

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Request  
Presentation  
(Current 7<sup>th</sup> Graders)

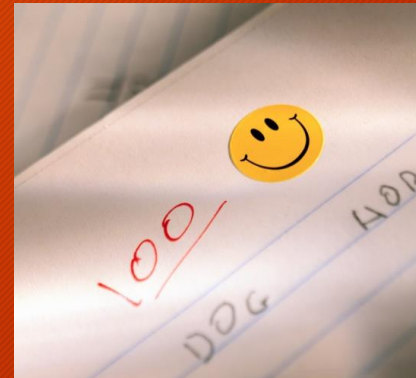
**Welcome Parents!**

# 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.



# 8<sup>th</sup> grade is not very different from 7<sup>th</sup> 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.
- 4 core subjects will be required....ELAR/Expo (will be double blocked), Math, Science, US History.
- Honors classes are still an option.
- Classes to earn High School elective credit are still an option.
- School hours are still 8:15-3:35.



# Full Year Elective Choices....

- Spanish 8 (This is only a choice if you successfully completed Spanish class in a Denton ISD school in 7<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Band
- Orchestra
- Choir
- Theatre Arts
- Art
- Gateway to Technology 1
- Gateway to Technology 2 (with teacher approval)
- Principles of Human Services
- Principles of Information Technology



# Semester Electives

- 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:

\* CP construction/Touch Systems Data Entry

\* Nutrition and Wellness/College and Career Readiness

If you took any of the above classes in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, you MAY NOT take them again - Please do not list them as a choice!

- On the back of the Course Request Sheet you will find brief descriptions of all electives that are offered.

# Spanish

- You must have successfully completed Spanish in 7<sup>th</sup> grade at a Denton ISD school.
- 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 to fulfill graduation requirements.





# Orchestra and Band

- The student must have participated in 7<sup>th</sup> grade orchestra or band. Each musician will be placed in the orchestra or Band, in which the directors deem appropriate.
- Orchestra and Band require a *yearlong commitment* and a lot of time outside the school day.
- You must remain academically eligible to participate in UIL competitions.





# Classes that offer High School Elective Credit

- With successful completion of the following classes, 8<sup>th</sup> graders will earn High School elective credit toward graduation:

Touch Systems Data Entry

Nutrition and Wellness

Prin. Of Human Services

Prin. Of Information Technology

Gateway to Technology 1

Gateway to Technology 2

- If you successfully complete Spanish in 7<sup>th</sup> AND 8<sup>th</sup> 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.



# Athletics or PE/Wellness Choices

- Choices for PE or athletics 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, or cross country. The expectation by our athletic coordinators is that athletes will compete in at least two of these sports or be moved to regular PE.
- 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 once during middle school to participate in athletics.
- Students must pass or remain academically eligible in ALL classes to participate in the team sports.



# PE TENNIS

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade tennis will only be offered 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> periods.
- Due to scheduling conflicts this may not be an option for your student and then 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 US History.

When making the decision to sign up for a 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 whether regular or Honors.
- Has had a conversation with their current teacher and he/she thinks they are ready to pursue Honors in the upcoming school year.
- Turned in all work (no missing or late work) and attended school regularly.
- Demonstrated 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.

# Advancement in Math

- If your student successfully completed Advanced math in 7<sup>th</sup> grade he/she *may* be placed in algebra.
- If your student successfully completed algebra in 7<sup>th</sup> grade he/she *will* be placed in geometry.
- If your student is interested in taking algebra for 8<sup>th</sup> grade, but did not successfully complete 7<sup>th</sup> grade advanced math, there will be an assessment in May to determine if placement is appropriate. Your student will be placed in regular 8<sup>th</sup> grade math until assessment results are available.

**\* IMPORTANT \***

\* Remember in High School students will be required to complete FOUR 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.



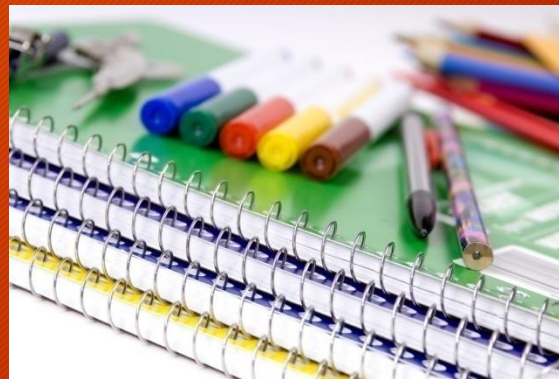
# Math and Reading Intervention



- 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 and/or Reading Intervention will take the place of an elective.
- If you choose to receive outside of school intervention, documentation will be 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 the schedule.



# Upcoming dates and important information.....

- Student class presentations: January 23<sup>rd</sup>, Students will come home with an orange request sheet.
- Requests sheets are due no later than January 31st.
- Students should turn in Request sheet to their 7th grade TX History teacher (Guilford, Campbell or Godfrey)
- Ask any and all questions.....we want this to be a positive experience for all!



Questions?

**The End!**