



*Edwards-
Johnson
Memorial Silsbee
Middle School*

COURSE CATALOG

Description of courses

GRADES 6 – 8

A SCHEDULE PLANNING GUIDE FOR
STUDENTS AND PARENTS

EJMSMS Counselor Website:

Silsbee ISD – EJMSMS Web Page – Counselors - Scheduling

Schedule of Classes for 6th, 7th, and 8th Grades

*****NOTE: If a student did not perform satisfactorily on the state assessment for Reading and/or Math, the student will be placed in Reading Success and/or Math Success; this class will replace an elective class.**

6 th Grade	Course
2 Credits - Year	Advanced ELAR or English Language Arts/Reading
1 Credit - Year	Advanced Math or Math
1 Credit - Year	Advanced Science or Science
1 Credit - Year	Advanced Social Studies or Social Studies
1 Credit - Year	Fine Arts Elective – Choose from Art, Band, or Choir
1 Credit - Year	PE
½ Credit - Semester	Computer Apps.
½ Credit - Semester	Health
7 th Grade	Course
2 Credits - Year	Advanced ELAR or English Language Arts/Reading
1 Credit - Year	Pre-Algebra or Math
1 Credit - Year	Advanced Science or Science
1 Credit - Year	Advanced Texas History or Texas History
1 Credit - Year	General Employability Skills – High School Credit
1 Credit - Year	PE, Athletics (must have physical on file and play UIL Sports), or Cheerleading - 1 semester
Electives Totaling 1 Credits	Art, AVID, Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Robotics, Student Aide(office, library), Yearbook
8 th Grade	Course
1 Credit - Year	Advanced ELAR, English Language Arts/Reading
1 Credit - Year	Algebra I (High School Credit), Advanced Math, Math
1 Credit - Year	Advanced Science, Science
1 Credit - Year	Advanced American History, American History
1 Credit- Year	Keyboarding
½ Credit - Semester	Speech – High School Credit
½ Credit - Semester	Dollars and Sense – High School Credit
Electives Totaling 3 Credits	AG, Art, AVID, Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Student Aide(office, library, or teacher), Yearbook, Robotics, Athletics, Cheerleading

Remediation Classes for Math and Reading

Response to Intervention (RtI)

Grade 6, 7, 8

EJMSMS will conduct Universal Screenings on ALL students during the Fall, Winter, and Spring. Data from universal screening and prior academic data will be analyzed. The RtI committee will meet to identify struggling students who are performing below standards. Parents will be notified when their student qualifies for RtI services. Identified RtI students will be pulled out of elective classes for interventions. RtI Tier II students will be pulled 20 to 30 minutes, 2 to 3 times per week; Tier III students will be pulled out 30 to 45 minutes, 3 to 4 times per week.

RtI is the practice of meeting the academic and behavioral needs of ALL students through a variety of services containing the following key elements:

- High-quality instruction and scientific research-based tiered interventions aligned with individual student need
- Frequent monitoring of student progress to make results-based academic and /or behavioral decisions
- Application of student response data to important educational decision (such as those regarding placement, intervention, curriculum, and instructional goals and methodologies)

The instructional approaches used within the general education setting should result in academic and/or behavioral progress for the majority of the students. Struggling students are identified using data-based student progress monitoring and provided intensive instruction. The use of scientifically validated curricula and teaching methods expected in an RtI model leads to data-based school improvement.

Reading Success and Math Success

Grade 6, 7, 8

Reading Success and Math Success are remediation classes provided for students who have not met passing standards on the state assessment in previous years. Students scoring in the “gap” (on the verge of not passing the state assessment) of the passing rate for the current school year are also considered for success class as an intervention.

Elective Courses

Fine Arts Electives

Art I – Beginning Grade 6

1 Credit

Students will learn basic skills in order to apply them to visual presentations. Students will explore and use the elements and principles of design, develop composition, perceive and analyze artistic work, and apply criteria to own work. Students will begin to evaluate historical art, art movements, and careers.

Art I- Beginning Grade 7 & 8

1 Credit

Students will learn basic skills in order to apply them to visual presentations. Students will explore and use the elements and principles of design, develop composition, perceive and analyze artistic work, and apply criteria to own work. Students will begin to evaluate historical art, art movements, and careers.

Art II Prerequisite: Art I Grade 7 & 8

1 Credit

Continuation of Art I outline with more focus on generating and conceptualizing artistic ideas and work.

Art III – Advanced Art Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation Only Grade 7 & 8

1 Credit

Students will continue building on knowledge from previous courses. Students will explore various art movements to a higher extent with focus on developing artistic skills by using advanced methods and materials (including acrylic painting, sculpture, and printmaking). Students will be expected to contribute ideas to the creative process.

Beginning Band Grade 6, 7, & 8

1 Credit

Beginning Band is a class for students who have had little or no formal instruction in instrumental music. Students will learn about the various instruments and their history. Students will also learn to play an instrument and read music. Music theory will be introduced throughout the year. Beginning band students will perform in two concerts every year – one in December and one in May. ***Please note: there is a financial obligation involved with this class.***

Concert/Symphonic Band 1 Credit Grade 7 & 8

Concert and Symphonic Band are classes for students who have had at least one year of formal instruction in instrumental music. Concert Band focuses more on the fundamentals of music, and is for the developing band student. Symphonic Band plays more challenging music, and is for the advanced band student. Symphonic Band also competes in the UIL MS Band Concert and Sight reading Contest each spring. Students from both ensembles have the opportunity to compete in individual competitions such as the ATSSB All-Region Band Auditions and the Region 10 MS Solo and Ensemble Contest. Both ensembles perform at the Holiday Concert in December and the Spring Concert in May each year. Students are placed into the appropriate ensemble by audition at the end of the school year.

Jazz Band

1 Credit

Prerequisite: 1 Year of Band and Teacher Approval Grade 7 & 8

Jazz Band is a class for students who have had at least one year of formal instruction in instrumental music. Students must first be enrolled in Concert or Symphonic Band before enrolling in Jazz Band. Jazz Band affords the students an opportunity to learn the history of various jazz and rock styles of music, including, but not limited to, swing, Dixieland, Latin, funk, rock, fusion, and ballads. Students continue to develop the performance skills used in the other band

classes while being introduced to the scales, harmonies, rhythms and articulations that make up the various styles associated with jazz music. Instruments used in jazz band are all regular band instruments (woodwind and brass) as well as rhythm section instruments (guitar, bass guitar, piano, drum set, and auxiliary percussion). Students interested in playing a rhythm section instrument will have to have extensive previous knowledge on how to play that instrument, and will be selected through an audition process at the end of each school year. The Jazz Band performs with the Silsbee High School Jazz Band in concerts in December and May each year, as well as performing at other schools in the district throughout the year. All students must have Band Director Approval to be placed in the Jazz Band class.

Choir

1 Credit

Grade 6, 7, & 8

Choir provides students with the opportunity to express themselves through singing. Vocal skills, such as pitch-matching, sight-singing and vocal technique are emphasized. The elements of music, as described in the TEKS, historical perspectives, and appreciation of all types of music are included in this course. In the 6th grade, classes are mixed with boys and girls; however, the 7th and 8th grade classes are separated into Boys' Choir and Girls' Choir. There is a mandatory annual Christmas Program as well as a Spring Program. The 7th and 8th grade students have the opportunity to participate in activities such as All-Region Choir Auditions, Solo and Ensemble Contest, and UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest

Advanced Choir

1 Credit

Prerequisite: 1 year of choir

Grade 7 & 8

The Advanced Choir is an auditioned choir for dedicated 7th and 8th grade singers interested in taking the singing experience to the next level. Students **MUST** have taken choir in a previous year, must be able to sight read in solfege, and must maintain passing grades in all classes. Students will have the opportunity to participate in All-Region Choir Auditions, and Solo and Ensemble Contest, however, participation in the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest is mandatory.

Grade 6 Electives

Computer Apps. (required)

½ Credit

Grade 6

Computer is offered to introduce, refresh and enhance basic computer skills. Students will learn computer skills to successfully function in a technological society. Units of study include keyboarding, basic computer hardware, word processing, spreadsheets, desktop publishing, multimedia presentations, and internet research skills. Computer Science issues, technical reading, note taking, critical thinking, and problem solving skills are emphasized throughout the course of study. The course emphasizes the application of technology skills to other areas of the curriculum.

Health (required)

½ Credit

Grade 6

The content of the course deals with the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of the individual. Units taught include information about the individual's body and how it functions, resolving conflicts, how to set goals, harmful substances, personal health, preventing diseases, basic first-aid, nutrition, fitness, human growth and development, and understanding emotions as they relate to an individual's welfare.

AVID

1 Credit

Prerequisite: Application and Committee Approval

Grade 6

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a college readiness program designed to help students develop the skills they need to be successful in college. In the AVID elective class, students receive daily instruction and support to prepare them for college from a trained AVID elective teacher. AVID impacts students thru writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organizational skills, and critical reading. AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap

by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. ***Students must apply for AVID and meet Committee Approval. If you are interested in this program, choose it as an elective. Applications can be picked up in the counselor's office.***

Grade 7 and 8 - Athletics

Boys' Athletics

1 Credit

Grade 7 & 8

Boys Athletics is for any student planning to participate in University Interscholastic League (UIL) sports of football, basketball and track.

Students must complete a physical packet which includes: Personal Info, Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form, Concussion Acknowledgement Form, Anabolic Steroid Use and Random Steroid Testing Agreement, Acknowledgement of Rules, Medical History, and Physical Examination. Also, see the Athletic Guidelines for SMS Athletics for more information. Students must participate in off season program which includes strength training and conditioning.

Girls' Athletics

1 Credit

Grade 7 & 8

Students desiring to be in athletics must meet the following requirements: a physical on file with the athletics department; participated in the End of the Year Athletics Training; Plans to compete in University Interscholastic League (UIL) sporting events; must be approved by the Silsbee Middle School athletic director.

Cheerleading

½ Credits

Prerequisite: Tryouts

Grade 7 & 8

Cheerleading is a team sport in which all candidates must try out during the spring of each year. If a student makes the cheer squad, there are fees that are due and responsibilities to be upheld. For more information, see the Cheer Constitution. Cheerleading is 1 semester class in the fall which fulfills 1 semester of PE requirements.

Grade 7 and 8 Electives

Aides (Office or Library)

1 Credit

Prerequisite: good grades, good behavior, good attendance, leadership skills, and counselor approval

Grade 7 & 8

This course introduces students to various tasks assigned under the supervision of school personnel. The location of the work and the type of work vary and may include office work, library work, instructional support, etc. ***Sign up through the counselor's office.***

AG – Principle of Agriculture

1 High School Credit

Grade 8

Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources will allow students to develop knowledge and skills regarding career and educational opportunities, personal development, globalization, industry standards, details, practices, and expectations.

AVID

1 Credit

Prerequisite: Application and Committee Approval

Grade 7 & 8

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a college readiness program designed to help students develop the skills they need to be successful in college. In the AVID elective class, students receive daily instruction and support to prepare them for college from a trained AVID elective teacher. AVID impacts students thru writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organizational skills, and critical reading. AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. ***Students must apply for AVID and meet Committee Approval. If you are interested in this program, choose it as an elective. Applications can be picked up in the counselor's office.***

General Employability Skills Grade 7

1 High School Credit

This course provides students with knowledge of the prerequisite skills for general employment as well as the means of obtaining those skills. Employability skills include fundamentals of maintenance of personal appearance and grooming. The course also includes 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. Discovering job possibilities that link skills, abilities, interests, values, needs, and work environment preferences is a part of the process of obtaining employability skills and abilities and is experiential learning that takes place over time.

Introduction to Computer Skills Grade 8

1 Credit

Students will learn how to use keyboarding techniques and ergonomic strategies while building speed and accuracy. Students will demonstrate a thorough understanding of technology concepts, systems, and operations. The student will also practice safe, responsible, legal, and ethical behavior while using technology tools and resources.

Robotics

1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Maintain an 85 or higher in Science and Math, Good behavior, and Teacher Approval
Grades 7 & 8**

Robotics is becoming a large part of the world in which we live. This class provides students with the knowledge of building and programming basic robots. Students will utilize the scientific method and problem-solving processes involving science, math, technology, and engineering skills in an interdisciplinary manner. Sign up in Counselor's Office.

Yearbook

1 Credit

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval
Grade 7 & 8**

Students will need to complete an application for yearbook during the spring. Students who are selected to be in yearbook class will work on the school yearbook throughout the year. Students will use digital cameras for taking pictures around the school and at school events. Students will also assist in designing page layouts for the yearbook. Sign up in Counselor's Office.

Grade 8 Required Electives

Speech, Dollars and Sense

Speech Grade 8

½ High School Credit

Students will be introduced to the communication process, discuss interpersonal skills, participate in individual and group assignments, identify with their own and other speakers' strengths and problems, and make some provision for correction of these problems. Students will develop the ability to relax, overcome stage fright, and communicate willingly and easily. We also practice interviewing for a job, discussing current events, and understanding the psychological and physiological processes and feelings involved in giving a good speech whether it is on an assigned topic, school assignment, or social engagement. We try to combine fun, knowledge, and experience for a learning rich and confidence building environment.

Dollars and Sense Grade 8

½ High School Credit

Students will focus on consumer practices and responsibilities, money-management processes, decision-making skills, impact of technology, and preparation for human services careers.