
2009-2010 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 2009-2010 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 Math can take Algebra I in grade eight and will earn a credit 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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

To the Student	1	Middle School TAKS Objectives	4
Promotion and Retention Guidelines	1	Garland ISD Graduation Requirements	4
Procedures for Grouping Students	1	Sixth Grade Course Listings	5
Middle School Testing Program	1	Required Course Descriptions	5
The Exit Level TAKS	1	Elective Course Descriptions	6
Elective Courses	2	Seventh Grade Course Listings	8
Special Education	2	Required Course Descriptions	9
Gifted and Talented Programs	2	Elective Course Descriptions	10
Other Magnet Programs	2	Eighth Grade Course Listings	14
Exams for Acceleration	2	Required Course Descriptions	15
English as a Second Language (ESL)	2	Elective Course Descriptions	16

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.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

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

For students enrolling in grade 8 during the 2009-2010 school year, 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.

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.

END OF COURSE EXAMS

For students enrolling in grade 7 during the 2009-2010 school year and every year thereafter, Texas State Law has now mandated that students must pass new end of course exams for the following courses in order to receive their high school diplomas:

English I English II English III	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2
Biology Chemistry Physics	World Geography World History U.S. History

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.

SCIENCE (Grade 8 only)

- 1) The student will demonstrate an understanding of the nature of science.
- 2) The student will demonstrate an understanding of living systems and the environment.
- 3) The student will demonstrate an understanding of structures and properties of matter.
- 4) The student will demonstrate an understanding of motion, forces, and energy.
- 5) The student will demonstrate an understanding of Earth and space systems.

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

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*	½-1
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.**

Students enrolled in Spanish 6 must still meet the four-semester Physical Education requirement. If only one semester of PE is completed in grade 6, students must take three additional semesters in grades 7 and 8. Students may take one semester of PE in grade 7 and two semesters of PE in grade 8, or students may take two semesters of PE in grade 7 and one semester of PE in grade 8.

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**	½-1
Mathematics Lab***	½-1
Reading/Writing Workshop****	½-1
Other Electives	½-1

*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).

**Unless students are enrolled in athletics, students must take at least one semester of Physical Education in grade 7. Students must take four semesters of Physical Education in grades 6-8. 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
Select Treble Choir	7-8	1
Spanish A***** (first year)	7	1
Journalism	7-8	1
Athletics	7-8	1
Exploring Communication Technology	7-8	½
Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Technology	7-8	½
Exploring Manufacturing Technology	7-8	½
Computer Explorations	7-8	½
Art Crafts and Cultures	7-8	½
Drawing and Painting	7	½
Sculpture, Ceramics, & Printmaking	7-8	½
Speech A	7-8	½
Speech B (must have received credit for A)	7-8	½
Skills for Living	7-8	½
Theatre Arts A	7-8	½
Theatre Arts B	7-8	½
Advanced Theatre Arts	7-8	½

*****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
6146 (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.

6140 Select Treble Choir 7-8 2 semesters
 Those seventh and eighth grade students who have developed a more advanced level of vocal performance and sight-reading skills will be assigned to this performance-oriented group. Sight reading and advanced vocal techniques are stressed during the rehearsal as well as the performance of more difficult literature.

***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.**

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.**

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.

6586 Advanced Theatre Arts 7-8 2 semesters
 Advanced theatre students will have a greater opportunity to build on previous skills and experiences to prepare them for high school theatre. Students will have an opportunity to develop a theatre portfolio.

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.

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.

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.

0399 Journalism **7-8** **2 semesters**

This course provides instruction in the basics of yearbook and newspaper production. Students build skills in photography, layouts, advertising and printing. Students are also provided opportunities to develop composition skills in writing captions, titles and feature articles. Students will also experience first-hand the requirements for a well-run business. Students will keep a financial spreadsheet, solicit advertisers, and skillfully keep deadline and event calendars. Students will simultaneously work both independently on their assigned task and collaboratively on multiple tasks, meeting deadlines. Course work based on journalism objectives will be an integral part of the curriculum throughout the entire year.

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

* 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.

** Unless students are enrolled in athletics, students must take at least one semester of Physical Education in grade 8. Students must take four semesters of Physical Education in grades 6-8. 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
Select Treble Choir	7-8	1
Spanish B***** (second year)	8	1
Journalism	7-8	1
Athletics	8	1
Physical Education (non-athletes)	8	½
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
Advanced Theatre Arts	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

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

Memorandum

Garland Independent School District

DATE: January 22, 2009

TO: Middle School Principals,
Middle School Counselors

FROM: Dr. Butch Sloan
Executive Director of School Improvement

RE: Middle School Course Guide Corrections

Unfortunately, the Middle School Course Guide is already in the printing stage so it is too late for me to get one important change made recently into the final printed document. There is also one course number listed incorrectly. As you receive your printed copies, please ask students to make the following corrections:

1. On page 14, Career Connections is listed under "Required Courses" for eighth grade students. While Career Connections is an excellent option for students in grade 8 that should be "strongly recommended," it is not required for every eighth grade student next year.
2. On page 15, the new English 8 Honors course number should be 0195 instead of 0183.

I apologize for these changes. Hopefully receiving this information in advance of the printed guides will keep this from causing confusion with students and parents this spring.

CC: Dr Phyllis Parker
George Lyons
Lonnie Nichols
Ruby Armstrong
Dr. Phil Gilbreath
Barbara King

Memorandum

Garland Independent School District

DATE: January 16, 2009

TO: Middle School and High School Principals,
Middle School and High School Counselors, and
Middle School and High School English Language Arts Teachers

FROM: Dr. Butch Sloan
Executive Director of School Improvement

Dr. Chris Steen
Coordinator for English Language Arts (grades 6-12)

RE: English I Honors in Grade 8 Discontinued

For many years, Garland ISD has offered English I Honors (for high school credit) to identified students in the eighth grade. This course offering was coupled with a local requirement that students receiving credit for English I Honors in the eighth grade must then complete four additional English credits in grades 9-12. Based on the recommendation of a district task force formed to address the new 4x4 graduation requirements earlier this fall, the district will discontinue offering the English I Honors course to students in the eighth grade at the end of the 2008-2009 school year, replacing it with an English 8 Honors course (without high school credit). The reasons for this decision are summarized below:

1. Garland ISD typically has approximately one-third of the students in grade 8 enroll in English I Honors (about 1,250 students in the current school year). In this year's junior class, over 700 students are enrolled in a fourth English course other than English IV AP (English IV R, dual-credit Composition I & II, etc.). Similar numbers have been seen in past years demonstrating that about half of the students coming into high school with credit in English I Honors typically do not stay on the advanced placement path in English through graduation. These students typically enroll in elective English courses such as Creative Writing and Literary Genres as substitutes for English V AP.

2. **Because the new 4x4 graduation requirements identify more specific core courses and limit the number of elective courses that can be counted toward the 26 required credits, the district 4x4 task force recognized the fact that GISD students coming into high school with credit in English I Honors have one less elective option because of the locally required fifth English credit. Eliminating this local requirement for the fifth English credit could not be supported because of all of the recent emphasis on college readiness which strongly recommends all students take rigorous core courses during their senior year in high school.**

3. **From a curriculum perspective, a rigorous course based on the TEKS for grade 8 English Language Arts can easily replace the English I Honors course for our most advanced students in grade 8. This new course can offer these students a strong preparation for both high school and college level work. As we transition over the next few years, we will see changes at the high school level since one less course will be needed for this advanced group of students. The third and fourth courses in high school English will eventually replace the fourth and fifth courses, respectively, and offer students multiple opportunities to prepare for Advanced Placement exams and/or receive dual-credit.**

We hope that the statements above have demonstrated the rationale for this decision, and we request your support as this information is presented to students and parents this spring.

**CC: Dr Phyllis Parker
 George Lyons
 Lonnie Nichols
 Ruby Armstrong**

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.

0183 English 8 (H) 8 2 semesters

Students in English 8 (H) will master and extend the language, composition, vocabulary, and literary objectives established in the regular course in greater depth than students in regular sections. Students will be required to read extensively both inside and outside of class with an emphasis on literary analysis and critical thinking. A greater depth of study of the English language and more extensive and abundant practice in writing a variety of essays and written responses, including open-ended reinforce the study of literature.

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.

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.

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* (audition) 7-8 2 semesters
 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* (audition) 7-8 2 semesters
 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.

6140 Select Treble Choir 7-8 2 semesters
 Those seventh and eighth grade students who have developed a more advanced level of vocal performance and sight-reading skills will be assigned to this performance-oriented group. Sight reading and advanced vocal techniques are stressed during the rehearsal as well as the performance of more difficult literature.

***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.**

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.**

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.

6586 Advanced Theatre Arts 7-8 2 semesters
 Advanced theatre students will have a greater opportunity to build on previous skills and experiences to prepare them for high school theatre. Students will have an opportunity to develop a theatre portfolio.

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:

CNC Lathe
Electronics
Audio Communication
Bio-related Technology
Computer Aided Publishing
Engineering Structures & Analysis

CNC Router
Aerodynamics
Fluid Power
Computer Aided Design (CAD)
Computer Animation
Robotics

Flight Technology
Laser and Optics
Research and Design
Telecommunications
Production and Fabrication
Career Exploration

Health Care
Meteorology and Weather
Space and Rocketry
Television Broadcasting & Video Production
Photography
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.**

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.

0399 Journalism 7-8 2 semesters

This course provides instruction in the basics of yearbook and newspaper production. Students build skills in photography, layouts, advertising and printing. Students are also provided opportunities to develop composition skills in writing captions, titles and feature articles. Students will also experience first-hand the requirements for a well-run business. Students will keep a financial spreadsheet, solicit advertisers, and skillfully keep deadline and event calendars. Students will simultaneously work both independently on their assigned task and collaboratively on multiple tasks, meeting deadlines. Course work based on journalism objectives will be an integral part of the curriculum throughout the entire year.

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.

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.

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.

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.

AUSTIN ACADEMY 2009-2010 COURSE GUIDE SUPPLEMENT

GRADES 6–8



**GARLAND INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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.

**AUSTIN ACADEMY
COURSE GUIDE SUPPLEMENT**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Enriched English.....	1
Enriched Reading.....	1
Enriched Mathematics	1
Enriched Science	1
Enriched Social Studies/History.....	2
Enriched Electives.....	2

ENRICHED ENGLISH

0164 English 6 (EH) Grade 6 2 semesters

This course will emphasize the writing of multiple paragraph compositions for narration, exposition, description, and persuasion. Writing will also be patterned after various genres in literature. Written analysis of certain accepted classics and contemporary selections on a challenging level will also be required. Students will study special units requiring independent research/study projects.

0174 English 7 (EH) Grade 7 2 semesters

In addition to reinforcing broad based skills and essential knowledge and skills that are a part of the regular curriculum, students will integrate multiple disciplines into the study of English. Students will develop higher level thinking skills through independent study projects. There will also be a focus on open-ended tasks and the development of products that challenge existing ideas and produce new ideas. Students will read and analyze a variety of fiction and nonfiction selections and will write creative and expository compositions based on these selections.

ENRICHED READING

0564 Reading 6 (EH) Grade 6 2 semesters

Placement in the enriched reading program is based on a standardized reading test score in the 90th percentile. Students will be expected to master the essential knowledge and skills more quickly than in a regular or an honors class. The learning process will be cooperative in nature, allowing for creative and critical thinking, along with problem solving and research activities. Students will be encouraged to analyze, interpret, and evaluate literary selections. Emphasis will be placed on idea development which fosters creative production, in addition to merely comprehending the reading material.

ENRICHED MATHEMATICS

1065 Math 6 (EH) Grade 6 2 semesters

Students in Enriched Honors Math 6 will work with numerical concepts such as adding and subtracting integers, decimals, fractions, order relations, and number theory. The concepts of probability and statistics will be explored, as well as geometry and measurement. The students will be given an opportunity to apply reasoning skills. Math 6 (EH) addresses all the essential knowledge and skills for grade 6 and prepares the students for Math 7 (EH).

1075 Math 7 (EH) Grade 7 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Complete 6th grade enriched honors or 6th grade honors, with recommendation of teacher and/or counselor.

This is a preparatory course for 8th grade Algebra I Enriched Honors. Students explore in depth the concepts of equation solving, graphs and data, proportions, probability, and geometry. Advanced topics include an introduction to factoring polynomials and an in depth study of exponents and their properties.

1085 Algebra 1 (EH) Grade 7-8 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Complete 7th grade Enriched Honors, with recommendation of teacher and/or counselor.

Algebra I topics are presented in a "skills plus applications" format with an emphasis on applications. Topics covered include linear equations and systems, radicals, and quadratic and rational functions. Symbolic logic is introduced following completion of the Algebra I objectives to prepare students for proofs in advanced high school geometry. Successful completion of Math 7 EH is a prerequisite for this course. Students who successfully complete Algebra I EH will receive one high school credit for Honors Algebra I and honors grade points.

1095 Geometry International Honors

Grade 8 2 semesters

Prerequisite: Complete Algebra I Enriched Honors, with the recommendation of teacher and/or counselor.

This course addresses the components of the basic structure of geometry such as dimensionality, congruence, and similarity through the study of size, location, and direction relationships. Connections to algebra and the world outside of school are generated through a variety of applications and settings. Students use a variety of representations (concrete, numerical, algorithmic, and graphical) as well as having regular access to technology that allows geometric construction, coordinate graphing, algebraic analysis, and computation. At an international honors level, this course addresses the essential knowledge and skills for geometry at greater depth with a broader scope and a faster pace along with higher expectations for student performance.

ENRICHED SCIENCE

3567 Science 6 (EH) Grade 6 2 semesters

This is a process-oriented course covering various science disciplines including life, earth, and physical sciences. Students will develop understanding of scientific processes so that they can apply scientific method in guided inquiry activities. Topics of study include force and motion, atoms, chemical and physical properties of substances, ecology, structure and function in living systems, genetics, characteristics of the universe, effects of erosion, and human impact on Earth. In-depth study of selected topics will provide students with opportunities to further their knowledge and develop critical thinking skills.

3577 Science 7 (EH) Grade 7 2 semesters

This is a laboratory-oriented course covering various science disciplines including life, earth, and physical sciences. Students will increase understanding of scientific processes so that they can apply scientific method in a laboratory setting. Topics of study include force and motion, chemical and physical changes, ecosystems, diseases, genetics, weather studies, characteristics of the universe, and human impact on Earth. In-depth study of selected topics will provide students with opportunities to further their knowledge and develop critical thinking skills.

3595 Science 8 (EH) Grade 8 2 semesters
 This is a laboratory-oriented course covering various science disciplines including life, earth, and physical sciences. Students will refine understanding of scientific processes so that they can manage complex applications of scientific method in a laboratory setting. Topics of study 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 Earth. In-depth study of selected topics will provide students with opportunities to further their knowledge and develop critical thinking skills.

ENRICHED SOCIAL STUDIES/ HISTORY

**2567 Social Studies/
Leadership (EH) Grade 6 2 semesters**
 This course traces the development of various cultures from early River Valley civilizations to modern times. The contributions of these cultures and significant individuals are stressed. Higher level thinking skills are utilized by requiring in-depth studies of individual cultures to develop a thorough knowledge of peoples and their contributions to our world. Guest speakers are brought in to supplement learning. Opportunities are given for students to analyze current world events and political issues in order to connect the past and the present.

**2577 Texas History Grade 7 2 semesters
and Geography (EH)**
 This course emphasizes interconnections between people, events, and issues from the beginning of Spanish exploration to the present. The students are encouraged to consider issues, gather information on those issues and make informed decisions. The students are encouraged to become involved so that they will become productive members of the community now and in the future. The students are expected to do in-depth study in Texas history and geography through guided and independent research and discussion, utilizing higher level thinking skills and a variety of instructional strategies.

**2587 U.S. History and Grade 8 2 semesters
Citizenship (EH)**
 Using a thematic approach, this course will provide an analysis of the political, social, and economic dimensions of U.S. history from the early colonial period to Reconstruction, making connections to the present. Geography and culture concepts will be emphasized throughout the course, and students will carry out independent research, analyze case studies, and write position papers to demonstrate in-depth knowledge.

ENRICHED ELECTIVES

6587 Theatrical Workshop Grades 7, 8 2 semesters
Prerequisite: Audition
 Students will develop dramatic individual and group performances for entry in area competitions. Instruction will reinforce theatrical skills and emphasize dramatic analysis. Students are selected for this class by audition.

6163 Piano Lab Grades 6, 7, 8 1 semester only
 This course is an introduction to the art of playing piano. It is designed for both beginning and advanced piano students. This course is for students only wanting one semester of piano.

6164 Piano Lab Grades 6, 7, 8 2 semesters
 This course is an introduction to the art of playing piano. It is designed for both beginning and advanced piano students. Students are encouraged to enter festivals and recitals. Students may work not only on solo playing, but also on duets and ensembles.

**6134 Mixed Grade 6 2 semesters
Choir (EH)**
 Membership in this choir is by audition. The chosen boys and girls will rehearse and perform multipart choral arrangements that will cover a wide range of styles. The chosen repertoire will attempt to challenge the students' musicianship and promote a continued interest. Emphasis will be placed on fundamentals of choral singing and sight-reading in preparation for the next choir course level.

**6017 Beginning Grade 6 2 semesters
Orchestra**
 This orchestra is for those students with little or no previous orchestral training. The objectives of the Beginning Orchestra are to learn the basic instrument positions, good tone production and fundamentals of music. This orchestra normally performs at least two concerts per year.

**6019 Intermediate Grades 6, 7, 8 2 semesters
Orchestra**
 The Intermediate Orchestra is open to any student with one year of orchestral training, but who is not ready for Concert. Intermediate Orchestra students continue the studies begun at the elementary academies and learn new bowings, fingerings, and basic ensemble performance procedures.

**6018 Concert Grades 6, 7, 8 2 semesters
Orchestra**
 This class is reserved for students who have completed one or two years of orchestral study but still need further development before participating in the more difficult music and performances of the Honors or Philharmonic Orchestras. Emphasis in this class is on improving fundamentals and skills of rhythm, fingering, tone production, tuning and application of these skills in the rehearsal and performance of Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra music.

**6021 Philharmonic Grades 6, 7, 8 2 semesters
Orchestra**
 Students with two or three years of study audition for membership in this class. Students participate in the UIL Solo and Ensemble contest and in the UIL Concert contest. Advanced performing techniques are studied as students prepare for the Honors Orchestra.

6020 Honors Orchestra **Grades 7, 8** **2 semesters**

Membership in this orchestra is by permission of the orchestra director through an audition. The Honors Orchestra is the official performing unit of the Austin Academy Orchestras. Advanced performing techniques are studied with the goal of preparing the student for the high school orchestra. Participation in UIL and other extracurricular activities is strongly encouraged. This orchestra performs regularly for PTA, school and civic groups.

6363 Art 6 (EH) **Grade 6** **2 semesters**
6366 Art 6 (EH) **Grade 6** **1 semester**

Students are admitted into the enriched art program after a committee evaluates a portfolio and observes on-site art work. In the sixth grade, students will be introduced to the foundations of aesthetic theory, study advanced rendering and experimental drawing, examine the process of culturalization, and begin to apply the techniques of visual scanning. The students will explore various painting, sculpture, craft and ceramic techniques, and be introduced to basic photographic and video processes.

6390 Enriched Art I **Grades 7, 8** **1 semester**

In this course the students will continue to work with painting, sculpture, crafts, and ceramics and explore photography and video in more depth. Students will examine major cultural phases and expand their evaluation skills through applied critique and design analysis. The meaning of artistic style will be presented and an overview of art careers will be offered. Students will expand their drawing abilities through various media and experimentation. The classroom experiences will be enhanced with field trips and visiting artists. (also Enriched Art II, III)

6391 Enriched Art II **Grades 7, 8** **1 semester**

This course is a continuation of Enriched Art I. Emphasis on the development of personal style, on the application of higher level thinking processes and on visual problem-solving will be added to the continuing exploration of the basic media. Students will have the opportunity to engage in independent study and are encouraged to seek art experience outside of the classroom.

6392 Enriched Art III **Grades 7, 8** **1 semester**

This course has the other courses as a foundation. At this level the student will be applying the thinking processes and thematic selection used by artists. The individual style of each student will be analyzed, and a connection to art heritage will be explored. At this point a student may spend some of the course time exploring a chosen medium in greater depth and will develop a portfolio of work (eighth graders).

6393 Enriched Art IV **Grade 8** **1 semester**

This course is an extension of Enriched Art III. Students will develop a personalized course of instruction wherein they will explore a thematic concept through a series of related works. Students will continue to examine art career possibilities and participate in practical applications of art in the community. Eighth grade students will produce a portfolio show at the end of the year.

3589 Special Topics in Science **Grades 7, 8** **2 semesters**

3590 Special Topics in Science **Grades 7, 8** **1 semester**

This course is designed for 7th and 8th grade enriched science students who have a desire to explore scientific topics fully. It will be offered as two separate single semester courses. The focus in the course will be advanced topics in life and earth science such as genetics, human physiology, oceanography, and independent project research. Students must apply and be accepted to participate in this class.

NOTE: 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.

JACKSON

TECHNOLOGY CENTER
FOR MATH AND SCIENCE

2009-2010 COURSE GUIDE SUPPLEMENT

GRADES 6-8



**GARLAND INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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.

JACKSON & NORTH GARLAND MST PROGRAMS

MST courses are unique to the Jackson & North Garland MST Programs and are not offered at any other GISD campus.

JACKSON MST PROGRAM

	MATH	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
6 TH GRADE	MST Math 6(H) 6 th – 7 th TEKS	MST Science 6(H) 6 th – 7 th TEKS	
7 TH GRADE	MST Math 7(H) 7 th – 8 th TEKS	MST Science 7(H) 7 th – 8 th TEKS MST Forensics 7(H)	MST Exploring Computer Applications Exploring Energy, Power, and Transportation Exploring Communication Technology Manufacturing Career Investigation MST Advanced Technology Education
8 TH GRADE	MST Algebra 1 (H/PreAP)	MST Science 8(H) MST Astronomy	See courses listed above.

North Garland MST Program Concentrations

The following chart depicts possible course sequencing for MST students in each concentration. The chart includes required and selected elective courses for each concentration. Specific credit requirements for each concentration are found on pages 6-12. Courses designated as **MST** are unique to the North Garland MST Program and are not offered at any other GISD campus.

Computer Science, Technology Applications & Telecommunications Concentrations			
	MATH	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
9th Grade	MST Geometry H (1412)	MST Biology H (3116)	MST Multimedia R (1819) MST Fundamentals of Telecommunications R (8650) MST Computer Applications R (8643)
10th Grade	MST Algebra 2 H (1232)	MST Chemistry H (3216) Computer Science I H (1820)	MST Digital Graphics/Animation H (1831) MST AC/DC Electronics Computer Systems (8656) MST Computer Cabling & Design I H (8653) MST Telecommunications and Networking (8665)
11th Grade	MST Pre Calculus H (1618) AP Statistics H (1915)	MST Physics 1H (3317) Computer Science II H (1821)	MST Web Mastering H (1829) MST Video Technology DC (1834) MST Telecommunications Technology I H (8652) MST Computer Cabling & Design II H (8654)
12th Grade	AP Calculus (AB) H (1623) AP Calculus (BC) H (1626)	AP Physics (C) H (3318) AP Chemistry H (3223)	MST Computer Cabling & Design III H (8655) MST Telecommunications Technology II H (8659)
Capstone	Computer Science - Independent Study of Computer Science H (1824) Multimedia Applications - MST Independent Study of Multimedia Applications H (1833) Telecommunications - MST Telecommunications Technology II H (8659) or MST Computer Cabling and Design III H (8655)		

Medical Studies (Academic & Technical) Concentrations			
	MATH	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
9th Grade	MST Geometry H (1412)	MST Biology H (3116)	MST Multimedia R (1819) MST Computer Applications R (8643)
10th Grade	MST Algebra 2 H (1232)	MST Chemistry H (3216) Anatomy & Physiology of Human Systems H (3421)	MST Health Science Technology 1 R (8152) MST Gerontology R (8155) Mental Health R (8164)
11th Grade	MST Pre Calculus H (1618) AP Statistics H (1915)	MST Medical Microbiology H (8102) MST Pathophysiology H (8103) MST Physics H (3317)	MST Health Science Technology 2 H (Clinical Rotation 1) (8153) MST HST II – Career Prep I (8316)
12th Grade	AP Calculus (AB) H (1623) AP Calculus (BC) H (1626)	AP Chemistry H (3223) AP Biology H (3123)	MST Medical Terminology DC (8105) MST Pharmacology DC (8106) MST HST III – Career Prep II (8326)
Capstone	MST/ (H) Health Science Technology 3 Clinical Rotation II H (8154) <u>Or</u> Scientific Research & Design H (3424)		

Comprehensive Science Studies Concentration			
	MATH	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
9th Grade	MST Geometry H (1412)	MST Biology H (3116)	MST Multimedia R (1819) MST Computer Applications R (8643)
10th Grade	MST Algebra 2 H (1232)	MST Chemistry H (3216) MST Aquatic Science H (3428) Anatomy and Physiology H (3421)	
11th Grade	MST Pre Calculus H (1618) AP Statistics H (1915)	MST Physics H (3317) MST Earth Science H (3427) AP Chemistry H (3223) AP Biology H (3123)	MST Bio-related Technology Systems H (8641)
12th Grade	AP Calculus (AB) H (1623) AP Calculus (BC) H (1626)	AP Environmental Science H (3426) AP Physics (C) H (3318)	
Capstone	Scientific Research & Design H (3424)		

Engineering Concentration			
	MATH	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
9th Grade	MST Geometry H (1412)	MST Biology H (3116)	MST Multimedia R (1819) MST Engineering Principles R (8640) MST Computer Applications R (8643)
10th Grade	MST Algebra 2 H (1232)	MST Chemistry H (3216)	MST Engineering Graphics (8662DC) (1/2) MST Architectural Graphics (8663DC) (1/2) Computer Science 1 H (1820)
11th Grade	MST Pre Calculus H (1618) AP Statistics H (1915)	MST Physics H (3317)	MST Advanced Engineering Graphics (8664DC) MST Advanced Architectural Graphics R (8649) Computer Science 2 H (1821)
12th Grade	AP Calculus (AB) H (1623) AP Calculus (BC) H (1626)	AP Physics (C) H (3318)	
Capstone	MST Independent Study in Mathematics H (1629)		

COURSE OFFERINGS FOR JACKSON TECHNOLOGY CENTER FOR MATH AND SCIENCE

1061 MST Math 6 (H) **Grade 6** **1 Unit**

MST Math 6 will address the essential knowledge and skills for grades 6 and 7 and will focus on using ratios to describe proportional relationships involving number, geometry, measurement, and probability and on applying addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals, fractions, and integers. Students in this magnet class will utilize advanced classroom tools such as concrete manipulatives, graphing calculators, data collection probeware, and interactive multimedia software applications.

1071 MST Math 7 (H) **Grade 7** **1 Unit**

MST Math 7 will address the essential knowledge and skills for grades 7 and 8 and will focus on using proportional relationships in number, geometry, measurement, and probability, on applying addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals, fractions, and integers, on using statistical measures to describe data and make predictions, and on using basic principles of algebra to analyze and represent relationships. Students in this magnet class will utilize advanced classroom tools such as concrete manipulatives, graphing calculators, data collection probeware, and interactive multimedia software applications.

1081 MST Algebra I (H/PreAP) **Grade 8** **1 Unit (High School Credit)**

MST Algebra I will address all of the essential knowledge and skills for Algebra I and will focus on linear and quadratic relationships and problem solving in real situations thus allowing students to develop logical reasoning by making and justifying generalizations based on their experiences with fundamental algebraic concepts. Students in this magnet class will utilize advanced classroom tools such as concrete manipulatives, graphing calculators, data collection probeware, and interactive multimedia software applications.

3561 MST Science 6 (H) **Grade 6** **1 Unit**

This course includes studies on solar energy, levers and pulleys, and models and designs. These units are offered in conjunction with units on the environment, aquatic studies, disease, hazardous materials, and waste management. Student computers are utilized extensively, along with hands-on manipulatives to master science concepts. Teamwork and student project work will be emphasized.

3571 MST Science 7 (H) **Grade 7** **1 Unit**

This course includes student computer units with additional software and probeware to integrate and display student experimental data collected using computers. A year-long program of problem solving will be central to the course, composed of chemistry and ecology units with real-world investigations using higher-order thinking skills. A program of global observations utilizing student-collected data is an additional enrichment strand. Teamwork and student project work will be emphasized.

3591 MST Science 8 (H) **Grade 8** **1 Unit**

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. Advanced critical thinking skills will be developed with an emphasis on group and individual projects. 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.

3586 MST Astronomy **Grade 8** **1/2 Unit**

Prerequisite: An 80 average in science and teacher approval

Students will learn the fundamentals of planets, stars, galaxies, and constellations. They will attend bimonthly stargazing classes when weather permits. They will form teams and participate in a competition sponsored by the Winston School. An optional field trip to Ft. Davis and the McDonald Observatory (student expense involved) will expose students to the real world application of astronomy.

8889 MST Exploring Computer Applications **Grades 7-8** **1/2 Unit**

This introductory elective provides laboratory experiences which allow student to investigate the types of activities performed with computers in today's society, such as desktop publishing, computer-aided design and drafting, computer animation, CNC programming, computer control, and robotics.

8894 MST Advanced Technology Education **Grades 7-8** **1/2 Unit**

Prerequisite: Communication; Energy, Power and Transportation; or Manufacturing Technology

Students will explore advanced applications in technology beyond their prerequisite class. Students in the module classes with a seven-day rotation can come into this class and do advanced work in robotics.

3572 Forensics **Grade 7** **1 Unit**

Prerequisite: An 80 average in science and math

Students will learn the fundamentals of forensic science (hair and fiber analysis, fingerprinting, toxicology, anatomy and physiology). They will develop their technical writing ability by participating in a number of full-scale "criminal investigations." The students will form teams and attend competition sponsored by the Winston School. A non-required field trip to the Garland and/or Dallas Forensics Laboratory will expose students to the real world of forensic scientists. Students will be expected to pay for the cost of the field trip.

**GARLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
MATH/SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, PROBATION,
EXIT AND APPEAL POLICIES**

Listed below are the student expectations, probation criteria, exit procedures, and appeals process for the Technology Centers in Garland ISD. The intent of these policies is to assist each student to reach their maximum level of success by assuring appropriate placement.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

All Technology Center students will be expected to:

1. Maintain attendance based on state and local district guidelines. (School-sponsored field trips are not counted.)
2. Maintain report card grades of at least 75 in MST courses for each six weeks at the elementary and for each semester at the middle school and high school levels.
3. Maintain report card grades of at least 70 in all other courses for each six weeks at the elementary level and for each semester at the secondary level.
4. Pass all sections of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills. (TAKS)
5. Comply with all of the district's student code of conduct guidelines.
Example of noncompliance would be a student who has been placed in "In school" suspension or suspended two or more times, placed in the A.E.C. and /or expelled
6. Be promoted. An MST student who is retained shall be automatically removed from the MST program.

PROBATION CRITERIA

1. Failure to meet the expectations as stated above may require a Technology Center Student Review meeting. The Review Committee will include a building administrator and classroom teacher along with the school counselor when appropriate. Parents will also be encouraged to attend.
2. The Review Committee will develop an individual probationary plan that addresses the area(s) of deficient expectations. The purpose of the plan will be to assist the student in returning to a successful level.
3. The probationary student's progress will be monitored at the end of each six weeks. At the end of each six weeks of the probationary period for Middle school students, or at the end of each semester for elementary and high school students, the Review Committee will make a decision to remove the student's probationary status, extend the probation, or exit the student from the MST program.

EXIT PROCEDURES

If it is determined in the Technology Center Student Review process that a student is to be exited, the following procedures will be implemented.

1. If the decision to exit the student precedes the Choice of School process, the parent will use the Choice of School form to select a school for the child to attend in the upcoming year. The student and parents will work with Student Services and school administration officials to determine best school placement based upon scheduling, restrictions, and available options. Students who are allowed to continue to complete the remainder of the school year at the MST Center will no longer qualify for MST transportation.
2. If the decision to exit the student occurs after the Choice of School period has closed, the parent will complete an in-district transfer form with the transfer to take effect at the beginning of the following school year. Parents should be aware that in this circumstance, transfers to the school of choice could only be approved if space were available in that school.
3. Students who elect to withdraw from the MST program at their own discretion will be required to simultaneously complete an in-district transfer form. Student Services will work with the student to determine best school placement other than the MST Center.
4. Students who exit the MST program due to academic failure, failure of TAKS sections, or their choice, will be ineligible to re-apply to the program for one school year.
5. Students who exit from the MST program and later desire to re-enter the program will follow the same entrance procedures as new students.
6. Students who exit from the MST program during the school year will no longer qualify for MST transportation.

APPEAL PROCESS

To appeal the Technology Center Student Review Committee's decision to exit a student, a written appeal must be received by the building principal within two school days of the decision to exit. Parents will be notified of the results of the appeal.

Student signature _____ **date** _____

Parent signature _____ **date** _____

**CLASSICAL
CENTER
AT BRANDENBURG
2009-2010
COURSE GUIDE
SUPPLEMENT**

GRADES 6-8



**GARLAND INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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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.

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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.

CLASSICAL CENTER AT BRANDENBURG COURSE GUIDE SUPPLEMENT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Classical English.....	2
Reading.....	3
Latin.....	4
Fine Arts.....	5
Gymnastics.....	7

CLASSICAL ENGLISH

0166 Classical English 6 (R)	Grade 6	2 Semesters
0167 Classical English 6 (H)	Grade 6	2 Semesters

In addition to the regular English 6 course content, students at the Classical Center will investigate the foundations of language through the study of Latin, with emphasis on etymology and the relationship between modern English and classical Latin. Literature studies will include classical mythology, and students will develop an awareness of classical allusions in contemporary life and literature. The principles found in *Aristotle's Art of Rhetoric* will be included in writing instruction, giving students the tools to thoroughly examine and organize their topics. Students in honors sections will complete extensive independent reading and writing assignments at an advanced difficulty level.

0176 Classical English 7 (R)	Grade 7	2 Semesters
0177 Classical English 7 (H)	Grade 7	2 Semesters

In addition to the regular English 7 course content, students at the Classical Center will investigate the foundations of language through the study of Latin, with emphasis on etymology and the relationship between modern English and classical Latin. Literature studies will include classical mythology, and students will develop an awareness of classical allusions in contemporary life and literature. The principles found in *Aristotle's Art of Rhetoric* will be included in writing instruction, giving students the tools to thoroughly examine and organize their topics. Students in honors sections will complete extensive independent reading and writing assignments at an advanced difficulty level.

0186 Classical English 8 (R)	Grade 8	2 Semesters
0183 English 8 (H)	Grade 8	2 Semesters

In addition to the regular English 8 and English 8 (H) course content, students at the Classical Center will investigate the foundations of language through the study of Latin, with emphasis on etymology and the relationship between modern English and classical Latin. Literature studies will include classical mythology, and students will develop an awareness of classical allusions in contemporary life and literature. The principles found in *Aristotle's Art of Rhetoric* will be included in writing instruction, giving students the tools to thoroughly examine and organize their topics. Students in honors sections will complete extensive independent reading and writing assignments at an advanced difficulty level.

READING

0562 Reading 6 (R)
0563 Reading 6 (H)

Grade 6
Grade 6

2 Semesters
2 Semesters

In addition to the regular Reading 6 and 6(H) course content, students at the Classical Center will participate in Junior Great Books studies, a program whose goal is to instill in students the habits of mind that characterize self-reliant thinkers, readers, and learners. Through a strategy called Shared Inquiry, participants learn to give full consideration to the ideas of others, to weigh the merits of opposing arguments, and to modify their initial opinions as the evidence demands. They gain experience in communicating complex ideas and in supporting, testing, and expanding their own thoughts. In this way, the Shared Inquiry method promotes thoughtful dialogue and open debate, preparing its participants to become able, responsible citizens, as well as enthusiastic, lifelong readers. Books selected for study in Reading 6(H) will be appropriate for an honors-level course.

0572 Reading 7 (R)

Grade 7

2 Semesters

In addition to the regular Reading 7 course content, students at the Classical Center will participate in Junior Great Books studies, a program whose goal is to instill in students the habits of mind that characterize self-reliant thinkers, readers, and learners. Through a strategy called Shared Inquiry, participants learn to give full consideration to the ideas of others, to weigh the merits of opposing arguments, and to modify their initial opinions as the evidence demands. They gain experience in communicating complex ideas and in supporting, testing, and expanding their own thoughts. In this way, the Shared Inquiry method promotes thoughtful dialogue and open debate, preparing its participants to become able, responsible citizens, as well as enthusiastic, lifelong readers.

0582 Reading 8 (R)

Grade 8

2 Semesters

In addition to the regular Reading 8 course content, students at the Classical Center will participate in Junior Great Books studies, a program whose goal is to instill in students the habits of mind that characterize self-reliant thinkers, readers, and learners. Through a strategy called Shared Inquiry, participants learn to give full consideration to the ideas of others, to weigh the merits of opposing arguments, and to modify their initial opinions as the evidence demands. They gain experience in communicating complex ideas and in supporting, testing, and expanding their own thoughts. In this way, the Shared Inquiry method promotes thoughtful dialogue and open debate, preparing its participants to become able, responsible citizens, as well as enthusiastic, lifelong readers.

0573 Advanced Literary Skills A (H)**Grade 7****2 Semesters**

In addition to the regular ALS-A course content, students at the Classical Center will participate in Junior Great Books studies, a program whose goal is to instill in students the habits of mind that characterize self-reliant thinkers, readers, and learners. Books selected for study will be appropriate for an honors level course. Through a strategy called Shared Inquiry, participants learn to give full consideration to the ideas of others, to weigh the merits of opposing arguments, and to modify their initial opinions as the evidence demands. They gain experience in communicating complex ideas and in supporting, testing, and expanding their own thoughts. In this way, the Shared Inquiry method promotes thoughtful dialogue and open debate, preparing its participants to become able, responsible citizens, as well as enthusiastic, lifelong readers.

0587 Advanced Literary Skills B (H)**Grade 8****2 Semesters**

In addition to the regular ALS-B course content, which builds on the skills presented in ALS-A through applying literary analysis strategies to works of increasing levels of difficulty, students at the Classical Center will participate in Junior Great Books studies, a program whose goal is to instill in students the habits of mind that characterize self-reliant thinkers, readers, and learners. Books selected for study will be appropriate for an honors level course. Through a strategy called Shared Inquiry, participants learn to give full consideration to the ideas of others, to weigh the merits of opposing arguments, and to modify their initial opinions as the evidence demands. They gain experience in communicating complex ideas and in supporting, testing, and expanding their own thoughts. In this way, the Shared Inquiry method promotes thoughtful dialogue and open debate, preparing its participants to become able, responsible citizens, as well as enthusiastic, lifelong readers.

LATIN

7577 Latin A**Grade 7****2 Semesters**

This course is the first half of a two-year study of Latin intended to provide the student with basic comprehension of the Latin language through reading. Students develop an understanding of the social and political history of the Pompeians, Roman British, and Alexandrians, especially during the first century A.D. This is a fascinating approach to Latin based upon a continuous story line about historical characters and situations. Students develop basic comprehension of grammatical points and sentence patterns as they follow the story. Students are expected to enroll in Latin B during the eighth grade. Upon successful completion of Latin A and B, students are eligible to enroll in high school Latin II and will receive high school credit and regular grade points for Latin 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.

7587 Latin B**Grade 8****2 Semesters**

This course is the second half of a two-year study of Latin begun in grade 7. The student will continue the development of comprehension of the Latin language through reading started the previous year. The historical story continues as the setting for the development of grammatical points and sentence patterns. Upon successful completion of Latin A and B, students are eligible to enroll in high school Latin II and will receive high school credit and regular grade points for Latin 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.

PIANO**6163 Piano Lab****Grade 6****1 Semester****6161 Piano Lab****Grades 7-8****1 Semester****6162 Piano Lab****Grades 7-8****2 Semesters**

This course is an introduction to the art of playing the piano. It is designed for both beginning and advanced piano students. Students are encouraged to enter festivals and recitals. Students may work not only on solo playing, but also on duets and ensembles.

6160 Advanced Piano**Grades 7-8****2 Semesters****Prerequisite: Evaluation by piano instructor**

This course is a continuation of the study of piano at the advanced level. Students may work not only on solo playing, but also on duets and ensembles. Class concerts and performances are required.

THEATRE ARTS

6588 Classical Theatre Arts	Grade 6	1 Semester
6589 Classical Theatre Arts A	Grades 7-8	1 Semester
6590 Classical Theatre Arts B	Grades 7-8	1 Semester
6591 Classical Theatre Arts C	Grade 8	1 Semester
6592 Classical Theatre Arts D	Grade 8	1 Semester

This course will stress the whole art of the theatre from action to design, mime to musical theater, and learning stage directions to directing others. Areas of study will include memorization, story telling, monologues, and poems. Also included will be Greek theatre with masks and a chorus, Shakespeare, as well as television and video. This course will explore cultures through the theatre. Creativity and imagination will be nurtured in performances and theatre games. The course is intended for serious, disciplined individuals who like to create, have fun, entertain and learn something at the same time.

ART

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.

6375 Classical Art	Grade 6	1 Semester
6376 Classical Art	Grades 7-8	1 Semester

This art course will focus on the classical components of the world of art with the central focus being the investigation of art and its limitless possibilities in our lives. This course will include four basic components: a) art history: the study of great art and artists of the world; b) art production: the development of artistic skills using a variety of materials and creating a variety of art forms; c) art criticism: the study and use of the language of art; and d) aesthetics: the ability to make informed judgments about their own and others' work while learning to respect cultural and stylistic differences in art forms.

DANCE

6505 Dance	Grade 6	1 Semester
6506 Dance	Grades 7-8	1 Semester
6507 Dance	Grades 7-8	2 Semesters

This is an introduction to the vocabulary, general principles, and physiology of modern ballet, folk and ethnic, jazz, and tap dance forms. Students learn how to perform beginning movements of a variety of dance forms, develop artistic judgment, develop self-discipline, study choreography, and learn the role of dance in diverse cultures. Class concerts and performances are required. Physical education or fine arts credit can be awarded for this course.

6508 Advanced Dance	Grades 7-8	2 Semesters
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Prerequisite: Try-out and evaluation by dance instructors

For students with prior training, this class will emphasize technical and performance skills. Genres will include Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Modern, Hip-Hop and Choreography. Students will also develop confidence through the use of the body as an expressive instrument and will develop an appreciation of dance as an art form. Class concerts and performances are required.

GYMNASTICS

4568 Developmental Gymnastics	Grade 6	1 Semester
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Development gymnastics will provide students a variety of physical challenges to encourage the development of agility, balance, and coordination. Basic functional relationships between the motor and sensory systems in the body can be developed through the basic movement sequences learned in developmental gymnastics. Physical education credit will be awarded for this course.

4578 Gymnastics
4588 Gymnastics

Grades 7-8
Grades 7-8

1 Semester
2 Semesters

This athletic program will develop the physical, emotional, and psychological skills necessary to compete in gymnastics. Self-control, poise, self-discipline, and sportsmanship are pertinent areas to be addressed. The acquisition of skills in vaulting, tumbling, balance beam (girls), uneven bars (girls), pommel horse (boys), still rings (boys), parallel bars (boys), and horizontal bar (boys) will be the primary focus of the program. Students may take this yearlong course in grade 7 and/or grade 8. Physical education credit will be awarded.

4579 Team Gymnastics

Grades 7-8

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Try-out and evaluation by gymnastic coaches

This athletic program will develop the physical, emotional, and psychological skills necessary to compete in gymnastics. This is a competitive class that will compete with area middle school gymnastics teams. Students will continue to develop skills in vaulting, tumbling, balance beam (girls), uneven bars (girls), pommel horse (boys), still rings (boys), parallel bars (boys), and horizontal bar (boys). Physical education credit will be awarded.