

BROWNSBORO JUNIOR HIGH



2025-2026

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING GUIDE

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

BROWNSBORO JUNIOR HIGH

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Planning Your Junior High School Program

This 2025-2026 Education Planning Guide has been developed to provide course selection information for Brownsboro ISD students. This particular section in the education guide concerns planning information for grades 7-8, followed by high school graduation requirements, and course descriptions, as well as other pertinent course information. This information is provided to assist students and parents during the registration and course selection process. Parents and students are encouraged to meet with the counselor and campus student support services personnel for assistance in selecting courses that will meet students' needs for the future and also meet graduation plan requirements. Students should select courses that are appropriate for their academic abilities and interests. It is important to consider the combination of courses and the demands on time for studying, practicing, performing, or competing. Careful consideration and planning is vital for making wise decisions regarding course selections needed for the achievement of future goals.

Courses are scheduled for the 2025-2026 school year based on the information collected during registration. It is possible that some courses included in this Education Planning Guide may not be scheduled during the 2025-2026 school year.

This material is published early in the preceding school year, so some changes in procedure, policy, or course offerings may be required.

It is the policy of Brownsboro Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IV of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Brownsboro Junior High School Program Information

This section of the planning guide contains descriptions of all courses offered in grades seven through eight in Brownsboro School District (BISD) Junior High School. Descriptions are divided into content areas and include information about course content, grade placement, eligibility, and high school credit when applicable.

General Education

Courses designed to meet the requirements as established in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Differentiated instructional strategies are implemented.

Special Education

Special Education Modified Curriculum Courses for students with disabilities are determined by their Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee. Modified courses can be taught in the general and/or special education setting as documented in the student's current Individual Education Plan. These courses are developed from the student's individualized goals and objectives which are based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

Section 504

Brownsboro ISD provides Section 504 services for students with disabilities according to State and Federal guidelines. For further information, contact Karen McHam, Student Support Services at (903) 852-6931.

Bilingual Education/English as a Second Language: English is the basic language of instruction in Brownsboro ISD schools. Children who have limited English-speaking skills will have access to programs to help them learn to understand, speak, read, and write the English language. At the initial enrollment in BISD schools, parents will be asked to complete a Home Language Survey so the school knows whether to take additional steps to be sure the child is properly served.

GT - Gifted and Talented

Courses designated GT are those courses in which a differentiated curriculum and differentiated instructional strategies are used to meet the needs of students identified as gifted and talented by the BISD Gifted and Talented Program.

Honors — Preparing for Advanced Placement

Honors courses are courses whose content, rigor, and course sequence offer a challenging curriculum and prepare students for the option of taking Honors and Advanced Placement courses in high school.

Profile of Successful AP and Honors Students

Honors courses are academically advanced courses designed to challenge motivated students. The courses will require significantly more work outside of class than on-grade-level courses due to their rigorous content. Junior High Honors courses are open to any student wishing to enroll. In order to assist with placement decisions, the following list contains characteristics of students who typically experience success in these courses:

1. Strong work ethic
2. Ability to learn concepts quickly
3. Ability to work above grade level
4. Self-motivated, responsible and organized
5. Typical test scores ≥ 90 (common assessments, benchmarks, STAAR)

Academic Guidelines

To continue participation in Honors courses, students must keep the following standards: If a student's average falls below 70 at the end of any grade-reporting period, the student will be placed on probation and a student-parent-teacher conference will be held to develop an Individual Academic Intervention Plan for the success of the student. The plan will be reviewed 3 weeks into the probation period, and progress will be documented at the next grade-reporting period. If the student's average remains below 70 for two consecutive 3 week periods, a conference will be held with an administrator, counselor, teacher, student, and parent to determine if any additional interventions will enable the student to succeed or if it is appropriate for the student to be exited from the Honors course.

Junior High General Information

Schedule Change Requests

After the first 15 school days, schedule change requests will only be considered for the following reasons:

- A. Student has already taken and passed the course. District promotion policy supersedes schedule change procedures.
- B. Student does not have the prerequisite(s) for a class listed on schedule.
- C. Student has been dismissed from a program where approval must be granted for placement.

Course Level Change Procedures

Course level changes will be considered at the end of the first nine weeks of each course. Level changes for full year courses are considered during the fall semester only. To be eligible for a course level change, a student must be misplaced in the current course. To transfer to a lower level class the student must have made a sincere effort to succeed by attending tutorials, completing his/her work, and conferencing with his/her teacher. A parent conference is also required. If these conditions are met, and the student is earning less than a grade of 75, that student will be considered for a change. Final approval will depend upon space availability in the regular class

Junior High State Testing (STAAR Test)

	Math	Reading Language Arts	Science	Social Studies
Grade 7	X	X		
Grade 8	X	X	X	X

Junior High Mathematics Course Sequence

The chart below displays the math course sequences for grades 7 through 9. It is strongly suggested that the student and parent(s) consult with the student's counselor and mathematics teacher in order to determine the most appropriate course choice and sequence.

<i>7th Grade</i>	<i>8th Grade</i>	<i>9th Grade</i>
<i>7 Mathematics</i>	<i>8 Mathematics</i>	<i>Algebra I</i>

<i>7th Grade</i>	<i>8th Grade</i>	<i>9th Grade</i>
<i>7 Mathematics</i>	<i>8 Mathematics</i>	<i>Honors Algebra I</i>

<i>7th Grade</i>	<i>8th Grade</i>	<i>9th Grade</i>
<i>7 Honors Pre-Algebra</i>	<i>8 Honors Algebra I</i>	<i>Geometry</i>

<i>7th Grade</i>	<i>8th Grade</i>	<i>9th Grade</i>
<i>7 Honors Pre-Algebra</i>	<i>8 Honors Algebra I</i>	<i>Honors Geometry</i>

Note: Students taking Honors Algebra I are recommended to take Honors Geometry.

Honors Algebra I Note: Students taking this course in 8th grade will have to take a state End of Course (EOC) exam at the end of the year. They must also take the SAT or ACT during high school to graduate.

High School Courses Note: Courses taken prior to 9th grade will receive High School credit but **will not** count towards high school GPA points or class rank.

GRADE 7 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English Language Arts

English, 1 year

This course focuses on writing. Students will learn all of the skills necessary to generate compositions that are well-organized, demonstrate a mastery and fluency of age-appropriate language, are grammatically correct, and reflect proficiency in spelling, capitalization, and punctuation rules. Students must not only be effective authors, but they must be masterful editors as well.

Honors English, 1 year

Prerequisites: See Advanced Placement Program information beginning on page 2.

Notes: GT students are subject to District Probation, Furlough, and Exit Procedures.

In this course, students increase and refine the skills specified in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Students continue to read classic, contemporary, and informational texts, and obtain knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes in reading. Seventh grade students select and compose different forms of writing, such as personal reflection and literary response. They draw data from multiple primary and secondary sources for use in research projects, and they analyze and critique visual images and messages. These advanced skills include intensive independent reading, grammar/usage refinement, essay writing, and independent research. The curriculum is taught using GT strategies.

Reading, 1 year

In Reading: Grade 7, students refine and master previously learned reading skills in increasingly complex presentations and reading selections. Students continue to read classic, contemporary, and informational texts. Seventh grade students select and compose different forms of writing, such as personal reflection and literary response. They draw data from multiple primary and secondary sources for use in research projects, and they analyze and critique visual images and messages. Students will be provided opportunities to apply reading strategies to a variety of practical situations, enabling them to practice these skills on a daily basis.

Target Reading, 1 year

This course is required for students who have demonstrated non-mastery in reading on the State of Texas Academic Assessment Readiness test. Students will be provided small group instruction to refine and master previously learned reading skills in increasingly complex presentations and reading selections. Students continue to read classic, contemporary, and informational texts. Seventh grade students select and compose different forms of writing, such as personal reflection and literary response. They draw data from multiple primary and secondary sources for use in research projects, and they analyze and critique visual images and messages. Students will be provided opportunities to apply reading strategies to a variety of practical situations, enabling them to practice these skills on a daily basis.

Read 180, 1 year

Note: Placement will be determined by STAAR results and a preliminary screener. Read 180 is an intensive reading intervention program designed to meet the needs of students whose reading achievement is below proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading and writing skills. This class is a two period, double-blocked.

Mathematics

Mathematics, 1 year

Mathematics: Grade 7 focuses on concepts and skills using proportional relationships involving numbers, geometry, measurement, and probability. Skills in 7th grade mathematics include operations with decimals, fractions, and integers. This course will also include concepts related to percent, functions, equations, graphing, and the use of statistical measures to describe data.

Honors Pre-Algebra, 1 year

Prerequisites: See Advanced Placement Program information beginning on page 2.

Notes: GT students are subject to District Probation, Furlough, and Exit Procedures.

Pre-Algebra: Grade 7 (Pre-AP/GT) focuses on concepts and skills using proportional relationships involving numbers, geometry, measurement, and probability. Skills in 7th grade Honors Pre-Algebra include operations with rational numbers, percent, laws of exponents, and scientific notation. This course will provide an emphasis on variables, linear functions, graphing, and the use of statistical measures to describe data. In this rigorous mathematics course, these and other concepts and skills will be covered in greater depth and breadth than in regular 7th grade mathematics.

Target Math, 1 year

Notes: This course is required for those students who are unsuccessful on the math portion of the STAAR Test. This course is designed for students who have not passed the State of Texas Academic Assessment Readiness (STAAR) test in 6th grade, or who are in danger of not passing. Students will have additional opportunities to use manipulatives and work with supplementary hands-on activities. Problem solving activities will provide enrichment opportunities that enhance the traditional curriculum.

Science

Science, 1 year

Science: Grade 7 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 explore the relationship between living organisms and their environment. Students will explore how organisms obtain energy, get rid of waste, grow and reproduce, including how traits pass between generations. Cell structure and function will also be studied.

Honors Science, 1 year

Prerequisites: See Advanced Placement Program information beginning on page 2.

Notes: GT students are subject to District Probation, Furlough, and Exit Procedures.

Science: Grade 7 (Honors/GT) offers a more advanced level of experiences in the concepts of science. This course is designed for the highly capable student and GT student. It is an interdisciplinary approach using GT strategies. 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.

Target Science, 1 year

Notes: See Counselor

This course is designed for students who have not passed the State of Texas Academic Assessment Readiness (STAAR) test in 6th grade. Students will have additional opportunities to use manipulatives and work with supplementary hands-on activities. Emphasis of critical thinking skills will provide enrichment opportunities that enhance the traditional curriculum.

Social Studies

Texas History, 1 year

Texas History: Grade 7, examines in depth the full scope of Texas history, including the cultures of Native Americans living in Texas prior to European exploration and the eras of mission-building, colonization, revolution, republic, and statehood. The focus in each era is on key individuals, events, and issues and their impact. Students identify regions of Texas and the distribution of population within and among the regions and explain the factors that caused Texas to change from an agrarian to an urban society. Students 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 examine the rich and diverse cultural background of Texas as they identify the different racial and ethnic groups that settled in Texas. Students analyze the impact of scientific discoveries, technological innovations, and industries on the development of Texas. Various performance-based assessments, library research, and projects will be assigned and administered.

Honors Texas History, 1 year

Prerequisites: See Advanced Placement Program information beginning on page 2.

Notes: GT students are subject to District Probation Furlough, and Exit Procedures.

In Texas History: Grade 7 (Honors/GT) offers a more advanced level of study. Many of the concepts are the same as those in Texas History: Grade 7, except the presentation is more accelerated and in more detail. In addition to covering major aspects of Texas History, the course extends the study to include more analysis of primary materials and documents, as well as a comparative study of Texas with the history of the United States. The emphasis is upon critical thinking, independent study, and research, and projects will be assigned and administered. The curriculum is interdisciplinary and is taught using GT strategies.

GRADE 7 ELECTIVES

Athletics, Health and Physical Education

Athletics, Boys, 1 year

Prerequisites: Successful completion of the tryout process as outlined by the coach.

Notes: A physical examination is required before participation is allowed. This exam must be completed by the second week of school in order to remain in the class. A new physical is required every two years. This course is available as a substitute for Physical Education. Athletic classes are available in the following sports—football, basketball, track, and cross-country. Students enrolled in this course, and who have been approved by the coach to participate in the designated sport, are expected to attend additional practices and competitions outside of the intermediate school hours.

Athletics, Girls, 1 year

Prerequisites: Successful completion of the tryout process as outlined by the coach.

Notes: A physical examination is required before participation is allowed. This exam must be completed by the second week of school in order to remain in the class. A new physical is required every two years. This course is available as a substitute for Physical Education. Athletic classes are available in the following sports—volleyball, basketball, track, and cross-country. Students enrolled in this course, and who have been approved by the coach to participate in the designated sport, are expected to attend additional practices and competitions outside of the intermediate school hours.

Health, 1 year

Notes: This course is offered for elective credit only.

Students will learn about the health triangle, which consists of mental, emotional and physical health. A large portion of the class will teach the major body systems, including the reproductive systems. Other topics include first aid, emergency preparedness, nutrition, contagious diseases, non-contagious diseases, and sexually transmitted diseases. Communication skills, decision-making skills and conflict management skills are practiced throughout the course.

Jr. Drill Team, 1 year

Prerequisites: Must be selected to be on the squad in the year prior.

This is a full year course. The course may count as a required PE credit. Students must remain in good standing on the team to remain in the course.

Physical Education, 1 year

Notes: Students in grade 7 are required to complete a year of Physical Education. Students may be scheduled in multi-grade level groupings.

In Physical Education, students acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment, continued social development through physical activity, and access to a physically active lifestyle. Students will exhibit physically active lifestyles and understand the relationship between physical activity and health throughout their life span. Students will gain detailed understanding of body function; learn to measure personal performance accurately; develop plans for improvement; and identify types of activities that provide personal enjoyment and challenge.

Leadership, 1 semester

Notes: This course is offered for elective credit only.

Leadership is a course designed to develop business, professional, and leadership skills in a nurturing environment. This course is highly interactive and offers many opportunities to participate in activities leading to self-awareness, etiquette, making more responsible choices, handling peer pressure, better communication, having a positive attitude, employability skills and excelling in life. This course will also introduce students to opportunities in high school and beyond.

General Employability, 1 semester

Notes: This course is offered for elective credit only.

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.

Principles in Applied Engineering (Robotics), 1 High School Credit

Grade Level: 7-8

Notes: Application required

Principles of Applied Engineering provides an overview of the various fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and their interrelationships. Students will develop engineering communication skills, which include computer graphics, modeling, and presentations, by using a variety of computer hardware and software applications to complete assignments and projects. Upon completing this course, students will have an understanding of

the various fields of engineering and will be able to make informed career decisions. Further, students will have worked on a design team to develop a product or system. Students will use multiple software applications to prepare and present course assignments. This course could potentially be offered separately at both the BJHS and BHS campuses, with both being for high school credit. Seventh grade students may repeat the course in 8th grade, receiving credit one time overall. *Successful completion of Principles of Applied Engineering will result in students receiving high school Principles of Applied Engineering credit, but will not count for high school grade points or class rank.*

Yearbook, 1 year

Notes: An application may be required. Students actively participate in the production of the school yearbook and/or newspaper in this year-long course. Activities include extensive news, feature and editorial writing, interviewing, graphic design, photography, layout and paste-up, and advertising

Visual and Performing Arts

Art, 1 year

Notes: This course is offered for elective credit only

Art is a year-long course with concentration on the development of creative and personal expression in 2- dimensional artwork such as: drawings, paintings, prints, mixed media, collage, and graphic design. The art studio is a creative, fun environment, rich with experiences to personally develop every student. An emphasis is placed on art production, history, analysis, and aesthetics.

Band, 1 year

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 6th Grade Band

Notes: Most instruments must be purchased or rented. Selected 7th Grade students who qualify may be chosen by the band director for symphonic band.

In band, musical understanding is expanded through a performance-based curriculum. The bands perform many different styles of music at various school functions. The performing band years also provide opportunities for individual and group performance through activities such as the annual Solo and Ensemble Contest, UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest, and Region Band auditions. The Jr. High school band program offers a comprehensive instrumental music education that provides outlets for creativity for students who wish to learn to play musical instruments. Elements of music history, performance, reading and writing music, and evaluation are included. Varying levels of instruction are offered. Band classes meet during regular school hours. Rehearsals, competitions, and performances may be required before and after school, evenings, or weekends.

Theater I, 1 year

This course is an advanced class in dramatic elements. All aspects of theater arts are taught including: portraying characters, movement, dialogue, analysis of scripts and theater history, and comparison of career and vocational opportunities in theater. Students are provided many opportunities to perform throughout the year to prepare them for Theater Arts I in high school. The performing theater classes also provide opportunities for individual and group performance through activities such as UIL One-Act Play Festival. The Jr. High School theater programs offer a comprehensive theatrical education that provides creative outlets for students who wish to learn about theater. Elements of theater history, theater terminology, performance, reading scripts, and evaluation will be included. Varying levels of instruction are offered. Theater classes meet during regular school hours. Rehearsals, competitions, and performances may be required before and after

school, evenings, or weekends.

Tech Theater, 1 year

This class prepares students to work behind the scenes in theater working with lights, sound, backdrops... anything associated with putting on a play.

GRADE 8 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English Language Arts

English Language Arts, 1 year

In Language Arts: Grade 8, students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Eighth grade students continue to read classic, contemporary, and informational texts. They learn to identify characteristics of various literary forms and are able to select and effectively compose different forms of writing, such as personal reflection and literary response, producing multi-paragraph compositions with varied sentence structure. Eighth grade students also present oral and written research reports, including presentations strengthened by visuals and media.

Honors English Language Arts, 1 year

Prerequisites: See Advanced Placement Program information beginning on page 2.

Notes: GT students are subject to District Probation, Furlough, and Exit Procedures.

In Language Arts: Grade 8 (Honors/GT), students increase and refine the skills specified in eighth grade English. These advanced skills include intensive independent reading, grammar/usage refinement, essay writing, and independent research. The curriculum is interdisciplinary and is taught using GT strategies.

Target Reading, 1 year

Notes: See BJH Counselor for more information. This course is offered for elective credit only.

This course is required for those students who are unsuccessful on the reading portion of the STAAR Test. This course is designed for students who have not passed the reading portion of the State of Texas Academic Assessment Readiness (STAAR) test in seventh grade, or those who are in danger of not passing. Students will be provided opportunities to apply reading strategies to a variety of practical situations enabling them to practice these skills on a daily basis.

Read 180, 1 year

Notes: Placement will be determined by STAAR results and a preliminary screener.

Read 180 is an intensive reading intervention program designed to meet the needs of students whose reading achievement is below the proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading and writing skills. This class is a two period, double-blocked course.

Mathematics

Honors Algebra I, 1 year, 1 High School Credit

Prerequisites: Honors Pre-Algebra; See Advanced Placement Program beginning on page 2.

Notes: *Upon successful completion of each semester of this course, students will be awarded one high school credit toward graduation.* GT students are subject to District Probation, Furlough, and Exit Procedures. *This course will not count for high school grade points or class rank.*

This rigorous course encompasses and extends upon all of the concepts and skills included in Algebra I, while providing for development of higher level and critical thinking through derivation of formulas, algebraic proofs, and development and implementation of a problem-solving plan. The

mastery of algebraic concepts is enhanced through the use of technology such as graphing calculators and computers, and through application and connection to other disciplines, both inside and outside of mathematics.

Mathematics, 1 year

Mathematics: Grade 8 focuses on concepts and skills using fundamental principles of algebra to analyze and represent proportional and non-proportional relationships, and the use of probability to describe data and make predictions. Skills in 8th grade mathematics include concepts and operations with rational and irrational numbers, applications of percents, and exponential and scientific notation with positive and negative exponents. This course will provide an emphasis on variables, equations, graphing, and the selection of appropriate statistical data.

Target Math, 1 year

Notes: See BJH Counselor for more information. This course is offered for elective credit only. This course is required for those students who are unsuccessful on the math portion of the STAAR Test. This course is designed for students who have not passed the State of Texas Academic Assessment Readiness (STAAR) test in 7th grade, or who are in danger of not passing. Students will have additional opportunities to use manipulatives and work with supplementary hands-on activities. Problem solving activities will provide enrichment opportunities that enhance the traditional curriculum.

Science

Science, 1 year

Science: Grade 8 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 expand their understanding of chemistry, including atoms, chemical formulas, chemical reactions, and equations.

Students will experiment with the relationship between force and motion and relate these to geologic processes and astronomical phenomena. The role of natural events in altering Earth systems will be explored including tides, plate tectonics and weather. The interdependence between organisms and the environment will be further explored.

Honors Science, 1 year

Prerequisites: See Advanced Placement Program beginning on page 2.

Notes: An experimental design project is required for this course. GT students are subject to District Probation, Furlough, and Exit Procedures. Grade 8 (Honors/GT) 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 8 except the presentation is more accelerated and in greater depth. The curriculum is interdisciplinary and is taught using GT strategies.

Target Science, 1 year

Notes: See Counselor

This course is designed for students who have not passed the State of Texas Academic Assessment Readiness (STAAR) test in 7th grade. Students will have additional opportunities to use manipulatives and work with supplementary hands-on activities. Emphasis of critical thinking skills will provide enrichment opportunities that enhance the traditional curriculum.

Social Studies

U. S. History, 1 year

In U. S. History Grade 8, students study in depth the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction, which is the first part of a two-year study of U.S. history. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, cultural and social events and issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras; the creation and ratification of the U. S. Constitution, challenges to the early republic, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Using critical thinking skills, as well as basic social studies skills, including the identification of bias in written, oral, and visual material students describe the physical characteristics of the U. S. and their impact on population distribution and settlement patterns in the past and present; analyze the various economic factors that influenced the development of colonial America and the early years of the Republic and identify the origins of the free enterprise system; examine the American beliefs and principles, including limited government, checks and balances, federalism, separation of powers, and individual rights, reflected in the U.S.

Honors U. S. History, 1 year

Prerequisites: See Advanced Placement Program beginning on page 2.

Notes: Advanced-level products and independent research are required in this course. GT students are subject to District Probation, Furlough, and Exit Procedures

U. S. History: Grade 8 (Honors/GT), offers a more advanced level of study. In addition to covering many of the same aspects of Social Studies: Grade 8, the course extends the study to include more detailed emphasis upon the use of primary materials and documents, independent study of American History until Reconstruction, and interdisciplinary focus. Students will be required to engage in compacting information and will be challenged with applying critical thinking to various assignments. Students will be introduced to types of logic used in historical arguments. Library research, computer technology, writing skills, and an interest in the humanities are basic essentials. Various projects and performance-based assessments will be included in this course of study.

GRADE 8 ELECTIVES

Athletics, Health and Physical Education

Athletics, Boys, 1 year

Prerequisites: Successful completion of the tryout process as outlined by the coach.

Notes: A physical examination is required before participation is allowed. This exam must be completed by the second week of school in order to remain in the class. A new physical is required every two years. This course is available as a substitute for Physical Education. Athletic classes are available in the following sports—football, basketball, track, and cross-country. Students enrolled in this course, and who have been approved by the coach to participate in the designated sport, are expected to attend additional practices and competitions outside of the intermediate school hours.

Athletics, Girls, 1 year

Prerequisites: Successful completion of the tryout process as outlined by the coach.

Notes: A physical examination is required before participation is allowed. This exam must be completed by the second week of school in order to remain in the class. A new physical is required every two years. This course is available as a substitute for Physical Education. Athletic classes are available in the following sports—basketball, volleyball, track, and cross-country. Students enrolled in this course, and who have been approved by the coach to participate in the designated sport, are expected to attend additional practices and competitions outside of the intermediate school hours.

Health, 1 year

Notes: This course is offered for elective credit only.

Students will learn about the health triangle, which consists of mental, emotional and physical health. A large portion of the class will teach the major body systems, including the reproductive systems. Other topics include first aid, emergency preparedness, nutrition, contagious diseases, non-contagious diseases, and sexually transmitted diseases. Communication skills, decision-making skills and conflict management skills are practiced throughout the course.

Jr. Drill Team, 1 year

Prerequisites: Must be selected to squad in the year prior.

This is a full year course. The course may count as a required PE credit. Students must remain in good standing on the team to remain in the course.

Physical Education, 1 year

In Physical Education, students acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment, continued social development through physical activity, and access to a physically active lifestyle. Students will exhibit physically active lifestyles and understand the relationship between physical activity and health throughout their life span. Students will gain detailed understanding of body function; learn to measure personal performance accurately; develop plans for improvement; and identify types of activities that provide personal enjoyment and challenge.

Visual and Performing Arts

Art I, 1 year, 1 High School Credit

A \$30 materials fee is required. Art I is a full-year course. This portfolio course is designed to address a broad interpretation of both two and three dimensional design issues in an independent study format. Students will select the area of emphasis and develop a portfolio of artwork that demonstrates a breadth of work in a variety of media. They will also develop a concentration of artwork based upon a selected theme. The course involves significantly more commitment and is intended for students who are highly motivated and seriously committed to the study of art. *Successful completion of Art I will result in students receiving high school Art I credit, but will not count for high school grade points or class rank.*

Band, 1 year

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 6th and 7th grade Band.

Notes: Most instruments must be purchased or rented.

Experienced music students are divided into performing ensembles by auditions. Advanced musical understanding is expanded through a performance-based curriculum. The bands perform many different styles of music at advanced levels of difficulty. The performing band years also provide opportunities for individual and group performance through activities such as the annual Solo and Ensemble Contest, UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest, and Region Band auditions. The Jr. High school band program offers a comprehensive instrumental music education that provides outlets for creativity for students who wish to learn to play musical instruments. Elements of music history, performance, reading and writing music, and evaluation are included. Varying levels of instruction are offered. Band classes meet during regular school hours. Rehearsals, competitions, and performances may be required before and after school, evenings, or weekends.

Theater I, 1 year

This course is an advanced class in dramatic elements. All aspects of theater arts are taught including: portraying characters, movement, dialogue, analysis of scripts and theater history, and

comparison of career and vocational opportunities in theater. Students are provided many opportunities to perform throughout the year to prepare them for Theater Arts I in high school. The performing theater classes also provide opportunities for individual and group performance through activities such as UIL One-Act Play Festival. The Jr. High School theater programs offer a comprehensive theatrical education that provides creative outlets for students who wish to learn about theater. Elements of theater history, theater terminology, performance, reading scripts, and evaluation will be included. Varying levels of instruction are offered. Theater classes meet during regular school hours. Rehearsals, competitions, and performances may be required before and after school, evenings, or weekends.

Tech Theater, 1 year

This class prepares students to work behind the scenes in theater working with lights, sound, backdrops... anything associated with putting on a play.

Theater II, 1 year

Notes: Theater I is a prerequisite of Theater II

This course is an advanced class for second year Theater students. All aspects of theater arts are taught including; portraying characters, movement, dialogue, analysis of scripts and theater history, and comparison of career and vocational opportunities in theater. Rehearsals, competitions and performances may be required before and after school, evenings or weekends.

Productions, 1 year

Prerequisites: Must be selected to be on the production team. Application must be completed along with completing tryouts & approval of theater instructors.

An introduction to the technical elements of theatrical production (e.g., sets, lights, costumes, and sound) and their relationship to each other. Involves hands-on, practical work. Students also consider the major types of theatrical organization.

Other Electives

Principles of Business, Management and Finance, 1 High School Credit

In Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance, students gain knowledge and skills in economies and private enterprise systems, the impact of global business, the marketing of goods and services, advertising, and product pricing. Students analyze the sales process and financial management principles. This course allows students to reinforce, apply, and transfer academic knowledge and skills to a variety of interesting and relevant activities, problems, and settings in business, marketing, and finance. *Successful completion of PBMF will result in students receiving high school PBMF credit, but will not count for high school grade points or class rank.*

Principles of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, 1 High School Credit,

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. This is the foundation class to all other agriculturally related courses and is for high school credit. *Successful completion of Principles of Agriculture will result in students receiving high school Principles of Ag credit, but will not count for high school grade points or class rank.*

Principles in Applied Engineering (Robotics), 1 High School Credit

Grade Level: 7-8

Notes: Application required

Principles of Applied Engineering provides an overview of the various fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and their interrelationships. Students will develop

engineering communication skills, which include computer graphics, modeling, and presentations, by using a variety of computer hardware and software applications to complete assignments and projects. Upon completing this course, students will have an understanding of the various fields of engineering and will be able to make informed career decisions. Further, students will have worked on a design team to develop a product or system. Students will use multiple software applications to prepare and present course assignments. This course could potentially be offered separately at both the BJHS and BHS campuses, with both being for high school credit. Seventh grade students may repeat the course in 8th grade, receiving credit one time overall. *Successful completion of Principles of Applied Engineering will result in students receiving high school Principles of Applied Engineering credit, but will not count for high school grade points or class rank.*

Spanish, 1 year, 1 High School Credit

Prerequisites: Passing 7th grade STAAR Scores in reading and writing

Notes: Upon successful completion of each semester of this course, students will be awarded one high school credit toward graduation. This is Level I of high school Spanish offering the student the opportunity for acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and develop a cultural appreciation of the Hispanic World. *Successful completion of Spanish I will result in students receiving high school Spanish I credit, but will not count for high school grade points or class rank.*

Yearbook, 1 year

Notes: An application may be required. Students actively participate in the production of the school yearbook and/or newspaper in this year-long course. Activities include extensive news, feature and editorial writing, interviewing, graphic design, photography, layout and paste-up, and advertising.