

# **SAUK CENTRE SECONDARY SCHOOL**

*The Place to Dream, Believe, and Achieve*



**2025-2026**  
**REGISTRATION GUIDE**  
**GRADE 8**

# A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Sauk Centre Secondary School Students:

Registration is an exciting process! It provides students the opportunity to look at his or her personal dreams for the future, review academic progress, and create a plan to attain personal and academic goals.

Our Mainstreeter Registration Guide serves as a tool for the many academic programs offered at Sauk Centre Secondary School. It contains course descriptions, specific information about graduation requirements, and general information to assist you in planning for college and your career.

**Please read the guide carefully.** It will prove to be helpful in answering many of your registration questions. Planning your academic program is truly a team effort that involves parents, students, and staff.

Consider the information in this guide thoughtfully. Making good academic choices during your time at Sauk Centre Secondary School will help you to be successful as you make decisions that will impact your future. In addition, counseling staff will be available to assist students in selecting elective courses that may interest them.

We want you to experience a fulfilling secondary school career. We hope you will take full advantage of the outstanding educational opportunities available to you at Sauk Centre Secondary School. Challenge yourself to exceed your personal goals.

Your partner in learning,



Sheila Flatau  
Principal

# REGISTRATION CONSIDERATIONS

The curriculum at Sauk Centre Secondary School is designed to provide students with a comprehensive education that can be enhanced by a variety of special interest and college-level courses classes. Sauk Centre Secondary School is committed to post-secondary planning. Many of our students choose to go on to some post-high school education.

The selection of classes is a process that should not be taken lightly. You are planning your future. Talk to your parents, a school counselor, teachers, or any adult who can help you make wise choices. When selecting your classes you must keep in mind college entrance requirements, some technical college programs, military specialties, or work programs may require additional classes beyond what Sauk Centre requires for graduation.

Students must make thoughtful choices regarding registration for courses. Parents and students must understand that staffing decisions are based on student registration selections. Budgetary decisions are based on registration numbers, course sections are closed when enrollment numbers reach maximum allowance and instructional supplies are ordered based on course enrollment. Once a student registers for a class and that class is scheduled, the student has the responsibility of remaining in the class and completing it.

During registration, students will select their primary and alternate choices for courses. Every attempt will be made to schedule the primary requests for each student. However, if it is impossible to schedule a specific combination of student-requested courses or a course is not offered due to lack of enrollment, choices will be used to fill the student's schedule. Students are encouraged to make their primary and alternative selections carefully.

## SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY

The high school master schedule and staffing are determined by the registration process. For this reason, requests for schedule changes after registration become difficult to accommodate.

**Students will not be allowed to change classes simply because they have changed their minds.** Schedule changes will be limited to the following reasons or situations. In most cases, a student cannot drop a class with fewer than 15 students enrolled. To ensure class loads remain consistent, requests for specific teachers cannot be honored. **Any exceptions to these guidelines must be approved by the building principal with parent, teacher, and counselor input. Student/Parent Handbook Page 16**

**Requests can ONLY be made for for the following reasons:**

**Schedule changes WILL NOT be made**

1. A student needs to withdraw from a course due to medical reasons. The student must provide a doctor's recommendation to have their schedule changed for medical reasons.
2. A student does not meet the requirements of the course or does not have a prerequisite completed.
3. A student has failed a class.
4. An obvious error is on the student's schedule (i.e., two classes scheduled at the same time).
5. A student wishes to drop a Study Hall, On-the-Job, Youth Service, or Independent Study to add a course.
6. A student needs to schedule a course required for graduation or admission to a specific post-secondary school or program.
7. The change is a recommendation or requirement on a student's IEP.

1. Request a specific teacher / to switch sections for the same course to get a different teacher
2. Change lunch periods
3. Have a class with a friend
4. Changed your mind

# GRADE 8 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## AGRICULTURE

### INTRO TO AGRICULTURE 8

**Elective Credit:** 1

**Course Required for FFA** This quarter-long course is designed to give students a basic understanding of agricultural education and its components. In this course, students will explore the areas of small animals, and plants, manage wildlife, and develop basic leadership skills. This course will consist of classroom lessons and hands-on learning activities to allow students to use and apply the skills and concepts learned in class. Students' performance will be evaluated based on daily participation points, completion of assigned tasks, and quizzes.

## ART

### ART 8 **REQUIRED**

**Credit:** 1

This class consists of art activities that explore the elements of art and the principles of design. Projects will include design assignments, drawing painting, clay, sculpture, and printmaking. Emphasis is on creativity, craftsmanship, proper use of art tools and materials, vocabulary, and art history.

## ENGLISH

### ENGLISH 8 **REQUIRED**

**Credit:** 4

This course is designed to provide students with knowledge and basic working skills in the areas of grammar, mechanics, usage, sentence structure, composition, vocabulary, and research. It also looks at literature in a variety of forms: the novel, the short story, the play, poetry, and also selections of nonfiction. Writing assignments will take place throughout the year, and they will be based on the literature and the grammar units. Part of the focus of the course is regarding the MCA reading test.

## FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

### FACS 8: FOODS

**Elective Credit:** 1

This class will promote becoming more confident with food preparation skills. Emphasis will be placed on safe food preparation techniques, safe handling of foods, and healthy food choices. Other specialty units and many labs are part of the class.

### FACS 8: CLOTHING/CHILDCARE

**Elective Credit:** 1

This course will concentrate on promoting personal creativity and skill in the areas of clothing construction and child care. The clothing unit will emphasize the expansion of sewing skills. A personal project will be sewn. Suggested projects include a stadium quilt, quillo, or flannel pants. The child care unit will involve the hands-on option of taking home the "Real Care Infant Simulators" as well as learning about different stages of child development.

## INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

### INDUSTRIAL TECH: WOODS 8

**Elective Credit:** 1

This course introduces the students to machines used in woodworking. The student will learn about safe operation procedures and steps for operating the machines properly. From a blueprint and a list of directions, the student will construct a project by working as a team member. Team members assist one another as the construction takes place. Students will also complete a project of their own in this class. **Fees for the project will be collected before construction begins. Students will supply their safety glasses.**

### INDUSTRIAL TECH: METALS 8

**Elective Credit:** 1

This course introduces the student to: oxy/fuel torch operation, arc welding, and sheet metal work. Safety, tool application and usage, and work ethics are strongly promoted. The student will employ new skills in the construction of a sheet metal toolbox. **Fees for the toolbox will be collected before construction begins. Students will supply their safety glasses and gloves.**

## MATHEMATICS

### LINEAR ALGEBRA 8 **REQUIRED**

**Credit:** 4

This course is an introduction to the many concepts of algebra. Students will learn the primary topics of linear algebra, including the use of variables, problem-solving, real numbers, solving equations, and writing and graphing linear equations.

### NON-LINEAR ALGEBRA 9 **REQUIRED**

**Credit:** 4

This course will be a continuation of concepts learned in Linear Algebra. From linear equations, we will expand to quadratic equations, and gain an understanding of exponents, radicals, factoring, and how it is all tied together in quadratic functions. Students will learn not only to write quadratic equations but to graph them as well. An introduction to Geometry will also be included in this course.

## MUSIC

### BAND 8

**Elective Credit:** 4

The eighth-grade band is open to all eighth-grade students who play a band instrument. Skills from sixth and seventh grade are reinforced with new skills introduced. Students who wish to join the band in the eighth grade may do so after completing three-quarters of private lessons or at the director's discretion. The eighth-grade band presents four concerts during the school year. A wide variety of music is presented to expose the performer and listener to different periods and styles. **The required concert attire is blue jeans and a plain white T-shirt.**

### CHOIR 8

**Elective Credit:** 4

Eighth-grade choir is **by audition** (*takes place in class during 7th grade, or by appointment*). It is a performance-based ensemble designed to develop students' vocal skills, musical literacy, and ensemble singing techniques. Students will explore a variety of musical styles, including classical, folk, popular, and contemporary choral repertoire. Through regular rehearsals, they will learn proper vocal technique, sight-singing, and music theory fundamentals. Emphasis is placed on teamwork, expression, and the

joy of making music together. Students will perform in two concerts throughout the year, showcasing their progress and musical growth.

### GENERAL MUSIC 8

**Elective Credits:** 4

General Music 8 is a non-performance-based course open to all eighth-grade students designed to broaden students' understanding and appreciation of music. Topics covered in General Music 8 include playing the ukulele, piano, and bucket drumming, as well as exploring popular, classical, and musical theatre styles of music.

## SCIENCE

### PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8 **REQUIRED**

**Credit:** 2

This course explores key concepts in physics and chemistry, including matter, chemical reactions, motion, forces, and energy. Through hands-on experiments and inquiry-based learning, students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and data analysis skills. Emphasis is placed on real-world applications to help students better understand the world they live in.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### GEOGRAPHY 8 **REQUIRED**

**Credit:** 2

In this class, the students will focus on the political, physical, and cultural geography of all the different regions of the world. Geography will help the students learn about our Earth's landforms, bodies of water, climates, resources, political and economic systems, and the history of different countries that exist on Earth.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### PHY ED 8 **REQUIRED**

**Credit:** 1

The focus will be on an introduction to fitness training and a variety of individual and team activities. Students will be working out a couple of times a week to improve their current level of fitness and improve their skills through various athletic activities.

# Sauk Centre Secondary School 8th Grade Registration Information

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade 8**

**The following is a list of required classes for students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade:**

English 8	4 quarters
Linear Algebra 8 <b>OR</b> <i>Non-Linear Algebra 9</i>	4 quarters
<i>Students who completed Linear Algebra in 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be enrolled in Non-Linear Algebra</i>	
Earth Science 8	2 quarters
World Geography 8	2 quarters
Art 8	1 quarter
Physical Education 8	1 quarter

**Music is required in 8th grade**, so students **must select at least one option**. They may add up to two to their schedules. It will not work to take Band & General Music together - **Please mark your selection(s)**

	<i>Band (Students must have been in a 7th-grade band or audition for placement)</i>
	<i>General Music 8 (Non-performance based class)</i>
	<i>Choir (Performance based class; by audition)</i>

Additionally, the classes listed below are electives. **Students must also select two electives and one alternate choice**

<b>Primary Choices - <i>Select 2</i></b>	
	FACS 8: Clothing/Childcare
	FACS 8: Foods
	Industrial Tech 8: Metals
	Industrial Tech 8: Woods
	Intro to Agriculture 8 <b>(needed for FFA!)</b>

<b>Alternate Choice - <i>Select 1</i></b>	
	FACS 8: Clothing/Childcare
	FACS 8: Foods
	Industrial Tech 8: Metals
	Industrial Tech 8: Woods
	Intro to Agriculture 8 <b>(needed for FFA!)</b>

### **Registration Guidelines**

When registering for classes, middle school students should communicate with their parents, teachers, advisors, and our guidance counselor to carefully plan their academic programming. A student's programming should be based on their interests and future plans.

- Prerequisites are met
- All first-choice and alternate courses are selected

If you have any questions about the registration process, please call Mrs. Lundeen or Mrs. Thiesen at (320)-352-2258 during the school day.

### **Course Request Agreement**

*I realize that the master schedule will be built based on student course requests. I agree to commit to the courses and alternates I have selected. I also understand that sometimes it becomes necessary to alter some students' schedules to maintain class sizes or because it is impossible to schedule a specific combination of student-requested courses. I understand that once I have registered for a class and that class is scheduled, I have the responsibility of remaining in that class and completing it.*

**Student Signature**

**Parent Signature**

**Date**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS TO YOUR 2nd Period TEACHER BY FRIDAY, April 11, 2025. Thank you!**