



2026-2027

Course Description

H A N D B O O K



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EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear EMS ISD Students and Parents:

We are proud to present the 2026-2027 Academic Course Planning Guide which includes graduation requirements, course descriptions, and other general information you may need to make informed decisions about your education career in EMS ISD.

The mission of Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District is to foster a culture of excellence that instills a passion for a lifetime of continuous achievement in every student. Creating a successful future for every student in our district is a result of the combined efforts of students, school personnel, and parents. Through the course selection process, you have the opportunity to create your own pathway of success by carefully selecting your classes since these choices will be a foundation for your future.

In EMS ISD, we recognize that every student is a unique individual with unique potential, and we encourage you to consider your own personal likes as well as your strengths and aspirations when choosing courses. We also encourage you to challenge yourself to best prepare for continued success as you move into a college environment in the near future. All students should consider taking advanced coursework including Advanced/AP classes, dual credit, OnRamps, and advanced certification eligible CTE courses. Course choices also should include consideration of the many career and technology classes and co-curricular courses including athletics and fine arts. With careful planning, students may graduate as an AP scholar, an industry-recognized certification, or with extensive college credits as a result of our robust dual credit offerings. Please review your options carefully, discuss these options with your parents, and ask questions of our counselors.

With strong academics as our focus, we understand that the best-prepared students are those who also are actively involved in their schools and community. Therefore, we encourage you to balance class loads as well as become involved in extra-curricular opportunities as an important component in your personal development in high school. Our goal is for all students to have a meaningful educational experience throughout their time in EMS ISD that inspires life-long learning and prepares them for future success in their chosen paths beyond graduation. Please contact your school counselor or a school administrator if you have any questions about the course selection process. I wish you success in your planning efforts.

Sincerely,

Jerry D. Hollingsworth, Ed.D.
Superintendent



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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District is to foster a culture of excellence that instills a passion for a lifetime of continuous achievement in every student.

EAGLE MOUNTAIN-SAGINAW ISD

MIDDLE SCHOOLS



Creekview Middle School

Carrie D'Amico, Principal

6716 Bob Hanger Street
Fort Worth, TX 76179
817-237-4261

Ed Willkie Middle School

Dan Russell, Principal

6129 Texas Shiner Road
Fort Worth, TX
817-237-9631

Highland Middle School

Andrea Lasher, Principal

1001 E. Bailey Boswell Road
Fort Worth, TX 76131
817-847-5143

Marine Creek Middle School

Dr. Jared Peters, Principal

5825 Marine Creek Parkway
Fort Worth, TX 76179
817-847-2945

Prairie Vista Middle School

Wat Harden, Principal

8000 Comanche Springs Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76131
817-847-9210

Wayside Middle School

Dr. Khayla Sewell-Bernard, Principal

1300 Old Decatur Road
Fort Worth, TX 76179
817-232-0541

GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome to EMS ISD, home to Creekview, Ed Willkie, Highland, Marine Creek, Prairie Vista, and Wayside Middle Schools. We are dedicated to every child's success as they progress through our district. Our courses are thoughtfully designed to meet the Texas Education Agency's middle school requirements while also reflecting the unique interests and talents of each student. This course selection guide highlights the wide variety of options available. Please note that some courses may not be offered if enrollment is too low. In such cases, the alternate course(s) listed will be used to complete the student's schedule. If you have any questions or concerns about course selection, please don't hesitate to contact your school counselor or administrator.

ADVANCED ACADEMICS

The Advanced Academics courses offer a more challenging and fast-paced classroom experience. Teachers for these courses are trained in advanced methodology and curriculum.

ADVANCED COURSES

Academic courses that prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP) classes are referred to as Advanced Academic courses. These courses are available to students in grades 6–12.

In middle school, Advanced Academic courses explore content with greater depth and complexity. They require additional study outside the classroom and strong time management skills. These courses emphasize the development of skills and strategies needed for success in high school AP courses and post-secondary education.

Advanced courses are offered in English, mathematics, science, social studies, and other selected subjects. Students considering enrollment should be aware that these courses demand extra time for study and preparation. It is recommended that students have successfully completed previous coursework with an average of 85 or above and have achieved a Meets or Masters grade level on STAAR assessments.

Middle school students identified as Gifted and Talented (GT) are served through Advanced and AP coursework, as well as GT Humanities opportunities. To remain in the GT program, students must be enrolled in at least one of these courses. (See the Gifted and Talented section for more details.)

ADVANCED MATHEMATICS

Middle school advanced math courses are compacted, meaning they cover four years of curriculum in just three years. Students may demonstrate readiness for advanced math at the beginning of any school year. Those who successfully complete advanced coursework in 6th and 7th grade may enroll in Advanced Algebra I in 8th grade. In accordance with Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), §101.3011, students who complete a STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) assessment while in middle school are required to take the corresponding ACT or SAT in high school to meet federal testing requirements.

MATH RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE

6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade
Math 6 6 th Grade STAAR	Math 7 7 th Grade STAAR	Math 8 8 th Grade STAAR	Algebra I Advanced Algebra I Algebra I EOC
Advanced Math 6 6 th Grade STAAR	Advanced Math 7 8 th Grade STAAR	*Advanced Algebra I Algebra I EOC	*Advanced Geometry
*The following criteria is recommended for students enrolling in Advanced math courses: • Maintain an overall 85+ GPA in current math class • Perform at the masters level on math STAAR • Score 80+ on district placement test • Demonstrate strong work ethic and study skills • Master new concepts at a fast pace • Enjoy challenges and problem solving Students who do not meet the recommended criteria yet desire enrollment in these courses should contact their school counselor to discuss.			

Students will only be allowed to exit Advanced Algebra I prior to the end of the first semester. Students will not be allowed to exit after the end of the first semester.

SB 2124 requires current 5th grade students who perform in the top 40% of our district advanced placement evaluations tool or on the 5th grade math STAAR assessment to automatically be enrolled in Advanced Math 6. Parents may opt their child out of this requirement using the district opt out form.

GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

The EMS ISD Gifted and Talented (G/T) Program is designed to meet the needs of students identified as gifted in two areas, as defined by the Texas State Plan for the Gifted:

1. High general intellectual ability
2. Creative and productive thinking

In Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD, secondary G/T students are served through Advanced and AP courses, as well as GT Humanities opportunities. In alignment with the Texas State Plan, G/T students are provided with regular opportunities to work with their intellectual peers and receive differentiated instruction that increases the depth and complexity of the curriculum within Advanced and AP classes. This is achieved through clustering, which places five or more G/T students in the same class. This approach allows students to benefit from both heterogeneous and homogeneous grouping strategies.

G/T cluster classes are not exclusive to G/T students and do not consist solely of G/T students. Teachers assigned to these classes have completed the required 30-hour foundational G/T training, receive 6-hour annual G/T update training, and participate in district-level professional development alongside other G/T educators. In EMS ISD, middle school students who are identified as Gifted and Talented are served through the following ways:

6th Grade

- Clustering in Advanced English and Advanced Math courses (and in Advanced Science as their individual schedules allow).
- 6th GT and Advanced Humanities Social Studies and 6th GT and Advanced Humanities Reading (taken together).

7th Grade

- Clustering in Advanced English, Advanced Math, Advanced Science, and Advanced Texas History as their individual schedules allow.
- 7th GT and Advanced ELAR Humanities

8th Grade

- Clustering in Advanced English, Advanced Algebra I, Advanced US History, and Advanced Science.
- 8th GT Advanced Humanities English and 8th GT Advanced Humanities Social Studies

G/T students are required to enroll in at least one Advanced course each year throughout middle and high school. If a student chooses not to take at least one eligible Advanced course in a given year, they must either be placed on furlough or formally exit the program.

Although EMS ISD identifies general academic giftedness, we recognize that students have unique strengths and interests. As students transition into middle and high school, it becomes increasingly important for them to begin specializing in specific subjects and refining their individual talents. Our goal is to support students in exploring a wide range of learning opportunities and experiences as they progress through Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students entering with grades reported in a format other than numerical will have their grades converted using the EIC (Local) grade conversion chart shown below. Placement of students from non-accredited public, private, parochial, or home schools will be determined through careful review of academic documentation and observation by school administrators, teachers, and counselors.

A+	=	99
A	=	95
A-	=	92
B+	=	89
B	=	85
B-	=	82
C+	=	79
C	=	75
C-	=	73
D+	=	72
D	=	71
D-	=	70
F	=	65

PERSONALIZED COURSE SELECTION

- Parent and student informational meetings will be held prior to course selection.
- Students will begin the process through work on their “Course Planner” in Advisory.
- Students will be guided through the course selection process by Advisory teachers and school counselors.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

At the discretion of the campus, the following reasons may be considered in making schedule changes:

- Balancing class size
- Student is scheduled in a course they’ve already taken and passed
- Student is enrolled in a course for which they haven’t taken a prerequisite
- A change or addition is needed to complete a student schedule

EXIT GUIDELINES FOR ADVANCED COURSES

- Change request for exiting Advanced courses will not be considered before the 10th instructional day of the course.
- Requests to exit the Advanced course during the first semester will be considered between the end of the first 10 instructional days and the end of the 1st six weeks of a course.
- Requests to exit the Advanced course for the second semester must be submitted prior to the start of the second semester.
- A student must turn in a written request signed by the parent/guardian providing an explanation of the schedule change request to his/her school counselor
- Before enacting the process to exit an Advanced course, the reason for the schedule change, in conjunction with the student’s past academic history, absences, and use of tutorials and interventions will be reviewed.
- A conference to include the student, teacher, school counselor, administrator or designee, and parent/guardian will be held once the written request is received and reviewed. Options to be discussed at the conference include:
 - Developing a plan for the improvement of the student’s performance that includes alternative instructional strategies, student attendance, student effort, student utilization of tutorials and other interventions, and specific target dates for progress reports to students and parent.
 - Exiting the student from the course and placing the student in another appropriate course if the student’s past academic history and the committee assessment indicate the student does not have the skills to be successful in the course and the student was inappropriately placed in the course.

TESTING INFORMATION

The STAAR test measures student learning based on the state-required curriculum, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Students are assessed in the following areas:

- 6th Grade: Math and Reading Language Arts
- 7th Grade: Math and Reading Language Arts
- 8th Grade: Math, Reading Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies

OPTIONS FOR CREDIT

RECOVERY/ACCELERATION CREDIT BY EXAM

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD offers three types of Credit by Exam (CBE):

1. With prior instruction
2. Without prior instruction (for the purpose of acceleration)
3. For validating credit

These exams are administered several times throughout the school year, typically outside of regular school hours. Each test is designed to assess a student's mastery of the essential knowledge and skills outlined in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

CREDIT BY EXAM WITH PRIOR INSTRUCTION (CBE)

Credit by Examination (CBE) is available for students in grades 6–12 who have lost credit in a course approved by the Board of Trustees. To be eligible, students must have received prior formal instruction in the course.

To earn credit, students must score 70 or above on the exam. The cost of testing is the responsibility of the student.

CBE may not be used to:

- Gain eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities
- Recover credit in cases of excessive absences

Students should contact their school counselor for more information. Exams may be administered as needed, but it is recommended that testing take place outside the regular school day to maintain daily attendance. Pre-registration and parental approval are required.

CREDIT BY EXAM WITHOUT PRIOR INSTRUCTION (CBE)

Students may take a Credit by Examination (CBE) to earn credit for an academic course in which they have had no prior instruction. A minimum score of 80 is required to earn credit. To qualify for grade-level acceleration, students must pass all four core subject exams. Students (or their parents) must register with the campus school counselor at least 60 days before the scheduled testing date. Additional information is available on the district website under the Educational Programs and Accountability page.

CREDIT BY EXAM IS ONLY ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS WHO ARE ENROLLED AND ATTENDING THE EAGLE MOUNTAIN-SAGINAW ISD.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

Students may earn a maximum of two of the total units required by the state through correspondence courses. Prior to enrollment in correspondence courses, students must submit a written request to the principal or designee for approval. Students will not be awarded credit toward graduation if approval is not granted. Students may be enrolled in only one correspondence course at a time.

Credit toward state graduation requirements may be granted for correspondence courses only under the following conditions:

- The institution offering the course is The University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech University or another public institution of higher education approved by the Texas Commissioner of Education.
- The correspondence course includes the state-required essential knowledge and skills for such a course or TEKS.

6th GRADE

All sixth-grade students are required to take the following courses: Language Arts and Reading, Math, Science, World Cultures and Geography, Physical Education, Advisory, and one elective. Based on a student's current or previous academic performance and/or results from the state accountability test (STAAR), they may be placed in Reading Plus and/or Math Plus in place of their elective.

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

406011/406031 ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING 6A/6B

Advanced English students are expected to apply previously learned skills—such as comprehension, response, and analysis of author's purpose and craft—to increasingly complex texts. This two-period course allows students to explore the reciprocal relationship between reading and writing through literary, informational, and argumentative genres. The course places strong emphasis on reading works of literary merit alongside independently selected texts. Students also develop skills in advanced vocabulary, grammar, and research. In addition, they regularly write analytical and interpretive essays, including in-class timed writings. This course is designed to prepare students for the rigor of the Advanced Academics program by fostering the sustained academic habits necessary for college success.

406012/406032 GT/ADVANCED HUMANITIES ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING 6A/6B

This GT/Advanced Humanities English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR) course emphasizes the reading–writing connection as students apply previously learned skills to increasingly complex texts, presentations, and compositions. Each unit is centered around a conceptual question that encourages students to engage in deep, critical thinking about advanced content and develop intellectual character. Students will explore the same conceptual questions in GT/Advanced Social Studies, approaching them through multiple disciplinary lenses. Units include independent research, collaborative problem-solving, and extensive reading and writing to produce real-world products. Students will regularly write to interpret and analyze literary, informational, and argumentative texts, including in-class timed writings. The course includes a significant amount of reading and writing, helping students build the sustained academic habits necessary for success in the Advanced Academics program and future college-level work. Prerequisites: Students must be identified as GT or scored masters grade level on Reading/Language Arts STAAR for 5th grade. Must take with GT/Advanced World Cultures.

406021/406041 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING 6A/6B

This two-period course emphasizes the connection between reading and writing, while also developing students' listening, speaking, and critical thinking skills. Students will engage in vocabulary development, grammar study, and research, and will read and write across a variety of genres—including literary (fiction, poetry, and drama), informational, and argumentative texts. The course

focuses on both independent, student-selected reading and whole-class mentor texts, allowing students to deepen their comprehension, response skills, and understanding of author's purpose and craft.

409011 ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES 6 (ESOL)

This course is offered to identified English learners to help them develop proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Placement in this course is determined by the LPAC.

409520/509511 BASIC LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING 6A/6B

This two-period course is designed to reinforce students' skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and critical thinking. Students engage in critical literacy through a variety of activities, with a strong emphasis on student-selected texts to foster both the ability and desire to read. Teachers support learning by modeling with whole-class mentor texts, co-creating reading responses, and guiding written compositions. Students are expected to think critically, present ideas logically, and use language effectively. Growth in these areas is developmental and occurs as concepts and skills are integrated into meaningful, real-world contexts. This course is tailored to meet the individual needs of each student. Placement in this course is determined by the ARD Committee.

MATHEMATICS

406051 ADVANCED MATH 6

This course is designed for advanced-level students who plan to enroll in Algebra I in eighth grade. It compacts 100% of the 6th-grade and 30% of the 7th-grade Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) to prepare students for Advanced Math 7. The course emphasizes critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills, helping students build a strong foundation for future success in advanced academics. It also supports the development of sustained academic habits necessary for success in high school and college-level coursework.

406061 MATH 6

In Grade 6 mathematics, instruction focuses on using operations with integers and positive rational numbers to solve problems; understanding and applying ratios and rates, including the use of equivalent ratios to represent proportional relationships; and representing relationships through expressions and equations in a variety of contexts. Students also develop an understanding of data representation and build foundational skills in financial literacy. Throughout the course, there is a strong emphasis on using mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding.

409551 BASIC MATH 6

This course is designed to meet the individual needs of each student and provides the foundational experiences necessary to become mathematically literate in the 21st century. Key areas of focus include using operations with integers and positive rational numbers to solve problems; understanding and applying ratios and rates, including the use of equivalent ratios to represent proportional relationships; representing relationships through expressions and equations in various contexts; interpreting data representations; and developing financial literacy skills. There is a strong emphasis on using mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding. Placement in this course is determined by the ARD Committee.

SCIENCE

406083 ADVANCED SCIENCE 6

This course is designed to equip students with the skills needed to apply scientific concepts to real-world situations. Students will ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, and explain scientific phenomena using appropriate tools and models. They will also identify problems and design solutions using engineering design practices. Throughout the course, students will explore recurring themes and concepts to make meaningful connections across scientific disciplines. The curriculum is built around key strands: scientific and engineering practices; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environments. In the advanced science section, students will engage in inquiry-based learning, including designing and conducting their own investigations, while developing and applying critical thinking skills.

406081 SCIENCE 6

This course is designed to provide students with the skills needed to apply scientific concepts to everyday life. Students will ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, and explain scientific phenomena using appropriate tools and models. They will also identify problems and design solutions using engineering design practices. Recurring themes and concepts are explored to help students make connections between overarching scientific ideas. The course is structured around the following strands: scientific and engineering practices; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environments.

409561 BASIC SCIENCE 6

This course is designed to provide students with the skills needed to apply scientific concepts to everyday life. Students will ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, and explain phenomena using appropriate tools and models. They will also identify problems and design solutions using

engineering design practices. Recurring themes and concepts are explored to help students make connections between overarching scientific ideas. The course is structured around the following strands: scientific and engineering practices; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environments. Placement in this course is determined by the ARD Committee.

SOCIAL STUDIES

406093 ADVANCED WORLD CULTURES & GEOGRAPHY 6

Designed for students who seek a deeper and more challenging learning experience, this course explores the people and places of the contemporary world. It is built upon the core social studies strands: history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science and technology, and social studies skills. Students will read and interpret both primary and secondary source documents, strengthen their writing and research abilities, and develop creative projects related to the historical periods studied. This course helps prepare students for the rigor of the Advanced Academics program by fostering the sustained academic habits necessary for future college success.

406092 GT/ADVANCED HUMANITIES & WORLD CULTURES 6

In this GT/Advanced Humanities Social Studies course, students will develop intellectual character by exploring a conceptual question in each unit, encouraging complex thinking and engagement with advanced content. The same conceptual question will also be examined in GT/Advanced Humanities Reading, approached through different disciplinary lenses. Each unit involves both independent research and collaborative problem-solving, culminating in real-world products that are presented in various formats to authentic audiences. Prerequisites: Students must be identified as Gifted and Talented or must have scored Masters Grade Level (formerly Level III) on the 4th or 5th Grade Reading STAAR. Must be taken with GT/Advanced Humanities Literature 6.

406091 WORLD CULTURES & GEOGRAPHY 6

This course is designed as a study of the people and places of the contemporary world. It is built upon the core social studies strands: history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science and technology, and social studies skills. The content, appropriate for the grade level, includes a variety of written, visual, and auditory materials, including both primary and secondary sources.

409562 BASIC WORLD CULTURES & GEOGRAPHY 6

Designed as a study of the people and places of the contemporary world, this course is built on the Social Studies strands: history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science and technology and social studies skills. The content, as appropriate for the grade level, includes an assortment of written, visual and auditory, primary and secondary sources. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

406201 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6

This course is designed to help students develop the skills necessary for lifelong physical activity, enjoyment, and social development. Students will build confidence and competence through learning specialized skills and concepts in a variety of physical activities. These include team sports, individual sports, aerobic activities, and outdoor adventure sports. The course emphasizes movement, cooperation, and personal growth through active participation.

406211 PRE-ATHLETICS

This course is intended for students interested in participating in athletics. It focuses on teaching the fundamentals of team sports while providing training in agility, speed and endurance, explosiveness, nutrition, basic weight training, and sport-specific skills. Students are required to dress out daily and must purchase the campus PE uniform, which is available through an online store. Throughout the course, students will follow all UIL and district athletic policies to prepare for participation in middle school athletics. This includes adhering to the expectations outlined in the Middle School Athletic Handbook, covering areas such as attendance, required attire, jewelry, and behavior.

FINE ARTS

406401/406411 BEGINNING TREBLE OR TENOR/BASS CHOIR

This performance-based course introduces students to fundamental vocal techniques and music reading skills. Through the study and performance of music, students have the opportunity to perform in both large and small group ensembles, collaborate with peers to develop teamwork skills, strengthen personal and academic discipline, and build a positive self-image. The course incorporates a variety of musical experiences to support student growth in both technical ability and confidence. **A course fee is required, which is determined by each campus.**

406301 BAND 6 – WOODWINDS

406311 BAND 6 – BRASS

406321 BAND 6 – PERCUSSION

This performance-based course introduces students to fundamental instrumental techniques and music reading skills on brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. Through music instruction, students are given opportunities to perform in both large and small ensembles, collaborate with peers to build teamwork skills, strengthen personal and academic discipline, and develop a positive self-image. A course fee is required and is determined by each campus.

406130 THEATRE 6

This performance-based course engages students in developing skills in speaking, acting, directing, production, design, and technical theatre. Through the study of theatre, students have opportunities to perform in both large and small casts, collaborate with peers to build teamwork skills, strengthen personal and academic discipline, and cultivate a positive self-image.

406431 ART 6

Sixth-grade students are introduced to basic art concepts as they explore both two-dimensional and three-dimensional art forms. They are provided opportunities to create personal artwork and express their creativity.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

409106 READING PLUS 6

This course emphasizes study skills as well as critical reading and thinking strategies that help students become mature, independent learners. It is taken in addition to the regular language arts class. Placement is determined by the Academic Placement Committee, an administrator, or a school counselor.

409601 MATH PLUS 6

This course is taken in addition to the regular mathematics class and is required for students identified as needing additional support in math. It provides targeted, individualized instruction in Grade 6 math concepts, with an emphasis on problem-solving skills and vocabulary development. Placement in this course is determined by the Academic Placement Committee, an administrator, or a school counselor.

7TH GRADE

All seventh-grade students are required to take Language Arts and Literature, Math, Science, Texas History, Physical Education, Advisory/AVID, and one elective. Based on current or previous academic performance and/or results from the state accountability test (STAAR), a student may be placed in a Reading Plus and/or Math Plus class in place of the elective.

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

407011/407031 ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING 7A/7B

Designed for highly motivated students with above-grade-level proficiency in language arts and reading, the Advanced ELAR course challenges students to apply previously learned skills—such as comprehension, response, and analysis of author’s purpose and craft—to increasingly complex texts. This two-period course deepens students’ understanding of reading and writing through literary, informational, and argumentative genres. Students enhance their ability to engage with works of literary merit alongside independent, self-selected texts, while also developing complex vocabulary, grammar skills, and research techniques. Regular writing practice, including in-class timed essays, helps students refine their literary analysis and composition skills. This course prepares students for the rigor of the Advanced Academics program by fostering sustained habits essential for future college success.

407012/407032 GT/ADVANCED HUMANITIES ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING 7A/7B

The ELAR Humanities course for GT and Advanced learners is designed to challenge students through the synthesis and connection of ideas from above-grade-level, classical, and contemporary texts. These include primary historical documents, philosophical works, Supreme Court majority and dissenting opinions, speeches, novels, poetry, memoirs, visual art with commentary, and music. Students engage in continuous reading, writing, and discussion, with a strong emphasis on independent exploration. Each six weeks, they produce an advanced-level product that reflects their learning and analysis. Throughout the course, students deepen their response and writing skills by working across multiple genres and writing for various audiences. The curriculum includes a significant amount of reading and writing, helping students build the sustained academic habits necessary for success in the Advanced Academics program and future college-level work. Prerequisites: Students must be identified as gifted/talented or must have scored *Masters Grade Level* on the 6th-grade Reading/Language Arts STAAR.

407021/407041 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING 7A/7B

This two-period course integrates the study of literary, informational, and argumentative texts through the combined practices of reading and writing. Students engage in independent, self-selected reading, as well as listening and speaking activities, while strengthening their skills in comprehension, response, author’s purpose and craft, and critical thinking. Teachers model complex literacy strategies using

mentor texts, and students also participate in vocabulary development, grammar study, and research.

409012 ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES 7 (ESOL)

This class is offered to identified English learners to help them develop proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Placement in this course is determined by the LPAC.

409521/509512 BASIC LANGUAGE ARTS & READING 7A/7B

This two-period course focuses on developing literacy skills, including vocabulary development, comprehension, composition, grammar study, response, and research. Students engage in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking activities to strengthen their academic skills. They read both self-selected and whole-class texts to build stamina with grade-level materials. Usage skills are emphasized to help students communicate and write effectively. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of each student. Placement is determined by the ARD Committee.

MATHEMATICS

407051 ADVANCED MATH 7

This course is designed for advanced-level students who have successfully completed Advanced Math 6 or its equivalent. It compacts the remaining 70% of seventh-grade and 100% of eighth-grade Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) to prepare students for 8th Grade Advanced Algebra I. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills. Students in this course will take the 8th Grade STAAR test, and successful completion is a prerequisite for enrollment in Advanced Algebra I in eighth grade. This course also helps students build the sustained academic habits necessary for success in the Advanced Academics program and future college-level work.

407061 MATH 7

In Grade 7 mathematics, focal areas include developing fluency with rational numbers and operations to solve problems in various contexts; representing and applying proportional relationships; using expressions and equations to describe relationships, including those found in geometric problems; comparing data sets; and building financial literacy. The course emphasizes the use of mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding.

409552 BASIC MATH 7

This course is designed to meet the individual needs of students and provides the experiences necessary to become mathematically literate in the 21st century. Key areas of focus in Grade 7 mathematics include developing fluency with rational numbers and operations to solve problems in various contexts; representing and applying proportional relationships; using expressions and equations

to describe relationships, including geometric applications; comparing data sets; and building financial literacy. The course emphasizes the use of mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding. Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.

SCIENCE

407071 ADVANCED SCIENCE 7

This course is designed to equip students with the skills needed to apply science concepts to everyday life. Students will ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, and explain scientific phenomena using appropriate tools and models. They will also identify problems and design solutions using engineering design practices. Recurring themes and concepts are explored to help students make connections across overarching scientific ideas. The curriculum is built around the following strands: scientific and engineering practices; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environments. In the advanced science section, students engage in inquiry-based learning, including designing and conducting their own investigations, while developing and applying critical thinking skills.

407081 SCIENCE 7

This course is designed to provide students with the skills needed to apply science concepts to everyday life. Students will ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, and explain scientific phenomena using appropriate tools and models. They will identify problems and design solutions using engineering design practices. Recurring themes and concepts are explored to help students make connections across overarching scientific ideas. The curriculum is organized around the following strands: scientific and engineering practices; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and environments.

409563 BASIC SCIENCE 7

This course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to apply science concepts to their everyday life. Students will ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, and explain phenomena using appropriate tools and models. Students will identify problems and design solutions using engineering design practices. Recurring themes and concepts will be explored to make connections between overarching concepts. This course is built on the following strands: scientific and engineering practices; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; earth and space; and organisms and environment. Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.

SOCIAL STUDIES

407093 ADVANCED TEXAS HISTORY 7

Designed for the district's advanced students, this course helps students develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of Texas history, geography, and cultural heritage—from early times to the present. Students will read and interpret both primary and secondary source documents, sharpen their writing and research skills, and create projects that reflect historical periods studied. This course supports the development of sustained academic habits and prepares students for the rigor of the Advanced Academics program and future college-level work.

407091 TEXAS HISTORY 7

This course is designed to help students develop an understanding and appreciation of Texas history, geography, and cultural heritage from early times to the present.

409565 BASIC TEXAS HISTORY 7

This course is designed to help students develop an understanding and appreciation of the history and geography of Texas as well as the state's cultural heritage from early times to the present. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students must participate in Physical Education or a PE Equivalent for a full year in either their 7th or 8th grade year to meet state and district requirements.

409201 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7-8

Students enrolled in this course will gain a deeper understanding of how the body functions, learn to measure their own physical performance more accurately, and develop personalized plans for improvement. They will continue building movement skills that support enjoyment and social development through physical activity. Students will also begin to understand the importance of maintaining lifelong physical activity by participating in enjoyable, sustainable activities. Physical activities in this course include lessons in team sports, individual sports, aerobic exercises, and outdoor adventure sports.

408171 DANCE

Dance explores various styles of dance, including ballet, lyrical, jazz, hip hop, and others. In addition to learning a variety of routines and combinations, students will study the fundamentals, techniques,

vocabulary, and history of each dance style. Creativity and self-expression are encouraged through student choreography, both individually and in groups. The class includes both physical and written activities. Students may take Dance to fulfill their PE requirement or as a general elective. Parent drop-off and pick-up at the high school is required for morning or afternoon classes.

409981 PARTNERS IN PE (PIP) 7-8

This success-oriented physical education program features supervised peer tutors and individualized instruction. Its purpose is to encourage physical activity, increase students' knowledge of health and fitness strategies, and support the development of lifetime recreational activities and skills associated with team sports. If you are a 7th or 8th grader interested in participating, please see your school counselor.

ATHLETICS

407211 GIRLS ATHLETICS – VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL, CROSS COUNTRY, AND TRACK

407201 BOYS ATHLETICS – FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, CROSS COUNTRY, AND TRACK

407261 SOCCER (reserved for students who are only participating in soccer)

409221 TENNIS (reserved for students who are only participating in tennis)

409241 GYMNASTICS* (reserved for students who are only participating in gymnastics)

*A basic gymnastic tryout will be held for acceptance into this class. Parent transportation to/from the high school for morning/afternoon workout is required.

Middle school athletics is designed for students interested in participating in competitive sports. Students must be available before and after school, in the evenings, and on Saturdays for practices and games. To participate in or try out for a sport, students must submit a physical form completed by a medical doctor. These forms must be on file with the campus athletic coordinator. Each sport will have a maximum team size, established and maintained based on written criteria. If the number of students exceeds the capacity of a team, a selection process (cut) will take place.

Students who are not selected for a team will be placed in an off-season conditioning class during the athletic period until the start of the next sport season. This procedure applies to each sport. A uniform fee is required for participation in these sports.

Note – Cross Country is held before/after school and does not require participation in the athletics class. A physical form and all UIL paperwork is required. A uniform fee is associated with this sport.

ELECTIVES

1561/1562 SPANISH FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS

Credit: 2 credits

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: Placement Exam

This course is designed for students who demonstrate, through a placement test, proficiency in understanding and speaking Spanish but who need additional support in reading, writing, and language conventions. The course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish and awards one high school credit for Spanish I and one high school credit for Advanced Spanish II.

407151 PATHS 7

Preparing Academically for Tomorrow's Higher Success (PATHS) is an academic elective course designed to develop college skills and prepare students for college and career readiness and success. This introductory course is designed to build foundational skills that will prepare students for high school PATHS courses. Students will explore basic critical thinking and problem-solving techniques through engaging activities and projects, as well as time management, organizational skills, and self-advocacy. The course will also focus on developing effective communication skills and fostering intellectual curiosity. Students will begin to understand the importance of dependability and emotional stability in both academic and personal settings. PATHS students are expected to maintain enrollment in an Advanced Academic course.

407107 READING PLUS 7

This course is taken in addition to the regular reading class and provides additional, individualized instruction to strengthen reading and comprehension skills. Vocabulary development and listening skills are also emphasized. **Placement is determined by the Academic Placement Committee, an administrator, or a school counselor.**

409701 MATH PLUS 7

This course is taken in addition to the regular mathematics class and is required for students identified as needing additional support in math. It provides targeted, individualized instruction in Grade 7 math concepts, with an emphasis on problem-solving skills and vocabulary development. **Placement in this course is determined by the Academic Placement Committee, an administrator, or a school counselor.**

409371 HONOR BAND

Honor Band is the varsity-level ensemble for middle school students. Designed as a performance-based course, it focuses on advanced instrumental techniques and music reading skills for brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. Through music instruction, students have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group ensembles; (2) collaborate with peers and develop teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) build a positive self-image. Previous band experience is required. A student fee is determined by each campus, and class placement is determined by the band director.

409381 SYMPHONIC BAND

Designed as a performance-based course, students in this class learn advanced instrumental techniques and music reading skills on brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. Through music instruction, students have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group ensembles; (2) collaborate with peers and develop teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) build a positive self-image. A student fee is determined by each campus, and class placement is determined by the band director.

409391 CONCERT BAND

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn instrumental techniques and music reading skills on brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. Through music instruction, students have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group ensembles; (2) collaborate with peers and develop teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) build a positive self-image. A student fee is determined by each campus, and class placement is determined by the band director.

409401/409411 ADVANCED TREBLE OR TENOR/BASS CHOIR

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn advanced vocal techniques and music reading skills. Through music instruction, they have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group ensembles; (2) collaborate with peers and develop teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) build a positive self-image. A student fee is determined by each campus, and placement is determined by the choir director.

408401/408411 INTERMEDIATE TREBLE OR TENOR/BASS CHOIR

This performance-based course is designed to help students develop advanced vocal techniques and music reading skills. Through music instruction, students engage in a variety of enriching experiences, including performing in both large and small group ensembles, collaborating with peers to build teamwork skills, strengthening personal and academic discipline, and fostering a positive self-image. A course fee is required and is determined by each campus. Class placement is assigned by the director.

407131 THEATRE ARTS 7

This performance-based course introduces students to a wide range of theatre skills, including speaking, acting, directing, production, design, and technical theatre. Through the study of theatre, students gain valuable experiences such as performing in both large and small group casts, collaborating with peers to develop teamwork skills, strengthening personal and academic discipline, and building a positive self-image.

407103 ART 7

This survey course provides students with a broad overview of fundamental art concepts. Students explore both two-dimensional and three-dimensional art forms and are given opportunities to create personal artwork. A course fee is required and is determined by each campus.

408171 DANCE

Dance explores various styles of dance, including ballet, lyrical, jazz, hip hop, and others. In addition to learning a variety of routines and combinations, students will study the fundamentals, techniques, vocabulary, and history of each dance style. Creativity and self-expression are encouraged through student choreography, both individually and in groups. The class includes both physical and written activities. Students may take Dance to fulfill their PE requirement or as a general elective. Parent drop-off and pick-up at the high school is required for morning or afternoon classes.

407123 INTRO TO FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

This introductory course explores career clusters within the field of Family and Consumer Sciences. Students will examine a variety of topics, including post-secondary education, career options, time and money management, health and nutrition, clothing selection and care, relationships, communication, and community involvement. The course is designed to enhance students' knowledge and develop practical skills essential for everyday life. In addition, students will focus on planning for high school, preparing for college and careers, and becoming successful, contributing members of society.

407113 TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

This course serves as an introduction to technology education, with a focus on engineering, construction, and architecture. Students will work both independently and collaboratively on various projects using computer applications such as PowerPoint, Publisher, Word, and Excel. Additionally, software programs like SketchUp and West Point Bridge Designer will be used to design projects that are later produced in the industrial shop lab.

8TH GRADE

All eighth-grade students are required to take Language Arts, Reading, Math, Science, U.S. History, and Advisory/AVID. In addition, students may choose from a variety of elective courses. Based on current or previous academic performance and/or results from the state accountability test (STAAR), a student may be placed in a Reading Plus and/or Math Plus class in place of one or two electives.

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

408011 ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING 8

This course is designed to meet the needs of advanced students in Language Arts and Reading by focusing on integrated skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. It allows for an in-depth exploration of the complete communication process. Emphasis is placed on interpretive reading to stimulate critical thinking and generate ideas for writing descriptive, narrative, argumentative, and informational compositions at multiple levels. Grammar, spelling, and vocabulary are taught through practical application, while research skills are strengthened through a variety of activities. This course also helps prepare students for the rigor of the Advanced Academics program by fostering sustained habits essential for college success.

408012 GT/ADVANCED HUMANITIES ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING 8

In this GT/Advanced Humanities English Language Arts and Reading course, students will develop intellectual character by exploring a central conceptual question in each unit, encouraging complex thinking around advanced content. The same question will be examined in GT/Advanced Humanities United States History through different disciplinary lenses. Each unit involves independent research, collaborative problem-solving, and extensive reading to create real-world products. These products will be presented in various formats to authentic audiences. **Prerequisites: Students must be identified as gifted/talented or must have achieved a "Masters Grade Level" on the 7th grade Reading STAAR. Students must also be enrolled in GT/Advanced Humanities U.S. History 8.**

408021 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & READING 8

This course emphasizes written communication skills as a central focus for eighth-grade Language Arts and Reading students. It includes practice in narrative, descriptive, argumentative, and informative writing using a process-based approach. Reading and literary instruction is designed to promote critical and analytical thinking. Oral communication and study skills are reinforced through targeted activities, while research skills are strengthened through a variety of engaging tasks.

409013 ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGE 8 (ESOL)

This course is offered to identified English learners to help them develop proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. **Placement in this course is determined by the LPAC.**

409522 BASIC LANGUAGE ARTS 8

This course emphasizes written communication skills as a primary focus for eighth-grade Language Arts students. It includes practice in narrative, descriptive, argumentative, and informative writing using a process-based approach. Reading and literary instruction promotes critical and analytical thinking, while oral communication and study skills are reinforced through targeted activities. Research skills are also strengthened through a variety of engaging tasks. **This course is designed to meet the individual needs of each student, and placement is determined by the ARD committee.**

MATHEMATICS

1215 ADVANCED ALGEBRA I

Credit: 1.0

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: Advanced Math 7 or district credit by exam requirements for 8th grade math

This course is designed for advanced-level students who have successfully completed Advanced Math 7 or have met the district's credit-by-exam requirements for 8th grade math. Topics of study include linear functions, equations, and inequalities; quadratic functions and equations; exponential functions and equations; and various algebraic methods. Emphasis is placed on using mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding. The course helps prepare students for the rigor of the Advanced Academics program by fostering sustained habits essential for college success. Students may only exit Advanced Algebra I before the end of the first semester; no exits are allowed after the semester concludes. Students who take Algebra I in 8th grade are required to complete at least three additional math courses in high school and are encouraged to take four. Advanced Algebra I is a Level 2 high school course and receives an additional 5 grade points toward the high school GPA. In accordance with Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), §101.3011, students who complete STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) assessments in middle school must take the corresponding ACT or SAT in high school to meet federal testing requirements.

408061 MATH 8

The primary focal points in Grade 8 mathematics include representing, applying, and analyzing proportional relationships; using expressions and equations to describe relationships, including applications of the Pythagorean Theorem; making inferences from data; and developing financial literacy. Emphasis is placed on using mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding.

409553 BASIC MATH 8

This course is designed to meet the individual needs of each student and provides the foundational experiences necessary to become mathematically literate in the 21st century. Key areas of focus in Grade 8 include representing, applying, and analyzing proportional relationships; using expressions and equations to describe relationships, including applications of the Pythagorean Theorem; making inferences from data; and developing financial literacy. Emphasis is placed on using mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

SCIENCE

408071 ADVANCED SCIENCE 8

This course is designed to equip students with the skills needed to apply scientific concepts to everyday life. Students will ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, and explain phenomena using appropriate tools and models. They will also identify problems and design solutions using engineering design practices. Recurring themes and concepts are explored to help students make connections across disciplines. The curriculum is built around key strands: scientific and engineering practices; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and the environment. In the advanced science section, students will engage in inquiry-based learning, including designing and conducting their own investigations, while developing and applying critical thinking skills.

408081 SCIENCE 8

This course is designed to provide students with the skills needed to apply scientific concepts to everyday life. Students will ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, and explain phenomena using appropriate tools and models. They will identify problems and design solutions using engineering design practices. Recurring themes and concepts are explored to help students make connections across broader scientific ideas. The curriculum is organized around the following strands: scientific and engineering practices; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and the environment.

409564 BASIC SCIENCE 8

This course is designed to provide students with the skills needed to apply scientific concepts to everyday life. Students will ask questions, plan and conduct investigations, and explain phenomena using appropriate tools and models. They will identify problems and design solutions using engineering design practices. Recurring themes and concepts are explored to help students make connections across overarching scientific ideas. The curriculum is organized around the following strands: scientific and engineering practices; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; Earth and space; and organisms and the environment. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

SOCIAL STUDIES

408092 ADVANCED UNITED STATES HISTORY 8

Designed to meet the needs of the district's advanced students, this course offers a study of United States History from the early Colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will read and interpret primary and secondary source documents, strengthen their writing and research skills, and develop creative projects related to the historical periods covered. The course helps prepare students for the rigor of the Advanced Academics program by fostering sustained habits essential for college success.

408093 GT/ADVANCED HUMANITIES UNITED STATES HISTORY 8

In this GT/Advanced Humanities U.S. History course, students will develop intellectual character by exploring a central conceptual question in each unit, encouraging complex thinking around advanced content. The same question will be examined in GT/Advanced Humanities English Language Arts and Reading through different disciplinary lenses. Each unit involves both independent research and collaborative problem-solving to produce real-world products, which will be presented in various formats to authentic audiences. **Prerequisites: Students must be identified as gifted/talented or must have achieved a "Masters Grade Level" on the 7th grade Reading STAAR. Students must also be enrolled in GT/Advanced Humanities English Language Arts and Reading 8.**

408091 UNITED STATES HISTORY 8

This course provides a detailed study of United States history from the early Colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will read and interpret both primary and secondary source documents, research major historical themes, and develop creative projects related to the periods covered. Emphasis is placed on understanding the founding documents and cultivating the skills and attitudes of responsible citizenship.

409566 BASIC UNITED STATES HISTORY 8

This course provides a detailed study of United States history from the early Colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will read and interpret primary and secondary source documents, research major historical themes, and develop creative projects related to the periods covered. Emphasis is placed on understanding the founding documents and fostering the skills and attitudes of responsible citizenship. **This course is designed to meet the individual needs of each student, and placement is determined by the ARD committee.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students must participate in Physical Education or a PE Equivalent for a full year in either 7th or 8th grade to meet state and district requirements.

409201 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7-8

Students enrolled in this course will gain a deeper understanding of how the body functions, learn to measure their own physical performance more accurately, and develop personalized plans for improvement. They will continue building movement skills that support enjoyment and social development through physical activity. Students will also begin to understand the importance of maintaining lifelong physical activity by participating in enjoyable, sustainable activities. Physical activities in this course include lessons in team sports, individual sports, aerobic exercises, and outdoor adventure sports.

409981 PARTNERS IN PE (PIP) 7-8

This success-oriented physical education program features supervised peer tutors and individualized instruction. Its purpose is to encourage physical activity, increase students' knowledge of health and fitness strategies, and support the development of lifetime recreational activities and skills associated with team sports. If you are a 7th or 8th grader interested in participating, please see your school counselor.

ATHLETICS

408211 GIRLS ATHLETICS – VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL, CROSS COUNTRY, AND TRACK

408201 BOYS ATHLETICS – FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, CROSS COUNTRY, AND TRACK

408261 SOCCER (reserved for students who are only participating in soccer)

409231 TENNIS (reserved for students who are only participating in tennis)

409241 GYMNASTICS* (reserved for students who are only participating in gymnastics)

*A basic gymnastic tryout will be held for acceptance into this class. Parent transportation to/from the high school for morning/afternoon workout is required.

Middle school athletics is designed for students interested in participating in competitive sports. Students must be available before and after school, in the evenings, and on Saturdays for practices and games. To participate in or try out for a sport, students must submit a physical form completed by a medical doctor. These forms must be on file with the campus athletic coordinator. Each sport will have a maximum team size, established and maintained based on written criteria. If the number of students exceeds the capacity of a team, a selection process (cut) will take place.

Students who are not selected for a team will be placed in an off-season conditioning class during the athletic period until the start of the next sport season. This procedure applies to each sport. A uniform fee is required for participation in these sports.

Note – Cross Country is held before/after school and does not require participation in the athletics class. A physical form and all UIL paperwork is required. A uniform fee is associated with this sport.

ELECTIVES

Each campus will offer a variety of electives. Courses will be built into the master schedule based on sufficient student interest. See your school counselor for information about electives offered on your campus.

408151 PATHS 8

Preparing Academically for Tomorrow's Higher Success (PATHS) is an academic elective course designed to develop college skills and prepare students for college and career readiness and success. Building on the skills developed in PATHS 7th, this course further enhances students' abilities in critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication. Students will engage in more complex tasks and projects that require higher levels of intellectual curiosity and perseverance. The course will also focus on time management and ethical decision-making skills, preparing students for the more advanced PATHS courses in high school. PATHS students are expected to maintain enrollment in an Advanced Academic course.

409108 READING PLUS 8

This course is taken in addition to the regular reading class and provides targeted, individualized instruction to help students improve their reading and comprehension skills. It also emphasizes vocabulary development and listening skills. **Placement in this course is determined by the Academic Placement Committee, an administrator, or a school counselor.**

409801 MATH PLUS 8

This course is taken in addition to the regular mathematics class and is required for students identified as needing additional support in math. It provides targeted, individualized instruction in Grade 8 math concepts, with an emphasis on problem-solving skills and vocabulary development. **Placement in this course is determined by the Academic Placement Committee, an administrator, or a school counselor.**

409371 HONOR BAND

Honor Band is the varsity-level ensemble for middle school students. Designed as a performance-based course, it focuses on developing advanced instrumental techniques and music reading skills for brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. Through music instruction, students have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group ensembles; (2) collaborate with peers and build teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) foster a positive self-image. Previous band experience is required. **A course fee is determined by each campus**, and placement is determined by the band director.

409381 SYMPHONIC BAND

This performance-based course is designed to help students develop advanced instrumental techniques and music reading skills on brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. Through music instruction, students have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group ensembles; (2) collaborate with peers and build teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) foster a positive self-image. Previous band experience is required. **A course fee is determined by each campus**, and placement is determined by the band director.

409391 CONCERT BAND

This performance-based course is designed to help students develop instrumental techniques and music reading skills on brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. Through music instruction, students have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group ensembles; (2) collaborate with peers and build teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) foster a positive self-image. **A course fee is determined by each campus**, and class placement is determined by the band director.

409401/409411 ADVANCED TREBLE OR TENOR/BASS CHOIR

This performance-based course is designed to help students develop advanced vocal techniques and music reading skills. Through music instruction, students have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group ensembles; (2) collaborate with peers and build teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) foster a positive self-image. **A course fee is determined by each campus**, and class placement is determined by the director.

408401/408411 INTERMEDIATE TREBLE OR TENOR/BASS CHOIR

This performance-based course is designed to help students develop advanced vocal techniques and music reading skills. Through music instruction, students have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group ensembles; (2) collaborate with peers and build teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) foster a positive self-image. **A course fee is determined by each campus**, and class placement is determined by the director.

408131 THEATRE 8

This performance-based course is designed to help students develop skills in speaking, acting, directing, production, design, and technical theatre. Through the study of theatre, students have opportunities to: (1) perform in both large and small group casts; (2) collaborate with peers and build teamwork skills; (3) strengthen personal and academic discipline; and (4) foster a positive self-image.

408171 DANCE

Dance explores various styles of dance, including ballet, lyrical, jazz, hip hop, and others. In addition to learning a variety of routines and combinations, students will study the fundamentals, techniques, vocabulary, and history of each dance style. Creativity and self-expression are encouraged through student choreography, both individually and in groups. The class includes both physical and written activities. **Parent drop-off and pick-up at the high school is required for morning or afternoon classes.**

408181 JOURNALISM/YEARBOOK

This course is designed to help students develop practical skills applicable to real-world settings. Students will learn to use software and cameras to create, produce, and organize the school yearbook. Responsibilities also include managing yearbook sales, coordinating picture days, and photographing student events. Additionally, students will gain experience in skills relevant to careers in journalism. A supply fee is required. Application is mandatory for enrollment.

408513 OFFICE AIDE

408523 LIBRARY AIDE

408533 TEACHER AIDE

An application must be completed and attached with parent signature for all student requesting an aide period. Selection is based on grades, attendance and attitude.

ELECTIVES FOR HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

In addition to advanced Algebra I, the following courses are offered for high school credit. For high school GPA purposes, Advanced Algebra I, Advanced Art I, and Advanced Spanish 3 are level 2 classes and will receive an additional 5 points added to the high school GPA.

2010 ART I

Credit: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: None

Art I introduces students to the elements and principles of design, as well as various materials used for

self-expression. Students will have opportunities to design and create original works of art. **A course fee is required**, and the amount is determined by each campus.

2015 ADVANCED ART I

Credit: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

The Art I Advanced curriculum follows the College Board guidelines for the Advanced Placement General and Drawing Portfolio requirements. This course offers enhanced learning opportunities for 9th and 10th grade students, expanding upon the foundational content of the regular Art I class. In the first semester, students focus on drawing and color theory, while also learning the expectations for the AP Portfolio Examination. The second semester emphasizes painting, printmaking, sculpture, and ceramics. **A course fee is required**, with the amount determined by each campus. For high school GPA purposes, this is a Level 2 course and receives an additional 5 points toward the GPA.

5551 PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED ENGINEERING

Credit: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: None

This course provides an overview of the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), emphasizing their interconnections. Students will use a variety of computer hardware and software applications to complete assignments and projects. This course serves as a prerequisite for Introduction to Robotics.

5141 FOUNDATIONS OF BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Credit: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: None

This course develops technology skills applicable to both personal and business contexts. Students will gain intermediate-level proficiency in word processing, spreadsheets, databases, telecommunications, desktop publishing, presentation management, networking, operating systems, and emerging technologies.

5371 PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN SERVICES

Credits: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: None

This course allows students to explore careers within the Human Services career cluster, including counseling and mental health, early childhood development, family and community services, and

personal care services.

1510 SPANISH I

Credit: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: None

This introductory course is designed for beginning Spanish speakers. It emphasizes foundational language concepts essential for developing proficiency, including pronunciation, stress patterns, and intonation. Students will also explore basic geography, customs, and cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking countries.

1535 ADVANCED SPANISH III FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS

Credits: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: Spanish I and Spanish II for Native Speakers or Placement Exam

In this course, students will continue to develop advanced skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing through active use of the language in the classroom. Emphasis is placed on communicative proficiency and the introduction of Spanish literature. Students taking this course are expected to take AP Spanish IV in the following year.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District not discriminate on the basis of handicap in any district program or activity. The district will identify, evaluate and provide an appropriate public education to students who are handicapped under Section 504, including homeless children.

La Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación, de 1973, y la Ley de Americanos con Impedimentos (ADA) requieren que el DISTRITO ESCOLAR INDEPENDIENTE de EAGLE MOUNTAIN-SAGINAW no discrimine basándose en impedimentos, en ningún programa o actividad del distrito. El distrito identificará, evaluará y ofrecerá una educación pública adecuada a los estudiantes con impedimento, de acuerdo con la Sección 504, incluyendo a los niños sin hogar.

It is the policy of Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap, in its Career and Technical (vocational) programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the civil rights act of 1964, as amended: Title IX of the education amendments of 1972: and section 504 of the rehabilitation act of 1973, as amended.