



## Middle School Course Guide

## Technology Applications Courses

**99810 Basic Computer Explorations (B)**

**1 Semester(s)**

**Gr: 6-8**



**Prerequisite:** Technology applications required by ARD as denoted on ARD Schedule Page.

**Description:** [Base/ABC/PAC] This is a locally designed course aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Technology Applications and determined by the ARD Committee to be a suitable elective. Instruction is provided at grade level and modified to meet individual student needs.

**95001 Computer Explorations (R)**

**1 Semester(s)**

**Gr: 6-8**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This elective is designed to develop and enhance computer skills that are needed by all students as they prepare for high school, college, and future careers. Students will learn keyboarding, networking concepts, digital photography, Movie Maker, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and Power Point), Internet research strategies, basic coding, and website creation. The curriculum also includes real-life projects that combine specific skills from each of the programs studied.

**95002 Computer Explorations B (R)**

**1 Semester(s)**

**Gr: 6-8**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** [Magnet course offered only at Jackson Technology Center] This elective is designed to develop and enhance computer skills on the Apple MacBook computer that are needed by all students as they prepare for high school, college, and future careers. Students will learn the OS X operating system and powerful productivity and creativity apps: Pages, Keynote, Numbers, iMovie, GarageBand and Photos. In addition, students will learn keyboarding, basic coding, Internet research strategies, and website creation. The curriculum also includes real-life projects that combine specific skills from each of the programs studied.

**95004 Fundamentals of Computer Science (HS credit)**

**0.5 credit**

**Gr. 8**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Fundamentals of Computer Science is intended as a first course for those students just beginning the study of computer science. Students will learn about the computing tools that are used every day. Students will foster their creativity and innovation through opportunities to design, implement, and present solutions to real-world problems. Students will collaborate and use computer science concepts to access, analyze, and evaluate information needed to solve problems. Students will learn the problem-solving and reasoning skills that are the foundation of computer science. By using computer science knowledge and skills that support the work of individuals and groups in solving problems, students will select the technology appropriate for the task, synthesize knowledge, create solutions, and evaluate the results. Students will learn digital citizenship by researching current laws and regulations and by practicing integrity and respect. Students will gain an understanding of the principles of computer science through the study of technology operations and concepts.