

8th Grade Course Request Presentation

(Current 7th Graders)

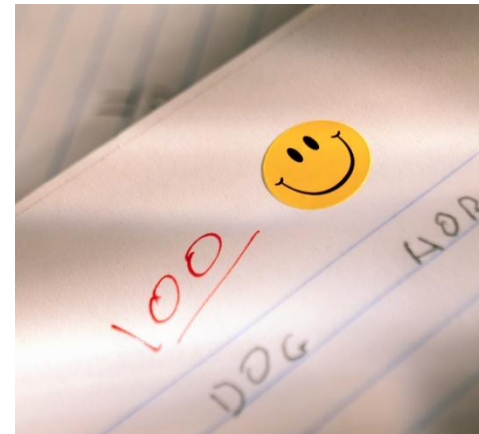
Yeah!

We are moving on.....



How do I get out of the 7th grade?

- First and second semester averages must be 70 or above in all core classes.
- Attendance **MUST** be acceptable.
- You must pass STAAR test or possibly attend summer school.



8th grade is not very different from 7th grade.....

- There will still be teams...8-1 or 8-2. These are chosen randomly, **we do not honor team requests.**
- The 5 core subjects will be required; Reading or Expo, English, Math, Science, and U.S. History.
- Pre-AP course work may be taken.
- You will still have two electives periods.

Continued.....

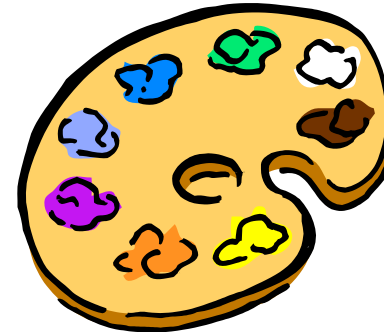
- The opportunity to take classes that may receive high school credit will be available.
- 8th graders are only required to take 1/2 year of PE or none at all, if you had PE/athletics all year in 6th and 7th grade you do not have to sign up for PE.

Electives

- There are full year (both semesters) electives and there are ½ year (1 semester) electives.
- On the back of the Course Request Sheet you will find brief descriptions of all electives that are offered.
- To equal two periods worth of electives you may have the following scenarios:
 - * 2 Full year electives.... like Band and Athletics
 - * 1 full year and 2 half year....like Athletics and ½ year Art and ½ year Construction
 - * 4 half year....like ½ year Theatre Arts, ½ Family and Community Services, ½ Tech Ed. and ½ PE

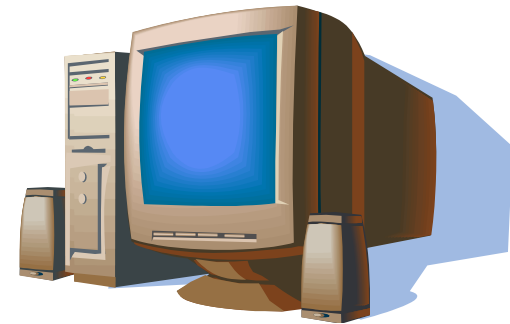
Full Year Elective Choices....

- **Spanish** (only sign up if you had Spanish all year in 7th grade)
- **Band**
- **Orchestra**
- **Choir**
- **Theatre Arts**
- **Art**



1/2 Year (semester) Elective Choices...

- Theatre Arts
- Art
- Tech Education
- Construction Tech
- Family and Community Services
(skills for living)
- Prin. Of Hospitality & Tourism
(Prep-ATC)
- Touch Systems Data Entry
(keyboarding)
- Principles of Information
Technology (you must have successfully
completed keyboarding before taking this
class)



Electives that offer High School Credit

- With successful completion of the following classes, 8th graders will earn .5 or 1 High School elective credit toward graduation:

Touch Systems Data Entry .5

Prin. Of Hospitality & Tourism .5

Prin. Of Information Technology .5

Family and Community Services .5

- If you successfully complete Spanish in 7th **AND** 8th grade you will earn 1 High School elective credit toward graduation for:

Spanish 1

However, you must still take 2 additional years of Spanish in High School to fulfill graduation requirements.



Spanish

- You must have completed Spanish in 7th grade with a passing grade.
- If you successfully complete **BOTH** years (grade 7 and grade 8) you will receive (1) high school elective credit, but it does not go towards your high school GPA.
- You will still be required to take two additional years of Spanish in high school.



Orchestra and Band

- Must have participated in 7th grade. You will be placed in the orchestra or Band, in which you qualify, according to the Orchestra and Band directors.
- Orchestra and Band require a yearlong commitment.
- You must remain academically eligible to participate in UIL competitions.



Athletics or PE/Wellness Choices

- Choices for PE or athletics credit are:

½ year PE/Wellness

Full year PE/Wellness

PE Tennis (full year)

Boy's Athletics (full year)

Girl's Athletics (full year)

Partner PE (full year)

(by application ONLY)



Athletics

- This is available for those who wish to participate in competitive volleyball, football, basketball, and/or track/cross country.
- Practice is REQUIRED and goes until approximately 5 pm. Transportation is the responsibility of the parents.
- This requires a YEARLONG COMMITMENT. When you are not in season you will be participating in off-season workouts.
- A physical exam is required to be in athletics.
- Students must pass or remain academically eligible in all classes to participate in the team sports.

Should I take Pre-AP classes?

There are (3) Pre-AP class options:
English, Science, and US History.

When making the decision to sign up for a Pre-AP class, very careful consideration should be applied. Below are some *guidelines* to follow ensuring your success in that particular subject:

Did I:

- Maintain an average of 85% or higher in that particular subject whether regular or enhanced.
- Have a conversation with my current teacher and he/she thinks I am ready to pursue an enhanced in the upcoming school year.
- Turns in all work (no missing or late work) and attends school regularly.
- Show high performance on STAAR/TAKS in that subject area.
- Met expectation on course specific assessment

Enhanced information continued...



- There will be a generic enhanced/Pre-AP contract to be signed by student and parent and turned in with course selection sheet.
- Students will not be placed in a Pre-AP class without this contract.
- Once a student is placed in a Pre-AP class, you can only get out of the class at the end of the first 6 weeks and/or at the end of first semester.
- There will be a summer assignment for Pre-AP English.

Advanced Math

- Algebra is a Math option in 8th grade if test results support placement. The placement test will be administered April 30th.
- If you successfully completed Algebra in 7th grade, you will be placed in Geometry for 8th grade.

* Remember in High School you will be required to complete (4) additional courses of Math to fulfill graduation requirements and the high school math classes taken in middle school do not count towards the high school GPA.

All students will be placed in a regular math class until the math department chair provides us with a list of students that should be placed in an advanced math class.

Math Acceleration

- You **WILL** be placed in Math Acceleration if you do not pass the Math portion of the STAAR test.
- Math Acceleration will take the place of one elective. If this happens, you will only have the opportunity to choose one full year or two half year electives



READ 180



- At the beginning of the school year all students are administered the **SRI** (Scholastic Reading Inventory.)
- If you do not meet the expectation on this assessment you will be placed in a **Read 180** class.
- **Read 180** will then take the place of one of your electives

Course Request Sheet (orange sheet)

- Please remember....these are REQUESTS!
- There are no *guarantees* that these are the classes you will receive. We will do our best to place you in the classes you request, but there are times that it will just not work in your schedule.



Course Request Sheet - continued

- You AND your parent must sign the Request Sheet!
- Request Sheets are DUE no later than Friday March 1st
- You should turn in Course Request Sheet (along with Pre-AP contract if you plan on taking a Pre-AP class) to your SCIENCE teacher
- Advanced Math Placement Information Meeting for parents will take place at the PDC in the spring. More information to follow.
- Ask any and all questions.....we want this to be a positive experience for all!



The End!

QUESTIONS?