



TEXAS CITY ISD
2023- 2024
MIDDLE SCHOOL
ACADEMIC PLANNING
GUIDE

Texas City Independent School District

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Dr. Terri Burchfield, Deputy Superintendent
Kami Hale, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Marcus Higgs, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Margaret Lee, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations
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Alexis Kopp, Director of Career & Technical Education
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Ruben Pesina, Director of Special Education
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Blocker Middle School

1800 9th Ninth Avenue, Texas City, TX 77590
(409) 916-0700

CAMPUS ADMINISTRATION

Debbie Fuller, Principal
Megan Davis, 7th Grade Assistant Principal
Khrystian Allen, 8th Grade Assistant Principal

COUNSELORS

Kamela Heuman, 7th Grade Counselor
Sara Gonzalez, 8th Grade Counselor

Sarah Giles Middle School

7451 Monticello Dr., Texas City, TX 77591
(409) 938-4286

CAMPUS ADMINISTRATION

Kanestra Bland, Principal
Jennifer Folse, Dean of Student Support Services
Glenda Hardy, Assistant Principal (8th/7th A-J)
Sarah Tumey, Assistant Principal (6th/7th K-Z)

COUNSELORS

Courtney Thomas, Counselor (8th/7th A-J)
Yesenia Contreras, Counselor (6th/7th K-Z)

PLANNING YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Being in middle school is both an exciting and challenging time in a student's life. Texas City ISD offers a wide array of programs that are designed to meet the academic needs of middle school students and to prepare them for high school course selections and requirements. It is recommended that students and parents think in terms of a *six-year plan* that includes not only middle school considerations, but possible high school choices as well.

Academic Considerations

It is very important that a student be placed as accurately as possible in the appropriate advanced class. **Components for initial placement in 7th Grade Advanced Math and 8th Grade Algebra I include: Current Math grade, prior STAAR scores, and teacher recommendation. All students not placed initially will be re-evaluated with final Math grade and current year's STAAR score.** Advanced Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies are available to all students who want the additional rigor of the Advanced courses. Parents and teachers may also recommend Advanced courses for capable students. Students can be accepted into these courses until spaces are filled. (See the attached Advanced Application)

Parents and students should carefully consider how many Advanced courses the student will be taking and the amount of coursework that is required. A review will be made after each grading period. Students, who are failing Advanced courses, will go on academic probation. Students that continue to fail after two grading periods will be removed from the Advanced course.

Students can earn high school credit for Algebra I and Spanish.

Fine Arts: All students are required to complete 2 years of Fine Arts from 6th- 8th grade.

Middle School Requirements

Curriculum Subject Areas Or Equivalent Programs	6 th Grade (GMS) Required Courses	7 th Grade Required Courses	8 th Grade Required Courses
English/Language Arts	1 year	1 year	1 year
Mathematics	1 year	1 year	1 year
Science	1 year	1 year	1 year
Social Studies	1 year	1 year	1 year
Physical Education	1 year	2 semesters	1-2 semesters recommended
Fine Arts	1 year	2 semesters (may be completed in one or two years)	
Electives	TBD	TBD	TBD

Practical Suggestions for Students and Parents

Carefully plan a middle school course of study, keeping in mind student's abilities and interests as well as high school endorsements and pathways.

- Participate in school-related activities, school-sponsored clubs and community service. Being involved in school programs and community service contributes to developing a well-rounded, sensitive and compassionate citizen.
- Begin keeping a resume or portfolio of student accomplishments through your Naviance account or other portfolio. Electronic portfolios are an excellent way to save a quantity of superior student efforts over a period of years. Student certificates and awards can also be scanned and added to your electronic portfolio. All records should be updated yearly. See your counselor for information about accessing your Naviance student account.
- Integrate technology into each student's studies and life. Success in the future will require a high level of knowledge and skill in the use of technology.
- Establish good study habits and organizational skills during the middle school years. You should use an organizer each year. Consistent use of the organizer is crucial for keeping up with daily assignments, tests, and long-term projects. Designate a study place which has good lighting and is furnished with necessary study tools such as pens, paper, highlighters, dictionary, and a calculator.

Schedule Changes

No drops, additions, or schedule changes will be allowed after the tenth instructional day of the semester without written parent request and administrative approval.

Promotion and Retention

- Promotion from 6th grade to 7th grade requires that a student earns a 70% or above in mathematics and language arts.
- Promotion from 7th grade to 8th grade requires that a student earns a 70% or above in all but one core academic classes. The 90% attendance rule must also be met.
- Promotion from 8th grade to 9th grade requires that a student earns a 70% or above in all but one core academic classes. The 90% attendance rule must also be met.

STAAR Information

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) is the state assessment program that began in spring 2012. STAAR replaced the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) that has been in place since 2003 and includes 5 end-of-course (EOC) assessments as determined by House Bill 5.

Students in the following grades will take assessments under STAAR:				
Grade 6	Reading and Math			
Grade 7	Reading and Math			
Grade 8	Reading, Math, Social Studies, and Science			
High School	5 End-of-Course Assessments			
	Algebra I*	English I	Biology	U.S. History
		English II		

***Students taking Algebra I in 8th Grade will take the Algebra I EOC, and will be required to take either the ACT or SAT college readiness exams while in high school.**

HB 4545 Requirements

Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, students in grades 3-8 who did not pass any STAAR assessment in the previous school year are required to participate in Accelerated Instruction.

Accelerated Instruction must be:

- Provided in addition to the regular instruction the student is already receiving, outside the regular school day.
- Provided at least 30 hours total for each STAAR assessment the student did not pass in the previous year.

Attendance at Accelerated Instruction sessions is **mandatory** for all students; parents or guardians **do not have the option of opting out.**

In addition, students in Grade 6 who did not pass the 5th Grade STAAR Reading or Math assessment must be provided with an Accelerated Learning Committee, to include the student's parent or guardian. The purpose of the committee is to develop an educational plan for the student that provides the necessary Accelerated Instruction to enable the student to perform at the appropriate grade level by the conclusion of the school year.

Impact on Graduation

Students will take 5 STAAR/EOC assessments listed previously based on their participation in courses (schools determine the sequence of courses in a subject area). Currently, each student must meet the passing score requirement for all STAAR/EOC assessments they take in order to graduate. High school students will continue to take the STAAR/EOC exams until they meet the passing standards.

Texas Virtual School Network Courses

Texas City Independent School District offers opportunities for students to earn high school credits through online courses provided by the Texas Virtual School Network. (EHDE Legal and Local) Virtual courses provide students the opportunity to obtain graduation credits for courses not currently available at Texas City High School.

Texas City ISD is an approved member of the Texas Virtual School Network and the online program. This program is a fully accredited solution that provides online courses for high school credit for students across the State of Texas.

Prior approval is required from the student's principal to enroll in a course through The Texas Virtual School Network and gain high school credit for graduation.

Information on the Texas Virtual School Network course offerings and requirements can be found on the following website:

www.txvsn.org.

TxVSN Help Desk: 1-866-93TxVSN

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

1610 Grade 6 Language Arts (GMS)

SERVICE ID # 03200510

In Grade 6 Language Arts, students master previously learned language arts skills while reading and writing increasingly complex texts. They make inferences, synthesize information, and provide text evidence to support their thinking. They read novels and non-fiction texts of their choosing, as well as excerpts from classic and contemporary fiction, and informational articles. They write in various genres including narrative, expository, persuasive, and literary response. Students search and evaluate multiple sources of information in support of expository essays and personal interests, and evaluate the purposes and effects of graphics, film, print, and digital texts.

1710 Grade 7 Language Arts

SERVICE ID # 03200540

In Grade 7 Language Arts, students master previously learned language arts skills while reading and writing increasingly complex, refined texts. Seventh grade students make inferences and synthesize within and across texts, citing multiple sources of text evidence that support their understandings. They read novels and non-fiction texts of their choosing, as well as excerpts from classic and contemporary fiction, and informational articles. They write in various genres including expository, persuasive, narrative, and literary response, using effective organizational strategies and sentence structures. Students search and evaluate multiple sources of information in support of expository essays and personal interests, and evaluate the purposes and effects of graphics, film, print, and digital texts.

2710 Grade 7 ELA Advanced*

SERVICE ID # 03200540

See Advanced Application

This advanced course, designed for seventh-grade students who excel in English language arts, provides a differentiated curriculum based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills outlined for seventh grade English language arts. Emphasis is placed on greater depth of study in each of the five instructional strands (reading, writing, oral and written conventions, research, and listening and speaking) as well as on the development and expansion of higher-level, critical thinking skills. This rigorous course places emphasis on the development of writing skills that include individual voice and style.

1810 Grade 8 Language Arts and Reading

SERVICE ID # 03200550

This integrated reading/ English language arts course includes instruction that is based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills developed for eighth grade English language arts. Instruction is focused on five strands that include the following: reading, writing, oral and written conventions, research, and listening and speaking. Instruction is delivered on grade level, and strong emphasis placed on critical reading skills and the development of writing skills, including the ability to respond effectively when writing both short responses and essays.

2810 Grade 8 ELA Advanced*

SERVICE ID # 03200550

See Advanced Application

Suggested Prerequisite: 7 ELA Advanced

This advanced course, designed for eighth grade students who excel in English language arts, provides a differentiated curriculum based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills outlined for eighth grade English language arts. Emphasis is placed on greater depth of study in each of the five instructional strands (reading, writing, oral and written conventions research, and listening and speaking) as well as on the development and expansion of higher-level, critical thinking skills. This rigorous course places emphasis on the development of critical reading skills and writing skills that include the ability to respond effectively in both short answers and essays.

MATHEMATICS

1640 Grade 6 Math (GMS)

SERVICE ID # 02640060

This course focuses on concepts and skills using ratios to describe proportional relationships involving numbers, geometry, measurement, and probability. Additional skills in 6th grade math include operations with decimals and fractions.

1740 Grade 7 Math

SERVICE ID # 03103000

This course includes the study of rational numbers and operations. Students will develop an understanding of how operations extend across different sets of numbers and develop fluency with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of rational numbers and use of operations to solve problems. Students will apply their knowledge of ratios, rates, proportionality, and percent to solve problems. Students will expand on the use of expressions and equations to describe relationships in a variety of contexts, including geometric problems. Students will use their knowledge of data representation to compare and form inferences about sets of data. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving through mathematical process standards

2740 Grade 7 Math Advanced

SERVICE ID # 03103100

Qualification based on 6th grade Math STAAR, 6th grade math grade, and teacher recommendation. See Advanced Application

Math 7 Advanced is a course designed to prepare students for advanced study of math at the high school level, including Advanced courses. This course covers concepts from Mathematics 7 and Mathematics 8 with a concentration in Pre-Algebra. The students will use algebra in working with problem-solving, geometry, number theory, polynomials, and rational numbers. **Students enrolled in this course should expect extensive outside-of-class preparation. Grade 7 Math Advanced students will take the Grade 8 Math STAAR.**

1840 Grade 8 Math

SERVICE ID # 03103100

This course includes an in-depth study of proportional relationships. Students extend their understanding of proportionality to include representations on a coordinate plane and applications, including slopes of lines. They contrast proportional relationships with relationships that are not proportional. Students will continue to use expressions and equations to describe relationships and solve problems, including the Pythagorean Theorem. Students will make inferences from data using representations of association, center, and variation. Instruction is focused on applying methods to examine and solve a variety of real-world problems as preparation for success in algebra. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving through mathematical process standards. This course will include the appropriate use of graphing technology.

2840 Algebra 1

SERVICE ID # 03100500

Suggested Prerequisite: Math 7 Advanced

Qualification based on Math STAAR test scores, 7th grade math grade, and teacher recommendation.

Students earn high school credit: the course content and work load are the equivalent of a high school course. Students enrolled in this course should expect extensive outside-of-class preparation. **(Student receives 1 high school credit but grade is not included in high school GPA.) High school expectations will be adhered to throughout the year.**

SCIENCE

1650 Grade 6 Science (GMS)

SERVICE ID # 03060600

Grade 6 science is a hands-on course in which students learn science skills and concepts. The skills and concepts are integrated in an environment stressing verbal and written communication as well as teamwork. Students will extend their knowledge of matter, including elements, compounds and mixtures. Students will investigate, force, motion and energy. Earth processes, including the organization of our solar system, the role of gravity, and space exploration, will be explored. Students will also gain an understanding of the broadest taxonomic classification of organisms and how characteristics determine their classification.

1750 Grade 7 Science

SERVICE ID # 03060700

Grade 7 science is interdisciplinary in nature; however, much of the content focus is on organisms and the environment. This vast body of changing and increasing knowledge is described by physical, mathematical, and conceptual models. 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.

1850 Grade 8 Science

SERVICE ID # 03060800

Grade 8 science is interdisciplinary in nature; however, much of the content focus is on earth and space science. This vast body of changing and increasing knowledge is described by physical, mathematical, and conceptual models. 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.

2750 Grade 7 Advanced Science

SERVICE ID # 03060700

See Advanced Application

Advanced Grade 7 Science is designed to help students improve their ability to collect, analyze, and synthesize data into understandable models and frameworks. Students will utilize a variety of formats to demonstrate their knowledge of various scientific components such as narrative, numerical, and graphical representations. Advance Grade 7 Science offers a more advanced level of experiences in the concepts of science. Laboratory activities are presented as a combination of inquiry and confirmatory exercises. Many of the concepts are the same as those in Science: Grade 7 except the presentation is more accelerated and in greater depth. The curriculum is interdisciplinary and is taught using GT strategies. **Students enrolled in this course should expect extensive outside-of-class preparation.**

2850 Grade 8 Science Advanced

SERVICE ID # 03060800

See Advanced Application

Advanced Grade 8 Science is interdisciplinary in nature; however, much of the content focus is on earth and space science. This vast body of changing and increasing knowledge is described by physical, mathematical, and conceptual models. 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. The goal of each unit of study is to allow the students to analyze practical science problems, understand the concepts, and conduct scientific experiments. **Students enrolled in this course should expect extensive outside-of-class preparation.**

SOCIAL STUDIES

1660 Grade 6 Social Studies

SERVICE ID # 02660060

Grade 6 students use basic social studies skills to study societies and places of the contemporary world. Societies selected for study are chosen from the regions of the world. Students describe the influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in those societies and identify the locations and geographic characteristics of selected societies. Students identify different ways of organizing economic and governmental systems. The concept 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, culture, and religious institutions. Students explain how the level of technology affects the development of the selected societies and identify different points of view about selected events.

1760 Texas History 7

SERVICE ID # 03343000

This course allows students to gain a comprehensive understanding of the full scope of Texas history. This is accomplished through the examination of the following historical eras: 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. The focus of each era is on key individuals, events, and issues and their impact. Students also describe the structure and functions of municipal, county, and state governments, explain the influence of the U.S. Constitution on the Texas Constitution, and examine the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens.

2760 Grade 7 Texas History Advanced See Advanced Application

SERVICE ID # 03343000

This Advanced social studies course is for the student with a high interest in social studies. It is designed to emphasize an in-depth study of the content using higher-level critical thinking skills. The course itself allows students to gain a comprehensive understanding of the full scope of Texas history. This is accomplished through the examination of the following historical eras: 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. The focus of each era is on key individuals, events, and issues and their impact. Students also describe the structure and functions of municipal, county, and state governments, explain the influence of the U.S. Constitution on the Texas Constitution, and examine the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens. **Students enrolled in this course should expect extensive outside-of-class preparation.**

1860 Grade 8 U.S. History

SERVICE ID # 03343100

Grade 8 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 economic system. Students examine the American beliefs and principles 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 evaluate the impact of scientific discoveries and technological innovations on the development of the United States. Students use critical thinking skills, including the identification of bias in written, oral, and visual material.

2860 Grade 8 U.S. History Advanced See Advanced Application

SERVICE ID # 03343100

This course is for the student with a high interest in social studies. It is designed to give emphasis on an in-depth study of the content using higher-level critical thinking skills. 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 Constitution, challenges of the early republic, the Age of Jackson, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students study the beliefs and principles in the U.S. Constitution and other historical documents. They examine the rights and responsibilities of citizenship as well as the importance of effective leadership in a constitutional republic. **Students enrolled in this course should expect extensive outside-of-class preparation.**

9960 Time Travel

Grade 7
Grade 8

SERVICE ID # 82940XXX
SERVICE ID # 83300XXX

Time travels is an elective class that offers students the opportunity to learn about certain events of the past, the future, and the present. Learning about certain events as these can help students gain a better understanding of current community and world events.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

9906 Spanish Appreciation

SERVICE ID # 84600901

An Enrichment course designed to introduce students to simple Spanish phrases and expressions; such as, numbers, colors, days, months, greetings etc. in a context of understanding and enjoying Spanish culture and customs.

9807 Spanish I

SERVICE ID # 03440100

Spanish I will emphasize development of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The class also stresses cultural awareness and appreciation of the Spanish-speaking world as well as an awareness of the Spanish influence on the languages and customs of North America. Class work includes oral drills, dictation, vocabulary, composition and simple reading assignments, as well as dialogue, creative writing and multi-media presentations. **Students earn high school credit: the course content and work load are the equivalent of a high school course. Students enrolled in this course should expect extensive outside-of-class preparation (Student receives 1 high school credit but grade is not included in high school GPA). High school expectations, including attendance requirements, will be adhered to throughout the year.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

7601 Boys Physical Education 6 (1Year)

7602 Girls Physical Education 6 (1Year)

7901 Boys Physical Education 7/8 (1Year)

SERVICE ID # 03823000

7902 Girls Physical Education 7/8 (1Year)

One year of physical education is required in the Middle school.co The course is coeducational and includes some combination of the following areas: basketball, volleyball, softball, football, track, weight training, calisthenics, aerobic dancing, tennis, flag football, soccer, and physical fitness series.

ATHLETICS

All sports teams have a try-out process with the exception of football, track, and cross country. This is an environment where an athlete competes on a team. Good sportsmanship as well as athletic skills is stressed. **A COMPLETE PHYSICAL IS REQUIRED EACH YEAR FOR ALL STUDENTS ENTERING ATHLETICS.** All students must meet UIL guidelines for eligibility and pay the UIL Activity Fee prior to participation.

7701 Grade 7 Boys Athletics (1Year)

7805 Grade 8 Boys Athletics (1 Year)

7702 Grade 7 Girls Athletics (1Year)

7806 Grade 8 Girls Athletics (1 Year)

7703 Grade 7 Boys Athletics (1 Semester)

PERSONAL WELLNESS

7906 Personal Wellness 7/8

SERVICE ID # 03813000

Students acquire the health information and skills necessary to become healthy adults and learn about behaviors in which they should and should not participate. To achieve that goal, students will understand the following: students should first seek guidance in the area of health from their parents; personal behaviors can increase or reduce health risks throughout lifespan; health is influenced by a variety of factors; students can recognize and utilize health information and products; and personal/interpersonal skills are needed to promote individual, family, and community health.

TECHNOLOGY

9900 Yearbook

SERVICE ID # 83800XXX

This class produces lasting memories in the form of the school's "Yearbook". Students will learn to take quality pictures, to design and organize the pages, and to cooperate with fellow classmates. Students must be self-disciplined, responsible and must be able to meet deadlines. ***Application and teacher recommendation required. (Full Year)***

9901 Technology Applications

SERVICE ID # 03580100

Students will enhance proficiency in various internet communication applications. Students will learn and explore the basics of social networking.

9902 Journalism

SERVICE ID # 83800XXX

Students learn to write news articles, feature stories and editorials. They learn the basics of photography, layout and design.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

9912 STEM Exploration

SERVICE ID # 12700400

This course provides an introduction of all STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Careers in an interactive, hands-on lab experience. Students will build a portfolio of projects completed.

9914 Exploring Careers

SERVICE ID # 12700300

Required course for all 8th Grade students. This course is designed to guide students through the process of investigation and in the development of a high school, college and career achievement plan. Students will use interest inventory assessments to explore areas of personal interest and then use this information to explore educational requirements for a variety of chosen career paths.

9913 Robotics (BMS)

SERVICE ID # 12700400

Students participate in designing and building a robot using engineering principles. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in a robotics competition. Teacher recommendation is required for the course.

OFFICE SERVICE

8800 Office Service

SERVICE ID # 85000820

Outstanding students are able to assist the principal, assistant principals, nurse, ISS, or librarian in the daily operation of the school. Specific duties and responsibilities vary with each office. (*8th grade only*)

ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)

9804 AVID 6

SERVICE ID# 80800XXX

The 6th grade course is an introduction to the AVID philosophy. Students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization & reading as well as their academic growth. Students will engage in activities centered around exploring college & career opportunities, building self-confidence & communication skills. Students will set short & long-term goals &, as a result, understand the value in taking charge of their actions. Students will take an active role in their learning, understanding the roles of all members in assignments & collaborative lessons. Students will also develop skills regarding note-taking in relation to studying & test preparation.

9805 AVID 7

SERVICE ID # 82990XXX

The 7th grade course is a continuation and reinforcement of the AVID philosophy. Students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization & reading as well as their academic growth. Students will engage in activities centered around exploring college & career opportunities, building self-confidence & communication skills. Students will set short & long-term goals &, as a result, understand the value in taking charge of their actions. Students will take an active role in their learning, understanding the roles of all members in assignments & collaborative lessons. Students will also develop skills regarding note-taking in relation to studying & test preparation.

9806 AVID 8

SERVICE ID # 83800XXX

The 8th grade course is the year of preparation for high school. Students will refine previous goals, focusing on their transition to high school as part of a college-preparatory path. Students will transition from active learners to leaders. Other areas of focus include increasing the use of technology & building upon test-preparation & test-taking knowledge. Students will participate in college preparatory testing.

FINE ARTS

The overall goals of the art program are to teach students: (1) a love and respect for art, (2) responsibility through a positive work ethic, and (3) respect for each other as well as for adults.

Foundations of Art and Design

SERVICE ID # 03154110

This is a beginner level art course that introduces students to the world of art. The focus is on understanding the language of visual arts, color theory, art history, famous artist, and studio production. Various mediums will be used while 2D and 3D fundamentals are studied. Mediums include: Graphite, pen and ink, charcoal, pastel, colored pencil, watercolor, acrylic paint, printmaking, graphic design, photography, and pottery.

Advanced Art 7/8 (BMS)

SERVICE ID # 03154210

Prerequisite: Introduction to Art and Teacher Recommendation

Students will work with a variety of methods and materials and will be expected to use higher level thinking skills, increased planning and improved hand-eye coordination in their work. Students will use principles of design to organize the elements of art in their projects. Students explore artists, cultures and art history. Participation in Art Competitions is **required** for all advanced art students. **(Full Year) Teacher recommendation required.**

BAND

8103 Beginning Band

SERVICE ID # 03154130

Beginning Band is an elective intended for students interested in playing and performing on musical instruments with little or no prior knowledge. This class is for students wishing to participate in band at the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Students must be tested by a band director prior to the start of the school year to help determine which instrument they are best suited to play. Instrument selection will be determined by the director with the interest of the student in mind. This course introduces students to UIL (University Interscholastic League) rules and regulations.

8104 Symphonic Band

SERVICE ID # 03154230

These are high level classes for those with at least one year of experience on woodwind, brass or percussion instruments. A student will be placed in a symphonic band class with students who have comparable skills. The primary emphasis of these bands is to focus on the development of fundamental techniques, ensemble skills and perform more challenging middle school literature. Symphonic Band students may be required to attend before or after school sectionals when scheduled. These students may be screened to audition for All-City/All-Region Band in the fall. Symphonic Band students are encouraged to participate in the Solo and Ensemble Contest in the spring, as well as encouraged to participate in the private lesson program. The members of these bands may go to the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest in the spring. They may also perform at pep rallies, and selected football games as well as other performances throughout the district. The members of these ensembles will have the opportunity to advance into higher level bands at the end of the first semester. These groups will be comprised of 7th and 8th graders. **(Full Year)**

8105 Concert Band

SERVICE ID # 03154230

The overall goals of the band program are to teach students: (1) a love and respect for music through learning how to play band instruments and working together, (2) responsibility through a positive work ethic, and (3) respect for each other as well as for adults. Students who are in the more advanced bands have more performance opportunities; however, all students are being prepared for public performance. All students must meet UIL (University Interscholastic League) eligibility/guidelines and may participate in the All Region Band competitions as well as Solo & Ensemble Contests. **(Full Year)**

8113 Jazz Band

SERVICE ID # 03154330

Jazz Band is offered for students who wish to learn to play basic styles of jazz. Emphasis is placed on the swing style and improvisation using the blues scale. Jazz Band performs at school concerts, for the student body, community, festivals and at competitions. Only traditional big band instruments are used in this course (saxophones, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, tuba, electric guitar, bass guitar, piano and drum set). All students in the Jazz program are required to be a member of the Middle School Band program except those students playing guitar, bass guitar, and piano. Prerequisite: Audition and teacher approval.

8120 Beginning Guitar (BMS)

SERVICE ID # 03154133

Students will learn basic guitar skills and the guitars are provided. **(One Semester)**

CHOIR

The overall goals of the choir program are to teach students: (1) respect for each other as well as for adults, (2) responsibility through a positive work ethic, and (3) a love and respect for music through learning vocal and sight reading skills while learning to work together as a team. **All Choir courses are full year courses.**

8200 Boys Choir (Cambiare)

SERVICE ID # 0315131

Students in this choir will sing a variety of styles of music and have many performance opportunities, including a Fall Concert, the Musical, Winter Concert, Solo and Ensemble Recital, UIL Concert, Spring Concert and TMEA Region Auditions. All students must meet UIL guidelines for eligibility. **(Full Year)**

8201 Girls Varsity Choir (Bella Voce)

SERVICE ID # 03154131

An advanced level choir with the same requirements as the above mentioned choirs, but is selected by audition only. **(Full Year)**

8202 Non-Varsity Girls Choir (Nova Canto)

SERVICE ID # 03154131

Students in this choir will sing a variety of styles of music and have many performance opportunities, including a Fall Concert, the Musical, Winter Concert, Solo and Ensemble Recital, UIL Concert, Spring Concert and TMEA Region Auditions. All students must meet UIL guidelines for eligibility. **(Full Year)**

8203 Middle School Show Choir

SERVICE ID # 03154131

Show Choir is an auditioned group which will perform a variety of vocal styles from madrigals to jazz and pop music. Dancing and singing is involved in this ensemble. Students will perform in schools and in public. Concurrent enrollment in Boys' Choir, Non-Varsity Girls' Choir, or Girls' Varsity Choir is required. The auditions will take place at the end of the current school year. **(Full Year)**

DANCE

8108 Dance I

SERVICE ID # 03154120

Students will gain knowledge and skills of dance elements and of choreographic processes and forms in a variety of dance styles. By mastering movement principles and skills, students will develop self-discipline, and healthy bodies that move expressively, efficiently, and safely through space and time with controlled energy. Students will learn basic fundamentals of dance through ballet, tap, jazz, and modern. *Dance can substitute for P.E.* **(Full Year)**

THEATRE ARTS

The overall goals of the theatre program are to teach students: (1) respect for each other as well as for adults, (2) responsibility through a positive work ethic, and (3) a love and respect for theatre through acting while learning to work together as a team.

8107 Theater I

SERVICE ID # 03154140

This course offers an introduction to Theatre Arts. Students will study basic acting skills such as pantomime, improvisation, characterization, and stage movement through the performance of various skits and monologues. Students will also learn about the various aspects of the production process, and they will explore a wide range of career opportunities available in theatre. This course is designed to improve self-confidence and teamwork skills. **(Full Year)**

8106 Theater II

SERVICE ID# 03154240

This course further explores the art of Theatre. Students will study advanced acting skills such as pantomime, improvisation, characterization, and stage movement through the performance of various skits, monologues, and plays. Students will also learn about the various aspects of the production process, and they will explore a wide range of career opportunities available in theatre. This course is designed to develop more advanced actors and technicians. (Pre-requisite: Theater I and Teacher approval) **(Full Year)**

TCISD Middle School Advanced Recommendation Form

TCISD Middle Schools offers Advanced courses in the following subjects: Math, English, Reading, Science, and Social Studies. Be sure to consider your child's own strengths and weaknesses as you make your requests. Students enrolled in Advanced courses should expect extensive outside-of-class preparation. The increased demands and work required are intended to prepare students for Advanced Placement courses at the 11th and 12th Grade level.

If you would like for your child to be considered for a Advanced course, please complete and return the form to your student's counselor.

Placement in Advanced courses requires a parent request AND teacher recommendation.

I would like for my child to be considered for the Texas City ISD Advanced program for the following subjects: *(check all that apply)*

_____ Math _____ ELA _____ Science _____ Social Studies

Student's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Teacher Recommendations

I would recommend the above student for consideration for Advanced courses in the following subjects:

Advanced Math Teacher Signature _____

Advanced ELA Teacher Signature _____

Advanced Science Teacher Signature _____

Advanced History Teacher Signature _____