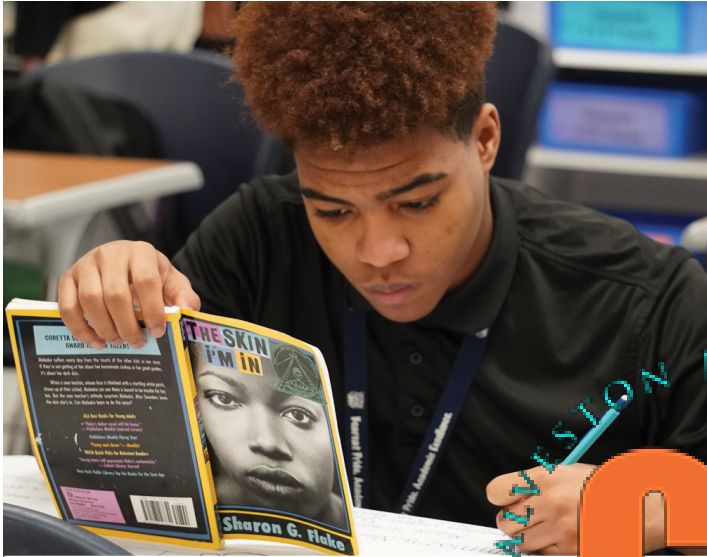


# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE





## 2022 - 2023

### DISCLAIMER

The listing of courses contained in the Galveston ISD Course Descriptions is an announcement only and shall not be regarded as an offer of contract. The district expressly reserves the right to (1) add or delete courses from its offerings; (2) change or cancel any course for insufficient enrollment; or (3) revise or change courses, pathway suggestions, and any other policy affecting course offerings.

# CAMPUS INFORMATION

 <p><b>WEIS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL</b>  7100 Stewart Road  Galveston, TX 77551  Phone: 409-761-6100  XXX, Principal</p>	 <p><b>AUSTIN MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>  1514 Ave N 1/2  Galveston, TX 77550  Phone: 409-761-3500  XXX, Principal</p>
 <p><b>CENTRAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL</b>  3014 Sealy Avenue  Galveston, TX 77550  Phone: 409-761-6200  XXX, Principal</p>	

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Student/Parent Handbook and Code of Conduct are located on the Galveston ISD website.

### Class Information

Required classes are offered in English Language Arts & Reading, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, and Fine Arts.

**Advanced Curriculum** is offered in the core courses and is designed to stimulate and challenge students to perform at an advanced academic level. Advanced middle school courses are designed to prepare students for Dual Credit and Advanced Placement (AP) courses offered at the high school campuses.

Advanced courses are rigorous and challenging and require time commitment outside of class to support the accelerated experiences. Growth, progress, and successful course completion are required to continue enrollment in advanced courses.

Students who do not pass STAAR assessments or who evidence educational need may be placed in an intervention class.

### Middle School Schedule Change Policy

Student course requests determine how the school master schedule is built, how faculty are hired, and how room assignments are made. Student course requests are their commitment to the courses for the school year.

After the start of school, schedule changes will only be considered based on the following circumstances:

- The student is not scheduled into an academic core class.
- The student is enrolled in the wrong level of an academic course.
- The student does not meet the entry/approval requirements for the course.
- The student was not enrolled in their approved specialty program (e.g. Band, Athletics, UIL).

Please note:

1. During the first two weeks of school, schedules may be adjusted by administration to balance class sizes as needed.
2. Schedule changes are not considered for teacher or elective preferences.
3. Elective course requests are not guaranteed and will depend on course availability, entry/approval requirements, and master scheduling.

## HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COURSES

### High School Credit Courses & 90 Percent Attendance Requirement for Credit

Except for extenuating circumstances, a student shall not be given credit for a class unless the student is in attendance 90% of the days the class is offered. All absences shall be considered in determining whether a student has attended the required percentage of days. This restriction does not affect a student's right to excused absences to observe religious holy days.

### HS Credit and GPA

Class rank for Ball High and AIM graduates only includes semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken in grades 9-12. Middle school courses taken for high school credit will receive credit but no points towards GPA. (EIC Local)

## JUNIOR HIGH COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<u>5TH &amp; 6TH GRADE</u>	<u>7TH GRADE</u>	<u>8TH GRADE</u>
2 ELA (Reading & Writing) 1 Math 1 Science 1 Social Studies 1 PE/Tech App (5th/6th) 1 Elective	2 ELA (Reading & Writing) 1 Math 1 Science 1 Social Studies 1 PE Elective 1 General Elective	1 English 1 Math 1 Science 1 Social Studies 1 CTE Community Elective 2 General Electives

Specific courses may be counted as high school-level courses. These courses will be marked as **\*HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT** in the course guide.

# CORE ACADEMIC COURSES

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING

(5-7th grade students take **both** an English Language Arts Reading course and a Writing course)

ELA 5th (Reading & Writing) or ELA 5th Advanced (Reading & Writing)

ELA 6th (Reading & Writing) or ELA 6th Advanced (Reading & Writing)

ELA 7th (Reading & Writing) or ELA 7th Advanced (Reading & Writing)

English 8th or English 8th Advanced

### English Language Arts and Reading Course Progression

	<u>5TH GRADE</u>	<u>6TH GRADE</u>	<u>7TH GRADE</u>	<u>8TH GRADE</u>
<b>ON LEVEL PROGRESSION</b>	ELA 5th (Reading & Writing)	ELA 6th (Reading & Writing)	ELA 7th (Reading & Writing)	English 8th
<b>ADVANCED PROGRESSION</b>	ELA 5th Advanced (Reading & Writing)	ELA 6th Advanced (Reading & Writing)	ELA 7th Advanced (Reading & Writing)	English 8th Advanced

## MATHEMATICS

Math 5th or Math 5th Advanced

Math 6th or Math 6th Advanced

Math 7th or Pre-Algebra Advanced

Math 8th or Algebra 1 (High School Credit)

	<u>5TH GRADE</u>	<u>6TH GRADE</u>	<u>7TH GRADE</u>	<u>8TH GRADE</u>
<b>ON LEVEL PROGRESSION</b>	Math 5th	Math 6th	Math 7th	Math 8th
<b>ADVANCED PROGRESSION</b>	Math 5th Advanced	Math 6th Advanced	Pre-Algebra Advanced	Algebra 1 (High School Credit)

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## SCIENCE

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Science 5th or Science 5th Advanced  
Science 6th or Science 6th Advanced  
Science 7th or Science 7th Advanced  
Science 8th or Biology (High School Credit)

	<u>5TH GRADE</u>	<u>6TH GRADE</u>	<u>7TH GRADE</u>	<u>8TH GRADE</u>
<b>ON LEVEL PROGRESSION</b>	Science 5th	Science 6th	Science 7th	Science 8th
<b>ADVANCED PROGRESSION</b>	Science 5th Advanced	Science 6th Advanced	Science 7th Advanced	Biology (High School Credit)

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## SOCIAL STUDIES

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U.S. History 5th or U.S. History 5th Advanced  
World Cultures 6th or World Cultures 6th Advanced  
Texas History 7th or Texas History 7th Advanced  
U.S. History 8th or U.S. History 8th Advanced

	<u>5TH GRADE</u>	<u>6TH GRADE</u>	<u>7TH GRADE</u>	<u>8TH GRADE</u>
<b>ON LEVEL PROGRESSION</b>	U.S. History 5th	World Cultures 6th	Texas History 7th	U.S. History 8th
<b>ADVANCED PROGRESSION</b>	U.S. History 5th Advanced	World Cultures 6th Advanced	Texas History 7th Advanced	U.S. History 8th Advanced

# ELECTIVES

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## FIFTH GRADE FINE ARTS ROTATION

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Please note 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will not choose an elective. They will go through a rotation of Music, Choir, Theater Arts, and Art. Students will explore all four classes at one point of the school year. These classes are rotated each report card period (9 weeks).

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## PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES

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Fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) and sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) grade students are required to be in physical education. Students in 7-8th must take one year of physical education or its equivalent. This requirement must be scheduled in 7th grade.

### **Athletics, Grades 7-8 Only**

Prerequisite: Campus Approval, signed Athletic Permission form

Required: Physical examination (May visit personal physician; Physicals are also offered at Teen Health located at Austin, Ball, Central, and Weis campuses.)

Athletics develops the overall athlete physically, mentally, and socially. Sports offered include football, volleyball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls track, boys and girls tennis, and cross country. Tennis and cross country are before and/or after-school sports and do not require the student to be in an Athletic class to participate. Students in Athletics must participate in a fall or spring sport.

### **Karate, Grades 7-8**

The goal of this karate program is to build strong moral character in students through martial arts. The class helps them to succeed by mentoring with role models and developing discipline through physical and mental conditioning. Most importantly, Karate gives students hope for their futures and an opportunity to believe in themselves. This course will satisfy the physical education requirement for 7<sup>th</sup> grade and will be considered an elective for 8th.

### **Physical Education, Grades 5-7**

Physical Education is designed specifically to promote the wellness of the individual both physically and mentally. Other concepts, such as teamwork and sportsmanship, are also stressed, with the emphasis on lifetime fitness and having fun.

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## FINE ARTS ELECTIVES - PERFORMING ARTS

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A Fine Art credit is required by TEA for graduation from Middle Schools in Texas. [Fine Art FAQ](#)

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### **Beginner Band, Grade 6**

In this course musicianship is taught through the use of band instruments. Each student will learn the basics of performance and care of a band instrument. Students learn the fundamentals of musical literacy including music reading and vocabulary. The students may also participate in individual and group competitions. After school rehearsals are limited to special times of year before contests and/or concerts. Instruments may be checked out to students, if lost or damaged, the student will be financially responsible for the instrument. Uniform dress may be required.

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### **Intermediate Band 7-8**

This class continues the development of instrumental musicianship and musical understanding through a performance-based curriculum. Students will develop skills in musicianship as well as, leadership, responsibility, cooperation, self-discipline, and concentration. Middle School bands perform many different styles of music at various school functions. Intermediate Band will also provide opportunities for individual and group performance through activities such as the annual Solo and Ensemble Contest, UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest, and Region Band auditions. Instruments will be checked out to students, if lost or damaged, the student will be financially responsible for the instrument. Uniform dress may be required.

### **Advanced Band, Grades 7-8**

This class continues the development of instrumental musicianship and musical understanding through a performance-based curriculum. Students will refine skills in musicianship as well as, leadership, responsibility, cooperation, self-discipline, and concentration. Middle School bands perform many different styles of music at various school functions. Advanced Band will also provide opportunities for individual and group performance through activities such as the annual Solo and Ensemble Contest, UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest, and Region Band auditions. Instruments will be checked out to students, if lost or damaged, the student will be financially responsible for the instrument. Uniform dress may be required.

### **Beginner Choir, Grade 6**

This course provides students who enjoy singing the opportunity to receive vocal instruction. Students learn the fundamentals of musical literacy including music reading and vocabulary. Students develop their own voices individually and as a chorus. All Students will perform 2-4 concerts per year. Other performing opportunities throughout the year include singing at various school and community events. Group performances are mandatory unless an absence is excused by the director.

### **Intermediate Choir, Grades 7-8**

This course offers students an opportunity to use their voices in a non-threatening environment. Students' placement will be based on auditions with the director. Emphasis is on sight-reading and vocal techniques. Students may compete in the TMEA All-Region Choir and UIL Solo and Ensemble competition. This group may participate in the UIL Concert and Sight- Reading evaluation. They will perform for a variety of school and city events. Group concerts are mandatory unless an absence is excused by the director.

### **Advanced Choir, Grades 7-8**

This course continues the development of the students' voices as well as their work together as a choir. Students' placement will be based on auditions with the director. The literature performed by this group is more challenging and introduces greater diversity in musical style. Region Choir Auditions and UIL Solo & Ensemble competitions are strongly recommended. This group will participate in the UIL Concert and Sight-Reading evaluation and will provide the main performance groups representing the campus at various school and city events. Group concerts are mandatory unless an absence is excused by the director.

### **Beginner Theater Arts, Grade 6**

This course is especially designed for beginning actors. Emphasis is placed on enhancing self-confidence. Basic stage movement and acting techniques are stressed. Students will learn theater history and vocabulary, explore genres of theater, learn the basics of technical theater, as well as create and perform scenes in class.

### **Intermediate Theater Arts, Grades 7-8**

This course continues the development of student actors. Fundamentals of theater and acting are continued and the production aspect of theater is introduced. Well-developed stage movement and acting techniques

including characterization are stressed. Students will learn more advanced technical theater skills including set building, costuming, and make-up design.

### **Advanced Theater Arts, Grades 7-8**

This course is designed for students with a serious interest in stage performance, technical theater, or student directing. This course will continue to develop all aspects of theater through significant and meaningful production experiences, such as UIL One Act Play. Theater classes meet during regular school hours. Rehearsals, competitions and performances may be required before and after school, evenings or weekends.

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## **FINE ARTS ELECTIVES - VISUAL ARTS**

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### **Beginner Art, Grade 6**

In this course students will learn basic elements of art such as principles of color, drawing, printmaking, and painting. They will experiment in the areas of two and three-dimensional design and be exposed to a variety of media that will enhance their cultural and aesthetic growth.

### **Intermediate Art, Grades 7-8**

In this course students will continue to apply previously learned art principles and design skills to more advanced art projects. Students will work with 2-D and 3-D designs and will use a variety of media including drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture.

### **Advanced Art, Grades 7-8**

In this course students will apply a more advanced understanding of materials when completing art projects. Students will examine the historical and cultural relevance of art. Students will be able to evaluate and respond to works of art. Students will create works in 2-D and 3-D using a variety of media including drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture, while completing special projects throughout the year.

### **Art 1 for High School Credit, Grade 8**

Credit: 1.0 High School Art credit

This course emphasizes students' visual literacy skills using critical thinking, imagination, and the senses to observe and explore the world by learning about, understanding, and applying the elements of art, principles of design, and expressive qualities. The student uses what the student sees, knows, and has experienced as sources for examining, understanding, and creating original artwork.

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## **GENERAL ELECTIVES**

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### **Spanish, Grade 6**

This course is designed to help students develop basic language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with emphasis on listening and speaking. Conversational patterns using correct pronunciation and intonation are stressed.

### **Spanish, Grade 7**

This class introduces the Spanish language and culture. The main emphasis of instruction is on oral skills while developing reading and writing skills. The student will begin to recognize the interrelationships of language and will begin to develop an appreciation for the Hispanic culture. Students must complete Spanish 8 to be eligible for high school credit.

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### **High School Spanish I, Grade 8**

Credit: 1.0 High School Language credit

Spanish I is an introduction to basic spoken and written Spanish with emphasis on vocabulary, reading, writing and speaking. It includes Spanish pronunciation, phonetics, grammatical concepts, verbs, most common and basic vocabulary, and an introduction to Spanish culture.

### **Technology Applications (Tech App), Grade 5-6**

This course includes the teaching and learning of technology skills and the use of computers and other related electronic tools. Students will focus on creating, accessing, manipulating, utilizing, communicating, and publishing information during the learning process.

### **Gateway to Engineering, Grade 7**

Credit: 1.0 High School Elective Credit

*Design and Modeling:* Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives.

*Automation and Robotics:* Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics platform to design, build, and program real world objects such as robotic arms and traffic lights.

*Energy and the Environment:* Students are challenged to think big and toward the future as they explore sustainable solutions to our energy needs and investigate the impact of energy on our lives and the world. They design and model alternative energy sources and evaluate options for reducing energy consumption.

*Flight and Space:* Students are challenged to think big and toward the future as they explore sustainable solutions to our energy needs and investigate the impact of energy on our lives and the world. Students may design and model alternative energy sources and evaluate options for reducing energy consumption.

### **Fundamentals of Computer Science, Grade 8**

Credit: 1.0 High School Elective credit

Do you want to design your own robots, video games, or websites? The skills necessary for those awesome endeavors all start here! In this course, students will learn the basics of coding, video game design, and web design. Through makerspace style coding lessons using a Micro: bit makerspace kit, designing games with MakeCode Arcade (video game simulator), and creating web pages in Visual Studio Code (HTML coding program), this course is designed such that student projects and hands-on experience are at the forefront of their learning. This is a High School course intended to expose students to different aspects of computer science.

### **Robotics, Grades 6- 8**

Students enrolled in this course will demonstrate knowledge and skills necessary for the robotic and automation industry. Through implementation of the design process, students will transfer advanced academic skills to component designs in a project-based environment. Students will build prototypes or use simulation software to test their designs. Additionally, students explore career opportunities, employer expectations, and educational needs in the robotic and automation industry. Students will have the opportunity to compete in competitions.

### **MIX/Financial Literacy (\*pending approval), Grade 7**

Credit: 1.0 High School Elective Credit

This elective course will provide students with Personal Financial Literacy. This course will develop citizens who have the knowledge and skills to make sound, informed financial decisions that will allow them to lead financially secure lives .

## **Yearbook, Grade 8**

This course is designed for students to use their skills in creative design, photography, writing, and teamwork to create both the annual yearbook and the web-based school newspaper. Students will be required to attend some after school events and must be able to meet strict deadlines. Selection for the class will include an application, an interview, and teacher recommendations.

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## **COMMUNITY ELECTIVES (HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT- OFFERED TO 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ONLY)**

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Please be aware that these courses will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript.

### **Principles of Audio/Video**

Credit: 1.0 High School Elective credit

Careers in the Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications career cluster require, in addition to creative aptitude, a strong background in computer and technology applications, a strong academic foundation, and a proficiency in oral and written communication. Within this context, students will be expected to develop an understanding of the various and multifaceted career opportunities in this cluster and the knowledge, skills, and educational requirements for those opportunities.

### **Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance**

Credit: 1.0 High School Elective credit

This course introduces the role of business in the lives of individuals, consumers, workers, and citizens. The course explores technology in the business setting, develops awareness of entrepreneurial, and job market opportunities. The course will explore the characteristics of American and European business markets. The course is designed to assist in developing business career plans

### **Gateway to Engineering Design & Modeling (DM) & Automation & Robotics (AR)**

Credit: 1.0 High School Elective credit

In the automation and robotics (AR) module, they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use a robust robotics platform to design, build and program a solution to solve an existing problem. Design and modeling (DM) introduces students to and requires them to use the design process to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on our lives. Students use industry standard 3D modeling software to create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their creative solutions.

### **Integrated Physics & Chemistry**

Credit: 1.0 High School Science Credit

This course is one semester of pre-chemistry and one semester of pre-physics to prepare students for more rigorous coursework in upper-level science courses. This course must be taken PRIOR to Chemistry or Physics.

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## **OTHER PROGRAMS**

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### **Intervention Classes**

Based on the district analysis of students' math and reading data, and progress in classes, students may be placed in intervention classes. These courses would take the place of an elective and be in addition to students' Math and Language Arts classes. These courses are designed to meet students' needs by ability level rather than by grade-level groups. A campus may also recommend placement.

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## Galveston ISD Athletics Permission Form

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

To participate in athletics, seventh and eighth grade students must meet the following requirements:

1. **All students enrolled in Athletics are expected to remain in Athletics the entire year, however continuous failures and or discipline problems will result in removal from Athletics.**
2. All 7th and 8th grade student-athletes must be approved by the Middle School Athletic Coordinators to be enrolled in athletics.
3. Student athletes will participate in the off-season program when their team is not active.
4. Student athletes will receive a grade for Athletics.
5. Galveston Independent School District requires that a student who participates in Athletics have a physical examination each year that he or she participates. That physical must be completed no later than the first full week of school on the GISD athletic participation physical form. Physicals will be offered at Teen Health (Austin, Central, Weis, and Ball campus) in the spring or it can be provided through your personal physician.
6. All students in Athletics must participate in one sport.
7. All athletes must sign and adhere to the athletic code of conduct.
8. **Athletics is not a requirement, it is a privilege.**

Choose the sport(s) you would like to participate in:

\_\_\_\_\_ Football \_\_\_\_\_ Volleyball \_\_\_\_\_ Basketball \_\_\_\_\_ Basketball \_\_\_\_\_ Tennis \_\_\_\_\_ Track \_\_\_\_\_ Cross Country

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_