

GREENVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Academic Guide

2024-2025



GREENVILLE ISD

LESSONS FOR WHEREVER LIFE LEADS

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The information in this guide is subject to change pending legislative session or GUSD School Board decisions.

PLANNING YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Being in middle school is both an exciting and challenging time in a student's life. Greenville 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. A sample plan is included as part of this guide.

Academic Considerations:

It is very important that a student be placed as accurately as possible in the appropriate reading language arts, math, science, and social studies class. Components such as state assessments, ability tests, previous year's semester grades should be considered.

Required Area of Study:

- Physical Education: All students are **required** to complete two (2) years of P.E. or Athletics in 6th-8th grade. A student may take P.E. or Athletics in the 7th grade, which allows for more possible electives as an 8th grader or wait and take P.E. or Athletics in 8th grade.

Honors Program Information: *GT continuing through Honors Classes

Decisions about placement are often one of the more difficult choices that parents face when their students are considering courses for the next school year. The core content courses are offered in Academic or Honors format. The school can provide a powerful input through teacher recommendation, communication with parents regarding the challenges of the Honors curriculum, and information about indicators of student success. Honors classes are offered in Reading Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science.

Honors courses are designed to challenge motivated students and prepare them for success in college-level coursework taken during high school and college. These courses typically move at a faster pace, are more academically challenging, and require more independent learning and homework than regular academic courses. Students participating in the GT program are highly encouraged to enroll in Honors courses.

Exit Guidelines for Middle School Honors Courses:

1. A student may choose to exit Honors courses during the first nine-weeks grade period and must have teacher and parent approval.
2. Course placement for students whose average falls below a 70% for a nine-week grading period will be evaluated through communication which may include: the student, teacher, parent, counselor, and/or administrator.

Practical Suggestions for Students and Parents:

- **Carefully Plan** a middle school course of study, keeping in mind student abilities and interests as well as high school programs.
- **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. 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 kept in photo albums. All records should be updated yearly.
- **Integrate technology** into each student's studies and life. Success in the 21st Century will require a high level of knowledge and skill in the use of technology.
- **Establish good study habits** during the middle school years. The use of a planner or agenda book 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, a dictionary, and a calculator.

Schedule Changes:

No schedule changes will be allowed after the 10th instructional day. Honors courses may be changed during the first semester per teacher request. Students taking an advanced course and not mastering the course within the first semester may be removed. Schedule changes will be based on the academic need of the student and will require the approval of a counselor and/or administrator.

Promotion and Retention:

In grades 6-8, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on an overall average of 70% on a scale of 100% and based on course-level, essential knowledge and skills for all subject areas within that grade level, and a grade of 70% or above in three of the following core areas: Language Arts and Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

In addition to local standards for mastery and promotion, students must “approach, meet or master” the standards on Math and ELAR assessments. If a student does not meet the standard on a state assessment, the following school year, the student must complete at least 30 hours of accelerated instruction for each state assessment where the standard was not met.

For more information, refer to HB 4545.

<https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/covid/accelerated-learning-resources>

Greenville ISD Six-Year Plan:

Use the following chart to help guide you in your planning and course selections. You may need to fill in courses you've already taken, as well as those you plan to take. For some of the required courses, you have a choice of Honors or regular academic level courses. You are encouraged to take the courses that challenge you academically and for which you have the requisite skills.

7th Grade		8th Grade	
Language Arts and Reading		Language Arts and Reading	
Math:		Math:	
Social Studies:		Social Studies:	
Science:		Science:	
Physical Education:		Elective:	
Elective:		Elective:	
Elective:		Elective:	
Elective:		Elective:	

9th Grade		10th Grade	
English I:		English 2:	
Math:		Math:	
Social Studies:		Social Studies:	
Science:		Science:	
Physical Education:		LOTE:	
Fine Arts:		Elective:	
Elective: (LOTE)		Elective:	
Elective:		Elective:	

11th Grade		12th Grade	
English 3:		English 4:	
Math:		Math:	
Social Studies:		Social Studies:	
Science:		Science:	
Elective:		Elective:	
Elective:		Elective:	
Elective:		Elective:	
Elective:		Elective:	

Post High School Plans:

*LOTE (Language other than English)

GMS CURRICULUM

The core courses of Math, Science, Reading Language Arts, and Social Studies are required of all 7th and 8th graders. Students are placed in regular or Honors sections of these core subjects.

CURRICULUM DESIGN FOR GREENVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

7th & 8th GRADE REGULAR CLASSES (all subjects)- on or about grade-level skills

7th & 8th GRADE MATH B AND READING LANGUAGE ARTS B – Double block

7th GRADE HONORS- ** Honors Contract signed

Honors Language Arts and Reading (ELAR)

Honors Texas History

Honors Science

Honors Pre-Algebra

8th GRADE HONORS- ** Honors Contract signed

Honors Language Arts and Reading (ELAR)

Honors American History

Honors Science

Algebra I – *High School Credit (does NOT count towards High School GPA calculation)

GIFTED & TALENTED – Served through the Honors program.

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS IN Honors CLASSES:

- Student will be challenged with higher-level thinking questions and be expected to deliver higher-level responses.
- Student is expected to be organized and responsible.
- Student is expected to identify resources and use them (including tutoring if and when necessary)
- Student is expected to be involved in learning.
- Student is expected to exhibit self-discipline.
- Student is expected to establish a personal time-management system.
- Student is expected to be self-motivated and driven beyond general requirements.
- Student is expected to work cooperatively with peers and teachers.
- Student is expected to answer essay questions thoroughly and in paragraph form.
- Student is expected to read and comprehend information independently and is expected to be prepared to discuss information in class.
- Math/Science students are expected to know multiplication facts, perform long division using the correct algorithm, and exhibit effective problem-solving skills.
- Teachers will follow district guidelines for make-up work. One class day for each day of excused absence.
- The student understands that 30% of grade is based on Daily Grades, and 70% of grade is based on Major Grades.

7th GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

- Language Arts and Reading (ELAR)
- Math
- Texas History
- Science

Students are **required** to take at least 2 years of P.E. or its equivalent (athletics) during their 6th, 7th, and 8th grade years.

7th GRADE ELECTIVES

- Athletics
- Art
- Avid 7
- Band (Concert,**Symphonic**, Wind**)
- Choir (Non-Varsity, Tenor/Bass)
- College and Career/Health (Semester)
- Photography
- Theater
- Introduction to Digital Media
- Introduction to Robotics.
- P.E.
- VEX Competition Robotics** Teacher Recommendation Form Required

8th GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

- Language Arts and Reading (ELAR)
- Math or Algebra
- American History
- Science

Students are **required** to take at least 2 years of P.E. or its equivalent (athletics) during their 6th, 7th, and 8th grade years.

8th GRADE ELECTIVES

*Advanced Art**- High School Credit (does NOT count towards High School GPA calculation) / Teacher Recommendation Form Required

Art

Athletics

Avid 8

Band (Concert**,Symphonic**, Wind**)

Choir (Varsity**, Non-Varsity, Tenor/Bass)

*Principles of Arts: Audio, Video, Tech & Communication**- High School Credit (does NOT count towards High School GPA calculation) /

*Dollars & Sense/*Professional Communications- High School Credit (does NOT count towards High School GPA calculation)

Library Aide/Office Aide** (Recommendation from Counselors and Office Staff) (one semester each)

P.E.

*Principles of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources- High School Credit (does NOT count towards High School GPA calculation)

*Business Information Management- High School Credit (does NOT count towards High School GPA calculation)

*Spanish Honors- High School Credit (does NOT count towards High School GPA calculation)

VEX Competition Robotics** Teacher Recommendation Form Required

Yearbook** Teacher Recommendation Form Required

Theater

Intro to Robotics

****classes are worth a high school credit but it does not count towards High School GPA calculation***

***** classes REQUIRE teacher recommendation form and/or Honors Contract (see page 16 and 17)***

REQUIRED COURSES

HISTORY

7th GRADE TEXAS HISTORY

Texas History tells the stories of people, events, and institutions from the state's earliest civilizations to modern times. It touches upon and includes all of the social studies disciplines. People's beliefs, the ways they meet their economic needs, the social and political institutions they form, and the culture they transmit from one generation to another are all a part of Texas history. So, too, is geography, which tells the story of where events took place and the interaction between people and places. The themes of location, region, place, movement, and human environment interaction are woven through the chronological story of all the peoples of Texas. Carefully planned activities and projects help students go beyond the rote learning of events and dates to gain an understanding of how and why events occurred and their historical significance.

7th GRADE HONORS TEXAS HISTORY

All TEKS and objectives for Texas History are covered. Higher level thinking skills are employed and various areas covered through research and projects. This course is designed to challenge students with accelerated pace of material presentation and quality of works required. **An Honors Contract must be signed by parent and student. (Page 17)**

8th GRADE AMERICAN HISTORY

In Grade 8, students focus on the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Themes of colonization, independence, nationalism, expansionism, conflict and resolution, and basic human rights are strongly embedded in the program. Regular class work, homework, projects, and tests are used to assess progress.

8th GRADE HONORS AMERICAN HISTORY

All essential TEKS and GISD objectives are included in the content of this course. Students are challenged to consider and discuss history facts using such skills as analysis, synthesis and evaluation. Students will be expected to complete a performance task research project. **An Honors Contract must be signed by parent and student. (Page 17)**

Language Arts and Reading (ELAR)

7th GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING

The goal of this course is to provide for mastery of all TEKS. STAAR mastery is emphasized. Language Arts is a course that emphasizes writing, attentive, listening, creative and critical thinking, organizational strategies, and literary analysis. Students are introduced to formal composition, grammar and mechanics of writing, vocabulary study and literature. In written expression, emphasis is placed on the six traits of writing: organization, ideas, voice, fluency, conventions, and word choice. Studies in literature include nonfiction, short stories, plays, poetry, and the novel. The goal of reading in this course is to provide for master of all TEKS. 7th grade Reading is designed to strengthen reading comprehension skills, to further develop reading strategies, and to foster a life-long appreciation of reading. Fiction and nonfiction are taught with the goals of learning to read for both pleasure and academic situations. Regular classroom work, projects, STAAR preparation, and tests are used to assess progress on an on-going basis.

7th GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING - B

The goal of this course is intended for the select students who require additional support in the mastery of all TEKS. Reading Language Arts is a course that emphasizes reading, writing, attentive, listening, creative and critical thinking, organizational strategies, and literary analysis. Fiction and nonfiction are taught with the goals of learning to read for both pleasure and academics. Students are introduced to formal composition, grammar and mechanics of writing, vocabulary study, and literature. In written expression, emphasis is placed on the six traits of writing: organization, ideas, voice, fluency, conventions, and word choice. Studies in literature include nonfiction, short stories, plays, poetry, and novel.

7th GRADE HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING

The goal of this course is to provide for mastery of Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) as well as accelerated elements of fiction, poetry, composition, vocabulary, and research. STAAR mastery is emphasized. The purpose of reading in this course is to provide students with an opportunity to read with competence, confidence, and understanding. Students will study contemporary, fiction, non-fiction, and current events publications through both printed and online media. Fostering an appreciation of reading for pleasure is a major goal of this course. TEKS objectives will be taught in all classes. Students taking Honors RLA should have scored "Approaches Grade Level" or higher on their previous STAAR exam. **An Honors Contract must be signed by parent and student. (Page 17)**

8th GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING

The goal of this course is to provide for mastery of all TEKS. STAAR mastery is emphasized. Language Arts is a course that emphasizes writing, attentive listening, creative and critical thinking, organizational strategies, and literary analysis. Students are introduced to formal composition, grammar and mechanics of writing, vocabulary study and literature. In written expression, emphasis is placed on the six traits of writing: organization, ideas, voice, fluency, conventions, and word choice. Studies in literature include nonfiction, short stories, plays, poetry, and the novel. The goal of reading in this course is to provide for master of all TEKS. 8th grade Reading is designed to strengthen reading comprehension skills, to further develop reading strategies, and to foster a life-long appreciation of reading. Fiction and nonfiction are taught with the goals of learning to read for both pleasure and academic situations. Regular classroom work, projects, STAAR preparation, and tests are used to assess progress on an on-going basis.

8th GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING - B

The goal of this course is intended for the select students who require additional support in the mastery of all TEKS. Reading Language Arts is a course that emphasizes reading, writing, attentive, listening, creative and critical thinking, organizational strategies, and literary analysis. Fiction and nonfiction are taught with the goals of learning to read for both pleasure and academics. Students are introduced to formal composition, grammar and mechanics of writing, vocabulary study, and literature. In written expression, emphasis is placed on the six traits of writing: organization, ideas, voice, fluency, conventions, and word choice. Studies in literature include nonfiction, short stories, plays, poetry, and novels.

8th GRADE HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING

The goal of this course is to provide mastery of all TEKS as well as accelerated elements of understanding in fiction, poetry, composition, vocabulary, and research. The purpose of reading in this course is to provide students with an opportunity to read with competence, confidence, and understanding. Students will study contemporary, fiction, non-fiction, and current events publications through both printed and online media. Fostering an appreciation of reading for pleasure is a major goal of this course. All 8th grade students will be using Accelerated Reading as a supplement to the reading program. TEKS objectives will be taught in all classes. Students taking Honors RLA should have scored at least "Approaches Grade Level" on their previous STAAR exam. **An Honors Contract must be signed by parent and student. (Page 17)**

TAKE FLIGHT- READING (DYSLEXIA PROGRAM)

The Dyslexia Program provides students with dyslexia research-based interventions, which will enable them to build upon their personal strengths and reach their full potential in order to lead successful, productive lives. Students must qualify for this program.

MATHEMATICS

7th GRADE MATH

This class will cover all TEKS objectives for 7th grade. All STAAR objectives will be taught and emphasized. Fifty percent of the student's grade will come from minor grades including homework and classroom work. Fifty percent of the student's grade will come from tests and quizzes.

7th GRADE MATH - B

The goal of this course is intended for the select students who require additional support in the mastery of all TEKS. All STAAR objectives will be taught and emphasized, with a focus on previous grade-level content to support mastery of all TEKS.

7th GRADE HONORS PRE-ALGEBRA

This Honors class emphasizes word problems, fractions, integers, rational numbers and equations. Algebraic notations and graphing equations are introduced and used throughout the course. Skills, concepts and assessment methods introduced in this class will prepare students for success when they take AP and other challenging courses. Students who plan to take this course should have mastery of skills and expectations about 6th grade level and have a keen ability to successfully solve problems. They should have above average computation skills. **Students in this class should expect between three and four hours of homework each week.** Thirty percent of the student's grade will come from minor grades such as homework and classroom work. Seventy percent of the student's grade will come from tests and quizzes. Students successfully completing this course should qualify for Algebra I as eighth graders. Students need their current math teacher's approval and must be passing their current math class before signing up for this course. This course moves quickly and incorporates both 7th grade and 8th grade student expectations. Students taking Honors Pre-Algebra should have scored "Approaches Grade Level" or higher on their previous STAAR exam. **An Honors Contract must be signed by parent and student. (Page 17)**

8th GRADE MATH

This class will cover all TEKS objectives for 8th grade. All STAAR objectives will be taught and emphasized. Fifty percent of the student's grade will come from minor grades including homework and classroom work. Fifty percent of the student's grade will come from tests and quizzes.

8th GRADE MATH - B

The goal of this course is intended for the select students who require additional support in the mastery of all TEKS. All STAAR objectives will be taught and emphasized, with a focus on previous grade-level content to support mastery of all TEKS.

***8th GRADE HONORS ALGEBRA 1**

This Honors class is designed for students identified as Gifted and Talented and for students who earned a 75 average in Pre-Algebra for the previous year, passed the previous year Math STAAR with "Meets Grade level" or higher. This course covers all TEKS objectives for Algebra I. Skills, concepts, and assessment methods introduced in this class will prepare students for success when they take AP and other challenging courses. Students who plan to take this course should have mastery of skills and expectations about 8th grade level and have a keen ability to successfully solve problems. They should have above average computation skills. **Students in this class should expect between three and five hours of homework each week.** Only thirty percent of the student's grade will come from minor grades such as homework and classroom work. Seventy percent of the student's grade will come from tests and quizzes. This is a high school course, and students who successfully complete both semesters will have earned one high school math credit. This course does NOT count towards the High School GPA calculation. Students successfully completing this course should plan to take Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus in high school. Students must pass the Algebra I End of Course (EOC) exam as a requirement for high school graduation. Students who successfully complete the Algebra I EOC exam will be required to take the SAT or ACT in high school. **An Honors Contract must be signed by parent and student. (Page 17)**

SCIENCE

7th GRADE SCIENCE

In Grade 7, the study of science includes conducting field and laboratory investigations using scientific methods, critical-thinking, problem-solving, and scientific tools to collect and analyze information to explain a phenomenon. All TEKS objectives will be covered.

7th GRADE HONORS SCIENCE

This course is designed for students with a strong interest in Science. All TEKS objectives will be covered. Enrichment will be added to the course described above. **An Honors Contract must be signed by parent and student. (Page 17)**

8th GRADE SCIENCE

In Grade 8, the study of Science includes planning and conducting field and laboratory investigations using scientific methods, critical-thinking, problem-solving, and scientific tools to collect and analyze information to explain a phenomenon. All TEKS objectives will be covered.

8th GRADE HONORS SCIENCE

This course is designed for students with a strong interest in Science and a desire to continue in this program in high school. Enrichment will be added. All TEKS will be covered. Teachers incorporate strategies to raise overall academic standards and create strategies that develop more analytical thinking. All students including GT are eligible to take this class. **An Honors Contract must be signed by parent and student. (Page 17)**

ELECTIVE COURSES

ADVANCED ART *

Students are recommended for this course by the 6th or 7th grade art teachers. This course expands on the elements and principles of art. Students will learn and apply art vocabulary. Students will research artists and apply their techniques on various projects. This course focuses on a variety of artistic techniques., styles, and approaches, with heavy emphasis on the role of art as a visual language. This course required teacher approval. *Students will receive one high school credit for this course. This course does NOT count towards the high school GPA calculation. **A Teacher Recommendation Form is required for this class. (Page 16)**

ART I

This elective class is open to 7th and 8th grade students. Students are introduced to the elements and principles of art. Students will learn and apply art vocabulary. The elements and principles of art are applied through a variety of artistic approaches and techniques. Art history is taught through application of projects. Heavy emphasis is placed on the role of art as a visual language.

7th GRADE BOYS ATHLETICS

This is an introduction to the competitive UIL sports of football, basketball, and track. All student athletes are expected to be leaders of our school both on and off the field/court. Maintaining a minimum grade of 70% in all classes and exemplifying proper classroom discipline are required to participate in Athletics. Any student who fails to maintain a 70% or higher will be required to attend mandatory tutorials after school Monday – Thursday during their athletic season to ensure success in the classroom. Any deviation from this could result in suspension from games or contests, or removal from the program. A physical exam is required before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity. Students must also read and sign an Athletic Discipline Covenant before being allowed to take part in any athletic activity. This class is much more strenuous and demanding than a normal P.E. class. It includes conditioning and weight-training activities.

8th GRADE BOYS ATHLETICS

This class is designed to continue the development of the athletic skills needed for the competitive UIL sports of football, basketball, and track. All student athletes are expected to be leaders of our school both on and off the field/court. Maintaining a minimum grade of 70% in all classes and exemplifying proper classroom discipline are required to participate in Athletics. Any student who fails to maintain a 70% or higher will be required to attend mandatory tutorials after school Monday – Thursday during their athletic season to ensure success in the classroom. Any deviation from this could result in suspension from games or contests, or removal from the program. A physical exam is required before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity. Students must also read and sign an Athletic Discipline Covenant before being allowed to take part in any athletic activity. This class is much more strenuous and demanding than a normal P.E. class. It includes conditioning and weight-training activities.

7th GRADE GIRLS ATHLETICS

This is an introduction to the competitive UIL sports of volleyball, basketball, and track. Prior knowledge is not required because the basic skills will be taught for each sport. Running, self-discipline, good behavior, a minimum grade of 70 in all subjects, and a physical exam from a doctor is required to participate in this course. The athlete will also be required to participate in before and after school practice. This class is more strenuous and demanding than P.E. Dressing out every class period is mandatory. Students not selected for a team will be in off-season training for the next sport.

8th GRADE GIRLS ATHLETICS

This class is designed to continue the development of athletic skills needed for competitive UIL volleyball, basketball, and track. Students selected for this class form the teams that will compete against other schools in UIL play of volleyball, basketball, and track. Those not selected will be in an off-season training for the next sport. Students in this class will be required to practice before and after school, pass all classes with a minimum grade of 70, maintain good conduct, and have a desire to participate in high school athletics. A physical exam from a doctor is also required to participate in this course.

AVID

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a nationally acclaimed program that combines the student's determination with the support of teachers, AVID tutors, and peers. The AVID elective is designed for students who plan to continue their education after high school and would like to begin preparing for the rigors of a four-year university. The curriculum is designed to support student success in their rigorous core classes while practicing college & career readiness skills such as goal setting, critical thinking, study skills, organizational skills, personal management skills, and college search skills.

BAND (SYMPHONIC AND WIND ENSEMBLE) **

These classes are designed for students who have successfully completed the beginning band and show a readiness for intermediate to advanced musical participation. Students will be enrolled according to auditions and director discretion. The bands available are: Wind Ensemble (Advanced) and Symphonic Band (Intermediate). These groups will be the primary performing ensembles and will attend contests/concerts of the director's choice.

CHEERLEADING

Cheerleading will not be offered as a class and tryouts are required. All cheerleading activities will be held after school. **Most practices are held in the morning before school.** Students should see Mrs. Roberts if interested in Cheerleading.

CHOIR (VARSITY **, NON-VARSITY, AND TENOR-BASS)

VARSITY CHOIR (Girls) Audition is required for this class. This group will focus on sight-reading in multiple parts simultaneously while continuing to develop a classic and proper vocal tone. Concert repertoire will be medium to advanced difficulty. Concerts are required. UIL Concert & Sight-Reading is required, while Solo & Ensemble and Region Auditions may be required. Students will also be required to purchase a T-shirt for the Fall Concert and other events. **A Teacher Recommendation Form is required for this class. (Page 16)**

NON-VARSITY CHOIR (Girls) No audition is required, it is open to all students who want to improve their singing. This group will focus on the basics of sight-reading and music literacy. Concert repertoire will be easy to medium difficulty. Concerts are required. UIL Concert & Sight-Reading may be required. Solo & Ensemble and Region auditions, although not required, will be strongly encouraged. Students will also be required to purchase a T-shirt for the Fall Concert and other events.

TENOR-BASS (Boys) No audition required, it is open to all students who want to improve their singing. This group will focus on the basics of sight-reading and music literacy while embracing the young man's ever-changing voice. Concert repertoire will be medium to advanced difficulty. Concerts are required. UIL Concert & Sight-Reading is required, while Solo & Ensemble and Region Auditions may be required. Students will also be required to purchase a T-shirt for the Fall Concert and other events.

COLLEGE & CAREER PREP

These courses are designed to provide students with the ability to make informed decisions concerning the world of work and how it relates to the world of learning. Students will compile a portfolio of their work, take assessments to better guide them in their career development, investigate different career clusters, complete their high school graduation plan, discover the job-hunting process, and learn how to succeed at work. Students will also explore post-secondary options such as college, trade-school, or military in order to reach their ideal career. This course will also introduce students to topics such as: money management, budgeting, saving, savings accounts, checking accounts, identity theft, basics of borrowing/credit/credit cards, independent living and so much more. **This is a semester course.**

INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL MEDIA

In this class students are introduced to digital graphics, web page design, video game creation, traditional and digital animation, stop motion video, digital photography, photo manipulation, and audio/video production. This is a year-long class that covers the more artistic and creative side of the digital environment and prepares students for the Digital Media course or other High School CTE course. This course does NOT result in high school credit.

Principles of Art: Audio, Video, Tech & Communication *

Digital Media students are expected to use the skills and knowledge they picked up in Intro to Digital Media or a similar CTE course to independently complete advanced projects in digital graphics, web page design, video game production, traditional and digital animation, stop motion video, digital photography, photo manipulation, and audio/video production. *Students will receive a high school credit for this class. This course does NOT count towards the high school GPA calculation.

***HEALTH**

Students start off by learning what Health is and the different types of well-being. Students will learn about the differences between males and females as it relates to reproduction and changes during adolescence and puberty. They will learn about STDs, legal implications regarding sex and minors, abstinence, dangers associated with different weapons and the impact of drugs on the body. Students will learn about conflict resolution, how to show disapproval, non-verbal communications and how to effectively express emotions. They also learn about eating disorders, how many calories their body's need for their lifestyles, as well as the many different tools and resources they have access to that can help them live a healthier lifestyle, and much more. We follow the TEKS for 7th & 8th grade Health 115.23 per TEA. **This is a one semester course.**

***PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION**

Students will take Professional Communications where students will blend written, verbal, and graphic communication in a career-based environment. Students will develop impromptu, extemporaneous, and manuscript speaking skills, addressing a variety of topics. Students will receive ½ of a high school credit for this class. This course does NOT count towards the high school GPA calculation. **This is a semester course.**

***DOLLARS AND SENSE**

Dollars and Sense focuses on consumer practices and responsibilities, money-management processes, decision-making skills, impact of technology, and preparation for human services careers. Students will receive ½ of a high school credit for this class. This course does NOT count towards the high school GPA calculation. **This is a semester course.**

OFFICE / LIBRARY ASSISTANT (8TH GRADE ONLY) **

These are semester long courses and students in these classes will switch roles at the change of the semester. Students in these classes will be learning general office and library procedures such as proper ways to answer the telephone, greet visitors, use office equipment and monitor hallway activity. Students selected for these classes are in a leadership position and must conduct themselves in a way that always promotes positive impressions of GMS. To be selected for these classes, students must complete an application, have an outstanding academic records, exemplary conduct, neat appearance, and good attendance. **Counselors and/ or office staff recommendation**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.)

The physical education program is designed to develop students physically, mentally, and socially. Team, individual, and dual sports are taught as well as leisure activities. Students are required to take at least two (2) years of P.E. or its equivalent (athletics) during their 6th, 7th, and 8th grade years.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

This course is designed for the student who is interested in art as it relates to digital photography. As students develop basic skills of working the camera, they will begin a creative manipulation aspect to photography, including journaling, animation, and sculpture as photography.

***PRINCIPLES OF Agriculture, Food, And Natural Resources**

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. *Students will receive a high school credit for this class. This course does NOT count towards the high school GPA calculation.

***Business Information Mangement**

In this course students implement personal and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in the workplace and in society and make a successful transition to the workforce and postsecondary education. Students apply technical skills to address business applications of emerging technologies, create word-processing documents, develop a spreadsheet, formulate a database, and make an electronic presentation using appropriate software. *Students will receive a high school credit for this class. This course does NOT count towards the high school GPA calculation.

***SPANISH (Honors)**

Spanish Honors is an introduction to the Spanish language and the cultures and peoples that use the language around the world. This class is appropriate for both those who speak Spanish and those who do not. Reading, writing, listening, and speaking Spanish according to each student's level of proficiency will be expected. This is a high school level course. *Students will receive a high school credit for this class. This course does NOT count towards the high school GPA calculation.

THEATER:

Over the course of their experience in the Middle School, students are exposed to the craft of scene writing, character development, stage presence, blocking, and the behind-the-scenes technicalities that bring theater to life.

INTRODUCTION TO ROBOTICS

Students will develop the skills necessary to build programmable robots while learning the various aspects of engineering, design, coding, and robot construction. Students will collaboratively work with their robot team to effectively communicate, design visual presentations, computer programs, and create engineering notebooks. Participation will be required for this course.

VEX COMPETITION ROBOTICS **

Approval of the GMS Robotics Coach is required for admission to VEX Competition Robotics.

Engineering and design concepts will be applied to robot construction. Students will work collaboratively with their robot team to develop and build robots that are taken to local, state, national, and world competitions. Visual presentations, RobotC autonomous programming, and engineering notebooks will be created for this class and the competitions. This course requires some after school and weekend participation. Travel will be required for most competitions. **A Teacher Recommendation Form is required for this class. (Page 16)**

YEARBOOK **

Yearbook students learn the basics of graphic design, journalism, photography, and editing as part of a year-long team that puts together a visual record of our school's year. Participation in the GMS Yearbook Program is for students who can work independently in class and can responsibly represent the school when assigned to photograph or cover events around Greenville such as sports games, competitions, band concerts, field trips, etc. Students work independently inside and outside the classroom. **The yearbook class is only available to 8th grade students and requires a Teacher Recommendation form from an ELA, Reading, or Technology teacher.**

The information in this guide is subject to change pending legislative session or GISD School Board decisions.

It is the policy of GISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in the employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age of Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator at 4004 Moulton Street, Greenville, Texas 75401, or phone (903) 457-2500.

Notes:



Teacher Recommendation Form

Greenville Middle School Course Request

Must be completed by a current teacher for EACH course which requires teacher approval

Student's Name: _____ ID # _____ Current Grade Level: _____

Deadline-, March 7, 2024 (Teacher must return to counselor)

Student must complete this section.

2024-2025 Course Requested: _____ Pre-Requisite course (if any): _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

Teacher must complete the next 3 sections.

Section I

Citizenship

- Comes to class on time, few absences (if any)
- Completes all assignments and turns in on time
- Active participant in discussions
- Follows class rules at all times

Good

Fair

Poor

Comments:

Section II

Performance

- Completes all assignments at high level
- Sets high standards for work
- Scores highly on tests and projects
- Able to follow all directions
- Works well in groups to the benefit of other class members
- Written expression is detailed and shows thorough understanding
- Highly self-motivated asking for help when needed

Good

Fair

Poor

Comments:

Section III

Please Circle Choice:

Strongly Recommend

Recommend

Recommend with Reservations

Do NOT Recommend

Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____



HONORS CLASS STUDENT CONTRACT

GREENVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

STUDENT NAME: _____ Current Grade: _____

Whether or not to take honors classes is often one of the more difficult choices that parents face when their students are considering courses for the next school year. The core content courses are offered in Academic or Honors format. The school can provide powerful input through teacher recommendation, communication with parents regarding the challenges of the Honors curriculum, and information about indicators of student success. Honors classes are offered in Reading Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science.

Honors courses are designed to challenge motivated students and prepare them for success in college-level coursework taken during high school and college. These courses typically move at a faster pace, are more academically challenging, and require more independent learning and homework than regular academic courses. This contract must be signed and returned to your Counselor by **March 7, 2024** for scheduling into any Honors classes.

Place a check next to each of the honors classes you want to take for the **2024-2025** school year:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th grade Honors Pre-Algebra | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th grade Honors Algebra |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th grade Honors ELAR | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th grade Honors Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th grade Honors Science | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th grade Honors ELAR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 th grade Honors History | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 th grade Honors History |

As a student in an Honors class, I understand the following expectations:

- I will be challenged with higher-level thinking questions and be expected to deliver higher-level responses.
- I am expected to be organized and responsible.
- I am expected to identify resources and use them (including tutoring if and when necessary)
- I am expected to be involved in learning.
- I am expected to exhibit self-discipline.
- I am expected to establish a personal time-management system.
- I am expected to be self-motivated and driven beyond general requirements.
- I am expected to work cooperatively with peers and teachers.
- I am expected to answer essay questions thoroughly and in paragraph form.
- I am expected to read and comprehend information independently and I am expected to be prepared to discuss information in class.
- In Math/Science I am expected to know multiplication facts, perform long division using the correct algorithm, and exhibit effective problem-solving skills.
- I understand that 30% of my grade is from Daily Grades and 70% of my grade is from Major Grades.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date