



SAN MARCOS CISD MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE

2026-2027

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SAN MARCOS CISD MIDDLE SCHOOLS



GOODNIGHT MIDDLE SCHOOL
1301 State Highway 123
San Marcos, TX 78666



MILLER MIDDLE SCHOOL
301 Foxtail Run
San Marcos, TX 78666



General Information for Students and Parents

The information below is designed to provide students and parents with information about courses available to students in San Marcos CISD middle schools. The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) identifies what Texas students should know and be able to do at every grade and in every course. The State Board of Education has adopted the TEKS as the minimum curriculum for all Texas schools. Please be advised that this Course Catalog is contingent on future decisions of the Texas Education Agency, State Board of Education, Texas Legislature, and/or San Marcos Consolidated Independent School District. If changes occur, the online catalog will be updated. A counselor can assist students and parents in choosing appropriate courses. Please contact a campus counselor for support.

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR)

Standardized tests are administered periodically to all students to evaluate knowledge gained over a given period and to assess the effectiveness of the curriculum. The Texas Education Agency has established times at which tests are given, and SMCISD provides guidelines for using the results. Any sixth, seventh, or eighth-grade student taking a high-school-level course for which there is a STAAR End-of-course (EOC) assessment must also take that specific EOC assessment. Students who do not meet passing criteria on a state assessment may be placed in an additional math or reading intervention.

Core Courses

Students in grades 6-8 are required to take core courses in English Language Arts and Reading, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, and Fine Arts. These courses will be explained by subject area in this guide. Students will be placed into their core classes based on academic achievement. The student's parent/guardian may choose to opt out of having their student participate in an advanced course. Student performance will be reviewed throughout the year to determine whether course changes are warranted.

Elective Courses

Selection for elective classes must be done carefully with input from teachers and parents. 6th-grade students are scheduled for a physical education and a fine arts course. The counselors will make every effort to schedule the elective course chosen, but may need to assign an alternate due to schedule conflicts. Schedule changes after the school year begins will be held to a minimum. Students and parents are encouraged to spend time reviewing all of the classes offered at the middle schools. If you have questions concerning any course, you are encouraged to call the teachers, counselors, and/or administrators.



Course Description

Middle School Course Catalog 2026-2027

GENERAL INFORMATION

State Requirements (TAC Chapter 74)

Required Core Curriculum (Grades 6-8):

- English Language Arts (1 credit per year)
- Mathematics (1 credit per year)
- Science (1 credit per year)
- Social Studies (1 credit per year)
- Physical Education (equivalent to 4 semesters - may be substituted with approved athletics)
- Fine Arts (1 credit minimum)

High School Credit Courses: Courses marked with ***High School Credit*** count toward graduation requirements and are calculated in high school GPA and class rank.

Course Placement

Students are placed into courses based on:

- Prior academic performance
 - Teacher recommendations
 - State assessment results
 - Parent/guardian input and approval
 - Special program identification (GT, Special Education, ESL)
-

CORE ACADEMIC COURSES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING

6111 - Advanced Language Arts 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Advanced Language Arts engages students in becoming skilled readers and writers in a variety of contexts and purposes. Students develop an understanding of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects. This course is designed to prepare students for high school AP English courses through rigorous reading, analysis, and writing requirements.



6121 - Language Arts 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Students master previously learned skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Emphasis on written composition and reading comprehension. Students complete a major project or essay based on the required reading each grading period.

6126C - Language Arts 6 Co-Taught

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Co-taught section providing additional support for students with IEPs. Same curriculum as Language Arts 6 with modifications as specified in the student's IEP.

6149 - Principles of Language Arts 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee or teacher recommendation

Fundamentals-based course focusing on essential reading and writing skills with modified pacing and additional scaffolding. Designed for students requiring intensive support in literacy development.

6185 - Structured Literacy Intervention 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Reading intervention identification

Intensive, systematic phonics and reading intervention using evidence-based structured literacy approaches. Focuses on phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

6912 - Language Arts Fundamentals 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Intensive support for students significantly below grade level in reading and writing. Focuses on foundational literacy skills with extensive scaffolding and individualized instruction.

7111 - Advanced Language Arts 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None



Advanced Language Arts engages students in skilled reading and writing across contexts. Students develop an understanding of the writer's purpose, audience, and subject interactions. Prepares students for high school AP courses.

7121 - Language Arts 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Grade-level Language Arts with emphasis on written composition and reading comprehension. Students complete major projects/essays each grading period based on required readings.

7121C - Language Arts 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Co-taught section providing additional support for students with IEPs. Same curriculum as Language Arts 7 with modifications as specified in the student's IEP.

7149 - Principles of Language Arts 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee or teacher recommendation

Modified curriculum focusing on essential literacy skills with additional support and scaffolding.

7185 - Structured Literacy Intervention 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Reading intervention identification

Intensive structured literacy intervention for students requiring systematic phonics and reading instruction.

7912- Language Arts Fundamentals 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Intensive support for students significantly below grade level in reading and writing. Focuses on foundational literacy skills with extensive scaffolding and individualized instruction.

8111 - Advanced Language Arts 8



Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Advanced reading and writing course preparing students for high school AP English. Focus on complex texts, sophisticated writing, and analytical thinking.

8121 - Language Arts 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Grade-level curriculum with emphasis on composition and comprehension. Major projects/essays based on required readings each grading period.

8121C - Language Arts 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Co-taught section providing additional support for students with IEPs. Same curriculum as Language Arts 8 with modifications as specified in the student's IEP.

7121C - Language Arts 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Co-taught section providing additional support for students with IEPs. Same curriculum as Language Arts 7 with modifications as specified in the student's IEP.

8149 - Principles of Language Arts 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ARD Committee or teacher recommendation

Modified curriculum focusing on essential literacy skills with additional support and scaffolding.

8185 - Structured Literacy Intervention 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Reading intervention identification

Intensive structured literacy intervention for students requiring systematic phonics and reading instruction.

8912- Language Arts Fundamentals 8



Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Intensive support for students significantly below grade level in reading and writing. Focuses on foundational literacy skills with extensive scaffolding and individualized instruction.

MATHEMATICS

6211 - Advanced Math 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Introduces concepts, preparing students for Advanced Math or Algebra in 7th grade. Rigorous work covering numbers, operations, algebraic thinking, geometry, spatial reasoning, measurement, probability, and statistics. Students learn all 6th Grade TEKS and part of 7th Grade TEKS. Students take the 6th Grade STAAR test.

6221 - Math 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Foundation in numbers, operations, quantitative reasoning, patterns, algebraic thinking, geometry, measurement, probability, and statistics. Students use technology and manipulatives for conceptual understanding. Students take the 6th Grade STAAR test. Students learn all 6th Grade TEKS.

6221C - Math 6 Co-Taught

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Co-taught section providing support for students with IEPs. Same curriculum as Math 6 with IEP modifications. Students learn all 6th Grade TEKS. Students learn all 6th Grade TEKS.

6215 - Math 6 Pre-Algebra

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and assessment data

Accelerated course introducing pre-algebraic concepts, including integers, rational numbers, basic equations, and proportional reasoning. Prepares students for Algebra I in 7th grade. Students learn all 6th Grade TEKS, 7th Grade TEKS, and 8th Grade TEKS. Students take the 7th Grade STAAR test.

6249 - Principles of Math 6



Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee or teacher recommendation

Modified mathematics curriculum with additional support and scaffolding. Focuses on essential mathematical concepts with extended practice. Students take the 6th Grade STAAR test.

6915 - Math 6 Fundamentals

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

An alternate mathematics curriculum with support for students significantly below grade level. Focus on number sense, basic operations, and foundational mathematical concepts. Students take the STAAR Alternate test.

7211 - Advanced Math 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Prepares students for Algebra I. Students learn part of the 7th Grade TEKS and the 8th Grade TEKS. Students take the 8th Grade STAAR test.

7221 - Math 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Academic math reviewing fractions, whole numbers, decimals; introducing integers and metric geometry. Based on Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Students learn all 7th Grade TEKS. Students take the 7th Grade STAAR test.

7226C - Math 7 Co-Taught

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Co-taught section providing support for students with IEPs. Same curriculum as Math 7 with IEP modifications. Students learn all 7th Grade TEKS. Students take the 7th Grade STAAR test.

7249 - Principles of Math 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee



Modified mathematics curriculum with additional scaffolding for students requiring intensive support. Students take the 7th Grade STAAR test.

7915 - Math 7 Fundamentals

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

An alternate mathematics curriculum with support for students significantly below grade level. Focus on number sense, basic operations, and foundational mathematical concepts. Students take the STAAR Alternate test.

7204J - Algebra I *High School Credit*

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra or equivalent

Students broaden their knowledge of quadratic functions, exponential functions, and systems of equations. Study of logarithmic, square root, cubic, cube root, absolute value, and rational functions.

Awards 1 high school credit. Grade is calculated in class rank and GPA. Students learn all the Algebra I TEKS. Students take the Algebra I EOC.

Credit: 1

8221 - Math 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Focal areas: proportionality; expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; measurement and data. Students explore mathematical relationships and describe increasingly complex situations. Students learn all 8th Grade TEKS. Students take the 8th Grade STAAR test.

8221C - Math 8 Co-Taught

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Co-taught section providing support for students with IEPs. Same curriculum as Math 8 with IEP modifications. Students learn all 8th Grade TEKS. Students take the 8th Grade STAAR test.

8249 - Principles of Math 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ARD Committee or teacher recommendation



Modified mathematics curriculum with additional scaffolding for students requiring intensive support. Students will take the 8th Grade STAAR test.

8915 - Math 8 Fundamentals

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

An alternate mathematics curriculum with support for students significantly below grade level. Focus on number sense, basic operations, and foundational mathematical concepts. Students take the STAAR Alternate test.

8203J - Geometry *High School Credit*

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Algebra I

Extends intuitive geometry into a precise system for logic and geometry. Includes inductive/deductive reasoning, angles, perpendicular and parallel lines, congruent and similar polygons, right triangles, circles, constructions, coordinate geometry, and volumes of solids. **Awards 1 high school credit.** Grade calculated in class rank and GPA. Students learn all Geometry TEKS. Students take the 8th Grade STAAR test.

Credit: 1

8204J - Algebra I *High School Credit*

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Students broaden their knowledge of quadratic functions, exponential functions, and systems of equations. Study logarithmic, square root, cubic, cube root, absolute value, and rational functions. **Awards 1 high school credit.** Grade calculated in class rank and GPA. Students learn all the Algebra I TEKS. Students take the Algebra I EOC assessment.

Credit: 1

SCIENCE

6311 - Advanced Science 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Students explore the natural world using scientific and engineering practices using various types of investigations that include asking questions, making hypotheses, planning and conducting experiments,



collecting and analyzing data, and explaining phenomena using appropriate models and data. Students will learn about the properties of matter, energy transfers, Newton's Third Law of motion, Earth-Sun-Moon relationships, including causes of tides and seasons, resources, living organisms, and ecosystems. An individual semester research project required incorporating the scientific method and problem-solving. There will also be an emphasis on experimental design and graphical analysis.

6321 - Science 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Students explore the natural world using scientific and engineering practices, using various types of investigations that include asking questions, making hypotheses, planning and conducting experiments, collecting and analyzing data, and explaining phenomena using appropriate models and data. Students will learn about the properties of matter, energy transfers, Newton's Third Law of motion, Earth-Sun-Moon relationships, including causes of tides and seasons, resources, living organisms, and ecosystems.

6349 - Principles of Science 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee or teacher recommendation

Students explore the natural world using scientific and engineering practices, using various types of investigations that include asking questions, making hypotheses, planning and conducting experiments, collecting and analyzing data, and explaining phenomena using appropriate models and data. Students will learn about the properties of matter, energy transfers, Newton's Third Law of motion, Earth-Sun-Moon relationships, including causes of tides and seasons, resources, living organisms, and ecosystems. Modified science curriculum with additional support and hands-on learning activities.

6916 - Science Fundamentals 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Intensive science support focusing on foundational scientific concepts and inquiry skills.

7311 - Advanced Science 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Students explore the natural world using scientific and engineering practices, using various types of investigations that include asking questions, making hypotheses, planning and conducting experiments, collecting and analyzing data, and explaining phenomena using appropriate models and data. Students will learn about the periodic table, changes in matter, energy transfers, velocity, Newton's First Law of



Motion, the solar system, gravity, plate tectonics, the hydrosphere, cells, body systems, populations in ecosystems, and taxonomy. An individual semester research project is required. There will be an emphasis on math, graphical analysis, and data analysis.

7321 - Science 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Students explore the natural world using scientific and engineering practices, using various types of investigations that include asking questions, making hypotheses, planning and conducting experiments, collecting and analyzing data, and explaining phenomena using appropriate models and data. Students will learn about the periodic table, changes in matter, energy transfers, velocity, Newton's First Law of Motion, the solar system, gravity, plate tectonics, the hydrosphere, cells, body systems, populations in ecosystems, and taxonomy.

7349 - Principles of Science 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee or teacher recommendation

Students explore the natural world using scientific and engineering practices, using various types of investigations that include asking questions, making hypotheses, planning and conducting experiments, collecting and analyzing data, and explaining phenomena using appropriate models and data. Students will learn about the periodic table, changes in matter, energy transfers, velocity, Newton's First Law of Motion, the solar system, gravity, plate tectonics, the hydrosphere, cells, body systems, populations in ecosystems, and taxonomy. Modified science curriculum with scaffolding and additional support.

8311 - Advanced Science 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Students explore the natural world using scientific and engineering practices, using various types of investigations that include asking questions, making hypotheses, planning and conducting experiments, collecting and analyzing data, and explaining phenomena using appropriate models and data. Students will learn about the classification of matter, the conservation of mass, energy transfers, Newton's Second Law of motion, the universe, weather, microbiology, genetics, and natural and human-caused environmental changes. An individual semester research project is required. There will be an emphasis on math, research, graphical analysis, and data analysis.



8321 - Science 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Students explore the natural world using scientific and engineering practices, using various types of investigations that include asking questions, making hypotheses, planning and conducting experiments, collecting and analyzing data, and explaining phenomena using appropriate models and data. Students will learn about the classification of matter, the conservation of mass, energy transfers, Newton's Second Law of motion, the universe, weather, microbiology, genetics, and natural and human-caused environmental changes.

SOCIAL STUDIES

6411 - Advanced World Cultures & Geography

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

The study of contemporary world cultures involves examining geographic patterns, cultural traits, governments, economies, and global interactions. Higher-level vocabulary through the spiraling of TEKS within the curriculum. Advanced reading/writing skills are necessary. Enrichment activities: research projects, essay writing, investigative reports.

6421 - World Cultures & Geography

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

The study of contemporary world cultures involves examining geographic patterns, cultural traits, governments, economies, and global interactions. Vocabulary reinforced through spiraling TEKS curriculum.

6449 - Principles of World Cultures & Geography

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee or teacher recommendation

The study of contemporary world cultures involves examining geographic patterns, cultural traits, governments, economies, and global interactions. Modified social studies curriculum for students needing additional scaffolding and support.



6917 - World History/Geography Fundamentals

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Intensive social studies support focusing on essential concepts in world cultures and geography.

7411 - Advanced Texas History

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

The study of the geography, history, and development of Texas from early Native societies through modern statehood, emphasizing key events, people, and civic foundations. Higher-level vocabulary through spiraling TEKS. Advanced reading/writing skills are necessary. Enrichment activities: research, essays, reports.

7421 - Texas History 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

The study of the geography, history, and development of Texas from early Native societies through modern statehood, emphasizing key events, people, and civic foundations.

7449 - Principles of Social Studies 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee or teacher recommendation

The study of the geography, history, and development of Texas from early Native societies through modern statehood, emphasizing key events, people, and civic foundations. Modified Texas History curriculum for students needing additional support.

8411 - Advanced US History

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

The study of major political, social, and economic events of early American history from colonization through Reconstruction (1491-1877). Enrichment opportunities: research projects, essay writing, investigative reports.

8421 - U.S. History 8



Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

The study of major political, social, and economic events of early American history from colonization through Reconstruction (1491-1877). Higher-level vocabulary through spiraling TEKS curriculum.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Foundation Courses

8722 - College and Career Exploration

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Students use decision-making and problem-solving skills for college and career planning. Explore educational and career information to learn about interests and abilities. Research educational requirements for colleges and various career paths.

Technology Programs

8719 - Introduction to Technology

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

For students interested in Robotics, Computer Science, Broadcasting, or technology-based programs. Work with computer hardware, coding, robotics engineering, and video production.

8716 - Introduction to Technology

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

For students interested in Robotics, Computer Science, Broadcasting, or technology-based programs. Work with computer hardware, coding, robotics engineering, and video production.



8620J - Principles of Information Technology *High School Credit*

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Introduction to Technology

Continued Technology coursework covering career exploration and skills acquisition. **Awards 1 high school credit.** Grade calculated in class rank and GPA.

Credit: 1

Human Services Programs

8739 - Introduction to Human Services

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

For students interested in Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, Fashion Design, Teaching & Training. Work with tools and equipment used in commercial kitchens, salons, fashion labs, and teaching centers.

8736 - Introduction to Human Services

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

For students interested in Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, Fashion Design, Teaching & Training. Work with tools and equipment used in commercial kitchens, salons, fashion labs, and teaching centers.

8738J - Principles of Human Services *High School Credit*

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Introduction to Human Services

Continued Human Services coursework covering career exploration and skills acquisition. **Awards 1 high school credit.** Grade calculated in class rank and GPA.

Credit: 1

Manufacturing Programs

8729 - Introduction to Manufacturing

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None



For students interested in Automotive Technology, Ag Mechanics, Construction, or shop-based programs. Classroom and shop environment with various tools and equipment.

8726 - Introduction to Manufacturing

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

For students interested in Automotive Technology, Ag Mechanics, Construction, or shop-based programs. Classroom and shop environment with various tools and equipment.

8610J - Principles of Manufacturing *High School Credit*

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Introduction to Manufacturing

Continued Manufacturing coursework covering career exploration and skills acquisition. **Awards 1 high school credit.** Grade calculated in class rank and GPA.

Credit: 1

FINE ARTS & PERFORMING ARTS

Visual Arts

6721 - Art 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to elements of design through drawing, painting, and sculpture. Artistic ability not required. Enrichment: decorating for school functions, designing yearbook covers, and spirit posters.

7731 - Art II

Grades: 7, 8

Prerequisites: None

Continued exploration of elements of design through drawing, painting, and sculpture. Enrichment activities included.



8731 - Art III

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Art I, Art II, teacher recommendation

Advanced art exploration continues the design elements. Drawing, painting, and sculpture. Enrichment activities.

5111J - Art I *High School Credit*

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Art I, Art II, JrVASE participation, teacher recommendation

In-depth study of four strands: foundations, creative expression, historical/cultural relevance, and critical evaluation. Media: painting, printmaking, ceramics, fibers, sculpture, digital media, with emphasis on drawing. **Awards 1 high school credit.** Grade calculated in class rank and GPA.

Credit: 1

Theatre Arts

8500 - Theater Arts I

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to performing arts: performance, stage management, production, design, creativity. Acting through individual and group exercises. Develops self-expression, confidence, and creativity.

8502 - Theater Arts II

Grades: 7, 8

Prerequisites: Theater Arts I

Continuation of Theater I: set design, acting, staging, makeup, costumes, technical theater (lights/sound), production, pantomime, improvisation.

8503P - Theater Arts III Production

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Theater Arts I, Theater Arts II, and audition placement

Applied communications, practical applications, performances, and career recognition. Main stage play presentations using all aspects of theater production.

Dance



6807 - Dance I

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Preparatory class teaching dance fundamentals. Basic elements of various dance genres, discipline, self-confidence, responsibility, teamwork, and goal setting. One performance opportunity annually. May count as Fine Arts or PE credit. One year is required before the dance team audition.

7830 - Dance II

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Continues and expands Dance I knowledge. Various dance genres, discipline, self-confidence, responsibility, teamwork, and goal setting. Two performance opportunities annually. May count as Fine Arts or PE credit.

8830 - Dance III

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Further extends and challenges dance skill level and knowledge. More difficult elements of various dance genres include discipline, self-confidence, responsibility, teamwork, and goal setting. Two performance opportunities annually. May count as Fine Arts or PE credit.

Band

6705 - Beginner Band

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Fundamentals of musical performance on a wind or percussion instrument. Learn to read music. Several public performances. Instrument necessary (purchase or rental).

8705 - Symphonic Band

Grades: 7, 8

Prerequisites: Audition placement

Refine musicianship through full ensemble performance. Several performances annually. Attendance at performances is mandatory. Some instruments were provided; others were bought or rented.

8706 - Wind Ensemble



Grades: 7, 8

Prerequisites: Audition placement

Advanced musicianship through varsity ensemble performance. Performances include the UIL Concert & Sightreading Contest. Attendance mandatory.

7727 - Jazz Band 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: 6th Grade Band

Learning various jazz styles, history, musicians, and events, and creating modern jazz. Jazz techniques and music theory. Growth on the chosen instrument.

8727 - Jazz Band 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: 6th Grade Band

Jazz styles, history, techniques, and theory. Development as musicians and on chosen instruments.

Orchestra

6709 - Beginning Orchestra

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Prerequisites: None (7th/8th require teacher approval)

Beginner instruction in violin, viola, cello, and bass. Instrument rental is available through Terra Nova. Some district instruments are available.

7709 - Intermediate Orchestra

Grades: 7, 8

Prerequisites: Audition placement

Intermediate instruction in string instruments. Rental agreements and district instruments are available.

8709 - Advanced Orchestra

Grades: 7, 8

Prerequisites: Audition placement

Advanced instruction in string instruments. Rental agreements and district instruments are available.



Guitar

6747 - Intro to Guitar 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Basics of guitar and music fundamentals. Beginning level through notation, chord symbols, and tablature. Guitar history and musical styles. Genres: classical, flamenco, blues, jazz, rock, mariachi.

7747 - Intro to Guitar 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Guitar basics and music fundamentals. Beginning level instruction through various musical genres.

7748 - Guitar II (Grade 7)

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Intro to Guitar

Classical guitar musicianship with an ensemble approach. Individual solos and competition opportunities. Master strings 1-3, increase skills on strings 4-6. Prepares for Guitar III.

8748 - Guitar II (Grade 8)

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Intro to Guitar

Classical guitar musicianship development. Notation, scales, sight-reading, fingerings, patterns, chords. Prepares for advanced Guitar III.

Mariachi

7706 - Mariachi 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Audition placement

Vibrant music of Mexico and mariachi guitar. Various styles within the mariachi genre and standard notation. Interview or director appointment placement. Nylon string guitar required (director-approved). Some district instruments are available via rental. Performances/rehearsals outside school hours may be required.



8707 - Mariachi 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Audition placement

Mariachi guitar and ensemble performance. Various styles and standard notation. Audition placement. Performances/rehearsals outside school hours may be required.

Choir

6710 - Treble Choir 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

For sixth graders who enjoy singing and want to improve their musical skills. Participation in all class activities and concerts is expected.

6715 - Tenor Choir 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Vocal music for tenor-range singers in sixth grade. Concerts and performances expected.

7710 - Treble Choir

Grades: 7, 8

Prerequisites: None (6th-grade choir recommended)

Participation in Regional Tryouts, annual concerts, Solo and Ensemble Contest, and UIL Contest. Self-motivated and well-disciplined students who enjoy singing.

7715 - Tenor Bass Choir

Grades: 7, 8

Prerequisites: None (6th-grade choir recommended)

Regional Tryouts, annual concerts, Solo and Ensemble Contest, UIL Contest participation. Self-motivated students.

8710 - Advanced Treble Choir

Grades: 7, 8

Prerequisites: Audition placement



Advanced choir with Regional Tryouts, annual concerts, Solo and Ensemble Contest, and UIL Contest. Self-motivated, well-disciplined students.

WORLD LANGUAGES

7780 - Discovering Languages & Cultures *High School Credit*

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Completed 5 years of Dual Language Immersion at the elementary level

An intermediate course exploring the language and cultures of various Spanish-speaking countries. The exploratory course introduces intermediate/advanced vocabulary and cultural awareness in the Spanish language. **Awards 1 high school credit.** Grade calculated in class rank and GPA.

Credit: 1

8937J - Spanish I *High School Credit*

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Full-year high school credit course using the SMHS textbook. Study of vocabulary, grammar, writing, and oral activities. An oral placement test determines academic proficiency before credit is awarded. **Awards 1 high school credit.** Grade calculated in class rank and GPA.

Credit: 1

8938J - Spanish II *High School Credit*

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Spanish I or equivalent (includes students who completed 5 years of Dual Language Immersion at the elementary level)

Languages Other Than English (LOTE) course with communication opportunities, presentations, and culturally authentic materials. Taught in Spanish. **Awards 1 high school credit** for Spanish II. Grade calculated in class rank and GPA.

Credit: 1

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & ATHLETICS

Physical Education



6800 - Physical Education 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Basics of sports, games, health, and physical fitness. Required: shirt, shorts, gym shoes. Active participation required.

7810 - Physical Education 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Sports, games, health, and physical fitness. Required dress: shirt, shorts, gym shoes. Active participation required.

8810 - Physical Education 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Sports, games, health, and physical fitness. Required dress: shirt, shorts, gym shoes. Active participation required.

Pre-Athletics

6815 - Pre-Athletics Boys

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Fundamentals of volleyball, football, basketball, soccer, and track. Weight room, speed, and endurance programs. Emphasis on academics and character development. Daily athletic dress required. Recommended for students interested in 7th-grade athletics (not required).

6816 - Pre-Athletics Girls

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Fundamentals of volleyball, football, basketball, soccer, and track. Weight room, speed, and endurance programs. Emphasis on academics and character development. Daily athletic dress required. Recommended for 7th-grade athletics (not required).



6801 - Pre-Athletics

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: None

Co-ed pre-athletics course introducing sports fundamentals and athletic conditioning.

Athletics

7825 - Girls Athletics

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Prepares athletes for high school competition. Highly disciplined class teaching fundamentals and a winning attitude. Good academic standing required. Must be willing to play volleyball and/or basketball. Physical examination by a physician is required by the end of the first week of school. Cross Country, Golf, Track, Soccer practice before/after school; does not require Athletics class.

8825 - Girls Athletics

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

High school competition preparation. Disciplined class with fundamentals and a winning attitude. Good academic standing required. Must be willing to play volleyball and/or basketball. Physical examination is required by the end of the first week. Cross Country, Golf, Track, Soccer practice before/after school.

7827 - Boys Athletics

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Disciplined class teaching fundamentals and a winning attitude. Good academic standing required. Must participate in at least two: Football, Basketball, Track, Soccer, and Golf. Physical examination is required by the end of the first week. Cross Country, Golf, Track, Soccer practice before/after school.

8827 - Boys Athletics

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Fundamentals and winning attitude preparation for high school athletics. Good academic standing required. Must participate in at least two sports. Physical examination required. Some sports practice before/after school.



Tennis

7822 - Tennis 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: None

Boys and girls year-round tennis team. Physical examination by a physician is required by the end of the first week. Equipment can be furnished. No required before/after school practices.

8822 - Tennis 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: None

Year-round tennis team. Physical examination required. Equipment provided if needed. No required before/after school practices.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

6600 - AVID 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Approved AVID application

Rigorous course for motivated students intending to pursue a four-year college degree. Peer study groups with college academic tutors. Content knowledge deepening, questioning strategies, and discussion leadership. Focus: entrance/placement exams, career/college knowledge, study sessions, test-taking strategies, Cornell notes, time management, organizational skills, presentations.

7600 - AVID 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: AVID application or continuation

Rigorous college-preparatory course. Peer study groups with college tutors. Focus: exams, career/college knowledge, study sessions, test-taking strategies.

8600 - AVID 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: AVID application or continuation



College-preparatory course with peer study groups and college tutors. Entrance/placement exam preparation, career/college knowledge, and study strategies.

6650 - AVID Excel 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Program placement

AVID Excel for English Language Learners combines AVID methodologies with language development support.

7650 - AVID Excel 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Program placement

AVID Excel combines college readiness with English language development for ELL students.

Student Leadership

6655 - Student Council 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Election or selection process

Student leadership development through service projects, school event planning, and campus improvement initiatives.

7655 - Student Council 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Election or selection

Leadership development and school service through Student Council activities.

8655 - Student Council 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Election or selection

Advanced student leadership with greater responsibility for school initiatives and events.



Yearbook

7199 - Yearbook 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Interview

Basic principles of yearbook production. Skills: writing copy, captions, headlines; digital photography; desktop publishing; appropriate technology tools for media production.

8199 - Yearbook 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Interview

Yearbook production skills, including writing, photography, design, and media technology.

INTERVENTION & SUPPORT COURSES

Reading Interventions

6080 - Aim High 6 (Reading)

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Intervention identification

Intensive reading intervention for students performing below grade level. Focus on decoding, fluency, and comprehension strategies.

6083 - Reading Improvement/ESL

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ESL identification

Reading intervention integrated with English language development for ESL students. Focus on academic vocabulary, reading comprehension, and language acquisition.

6085 - Language Live 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ESL/Bilingual program placement

Language development program focusing on oral language, vocabulary development, and academic language skills for English Language Learners.



6985 - Reading Strategies 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Teacher/counselor recommendation

Strategic reading intervention teaching comprehension strategies, vocabulary development, and reading fluency for struggling readers.

6985S - Reading Resource 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Special education reading support provides intensive, individualized reading instruction aligned with IEP goals.

7080 - Aim High 7 (Reading)

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Intervention identification

Intensive reading intervention for 7th graders performing below grade level. Systematic instruction in reading skills and strategies.

7083 - Reading Improvement/ESL 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ESL identification

Reading intervention with English language development support for 7th-grade ESL students.

7085 - Language Live 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ESL/Bilingual program placement

Language development program for 7th-grade English Language Learners focusing on academic language proficiency.

7985 - Reading Strategies 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Teacher/counselor recommendation

Strategic reading intervention for 7th-grade students requiring additional reading support.



8080 - Aim High 8 (Reading)

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Intervention identification

Intensive reading intervention for 8th graders. Prepares students for high school-level reading demands.

8083 - Reading Improvement/ESL 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ESL identification

Reading intervention with language development for 8th-grade ESL students preparing for high school.

8085 - Language Live 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ESL/Bilingual program placement

Advanced language development for 8th-grade ELL students transitioning to high school academic language demands.

Math Interventions

6080 - Math Intervention 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Intervention identification (alternate course code at Miller MS)

Intensive mathematics intervention providing targeted support in number sense, operations, and problem-solving skills.

7080 - Math Intervention 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Intervention identification

Targeted mathematics support for 7th graders requiring additional instruction in mathematical concepts and skills.



8080 - Math Intervention 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Intervention identification

Mathematics intervention preparing 8th graders for high school mathematics through intensive skill development.

SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES

Functional Academics

6908 - Social Skills 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Instruction in social communication, interpersonal skills, self-regulation, and appropriate social behaviors. Individualized based on IEP goals.

6910 - Social Skills 6 (Alternate)

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Social skills instruction focusing on functional communication and behavior management strategies.

6910Q - Social Skills 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Specialized social skills instruction with a modified curriculum for students with significant social-emotional needs.

6918 - Activities of Daily Living 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Instruction in functional life skills, including personal care, safety, money management, time management, and independent living skills appropriate for middle school students.

7908 - Social Skills 7



Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Continued social skills development focusing on age-appropriate interpersonal interactions, self-advocacy, and social problem-solving.

7910 - Social Skills 7 (Alternate)

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Social skills instruction with emphasis on functional communication and transition planning.

7918 - Activities of Daily Living 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Functional life skills instruction, including money management, time management, personal safety, self-care, and community awareness.

8908 - Social Skills 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Advanced social skills instruction prepares students for high school transition. Focus on self-advocacy, workplace behaviors, and post-secondary preparation.

8910 - Social Skills 8 (Alternate)

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Intensive social skills support with emphasis on high school transition and functional independence.

8918 - Activities of Daily Living 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: ARD Committee placement

Advanced functional life skills prepare students for high school and post-secondary independence. Includes vocational exploration, community access, and independent living skills.



Support Services

6900 - Rattler Enrichment 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Program placement

Academic enrichment and support program providing structured assistance with homework, organization, study skills, and academic goal-setting.

6901 - Morning Meeting 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Program placement

Daily structured support focusing on social-emotional learning, community building, goal-setting, and transition to middle school expectations.

6902 - Personalized Learning 6

Grade: 6

Prerequisites: Counselor/administrator recommendation

Individualized learning program allowing students to work on credit recovery, enrichment, or specialized academic goals with teacher facilitation

7900 - Rattler Enrichment 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Program placement

Academic support program for 7th graders focusing on homework completion, organizational skills, and academic success strategies.

7901 - Morning Meeting 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Program placement

Daily structured support for social-emotional learning, community building, and academic goal-setting.

7902 - Personalized Learning 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisites: Counselor/administrator recommendation



Individualized learning opportunities for 7th graders, including credit recovery, acceleration, or specialized academic projects.

8900 - Rattler Enrichment 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Program placement

Academic support prepares 8th graders for high school transition. Focus on study skills, organization, time management, and high school readiness.

8901 - Morning Meeting 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Program placement

Daily structured support emphasizing high school transition readiness, goal-setting, and social-emotional skills.

8902 - Personalized Learning 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: Counselor/administrator recommendation

Individualized learning program for 8th graders focusing on high school preparation, credit recovery, or enrichment opportunities.

ADDITIONAL COURSE SECTIONS & VARIANTS

Note: Many courses have multiple sections designated by letter suffixes (C, F, etc.) to indicate:

- **C sections:** Co-taught with special education support
- **F sections:** Alternative format or pacing
- **J suffix:** High school credit courses

These variants follow the same course description as the base course but may have modified delivery based on student needs and scheduling requirements.



APPENDICES

TAC Chapter 74 Compliance Summary

This course catalog meets all Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 74 requirements for middle school curriculum:

Required Curriculum (§74.1-74.4): English Language Arts - 3 years (Grades 6-8), Mathematics - 3 years (Grades 6-8), Science - 3 years (Grades 6-8), Social Studies - 3 years (Grades 6-8), Physical Education - 4 semesters or equivalent and Fine Arts - minimum 1 credit

High School Credit Courses (§74.26):

- All high school credit courses (designated with *High School Credit* and J suffix) count toward graduation requirements
- Grades will be calculated in high school GPA and class rank
- EOC assessments required where applicable (Algebra I, Geometry)
- Courses meet the same rigor as high school-level instruction

Course Selection Guidelines

6th Grade Typical Schedule:

- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education OR Pre-Athletics
- Fine Arts (Art, Band, Orchestra, Choir, Dance, or Theater)
- Elective (if schedule permits)

7th Grade Sample Schedule:

- Language Arts
- Mathematics (including Algebra I for qualifying students)
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education OR Athletics/Dance
- Fine Arts OR CTE Introduction course
- Elective (AVID, additional Fine Arts, intervention course if needed)

8th Grade Sample Schedule:

- Language Arts
- Mathematics (Algebra I or Geometry for qualifying students)
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education OR Athletics/Dance
- High School Credit course(s): Spanish I/II, Art I, CTE Principles courses

-
- Elective (AVID, Yearbook, additional courses)



High School Credit Opportunities

8th-grade students may earn up to **4 high school credits** through the following courses:

1. **Algebra I** (1 credit) - Course 8204J
2. **Geometry** (1 credit) - Course 8203J (requires Algebra I)
3. **Discovering Languages & Cultures** (1 credit) - Course 7780J
4. **Spanish I** (1 credit) - Course 8937J
5. **Spanish II** (1 credit) - Course 8938J (requires Spanish I)
6. **Art I** (1 credit) - Course 5111J
7. **Principles of Information Technology** (1 credit) - Course 8620J
8. **Principles of Human Services** (1 credit) - Course 8738J
9. **Principles of Manufacturing** (1 credit) - Course 8610J

Important: High school credit courses require passing grades and may require EOC exams. These credits count toward high school graduation and affect GPA/class rank.

Special Program Information

Gifted & Talented (GT):

- Identification required through the district GT assessment process
- Advanced courses are available in core academic subjects

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination):

- An application and selection process is required
- Focus on college readiness and academic success
- Tutorial support twice weekly
- Cornell note-taking and organizational strategies
- College visits and career exploration

Special Education:

- All placements are determined by the ARD Committee
- Services based on individual IEP goals
- Range of support from co-taught classes to self-contained instruction
- Transition planning services for 8th graders

ESL/Bilingual:

- LPAC (Language Proficiency Assessment Committee) determines services
- Sheltered instruction and native language support
- Language development integrated with content instruction
- Multiple pathways to English proficiency



Career & Technical Education (CTE):

- Introduction courses open to 7th graders
- Principles courses (HS credit) require Introduction course completion
- Aligned with SMHS Programs of Study
- Hands-on, project-based learning

Glossary

ARD Committee: Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee - determines special education services

EOC: End of Course - state assessment required for certain high school credit courses

GPA: Grade Point Average - calculated for high school credit courses

GT: Gifted and Talented - advanced academic program

IEP: Individualized Education Program - special education service plan

LPAC: Language Proficiency Assessment Committee - determines ESL services

PreAP: Pre-Advanced Placement - rigorous preparation for AP courses

STAAR: State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness

TEKS: Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills - state curriculum standards

UIL: University Interscholastic League - academic and athletic competitions

Note: This catalog is subject to change based on Texas Education Agency guidelines, State Board of Education decisions, Texas Legislature actions, and San Marcos CISD Board of Trustees approval. The online catalog will be updated as changes occur.

For course questions, contact your campus counselor or visit the San Marcos CISD website.