

EAST ROUGHNECKS



WEST WILDCATTERS

PEARLAND ISD
Junior High School
Course Selection
Handbook



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GENERAL INFORMATION

This handbook has been designed to provide curriculum information and assist students in making course selections to successfully complete junior high requirements.

**Students take seven (7) classes in the first (fall) semester
and seven (7) classes in the second (spring) semester.**

SAMPLE 7TH GRADE SCHEDULE

| FIRST SEMESTER | SECOND SEMESTER |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| English | English |
| Math | Math |
| Texas History | Texas History |
| Science | Science |
| Reading | Reading |
| Physical Education or Athletics | Physical Education or Athletics |
| Elective | Elective |

SAMPLE 8TH GRADE SCHEDULE

| FIRST SEMESTER | SECOND SEMESTER |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| English | English |
| Math | Math |
| United States History | United States History |
| Science | Science |
| Reading | Reading |
| PE or Athletics or Elective | PE or Athletics or Elective |
| Elective | Elective |

REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

| 7 TH GRADE | 8 TH GRADE |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Reading* | Reading* |
| English* | English* |
| Math* | Math* |
| Science* | Science* |
| Social Studies (TX History)* | Social Studies (US History)* |

*PreAP levels available. See individual course descriptions for more information.

REQUIRED ELECTIVE COURSES

| 7 TH GRADE | 8 TH GRADE |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Physical Education (P.E.)* | Physical Education (P.E.)* |
| OR | OR |
| Athletics** | Athletics** |

*Students are required to take two semesters of PE at the junior high level.

Athletics is a **full year course. Athletics may be taken in both 7th and 8th grade. ALL course requirements must be met in order to be placed in this class.

ELECTIVES

| 7 TH GRADE SEMESTER ELECTIVES | 8 TH GRADE SEMESTER ELECTIVES |
|---|--|
| Art I Art II** Exploratory Spanish** Career Portals**(Exploring Video) Mixed Choir Theatre Arts Theatre Arts II | Art I Art II Art III** Exploratory Spanish** Mixed Choir Theatre Arts Theatre Arts II Office Aide Career Portals**(Exploring Video) Professional Communications** (HS credit) Synergistics** (PJHE only* HS credit) |
| 7 TH GRADE YEAR LONG ELECTIVES | 8 TH GRADE YEAR LONG ELECTIVES |
| Band Choir Yearbook** | Band Choir Spanish I (HS credit) Yearbook Principles of Arts, A/V Tech, & Communications (HS credit) Synergistics** (PJHE only* HS credit) |

**Not all elective courses listed above are offered at all junior highs. See course selection form for individual campus offerings.

ADVANCED ACADEMICS

All Pearland ISD students who wish to accept the academic challenge of a PreAP are welcome to participate in the PreAP or Advanced program. Prior to making a commitment to course selections, students and parents should be aware of the expectations and rigorous coursework for these classes so they can make informed decisions. The following guidelines are provided to help students and parents make informed decisions:

Academic Considerations

PreAP curricula are above grade level. Students should be independent learners as instruction is fast paced, in-depth, complex, and abstract. Students should understand that much of the work is done outside of class. An A or B in the subject area indicates that the student has the academic ability and the task commitment to succeed. Once enrolled, students **must remain in the course for six weeks** before a schedule change is considered. For additional considerations, see your campus counselor.

Performance Considerations

PreAP students should be independent learners who demonstrate:

A. Motivation

Some students take PreAP classes because it is the best preparation for high school; others, for the academic challenge. Whatever the reason, students should apply their best effort.

B. Time Management and Organization

Beginning assignments when they are assigned, using planners and schedules when multiple projects are due, and developing the self-discipline to make academic achievement a priority are keys to success in PreAP classes.

C. Positive Attitude

PreAP courses demand more attention, work, and effort than a regular class. Students should persevere, and when faced with challenges, take the necessary steps to succeed in the class (tutorials, study groups, etc.). Students who can adjust to the rigor while in junior high find greater success in high school.

D. Strong Work Ethic

Students should be committed in their goal to be successful in PreAP and demonstrate that commitment by good attendance, punctuality, and by showing respect for themselves and others. Students should expect to do a considerable amount of study and preparation outside of class, and to complete all assignments on time.



PreAP/AP - Special Education - Section 504 Accommodations

The following guidelines are intended to apply to eligible Special Education and Section 504 students who enroll in Pre-Advanced Placement classes.

Academic Considerations

Curriculum typically consists of three elements:

Content

The content of the class is "What will be taught." Within a Pre-Advanced Placement or Advanced Placement class, the content is not altered. It is a rigorous college level or college preparatory level course based on national standards.

Process

The process of the class is "How the class is taught and the content learned." This is the area in which most accommodations can be made.

Product

The product of the class is "Evidence of learning." The content or expectation of the exams and products for PreAP/ AP classes cannot be altered; however accommodations in how an exam may be taken are made according to the guidelines established by AP College Board and in accordance with each student's individual accommodation plan as written by the ARD or Section 504 committee.

Students who take AP classes are expected to take AP exams. Accommodations for AP exams are listed on the AP College Board website at www.collegeboard.com Students who need accommodations for an AP exam should see their campus counselor in order to make the request from AP College Board. Please check with the counselor early in the semester to verify registration dates for students with accommodations.

As Applies to Special Education Modified Curriculum Courses

Special Education Modified Curriculum Courses for students with disabilities are determined by their Admission, Review and Dismissal Committee. Modified courses can be taught in the general and/or special education setting as documented in the student's current Individual Education Plan. These courses are developed from the student's individualized goals and objectives which are based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

As Applies to Pre-AP/AP Students

While Pre-AP/AP courses are open to any student wishing to enroll, including special education and Section 504 students; counselors, parents, ARD Committees and Section 504 Committees should be aware that these are high-level academic classes. In order to be eligible for accommodations in a Pre-AP/AP class, the student must be eligible for the same accommodation in a general education classroom. The following guidelines shall be applicable to all special education and Section 504 students who enroll in Pre-AP/AP courses:

A. Special education or Section 504 students must have equal opportunity to participate in Pre-AP or AP courses.

B. While ARD and Section 504 Committees may wish to consider Pre-AP or AP courses in connection with transition plans for students who will be attending college, ARD Committees and Section 504 Committees are not required to place students in Pre-AP or AP classes. They should be reasonably expected to be successful there with the allowable accommodations described in the guidelines referred below.

C. Optional Test Administration Procedures and Materials for STAAR and STAAR A, STAAR L, and TELPAS

- Student reads test aloud to self
- Scratch paper or another workplace
- Test administrator read writing prompt aloud
- Minimize distractions
- Colored overlays
- Magnifying devices
- Blank place marker
- Highlighters or colored pencils
- Preferential seating

D. All students interested in advanced placement credit in college courses should contact the college or university of their choice to obtain policies and standards regarding advanced placement credit, including Special Ed/Section 504 accommodations.

E. As a resource for parents of students with disabilities who are enrolling in Advanced Placement classes or Gifted and Talented programs, the link below is to a Dear Colleague letter from the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. The letter addresses the rights of students with disabilities to participate in schools' and school districts' accelerated programs such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate classes or programs.

<http://www2.ed.gov/ocr/letters/colleague-20071226.pdf>

*This information is accurate as of the printing of this document. For the most current information visit the TEA website. <http://www.tea.state.tx/>

STUDENT SCHEDULES

Schedules

Classes meet daily on a 7 period bell schedule. Students are required to take 7 classes per semester.

Schedule Changes

Upon course registration, students are expected to commit to their course choices. Schedule changes will be granted based on the following criteria:

- The student has already earned credit for a course currently scheduled.
- To correct scheduling errors or to balance class enrollment numbers.
- The student does not have a full schedule.
- **Other as approved by campus principal**



Pearland ISD Math Course Sequencing

2015 – 2016

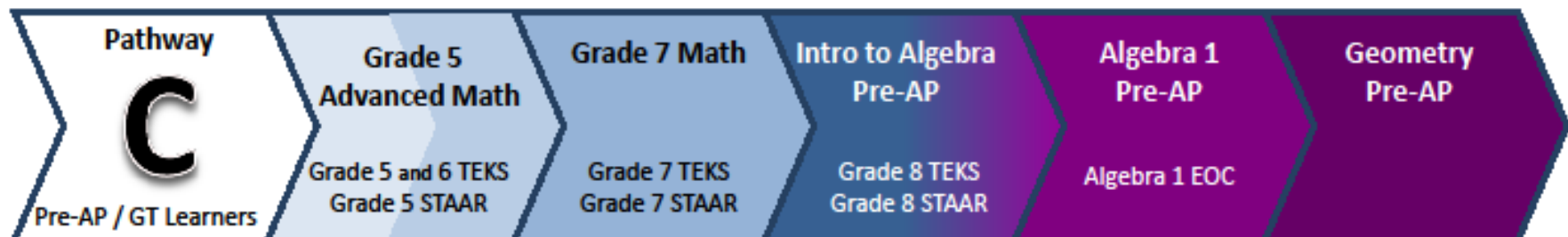
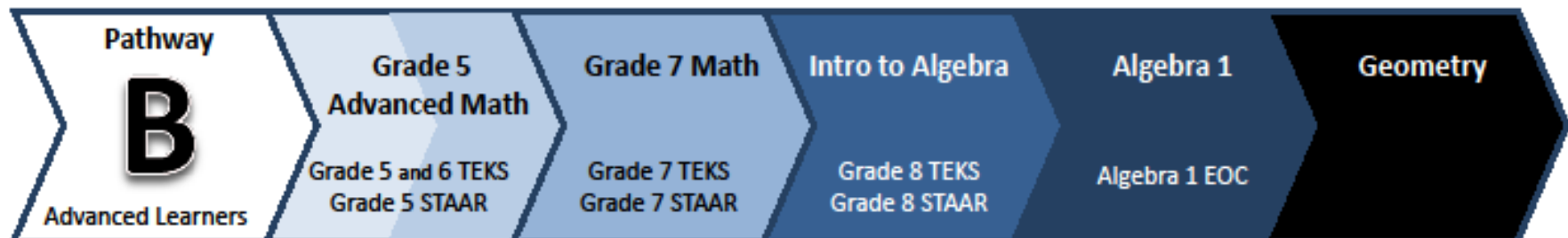
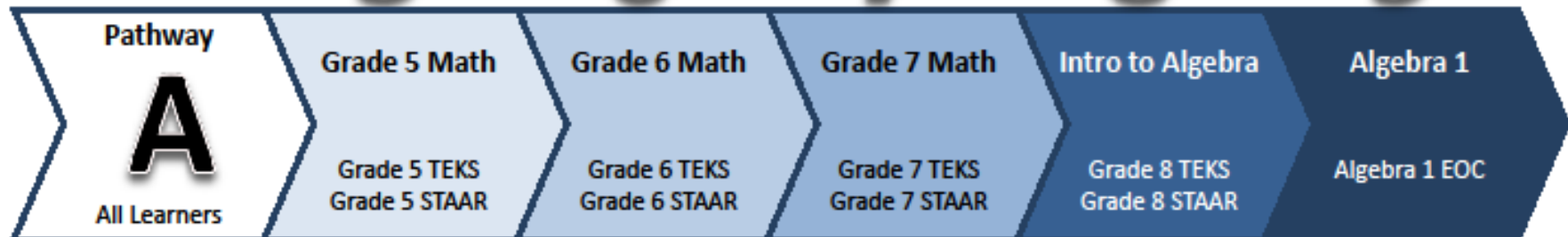
Grade **5**

Grade **6**

Grade **7**

Grade **8**

Grade **9**



COURSE SELECTION FORM COMPLETION INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Complete and obtain the appropriate signatures/initials.**
2. Circle the appropriate core class: English, Math, History, Science and Reading. Ask your current teacher for help if you are unsure of the appropriate level.
3. Circle either Physical Education (PE) or Athletics as your required elective.
4. Choose four (4) electives and RANK your choices. Number them from 1 to 4 with **one representing your first choice, two representing your second, three representing your third, and four representing your last choice.** Every student must have 4 choices.
 - a. Band and Athletics are automatically considered your first choice.
 - b. Ranking classes **does not** guarantee that a student will get to take that course; however, every effort will be made to honor student selections.
5. **Commit.** Remember that you get to choose your classes for the coming school year, but you are expected to commit and complete those courses upon registration. Make sure the courses you choose are the ones you want to take. After course placement, course changes will only be made to equalize class enrollments.
6. Parent or Guardian signature is **REQUIRED** on the form. Turn the form in to the designated teacher or your counselor.

IMPORTANT

*It is important that course selection be given **SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. PLAN CAREFULLY!!** The courses you select **now** should be the ones that you want to take next year. After school begins, course changes will be made only to correct scheduling errors or to balance class enrollments. Parent signature on the card indicates agreement with the course selection.*

REQUESTS FOR LUNCH PERIOD, TEAM, OR TEACHER,
WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

7th

GRADE

7th GRADE REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

ELA (English/Language Arts)

Full Year Course

This is a two semester course for all students and is aligned to the writing portion of the seventh grade ELA state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Students will be able to write, revise and edit in different genres with an emphasis on personal narrative and expository writing while also working with fiction, nonfiction, and persuasive works. Students will receive concentrated instruction on grammar and mechanics to enhance their writing in all content areas. Students will complete written compositions and presentations on a regular basis.

PreAP ELA

Full Year Course

The PreAP curriculum is designed to ensure that qualified students have an enriched program incorporating all content areas into writing, reading, and speech. This course will allow for in-depth analysis and reading of selected short stories, novels, and ancillary pieces. Writing instruction will cover numerous genres with an emphasis on personal narrative and expository writing while also working with fiction, nonfiction, and persuasive works. Projects and activities are designed to develop and encourage creativity and critical thinking. A significant amount of independent reading and writing will be required in this course.

GRADE 7 MATHEMATICS

Full Year Course

Including strictly grade 7 math TEKS, the curriculum for this course is intended for on-level learners. Topics in the course include, Numbers, Operations, and Quantitative Reasoning; Patterns, Relationships, and Algebraic Reasoning; Geometry and Spatial Reasoning; Measurement; and Probability and Statistics. The purpose of the graphing calculator in this course is that of a supplemental resource to provide an additional means of representing material as well as extending the learning process. Upon successful completion of this course, students will enroll in Intro to Algebra Grade 8.

INTRO TO ALGEBRA (GRADE 7)

Full Year Course

This course includes strictly grade 8 math TEKS, imbedded with instructional strategies and material appropriate for advanced learners. Topics in the course include, Numbers, Operations, and Quantitative Reasoning; Patterns, Relationships, and Algebraic Reasoning; Geometry and Spatial Reasoning; Measurement; and Probability and Statistics. The purpose of the graphing calculator in this course is that of a supplemental resource to provide an additional means of representing material as well as extending the learning process. Upon successful completion of this course, students will enroll in Algebra I Grade 8.

PreAP INTRO TO ALGEBRA GRADE 7**Full Year Course**

This course includes strictly grade 8 math TEKS, imbedded with instructional strategies and material appropriate for advanced learners. Topics in the course include, Numbers, Operations, and Quantitative Reasoning; Patterns, Relationships, and Algebraic Reasoning; Geometry and Spatial Reasoning; Measurement; and Probability and Statistics. The purpose of the graphing calculator in this course is that of a supplemental resource to provide an additional means of representing material as well as extending the learning process. In the PreAP course, students regularly participate in higher level discussions, making connections among multiple representations. Upon successful completion of this course, students will enroll in Algebra I Grade 8 PreAP.

TEXAS HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY**Full Year Course**

This is a two-semester course for all students. In Grade 7, students examine the full scope of Texas history focusing on key individuals, events, issues and their impact in each era, including Natural Texas and its People; Age of Contact; Spanish Colonial; Mexican National; Revolution and Republic; Early Statehood; Texas in the Civil War and Reconstruction; Cotton, Cattle, and Railroads; Age of Oil; Texas in the Great Depression and World War II; Civil Rights and Conservatism; and Contemporary Texas eras.

PreAP TEXAS HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY**Full Year Course**

This two semester PreAP course is designed to ensure that qualified students examine the full scope of Texas history focusing on key individuals, events, issues and their impact in each era, including Natural Texas and its People; Age of Contact; Spanish Colonial; Mexican National; Revolution and Republic; Early Statehood; Texas in the Civil War and Reconstruction; Cotton, Cattle, and Railroads; Age of Oil; Texas in the Great Depression and World War II; Civil Rights and Conservatism; and Contemporary Texas eras. Students are also required to synthesize and evaluate primary and secondary sources.

SCIENCE**Full Year Course**

This two semester course is aligned to the state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Students will use scientific investigation and reasoning to study scientific processes; matter and energy; force, motion and energy; earth and space; and organisms and environments. Although Grade 7 Science is interdisciplinary in nature; much of the content focus is on organisms and the environment.

PreAP SCIENCE**Full Year Course**

This two semester course is aligned to the state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and is designed to ensure that qualified students have an enriched program incorporating science content and higher level thinking skills. Through the concept of curriculum compacting, gifted and academically advanced students have the opportunity to master the basics quickly and move on to activities that require higher levels of thinking. With the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills as the foundation, this course will allow for in-depth analysis and reading of selected scientific sources on topics in the physical, life and earth sciences. Through the use of scientific process skills, students will investigate scenarios to present the basis or reason for some scientific research.

READING**Full Year Course**

This is a two semester course for all students and is aligned to the reading portion of the seventh grade ELA state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Students will read numerous genres including, fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, media literacy, expository, persuasive and procedural texts. Students will receive concentrated instruction on various reading strategies and vocabulary enrichment that will enhance their reading skills in all content areas.

PreAP READING**Full Year Course**

This course is designed for students to engage in advanced reading, creative writing, media literacy, and vocabulary enrichment. Students will read classical and contemporary literature in numerous genres (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, media literacy, expository, persuasive and procedural texts) and is designed to prepare students for PreAP courses in high school. Students will receive concentrated instruction on various reading strategies that will enhance their reading skills in all content areas. A significant amount of independent reading will be required in this course.

7th GRADE REQUIRED ELECTIVES

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Semesters: Per Campus

NOTE: ATHLETICS MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education is required for all 7th grade students. The curriculum is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills needed to maintain an active, healthy lifestyle. This is accomplished by participating in recreational games, conditioning and health discussions. Health topics include tobacco abuse, cardiovascular conditioning, strength development, first aid and personal fitness. Students will be graded on dressing out, participation and knowledge of subject matter. A uniform fee is required and will be discussed with the students when school begins.

IT IS STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT STUDENTS FULFILL BOTH SEMESTER REQUIREMENTS OF PE IN 7TH GRADE IN ORDER TO ALLOW ROOM FOR YEARLONG ELECTIVES IN THEIR 8TH GRADE YEAR.

7th GRADE ATHLETICS

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: A UIL physical packet MUST be completed before the first day of class. A physical examination by a doctor IS REQUIRED on standard PISD form.

Pearland ISD junior highs offer six 7th grade UIL regulated competitive teams. The teams and seasons include:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Full-Contact Football | <i>August-Beginning of November</i> |
| Volleyball | <i>August-Beginning of November</i> |
| Basketball | <i>Middle of November-End of February</i> |
| Cross-Country | <i>November</i> |
| Track | <i>March-April</i> |
| Tennis | <i>February- March</i> |

The purpose of the athletics class is twofold. First, students who make a team will practice during the season. Second, any student in the class that is not on an "in-season" team will participate in athletic conditioning (i.e. running, calisthenics, strength training). This course satisfies the physical education requirement for students selected for the program.

SPECIAL NOTES:

1. A try-out will be held for volleyball, girls' basketball, boys' basketball, and tennis.
2. A student who makes a team will need to be at practice before or after school.
3. Transportation to and from practices is the responsibility of the parents or guardian.
4. A physical examination prior to participation and a **district participation fee will be required.**

WHO SHOULD SIGN UP FOR ATHLETICS:

***Girls**

Only girls who are interested in trying out for volleyball should sign up for athletics.

In order to be in Girl's Athletics at the beginning of 7th grade you must have completed a mile in less than the time designated by your 6th grade PE teacher, and you must try out for Volleyball. Anyone not in athletics at the beginning of the year can still tryout for the Volleyball or Basketball team and will be moved into athletics if they make the team.

***Boys**

Only boys who want to play football should sign up for athletics. All boys interested in trying out for basketball, running track/cross-country, or trying out for tennis should sign up for a regular physical education class.

ATHLETICS IS A YEAR LONG COURSE. EVEN IF A STUDENT DOES NOT MAKE A TEAM HE/SHE WILL BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN OFF SEASON CONDITIONING. THERE WILL BE NO SCHEDULE CHANGES.

7th GRADE ELECTIVES

BAND

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: 1 Yr. experience on selected instrument; Audition-Teacher signature

Junior High Band is divided into three groups: *HONORS BAND*, *SYMPHONIC BAND*, and *CONCERT BAND*. These classes are mixed 7th/8th grade and based on student ability. Auditions are held at the end of the school year. Directors also need to maintain proper instrumentation for each band. While in band, students will continue to improve in the areas of tone production, rhythm, sight-reading, scales and articulation. There will be opportunities to perform in concerts and competitions in all three bands. Our goal is to create band students who will be successful in the high school band programs. Due to the level of music literature, private lessons are highly encouraged. *Students in this course may be required to pay fees and incur costs as part of their participation. These fees and costs vary depending upon the activity.*

BAND IS A YEAR LONG COURSE. THIS COURSE REQUIRES 100% FULL PARTICIPATION ALL YEAR. THERE WILL BE NO SCHEDULE CHANGES.

CHOIR

Men's, Women's Select, Women's Treble
Specific course titles may vary between campuses

Semesters: 2

Prerequisites: Audition

Mixed Choir

Semesters: 1

Junior High Choir is divided into various leveled ensembles. These classes are mixed 7th/8th grade and based on student ability. With the exception of Mixed Choir, auditions are held at the end of the school year. While in choir, students will be provided the opportunity to learn about their voices and how to sing properly. There will be opportunities to perform in concerts and competitions in all competitive choirs. Our goal is to create choir students who will be successful in the high school choir program. Due to the level of music literature, private lessons are highly encouraged. *Students in this course may be required to pay fees and incur costs as part of their participation. These fees and costs vary depending upon the activity.*

YEAR LONG CHOIRS REQUIRE 100% FULL PARTICIPATION ALL YEAR. THERE WILL BE NO SCHEDULE CHANGES.

ART I

Semesters: 1

This course encourages students to express their original ideas and feelings through the creation of visual works of art. The primary aim is to enhance student appreciation for art through a wide variety of art experiences. Basic principles and techniques are presented in drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, craft projects, and art history. A general art supply fee is required and will be discussed with students when school begins. *Students in this course may be required to pay fees and incur costs as part of their participation. These fees and costs vary depending upon the activity.*

ART II**Semesters: 1**
Prerequisite: Art I

This course develops the ability to see, think, and work creatively with originality. Art II develops creative expression by building on skills and techniques experienced in Art I to provide a variety of art projects including sculpting, printmaking, painting, drawing and an offering of art appreciation. A general art supply fee is required and will be discussed with students when school begins. *Students in this course may be required to pay fees and incur costs as part of their participation. These fees and costs vary depending upon the activity.*

EXPLORATORY SPANISH**Semesters: 1**

This one semester course introduces students to Hispanic language, culture, and the history and legends of Latin America. Spanish will be presented with an emphasis on practical vocabulary and grammar structure with comparisons to the English language. This course is designed to help prepare students for Spanish I.

CAREER PORTALS (Exploring Video)**Semesters: 1**

This course introduces the world of video production and other activities performed in the communication industry. Students will explore the skills and technologies needed in this industry. Students will work on video projects in class, small groups, and individually. Students will learn how to plan, design and edit, and will produce their own video project.

THEATRE ARTS**Semesters: 1**

This semester course is intended for beginning acting students interested in dramatic arts. Students will develop imagination, observation, and concentration skills while engaging in creative theatre exercises. Students will also condition their bodies to be expressive. Students are introduced to the art of theatre through improvisation, pantomime, storytelling, characterization, voice and diction. Students will learn the basics of theatrical production elements, as well.

THEATRE ARTS II**Semesters: 1**

Theater Arts II is an advanced class where students expand on what they learned in Theater Arts I in order to create more complex characters and productions. Students will deepen their theatrical skills through activities such as character development, improvisation, directing and script writing. They will also take part in multiple performances, many of which will be performed for an audience.

YEARBOOK**Semesters: 2**
Requirement: Application

This course allows students the opportunity to work on the school's yearbook. They will work to develop abilities in gathering information, writing copy and captions, understanding components of quality photography, copy editing skills, and headline techniques. Emphasis is placed on developing skills in layout and design, graphics, and the use of our online yearbook editing and publishing program. Students assume responsibility for planning, coverage, and proofing of spreads. This course requires some time commitment outside the regular school hours.

8th

GRADE

8th GRADE REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

ELA (English/Language Arts)

Full Year Course

This is a two semester course for all students and is aligned to the writing portion of the eighth grade ELA state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Students will be able to write, revise and edit in different genres with an emphasis on expository and literary writing while also working with fiction, nonfiction, and persuasive works. Students will receive concentrated instruction on grammar and mechanics to enhance their writing in all content areas. Students will complete written compositions and presentations on a regular basis.

PreAP ELA

Full Year Course

The PreAP curriculum is designed to ensure that qualified students have an enriched program incorporating all content areas into writing, reading, and speech. This course will allow for in-depth analysis and reading of selected short stories, novels, and ancillary pieces. Writing instruction will cover numerous genres with an emphasis on expository and literary writing while also working with fiction, nonfiction, and persuasive works. Projects and activities are designed to develop and encourage creativity and critical thinking. A significant amount of independent reading and writing will be required in this course.

INTRO TO ALGEBRA (GRADE 8)

Full Year Course

Including strictly grade 8 math TEKS, the curriculum for this course is intended for on-level learners. Topics in the course include, Numbers, Operations, and Quantitative Reasoning; Patterns, Relationships, and Algebraic Reasoning; Geometry and Spatial Reasoning; Measurement; and Probability and Statistics. The purpose of the graphing calculator in this course is that of a supplemental resource to provide an additional means of representing material as well as extending the learning process. Upon successful completion of this course, students will enroll in Algebra I.

ALGEBRA I

High School credit: 1

Full Year Course

Prerequisite: Intro to Algebra
Requirement: STAAR End of Course Exam

This is the high school Algebra I course, imbedded with instructional strategies and material appropriate for advanced learners. As a functions-based Algebra course, the class is taught with an emphasis on the graphing calculator, regularly addressing the aspects of multiple representations of relationships including tables, graphs and equations. These students are assessed in the spring with the STAAR Algebra I EOC test. Upon successful completion of this course, students will enroll in Geometry.

NO PARTIAL HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT WILL BE AWARDED IF THE STUDENT DOES NOT MEET THE ABOVE CRITERIA OR EXITS THE PROGRAM AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON.

PreAP ALGEBRA I
High School credit: 1

Full Year Course
Prerequisite: Intro to Algebra
Requirement: STAAR End of
Course Exam

This is the high school Algebra I course, imbedded with instructional strategies and material appropriate for advanced learners. As a functions-based Algebra course, the class is taught with an emphasis on the graphing calculator, regularly addressing the aspects of multiple representations of relationships including tables, graphs and equations. In the PreAP course, students regularly participate in higher level discussions, making connections among algebraic relationships. These students are assessed in the spring with the STAAR Algebra I EOC test. Upon successful completion of this course, students will enroll in Geometry/PreAP Geometry.

NO PARTIAL HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT WILL BE AWARDED IF THE STUDENT DOES NOT MEET THE ABOVE CRITERIA OR EXITS THE PROGRAM AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON.

U.S. HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY

Full Year Course

This is a two-semester course for all students. In Grade 8, students study the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, religious, and social events and issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early republic, the Age of Jackson, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students use critical-thinking skills including the identification of bias in written, oral, and visual material.

PreAP U.S. HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY

Full Year Course

This two semester PreAP course is imbedded with instructional strategies and materials appropriate for advanced learners. Students will examine the full scope of the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, religious, and social events and issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early republic, the Age of Jackson, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students are also required to synthesize and evaluate primary and secondary sources.

SCIENCE

Full Year Course

This two semester course is aligned to the state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Students will use scientific investigation and reasoning to study scientific processes; matter and energy; force, motion and energy; earth and space; and organisms and environments. Although Grade 8 Science is interdisciplinary in nature; much of the content focus is on Earth and space science.

PreAP SCIENCE**Full Year Course**

This two semester course as described above for the 2010 Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills is designed to ensure that qualified students have an enriched program incorporating science content and higher level thinking skills. Through the concept of curriculum compacting, gifted and academically advanced students have the opportunity to master the basics quickly and move on to activities that require higher levels of thinking. With the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills as the foundation, this course will allow for in-depth analysis and reading of selected scientific sources on topics in the physical, life and earth sciences. Through the use of scientific process skills, students will investigate scenarios to present the basis or reason for some scientific research.

READING**Full Year Course**

This is a two semester course for all students and is aligned to the reading portion of the eighth grade ELA state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Students will read numerous genres including, fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, media literacy, expository, persuasive and procedural texts. Students will receive concentrated instruction on various reading strategies and vocabulary enrichment that will enhance their reading skills in all content areas.

PreAP READING**Full Year Course**

This course is designed for students to engage in advanced reading, creative writing, media literacy, and vocabulary enrichment. Students will read classical and contemporary literature in numerous genres (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, media literacy, expository, persuasive and procedural texts) and is designed to prepare students for ninth grade ELA PreAP. Students will receive concentrated instruction on various reading strategies that will enhance their reading skills in all content areas. A significant amount of independent reading will be required in this course.

8th GRADE REQUIRED ELECTIVES

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Semesters: Per Campus

NOTE: ATHLETICS MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

Two semesters of physical education are required for all junior high students. Eighth grade PE is only required if this fulfillment was not met in the seventh grade. The curriculum is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills needed to maintain an active, healthy lifestyle. This is accomplished by participating in recreational games, conditioning, and health discussions. Health topics include tobacco abuse, cardiovascular conditioning, strength development, first aid and personal fitness. Students will be graded on dressing out, participation and knowledge of subject matter. A uniform fee is required and will be discussed with the students when school begins.

8th GRADE ATHLETICS

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: Athletic Coordinator's Approval, A UIL packet MUST be completed before the first day of class. A physical examination by a doctor is required on PISD standard form.

Pearland ISD junior highs offer six 8th grade UIL regulated competitive teams. The teams and seasons include:

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Full-Contact Football | August-Beginning of November |
| Volleyball | August-Beginning of November |
| Basketball | Middle of November-End of February |
| Cross-Country | November |
| Track | March-April |
| Tennis | February- March |

*Athletics is for those students who wish to participate in **varsity level sports in high school**. Athletics is one step on this path. The purpose of the athletic class is twofold. First, students who make a team will practice during the season. Second, any student in the class that is not on an "in-season" team will participate in athletic conditioning (i.e. running, calisthenics, strength training). This course satisfies the physical education requirement for students selected for the program.*

SPECIAL NOTES:

1. A try-out will be held for volleyball, girls' basketball, boys' basketball, and tennis.
2. A student who makes a team will need to be at practice before or after school.
3. Transportation to and from practices is the responsibility of the parents or guardian.
4. A physical examination prior to participation and a **district participation fee will be required**.

WHO SHOULD SIGN UP FOR ATHLETICS:

***Girls** *Only girls who made the volleyball team or the basketball team will be approved for athletics.*

All girls interested in trying out for volleyball, basketball, running track/cross-country, or trying out for tennis should sign up for a regular physical education class. If a girl makes the 8th grade volleyball team or basketball team, her schedule will be evaluated to see if she needs a schedule change.

***Boys** *Only boys who want to play football should sign up for athletics.*

All boys interested in trying out for basketball, running track/cross-country, or trying out for tennis should sign up for a regular physical education class. If a boy makes the 8th grade basketball team, his schedule will be evaluated to see if he needs a schedule change.

ATHLETICS IS A YEAR LONG COURSE. EVEN IF A STUDENT DOES NOT MAKE A TEAM HE/SHE WILL BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN OFF SEASON CONDITIONING. THERE WILL BE NO SCHEDULE CHANGES.

8th GRADE ELECTIVES

BAND

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: 1 Yr. experience on selected instrument; Audition-Teacher signature

Junior High Band is divided into three groups: *HONORS BAND*, *SYMPHONIC BAND*, and *CONCERT BAND*. These classes are mixed 7th/8th grade and based on student ability. Auditions are held at the end of the school year. Directors also need to maintain proper instrumentation for each band. While in band, students will continue to improve in the areas of tone production, rhythm, sight-reading, scales and articulation. There will be opportunities to perform in concerts and competitions in all three bands. Our goal is to create band students who will be successful in the high school band programs. Due to the level of music literature, private lessons are highly encouraged. *Students in this course may be required to pay fees and incur costs as part of their participation. These fees and costs vary depending upon the activity.*

BAND IS A YEAR LONG COURSE. THIS COURSE REQUIRES 100% FULL PARTICIPATION ALL YEAR. THERE WILL BE NO SCHEDULE CHANGES.

CHOIR

Men's, Women's Select, Women's Treble
Specific course titles may vary between campuses

Semesters: 2

Prerequisites: Audition

Mixed Choir

Semesters: 1

Junior High Choir is divided into various leveled ensembles. These classes are mixed 7th/8th grade and based on student ability. With the exception of Mixed Choir, auditions are held at the end of the school year. While in choir, students will be provided the opportunity to learn about their voices and how to sing properly. There will be opportunities to perform in concerts and competitions in all competitive choirs. Our goal is to create choir students who will be successful in the high school choir programs. Due to the level of music literature, private lessons are highly encouraged. *Students in this course may be required to pay fees and incur costs as part of their participation. These fees and costs vary depending upon the activity.*

YEAR LONG CHOIRS REQUIRE 100% FULL PARTICIPATION ALL YEAR. THERE WILL BE NO SCHEDULE CHANGES.

ART I

Semesters: 1

This course encourages students to express their original ideas and feelings through the creation of visual works of art. The primary aim is to enhance student appreciation for art through a wide variety of art experiences. Basic principles and techniques are presented in drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, craft projects, and art history. A general art supply fee is required and will be discussed with students when school begins. *Students in this course may be required to pay fees and incur costs as part of their participation. These fees and costs vary depending upon the activity.*

ART II

Semesters: 1

Prerequisite: Art I

This course develops the ability to see, think, and work creatively with originality. Art II develops creative expression by building on skills and techniques experienced in Art I to provide a variety of art projects including sculpting, printmaking, painting, drawing and an offering of art appreciation. A general art supply fee is required and will be discussed with students when school begins. *Students in this course may be required to pay fees and incur costs as part of their participation. These fees and costs vary depending upon the activity.*

ART III**Prerequisites: Art I & II
Teacher approval**

Art III is for advanced students who have taken Art I and Art II and are interested in intense accelerated work. Students will make use of knowledge gained in previous classes to make more extensive art works. A supply fee is required. *Students in this course may be required to pay fees and incur costs as part of their participation. These fees and costs vary depending upon the activity.*

EXPLORATORY SPANISH**Semesters: 1**

This one semester course introduces students to Hispanic culture, and the history and legends of Latin America. Language will be presented with an emphasis on practical vocabulary and grammar structure with comparisons to the English language. Methods of instruction include film, games, art and computer utilization.

CAREER PORTALS (Exploring Video)**Semesters: 1**

This course introduces the world of video production and other activities performed in the communication industry. Students will explore the skills and technologies needed in this industry. Students will work on video projects in class, small groups, and individually. Students will learn how to plan, design and edit, and will produce their own video project.

THEATRE ARTS**Semesters: 1**

This semester course is intended for beginning acting students interested in dramatic arts. Students will develop imagination, observation, and concentration skills while engaging in creative theatre exercises. Students will also condition their bodies to be expressive. Students are introduced to the art of theatre through improvisation, pantomime, storytelling, characterization, voice and diction. Students will learn the basics of theatrical production elements, as well.

THEATRE ARTS II**Semesters: 1**

Theater Arts II is an advanced class where students expand on what they learned in Theater Arts I in order to create more complex characters and productions. Students will deepen their theatrical skills through activities such as character development, improvisation, directing and script writing. They will also take part in multiple performances, many of which will be performed for an audience.

YEARBOOK**Semesters: 2
Requirement: Application**

This course allows students the opportunity to work on the school's yearbook. They will work to develop abilities in gathering information, writing copy and captions, understanding components of quality photography, copy editing skills, and headline techniques. Emphasis is placed on developing skills in layout and design, graphics, and the use of our online yearbook editing and publishing program. Students assume responsibility for planning, coverage, and proofing of spreads. This course requires some time commitment outside the regular school hours.

8th GRADE ELECTIVES FOR HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

PRINCIPLES OF ARTS, AUDIO/VIDEO TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS

Semesters: 2
High School Credit: 1

Principles of Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications is a year-long course designed to provide students with a foundation in the fundamentals of design and computer technology used in the arts, design and animation, and video technology professions. Students will develop basic knowledge, concepts, technical skills and vocabulary necessary for computer digital illustration for print, the internet, animation and video technology. The computer will serve as a tool to solve problems, gain knowledge and communication ideas.

PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATIONS (Speech)

Semesters: 1
High School Credit: .5 (1 semester)

The successful participation in professional and social life, students must develop effective communication skills. Students enrolled in Communication Applications will be expected to identify, analyze, develop and evaluate communication skills needed for professional and social success in interpersonal situations, group interactions, and personal and professional presentations.

SPANISH I

Semesters: 2
High School Credit: 1

The student will be able to understand statements, commands, and ask and answer questions from everyday conversation. The student will be able to read and write simple expressions. The student will become aware of the history and culture of Spanish-speaking areas. Students' grades in Spanish will be evaluated at the end of each grading period.

SYNERGISTICS (Problems and Solutions)

Semesters: 1 or 2
High School Credit: .5 per semester completed

This course allows students to explore a variety of careers through hands-on applications of real-world problems, solutions, and tasks. Students work cooperatively via computer modules to implement skills utilized in such fields as Audio/Visual Production, Engineering Bridges, Manufacturing, and Flight Technology effectively demonstrating how science, technology, math, and other subjects relate to the real world. This course provides an A/B semester curriculum allowing students the option to take this course for one semester or both.

NO PARTIAL HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT WILL BE AWARDED IN ANY OF THESE COURSES IF THE STUDENT DOES NOT MEET THE ABOVE CRITERIA OR EXITS THE PROGRAM AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON.

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

PEARLAND JUNIOR HIGH EAST 281-485-2481
Principal **Annette Chambliss**
Counselors..... **Elizabeth Fitlow and Dhanna Norman**



PEARLAND JUNIOR HIGH WEST..... 281-412-1222
Principal **Andrea Wenke**
Counselors..... **Brandee Rivera and KC Scarborough**



PEARLAND JUNIOR HIGH SOUTH 281-727-1500
Principal **Jason Frerking**
Counselors..... **Debra Lenamond and Yamelis Hennigan**



BERRY MILLER JUNIOR HIGH..... 281-997-3900
Principal **Kim Brooks**
Counselors..... **Sarah Kierkiewicz and Crichelle Cockrell**

