STUDENT GUIDE TO
3 YEAR COURSE PLANNING IN schoolinks

START HERE

QR CODE FOR KATY ISD COURSE CATALOG

When you pick your classes for junior high, think about:

- What you like: Which subjects or activities are your favorites?
- Future jobs: What careers sound interesting to you?
- Your goals: What do you want to learn for high school and beyond?

Your 3-year plan can include junior high classes that allow you to start earning credit for high school and some classes that can allow you to explore a pathway early. This gives you time to try things out and even change your mind before high school. Planning with your interests and goals in mind will help you get ready for the future!

Fill in the blanks with information from your SchooLinks Profile
Career Cluster: _____
Career Goal: _____
Major/Training Goal: _____

Circle a Program area that matches your interests above: **(*program begins in Junior High)**

- AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES
- ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION
- ARTS AND HUMANITIES*
- ARTS, AUDIO VIDEO TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION*
- BUSINESS, MARKETING, AND FINANCE*
- EDUCATION AND TRAINING
- MANUFACTURING*
- MULTIDISCIPLINARY*
- NJROTC
- SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS*
- TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND LOGISTICS
- HEALTH SCIENCE
- HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM
- HUMAN SERVICES*
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- JOURNALISM AND SPEECH
- LAW AND PUBLIC SERVICE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING (ELAR)

- Plan one English course for each year.
- You can plan any combination of academic or advanced (KAP) coursework.

6TH	7TH	8TH
ELAR BLOCK 6 (J600)	ELAR BLOCK 7 (J706)	ELAR 8 (J802)
OR	OR	OR
ELAR BLOCK 6 KAP (J606)	ELAR BLOCK 7 KAP (J726)	ELAR 8 KAP (J806)

MATH

- Plan one Math course for each year.
- Plan for an academic or advanced (KAP) sequence of math courses. Many math courses have prerequisites, which means you must complete the required prerequisite before you can enroll in those courses.

6TH	7TH	8TH
MATH 6 (J611)	MATH 7 (J711)	MATH 8 (J811)
OR	OR	OR
MATH 6 KAP (J614)	MATH 7 KAP (J714)	ALGEBRA 1 (J0211EX)

SCIENCE

- Plan one Science course for each year.
- You can plan any combination of academic or advanced (KAP) coursework.

6TH	7TH	8TH
SCIENCE 6 (J630)	SCIENCE 7 (J730)	SCIENCE 8 (J830)
OR	OR	OR
SCIENCE 6 KAP (J634)	SCIENCE 7 KAP (J734)	SCIENCE 8 KAP (J833)

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Plan one Social Studies course for each year.
- You can plan any combination of academic or advanced (KAP) coursework.

6TH	7TH	8TH
SOCIAL STUDIES 6 (J620)	SOCIAL STUDIES 7 (J720)	SOCIAL STUDIES 8 (J820)
OR	OR	OR
SOCIAL STUDIES 6 KAP (J624)	SOCIAL STUDIES 7 KAP (J724)	SOCIAL STUDIES 8 KAP (J824)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)

- Plan one PE course for each year, ensuring 3 PE courses are planned.
- Planning for Pre-Athletics does not guarantee a spot in athletics.

6TH	7TH	8TH
PE 6 (BOYS) (J680) PE 6 (GIRLS) (J681)	PE 7 (BOYS) (J780) PE 7 (GIRLS) (J781)	PE 8 (BOYS) (J880) PE 8 (GIRLS) (J881) PE DANCE (J887)
OR	OR	OR
PRE-ATHLETICS (BOYS) (J684) PRE-ATHLETICS (GIRLS) (J685)	ATHLETICS (BOYS) (J785) ATHLETICS (GIRLS) (J786)	ATHLETICS (BOYS) (J885) ATHLETICS (GIRLS) (J886)

FINE ARTS:

- Plan for at least one Fine Arts course.
- Students must have one year of Fine Arts in junior high.
- You can plan for one fine arts OR elective in the 6th grade and up to two fine arts or electives in the 7th and 8th grades.
- If you are interested in an instrument-based course (band or orchestra) it is best to begin year 1 in the 6th grade because that course is designed for beginner level instruction

6TH

ART 1 (J911)
BAND 1 (J921)
CHOIR 1 BOYS/GIRLS (J951/ J961)
ORCHESTRA 1 (J931)
THEATER 1 (J941)

7TH

ART 1,2 (J911, J912)
BAND 1,2 (J921, J922)
CHOIR 1,2 BOYS/GIRLS (J951/J961, J952/J962)
ORCHESTRA 1,2 (J931, J932)
THEATER 1,2 (J941, J942)

8TH

ART 1, 2, 3 (J911, J912, J913)
ART 1 HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT (J7511)
BAND 1, 2, 3 (J921, J922, J923)
CHOIR 1, 2, 3 BOYS/GIRLS (J951/J961, J952/J962, J953, J963)
ORCHESTRA 1, 2, 3 (J931, J932, J933)
THEATER 1, 2, 3 (J941, J942, J943

ELECTIVES

- If you did not select a Fine Arts course in the 6th grade, add one elective course to the 6th grade year.
- Add 1-2 electives to any year depending on how many other courses you have selected.
- Some electives can help you earn high school credit (~) or begin to explore pathways (*)

6TH

LEADWORTHY INTERMEDIATE (J996)

7TH

- CAREER LAUNCHPAD (J0072)~
- FOUNDATIONS OF BUSINESS, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGIES (J8601)~*
- LEADWORTHY (J999)
- PRINCIPLES OF ARTS, A/V TECH AND COMMUNICATIONS (J8037)~*
- PUBLICATIONS 1 (J755)*

8TH

- CAREER LAUNCHPAD (J0072)~
- PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGIES (J8601)~*
- LEADWORTHY (J999)
- PEER ASSISTANCE LEADERSHIP (PAL) (J998)
- PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED ENGINEERING (J8616)~*
- PRINCIPLES OF ARTS, A/V TECH AND COMMUNICATIONS (J8037)~*
- PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN SERVICES (J8353)~*
- PRINCIPLES OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (J8644)~*
- PRINCIPLES OF MANUFACTURING (J8043)~*
- PUBLICATIONS 2 (J855)*
- SPANISH 1 (J6319)~*
- SPANISH FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS 1&2 (J6361 & J6362)~*
- STUDENT AID (J300)

IMPORTANT!! MAKE SURE YOUR PLAN FITS A 7 PERIOD SCHOOL DAY SO YOU DO NOT UNDER OR OVER PLAN.

ALTERNATES

Add 1–3 alternate options for Fine Arts and/or elective courses in case of scheduling conflicts.

6TH	7TH	8TH

NEXT STEPS:

1. **ENTER ALL INFORMATION FROM THIS PLANNING GUIDE INTO YOUR SCHOOLINKS COURSE PLANNER.**
2. **SUBMIT YOUR COURSE PLAN AND YOUR PERSONALIZED PLAN BEFORE YOU HAVE YOUR 1 ON 1 MEETING WITH YOUR COUNSELOR.**
3. **ASK YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN TO APPROVE YOUR PLAN IN SCHOOLINKS IN THEIR PARENT/GUARDIAN ACCOUNT.**

FINAL DUE DATE TO SUBMIT/APPROVE : MARCH 17, 2026 11:59PM

WHY YOUR 3-YEAR PLAN MATTERS

THE COURSES YOU CHOOSE IN 6TH, 7TH, AND 8TH GRADE HELP SET YOU UP FOR HIGH SCHOOL SUCCESS.

YOUR CHOICES CAN:

- **MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS** IN MATH, FINE ARTS, LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH.
- HELP YOU **EARN AN ENDORSEMENT** (A SPECIAL FOCUS AREA ON YOUR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA)
- PREPARE YOU FOR **CAREER PATHWAYS** AND **COLLEGE OPTIONS**

EXAMPLES OF HOW CHOICES CREATE A PATH FOR FUTURE YEARS:

- **CHOOSING KAP** (ADVANCED) CLASSES IN ELAR, MATH, SCIENCE, OR SOCIAL STUDIES CAN PREPARE YOU FOR:
  - **STEM ENDORSEMENT** (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATH)
  - **MULTIDISCIPLINARY ENDORSEMENT** (TAKING ADVANCED COURSES IN MULTIPLE SUBJECTS)
  - READINESS FOR **AP** AND/OR **DUAL CREDIT** COURSES
- ADDING A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE) LIKE SPANISH CAN LEAD TO:
  - **ARTS & HUMANITIES ENDORSEMENT**
- TAKING FINE ARTS (BAND, CHOIR, ORCHESTRA, ART, THEATRE) CAN SET YOU UP FOR:
  - **ARTS & HUMANITIES ENDORSEMENT**
  - OPPORTUNITIES IN PERFORMANCE, DESIGN, AND CREATIVE CAREERS
- EXPLORING CTE (CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION) ELECTIVES LIKE BUSINESS, ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY, HUMAN SERVICES, OR MANUFACTURING CAN LEAD TO:
  - **PUBLIC SERVICES ENDORSEMENT**
  - **BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ENDORSEMENT**
  - ENTRY TO THE **MILLER CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER** PROGRAMS THAT REQUIRE PREREQUISITES

IMPORTANT TIP: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS MAY NOT MEET COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS. CHECK COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS WHEN PLANNING YOUR COURSES.