
2008-2009 MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE



GRADES 6-8

Garland Independent School District Equal Opportunity Statements

Title IX

1. No administrative officer or employee of the Garland Independent School District, acting in his/her official capacity, may discriminate on the basis of a person's sex, race, religion, color, language, or national origin regarding: personnel practices, including assigning, hiring, promoting, compensating, and discharging employees; use of facilities; awarding contracts; and participation in programs.
2. No student shall, on the basis of sex, race, religion, language, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity sponsored by this school district except as specifically provided in Title IX implementing regulations.

Inquiries regarding any of these statements should be directed to Dr. Gary Reeves, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel, P.O. Box 469026, Garland, Texas 75046-9026, (972) 487-3040.

Section 504

1. No qualified handicapped person shall, on the basis of handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity sponsored by this school district except as specifically provided in Section 504 Implementing Regulations.
2. Garland Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of disability by denying access to the benefits of District services, programs, or activities.

Inquiries regarding any of these statements should be directed to the Director of Special Programs, P.O. Box 469026, Garland, Texas 75046-9026, (972) 487-3177.

Career and Technical Education

Career and Technical Education offers students an opportunity to learn skills they may use in high school, in a career after graduation and/or as a financial means to help further education. In addition, Career and Technical Education is designed to provide students the opportunity to make informed occupational choices, determine educational needs and options, develop employability traits, and acquire marketable skills. The Career and Technical Education courses are described in the information that follows. The Garland Independent School District offers Career and Technical Education Programs in many of the 16 career clusters. Admission to these programs is based on:

Career interests, Age appropriateness, Class space available, Prerequisites and aptitude for the program, and Adherence to school rules and regulations.

Garland Independent School District is supportive of the state plan based on the Public Education Career and Technical Education Goals established by the 74th Legislature in TEC §29.181:

Each public school student shall master the basic skills and knowledge necessary for:

- (1) managing the dual roles of family member and wage earner; and
- (2) gaining entry-level employment in a high-skill, high-wage job or continuing the student's education at the postsecondary level.

It is the policy of the Garland Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices and/or its 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; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

The Garland Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs. The Garland Independent School District offers a free and appropriate education to eligible students.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, (Dr. Gary Reeves, Assistant Superintendent for Administration), P.O. Box 469026, 501 S. Jupiter Road, Garland, TX 75046-9026, (972) 487-3041 and/or the Section 504 Coordinator for Students (Dr. Joseph Lopez, Director of Special Programs), P.O. Box 469026, 720 Stadium Drive, Garland, TX 75046-9026, (972) 487-3177.



To the Students and Parents of Garland I.S.D.:

This guide contains the course offerings for middle school students in Garland I.S.D. for the 2008-2009 school year. Several areas merit your careful attention. In choosing your courses, you are preparing for your future. All students have the opportunity to explore areas of interest during their years in middle school.

Some students will be able to earn high school credits. Students who can demonstrate that they have already mastered the content usually covered in eighth grade English and/or math can take English I and/or Algebra I in grade eight and will earn a credit(s) toward a high school diploma. Students who successfully complete Spanish A and B in seventh and eighth grades will earn a credit toward a high school diploma, and students who complete career connections will earn a half-credit.

Please know that your school's administrators, teachers, and counselors stand ready to address your questions/concerns about any part of the school program. We want every student to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for future success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Curtis Culwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Curtis" and last name "Culwell" clearly distinguishable.

Curtis Culwell, Ed.D.
Superintendent

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE

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MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

TO THE STUDENT

This guide has been prepared to enable you and your parents to select your courses wisely during your three years in middle school. In elementary school you were assigned to certain courses. In middle school you will play a larger role in deciding which courses you will take. Your school counselor and teachers are ready to assist you in planning your program of study during grades 6–8. Complete your Choice of Subject form for 2007-2008 and return it to school promptly. Your school counselor will schedule a conference with you after you have returned this form to make final decisions for 2007-2008.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION GUIDELINES

A district may not grant social promotions. Students may be promoted only on the basis of academic achievement.

The numerical grade of 70 shall represent mastery of the essential knowledge and skills for the subject or course. Mastery means that the student has the skills necessary to be successful at the next level.

To be promoted from one grade level to the next, a student must have an **overall average of 70** or above for the year in all courses taken. In addition, students must have an average of 70 or above in **three** of the following four subjects: (1) English language arts (includes English and reading), (2) mathematics, (3) social studies, and (4) science. Students who fail to meet achievement standards for promotion will be retained.

PROCEDURES FOR GROUPING STUDENTS

School personnel recommend enrollment in appropriate classes according to previous scholastic grades, standardized achievement test scores, and ability scores. Students and parents may request placement in an advanced level of grouping. Any change in the recommended level must be approved by the principal.

Failing grades in any class do not justify a recommendation for rescheduling into an alternative class when ability scores and achievement scores clearly indicate the student can do the required work.

Students who experience serious difficulties and/or have failing grades early in the school year should discuss the problem with the teacher, counselor, and principal. If it is recommended that the student will benefit from a schedule change and parents agree with the recommendation, this change should be made immediately. If the schedule change is delayed for any reason and the student continues to fail at the end of the semester, the change will be made at that time.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TESTING PROGRAM

The Garland Independent School District has a comprehensive standardized testing program designed to provide students, parents, teachers, and counselors with valid information that will help the students achieve maximum potential. There are both norm-referenced tests which provide a basis for comparing students' achievement performance with other students' achievement performance nationally and criterion-referenced tests which measure students' mastery of the curriculum. These tests also provide a basis for making wise decisions regarding course offerings, helping students consider various career options, and enabling administrators and teachers to determine the effectiveness of educational programs.

The following list gives a short description and general schedule of standardized tests used in the Garland Independent School District testing program.

• Grades 6, 7, and 8

The Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)—The TAKS test is a state-mandated, criterion-referenced test measuring grade level skills in reading and mathematics at grades 6-8, writing at grade 7, and social studies and science at grade 8. The TAKS is administered in the spring.

Beginning in the spring of 2008, the student success initiative requires all 8th grade students to pass the TAKS reading and math tests to be promoted to grade 9. If a student does not pass a test the first time it is administered, he or she will have two additional testing opportunities, one in late spring and one in the summer.

• Grades 6 and 8

Iowa Tests of Basic Skills—These norm-referenced tests measure progress in reading, language arts, and mathematics. They are administered in the fall.

The FITNESSGRAM physical fitness test will be administered annually to students in grades 6-8 to meet the requirements of SB 530. This is a health-related fitness assessment and is a research-based criterion referenced test. Beginning with the 2008-2009 school year, students will be required to take four semesters of physical education in middle school. In sixth grade, students will take two semesters of a combined health and physical education course. **One semester of physical education will be required during each of their seventh and eighth grade years unless students are enrolled in athletics.** The FITNESSGRAM assessment will be administered annually for each student during their physical education or athletic class period.

THE EXIT LEVEL TAKS: A REQUIREMENT FOR YOUR GRADUATION

Texas State Law has mandated that students must pass the mathematics, English language arts, science, and social studies sections of the Exit Level Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) by the end of their 12th grade year in order to receive their diplomas.

The exit level test will evaluate your knowledge of the mathematics, English language arts, science, and social studies skills that you have been learning throughout your school years.

You will have opportunities to take the Exit Level TAKS in the 11th and 12th grades. If you pass the mathematics, English language arts, science, and social studies sections the first time you are tested, you will not be tested again.

If you do not pass TAKS while you are enrolled in school, you may retake all or part of it even after you have completed all of your high school course requirements. Your diploma will be awarded to you **after** you have passed all four sections of the test.

Your teachers want you to do your very best and to perform successfully on TAKS. If you are not able to perform successfully on all four sections of TAKS, you will be eligible for intensive remedial instruction. Depending on the exact arrangements made by your teachers and administrators, before-and-after school classes, special classes during school, and/or tutorial help may be made available to you.

Remember—you must pass all sections of the Exit Level (Grade 11/12) TAKS in order to receive your high school diploma.

ELECTIVE COURSES

The elective courses in middle school offer the students a chance to pursue special activities or to discover new interests. Several elective courses are available on each campus, based upon the preferences of students on a specific campus. This guide describes all elective courses offered throughout the district. Your counselor or principal will know the courses available on your middle school campus. Grading procedures will be the same as for required courses.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

All students, regardless of identified need or condition, shall be provided a well-balanced curriculum. The essential knowledge and skills represent the core knowledge, skills, and competencies all students should learn to be effective and productive members of society. Students with identified needs shall be instructed in this content in a manner appropriate to their needs. When an identified disability renders grade level instruction inappropriate, the student's instruction shall be specially designed, based upon established student strengths.

The method of instruction, pacing, or materials shall be modified, as appropriate, to provide students identified as having special needs with the full opportunity for learning the essential knowledge and skills.

Programs for special education may use specialized personnel to assist in the delivery of instruction. Such personnel and regular instructional program personnel shall be jointly responsible for the cooperative delivery of effective instruction in essential knowledge and skills as appropriate. Programs for special education are coordinated with and are an integral part of the total instructional program.

GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS

Garland Independent School District provides identified gifted and/or talented students a rigorous curriculum. The enriched honors program at **Austin Academy for Excellence** offers these students a broad liberal arts experience and prepares them for success in the International Baccalaureate program at GHS or in Advanced Placement courses at other district high schools. Austin Academy also provides enriched programs in art and music to qualified students, who must apply for entry into these programs.

All district middle schools offer a selection of honors courses for gifted and talented students. These courses prepare students for enrollment in Advanced Placement courses at the high school level.

For specific information about these programs, contact one of the following:

Linda Phemister, Coordinator of Gifted and Talented
(972) 487-3193

Dr. Ann Poore, Principal of Austin Academy for Excellence
(972) 926-2620

OTHER MAGNET PROGRAMS

Jackson Technology Center for Math and Science offers magnet students an honors curriculum enriched with extensive use of computers at multimedia stations. Students work in cooperative groups for "real world," hands-on problem-solving. Options include animation, biotechnology, computer graphic design, CAD/CAM, automation and robotics, flight instrumentation, astronomy, forensics, and rocketry. Other activities include roller coaster and Lego projects.

The Classical Center at Brandenburg Middle School offers the traditional and honors/PreAP curriculum with an emphasis on Latin and literature. Students can participate in piano, dance, and gymnastics. Brandenburg also offers a full range of fine arts courses including band, art, choir, and theatre arts with an emphasis on classical aspects.

EXAMS FOR ACCELERATION

Students may accelerate by taking a comprehensive test in an academic subject without having had prior instruction in the course. Students wishing to pursue this option should contact their counselor. To receive course credit, a score of 90 or higher is required on the test.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

Students who have a home language other than English and who are identified as limited English proficient have the option of participating in the English as a Second Language Program. The goal of the English as a Second Language Program is to enable limited English proficient students to become competent in the comprehension, speaking, reading, and composition of the English language through the integrated use of second language methods. The ESL Program emphasizes the mastery of English language skills, as well as social studies, science, and mathematics, as integral parts of the academic goals for all students to enable limited English proficient students to participate equitably in school. In grades 6-8, instruction in ESL may vary from one period of the instructional day to multiple periods in second language approaches. The Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) recommends ESL I, II, or III for eligible students in accordance with their level of language proficiency and academic achievement.

Newcomer Program (6 periods + 1 elective)

0261	Beginning ESL English Language Arts (double blocked)
0262	Beginning ESL Social Studies
0263	Beginning ESL Science
0264	Beginning ESL Math (double blocked)

Middle School Qualifications for the Newcomer Program

1. Student will be considered non-English speaking by the Student Enrollment Center based on Woodcock Muñoz scores of CALP 1 or 2.
2. Student has been in a U.S. school less than 1 year.

Students identified for the Newcomer Program receive six (6) periods of instruction from an ESL-endorsed teacher including English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction of 1 period, ESL Reading for 1 period, the Language of Social Studies for 1 period, the Language of Science for 1 period, the Language of Math for 1 period and Math Computation for 1 period. Students in the Newcomer Program are encouraged to take a Fine Arts or P.E. elective. Students in the Newcomer Program should not be enrolled in Health as it is offered in the summer as a language enrichment class. The instruction in the Newcomer Program focuses on accelerated content language acquisition preparing students for success in academic content classes. The campuses currently offering the Newcomer Program are: Bussey, Hudson, Sam Houston, Jackson, O'Banion, Sellers and Webb.

ESL I (3 periods)

For campuses without a Newcomer Program
0261 Beginning ESL English Language Arts (double blocked)
0262 Beginning ESL Social Studies

Students identified for ESL I receive three (3) periods of instruction from an ESL-endorsed teacher including English as a Second Language (ESL instruction for 1 period, Reading for 1 period, and Social Studies for one period). The curriculum for this course is based upon the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. In ESL and Reading, the focus is placed on accelerated language acquisition in the domains of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. The social studies period is designed to build the background that students, new to the United States, need to master the curriculum for U.S. History. Materials used in the program are appropriate for the linguistic levels of the students and are also cognitively demanding. In addition to ESL I, students are required to take the appropriate science and math courses.

ESL I Transitional (2 periods) 0260

- For students who did not successfully complete the Newcomer Program requirements
- Students on a beginning language level but who are not eligible for the Newcomer Program

Students identified for ESL I Transitional receive two (2) periods of instruction from an ESL-endorsed teacher including English as a Second Language (ESL instruction for 1 period and Reading for 1 period). The curriculum for this course is based upon the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and uses the **state-adopted textbook level A**. In ESL and Reading, the focus is placed on accelerated language acquisition in the domains of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Materials used in the program are appropriate for the linguistic levels of the students and are also cognitively demanding. In addition to ESL I Transitional, students are required to take the appropriate science, math and social studies courses.

ESL II (2 periods) 0265

Students identified for ESL II receive two (2) periods of instruction from an ESL-endorsed teacher including English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction for 1 period and Reading for 1 period. The curriculum for the two-period block is based upon the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and uses the **state-adopted text book level B**. In ESL and Reading, the focus is placed on establishing and expanding students' academic vocabulary, on comprehending and writing sustained text in various modes/forms, and on monitoring and explaining their own learning in the content area courses. These courses are designed as integrated ELA courses. ESL II is considered the student's reading and English course. In addition to ESL II, students are **required** to take the appropriate science, math and social studies courses.

ESL III (1 period) 0270

Students identified for ESL III receive English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction for one (1) period from an ESL-endorsed teacher. The curriculum for ESL III is based upon the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and uses the **state-adopted text book level C**. This course is an integrated ELA course and is considered the student's English course. In addition to ESL III, students are **required** to take the appropriate science, math and social studies and reading.

0589 ELL Literacy Workshop 6-8 1 Semester
0590 ELL Literacy Workshop 6-8 2 Semesters
(ELECTIVE)

Prerequisite: ELL students needing support in reading in addition to Reading or ESL classes

This course will focus on establishing and expanding students' academic vocabulary and strengthening their ability to read and comprehend sustained text. These skills will help students to be successful on TAKS Reading.

0267 ELL Writer's Workshop 6-8 1 Semester
0266 ELL Writer's Workshop 6-8 2 Semesters
(ELECTIVE)

Prerequisite: ELL students needing support in writing in addition to English or ESL classes

This course will focus on establishing and expanding students' academic vocabulary and their ability to write in various genres. These skills will help students to be successful on TAKS Reading and Writing.

0272 ELL Speech 6-8 1 Semester
0271 ELL Speech 6-8 2 Semesters
(ELECTIVE)

Prerequisite: ELL students needing additional support in language acquisition
This course will provide students with opportunity to work on diction, English pronunciation, reading and writing skills and public speaking.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TAKS OBJECTIVES

MATHEMATICS (Grades 6-8)

- 1) The student will demonstrate an understanding of numbers, operations, and quantitative reasoning.
- 2) The student will demonstrate an understanding of patterns, relationships, and algebraic reasoning.
- 3) The student will demonstrate an understanding of geometry and spatial reasoning.
- 4) The student will demonstrate an understanding of the concepts and uses of measurement.
- 5) The student will demonstrate an understanding of probability and statistics.
- 6) The student will demonstrate an understanding of the mathematical processes and tools used in problem-solving.

READING (Grades 6-8)

- 1) The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of culturally diverse written texts.
- 2) The student will apply knowledge of literary elements to understand culturally diverse written texts.
- 3) The student will use a variety of strategies to analyze culturally diverse written texts.
- 4) The student will apply critical thinking skills to analyze culturally diverse written texts.

WRITING (Grade 7 only)

- 1) The student will, within a given context, produce an effective composition for a specific purpose.
- 2) The student will produce a piece of writing that demonstrates a command of the conventions of spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, usage, and sentence structure.
- 3) The student will recognize appropriate organization of ideas in written text.
- 4) The student will recognize correct and effective sentence construction in written text.
- 5) The student will recognize standard usage and appropriate word choice in written text.
- 6) The student will proofread for correct punctuation, capitalization, and spelling in written text.

SOCIAL STUDIES (Grade 8 only)

- 1) The student will demonstrate an understanding of issues and events in U.S. history.
- 2) The student will demonstrate an understanding of geographic influences on historical issues and events.
- 3) The student will demonstrate an understanding of economic and social influences on historical issues and events.
- 4) The student will demonstrate an understanding of political influences on historical issues and events.
- 5) The student will use critical thinking skills to analyze social studies information.

GARLAND ISD GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students will begin high school on the recommended graduation plan, which includes the following requirements:

Foundation Courses

Credit

• English I, II, III, IV	4
• Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and one additional mathematics credit	4
• Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and one additional science credit	4
• World Geography, World History Studies, United States History, United States Government (½), Economics (½)	4
• Two credits in the same language	2
• One-half credit of Health	½
• One credit of Fine Arts	1
• One-half credit of Communication Applications	½
• One and one-half credits of Physical Education	1½
• One technology course	1
• Three and one-half elective courses	3½

MINIMUM COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS: Check Individual School Catalogs or Websites.

College	English	Science	Math	Foreign Language	Entrance Exam	Early Decision
Austin College	4	3*	3	2	SAT or ACT	yes
Baylor University	4	3	2-3		SAT or ACT	yes
Dallas County Community Colleges		(open admission)			SAT or ACT (recommended)	
Harvard College	4	3	4	3	SAT or ACT and 3 ACH.	yes
Kilgore Junior College		(graduate of accredited high school)			SAT or ACT	
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.)	4	3-4	4-5	2-3	SAT and ACH.	yes
Prairie View A&M University	4	3	3		SAT or ACT	
Rice University	4	3	3	2	SAT and 1-3 ACH.	yes
Sam Houston State University		(graduate of accredited high school)			SAT or ACT	yes
Southern Methodist University	4	3*	3	2	SAT or ACT	yes
Southwestern University (Georgetown)	4	3	4	2	SAT or ACT	yes
Stanford University	4	3-4	4-5	3	SAT or ACT	
Stephen F. Austin State University (State Recommended Plan/Distinguished Achievement Program)					SAT or ACT	
Texas A&M University (College Station)	4	3	3½	2	SAT or ACT	yes
Texas A&M University (Commerce)		(graduate of accredited high school)			SAT or ACT	
Texas Christian University	4	3*	3	2	SAT or ACT	
Texas State University	4	2	3	2	SAT or ACT	
Texas Tech University	4	3	3	2	SAT or ACT	
Texas Woman's University	4	3	3		SAT or ACT	yes
Trinity University	4	3	3	2	SAT or ACT	yes
University of Chicago	4	3	4	3	SAT or ACT	yes
University of Colorado	3	3	2		SAT or ACT	
University of Dallas	4	3	3	2	SAT or ACT	yes
University of North Texas	4	3	4	3	SAT or ACT	yes
University of Oklahoma	4	3	3		SAT or ACT	
University of Texas in Arlington	4	3	3	2	SAT or ACT	yes
University of Texas in Austin	4	3	3	2	SAT and 2 ACH or ACT	yes
University of Texas in Dallas		(graduate of accredited high school)			SAT or ACT	

1. Check college catalogs or websites regarding requirements for class rank/GPA required, entrance exam scores, etc.
 2. Computer science highly recommended by all colleges/universities.
 3. Social Science/History graduation requirements meet or exceed college admissions requirements.
 4. Foreign Language, if not required, highly recommended.
- * To include lab sciences.

SIXTH GRADE

REQUIRED COURSES

Courses	Units
English 6	1
Reading 6	1
Mathematics 6	1
Science 6	1
Social Studies 6	1
Integrated Health and Physical Education*	1
Fine Arts (Choose from electives.)	1
Reading/Writing Workshop**	½-1
Mathematics Lab***	½-1

Each school will be responsible for planning and providing on-going remediation for students who failed any part of TAKS in fifth grade.

*Students participating in 10 or more hours per week of intensive off-campus physical training in swimming, tennis, ice skating, ballet, fencing, or gymnastics in district-approved programs may apply for off-campus physical education credit.

**Sixth grade students who failed the reading portion of the fifth grade TAKS test may be required to take Reading/Writing Workshop in place of an elective.

***Sixth grade students who failed the mathematics portion of the fifth grade TAKS test may be required to take Mathematics Lab in place of an elective.

ELECTIVES

Courses	Units
Art*	½
Theatre Arts*	½
6th Grade Treble Choir	1
6th Grade Tenor/Bass Choir	1
6th Grade Mixed Choir	1
Beginner Orchestra	1
Beginner Band:	
WOODWINDS	
Beginning Flute	1
Beginning Clarinet	1
Beginning Saxophone	1
Beginning Oboe	1
Beginning Bassoon	1
BRASS	
Beginning Trumpet/Cornet	1
Beginning French Horn	1
Beginning Trombone, Baritone, Tuba	1
PERCUSSION	1
Spanish 6	½

Those who take band, choir, or orchestra cannot take art or theatre arts.

SIXTH GRADE REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

0214 Reading/Writing Workshop 6 1 semester
0215 Reading/Writing Workshop 6 2 semesters
 Prerequisite: Sixth grade students who did not pass TAKS Reading in grade 5
 This course can be taken in addition to English language arts to provide additional time for students to develop and reinforce the reading comprehension and writing skills needed to pass TAKS.

0162 English 6 (R) 6 2 semesters
 Students in English 6 master previously learned skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Sixth grade students take notes during oral presentations, organize and summarize spoken messages, and evaluate their own and others' oral presentations. They read and respond to literature and informational text, learning to recognize essential literary devices. Through reading, students develop increasingly complex vocabularies. Sixth grade students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Through composition, students practice varied sentence structure and more complex punctuation. They edit their writing based on their growing knowledge of grammar and usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written

language, areas which are particularly emphasized in sixth grade English. Students produce final revised and edited pieces of written composition on a regular basis. They search out multiple texts to complete research reports and projects. Computer assisted instruction is included in this course.

0163 English 6 (H) 6 2 semesters
 Students in English 6 (H) will experience the content described in the regular course; however, they will be expected to direct their own studies more independently and in greater depth than students in a regular section. Such independent studies include significant reading outside of class and keeping dialectical journals based on independent reading. Students' editing and proofreading skills indicate concern with acquiring strong communication skills. Computer assisted instruction is included in this course.

READING

0562 Reading 6 (R) 6 2 semesters
0563 Reading 6 (H) 6 2 semesters
 Skills that are essential to reading development are emphasized in this course. Those skills are vocabulary development, comprehension strategies, study skills, reading in the content areas, literary skills, and reading rate. Placement in the appropriate course of study is based on the student's previous work through grade five. Attention to individual needs is stressed. Higher level thinking skills are emphasized in reading instruction. Computer assisted instruction will be utilized in all classes.

MATHEMATICS

1051 Mathematics Lab 6 1 semester

1052 Mathematics Lab 6 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Sixth grade students who did not pass TAKS Math in grade 5
This course can be taken in addition to Math 6 to provide additional time for students to develop and reinforce the math concepts and problem-solving skills needed to pass TAKS.

1062 Math 6 (R) 6 2 semesters

The primary focal points for students in this course are using ratios to describe proportional relationships involving numbers, geometry, measurement, and probability and adding and subtracting decimals and fractions. Students learn to communicate mathematically and make connections within and outside mathematics as they develop conceptual understanding and solve problems. This course addresses all of the essential knowledge and skills for grade 6 mathematics.

1063 Math 6 (H) 6 2 semesters

The primary focal points for students in this course are using ratios to describe proportional relationships involving numbers, geometry, measurement, and probability and adding and subtracting decimals and fractions. Students learn to communicate mathematically and make connections within and outside mathematics as they develop conceptual understanding and solve problems. At an honors or preAP level, this course addresses the essential knowledge and skills for grade 6 in greater depth with a broader scope and a faster pace along with higher expectations for student performance.

SCIENCE

3565 Science 6 (R) 6 2 semesters

This process-oriented science course involves students in studies of the world around them. Small group and individual laboratory experiments will be utilized for in-depth studies. Topics include living systems, ecology, force and motion, classification of substances by their physical and chemical properties, energy transformation, genetics, and the solar system.

3566 Science 6 (H) 6 2 semesters

This process-oriented course allows students to become actively involved in scientific experiments and provides them with the opportunity to use technology as a tool and resource for learning. Science 6(H) provides an accelerated and integrated curriculum covering life, Earth, and physical sciences that enables students to appreciate the relationships between organisms and their environment. Topics include force and motion, physical and chemical properties of substances, ecology, structure and function in living systems, genetics, characteristics of the universe, effects of erosion, and man's effects on the earth. In addition, advanced critical thinking and problem solving skills will be developed with a group or individual project presented in a competitive public forum.

SOCIAL STUDIES

2565 Social Studies 6 6 2 semesters

This sixth grade social studies program focuses on the study of people and places of the contemporary world. Students describe the influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in societies around the world and identify the locations and geographic characteristics of selected societies. The course examines different ways of organizing government and economic systems, introduces limited and unlimited government, compares education and religious

institutions, and describes the nature of citizenship in various societies. The purpose of the course is to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to study issues and make reasoned judgments in today's world through a variety of higher order thinking skills.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

4567 Integrated Health and Physical Education 6 2 semesters

Health and Physical Education are integrated into a combined activity/classroom course designed to provide students with the basic knowledge and skills for access to a physically active and healthy lifestyle. Students are taught to critically analyze personal behaviors that have an impact on health throughout a lifetime. Students participate in activities that encourage social development, physical challenge and enjoyment. Opportunities are provided to measure and assess individual student performances and develop plans for improvement.

4564 Integrated Health and Physical Education 6 1 semester

This course is designed for students enrolled in Spanish 6. Health and Physical Education are integrated into a combined activity/classroom course designed to provide students with the basic knowledge and skills for access to a physically active and healthy lifestyle. Students are taught to critically analyze personal behaviors that have an impact on health throughout a lifetime. Students participate in activities that encourage social development, physical challenge, and enjoyment. Opportunities are provided to measure and assess individual student performances and develop plans for improvement. **Only students enrolled in Spanish 6 are eligible to enroll in this course.**

4589 Partners in P.E. 6 1 semester

Regular education students become partners in a physical education class for students with special needs. Many students in LIFE classes require one-on-one help to be successful in physical education. This course provides the opportunity for regular and special education students to interact, thus promoting greater understanding.

SIXTH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

7565 Spanish 6 6 1 semester

Prerequisite: Spanish at the elementary school level

This one-semester elective will alternate with Health/P.E. and will provide a continuation of the instruction provided through the elementary Spanish as a Second Language program. Students will continue to develop their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. This course is based upon completion of grades 4 and 5 in the GISD Spanish program.

FINE ARTS

There is a fee for art supplies for all GISD Middle School art classes. The fee is \$10.00 for each class per semester. If a student is scheduled for more than one class that semester, the second class will be only \$5.00.

6365 Art 6 1 semester
This course introduces students to basic design, methods, and materials. Students work in several processes, including sculpture, drawing, painting, ceramics, and printmaking.

6594 Theatre Arts 6 1 semester
Students begin to develop skills in interpretive movement, pantomime, improvisation, and role-playing. Students participate in group learning, story dramatization, and player-audience relationships, and they begin learning the difference between live theatre and film.

Beginner Orchestra (Strings) 6 2 semesters
(Offered at Austin Academy, Jackson, and Webb only)

Beginning string players learn to play violin, viola, cello, or string bass for future participation in the orchestra program. Correct hand positions, tuning, use of the bow, counting fundamentals, fingerings, and basic musical terms are taught, along with performance of simple melodies and small ensemble compositions. Beginner orchestra is not offered on all campuses. Check with the principal at your school. **Orchestra programs are offered on the high school level only at Garland High School and North Garland High School.**

6009	Beginning Violin	6	2 semesters
6010	Beginning Viola	6	2 semesters
6011	Beginning Cello	6	2 semesters
6012	Beginning String Bass	6	2 semesters

Beginner Band (Woodwinds, Brass) 6 2 semesters
These classes are for beginning band students. Students study tone production, fingerings, rhythm, instrument care, and basic musical terms. Performance skills on simple melodies are developed.

WOODWINDS

6250	Beginning Flute	6	2 semesters
6251	Beginning Clarinet	6	2 semesters
6252	Beginning Saxophone	6	2 semesters
6253	Beginning Oboe	6	2 semesters
6254	Beginning Bassoon	6	2 semesters

BRASS

6255	Beginning Trumpet/Cornet	6	2 semesters
6256	Beginning French Horn	6	2 semesters
6257	Beginning Trombone, Baritone, Tuba	6	2 semesters

6258 Beginner Band (Percussion) 6 2 semesters

Beginning percussion skills are taught on the snare drum, bells, cymbals, bass drum, and tympani. Because of the small number of percussion players used in the band in comparison to woodwind and brass, only a select few players should sign up for this class to avoid future frustration. Correct hand position, sticking techniques, studies in coordination, simple and complex rhythms, and melodies are taught. Parent and student should consult the band director before signing up for this course to assure proper choice of instrument for future band participation.

6135 Sixth Grade Treble Choir 6 2 semesters
Sixth grade students study and rehearse different types of vocal music for treble voices. Some performance may be required, depending on the proficiency of the group. Some middle schools prefer to place all sixth grade girls and boys together in a sixth grade mixed choir instead of this class. Parent and student should check with the choir director at the student's middle school.

6136 Sixth Grade Tenor/Bass Choir 6 2 semesters
Sixth grade students study and rehearse different types of vocal music for male voices. Some performance may be required, depending on the proficiency of the group. Some middle schools prefer to place all the sixth grade girls and boys together in a sixth grade mixed choir instead of this class. Parents and students should check with the choir director at the student's middle school.

6137 Sixth Grade Mixed Choir 6 2 semesters
These sixth grade students rehearse and perform, depending on their proficiency. These students sing and study different styles of vocal music suited to their vocal levels. Some middle schools may place all sixth grade girls and boys in a separate choir. Parent and student should check with the choir director at the student's middle school.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. Students and parents should be sure of instrument cost and choice before signing up for the beginning instrumental classes.
2. Students who enroll in performance-based classes (band and choir) will be expected to attend extra rehearsals and performances outside of the regular instructional day as a part of the course requirements. There may also be additional expenses for supplies. Check with the instructor of each course for details.

SEVENTH GRADE

REQUIRED COURSES

Courses	Units
English 7	1
Reading 7*	1
Mathematics 7	1
Texas History	1
Science 7	1
Physical Education**	0-1/2-1
Mathematics Lab***	1/2-1
Reading/Writing Workshop****	1/2-1
Other Electives	1/2-1

Students must take the equivalent of one full unit of Physical Education in grades 7 and/or 8.

*Reading 7 may be waived only by meeting **both** of the following criteria:

- 1) The student is enrolled in Spanish.
- 2) The student's scale score on the fifth grade TAKS Reading test is 2292 or higher or 2400 or higher on the sixth grade TAKS Reading test.

Students required to take Reading who meet honors reading criteria will enroll in Advanced Literary Skills A (H).

**Students participating in 10 or more hours per week of intense off-campus physical training in swimming, tennis, ice skating, ballet, fencing, or gymnastics in district-approved programs may apply for off-campus physical education credit.

***Seventh grade students who failed the mathematics portion of the sixth grade TAKS test may be required to take the Mathematics Lab in place of an elective.

****Seventh grade students who failed the reading portion of the sixth grade TAKS test may be required to take Reading/Writing Workshop in place of an elective.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Courses	Grades	Units
Intermediate String Orchestra	7-8	1
Advanced String Orchestra	7-8	1
Honors Band (audition)	7-8	1
Symphonic Band (audition)	7-8	1
Concert Band	7-8	1
Mixed Choir	7-8	1
A Cappella Choir (audition)	7-8	1
Treble Choir	7-8	1
Tenor/Bass Choir	7-8	1
Spanish A* (first year)	7	1
Athletics	7-8	1
Exploring Communication Technology	7-8	1/2
Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology	7-8	1/2
Exploring Manufacturing Technology	7-8	1/2
Computer Explorations	7-8	1/2
Art Crafts and Cultures	7-8	1/2
Drawing and Painting	7	1/2
Sculpture, Ceramics, & Printmaking	7-8	1/2
Speech A	7-8	1/2
Speech B (must have received credit for A)	7-8	1/2
Skills for Living	7-8	1/2
Theatre Arts A	7-8	1/2
Theatre Arts B	7-8	1/2

* Students who satisfactorily complete Spanish A and B in middle school shall receive one high school credit and regular grade points.

SEVENTH GRADE REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

0170 Reading/Writing Workshop 7 1 semester

0169 Reading/Writing Workshop 7 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Seventh grade students who did not pass the reading portion of sixth grade TAKS

This course can be taken in addition to the regular grade-level English language arts courses to offer students additional time to develop and reinforce the reading comprehension and writing skills needed to pass TAKS.

0172 English 7 (R) 7 2 semesters

In English 7, students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Seventh grade students analyze a speaker's persuasive techniques and credibility and evaluate spoken messages in terms of content, credibility, and delivery. They continue to read widely in classic and contemporary selections and informational texts, using knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes to expand vocabulary and recognizing how style, tone, and mood contribute to the effect of text. Seventh grade students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Through composition, students practice varied sentence structure and the appropriate use of verb tenses such as present, past, future, perfect, and progressive. They edit their writing based on their growing knowledge of grammar and usage (a seventh grade emphasis), spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language. Students produce final revised and edited pieces of written composition on a regular basis. They draw data from multiple primary and secondary sources for use in research reports and projects. Computer assisted instruction is included in this course.

0173 English 7 (H) 7 2 semesters

Students in English 7 (H) will pursue the goals established in the regular course; however, the students will do so more independently and in greater depth than students in regular sections. Students will be expected to do extensive independent reading, keeping dialectical journals or other forms of analysis as assigned by the teacher. Compositions and oral presentations will indicate mastery of skills presented in earlier grades.

READING

0572 Reading 7 (R) 7 2 semesters

Broad skill areas emphasized in this course of study include vocabulary development, comprehension, fluency, study skills, reading in the content areas, literary skills, and reading rate. Students are placed in the appropriate course based on their preceding work through grade six. Computer assisted instruction is a component of the reading program.

0573 Advanced Literary Skills A (H) 7 2 semesters

This honors course will address the skills of comprehension and vocabulary development through the reading and discussion of recognized novels, short stories, and poetry. Students will have the opportunity to enhance their rate of reading and to develop thinking and study skills so that they may increase their achievement in all academic areas.

MATHEMATICS

1070 Mathematics Lab 7 1 semester

1076 Mathematics Lab 7 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Seventh grade students who did not pass the math portion of sixth grade TAKS

This course can be taken in addition to the regular grade-level mathematics course to offer students additional instructional time to develop and reinforce the math concepts and problem-solving skills needed to pass TAKS.

1072 Math 7 (R) 7 2 semesters

The primary focal points for students in this course are using proportional relationships in number, geometry, measurement, and probability; applying addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals, fractions, and integers; and using statistical measures to describe data. Students learn to communicate mathematically and make connections within and outside mathematics as they develop conceptual understanding and solve problems. This course addresses all of the essential knowledge and skills for grade 7 mathematics.

1073 Math 7 (H) 7 2 semesters

The primary focal points for students in this course are using proportional relationships in number, geometry, measurement, and probability; applying addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals, fractions, and integers; and using statistical measures to describe data. Students learn to communicate mathematically and make connections within and outside mathematics as they develop conceptual understanding and solve problems. At an honors or preAP level, this course addresses the essential knowledge and skills for grade 7 in greater depth with a broader scope and a faster pace along with higher expectations for student performance. This course is designed to prepare students for Algebra 1 (Honors/PreAP) in grade 8.

SOCIAL STUDIES

2575 Texas History (R) 7 2 semesters

This course allows students to gain a comprehensive understanding of Texas from the early times of the Native Americans living in Texas prior to European exploration to the present. The focus in each era is on key individuals, events, and issues and their impact. Students identify regions of Texas and the distribution of population within and among the regions and explain the factors that caused Texas to change from a rural republic to an urban society. An emphasis is placed on the structure and function of local and state governments, the influence of the U.S. Constitution on the Texas Constitution, and the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens. The rich and diverse cultural background of Texas will be examined as students identify the racial and ethnic groups that settled in Texas. The course provides students with knowledge and skills needed to solve future problems in Texas through a variety of higher order thinking skills.

2573 Texas History (H) 7 2 semesters

This course allows students to gain a comprehensive understanding of Texas from the early times of the Native Americans living in Texas prior to European exploration to the present, with focus on key individuals, events, and issues and their impact. Students identify regions of Texas, analyze the distribution of population within and among the regions, and explain the factors that caused Texas to change from a rural republic to an urban society. Emphasis is placed on analysis of the structure and function of local and state governments and the influence of the U.S. Constitution on the Texas citizens. The rich and diverse cultural background of Texas is

examined as students identify the racial and ethnic groups that settled in Texas. This honors-level course emphasizes the use of higher-order thinking skills, analysis of primary sources, and written essays. This course provides greater depth and breadth of content with an emphasis on knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions, participate in a democratic society, and solve future problems in Texas.

SCIENCE

3579 Science 7 (R) 7 2 semesters

This laboratory-oriented course allows students to become actively involved in scientific processes and provides them with the opportunity to use technology as a tool and resource for learning. Science 7 integrates life, Earth, and physical sciences into a framework for learning that allows students to appreciate the relationships between organisms and their environment. Equilibrium of systems, force and motion, physical and chemical properties, genetics, and the effects of man on the earth are studied.

3580 Science 7 (H) 7 2 semesters

This laboratory-oriented course allows students to become actively involved in scientific processes and provides them with the opportunity to use technology as a tool and resource for learning. Science 7 (H) provides an accelerated and integrated curriculum covering life, Earth, and physical sciences that enables students to appreciate the relationships between organisms and their environment. Topics include force and motion, physical and chemical changes, ecosystems, diseases, genetics, weather studies, characteristics of the universe, and man's effects on the earth. In addition, advanced critical thinking and problem solving skills will be developed with a group or individual project presented in a competitive public forum.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

4575 Physical Education 7 2 semesters

4576 Physical Education 7 1 semester

In this course, students participate in physical activity and are encouraged to maintain a healthy level of fitness as their bodies grow and change. Knowledge of safety and the management of personal behaviors are reinforced. Instruction is directed more toward encouraging the incorporation of physical activity into a daily routine and less toward fundamental skill development. Health TEKS are infused into this course.

4590 Partners in P.E. 7 2 semesters

4591 Partners in P.E. 7 1 semester

Regular education students become partners in a physical education class for students with special needs. Many students in LIFE classes require one-on-one help to be successful in physical education. This course provides the opportunity for regular and special education students to interact, thus promoting greater understanding.

SEVENTH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

6018 Intermediate String Orchestra* 7-8 2 semesters

(Offered at Austin Academy, Jackson, and Webb only)

This is a class for intermediate string players (violin, viola, cello, string bass) who wish to participate in the orchestra program. The study,

rehearsal, and performance of string orchestra and possibly full symphony orchestra literature will be a part of this course. More advanced fingerings (other positions), bowing, and playing techniques will be studied. Students will be encouraged to participate in U.I.L. competition, individually and as a group. **Orchestra programs are offered on the high school level only at Garland High School and North Garland High School.**

6022 Advanced String Orchestra* 7-8 2 semesters

(Offered at Austin Academy, Jackson, and Webb only)

This is a class for advanced string players (violin, viola, cello, string bass) who wish to participate in the orchestra program. The study, rehearsal, and performance of string orchestra and possibly full symphony orchestra literature will be a part of this course. More advanced fingerings (other positions), bowing, and playing techniques will be studied. Students will be encouraged to participate in U.I.L. competition, individually and as a group. **Orchestra programs are offered on the high school level only at Garland High School and North Garland High School.**

6238 Honors Band* (audition) 7-8 2 semesters

Membership in this band is by permission of the band director through an audition. With this select membership, the honors band serves as the main performing group in instrumental music for all school functions (eighth grade football games, pep rallies, concerts, P.T.A., etc.) and represents the school in city, region, and U.I.L. events. This course stresses advanced playing techniques at the most difficult level of band literature in preparation for performances for the school and UIL. It serves as preparation for successful high school band participation. Attendance is required at all performances of this band unless students are excused by the band director and principal.

6239 Symphonic Band* (audition) 7-8 2 semesters

Membership in this band is usually reserved for those students who have just completed their first year of beginner band and are not ready for the more difficult music and performances of the honors band. All students are auditioned in the spring of their sixth grade year in their beginner band class and are placed in either symphonic band or honors band, according to their level of proficiency. Emphasis in this class is on improving fundamentals and skills of rhythm, fingerings, tone production, tuning, and application of these skills in the rehearsal and performance of intermediate level band literature. Performance for school functions and/or U.I.L. will be considered, depending on the proficiency level of the group.

6240 Concert Band* 7-8 2 semesters

The concert band is open to any seventh or eighth grader who has completed one year of beginning band and is not ready for symphonic or honors band. Emphasis is on fundamentals and building technical proficiency.

6145 Mixed Choir* 7-8 2 semesters

This is a choir for seventh and eighth grade boys and girls to study and rehearse different types of vocal music for mixed voices. Basic fundamentals of choral music are stressed to help students develop desirable vocal skills and sight reading ability in preparation for the rehearsal and performance of more difficult choral music. The level of music in this choir will be less difficult and more concerned with the development of these vocal skills than with public performance. Performance for school functions and/or U.I.L. competition will be considered, depending on the proficiency level and progress of the group.

**6146 A Cappella Choir* 7-8 2 semesters
(audition)**

Seventh and eighth grade students who have developed more advanced vocal skills and sight reading abilities make up this performance-oriented group. Sight reading and advanced vocal techniques are stressed during rehearsal along with the correct performance of more difficult literature. Due to the many performances for the school, community, and U.I.L., admission to this class is by audition only.

6138 Treble Choir* 7-8 2 semesters

These seventh and eighth grade students work toward the development of the treble voice and perform at school functions and/or at U.I.L. competition, depending on their sight reading skills and vocal development.

6139 Tenor/Bass Choir* 7-8 2 semesters

These seventh and eighth grade students work toward the development of the tenor/bass voice and perform at school functions and/or U.I.L. competition, depending on their sight reading skills and vocal development.

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Students who enroll in performance-based classes will be expected to attend extra rehearsals and performances outside of the regular instructional day as a part of the course requirements. There may also be additional expenses for supplies. Check with the instructor of each course for details.**

7575 Spanish A 7 2 semesters

This course is the first half of a two-year study of Spanish in the secondary program. It includes the development of the language skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and familiarity with Spanish culture. The five Program Goals of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Languages Other Than English (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparison, and Communities) are integrated throughout the course. The student is expected to enroll in Spanish B during the eighth grade.

Upon successful completion of both Spanish A and B, the student is eligible to enroll in high school Spanish II and will receive high school credit and regular grade points for Spanish I that will count toward graduation. The middle school credit (both A and B) satisfies one year of the **two-year requirement** for a foreign language.

4570 Athletics (B) 7 2 semesters

The seventh grade boys' athletic program will have limited interschool competition and will require time either before school or after school for in-season sports. **This program is for the entire school year, and a student cannot be removed after the program has started.** After the football season ends, those athletes not involved in the sport that is in season will participate in three days of weight training and two days of agility and skill development. Physical education credit will be awarded for this program.

4571 Athletics (G) 7 2 semesters

The seventh grade girls' athletic program will have limited interschool competition and will require time either before school or after school for in-season sports. **This program is for the entire school year, and a student cannot be removed after the program has started.** For those athletes not involved in the sport that is in season, the athletic program will consist of three days of weight training and two days of agility and skill development. Physical education credit will be awarded for this program.

EXPLORATORY TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Exploratory Technology Education provides seventh and eighth grade students broad experiences with a large variety of materials, tools, and processes associated with industry and technology. Should classes fill to more than capacity, eighth grade students will be given priority.

The first year program for seventh and eighth grade students includes the three technology clusters of communication, energy/power/transportation, and manufacturing.

8887 Exploring Communication Technology 7-8 1 semester

Exploring Communication Technology is an exploratory course designed to provide an investigation of the types of activities performed in the communication industry. Laboratory experiences allow students to explore the skills and technologies of the communication industry. Instruction includes the application of technology; the design of products and services; emerging and

innovative technologies; safety and maintenance of technology; codes, laws, and standards; marketing; and technology-related career explorations. Activities may include developing images, desktop publishing, drafting, and printing.

8888 Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology 7-8 1 semester

This is an exploratory course designed to investigate the types of activities performed in the energy, power, and transportation industries. Laboratory experiences allow students to explore the skills and technologies of the energy, power, and transportation industries. Content includes the application of technology; the design of products and services; emerging and innovative technologies; safety and maintenance of technology; codes, laws, and standards; marketing; and technology-related career explorations. Activities may include building solar collectors; designing, making, and testing land and space vehicles; using pneumatic and electrical devices; and research on alternative energy sources.

Middle School Campus	Grade	Exploratory Technology Education (First Year) (Choose courses below.)	Exploratory Technology Education (Second Year) (Choose from any first year courses & course below.)
Austin	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Brandenburg	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Bussey*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Coyle	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Hudson*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Jackson*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	MST Advanced Technology Education Exploring Construction Technology
Lyles*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Memorial	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
O'Banion	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Sam Houston*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Schrade*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Sellers	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Webb	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology

*Exploratory Technology Education classes at Bussey, Hudson, Jackson, Lyles, O'Banion, Sam Houston, and Schrade Middle Schools consist of new modular technology labs. Students at these campuses will experience computer application instruction in the broad areas of communication, energy/power/transportation, and manufacturing. Specific activities that students may experience include:

CNC Lathe	CNC Router	Flight Technology	Health Care
Electronics	Aerodynamics	Laser and Optics	Meteorology and Weather
Audio Communication	Fluid Power	Research and Design	Space and Rocketry
Bio-related Technology	Computer Aided Design (CAD)	Telecommunications	Television Broadcasting & Video Production
Computer Aided Publishing	Computer Animation	Production and Fabrication	Photography
Engineering Structures & Analysis	Robotics	Career Exploration	Job Seeking Skills

First year (I) students should register for courses **8887, 8888, and 8897.**

Second year (II) students may register for any of the four Exploratory Technology Education courses.

It is the policy of the Garland Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices and/or its 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; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

The Garland Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs. The Garland Independent School District offers a free and appropriate education to eligible students.

8897 Exploring Manufacturing Technology 7-8 1 semester

This exploratory course is designed to investigate the types of activities performed in the manufacturing industry. Laboratory experiences allow students to explore the skills and technologies of the manufacturing industries. Content includes the application of technology; the design of products and services; emerging and innovative technologies; safety and maintenance of technology; codes, laws, and standards; marketing; and technology-related career explorations. Activities may include designing and drafting, manufacturing parts, using tools and machines, and planning a manufacturing project.

5001 Computer Explorations 7-8 1 semester

This elective is designed to develop and enhance basic computer skills. Students will learn keyboarding, networking concepts, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Internet research skills. The curriculum also includes projects that will use the skills of the programs learned.

6398 Art Crafts and Cultures * 7-8 1 semester

Production of a craft native to each group will allow students to better understand the major cultures of the world. These crafts may include weaving, jewelry, mosaics, and leatherwork from Oriental, African, Egyptian, South American, North American Indian, and other cultures.

6396 Drawing and Painting * (Art 7) 7 1 semester

Exploration of the elements and principles of design through various three-dimensional media and techniques, including pencil, pen and ink, and tempera is the basis of this course.

6400 Sculpture, Ceramics, and Printmaking * 7-8 1 semester

Construction of projects in several media, including wood, paper, and clay, allows students to explore basic three-dimensional design. Basic printmaking processes, that may include linoleum, woodcut, silkscreening, and others, provide experiences in two-dimensional design.

*** There is a fee for art supplies for all GISD Middle School Art Classes. The fee is \$10.00 for each class per semester. If a student is scheduled for more than one class that semester, the second class will be only \$5.00.**

0395 Speech A 7-8 1 semester

In this course, students develop effective communication skills to further their academic pursuits and to prepare for interaction in social, citizenship, and professional roles. To become competent communicators, students will develop and apply skills in using oral language, nonverbal communication, and listening in interpersonal, group, academic, and public contexts. This course is a prerequisite for Speech B.

0396 Speech B 7-8 1 semester
(Students may take Speech A any semester of the 7th or 8th grade; however, they may not take Speech B until they have completed Speech A.)

The study of effective communication skills is continued in this second course. The student participates in more advanced study and will be encouraged to enter co-curricular speech activities.

6595 Theatre Arts A 7-8 1 semester

Acting! Movement! Action! Theatre Arts A leads students through an exciting study of the theatre. Studies include work in acting, script-reading, and movement techniques. Students learn to use these techniques in the production of a play for an audience.

6596 Theatre Arts B 7-8 1 semester
(Students may take Theatre Arts A any semester of the 7th or 8th grade; however, they may not take Theatre Arts B until they have completed Theatre Arts A.)

More! More! More! Theatre Arts B guides students through a more detailed study of the theatre using the basic techniques learned in Theatre Arts A. Students study acting, auditioning, and movement techniques as well as set and costume design. These skills are used in producing a play for an audience.

8140 Skills For Living 7-8 1 semester

This comprehensive foundations course provides opportunities to explore family relationships and personal development, personal management, and planning for the future. Emphasis is on the importance of the family, effective communication skills, management skills, how to get along with others including family members and peers, decision making, acceptance of responsibility, and child care practices that promote positive development. Other content addresses positive self-image, nutrition, wellness, personal appearance, managing multiple roles, and career options.

EIGHTH GRADE

REQUIRED COURSES

Courses	Units
Reading 8*	1
English 8	1
English I (H/PreAP)**	1
Prealgebra 8	1
Algebra I (H/PreAP)**	1
United States History & Citizenship	1
Science 8	1
Physical Education***	0-½-1
Reading/Writing Workshop****	½-1
Mathematics Lab*****	½-1
Other Electives or Exploratory Courses	½-2½

Students must complete their Physical Education requirement if 1 full unit was not taken in the 7th grade.

* Reading 8 may be waived if:

The student's scale score on the 6th grade TAKS Reading test is 2355 or higher or 2247 or higher on the 7th grade TAKS Reading test.

** Students who satisfactorily complete these high school courses in middle school shall receive high school credit and honors grade points. Students must take 4 English and 3 math courses during high school (grades 9-12).

*** Students participating in 10 or more hours per week of intensive off-campus physical training in swimming, tennis, ice skating, ballet, fencing, or gymnastics in district-approved programs may apply for off-campus physical education credit.

**** Eighth grade students who failed the reading or writing portion of the seventh grade TAKS test may be required to take Reading/Writing Workshop in place of an elective.

***** Eighth grade students who failed the mathematics portion of the seventh grade TAKS test may be required to take Mathematics Lab in place of an elective.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Courses	Grades	Units
Intermediate String Orchestra	7-8	1
Advanced String Orchestra	7-8	1
Honors Band (audition)	7-8	1
Symphonic Band (audition)	7-8	1
Concert Band	7-8	1
Mixed Choir	7-8	1
A Cappella Choir (audition)	7-8	1
Treble Choir	7-8	1
Tenor/Bass Choir	7-8	1
Spanish B* (second year)	8	1
Athletics	8	1
Physical Education (non-athletes)	8	½-1
Exploring Communication Technology	7-8	½
Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology	7-8	½
Exploring Manufacturing Technology	7-8	½
Exploring Construction Technology	8	½
Computer Explorations	7-8	½
Art Crafts and Cultures	7-8	½
Drawing and Painting	8	½
Sculpture, Ceramics, & Printmaking	7-8	½
Advanced Art	8	½-1
Speech A	7-8	½
Speech B	7-8	½
Theatre Arts-A	7-8	½
Theatre Arts-B	7-8	½
Theatre Arts-C	7-8	½
Theatre Arts-D	7-8	½
Skills For Living	7-8	½
Advanced Literary Skills A (H)	7-8	½-1
Advanced Literary Skills B (H)	8	½-1
Career Connections	8	½

*Students who satisfactorily complete Spanish A and B in middle school shall receive one high school credit and regular grade points.

EIGHTH GRADE REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

0180 Reading/Writing Workshop 8 1 semester

0179 Reading/Writing Workshop 8 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Eighth grade students who did not pass either the reading or writing portions of seventh grade TAKS

This course can be taken in addition to the regular grade-level English language arts courses to offer students additional time to develop and reinforce the reading comprehension and writing skills needed to pass TAKS.

0182 English 8 (R) 8 2 semesters

In English 8, students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and writing. Eighth grade students continue to read widely in classic and contemporary selections and informational texts, identifying characteristics of various literary forms. Eighth grade students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Students produce multi-paragraph compositions with varied sentence structure (an eighth grade emphasis). They edit their writing based on their growing knowledge of grammar and usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language. Students produce final revised and edited pieces of written composition on a regular basis. They use citations competently and write by following accepted formats for research reports. Eighth grade students present oral and written reports, including presentations strengthened by visuals and media.

0184 English I (H/PreAP) 8 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Completes seventh grade honors English with an average of 80 or above and passes TAKS, with plans to pursue AP English in high school. *A student who takes English I in 8th grade must take four credits of English in high school, for a total of five English credits, in order to graduate.*

Students study language skills, composition skills, and literary skills throughout the year. Students will be required to read extensively both inside and outside class, and literary analysis skills will be emphasized. A greater depth of study of the English language and more extensive and abundant practice in writing a variety of well-formed sentences and paragraphs supplement the study of literature. Upon successful completion of English I (H/PreAP), students will receive high school credit and honors grade points that will count toward graduation.

READING

0582 Reading 8 (R) 8 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Reading 7 (R)

The course, while literature-based, also emphasizes comprehension, vocabulary development, content area reading, and study skills. Dynamic reading instruction is included to improve both speed and comprehension. Students will be introduced to SAT reading test strategies and practice. Instruction addresses the needs of individual students in the classroom; reinforcement activities are provided through computer assisted instruction.

MATHEMATICS

1080 Mathematics Lab 8 1 semester

1090 Mathematics Lab 8 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Eighth grade students who did not pass the math portion of seventh grade TAKS

This course can be taken in addition to the regular grade-level mathematics course to offer students additional instructional time to develop and reinforce the math concepts and problem solving skills needed to pass TAKS.

1083 Prealgebra 8 (R) 8 2 semesters

The primary focal points for students in this course are using basic principles of algebra to analyze and represent proportional and non-proportional relationships and using probability to describe data and make predictions. Students learn to communicate mathematically and make connections within and outside mathematics as they develop conceptual understanding and solve problems. This course addresses all of the essential knowledge and skills for grade 8 mathematics and is designed to prepare students for Algebra 1 in grade 9.

1086 Algebra I (H/PreAP) 8 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Completes seventh grade honors math with an average of 80 or above and passes TAKS, with plans to pursue calculus in high school. *A student who takes Algebra I in 8th grade must take 3 credits of math in high school, for a total of 4 math credits, in order to graduate.*

The primary focus for students in this course is developing logical reasoning by making and justifying generalizations based on their experiences with fundamental algebraic concepts, especially functional relationships and problem solving in real situations. Linear and quadratic functional relationships are examined in a variety of problem situations, and these functions form the basis for the study of equations and the development of algebraic skills. Students use a variety of representations (concrete, numerical, algorithmic, graphical) and tools as well as having regular access to technology that allows function plotting, coordinate graphing, algebraic analysis, and computation. At an honors or preAP level, this course addresses the essential knowledge and skills for first-year algebra in greater depth with a broader scope and a faster pace along with higher expectations for student performance. This course is designed for students who plan to take an advanced placement (AP) mathematics course in high school. Upon successful completion of Algebra I (H/PreAP), students will receive high school credit and honors grade points that will count toward graduation.

SOCIAL STUDIES

2585 United States History and Citizenship (R) 8 2 semesters

This course centers on economic, political, and social events and issues from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. With the independence movement, students examine revolution and change, creation and ratification of the Constitution, challenges of the early Republic, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students identify the origins of the free enterprise system and examine rights and responsibilities reflected in the Constitution. Physical characteristics of the United States and their impact on population distribution and settlement patterns in the past and present are described. The purpose of the course is to provide the understanding, knowledge, and skills necessary to make reasoned judgments to enable students to be active participants in today's democracy.

2586 United States History and Citizenship (H) 8 2 semesters

This course centers on economic, political, and social events and issues from the early colonial period to Reconstruction. With the independence movement, students examine revolution and change, rights and responsibilities through the creation and ratification of the Constitution, challenges of the early Republic, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students identify the origins of the free enterprise system and examine rights and responsibilities reflected in the Constitution. Physical characteristics of the United States and their impact on population distribution and settlement patterns in the past and present are analyzed. The course emphasizes the use of higher order thinking skills, analysis of primary sources, and written essays. The major purpose of this course is a greater depth and breadth of content with an emphasis on knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions and participate in a democratic society.

SCIENCE

3582 Science 8 (R) 8 2 semesters

Science 8 (R) is a laboratory-oriented course that continues the thematic, interdisciplinary approach to the life, Earth, and physical disciplines begun in Science 7. Heavy emphasis will be placed on science processes and the relationship of fundamental science concepts to our daily lives. Technology will be utilized to explore matter, force and motion, energy, genetics, earth cycles, characteristics of the universe, and the effects of man on the earth.

3583 Science 8 (H) 8 2 semesters

This laboratory-oriented course allows students to become actively involved in scientific processes and provides them with the opportunity to use technology as a tool and resource for learning. Science 8 (H) provides an accelerated and integrated curriculum covering life, Earth, and physical sciences that enables students to appreciate the relationships between organisms and their environment. Topics include force and motion, atoms, chemical and physical properties, interactions between matter and energy, ecosystems, characteristics of the universe, cycles in Earth systems, genetics, interdependence among living systems, and human impact on the Earth. In addition, advanced critical thinking and problem solving skills will be developed with a group or individual project presented in a competitive public forum.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

4585 Physical Education 8 2 semesters

4586 Physical Education 8 1 semester

In Grade 8, emphasis is placed on participation in physical activity for enjoyment and challenge, both in and out of school. Understanding the need to remain physically active throughout life by participating in enjoyable and challenging lifetime activities is the basis for Grade 8 instruction. Health TEKS are reinforced in this course.

4592 Partners in P.E. 8 2 semesters

4593 Partners in P.E. 8 1 semester

Regular education students become partners in a physical education class for students with special needs. Many students in LIFE classes require one-on-one help to be successful in physical education. This course provides the opportunity for regular and special education students to interact, thus promoting greater understanding.

EIGHTH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

6018 Intermediate String Orchestra* 7-8 2 semesters

(Offered at Austin Academy, Jackson, and Webb only)

This is a class for intermediate string players (violin, viola, cello, string bass) who wish to participate in the orchestra program. The study, rehearsal, and performance of string orchestra and possibly full symphony orchestra literature will be a part of this course. More advanced fingerings (other positions), bowing, and playing techniques will be studied. Students will be encouraged to participate in U.I.L. competition, individually and as a group. **Orchestra programs are offered on the high school level only at Garland High School and North Garland High School.**

6022 Advanced String Orchestra* 7-8 2 semesters

(offered at Austin Academy, Jackson, and Webb only)

This class is for advanced string players (violin, viola, cello, string bass) who wish to participate in the orchestra program. The study, rehearsal, and performance of string orchestra and possibly full symphony orchestra literature will be a part of this course. More advanced fingerings (other positions), bowing, and playing techniques will be studied. Students will be encouraged to participate in U.I.L. competition, individually and as a group. **Orchestra programs are offered on the high school level only at Garland High School and North Garland High School.**

6238 Honors Band* (audition) 7-8 2 semesters

Membership in this band is by permission of the band director through an audition. With this select membership, the honors band serves as the main performing group in instrumental music for all school functions (eighth grade football games, pep rallies, concerts, PTA, etc.) and represents the school in city, region, and U.I.L. events. This course stresses advanced playing techniques and the most difficult level of band literature in preparation for performances for the school and U.I.L. along with preparation for successful high school band participation. Attendance is required at all performances of this band unless the absence is excused by the band director and the principal.

6239 Symphonic Band* 7-8 2 semesters
(audition)

Membership in this band is usually reserved for those students who are not ready for the more difficult music and performances of the honors band. All students are auditioned in the spring in their band class and are then placed either in symphonic band or honors band, according to their level of proficiency. Emphasis in this class will be on improving fundamentals and skills of rhythm, fingerings, tone production, tuning, and application of these skills in the rehearsal and performance of intermediate level band literature. Performance for school functions and/or U.I.L. will be considered, depending on the proficiency level of the group.

6240 Concert Band* 7-8 2 semesters

The concert band is open to any seventh or eighth grader who has completed one year of beginning band and is not ready for symphonic or honors band. Emphasis is on fundamentals and technical proficiency.

6145 Mixed Choir* 7-8 2 semesters

This is a choir for seventh and eighth grade boys and girls to study and rehearse different types of vocal music for mixed voices. Fundamentals of choral music will be stressed to help students develop desirable vocal skills and sight reading ability in preparation for the rehearsal and performance of more difficult choral music later. The level of music in this choir will be less difficult and more concerned with the development of vocal skills than with public performance. Performance for school functions and/or U.I.L. competition will be considered, depending on the proficiency level and progress of the group.

6146 A Cappella Choir* 7-8 2 semesters
(audition)

Seventh and eighth grade students who have developed more desirable vocal skills and sight reading abilities make up this performance-oriented group. Sight reading and advanced vocal techniques are stressed during the rehearsal as well as the correct performance of more difficult literature. Due to the many performances for the school, community, and U.I.L., admission to this class is by audition only.

6138 Treble Choir* 7-8 2 semesters

These seventh and eighth grade students work toward the development of the treble voice as well as perform at school functions and/or at U.I.L. competition, depending on their sight reading skills and vocal development.

6139 Tenor/Bass Choir* 7-8 2 semesters

These seventh and eighth grade students work toward the development of the tenor/bass voice and perform at school functions and/or U.I.L. competition, depending on their sight reading skills and vocal development.

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Students who enroll in performance-based classes will be expected to attend extra rehearsals and performances outside of the regular instructional day as a part of the course requirements. There may also be additional expenses for supplies. Check with the instructor of each course for details.**

7585 Spanish B 8 2 semesters

This course is the second half of a two-year study of Spanish in the secondary program. The student will continue the development of the language skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and familiarity with Spanish culture. The five Program Goals of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Languages Other Than English (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparison, and Communities) are integrated throughout the course. Upon successful completion of both Spanish A and B, the student is eligible to enroll in high school Spanish II and will receive high school credit and regular grade points for Spanish I that will count toward graduation. The middle school credit (both A and B) satisfies one year of the **two-year requirement** for a foreign language.

4580 Athletics (B) 8 2 semesters

The eighth grade boys' athletic program will have interschool competition and will require time after school for in-season sports. **This program is for the entire school year and a student cannot be removed after the program has started.** After the football season ends, those athletes not involved in the sport that is in season will participate in three days of weight training and two days of agility and skill development. Physical education credit will be awarded for this program.

4581 Athletics (G) 8 2 semesters

The eighth grade girls' athletic program will have interschool competition and will require time after school for in-season sports. **This program is for the entire school year and a student cannot be removed after the program has started.** For those athletes not involved in the sport that is in season, the athletic program will consist of three days of weight training and two days of agility and skill development. Physical education credit will be awarded for this program.

EXPLORATORY TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Exploratory Technology Education provides seventh and eighth grade students broad experiences with a large variety of materials, tools, and processes associated with industry and technology. Should classes fill to more than capacity, eighth grade students will be given priority.

The first year program for seventh and eighth grade students includes the three technology clusters of communication, energy/power/transportation, and manufacturing.

8887 Exploring Communication Technology 7-8 1 semester

Exploring Communication Technology is an exploratory course designed to provide an investigation of the types of activities performed in the communication industry. Laboratory experiences allow students to explore the skills and technologies of the communication industry. Instruction includes the application of technology; the design of products and services; emerging and innovative technologies; safety and maintenance of technology; codes, laws, and standards; marketing; and technology-related career explorations. Activities may include developing images, desktop publishing, drafting, and printing.

8888 Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology 7-8 1 semester

This is an exploratory course designed to investigate the types of activities performed in the energy, power, and transportation industries. Laboratory experiences allow students to explore the skills and technologies of the energy, power, and transportation industries. Content includes the application of technology; the design of products and services; emerging and innovative technologies; safety and maintenance of technology; codes, laws, and standards; marketing; and technology-related career explorations. Activities may include building solar collectors; designing, making, and testing land and space vehicles; using pneumatic and electrical devices; and research on alternative energy sources.

8897 Exploring Manufacturing Technology 7-8 1 semester

This exploratory course is designed to investigate the types of activities performed in the manufacturing industry. Laboratory experiences allow students to explore the skills and technologies of the manufacturing industry. Content includes the application of technology; the design of products and services; emerging and innovative technologies; safety and maintenance of technology;

codes, laws, and standards; marketing; and technology-related career explorations. Activities may include designing and drafting, manufacturing parts, using tools and machines, and planning a manufacturing project.

8898 Exploring Construction Technology 8 1 semester

Prerequisite: Introductory Industrial Technology Production or Manufacturing recommended

Exploring Construction Technology is an exploratory course designed to investigate the types of activities performed in the construction industry. Laboratory experiences allow students to explore the skills and technologies of the construction industry. Content includes the application of technology; the design of products and services; emerging and innovative technologies; safety and maintenance of technology; codes, laws, and standards; marketing; and technology-related career explorations. Activities may include building models of buildings, using construction tools and machines, and designing and building simple structures.

Middle School Campus	Grade	Exploratory Technology Education (First Year) (Choose courses below.)	Exploratory Technology Education (Second Year) (Choose from any first year courses & course below.)
Austin	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Brandenburg	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Bussey*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Coyle	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Hudson*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Jackson*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	MST Advanced Technology Education Exploring Construction Technology
Lyles*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Memorial	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
O'Banion	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Sam Houston*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Schrade*	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Sellers	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology
Webb	7-8	Exploring Communication Technology Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology Exploring Manufacturing Technology	Exploring Construction Technology

*Exploratory Technology Education classes at Bussey, Hudson, Jackson, Lyles, O'Banion, Sam Houston, and Schrade Middle Schools consist of new modular technology labs. Students at these campuses will experience computer application instruction in the broad areas of communication, energy/power/transportation, and manufacturing. Specific activities that students may experience include:

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| CNC Lathe | CNC Router | Flight Technology | Health Care |
| Electronics | Aerodynamics | Laser and Optics | Meteorology and Weather |
| Audio Communication | Fluid Power | Research and Design | Space and Rocketry |
| Bio-related Technology | Computer Aided Design (CAD) | Telecommunications | Television Broadcasting & Video Production |
| Computer Aided Publishing | Computer Animation | Production and Fabrication | Photography |
| Engineering Structures & Analysis | Robotics | Career Exploration | Job Seeking Skills |

First year (I) students should register for courses **8887, 8888 & 8897.**

Second year (II) students may register for any of the 4 Exploratory Technology Education courses.

It is the policy of the Garland Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices and/or its 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; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

The Garland Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs. The Garland Independent School District offers a free and appropriate education to eligible students.

5001 Computer Explorations 7-8 1 semester
 This elective course is designed for students who have mastered basic computer skills. Curriculum includes PC/networking concepts, website creation, and projects that incorporate Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, Access, and Publisher. **Space in this elective may be limited by computer lab availability.**

6398 Art Crafts and Cultures * 7-8 1 semester
 Production of a craft native to each group will allow students to better understand the major cultures of the world. These crafts include a variety such as weaving, batik, jewelry, mosaics, and leatherwork from Oriental, African, Egyptian, South American, North American Indians, and other cultures.

6399 Drawing and Painting * (Art 8) 8 1 semester
 Exploration of the elements and principles of design through various three-dimensional media and techniques, including pencil, pen and ink, and tempera are the basis of this course.

6400 Sculpture, Ceramics, and Printmaking * 7-8 1 semester
 Construction of projects in several media, including wood, paper, and clay, allow students to explore basic three-dimensional design.

Basic printmaking processes, which may include linoleum, woodcut, silkscreening, and others, provide experiences in two-dimensional design.

6405 Advanced Art * 8 1 semester

6404 Advanced Art * 8 2 semesters
Prerequisite: Successful completion of 2 of the 3 seventh and eighth grade art courses with art teacher approval.

Advanced art students will build on previous skills and experiences and prepare themselves for high school art. Students will have an opportunity to focus on a specific area of art and develop a portfolio of work.

*** There is a fee for art supplies for all GISD Middle School Art Classes. The fee is \$10.00 for each class per semester. If a student is scheduled for more than one class that semester, the second class will be only \$5.00.**

0395 Speech A 7-8 1 semester
 In this course, students develop effective communication skills to further their academic pursuits and to prepare for interaction in social, citizenship, and professional roles. To become competent communicators, students will develop and apply skills in using oral language, nonverbal communication, and listening in interpersonal, group, academic, and public contexts. This course is a prerequisite for Speech B.

0396 Speech B 7-8 1 semester
(Students may take Speech A any semester of the 7th or 8th grade; however, they may not take Speech B until they have completed Speech A.)

The study of effective communication skills is continued in this second course. The student participates in more advanced study and will be encouraged to enter co-curricular speech activities.

6595 Theatre Arts A 7-8 1 semester
 Acting! Movement! Action! Theatre Arts A leads you through an exciting study of the theatre. Studies include work in acting, script-reading, and movement techniques. Students learn to use these techniques in the production of a play for an audience.

6596 Theatre Arts B 7-8 1 semester
(Students may take Theatre Arts A any semester of the 7th or 8th grade; however, they may not take Theatre Arts B until they have completed Theatre Arts A.)

More! More! More! Theatre Arts B guides you through a more detailed study of the theatre using the basic techniques learned in Theatre Arts A. Students study acting, auditioning, and movement techniques as well as set and costume design. These skills are used in producing a play for an audience.

6598 Theatre Arts C 8 1 semester
Prerequisite: Theatre Arts A and B with theatre arts teacher approval.

Students will develop understanding of the technical side of play production, as well as set, costume, and lighting design. Students will take part in at least one play production per year.

6599 Theatre Arts D 8 1 semester
Prerequisite: Theatre Arts C with theatre arts teacher approval.

In this advanced course, students will refine both their performance and technical skills. These highly motivated Theatre Arts D students will be able to use these skills and talents in performance situations as they prepare for entrance into the High School Theatre Arts program.

8140 Skills for Living 7-8 1 semester

This comprehensive foundations course provides opportunities to explore family relationships and personal development, personal management, and planning for the future. Emphasis is on the importance of the family, effective communication skills, management skills, how to get along with others including family members and peers, decision making, acceptance of responsibility, and child care practices that promote positive development. Other content addresses positive self-image, nutrition, wellness, personal appearance, managing multiple roles, and career options.

8144 Career Connections 8 1 semester

This activity-based course will provide linkages between classroom experiences and career choices to real-world outcomes. Opportunities will be provided for students to develop and/or improve self-awareness in relation to career options and their related education requirements. Through classroom activities, shadowing, and experiences in the community, students will have opportunities to explore career options within specific career concentrations, while developing and/or refining employability skills. One semester of high school elective credit will be awarded.

0573 Advanced Literary Skills A (H) 7-8 2 semesters

0583 Advanced Literary Skills A (H) 8 1 semester

This honors course will address the skills of comprehension and vocabulary development through the reading and discussion of recognized novels, short stories, and poetry. Students will have the opportunity to enhance their rate of reading and to develop thinking and study skills so that they may increase their achievement in all academic areas.

0587 Advanced Literary Skills B (H) 8 2 semesters

0588 Advanced Literary Skills B (H) 8 1 semester

Prerequisite: Advanced Literary Skills A (H)
 Building on the skills developed in Advanced Literary Skills A (H), students in this honors course will continue to improve reading rate and comprehension while studying both narrative and expository text of greater complexity. Preparation for SAT and ACT reading tests will be included in this course.