background in computer and technology applications, a strong and solid academic foundation, and a proficiency in professional oral and written communication. Within this context, students will be expected to develop and expand the ability to write, read, edit, speak, listen, apply software applications, manipulate computer graphics, and conduct Internet research.

[E8Y1] Yearbook/Video Production - Grade 8

Length:2 semesters

Prerequisite: Administration approval through application process

This class is responsible for the entire design and production of the yearbook. Students will learn and practice photography, writing, layout, design, and production skills as they produce the yearbook. Students are expected to spend a great deal of time outside the classroom taking photos at school events. Students will also facilitate and produce campus announcements via various platforms. Students learn to work behind the scenes--script writing, filming, graphics, editing, organization, communication, leadership, and teamwork. Applications will be available during the course selection process.

[E7F1/E8F1] Leadership Development - Grades 7-8

Length: 1 semester

This course is designed to emphasize the four pillars of leadership development: integrity, accountability, learning and communication. It also hones in on the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that allow employees to get along with their co-workers, make important work-related decisions, and become strong members of the work team. This course will guide students in obtaining the knowledge and the needed employability skills that are transferable among a variety of jobs and careers and are considered essential in any employment situation.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

[E6A1, E7A1, or E8A1] Foundations of Art - Grades 6 - 8

Length: 2 Semesters

This art course is designed as an introduction to the general concepts in visual art. Students learn the theory and skills of drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, constructivism, copper tooling, textile, and sculpture. Media used in implementing these concepts include pencil, watercolor, tempera, ink, wire, pastel, papier-mâché, Conte, art tissue, clay, yarn, and charcoal. Students will do landscapes, seascapes, still-life portraits, pottery, miniature sculptures, mobiles, weaving, stitching, string art, soap carving, plaster carving and molds.

[E8A2] Art I - Grade 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Credit: 1 High School Credit after successful completion of the course which includes portfolio review for high school Art I credit

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Foundations of Art; Instructor approval

Art I is a course designed for the advanced art student who wishes to earn high school credit in 8th grade. This course follows the curriculum of the Art I course at the high school. Students are presented with an overview of the Elements and Principles of Art using various mediums and techniques with a concentration on two-dimensional work. Students are exposed to many ways of creating art. The class requires a small supply list to be provided by the student and will also have a few homework assignments. Creative expression, production skills, and quality of finished product are stressed. This class will compete in various contests including Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Art contest and possibly Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE).

[E6B1/2, E7B1/2, or E8B1/2] Beginning Band - Grades 6 - 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Beginning Band is available to all 6th through 8th grade students who have not been in band previously. This Band focuses on learning the basic skills needed to play a flute, clarinet, trombone, or trumpet at a competent level. This is not a performing band; however, students will be given opportunities to perform if they choose. Instrument and supplies are the responsibility of the student.

[E7B4 or E8B4] Concert Band - Grades 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Placement determined through auditions with Director

Concert Band moves beyond basic playing skills to the realm of performance. This band will perform in at least two concerts a year including the Christmas and Spring Concerts as well as the U.I.L. Concert and Sight-Reading Contest.

[E7B5 or E8BS] Symphonic Band - Grades 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Placement determined through auditions with Director

Symphonic Band works to take playing and performance skills to a higher level. Instrumentation of this band will be limited according to need and/or ability. Students will be required to attend weekly section rehearsals and listening's as scheduled. This band will perform at least two concerts per year including the Christmas and Spring Concerts. The Symphonic Band will also attend the U.I.L. Concert and Sight -Reading Contest and possibly two other invitational contests during the year.

[E7B6 or E8B6] Honors Band - Grades 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Placement determined through auditions with Director

Honor Band works to take playing and performance skills to the highest possible level. Instrumentation of this band will be limited according to need and/or ability. Students will be required to attend weekly section rehearsals and listening's as scheduled. This band will perform at least two concerts per year including the Christmas and Spring Concerts. The Honors Band will also attend the U.I.L. Concert and Sight-Reading Contest, the Solo and Ensemble Contest, and possibly two other invitational contests during the year.

[E6C1, E7C1, or E8C1] Encore Boys Chorale - Grades 6 - 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Encore Chorale is a beginning to intermediate ensemble open to 6th through 8th grade boys who have had little or no previous choral experience. No audition is required for this ensemble.

[E6C4, E7C4, or E8C4] Lyric Girls Chorale - Grades 6 - 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Lyric Chorale is a beginning to intermediate ensemble open to 6th through 8th grade girls who have had at least one year of chorale experience. No audition is required for this ensemble.

[E7C8 or E8C8] Symphonic Choir - Grades 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Placement determined through auditions with Director

Symphonic Choir is an advanced ensemble open to 7th and 8th grade girls who have had at least one year of chorale experience. Auditions are required for this ensemble. Students are required to participate in UIL competitions as part of this class.

[E7D1 or E8D1] Dance l - Grades 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Dance I allows both male and female students to explore many styles of dance while learning basic dance terminology and movement. Students will also be offered opportunities to perform in Dickinson High School Dance Concerts. Whether students have the desire to try out for the DHS Diamonds in high school or just have a desire to learn about the fine art of dance, this class invites students into the world of expression through dance. This course qualifies as a PE and Fine Art credit.

[E8D3] Dance 2 - Grades 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Dance 7; Instructor approval

Dance 2 is for students who have completed Dance l and have a desire to continue to develop dance skills at a higher level. Students will be offered opportunities to perform in Dickinson High School Dance Concerts. Whether students have the desire to try out for the DHS Diamonds in high school or just have a desire to practice advanced dance techniques, this class invites students to further develop expression through the art of dance. This course qualifies as a PE and Fine Art credit.

[E7D2 or E8D2] Dance Team - Grades 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Placement determined through auditions with Director; Fee: Dance Team Fee Required

The Dance Team course will cover the rehearsal and performance aspect of various dance styles, as required on specified teams. Students will learn the elements of performance, choreography, and production. Students will be required to exhibit skills both inside the classroom and outside of the classroom, in both practices and performances. Being in the course is contingent on being selected for membership into the organization. Students will need to follow team guidelines, which include the DISD Code of Conduct and the DISD Dance Team Constitution. This course qualifies as a PE and Fine Art credit.

[E6T1, E7T1, or E8T1] Theatre Arts l - Grades 6 - 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Theatre Arts l is a basic introduction to theatre arts. Students will learn theatre terminology, basic stage movement, pantomime, improvisation, overcoming stage fright, evaluating theatre productions, theatre etiquette, and basic performance skills including character development and script structure. Vocabulary study and notes will be required for an adequate foundation. All Theatre Arts l students are required to see the live stage productions produced by the department.

[E7T2 or E8T2] Theatre Arts 2 - Grade 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Theatre Arts l; Instructor Approval

Theatre Arts 2 is a continuation of Theatre Arts l and is designed for students with a genuine interest in theatre. Topics include advanced stage movement, voice and diction development, audition techniques, advanced character analysis, and theatre history. Students are introduced to a variety of techniques and theories that are put into practice through memorized monologues and duet scenes that are performed for the public each semester. Additional vocabulary study and notes will be required. All Theatre Arts 2 students are required to see the live stage productions produced by the department.

[E7T3 or E8T3] Theatre Arts 3 - Grade 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Grade of "B" or higher in Theatre Arts 2; Instructor Approval

Theatre Arts 3 is designed for students who have an intense interest in theatre. It focuses on advanced voice and diction, stage movement, and character analysis with heavy concentration on acting styles, script analysis, and performance techniques. Additional vocabulary study and notes will be required. Students will also begin basic directing work on individual scenes. Performance work consists of scripted work as well as self-written work. Students will participate in a one -act play as well as other productions that will be performed for the public each semester. Theatre Arts 3 students are expected to attend the live stage productions produced by the department. Students are strongly encouraged to audition for productions as well.

[E7T4 or E8T4] Theatre Arts: Advanced Production - Grade 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval

This course is an advanced class in dramatic elements. All aspects of theatre arts are taught including portraying characters, movement, dialogue, analysis of scripts and theatre history, technical skills and design. and comparison of career and vocational opportunities in theatre. Students are provided many opportunities to perform and work backstage throughout the year to prepare them for Theatre Arts in high school. The performing theatre classes also provide opportunities for individual and group performance through activities such as UIL One-Act Play Festival, and drama festivals. Students may be required to attend before or after school rehearsals, and evening performances.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

[E7L1 or E8L2] Spanish I - Grade 7 or 8
Length: 2 Semesters
Credit: 1 High School Credit after successful completion of the course
Prerequisite: Identified through the Honors course selection process
Notes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be awarded one (1) high school credit toward graduation; the high school level semester and final exams are required in this course. **Students who take Spanish I in grade 7 will be eligible to take Spanish 2 in grade 8.**

The Spanish I student will demonstrate communication skills such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. The student will develop these skills by using knowledge of language and culture, communication and learning strategies, technology, and content from other subject areas.

[E7L4 or E8L4] Spanish I and II for Native Speakers - Grade 7 or 8
Length: 2 Semesters
Credit: 1 High School Credit per Semester
Prerequisite: Ability to read, write, listen, and speak Spanish at native or near native speaker fluency; students will have to pass a Spanish placement test given before the end of their 7th grade year and must pass with at least an 80% score.
Notes: Upon successful completion of each semester of this course, students will be awarded one (1) high school credit toward graduation for Spanish I and Spanish II, for two (2) total credits; the high school level final exams are required in this course
Spanish for Native Speakers is a course for students whose home language is Spanish. In this first level of the Spanish for Spanish-speakers program, the student will develop their reading, listening, writing, and speaking skills in Spanish. Students will study Hispanic history and culture as well as the political and socio-economic issues facing the Spanish -speaking world. In this class, the student will be introduced to the study of grammar and literature of the Spanish language. The student will be expected to participate orally through oral presentations, demonstrations, speeches, and student lectures. Writing assignments for this course will focus on writing short essays in Spanish. The differences between formal and informal language, both oral and written, will be stressed throughout the year. This class will be conducted in Spanish only.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

[E7P3 or E8P3] Boys Athletics- Grades 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Coach approval required Fee: Athletics Fee Required

The football program in the DISD provides boys with an opportunity to represent the school in University Interscholastic League competition seeking to develop proper attitudes toward victory and defeat, and an appreciation for proper health habits. Because athletics is for football players only, all activities during the athletic period are football oriented. Students who are interested in participating in sports other than football should not sign up for athletics. Basketball, cross-country, track and field and tennis are held on an after-school basis and not during the athletic period.

[E7P4 or E8P4] Girls Athletics - Grades 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Coach approval required Fee: Athletics Fee Required

The athletic program provides girls an opportunity to represent the school in University Interscholastic League Competition. In addition to individual participation, the program seeks to develop proper attitudes of sportsmanship, and appreciation for proper health habits. Students may participate in either volleyball or basketball in the first semester and in either basketball or track during the second semester. Cross Country and tennis are sports programs which are held on an after-school basis and not during the athletic period.

[E6P1/2, E7P1/2, or E8P1/2] Boys PE or Girls PE - Grades 6-8

Length: 2 Semesters

Fee: PE Uniform Fee Required

Students acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment, continued social development through physical activity, and access to a physically active lifestyle. The student exhibits a physically active lifestyle and understands the relationship between physical activity and health throughout the lifespan. Seventh grade students apply similar concepts from one sport or movement setting to another. Students can observe another individual's performance and notice key elements for success. At this grade level, students participate in physical activity both in and out of school while maintaining a healthy level of fitness as their bodies grow and change. Their knowledge of safety and the ability to manage their own behavior is reinforced. Instruction is directed more toward encouraging the incorporation of physical activity into a daily routine and less toward fundamental skill development.

[E6D1] Intro to Dance - Grade 6

Length: 2 Semesters

This course only qualifies as a PE credit and will not count as fine arts credit.

This class is the perfect introduction to dance principles, techniques, terminology, and coordination. This class will focus on giving students a foundation in proper technique while encouraging them to develop the motor skills and coordination needed to be physically fit and succeed in future dance courses.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

[E7V1or E8V1] AVID I - Grades 7 & 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Identified through AVID selection process; Concurrent enrollment in 1 or more Honors courses

AVID is more than just a class; it is a community of learners that extends beyond the walls of the classroom to support students as they work towards achieving their goals and dreams. AVID is an acronym that stands for the following: Advancement Via Individual Determination. It is a class for students that show academic potential and a desire and determination to do well and go above and beyond! This class shows students the academic skills and tools they need to be prepared to succeed in school now, into high school, and beyond! The material covered in AVID prepares all students for college readiness and work beyond high school and success in a global society. Students must apply to be in the program. Applications are available for the next school year starting in February.

[E8V2] AVID II - Grade 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Identified through AVID selection process; Concurrent enrollment in 1 or more Honors courses

AVID II is a course for students who continue from 7th grade within the AVID program. Students who show academic potential and a desire and determination to do well and go above and beyond are supported in their academics through AVID skills and strategies within the elective. Development of College Readiness and exploration are central to this course. Students must apply to be in the program. Applications are available for the next school year starting in February.

[E801] Student Aide - Grade 8

Length: 2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Administration approval through application process

In the Student Aide elective, students will assist with organization and necessary duties as assigned throughout the campus. Student aides must maintain good behavior and grades throughout the school year. Applications will be available during the course selection process.