

7th Grade Course Request Presentation

(Current 6th Graders)

Welcome Parents!

Meeting Objectives

- Explain Course request process at HMS
- Offer information on course options
- Explain High School Credit information
- Answer questions and address concerns

To complete the 6th grade successfully.....

- First and second semester averages must be 70 or above in all core classes.
- Because attendance is critical to receiving a quality education, attendance **MUST** meet state law requirements.



How is 7th grade like 6th grade?

- We continue the teaming concept. There are some exceptions where some students will need to be cross-teamed. We do not honor team requests except for medical reasons or families with twins/triplets can choose to be on the same team.
- Four core subjects will be required....ELAR/Expo (will be double blocked), Math, Science, Texas History. All student will have a short advisory period.
- School hours are still 8:15-3:35

How is 7th grade different than 6th grade?

- More elective choices. 7th graders will get three elective periods due to double blocked ELAR.
- An opportunity to take Honors or advanced coursework.
- An opportunity to take classes that may receive high school credit.
- 7th grade is the first opportunity to participate in school competitive sports!

Full Year Elective Choices....

- Orchestra
- Band
- Choir
- Spanish
- Theatre Arts
- Art
- Gateway to Technology 1
- Principles of Information Technology



Semester Elective Choices

- Students can choose to take classes that only last one semester, but are paired with another class that only lasts one semester. There are two options:
 - * Construction/TS Data Systems
 - * Nutrition and Wellness/College and Career Readiness
- On the back of the Course Request Sheet you will find brief descriptions of all electives that are offered.

Spanish Elective

- This requires a two year commitment.
- Students that successfully complete **BOTH** years (grade 7 and grade 8) will receive (1) high school ELECTIVE credit. It does not go towards the high school GPA.
- Students will be required to take two additional years of Spanish in high school to fulfill the graduation requirement.



Orchestra and Band Elective

- Students must have been in Orchestra in 6th grade to participate in 7th grade unless you have been receiving private lessons and play at an intermediate level. Contact the director for more information.
- The band directors offer an opportunity to try band for the first time as a 7th grader! If your student is interested in this opportunity please choose beginning band on the course request sheet and the director will contact you.
- Orchestra and Band require a yearlong commitment and require a lot of time outside the school day. Please only sign up if you are prepared for this commitment.
- Students must remain academically eligible to participate in UIL competitions.



Classes that offer High School Elective Credit

With successful completion of the following classes, 7th graders will earn High School elective credit toward graduation:

Nutrition and Wellness

Touch Systems Data Entry(keyboarding)

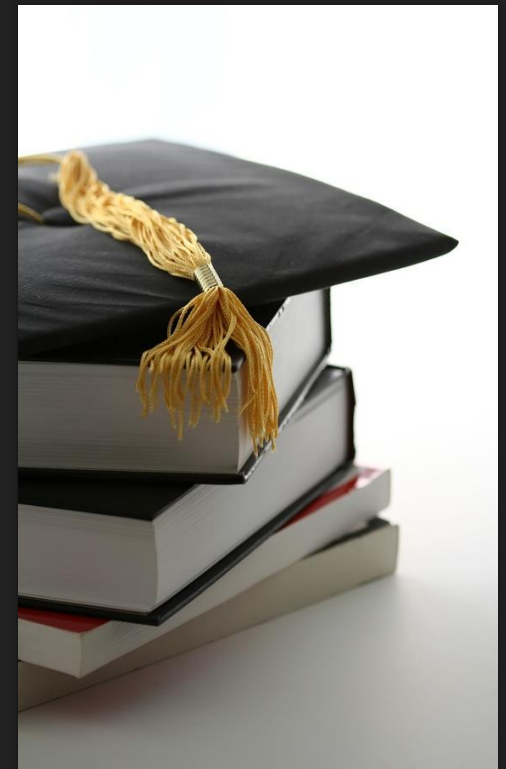
Gateway to Technology

Principles of Information Technology

If a student successfully completes Spanish in 7th AND 8th grade they will earn 1 High School elective credit toward graduation for:

Spanish 1

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



Athletics or PE/Wellness Choices

- Choices for a PE or athletic classes are:

PE/Wellness (Full year)

PE Tennis (Full year)

Boy's Athletics (Full Year)

Girl's Athletics (Full Year)

Partner PE (Full Year)

(by application ONLY)

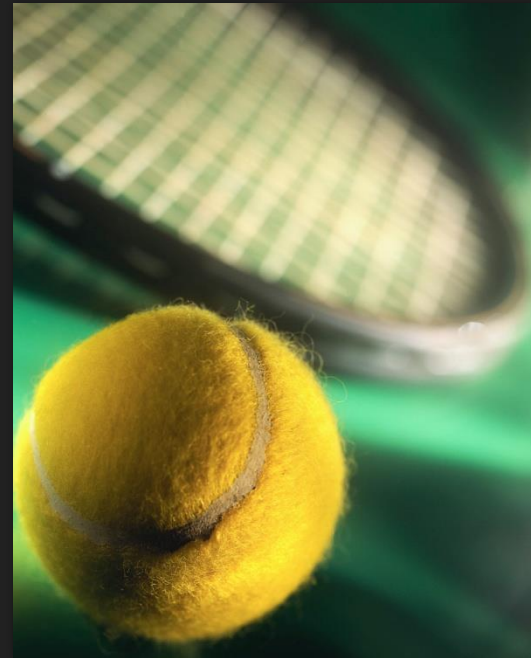


Athletics

- This is available for those who wish to participate in competitive volleyball, football, basketball, track and/or cross country. The expectation by our athletic coordinators is that you compete in at least two of these sports or you will be moved to regular PE.
- 7:00 am practice is REQUIRED and transportation is the responsibility of the parents!
- This requires a YEARLONG COMMITMENT. When students are not in season they 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.

PE Tennis

- 7th grade tennis will only be offered during 7th and 8th periods.
- Due to scheduling conflicts this may not be an option for your student and he/she will be placed in a regular PE class.



Should my child take Honors classes???

There are three Honors class options: ELAR, Science, and TX History.

When making the decision to sign up for an Honors class, very careful consideration should be applied. Below are some *guidelines* to follow, ensuring student success in that particular subject:

My child:

- Maintained an average of 90% or higher in that particular subject.
- Has had a conversation with their current teacher and he/she thinks they are ready to pursue an Honors class in the upcoming school year.
- Turns in all work (no missing or late work) and attends school regularly.
- Showed high performance on STAAR in that subject area (if applicable).

Students will only be removed from Honors classes if they are truly misplaced AND there is room in the schedule for the move.

Advanced Math

For the first time in Denton ISD, 7th Grade Advanced Math is open for enrollment. You may choose this the same as you would an Honors class. However, VERY careful consideration should be applied along with some additional suggested criteria to make sure your student is placed appropriately:

- 1.) 90% or higher in current math class
- 2.) 230 or higher on MAP assessment
- 3.) Masters level on 5th grade Math STAAR

Algebra is an option in 7th grade if test results support placement. The placement test will be administered near the end of the school year.

*** IMPORTANT ***

* Remember in High School you will be required to complete four (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.

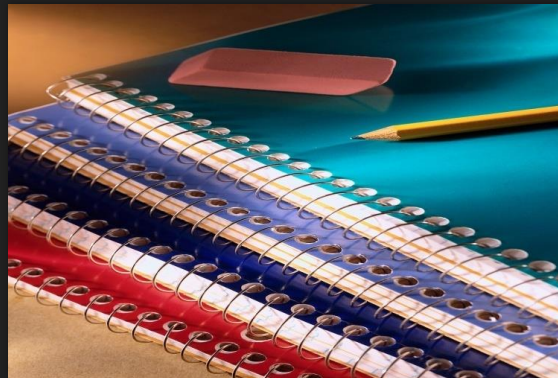
Math and Reading Intervention

- Your child will be placed in Math and/or Reading Intervention if they do not pass the Math and/or Reading portion of the STAAR test.
- Math Accel and/or Reading Intervention will take the place of one elective.
- If you choose to receive outside of school intervention, documentation is necessary to reinstate the elective.



Course Request Sheet

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



Upcoming dates and important information.....

- Student class presentations: January 15-17
- Request Sheets are DUE no later than January 24th!
- Students should turn in Request Sheet to their 6th grade social studies teacher (Talley, Harmon or Turek)
- Ask any and all questions.....we want this to be a positive experience for all!

QUESTIONS?

The End!