Wylie ISD

2026-27 Junior High School
Academic Planning and Course Guide

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Table of Contents

WYLIE ISD JUNIOR HIGH ACADEMIC PLANNING GUIDE....3
ACADEMIC GUIDELINES....3
- High School Courses Taken at the Junior High Level....3
- Graduation Requirements....4
- College or Unweighted GPA....5
- Ranking GPA....5
- Class Rank and Grade Points....5
- Grade Point Scale For Ranking GPA....7
- Credit by Examination....9
- Credit by Exam Request Form....10
- CBE Transportation Form....11
- Extracurricular Guidelines....12
- State Assessment Requirements....12

WYLIE ISD PROGRAMS....13
- Athletics....13
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)....13
- Gifted and Talented....13
- Special Education....14
- Advanced Courses....14
- Course Descriptions – English Language Arts....15
- Course Descriptions – Mathematics....18
- Course Descriptions – Science....20
- Course Descriptions – Social Studies....22
- Course Descriptions – Fine Arts....24
- Course Descriptions – Languages Other Than English....32
- Course Descriptions – Career & Technical Education and Electives....33
- Course Descriptions – PE....36

WYLIE ISD JUNIOR HIGH
ACADEMIC PLANNING GUIDE

The Wylie ISD Academic Planning Guide is intended for use by students in 7th and 8th grade. The guide represents the school administration's continuing efforts to provide pertinent information regarding state curriculum requirements. The guide has been assembled utilizing Texas Education Agency publications as they apply to the local district.

The Wylie ISD Junior High School Academic Planning Guide lists the courses available to junior high school students. Not every course will be offered during each academic school year. All courses are dependent on staffing limitations and student interest. Every effort will be made by the junior high schools to meet as many student requests for courses as possible. The Wylie ISD Junior High School Academic Planning Guide is updated annually as courses are added and removed. Wylie ISD follows TEA regulations regarding the length of courses and required course sequences. In the future changes may be made to this guide in order to comply with new state legislation.

ACADEMIC GUIDELINES

High School Courses Taken at the Junior High Level

Students may take selected, pre-approved courses at the junior high level to receive high school credit. Any high school course credit that is earned prior to 9th grade will appear on the high school transcript. Any course that is used in the calculation of ranking GPA taken in 8th grade and above will receive grade points. Courses used in the calculation of ranking GPA taken in 7th grade or lower will not receive grade points. Courses taken in junior high will qualify for weighted grade points if those courses are designated as advanced. The following courses can be taken in junior high school and count as high school credit: Algebra I Advanced & Spanish I Advanced.

It is important to note that students taking high school courses in junior high are beginning their high school academic transcript. These courses will count towards high school class rank and grade point average (GPA). A student's academic transcript will be submitted to colleges and universities as the student submits their college applications. Parents should discuss any questions about junior high school courses for high school credit with their child's academic guidance counselor.

Graduation Requirements

There is one graduation plan approved by the State of Texas and Wylie Independent School District. The State of Texas Foundation High School Program requires a total of 22 credits. Additionally, upon entering grade 9, each student will select one or more endorsement areas for an additional 4 credits. In Wylie ISD, every student is expected to earn 26 credits and graduate on the Foundation High School Program with an endorsement. Students can start earning credits towards high school graduation while enrolled in junior high school.

Note: Admission to a college or university is not based on the graduation but on the requirements for the particular college or university. College or university admission may also be based on grade point average, class rank, scores on college entrance exams, involvement in school and community activities, and/or other criteria deemed relevant by the university admission policy.

Wylie ISD

State of Texas Foundation High School Program

English	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Science	3 credits
US History	1 credit
World History	1 credit
Government	0.5 credit
Economics	0.5 credit
Languages Other Than English	2 credits
Fine Arts	1 credit
Total	**22 credits**

ENDORSEMENTS

Mathematics	1 credit
Science	1 credit
Electives	2 credits
Total	**4 credits**

College or Unweighted GPA

Any high school credit a student earns, including high school credits earned in junior high, will be calculated into a student's unweighted or College GPA. WISD uses a 4.0 scale to calculate unweighted GPA and does not take into account the level of the class.

Ranking GPA

A student's Ranking GPA is based on a 6.0 scale and does take into account the level of the class. Classes counting in Ranking GPA are outlined below. Not all high school credit courses are included. Ranking GPA starts in 8th grade. Credits earned in 7th grade count towards graduation, but not towards Ranking GPA.

Class Rank and Grade Points

The following courses are the only courses included in Ranking GPA:

4 credits in ELAR • English I • English II • English III • English IV	**3 credits in mathematics** • Algebra I • Geometry • Algebra II • Math Models*	**3 credits in science** • Biology • Chemistry • Physics • IPC*
3 credits in social studies • World History • US History • Government • Economics	**Level I and II of Languages Other than English (LOTE)^**	* If a student takes Math Models or IPC as a part of their 4-year plan, those courses will also be included in Ranking GPA. ^The 2 LOTE credits must be a level I course and a level II course in the same language. In the event that a student earns more than one level I LOTE credit, grade points will only be awarded for the one in which the level II credit is also earned. LOTE substitution courses will not be included in Ranking GPA.

- If a student takes two linked courses that count towards GPA (ex. Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, Biology Advanced and AP Biology), only the course taken first will count towards GPA.
- Final class rank will be determined at the end of the third nine-weeks grading period of the senior year. The grade point average shall be rounded to the nearest thousandth.

- In calculating a students' grade point average (GPA) for the purpose of determining class rank and any honor in which class rank is used as a qualifier, courses used in the calculation that are designated at AP, Advanced, gifted/talented, and dual credit shall receive weighted grade points according to the grade point scale listed in the Academic Planning Guide.
- Once a student's grade point average has been determined by the above method, the students will be ranked with the student with the highest GPA ranked number 1, the student with the second highest GPA ranked number 2, and so forth. In case of a tie after the GPA has been rounded to the nearest ten-thousandth point, a tie will be declared for the particular rank where the tie occurred. The only exception will be in the case of determining Valedictorian and Salutatorian, in which case there cannot be a tie.
- Wylie ISD policy EIC (Legal) and EIC (Local) govern Class Ranking and supersede any procedures contained in the Academic Planning Guide.

Grade Point Scale For Ranking GPA

GRADE	Tier I-AP/ Advanced/Dual	Tier II-Regular	Tier III-Basic
100	6.0	5.0	4.0
99	5.9	4.9	3.9
98	5.8	4.8	3.8
97	5.7	4.7	3.7
96	5.6	4.6	3.6
95	5.5	4.5	3.5
94	5.4	4.4	3.4
93	5.3	4.3	3.3
92	5.2	4.2	3.2
91	5.1	4.1	3.1
90	5.0	4.0	3.0
89	4.9	3.9	2.9
88	4.8	3.8	2.8
87	4.7	3.7	2.7
86	4.6	3.6	2.6
85	4.5	3.5	2.5
84	4.4	3.4	2.4
83	4.3	3.3	2.3
82	4.2	3.2	2.2
81	4.1	3.1	2.1
80	4.0	3.0	2.0
79	3.9	2.9	1.9
78	3.8	2.8	1.8
77	3.7	2.7	1.7
76	3.6	2.6	1.6

75	3.5	2.5	1.5
74	3.4	2.4	1.4
73	3.3	2.3	1.3
72	3.2	2.2	1.2
71	3.1	2.1	1.1
70	3.0	2.0	1.0
<70	No Grade Points	No Grade Points	No Grade Points

Credit by Examination

In certain situations, credit by examination may be used to earn credit in an academic course at the secondary level. Prior approval of the campus counselor or administrator is required. Credit by examination shall not be used to gain eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities. The minimum passing standard for a student who has had prior instruction is 70. The minimum passing standard for a student who has not had prior formal instruction is 80.

Exams will be administered four times each year at no cost. A student may not attempt to earn credit by examination for a specific high school course more than two times. Students must register with the counselor according to the published calendar. The test shall be administered according to procedures and calendar approved by the superintendent or designee. If a student fails to earn credit by exam for a high school course before the beginning of the school year when the student would normally be expected to enroll in that course according to the district's schedule, the student must satisfactorily complete the course in order to earn credit. A grade that meets the requirements (70 with prior instruction; 80 without prior instruction) on a credit by exam will earn high school credit and be awarded grade points if it is one of the courses used to calculate GPA. No credit by exam grade will be awarded weighted grade points.

The principal or designee or the attendance committee, as applicable, shall have authority to offer a student the opportunity to demonstrate mastery in a subject or to earn course credit by examination when the student has had prior instruction in a subject and when:

- The student is enrolling in the District from a nonaccredited school [see FD];
- The student has failed a subject or course; or
- The student has earned a passing grade in a subject or course but has failed to earn credit or a final grade because of excessive absences [see FEC].

Prior to offering a student an opportunity to demonstrate mastery or earn credit by this method, an appropriate District employee shall review the student's educational records to determine whether the student has had prior instruction in the subject or course

Credit by Exam Request Form

- In certain situations, credit by examination may be used to earn credit in an academic course at the secondary level. Prior approval by the campus counselor or administrator is required. Credit by examination shall not be used to gain eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities. There are no fees for credit by exam requests.
- The minimum passing standard for a student who has had prior formal instruction in the specific course is 70. The minimum passing standard for a student who has not had prior formal instruction is 80. A grade that meets the requirements (70 with prior instruction; 80 without prior instruction) on a credit by exam will earn high school credit and be awarded grade points if it is one of the courses used to calculate GPA. **No credit by exam grade will be awarded weighted grade points.**
- **CBEs taken prior to 8th grade will count as high school credit but will not count towards rank/GPA.**
- If a student fails to earn credit by exam for a high school course before the beginning of the school year when the student would normally be expected to enroll in that course according to the district's schedule, the student must satisfactorily complete the course in order to earn credit (TEA Guidelines).
- Exams will be administered four times each year at no cost. A student may not attempt to earn credit by examination for a specific high school course more than two times.
- If a student uses CBE to gain credit for a course in which he or she has had some prior instruction, the student is required to pass the corresponding STAAR EOC assessment to fulfill his or her STAAR graduation requirement. However, if a student uses CBE to gain credit for a course in which he or she has had no prior instruction, the student is not required to take the corresponding STAAR EOC assessment to fulfill his or her STAAR graduation requirement.

Credit without Prior Instruction

Elementary school students (grade 1 through grade 5) may earn credit for a grade level and accelerate to the next grade level if three conditions are met. First, the student must score at least 80% on each of the exams in the grade level that he or she wants to skip in the subject areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Second, a district representative must recommend that the student be advanced to the next grade level. Third, the grade advancement must be approved in writing by the student's parent or guardian.

For grades 6 and above, students may receive credit based solely on their score on the CBE exam. A school district must give students who score 80% or higher on the board-approved exam credit for the assessment subject area. Students can also receive credit without prior instruction by scoring a three on an advanced placement (AP) exam or a scaled score of 50 or higher on exams administered through the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP). Tex. Educ. Code $28.023(c), (C-1), (h).

Credit with Prior Instruction

Students in grades 6-12 may earn credit by exam if they received prior instruction in a subject area, but did not receive credit for other reasons, such as a failing grade or excessive absences. To receive credit, these students must score a 70% or higher on a CBE assessment approved by the local school board. 19 Tex. Admin. Code $ 74.24(c)(12).

Student name: _____ Grade Level: _____ Campus: _____

Counselor Name: _____ Counselor Signature _____

Test(s) requested: _____

Parent/Guardian Name_____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

This form will be placed in the student's cumulative file.

UT High School and Texas Tech K-12 Credit by Exam Order Forms are returned to Amanda Ferguson.

CBE Transportation Form

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is being provided to you because your student has advanced or will advance in one or more core courses from the normal WISD course sequence. The result of this advancement will require your student to take one or more high school courses while enrolled at the junior high school level. Currently, only Algebra I and Spanish I are offered at the junior high school level. Any high school courses taken prior to 8th grade will count as high school credit, but will not count towards Rank/GPA. The only way your student will be able to take these high school courses as an 8th grade student will be to attend Wylie/Wylie East High School during the school day. WISD does not provide transportation for junior high school students to take high school courses during the school day. By approving the academic advancement of your student, you understand that as parents you will be responsible for taking the student to the high school for their high school course(s) and returning them to the junior high for the remainder of their school day. If you choose for your student to remain in the normal WISD course sequence for junior high school students, then your student will stay at their junior high school campus all day.

- ☐ I choose for my student to remain in the normal WISD course sequence. They will not travel to the high school as an 8th grade student.

- ☐ I choose to advance my student in one or more core courses. I understand that I will be responsible for transporting them between the high school and junior high school during the school day.

Student name _____

Parent/Guardian Name_____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

Extracurricular Guidelines

The TEA-UIL Side-by-Side manual and Wylie ISD policy FM(LEGAL) and FM(LOCAL), outline rules for extracurricular activities, including eligibility requirements, enrollment requirements, and practice/performance requirements.

In accordance with TEA and UIL regulations, districts may identify advanced courses that are not considered when determining eligibility to participate in an extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned by the district or UIL (No Pass, No Play). The following courses are the Wylie ISD advanced courses, which are eligible for the No-Pass, No-Play exemption. Students who make below a 70 in these advanced courses can still participate in extracurricular activities.

Junior High School Courses Exempt from Eligibility

Algebra I Advanced

Spanish I Advanced

State Assessment Requirements

STATE OF TEXAS ASSESSMENT OF ACADEMIC READINESS (STAAR)

In Junior High School, the following State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Assessments will be administered:

- 7th Grade Reading
- 7th Grade Mathematics
- 8th Grade Reading
- 8th Grade Mathematics or Algebra I
- 8th Grade Social Studies
- 8th Grade Science

WYLIE ISD PROGRAMS

Athletics

The Wylie ISD offers a wide range of University Interscholastic League competitive sports. Most activities will require that a student try out for selection to the team. Completion of medical history, physical examination, and parent permission forms is required prior to participation. Students must meet state mandated academic and attendance requirements to be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Upon enrollment, each student will complete a home language survey as required by state guidelines. If the information on the home language survey indicates that a language other than English is spoken in the home, or most often spoken by the student, an oral language proficiency assessment will be administered. A Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) will review the results of the assessment and determine if the student meets criteria for classification as a Limited English Proficient (LEP) student. LEP identified students are offered support services through the campus ESL program.

Gifted and Talented

The junior high gifted learner is served primarily through the gifted and talented English Language Arts courses. Only students identified as gifted and talented may enroll in the G/T English Language Arts course. These courses cultivate creativity and problem solving skills through differentiation in content, process, products, and/or research. Gifted and talented students are also encouraged to enroll in Advanced courses in math, science, and social studies courses to prepare them for the rigors of high school, Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

Special Education

Placement in the Special Education program is based on data gathered by the campus RTI team, results of formal assessments, and the development of an Individual Education Program (IEP) by the Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee. The student, parent, and representatives from the school staff make up the ARD committee and develop the IEP together.

Wylie ISD offers a continuum of Special Education services that includes inclusion support, direct instruction in core content, and self-contained placements. Services are provided in the least restrictive environment as determined by the student's Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) committee and the student's Individual Education Program (IEP).

Advanced Courses

The Advanced Placement Program, administered by The College Board, allows students to participate in college-level courses while in high school and possibly earn college credit while still in high school. Advanced coursework at the junior high school level prepares students for these AP courses. Advanced classes are more challenging and stimulating, therefore they take more time and require more work. Advanced classes require energetic, involved, and motivated students. Advanced courses must be started at the beginning of a full-year course and may not be entered in the second semester of a full-year course.

Algebra I Advanced & Spanish I Advanced Drop Policy

Through the first three weeks of school, students may drop or add Algebra I Advanced or Spanish I Advanced class with teacher and parent acknowledgement. Students are not able to add or drop Algebra I Advanced & Spanish I Advanced courses after the first three weeks except with approval from the campus administration. Algebra I Advanced & Spanish I Advanced courses may not be dropped after the first term.

All Other Advanced/GT Classes Drop Policy

During the first semester, students may drop Advanced/GT classes with teacher and parent acknowledgement and administrative approval. Students are not allowed to drop Advanced/GT classes after the first semester.

Course Descriptions – English Language Arts

417000 **7th Grade Reading**	7th Grade Reading is designed for students exhibiting average reading skills. Reading, vocabulary, writing, speaking, and listening skills are taught through analyzing literature. The literature for this course includes poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and nonfiction.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

417001 **7th Grade Reading Advanced**	7th Grade Reading Advanced is designed for students exhibiting better than average reading skills. Reading, vocabulary, writing, speaking, and listening skills are taught through analyzing literature. The literature for this course includes poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and nonfiction. In addition to learning all the essential knowledge and skills of 7th Grade English, advanced reading strategies will be employed, and students will analyze a variety of complex texts of varying genres.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): Scoring at "Meets" level for 6th grade STAAR OR MAP 60th percentile or above (EOY) Required Prerequisite(s): none	

417003 **7th Grade GT Reading**	7th Grade GT Reading is designed for students exhibiting better than average reading skills, as well as creative thinking, critical thinking, and logical reasoning skills. The literature for this course includes poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and nonfiction. Advanced reading strategies will be employed, and students will analyze a variety of complex texts of varying genres. GT reading classes will also meet the needs of gifted students through authentic learning opportunities that develop creative thinking, critical thinking and logical reasoning skills, and allow students to experience in-depth and accelerated/compacted knowledge and understanding of the content.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Identification as Gifted/Talented**	

417200	**7th Grade Writing**	In 7th Grade Writing, students will engage in activities that build on prior knowledge and strengthen their writing skills. Students will write on a daily basis. They will be exposed to a variety of mentor texts, compose a variety of written texts, locate a range of relevant sources and evaluate, synthesize, and present ideas and information, listen and respond to the ideas of others while contributing their own ideas in conversations and in groups, and use the oral and written conventions in speaking and writing.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none		

417201	**7th Grade Writing Advanced**	In 7th Grade Writing Advanced, students engage in activities that build on prior knowledge and strengthen their writing skills. Students will write on a daily basis. They will compose a variety of written texts, locate a range of relevant sources, evaluate, synthesize, and present ideas and information, listen and respond to the ideas of others while contributing their own ideas in conversations and in groups, and use the oral and written conventions in speaking and writing. In addition to these skills, advanced strategies will be employed when writing. Students will be exposed to advanced writing craft, and complex mentor texts.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): Scoring at "Meets" level for 6th grade STAAR OR MAP 60th percentile or above (EOY) Required Prerequisite(s): none		

418000	**8th Grade English Language Arts**	8th Grade ELAR is designed for students exhibiting average reading and language arts skills. Reading, vocabulary, writing, speaking, and listening skills are taught through reviewing grammar principles, writing compositions, and analyzing literature. The literature for this course includes poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and nonfiction.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none		

418001	**8th Grade English Language Arts Advanced**	8th Grade ELAR Advanced is designed for students exhibiting better than average reading and language arts skills. Reading, vocabulary, writing, speaking, and listening skills are taught through reviewing grammar principles, writing compositions, and analyzing literature. The literature for this course includes poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and nonfiction. In addition to learning all the essential knowledge and skills of 8th Grade English, Advanced strategies will be employed when reading and writing, and students will analyze a variety of complex texts of carrying genres.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	Scoring at "Meets" level for 6th grade STAAR OR MAP 60th percentile or above (EOY)	
Required Prerequisite(s):	none	

418003	**8th Grade GT English Language Arts**	8th Grade GT ELAR is designed for students exhibiting better than average reading and language arts skills as well as creative thinking, critical thinking, and logical reasoning skills. Reading, vocabulary, writing, speaking, and listening skills are taught through reviewing grammar principles, writing compositions, and analyzing literature. The literature for this course includes poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and nonfiction. GT ELAR classes will also meet the needs of gifted students through authentic learning opportunities that develop creative thinking, critical thinking and logical reasoning skills, and allow students to experience in-depth and accelerated/compacted knowledge and understanding of the content.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Identification as Gifted/Talented**	

Course Descriptions – Mathematics

427000 **7th Grade Mathematics**	In 7th grade, students will focus on number and operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, measurement, and data. Students use concepts of proportionality to explore, develop, and communicate mathematical relationships, including number, geometry, statistics, and probability. Students connect verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships, including equations and inequalities.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

420101 **7th Grade Pre-Algebra Advanced**	In 7th grade Pre-Algebra, students will focus on number and operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, measurement, and data. Students use concepts of proportionality to explore, develop, and communicate mathematical relationships, including number, geometry, statistics, and probability. Students connect verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships, including equations and inequalities. At the advanced level, this course addresses the essential knowledge and skills for grade 7 in greater depth and a faster pace to include most grade 8 standards, along with higher expectations for student performance. This course is designed to prepare students for Algebra 1 Advanced in grade 8.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): 70th percentile or above on EOY MAP and/or Masters on 6th Grade STAAR**	

428000 **8th Grade Mathematics**	In 8th Grade Math, students focus on proportionality, expressions, equations, relationships, functions, measurement, and data. Students use real numbers to explore mathematical relationships and concepts of proportionality. Students connect verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships. Students use geometric properties to model, analyze, and solve problems. Students use appropriate statistics, data, and reasoning to draw conclusions and make recommendations.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

428001	**8th Grade Mathematics Advanced**	In 8th Grade Math Advanced, students focus on proportionality, expressions, equations, relationships, functions, measurement, and data. Students use real numbers to explore mathematical relationships and concepts of proportionality. Students connect verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships. Students use geometric properties to model, analyze, and solve problems. Students use appropriate statistics, data, and reasoning to draw conclusions and make recommendations. This course addresses the essential knowledge and skills for grade 8 in greater depth and a faster pace to include some Algebra standards. This course is designed to prepare students for Algebra 1 Advanced in grade 9.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	Scoring at "Meets" or “Masters on 7th grade STAAR, MAP 60th percentile or above (EOY)	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**7th Grade Math**	

11001A/B	**8th Grade Algebra 1 Advanced**	**This course gives high school credit and will count toward high school GPA.** In 8th Grade Algebra 1 Advanced, students will develop logical reasoning by making and justifying generalizations based on their experiences with fundamental algebraic concepts. Linear and quadratic relationships are examined in a variety of problem situations, and these functions form the basis for the study of equations and the development of algebraic skills. Students use a variety of representations (concrete, numerical, algorithmic, and graphical) and tools as well as having regular access to technology. At the Advanced level, this course addresses the essential knowledge and skills for first-year algebra at greater depth with a broader scope and a faster pace.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Successful completion of Pre-Algebra, Meets or Masters on 7th grade STAAR**	

Course Descriptions – Science

437000 **7th Grade Science**	Grade 7 science emphasizes scientific investigations and reasoning to learn about natural phenomena. The content focuses on Organisms in the Environment while integrating concepts from Chemistry, Physics, and Earth and Space Sciences. Students will use laboratory processes and hands-on activities to help them to visualize and understand the nature of science and the world around them.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

437001 **7th Grade Science Advanced**	7th Grade Science Advanced provides motivated students with skills designed to prepare them for the rigor and depth of the Advanced Placement programs in High School. In addition to the topics covered in 7th grade science, Advanced science will be differentiated through a variety of means, including; increased depth of content, slightly faster pacing, high level thinking and problem solving skills, project based learning, content-focused laboratory investigations and a strong emphasis on scientific reasoning and writing.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): Scoring at Meets or Masters on 6th grade reading STAAR or MAP 60th percentile or above (EOY) Required Prerequisite(s): none	

438000	**8th Grade Science**	Grade 8 science is interdisciplinary in nature; however, much of the content focus is on earth and space science with an integration of chemistry, physics and life science. This course will focus on scientific investigation and reasoning. The goal is to develop a rich knowledge of science and the natural world. To do this, students must become familiar with scientific inquiry, rules of evidence, questioning strategies and ways of proposing explanations, and diverse ways scientists study the natural world. **Grade 8 Science STAAR assessment will assess content standards and process skills covered in grades 6-8.**
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	none	

438001	**8th Grade Science Advanced**	8th Grade Science Advanced provides motivated students with skills designed to prepare them for the rigor and depth of the Advanced Placement programs in High School. In addition to the topics covered in 8th grade science, Advanced science will be differentiated through a variety of means, including; increased depth of content, slightly faster pacing, high level thinking and problem solving skills, project based learning, content-focused laboratory investigations and a strong emphasis on scientific reasoning and writing. **Grade 8 Science STAAR assessment will assess content standards and process skills covered in grades 6-8.**
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	Scoring at Meets or Masters on 6th grade reading STAAR or MAP 60th percentile or above (EOY)	
Required Prerequisite(s):	none	

Course Descriptions – Social Studies

447000 **7th Grade Texas History**	In 7th Grade Texas History, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the full scope of Texas history. The focus in each era is on key individuals, events, issues and their impact. Students identify regional geographic characteristics, population distributions, and factors that caused Texas to change from a rural republic to an urban society. Emphasis is placed on the structure and function of local and state governments, the influence of the U.S. Constitution on the Texas Constitution, and the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens. Within the rich and diverse cultural background of Texas, students examine various racial and ethnic groups that settled in Texas and the contributions of each. The course provides students with high-order knowledge and skills necessary to analyze Texas history and become productive citizens.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

447001 **7th Grade Texas History Advanced**	This course allows students to gain a comprehensive understanding of the full scope of Texas history. The focus in each era is on key individuals, events, issues and their impact. Students identify regional geographic characteristics, population distributions, and factors that caused Texas to change from a rural republic to an urban society. Emphasis is placed on the structure and function of local and state governments, the influence of the U.S. Constitution on the Texas Constitution, and the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens. Within the rich and diverse cultural background of Texas, students examine various racial and ethnic groups that settled in Texas and the contributions of each. This Advanced course emphasizes the use of higher-order thinking, analysis of primary sources, and written essays. This course provides greater depth and breadth of content with an emphasis on knowledge and skills necessary to analyze Texas history and become productive citizens.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

448000	**8th Grade US History**	In 8th Grade United States History, students will examine the economic, political, and social events and issues from the early colonial period through Reconstruction, including the independence movement, creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, westward expansion, and the Civil War. Students focus on human interaction with geography, the free enterprise system, and democratic ideals. Significant contributions of individuals and groups are emphasized. The purpose of the course is to provide the understanding, knowledge, and skills necessary to make reasoned judgments to enable students to be active participants in today's democracy. This course is part of the STAAR assessment program, Grade 8 Social Studies.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	none	

448001	**8th Grade US History Advanced**	In 8th Grade United States History Advanced, students will examine the economic, political, and social events and issues from the early colonial period through Reconstruction, including the independence movement, creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, westward expansion, and the Civil War. Students focus on human interaction with geography, the free enterprise system, and democratic ideals. Significant contributions of individuals and groups are emphasized. The purpose of the course is to provide the understanding, knowledge, and skills necessary to make reasoned judgments to enable students to be active participants in today's democracy. This Advanced course emphasizes the use of higher order thinking, analysis of primary sources, and written essays. The major purpose of this course is a greater depth and breadth of content with an emphasis on knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions and participate in a democratic society. This course is part of the STAAR assessment program, Grade 8 Social Studies.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	none	

Course Descriptions – Fine Arts

560100 Art 1	Students will explore the elements and principles of art as they create original works of art. Students will learn the design basics as they draw, paint, sculpt and create works of art through manipulation of a wide variety of materials such as pencil, paper, watercolor, chalk, crayons, pastels, paint, clay and yarn.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

560200 Art 2	Students will develop design skills through the creation of original works of art. Students will use a variety of media such as pencil, paper, watercolor, chalk, crayons, pastels, paint, clay and fibers.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): 6th Grade Art or Art 1**	

560201 Art 2 Advanced	Students will continue developing their design skills as they create original works of art. Students will build on the knowledge of the elements and principles of design. They will use a variety of materials such as pencil, paper, cardboard, watercolor, acrylic paint, tempera paint, chalk, crayons, chalk and oil pastels, paint, clay and fibers.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Instructor Approval**	

561100 Theatre 1	This course is designed as an introduction to the basics of theatre arts including the types of stages, stage areas, and audience etiquette. The student will explore creative movement, vocal and physical warm-ups, and sensory recall within one or more of the basic acting styles.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Instructor Approval**	

561200 Theatre 2	This course allows the actor to develop and practice stage movement techniques consistently to express thoughts, feelings and actions verbally and non-verbally; develop and practice theatre warmup techniques and effective voice and diction; analyze dramatic structure and genre; perform roles such as actor, director, designer or technician and collaborate with others to tell a story through live theatre performance.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Theatre 1**	

561301 Theatre 2 Advanced	This course allows the student to interpret characters using the voice and body expressively, create dramatizations, and critique live performances through improvisation and scripted scenes. Students will experiment with technical elements of theatre and research theatrical heritage in the United States and other cultures.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition and Instructor Approval**	

561400 Technical Theatre I	Technical Theatre I provides students with knowledge and skills in all aspects backstage including costumes, lighting, sound, publicity, props, set, and makeup. Technical Theatre students will learn how to work in a production company, principles and elements of design, the areas of the stage, script analysis and design concepts, stage management/leadership, and puppetry. Students will learn the process of producing a show by analyzing the script, designing, and creating for the Fall Musical and Spring Play. Students will be able to use their knowledge to compete in theatrical design at Wylie/McKinney ISD UIL One-Act Play Competition as well as at the Junior Thespians Festival. By the end of this course, students will be able to apply what they have learned into their high school theatre program as well as future occupations.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Application and Instructor Approval**	

563200 Concert Band 7	The Concert Bands are a continuation of learning fundamentals of a band instrument (woodwind, brass or percussion) in a concert band setting. Students will increase their understanding and comprehension of playing techniques, music reading and theory, concert etiquette and listening skills. Students may have required musical performances (contest and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year. Students are encouraged to demonstrate and audition for placement into the advanced bands.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

563210 Concert Band 8	The Concert Bands are a continuation of learning fundamentals of a band instrument (woodwind, brass or percussion) in a concert band setting. Students will increase their understanding and comprehension of playing techniques, music reading and theory, concert etiquette and listening skills. Students may have required musical performances (contest and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year. Students are encouraged to demonstrate and audition for placement into the advanced bands.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

563300 Symphonic Band 7	The Symphonic Band is a continuation of learning fundamentals of a band instrument (woodwind, brass or percussion) in a full concert band setting. Students will increase their understanding and comprehension of playing techniques, music reading and theory, concert etiquette and listening skills. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year. Students are encouraged to demonstrate improvement and audition for placement into the Wind Ensemble.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

563310 **Symphonic Band 8**	The Symphonic Band is a continuation of learning fundamentals of a band instrument (woodwind, brass or percussion) in a full concert band setting. Students will increase their understanding and comprehension of playing techniques, music reading and theory, concert etiquette and listening skills. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year. Students are encouraged to demonstrate improvement and audition for placement into the Wind Ensemble.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

563400 **Wind Ensemble 7**	The Wind Ensemble is designed for the most advanced instrumental (woodwind, brass, percussion) students in the program. Membership is by audition only. Students demonstrate a higher level of proficiency on their instruments along with increased listening, reading and theory skills. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

563420 **Wind Ensemble 8**	The Wind Ensemble is designed for the most advanced instrumental (woodwind, brass, percussion) students in the program. Membership is by audition only. Students demonstrate a higher level of proficiency on their instruments along with increased listening, reading and theory skills. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

563430	**Philharmonic Orchestra 7**	The Philharmonic Orchestra is a continuation of learning the fundamentals of a string instrument (violin, viola, cello and bass) in an orchestra setting. Students will increase their understanding and comprehension of playing techniques, music reading and theory, concert etiquette and listening skills. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year. Students are encouraged to demonstrate improvement and audition for placement into the Chamber orchestra.
Grade(s):	7	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Audition Required**	

563440	**Philharmonic Orchestra 8**	The Philharmonic Orchestra is a continuation of learning the fundamentals of a string instrument (violin, viola, cello and bass) in an orchestra setting. Students will increase their understanding and comprehension of playing techniques, music reading and theory, concert etiquette and listening skills. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year. Students are encouraged to demonstrate improvement and audition for placement into the Chamber orchestra.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Audition Required**	

563450	**Chamber Orchestra 7**	The Chamber Orchestra is designed for the most advanced instrumental string students in the program. Membership is by audition only. Students demonstrate a higher level of proficiency on their instruments along with increased listening, reading and theory skills. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s):	7	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Audition Required**	

563460 **Chamber Orchestra 8**	The Chamber Orchestra is designed for the most advanced instrumental string students in the program. Membership is by audition only. Students demonstrate a higher level of proficiency on their instruments along with increased listening, reading and theory skills. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

566200 **Mixed Choir 7**	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an intermediate level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic, age-appropriate tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

566210 **Mixed Choir 8**	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an intermediate level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic, age-appropriate tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique.. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

565100 Acapella Choir 7	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an advanced level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic, age-appropriate tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

565110 Acapella Choir 8	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an advanced level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic, age-appropriate tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

566100 Concert Treble 7	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an intermediate level. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Audition Required**	

566110	**Concert Treble 8**	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an intermediate level. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Audition Required**	

567100	**Concert Tenor/Bass 7**	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an intermediate level. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s):	7	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Audition Required**	

567110	**Concert Tenor/Bass 8**	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an intermediate level. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Audition Required**	

567200	**Select Tenor/Bass 7**	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an advanced level. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s):	7	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Audition Required**	

567210	**Select Tenor/Bass 8**	This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an advanced level. Students will have required musical performances (UIL Contest, festivals and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Audition Required**	

Course Descriptions – Languages Other Than English

41000A/B	**Spanish I Advanced**	**This course gives high school credit and will count toward high school GPA.** This Advanced course is designed for those students who are planning to continue their studies in Spanish and eventually take the advanced placement courses offered. This is a high school level course that offers the opportunity for acquisition of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The primary objective of the level one Advanced course is to develop audio-lingual skills and to obtain a mastery of simple basic structures using these basic structures without translation. The students will develop a cultural appreciation of the Hispanic World.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	**Student has met passing standard for 7th grade Reading STAAR**	

Course Descriptions – Career & Technical Education and Electives

530200 STEM	In STEM, students will integrate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics through a variety of hands-on projects. Students will study robotics, engineering, circuits, magnets, and solar/wind/hydro-electric power.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

530300 Advanced STEM	In STEM, students will integrate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics through a variety of hands-on projects. Students will build upon their learning from STEM and continue to study applied physics, robotics, engineering, circuits, magnets, and solar/wind/hydro-electric power.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): STEM**	

571100 Media Technology	Through the study of technology applications, students make informed decisions by understanding current and emerging technologies, including technology systems, appropriate digital tools, and personal learning networks. As competent researchers and responsible digital citizens, students use creative and computational thinking to solve problems while developing career and college readiness skills.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

571120 Video Productions	Students in video productions will work on a variety of products, including videography, writing, reading, and reporting on current events. Students will film and edit for campus projects.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Application & Instructor Approval**	

574300	**College and Career Readiness**	Students in the College and Career Readiness course will explore a variety of options for College and Career. Students will explore the academic and interpersonal skills needed to be successful for life after high school. Students will use decision-making and problem-solving skills for college and career planning. Students will explore valid, reliable educational and career information to learn more about themselves and their interests and abilities. Students integrate skills from academic subjects, information technology, and interpersonal communication to make informed decisions.
Grade(s):	7-8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	none	

574500	**Introduction to Health Sciences**	Introduction to Health Science is a local elective that is designed to familiarize eighth grade students with the basics of Health Science and the Health Science profession. Students will explore health and biology concepts and explore Health Science as a field of study. Interested students will have the foundational skills needed to enter the Health Science pathway in 9th grade. This course is only offered at Burnett and Cooper Junior High Schools.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	none	

574400	**Future Educators of Wylie**	Future Educators of Wylie is a local elective where 8th grade students will explore several jobs in the education field. The class will guide students through qualities of leadership, professionalism and service, and expose them to the art of teaching itself through tutoring and classroom assistance. Students will research, discuss and present information as well as interview guests in several fields. All students will also be a part of TAFE (Texas Association of Future Educators) and it is the goal of our Burnett Chapter to participate in competitive events that revolve around the "TRAFLES" – Teaching, Recreation, Appreciation, Fundraising, Leadership, Educational Awareness and Service. This class will help prepare students for the Education Career Experience in high school. This course is only offered at Burnett Junior High School.
Grade(s):	8	
Recommended Prerequisite(s):	none	
Required Prerequisite(s):	none	

Course Descriptions – PE

591100 Physical Education	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.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

592734 Boys Athletics 7	Wylie ISD Junior High Athletics are affiliated with the University Interscholastic League's athletic program and subscribes to its rules and regulations along with its purposes, goals and objectives. The following sports are offered through Boys Athletics: Football, Basketball, Track & Field.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

592834 Boys Athletics 8	Wylie ISD Junior High Athletics are affiliated with the University Interscholastic League's athletic program and subscribe to its rules and regulations along with its purposes, goals and objectives. The following sports are offered through Boys Athletics: Football, Basketball, Track & Field.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

593735 Girls Athletics 7	Wylie ISD Junior High Athletics are affiliated with the University Interscholastic League's athletic program and subscribe to its rules and regulations along with its purposes, goals and objectives. The following sports are offered through Girls Athletics: Volleyball, Basketball, Track & Field.
Grade(s): 7 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

593835 **Girls Athletics 8**	Wylie ISD Junior High Athletics are affiliated with the University Interscholastic League's athletic program and subscribe to its rules and regulations along with its purposes, goals and objectives. The following sports are offered through Girls Athletics: Volleyball, Basketball, Track & Field.
Grade(s): 8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

591101 **Tennis**	Students will increase their skills and abilities in the sport of tennis.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none Required Prerequisite(s): none	

591108 **Partners PE**	In Partners PE, general education students and students with special needs work together to 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. Instructor approval is required for general education students.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Instructor Approval**	

Drill Team	Junior High Drill team is an outside activity offered to interested students **outside of the school day**. Students receive PE substitution scheduling considerations for junior high school drill team participation. Students are not required to take both drill team and PE. Students are still allowed to take both drill team and athletics/PE. Students participating in drill team will have the same scheduling considerations as athletics. Attendance for drill team will be taken and submitted to campus administration. Grades will not be given. Students dropping drill team during the school year may be scheduled into a PE or athletics as appropriate. Students will still be required to take a full schedule during the school day.
Grade(s): 7-8 Recommended Prerequisite(s): none **Required Prerequisite(s): Tryout and acceptance to drill team**	