



**DeSoto ISD  
Middle School  
Course Catalog  
2018-2019**

## **Our Mission:**

The mission of DeSoto ISD is to prepare each student academically and socially to be a problem solver and productive citizen for a 21st century global society.

## **Core Values:**

- Equal Access
- Individualized Learning
- Quality Teachers
- Relationships

## **Call to Action**

DeSoto ISD is committed to empowering all students with the knowledge and skills to become competitive analytical thinkers who work collaboratively and individually in the pursuit of future endeavors.

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## Introduction

In this catalog you will find information that will help guide you as you plan your course sequence from sixth through eighth grade as well as information to help guide you through college readiness. Each year it is recommended that you spend time in the current course catalog for your campus to identify course options, note any changes to the graduation program requirements, and to help you in your decision-making process as you register for the upcoming year. Additionally, it is recommended that you view the websites for any colleges, certifications, or post-graduation programs you may be interested in to pinpoint their specific requirements.

The staff of DeSoto ISD encourages you to spend time in the course planning process as an investment in your future.

- Read the course descriptions for your campus.
- Note the content and any requirements for the core and elective classes that are available.
- Review the suggested course sequence options and information to prepare for college and career pathways.
- Feel free to make an appointment with your campus counselor to discuss any questions regarding the course catalog.

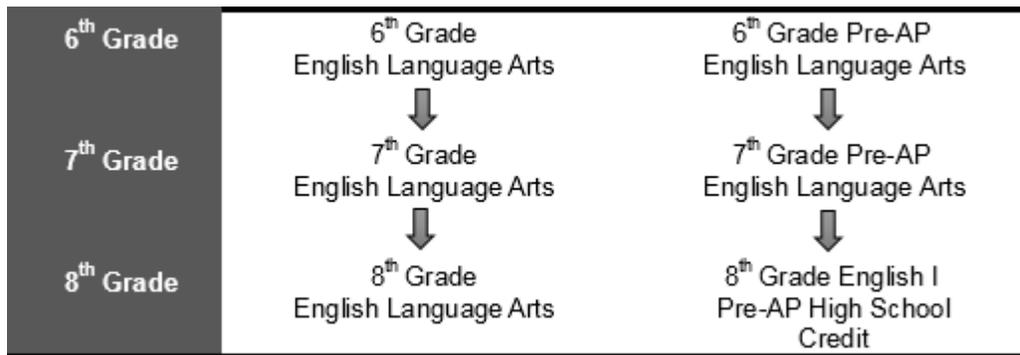
For more specific campus information, follow this link: <http://www.desotoisd.org>

Go to schools>middle schools.

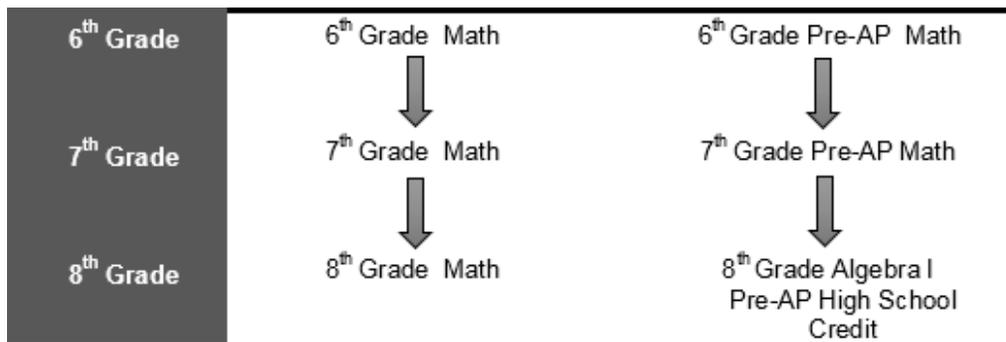
## SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCES

Following are the recommended sequences for courses in the four core areas based on the student's level of ability and performance. These course sequences are only suggested; a student is not locked into a sequence once it is started. For example, a student may take regular English and Reading in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, then English Pre-AP in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. In most cases, students may not select a sequence of courses which would result in a loss of grade-level instruction in a content area. Advanced 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade courses in ELAR and Math are designed to include content from higher grade levels so that all 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> learning standards are covered prior to the high school credit course in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

### English Course Sequence Options

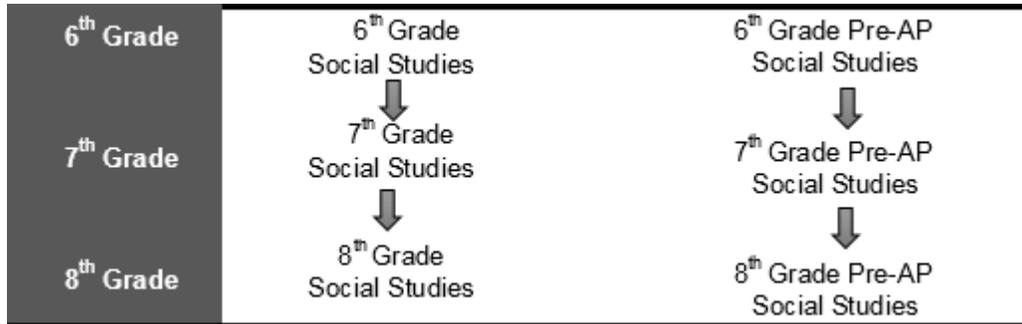


### Math Course Sequence Options

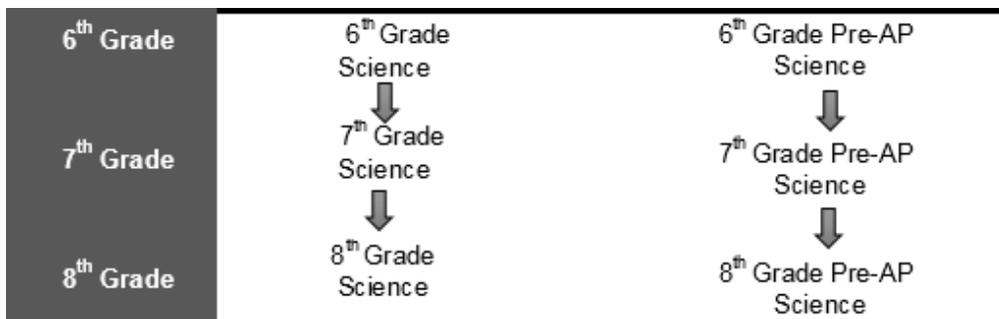


## SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCE (cont'd)

### Social Studies Course Sequence Options



### Science Course Sequence Options



## Curriculum at a Glance

DeSoto ISD provides middle school students a well-balanced curriculum that exceeds the requirements of the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The DeSoto ISD academic program offers all students the same basic course of study. Students in grades 6-8 are required to take courses in English language arts, math, science, and social studies all three years of middle school.

During the middle school years, students need to broaden their academic and career options and develop the foundation needed for success in high school. In addition to the required courses, students choose optional courses (electives) in fine arts, languages other than english, courses in technology education and career exploration, or they may take additional physical education courses. All students must complete one fine arts credit in grades 6-8.

DeSoto Middle Schools offer Pre-Advanced Placement courses in English, math, science and social studies. These courses provide additional challenges within the traditional program of instruction. Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) Requirements: Pass the previous year STAAR assessment in the 80th percentile, 80 or higher in previous year coursework, and teacher recommendation.

DeSoto Middle Schools offer Pre-AP courses in grades 6-8. Please be aware that Pre-AP courses require a commitment of a full semester or a year.

Pre-AP courses include specific content and activities designed to prepare students for both STAAR exams and success in college-level Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Depth of material requires students to read and write extensively in and out of class.

Families electing to participate in the rigor of Pre-AP will be required to attend a mandatory Pre-AP parent meeting and sign a student performance contract.

1. In order to continue in a Pre-AP course, a student should maintain an average of 70 or higher in each grading period.
2. If a student does not maintain an average of 70 or higher in the first 2 grading periods, he or she will be removed from the course.
3. Any student removed from the course for not maintaining an average of 70 or higher each grading period will receive 10 points toward their grade upon entering a regular class.

*In the event that a student does not meet the required criteria to enroll in a Pre-AP course, students and parents may see the counselor to request entry into desired course.*

## Who Should Take Pre-AP Classes?

Consider these factors:

- Your child's past performance in the subject area. If a student has always excelled at science, Pre-AP Science may be a great idea. On the other hand, if he or she tends to struggle in math, Pre-AP Algebra might not be the best.
- Your child's skills. Pre-AP courses in Reading—require heavy amounts of reading and writing. Is your student prepared for long, difficult reading assignments, multiple essays, and in-depth research papers?
- Your child's schedule. A student who plays sports year-round or holds leadership positions in one or more extracurricular activities may find it difficult to meet the sizeable obligations of a Pre-AP class.

## Pre-AP Course Enrollment Criteria:

Pre-AP English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR):

- STAAR scores that meet the Meets & Masters level in Reading
- A final grade in the last ELAR course of 85 or higher (if Pre-AP or Honors, 80 or higher)

Pre-AP Math:

- STAAR scores that meet the Meets & Masters level in Mathematics
- A final grade in the last math course of 85 or higher (if Pre-AP or Honors, 80 or higher)

Pre-AP Science:

- STAAR scores that meet the Meets & Masters level in 5th grade Science (6<sup>th</sup> grade)
- STAAR scores that meet the Meets & Masters level in Mathematics (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- A final grade in the last science course taken of 85 or higher (if Pre-AP or Honors, 80 or higher)

Pre-AP Social Studies:

- STAAR scores that meet the Meets & Masters level in Reading
- A final grade in the last social studies course taken of 85 or higher (if Pre-AP or Honors, 80 or higher)

## Once enrolled in a Pre-AP course, can a student get a schedule change?

Once enrolled in a Pre-AP course, a student may only request a schedule change with permission. A conference including the student, parent, teacher, counselor, and campus administrator will be held to make a determination regarding the student's request. Schedule changes will generally not be permitted mid-semester.

## **High School Courses available to the Middle Schools**

The middle schools also offer selected courses for high school credit. A school counselor will assist students and parents in choosing appropriate courses. Teachers may also make recommendations to parents to move students into courses. Below are the courses offered:

- Algebra I (Pre-AP)
- English I (Pre-AP)
- Health
- Communication Applications
- Spanish I

In spring 2012, the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) became the new state standardized assessment. The STAAR ® program includes annual assessments in the following grades and subjects for middle school.

- Reading, Grades 6-8
- Mathematics, Grades 6-8
- Writing, Grade 7
- Science, Grade 8
- Social Studies, Grade 8

**Students taking Algebra I will take the Algebra I EOC**

**Students taking English I will take the English I EOC**

In addition, the Student Success Initiative (SSI) requires students in grade 8 to pass the STAAR ® Reading and Mathematics assessment in order to move on to the next grade level.

**All high school courses taken in the middle school will be recorded on the student's transcript, but grades will not be used to determine a student's' overall high school grade point average (GPA).**

## **Endorsement Graduation Plan Overview (Class of 2018+)**

This section of the Course Catalog is designed to provide you with information about the new Texas Foundation Endorsement Graduation Plan which takes effect for the Class of 2018 and beyond. The purpose of the state's change to the new graduation plan is to provide students greater flexibility and choices in the selection of courses that will best prepare them for their individual postsecondary goals. Employers and leaders in the Texas workforce have encouraged career oriented training and certification at the high school level to help meet their growing demands.

Starting in the spring of 2014, all eighth-graders will be required to choose one of five endorsements as outlined in the new graduation plan. The five endorsement areas are:

- **Arts and Humanities**
- **Business and Industry**
- **Multidisciplinary Studies**
- **Public Services**
- **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)**

The earned endorsement will be reflected on the student's official transcript at the completion of their high school career.

### **How are Endorsements organized?**

As you use this catalog, you will see recommended pathways or coherent sequences of courses organized by career clusters within each of the endorsements. These career clusters are part of the Achieve Texas College and Career Initiative designed to help students and their parents make informed educational decisions. Pathways are based on the idea that education of the 21st century should combine rigorous academics with relevant career education. When schools integrate academic and technical education, students can see the "relevance" of what they are learning. The pathways allow students to study a particular field in depth and help to facilitate a seamless transition from secondary to postsecondary opportunities.

### **Four Year Plan**

DeSoto ISD has built our curriculum offerings into the endorsements plan using the subsection of pathways and then adding defined concentrations to drive students toward their graduation goals and college and career aspirations. Students will select their Personal Graduation Plan based on their endorsement, pathway and concentration.

## Endorsements Overview



### Arts and Humanities

Arts and Humanities include courses directly related to fine and performing arts, political science, world languages, cultural studies, and English literature

#### **Six options:**

- (A) Five social studies credits
- (B) Four levels of the same language in a LOTE (Language Other than English)
- (C) Two levels of the same language in a LOTE and two levels of a different language in a LOTE
- (D) Four levels of American Sign Language
- (E) A coherent sequence of four credits by selecting courses from one or two categories or disciplines in fine arts or innovative courses approved by the commissioner.
- (F) Four English elective credits by selecting from the following: English IV; or Independent Study in English; or Literary Genres; or Creative Writing; or Research and Technical Writing; or Humanities; or Communication Applications; or AP English Literature and Composition; or IB Language Studies A1 Higher Level.



### Business and Industry

Business and Industry includes courses directly related to database management, information technology, communications, accounting, finance, business management, marketing, graphic design, architecture, construction, welding, logistics, automotive technology, agricultural science and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning.

#### **Four options:**

- (A) A coherent sequence of courses for four or more CTE credits with at least two courses in the same career cluster, including at least one advanced CTE course. The final course in the sequence must be obtained from one of the following: **Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources**; or **Architecture and Construction**; or **Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications**; or **Business Management and Administration**; or **Finance**; or **Hospitality and Tourism**; or **Information Technology**; or **Manufacturing**; or **Marketing**; or **Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics**.
- (B) Four English elective credits to include three levels in one of the following areas: public speaking; or debate; or advanced broadcast journalism; or advanced journalism: newspaper; or advanced journalism: yearbook.
- (C) Four technology applications credits.
- (D) A coherent sequence of four credits from subparagraph (A), (B), or (C).



## **Public Services**

Public Services includes courses related to health sciences, education (including K-12 teachers), law and public safety, and JROTC.

### **Two options:**

- (A)** A coherent sequence of courses for four or more CTE credits with at least two courses in the same career cluster, including at least one advanced CTE course. The final course in the sequence must be obtained from one of the following: **Education and Training**; or **Government and Public Administration**; or **Health Science**; or **Human Services**; or **Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security**.
- (B)** Four courses in Junior ROTC (JROTC)

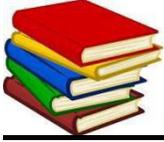


## **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)**

This path includes courses directly related to science (including environmental science), technology (including computer science), engineering, advanced mathematics, or a coherent sequence of some Career and Technology Education Courses.

### **Five options:**

- (A)** A coherent sequence of courses for four or more CTE credits including at least two courses in the same career cluster, and at least one advanced CTE course, which includes any course that is the third or higher course in a sequence. The final course in the sequence must be obtained from one of the CTE career clusters relating to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.
- (B)** A coherent sequence of four credits in computer science.
- (C)** Three credits in mathematics by successfully completing Algebra II and two additional mathematics courses for which Algebra II is a prerequisite.
- (D)** Four credits in science by successfully completing chemistry, physics, and two additional science courses.
- (E)** In addition to Algebra II, chemistry, and physics, a coherent sequence of three additional credits from no more than two of the categories or disciplines represented by subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D).



## **Multidisciplinary Studies**

Multidisciplinary Studies includes courses from the curriculum of each endorsement area and credits in a variety of advanced courses sufficient to complete the Distinguished Level of Achievement under the Foundation High School program.

### **Three options:**

- (A)** Four advanced courses that prepare a student to enter the workforce successfully or postsecondary education without remediation from within one endorsement area or among endorsement areas that are not in a coherent sequence.
- (B)** Four credits in each of the four foundation subject areas to include English IV and chemistry and/or physics.
- (C)** Four credits in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, languages other than English, or fine arts.

# English Language Arts and Reading

## Recommended Course Sequencing

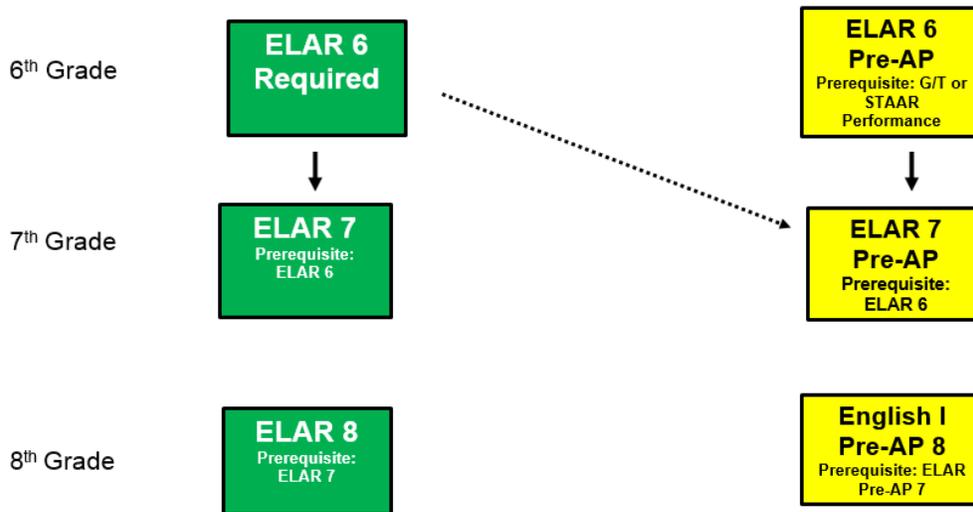
### Accelerated Reading Course

- I did not meet at least one semester of Reading
- I passed my Reading STAAR with a scale score between 1517-1587
- I passed my ELAR course
- I did not meet my Reading STAAR or scored below a scale score of 1575(6<sup>th</sup>), 1590(7<sup>th</sup>), 1650 (8<sup>th</sup>)

### Honors Reading

- I passed my ELAR course
- I met or mastered grade level of Reading STAAR

\* A student must pass Reading STAAR at the Met or above level to be admitted into an honors or Pre-AP course.



**005600 (02800000) English Language Arts – Inclusion, Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Required by ARD Committee

[CAMPUS BASED INCLUSION] This is a locally designed course aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English 6 and determined by the ARD Committee to be a suitable substitute for English 6.

**001551 (03210530) English as a Second Language, Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Students participating in ESL program with LPAC approval

This course is the ESL students' reading and English course. (ESL/English 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. The focus is 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.

**601520 (02800000) English Language Arts, Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: English Language Arts Grade 5

Grade 6 English provides opportunities for students to increase and refine their communication and literacy skills by engaging in meaningful activities in five key areas. Students in English 6 master previously learned skills in increasingly complex reading selections and written compositions. Sixth grade students read and respond to literature, learning to make inferences and recognize the purpose of essential literary devices. In reading informational text, students interpret information, synthesize and make logical connections between ideas, and explain how different organizational patterns develop the main idea and the author's viewpoint. Students will engage in a reading and writing workshop experience that includes the study of oral and written conventions, research and library skills, and teamwork.

**601525 (02800000) English Language Arts iSTEAM, Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in iSTEAM3D program

iSTEAM3D Grade 6 English provides opportunities for students to increase and refine their communication and literacy skills by engaging in project-based learning and critical thinking in a small group setting. 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.

**601521 (02800000) English Language Arts Pre-AP (H),Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Honors Criteria/Gifted and Talented

Students in English Language Arts and Reading 6 Pre-AP 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. This course emphasizes the development of writing skills into polished, multi-paragraph formats such as: memoir, persuasive and letter writing, non-fiction, and multi-genre research activities. In order to meet the demands of English and other core subjects, the elements of additional genres are presented as student writing needs arise. Writers' analyses of classic and contemporary selections on a challenging level are also required. Students study special units requiring independent research/activities/ projects.

**602520 (02800000) MYP Language and Literature,Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: None

[IB course offered only at DeSoto West Middle School] This course is designed to engage students in the study of many aspects of the language and literature of a communities and their cultures and offer a study of a wide range of literary and non-literary text types, writing styles and techniques, allowing students to comment on the significance of any possible contexts, audiences, purpose, and the use of linguistic and literary devices.

**005380 (SE000001) Fundamentals of Reading,Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Reading required by ARD Committee

[CAMPUS BASED SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSE] This is a locally designed course aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Reading 6 and determined by the ARD Committee to be a suitable substitute for Reading 6.

**601510 (02810000) Reading, Grade 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, reading rate and reading fluency. Attention to individual needs is stressed. Higher-level thinking skills are emphasized in reading instruction.

**601515 (02810000) Reading iSTEAM,Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in the iSTEAM3D program

In this course students will engage in skills that are essential to reading development while engaging in project-based learning. Students will learn concepts through project and problem based learning, concept development workshops, and technology connection.

**601511 (03200510) Reading Pre-AP (H), Grade 6****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Pre-AP English Criteria/Gifted and Talented

[Honors course] Placement in the honors reading program is based on the student's previous work through grade five. Students will be expected to master the essential knowledge and skills quicker than in a regular 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 and nonfiction selections. Emphasis will be placed on idea development which fosters creative production, in addition to basic comprehension of reading material.

**005606 (03273410) Accelerated Reading, Grade 6 (Elective)****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Students who are not successful on the state reading assessment in fifth grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional reading instruction.

This **required** course is designed for students who were not successful on the **first administration** of the state reading assessment in the fifth grade, score below district criteria, or experience reading difficulties. Student's eligible for Special Education must be placed in this course through the ARD process. This course focuses on word analysis, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension skills, literary responses, and reading strategies. Targeted intervention closes gaps identified by diagnostic assessments. In addition to direct instruction, technology-based programs will be utilized to enhance reading comprehension.

**001552 (03200400) English as a Second Language, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Students participating in ESL program with LPAC approval

This course is the ESL student's reading and English course. (ESL/English 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. The focus of ESL 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.

**701520 (03200540) English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: English Language Arts 6

This course combines the study of English and reading in a blocked (two class period) experience. Grade 7 ELA relies on the study of well-crafted essays, stories, and poems to direct student writing in literary, expository, and persuasive texts. Students will study theme, genre, and sensory language through contemporary and traditional literary and informational texts and will use a reading and writing workshop approach as they engage in teacher-directed and self-selected reading and writing experiences. Language study in this course emphasizes grammar, spelling, sentence development, punctuation, and capitalization.

**701525 (03200540) English Language Arts and Reading iSTEAM,Grade 7**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in the iS3D program

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.

**701521 (03200540) English Language Arts and Reading Pre-AP (H),Grade 7**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: State Assessment Performance and Teacher Recommendation

[Honors course] This course combines the study of English and reading in a blocked (two class period) experience. This course is designed for students who wish to have a more challenging and rigorous seventh-grade English Language Arts experience. Students in ELAR 7 Pre-AP 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. 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 and ELAR 8 content. 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.

**702520 (03200540) MYP Language and Literature,Grade 7**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: None

[IB course offered only at DeSoto West Middle School] This course is designed to engage students in the study of many aspects of the language and literature of a communities and their cultures and offer a study of a wide range of literary and non-literary text types, writing styles and techniques, allowing students to comment on the significance of any possible contexts, audiences, purpose, and the use of linguistic and literary devices.

**005706 (03273420) Accelerated Reading, Grade7 (Elective)**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Students who are not successful on the state reading assessment in sixth grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional reading instruction.

This is a **required** course for students who were not successful on the state reading assessment in sixth grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional reading instruction. Students eligible for Special Education must be placed in this course through the ARD process. This course is designed to emphasize reading as a process. In this full-year course, students practice reading strategies to improve skills in word analysis, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and written literary response using a variety of materials differentiated to meet student needs. Targeted intervention closes gaps identified by diagnostic assessment to ensure academic success. In addition to direct instruction, technology-based programs will be utilized to enhance reading comprehension.

**700200 (03243620) Speech, Grade 7****1 Semester**

In this course, students develop effective communication skills to further their academic pursuits and to prepare for interaction in social, civic, 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 Grade 8.

**001553 (03200500) English as a Second Language, Grade 8****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Students participating in the ESL program with LPAC approval.

This course is the ESL students' reading and English course. (ESL/English 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. The focus of ESL 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.

**801520 (03200550) English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 8****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: English Language Arts 7

This course combines the study of English and reading in a blocked (two class period) experience. In this course, students will learn and practice reading comprehension, interpretation, and analysis processes through the study of literary and informational texts. With an emphasis on collaborative discussions to discover and develop understandings about texts, students will keep records of their reading responses and experiences and use these as the foundation for analytical writings. Using the writing process, students will compose literary texts (poetry and imaginative stories), expository texts, and persuasive texts. Language study in this course emphasizes grammar, spelling, sentence development, punctuation, and capitalization.

**801522 (03220100) English I Pre-AP (H), Grade 8****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Standardized Reading Test Score in the 80th Percentile

[Honors course] This course combines the study of English and reading in a blocked (two class period) experience. This course is designed for students who wish to have a more challenging and rigorous eighth-grade English Language Arts experience and earn a high school credit. Students in English I Grade 8 Pre-AP continue to increase and refine their communication and literacy skills. Students take their writing through all the steps of the writing process on a regular basis. In addition to planning and drafting, students revise for organization and idea development and edit their papers for clarity and the correct use of the conventions and mechanics of written English. They practice all forms of writing, including literary, narrative, expository, persuasive, interpretive, analytical, research, and procedural/work related writing. English I students read extensively in multiple genres from world literature. They learn forms and terms associated with selections being read, develop comprehension and vocabulary skills to greater depth and complexity, and analyze elements of text for greater understanding and modeling for their own writing. Note: One high school credit is earned upon successful completion of this course. Students will be required to take the English I EOC which all students must pass to graduate from high school.

**802520 (03200550) MYP Language and Literature, Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: None

[IB course offered only at DeSoto West Middle School] This course is designed to engage students in the study of many aspects of the language and literature of a communities and their cultures and offer a study of a wide range of literary and non-literary text types, writing styles and techniques, allowing students to comment on the significance of any possible contexts, audiences, purpose, and the use of linguistic and literary devices.

**005806 (03273430) Accelerated Reading, Grade 8 (Elective)**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Students who are not successful on the state reading assessment in seventh grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional reading instruction.

This is a **required** course for students who were not successful on the state reading assessment in seventh grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional reading instruction. Students eligible for Special Education must be placed in this course through the ARD process. This course is designed to emphasize reading as a process. In this full-year course, students practice reading strategies to improve skills in word analysis, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and written literary response using a variety of materials differentiated to meet student needs. Targeted intervention including closes gaps identified by diagnostic assessment to ensure academic success. In addition to direct instruction, technology-based programs will be utilized to enhance reading comprehension.

**800200 (03243630) Speech, Grade 8**

**1 Semester**

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.

**812170 (03241400) Communication Applications, Grade 8**

**1 Semester**

Prerequisite: STAAR Reading and Writing Assessment

This course is gives 0.5 high school elective credit for graduation and satisfies the high school speech requirement for graduation. In this course, the student will learn the process of communication for both public speaking and interpersonal communication. The opportunity will be given to become more aware of the self as a communicator and of the interaction in communication. The student will be able to deliver different types of speeches and will become more self- confident. This course meets the one-half credit communication applications high school graduation requirement. Please be aware that this course will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript and will be factored into the student's overall high school grade average/GPA.

## **Languages Other Than English**

### **830100 (03493000) Mandarin Chinese, Grades 6-8**

**2 Semesters**

Mandarin Chinese is an entry level course in Mandarin Chinese language acquisition. It is for students with little or no prior knowledge of the Mandarin Chinese language. It is designed to develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

### **830200 (03443000) Spanish, Grades 6-7**

**1 Semester**

Prerequisite: Most recent iStation Indicators of Progress (ISIP) score above the 40th percentile

The beginning secondary course emphasizes communication, especially listening and speaking skills, in relevant contexts. The course uses the functional approach that relates each grammar point to its function or role in communication. Students are presented with opportunities to learn cultural customs and practices from the contexts of the activities.

### **817300 (03440100) Spanish I, Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Students will develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing Spanish while learning to appreciate and understand the culture of Spanish-speaking countries. Students will progress toward a novice skill level as they are introduced to the Five Program Goals of TEKS for Languages other than English: Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons and Communities. Students will be assessed regularly in their abilities to produce and comprehend the language, both orally and in writing. Note: Course fulfills high school graduation requirement.

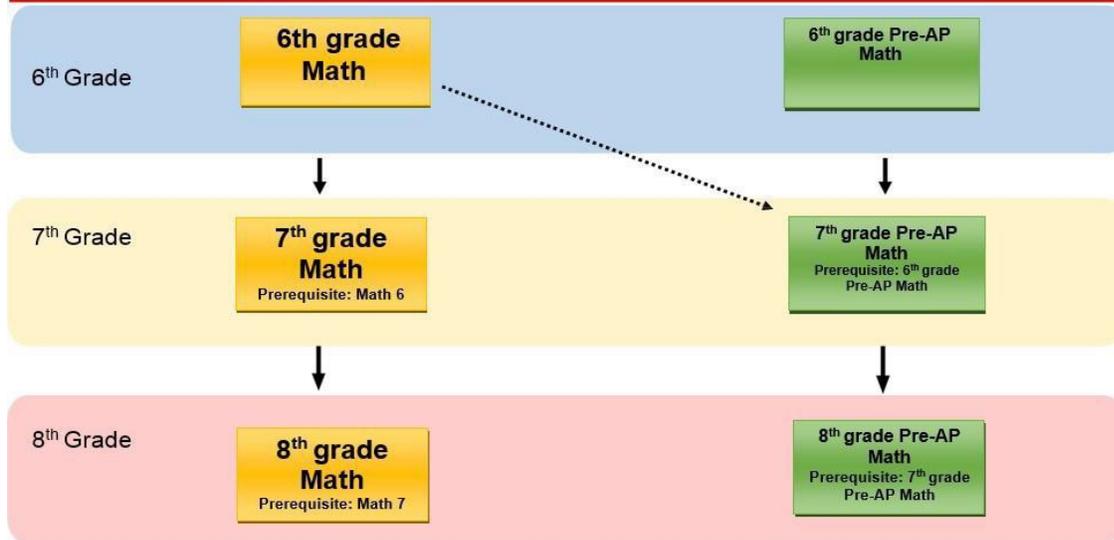
# Mathematics

## Recommended Course Sequencing

### MS Mathematics Course Sequencing 18-19

- The student's classroom performance was not at the Approaches level or higher\*
- The student's STAAR score was below 1500
- The student's classroom performance was at the Approaches level or higher\*
- The student's STAAR score range was 1501-1625
- The student's classroom performance was at the Meets level or higher (75 or above)
- The student's STAAR score range was 1625-1800

\*Recommended requirements for Pre-AP: A student must meet the standard for Mathematics STAAR at the Meet or Masters level.



**601530 (02640060) Math, Grade 6****2 Semesters**

This course expands the study of using rational numbers operations, representing proportional relationships, understanding data representations, and using expressions and equations in multiple contexts.

**601531 (02640060) Math Pre-AP, Grade 6****2 Semesters**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Grade 5 (80 or Higher in Math course and Meets score on STAAR)**

6th Grade Pre-AP Math is an accelerated program designed to prepare the students to study Algebra in the 8th grade and to continue their high school math education to AP Calculus. The course will cover the entire 6th grade curriculum and half of the 7th grade curriculum. NOTE: Students taking 6th grade Pre-AP will take the 6th grade STAAR test in the spring, students taking 7th grade Pre-AP will take the 8th grade STAAR test in the spring.

**005611 (82100100) Accelerated Math, Grade 6****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Students who are not successful on the state mathematics assessment in fifth grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional math instruction.

This is a **required** course for students who were not successful on the state mathematics assessment in fifth grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional math instruction. Students eligible for Special Education must be placed in this course through the ARD process. This course is designed to emphasize math processes. In this two-semester course, students practice math strategies to improve basic skills, vocabulary, math fluency, and math comprehension. Students will be instructed using a variety of materials differentiated to meet student needs. Targeted intervention including closes gaps identified by diagnostic assessment to ensure academic success. In addition to direct instruction, technology-based programs will be utilized to enhance math comprehension.

**601542 (02640060) Mathematics iSTEAM, Grade 6****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in the iSTEAM3D program

In this course students will engage in skills that are essential to mathematics development while engaging in project-based learning. Students will learn concepts through project and problem based learning, concept development workshops, and technology connection.

**701530 (03103000) Math, Grade 7****2 semesters**

This course continues the development of fluency with rational number operations, representing and applying proportional relationships, using expressions and equations in multiple contexts including geometry and comparing sets of data.

**701531 (03103000) Math Pre-AP, Grade 7****2 semesters****Prerequisite: Successful completion of Grade 6 Pre-AP Math (80 or Higher in Math course and Meets score on STAAR)**

7th Grade Pre-AP Math is an accelerated program designed to prepare students to study Algebra in the 8th grade and to continue their high school math education to AP Calculus. The course will cover the second half of the 7th grade curriculum and the entire 8th grade curriculum. Please see Who Should Take AP and Pre-AP Classes on page 5 Note: Students taking 7th grade Pre-AP will take the 8th grade STAAR test in the spring. Students taking Algebra I in 8th grades will take the Algebra I EOC in the spring,

**\*CBA (Campus Based Assessment) Grade 8 (80% passing)**

Student schedules are final and changes cannot be made after the start of a new semester.

**005711 (82920100) Accelerated Math, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Students who are not successful on the state mathematics assessment in sixth grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional math instruction.

This is a **required** course for students who were not successful on the state mathematics assessment in sixth grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional math instruction. Students eligible for Special Education must be placed in this course through the ARD process. This course is designed to emphasize math processes. In this **two-semester course**, students practice math strategies to improve basic skills, vocabulary, math fluency, and math comprehension. Students will be instructed using a variety of materials differentiated to meet student needs. Targeted intervention including closes gaps identified by diagnostic assessment to ensure academic success. In addition to direct instruction, technology-based programs will be utilized to enhance math comprehension.

**701542 (03103000) Mathematics iSTEAM, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in the iSTEAM3D program

In this course students will engage in skills that are essential to mathematics development while engaging in project-based learning. Students will learn concepts through project and problem based learning, concept development workshops, and technology connection.

**801530 (03103100) Math, Grade 8****2 Semesters**

The primary focus of this course is to use algebraic thinking to apply and analyze proportional relationships, use expressions and equations to describe relationships including the Pythagorean Theorem, and make inferences from data. This Course prepares students for the future study of Algebra.

**005811 (83100100) Accelerated Math, Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Students who are not successful on the state mathematics assessment in seventh grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional math instruction.

This is a **required** course for students who were not successful on the state mathematics assessment in seventh grade, score below the district criteria, or need additional math instruction. Students eligible for Special Education must be placed in this course through the ARD process. This course is designed to emphasize math processes. In this two-semester course, students practice math strategies to improve basic skills, vocabulary, math fluency, and math comprehension. Students will be instructed using a variety of materials differentiated to meet student needs. Targeted intervention including closes gaps identified by diagnostic assessment to ensure academic success. In addition to direct instruction, technology-based programs will be utilized to enhance math comprehension.

**815000 (03100500) Algebra I Pre-AP, Grade 8**

**2 semesters**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Grade 7 Pre-AP Math (80 or higher in math course and a Meets score on STAAR)**

This course covers Algebra I TEKS and other necessary prerequisite topics for high school mathematics courses. Students will learn Algebra concepts which form the basis for all other math courses. Students will also be instructed in the use of graphing calculators and other technology. Included in the admission requirements to Algebra I is demonstrated mastery of 8th grade TEKS. Note: One high school credit is earned upon successful completion of this course. Students will be required to take the Algebra I EOC which all students must pass to graduate from high school.

**801542 (03103100) Mathematics iSTEAM, Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in the iSTEAM3D program

In this course students will engage in skills that are essential to mathematics development while engaging in project-based learning. Students will learn concepts through project and problem based learning, concept development workshops, and technology connection.

# Science

## Recommended Course Sequencing

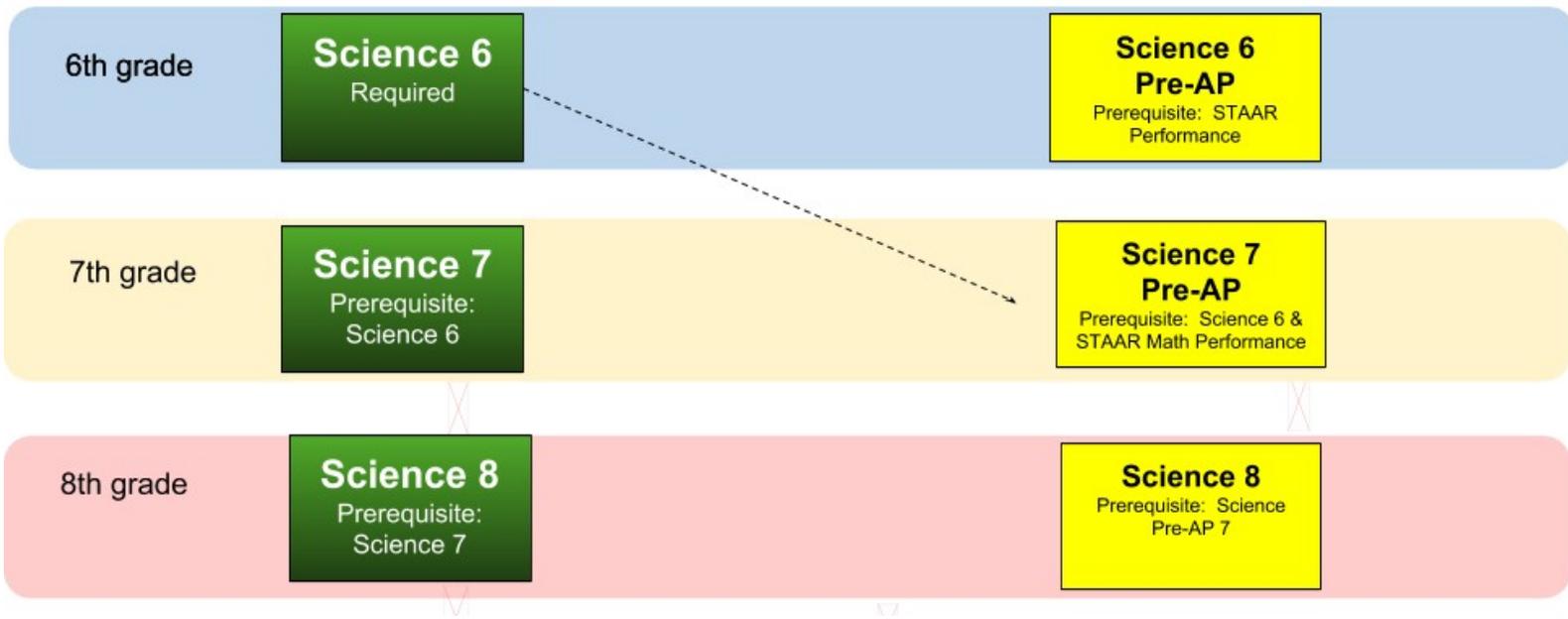
### MS Science Course Sequencing 18-19

#### APPROACHING LEVEL STUDENT -

- STAAR scores that meet the Level II & Level III standard in Science (6<sup>th</sup> grade)
- STAAR scores that meet the Level II & Level III standard in Mathematics (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade)

#### OR

- A final grade in the last science course taken of 85 or higher (if Pre-AP or Honors, 80 or higher)



**601540 (03060600) Science, Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: None

This process-oriented science course involves students in a thematic study of the world around them. Small group and individual laboratory experiments will be utilized for in-depth integrated study addressing life, Earth, and the physical sciences. Topics will include: energy resources; force, motion and energy: elements and compounds; organization of the solar system; the role of gravity in the solar system; space exploration; interdependence between organisms and their environments; and the levels of organization within ecosystems.

**601545 (03060600) Science iSTEAM, Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in the iS3D program

In conjunction with grade 6 general science content, this course includes studies on solar energy, levers and pulleys, and models and designs. Student computers are utilized extensively, along with hands-on manipulatives to master science concepts with a heavy emphasis on STEM content. Teamwork and student project work will be emphasized.

**601541 (03060600) Science (A2E2)<sup>2</sup>, Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Magnet program enrollment

In conjunction with grade 6 general science content, this course includes studies on solar energy, levers and pulleys, and models and designs. Student computers are utilized extensively, along with hands-on manipulatives to master science concepts with a heavy emphasis on STEM content. Teamwork and student project work will be emphasized.

**601546 (03060600) Science Pre-AP (H), Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: State Science Assessment Performance - Grade 5, Level II & Level III

Pre-Advanced Placement Science is for students who are highly motivated and interested in science. The class is an accelerated academic class that covers the same objectives as sixth grade science in more depth and complexity. Students will be expected to complete more self-directed and independent projects than in a regular sixth grade science class. Pre-AP courses are available to academically ready students willing to be challenged with rigorous content. This course will require additional work and/or reading for successful course completion. In addition, advanced critical thinking and problem solving skills will be developed with a group or individual project presented in a competitive public forum such as science fair.

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<sup>2</sup> Offered at EMS only

**701540 (03060700) Science, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Science 6

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 the world around them. Science 7 is a thematic interdisciplinary approach to life sciences. Students will understand the relationships that exist between organisms and their environment through the understanding of Earth science and physical science disciplines. Topics will include: characteristics of Earth that allow life to exist; force, motion and energy observed in living systems; matter and energy as it relates to living systems; structure and functions of cells and human body systems; heredity; and ecosystems.

**701545 (03060700) Science iSTEAM, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in the iSTEAM3D program

This course includes student computer units with additional software and probe ware 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 STEM related 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.

**701549 (03060700) Science (A2E2), Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Magnet program enrollment

This course includes student computer units with additional software and probe ware 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 STEM related 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.

**701541 (03060700) Science Pre-AP (H), Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: State Mathematics Assessment Performance - Grade 6, Level II &amp; Level III standards

Pre-Advanced Placement Science is for students who are highly motivated and interested in science. The class is an accelerated academic class that covers the same objectives as seventh grade science in more depth and complexity. Students will be expected to complete more self-directed independent projects than in a regular seventh grade science class. Students will be expected to participate in the school Science Fair. Pre-AP courses are available to academically ready students willing to be challenged with rigorous content. This course will require additional work and/or reading for successful course completion.

**801540 (03060800) Science, Grade 8****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Science 7

General Science 8 is a laboratory-oriented course that continues the interdisciplinary approach to the life, Earth, and physical science disciplines begun in Science 6 and 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 the following topics: matter and energy; force, motion and energy; cycles within Sun, Earth, and Moon systems; characteristics of the universe; interactions between organisms in ecosystems; and the impact of man on the Earth.

**801545 (03060800) Science iSTEAM, Grade 8****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in the iS3D program

Magnet Science covers the same information as eighth grade science in the same sequence. Instruction will be differentiated to include STEM related resources and infusion of real-world applied scenarios. Magnet participants will also be assigned long-term projects and open-ended assignments. Students will be encouraged to take ownership of their own learning by investigating self-selected topics in more depth and complexity. Magnet students are expected to participate in the Science Fair.

**801541 (03060800) Science Pre-AP (H), Grade 8****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: State Mathematics Assessment Performance - Grade 7, Level II &amp; Level III standards

Pre-Advanced Placement Science is for students who are highly motivated and interested in science. The class is an accelerated academic class that covers the same objectives as eighth grade science in more depth and complexity. Students will be expected to complete more self-directed independent projects than in a regular eighth grade science class. Students will be expected to participate in the school Science Fair. Pre-AP courses are available to academically ready students willing to be challenged with rigorous content. This course will require additional work and/or reading for successful course completion.

**Science Elective Courses****600105 (83800100) PLTW: Automation and Robotics****1 Semester**

Prerequisite: None

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy.

**830101 (83800100) PLTW: Principles of Biomedical<sup>4</sup>**  
(6th grade course)

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Enrolled in Medical Magnet Program

The rigorous and relevant PLTW Biomedical Science sequence allows students to investigate the roles of biomedical professionals as they study the concepts of human medicine, physiology, genetics, microbiology, and public health.

**830102 (83800100) PLTW: Human Body Systems\***  
(7th grade course)

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: PLTW: Principles of Biomedical

In the Human Body Systems (HBS) course, students examine the interactions of body systems as they explore identity, communication, power, movement, protection, and homeostasis. Students design experiments, investigate the structures and functions of the human body, and use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary action, and respiration. Exploring science in action, students build organs and tissues on a skeletal manikin, work through interesting real world cases, and often play the role of biomedical professionals to solve medical mysteries. Students practice problem solving with structured activities and progress to open-ended projects and problems that require them to develop planning, documentation, communication, and other professional skills.

**830010 (83800100) PLTW: Medical Interventions<sup>5</sup>**  
(8th grade course)

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: PLTW: Human Body Systems

Medical Interventions (MI) allows students to investigate the variety of interventions involved in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease as they follow the lives of a fictitious family. A "How-To" manual for maintaining overall health and homeostasis in the body, the course will explore how to prevent and fight infection, how to screen and evaluate the code in our DNA, how to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer, and how to prevail when the organs of the body begin to fail. Through these scenarios students will be exposed to the wide range of interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, and diagnostics. Each family case scenario will introduce multiple types of interventions; reinforce concepts learned in the previous two courses, and present new content. Interventions may range from simple diagnostic tests to treatment of complex diseases and disorders. These interventions will be showcased across the generations of the family and will provide a look at the past, present, and future of biomedical science. Lifestyle choices and preventive measures are emphasized throughout the course as well as the important role that scientific thinking and engineering design play in the development of interventions of the future.

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<sup>4</sup> Course not offered at every campus\*

<sup>5</sup> Course nor offered at every campus

**600250 (03813000) Health, Grade 6**  
(6<sup>th</sup> grade)

**1 semester**

Prerequisite: None

This course presents extensive coverage of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Health including: consumer health; diseases; environmental health and safety; growth and development; health and fitness for daily living; nutrition; use and abuse of tobacco, alcohol and drugs; and the human life cycle. Students are encouraged to choose responsible health behaviors now and in the future.

**814030 (03810100) Health Education, Grade 8, HighSchool Credit**

**1 semester**

In health education, students acquire the health information and skills necessary to become healthy adults. The health education course promotes wellness and health literacy, encouraging positive behavior to ensure a lifetime of health. Ten life skills are incorporated into the course objectives of all topics. Those life skills include making great decisions, using refusal skills, assessing your health, effectively setting goals, being a wise consumer, practicing wellness, coping and using community resources.

**Note: Course fulfills high school graduation requirement.**

**600110 (83800100) PLTW: Computer Science for Innovators and Makers**

**1 semester**

Prerequisite: None

Students will discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects. Students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. They will design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, or wearable, and plan and develop code for microcontrollers that bring their physical designs to life. Physical computing projects will promote student awareness of interactive systems, including Internet of Things (IoT) devices, and broaden their understanding of abstract computer science concepts through meaningful and authentic applications.

This unit will expose students to computer science by computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society. Students will customize their experience by choosing a problem that interests them from the areas of health, environment, emergency preparedness, education, community service, and school culture. Because problems in the real world involve more than one discipline, the unit will introduce students to biomedical science concepts as they work on solutions for the specific problems they choose to tackle.

# Social Studies

## Recommended Course Sequencing

### MS Social Studies Course Sequencing 18-19

#### Standard Social Studies

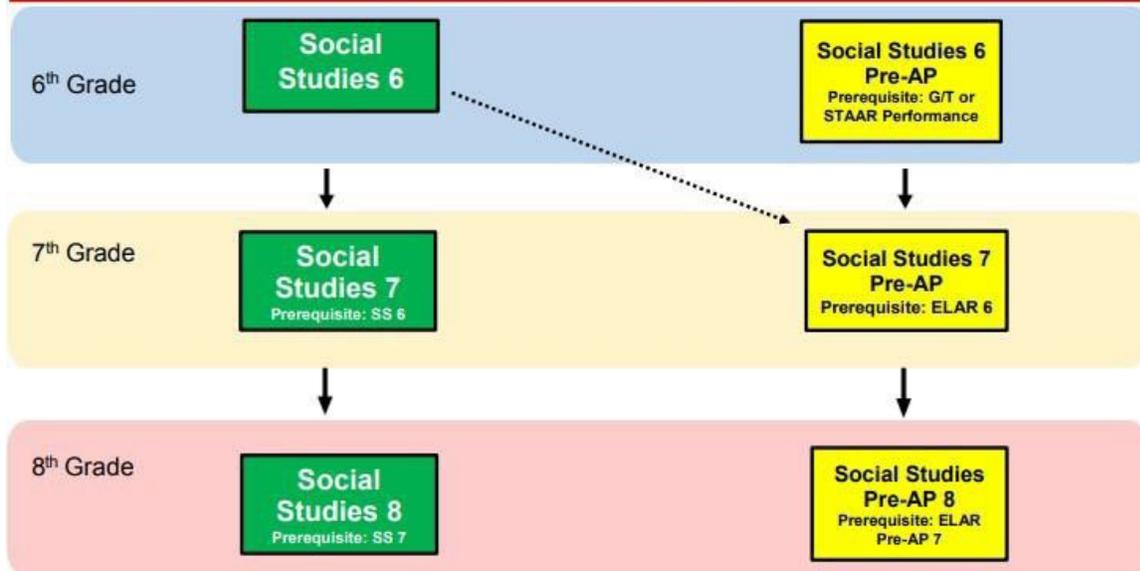
- Students who did not meet at least one semester of Reading
- I passed my Reading STAAR with a scale score between 1517-1587

- Students who met ELAR course
- I did not meet my Reading STAAR or scored below a scale score of 1575(6<sup>th</sup>), 1590(7<sup>th</sup>), 1650 (8<sup>th</sup>)

#### Honors Social Studies

- Students who met both semesters of ELAR course
- Students who met or mastered grade level on Reading STAAR

\* A student must pass Reading STAAR at the Met or above level to be admitted into an honors or Pre-AP course.



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**601550 (02660060) World Cultures, Grade 6****2 Semesters**

Students will use critical-thinking skills to study people and places of the contemporary world within broad regions, such as Sub-Saharan Africa, South America, and East Asia. Students describe the influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in those societies. Students identify locations and geographic characteristics as well as different ways of organizing economic and governmental systems. Students also describe the nature of citizenship in various societies and compare institutions common to all societies such as education and religious institutions. Students explain how the level of technology affects the development of selected societies. Students will be expected to read, write, and discuss analytically to increase their knowledge about the various regions.

**601555 (02660060) World Cultures iSTEAM, Grade 6****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in iSTEAM3D program

iSTEAM3D Grade 6 World Cultures provide opportunities for students to increase and refine their communication and social studies skills by engaging in project-based learning and critical thinking in a small group setting. 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 Social Studies. 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 primary and secondary sources and will write creative and expository compositions.

**601551 (02660060) World Cultures Pre-AP (H), Grade 6****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Reading State Assessment and Teacher Recommendation

In grade 6, learners develop learning, thinking, and research skills that promote understanding of social and environmental influences on human behavior and assist them in making connections between their lives and decisions to the world around them, taking into consideration both past and present. Sixth grade social studies is interdisciplinary with an emphasis on the study of the influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in selected societies as well as identifying the locations and geographic characteristics of those societies.

**701550 (03343000) Texas History, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Students will use critical-thinking skills to study the full scope of Texas history from early times to the present, from the cultures of Native Americans prior to European exploration through the eras of mission-building, colonization, revolution, republic and statehood, with a focus on individuals, events and issues and their impact. Students identify the regions of Texas, describe the structure and function of the government, examine the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens, identify the different ethnic groups who contributed to Texas culture and analyze the impact of science and technology on the lives of Texans. Students will be expected to read, write, and discuss analytically to increase their knowledge about Texas history.

**701555 (03343000) Texas History iSTEAM, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in iSTEAM3D program

iSTEAM3D Grade 7 Texas History provide opportunities for students to increase and refine their communication and social studies skills by engaging in project-based learning and critical thinking in a small group setting. 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 Social Studies.

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 primary and secondary sources and will write creative and expository compositions.

**701551 (03343000) Texas History Pre-AP(H), Grade 7**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Reading State Assessment and Teacher Recommendation

This course is designed to provide learners an opportunity to obtain a more in-depth study of Texas history. Emphasis is placed on developing knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will enable learners to research projects, analyze materials, and draw conclusions based on academic reasoning. Course content includes studies of the history and development of the state from early times through the present.

**801550 (03343100) U.S. History through Reconstruction, Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Students will use critical-thinking skills to study the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Students analyze political, social and economic issues and events within the colonial and revolutionary eras, the development of the U.S. Constitution, the challenges of the early Republic, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War and Reconstruction. Students examine the physical characteristics of the U.S. and their impact on how and where Americans lived, the American beliefs and principles reflected in historical documents such as the U.S. Constitution, the effects of major Supreme Court cases and reform movements and the impact of science and technology on the development of the U.S. Students identify the origins of the free enterprise system and examine the rights and responsibilities of citizenship of the United States as well as the importance of effective leadership in a democratic society. Students will be expected to read, write, and discuss analytically to increase their knowledge about U.S. history.

**801555 (03343100) U.S. History through Reconstruction iSTEAM, Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Admittance in iSTEAM3D program

iSTEAM3D Grade 6 World Cultures provide opportunities for students to increase and refine their communication and social studies skills by engaging in project-based learning and critical thinking in a small group setting. 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 Social Studies. 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 primary and secondary sources and will write creative and expository compositions.

**801551 (03343100) US History through Reconstruction (H) Pre-AP, Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: Reading State Assessment and Teacher Recommendation

In addition to grade-level expectations described above, the Pre-AP course will emphasize more detail and do deeper analysis of concepts. These courses are designed to prepare students for future Pre-AP and AP coursework in high school.

# Technology

## **600100 (02670060) Technology Applications(Grades 6-7)**

**1 Semester**

A course emphasizing knowledge and skills associated with applying technology in real world settings. This course will help prepare students for future technology applications and computer science courses by learning digital citizenship and developing skills in publications, database, multimedia, web, collaborative technologies and beginning programming languages.

# Career and Technical Education (CTE)

## **009565 (12700400) Investigating Careers, Grade 7**

**1 Semester**

The career development process is unique to every person and evolves throughout one's life. Students will use decision -making and problem-solving skills for college and career planning. Students will explore valid, reliable educational and career information to learn more about themselves and their interests and abilities. Students integrate skills from academic subjects, information technology, and interpersonal communication to make informed decisions. This course is designed to guide students through the process of investigation and in the development of a college and career achievement plan. Students will use interest inventory software or other tools to explore areas of personal interest. Students will use this information to explore educational requirements for a variety of chosen career paths. Districts have the flexibility of offering career exploration knowledge and skills in a variety of instructional arrangements.

## Fine Arts

**\*Please note that, to ensure adherence to magnet grant expectations and fidelity of instruction, magnet fine arts classes may not be paired with regular fine arts classes in the same class period or section.**

## Visual Arts

### **006550 (03154110) Art I, Grades 6-8**

**1 Semester**

This course extends the learning of basic elements of art and principles of design, art history and art appreciation. Students design, develop and create art using a variety of media.

### **006551 (03154210) Art II, Grades 7-8**

**2 Semesters**

This course is sequential and uses second year middle school principles of design, drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics and textiles. The course also includes art history and art appreciation. Note: This course is for 7th and 8th grade students taking Art for the second year in middle school.

**Art I is a prerequisite.**

### **006552 (03154310) Art III, Grades 8**

**2 Semesters**

This course extends art concepts learned in Grade 7 and 8 Art 2. A variety of projects and materials reinforce the student's knowledge of the elements of art and principles of design. The program also includes art history and art appreciation. **Art I and Art II are prerequisites.**

### **900100 (03154310) Art Exploration (magnet only), Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

**(Required for all magnet art students)** offered as a year-long class; artists will develop technical foundations for all major art mediums, art history, and art appreciation.

### **900101 (03154310) Advanced Art (magnet only), Grade 7**

**2 Semesters**

Offered as a year-long class and is open to 7th Grade Magnet students. Artists will continue technique development in all major art mediums.

### **900103 (03154310) Master Class Art (magnet only), Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Offered as a year-long class and is open to 8th Grade Magnet students. This Art studio technique class allows advanced students to work independently on visual arts projects under the guidance of the teacher and visiting professional artisans.

## Band

### **006640 (03154130) Band: Beginning Band, Grades 6-8 (Brass, Percussion, Woodwinds) 2 Semesters**

Beginning band courses are offered as year-long classes; musicians will develop the foundational skills required to matriculate through a middle school band program. These classes emphasize tone production, instrument technique, music theory, and ensemble playing. Available courses include Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Double Reeds, French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba and Percussion. **Any one of these courses fulfills prerequisites for participation in advanced ensembles.**

### **006650 (03154230) Symphonic Band, Honor Band, Grades 7-8 2 Semesters**

The Honor Band and Symphonic Band are auditioned performing groups that are open normally to 7th and 8th grade students that have successfully completed at least one year of band with a grade average of 70 or higher for the year. Students continue to develop ear training and listening skills, music reading, individual and ensemble playing skills as well as musicianship. **Band directors will place students in the appropriate performing group.** Performance participation is required in order to be a member of these groups. Some practice outside of the school day is required. During the course of the year, all students will participate in the following types of performances: Pep rallies, football games, formal evening concerts, UIL band contest, music festivals, TMEA Region band auditions and other community performances.

### **006670 (03154230) Honor Band, Grades 7-8 2 Semesters**

The Honor Band and Symphonic Band are auditioned performing groups that are open normally to 7th and 8th grade students that have successfully completed at least one year of band with a grade average of 70 or higher for the year. Students continue to develop ear training and listening skills, music reading, individual and ensemble playing skills as well as musicianship. **Band directors will place students in the appropriate performing group.** Performance participation is required in order to be a member of these groups. Some practice outside of the school day is required. During the course of the year, all students will participate in the following types of performances: Pep rallies, football games, formal evening concerts, UIL band contest, music festivals, TMEA Region band auditions and other community performances.

### **900318 (03154133) Instrumental Enrichment Lab (magnet only), Grades 7-8 2 Semesters**

Magnet band students will have the exclusive opportunity to participate in this ensemble. Focus will be on the development of solo/ensemble repertoire and the continued development of instrument technique with advanced studies in music theory and ensemble technique. Repertoire will consist of solo and ensemble literature, various etudes and non-traditional wind band literature including pop and jazz selections.

## Choir

### **900310 (03154131) Beginning Choir, Grades 6-8 2 Semesters**

Beginning Choir is open to all students interested in learning to sing in a musical ensemble. No prior vocal musical training is necessary. Students will develop choral reading techniques, ear training, vocal production, solfege and basic theory. Special attention will be devoted to students with changing voices. During the course of the year students will participate in the following types of performances: Seasonal concerts, solo and ensemble, festival performances and school/community events. **Beginning choir placement will be gender based (boys in one choir, girls in a separate choir).**

**006620 (03154231) JV Choir, Grades 7-8****2 Semesters**

Students will continue to develop ear training and listening skills, individual and ensemble singing skills, vocal production, music reading, solfege and musicianship. They will study the historical and cultural significance of works performed. During the course of the year, all students will participate in the following types of performances: pep rallies, formal evening concerts, UIL choir concert and sight-reading contest, music festivals, TMEA Region Choir auditions, solo and ensemble and other community performances. Choirs at the 7th and 8th grade level participate in several events in which eligibility is required. **This choir is an auditioned ensemble for girls only.**

**006630 (03154331) Varsity Choir, Grades 7-8****2 Semesters**

In this more advanced course, students further extend their ear training/listening skills, individual and ensemble singing skills, vocal production, solfege, music reading, showmanship and musicianship. They will study the historical and cultural significance of works performed, and will do qualitative analysis of choral literature. During the course of the year, all students might participate in the following types of performances: Pep rallies, formal evening concerts, UIL choir concert and sight-reading contest, music festivals, TMEA Region Choir auditions, solo and ensemble contest and other community performances. Choirs at the 7th and 8th grade level participate in several events in which eligibility is required. **This choir is an auditioned ensemble for girls only.**

**900311 (03154134) Tenor/Bass Chorus, Grade 7-8****2 Semesters**

Students will continue to develop ear training and listening skills, individual and ensemble singing skills, vocal production, music reading, solfege and musicianship. They will study the historical and cultural significance of works performed. During the course of the year, all students will participate in the following types of performances: pep rallies, formal evening concerts, UIL choir concert and sight-reading contest, music festivals, TMEA Region Choir auditions, solo and ensemble and other community performances. Choirs at the 7th and 8th grade level participate in several events in which eligibility is required. **This choir is an auditioned ensemble for boys only.**

**900214 (03154234) Showstoppers (magnet only), Grades 7-8****2 Semesters**

Magnet vocal students that have successfully completed the Beginner Chorus requirement will have an opportunity to audition for this elite ensemble. The focus will be on all types of literature – jazz, musical theater, classical, foreign language pieces, pop, and show choir repertoire. Multiple performance opportunities will be available and are requirements for participation.

**900313 (03154334) Master Class Vocal Music (magnet only), Grade 8****2 Semesters**

Magnet vocal students in this class will have the opportunity for small group vocal instruction focused on advanced vocal technique, vocal coaching, foreign language and diction studies, character development, and audition techniques. Professional singers and voice teachers will work with students several times throughout the year on technique and overall vocal pedagogy.

## Dance

### **500210 (03154120) Dance 1, Grades 6-8**

**2 Semesters**

Students become acquainted with basic technique in ballet, modern, and jazz, as well as anatomical awareness that is pervasive throughout their lives. For ballet, students will focus on building the strength, flexibility and control needed to execute ballet moves. Each class will emphasize barre exercises and may also include a combination of center floor work and across-the-floor combinations. This class does not include a year-end performance. Jazz class will focus on learning proper dance technique such as isolation of the body, improving performance quality and developing complex rhythms and patterns. Students will be exposed to various styles of jazz such as Broadway, Street and Contemporary to help develop a well-rounded dancer. Class curriculum is based on ballet technique layered with traditional jazz movement and includes a proper warm-up, stretches, isolation, across-the-floor progressions, and combinations.

### **500211 (03154220) Dance 2, Grades 7-8**

**2 Semesters**

Continuation of skills introduced in Dance 1 - Students become acquainted with basic technique in ballet, modern, and jazz, as well as anatomical awareness that is pervasive throughout their lives. For ballet, students will focus on building the strength, flexibility and control needed to execute ballet moves. Each class will emphasize barre exercises and may also include a combination of center floor work and across-the-floor combinations. This class does not include a year-end performance. Jazz class will focus on learning proper dance technique such as isolation of the body, improving performance quality and developing complex rhythms and patterns. Students will be exposed to various styles of jazz such as Broadway, Street and Contemporary to help develop a well-rounded dancer. Class curriculum is based on ballet technique layered with traditional jazz movement and includes a proper warm-up, stretches, isolation, across-the-floor progressions, and combinations. **Dance 1 is a prerequisite.**

### **500212 (03154320) Dance 3, Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Continuation of skills introduced in Dance 1 and Dance 2 - Students become acquainted with basic technique in ballet, modern, and jazz, as well as anatomical awareness that is pervasive throughout their lives. For ballet, students will focus on building the strength, flexibility and control needed to execute ballet moves. Each class will emphasize barre exercises and may also include a combination of center floor work and across-the-floor combinations. This class does not include a year-end performance. Jazz class will focus on learning proper dance technique such as isolation of the body, improving performance quality and developing complex rhythms and patterns. Students will be exposed to various styles of jazz such as Broadway, Street and Contemporary to help develop a well-rounded dancer. Class curriculum is based on ballet technique layered with traditional jazz movement and includes a proper warm-up, stretches, isolation, across-the-floor progressions, and combinations. **Dance 2 is a prerequisite.**

**900211 (03154320) Dance Company (magnet only),Grades 7-8**

**2 Semesters**

The dancers who complete the audition will be members of the McCowan Elite Dance Company and will represent the school at local events and productions. Dancers will be exposed to a wide variety of additional styles and introduced to local artists that study and teach these dance techniques on a regular basis including jazz, ballet, modern, hip-hop, contemporary, and ethnic dance style (African, Irish, Hawaiian, Middle Eastern Belly Dancing, etc.). Students learn and perform selected choreography. They will participate in UIL and dance competitions. **Audition or teacher approval is required.**

## **Orchestra**

**900113 (03154132) Beginner Orchestra (magnet only),Grades 6-8**

**2 Semesters**

Continuation of Chamber Strings 1 for 8th Grade Magnet orchestra students with more in depth exploration of individual repertoire, audition preparation, and a culminating recital.

## **Theatre Arts**

**006660 (03154140) Theater Arts I,Grade 6**

**1 Semester**

Students will be introduced to elements of drama and conventions of theatre, interpret characters, use the voice and body expressively and will study the relationship of theatre to history, society and culture. Content will vary, depending on each campus curriculum.

**206345 (03154140) Theater Arts I,Grades 7-8**

**1 Semester**

Students will be introduced to elements of drama and conventions of theatre, interpret characters, use the voice and body expressively and will study the relationship of theatre to history, society and culture. Content will vary, depending on each campus curriculum.

**709600 (03154240) Theatre Arts II,Grades 7-8**

**2 Semesters**

This course is sequential, using second year elements of students learning acting skills including pantomime, improvisation, storytelling, and character analysis, expressive use of the body and scene presentation. Note: This course is for 7th and 8th grade students taking Theater Arts for the second year in middle school. **Theater I is a prerequisite.**

**809600 (03154340) Theatre Arts III, Grades 8**

**2 Semesters**

Students extend skills learned in Theatre I/II developing concepts about self, human nature and the environment, using elements of drama and conventions of theatre. Through in-class scene and play production, students interpret characters using the voice and body expressively, interpret scenes and plays and study the relationship of theatre to history, society and culture. **Theater I and Theater II are prerequisites.**

## **Fine Arts Academy Electives**

**900410 (03154140) Beginner Theater (magnet only), Grade 6**

**2 Semesters**

**(Required for all magnet theater students)** offered as a year-long class; exploration of foundations of theater, stage performance, technical theater studies, and theater history.

**900412 (03154240) Advanced Theater (magnet only), Grade 7**

**2 Semesters**

Offered as a year-long class; 7th Grade students continue studies in on stage theater (acting, directing, character development).

**900411 (03154240) Technical Theater (magnet only), Grades 7-8**

**2 Semesters**

Offered as a year –long class; 7th Grade students continue studies in off stage theater production (lighting, set design, costuming, sound design).

**900414 (03154340) Master Class Theater (magnet only), Grade 8**

**2 Semesters**

Offered as a year-long class; Advanced and Technical Theater students will continue to develop theater skills specific to their area of focus (Stage, Technical) and will work collaboratively to produce a student driven production in the Spring semester, one on one/small group instruction with professional actors and theater technicians throughout the year.

**900511 (83800100) Music Theory (magnet only), Grades 6-8**

**1 Semester**

Fine Arts Magnet music students will engage in the study of the theoretical elements of music including sound and pitch, rhythm, melody, harmony, and notation.

**900118 (03154133) Piano (magnet only), Grades 6-8**

**1 Semester**

Fine Arts Magnet music students will learn the introductory concepts and fundamentals needed to perform on the piano including hand position, key recognition, finger patterns, and accompaniment.

**900510 (83800100) Music History (magnet only),Grades 7-8**

**1 Semester**

A survey of the various types of music that have existed in roughly the geographical United States from the time of the early European settlers to the present, of the various trends that have shaped American musical thoughts, the cultural environment in which this music was created and the importance of music in American life.

**900102 (03154210) Art History (magnet only), Grades 7-8**

**1 Semester**

A survey of the major movements of Western painting, sculpture and architecture through the end of the Middle Ages. Slide lectures will explore the development of artistic traditions through an analysis of style and cultural contexts.

**900219 (83800100) Dance History (magnet only),Grades 7-8**

**1 Semester**

History of dance as a theater art form from ancient and primitive cultures through the 19th century. The course traces the development of ballet from the Renaissance and Baroque periods through Romanticism and the Russian classics. Movement classes to extend the understanding derived from reading, lectures, discussions and films.

**900415 (83800100) Stage Movement (magnet only), Grades 6- 8**

**1 Semester**

(Dance for Theater Students) Students will learn the basics of stage movement including dance terminology, simple dance combinations, warm ups, solo/partner dancing, and choreography.

**900610 (83800100) Photography (magnet only),Grades 7-8**

**1 Semester**

This course combines practical instruction, field trips, group discussions, and individual reviews intended to foster a critical awareness of how images in our culture are produced and constructed. Student-initiated term projects are at the core of this exploration of the relationship of image to language and issues of interpretation and personal history. Besides, this course also offers practical instruction in basic black and white techniques, digital imaging, and fundamentals of camera operation, lighting, film exposure, development and printing. Course provides opportunity for continued exploration.

**900413 (03154240) Musical Theater (magnet only),Grades 6-8**

**1 Semester**

Students in this course will learn proper vocal technique for speaking and singing, music reading skills, musicianship skills, choreographic principles, dance terminology, stage terminology, acting principles, and the cultural and historical context of musical theater. Students will participate in character acting, scene and costume design, script writing and song composing, group and individual singing, and evaluating and analyzing music and drama.

**900416 (83800100) Directing (magnet only), Grades 7-8**

**1 Semester**

Students in this course will learn proper directing technique for both stage and screen. They will develop script analysis skills, as well as learn storyboarding technique. Students will study the cultural and historical relevance of the director and will also direct their fellow students in both a short play and a short film.

**900105 (83800100) Graphic Design (magnet only), Grades 7-8**

**1 Semester**

An introduction to visual principles as the basis of graphic design communication and elements and issues of visual language. Covers the manipulation of graphic form to convey meaning, strategies for idea generation and development of unique concepts, and the designer's role as visual storyteller.

**900212 (03154320) Choreography/ Production (magnet only), Grades 6-8**

**2 Semesters**

Covers in-depth practical approaches to dance composition for students. Dancers will be introduced to the choreographic process. They will produce solo and group work. Student choreography will be presented at the end of the year dance production. The second portion of the course is Production. It provides practical experience in producing formal and informal dance concerts. Introduces basic familiarity with production and promotional responsibilities, backstage and front-of-house duties and procedures. Practical production activities and projects within a designated area of dance design, stage technology, and stage management.

**900215 (03154320) World Dance (magnet only), Grades 6-8**

**1 Semester**

Cultural and historical importance of dances from around the world will be introduced through demonstration, lecture, and video. Basic steps of world dances will be taught and will include two-step, schottische, polka, and promenade. Dances from Asia, Africa, Europe, North America and South America will be taught.

# Dual Language

In existence since the fall of 2011, this program offers the opportunity to learn to read, write and speak in both English and Spanish. From Kindergarten through the eighth grade, students in the Two-Way Dual Language Program develop strong literacy skills in both languages. The Dual Language program allows students to develop proficiency in two languages by receiving academic instruction in English and Spanish. Our Dual Language classes are comprised of half all-English speakers and half all-Spanish speakers. Through social and academic interaction, all students in the dual language program learn to read, write, listen and speak in both languages equally well. Students also gain a rich appreciation of other cultures. We are following the Gomez & Gomez model for instruction.

## Grade 6

**Math in Spanish**

**Spanish A Honors**

## Grade 7

**Math in Spanish**

**Spanish B Honors**

## Grade 8

**Math in Spanish**

**Spanish for Native Speakers/Spanish 1**

**601532 (02640060) Math - Spanish, Grade 6****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: These classes will be taught in Spanish. Recommendation is student be a native Spanish speaker or gone through a dual language program.

This course expands the study of using rational numbers operations, representing proportional relationships, understanding data representations, and using expressions and equations in multiple contexts. Taught in Spanish.

**701532 (03103000) Math – Spanish, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: These classes will be taught in Spanish. Recommendation is student be a native Spanish speaker or gone through a dual language program.

This course continues the development of fluency with rational number operations, representing and applying proportional relationships, using expressions and equations in multiple contexts including geometry and comparing sets of data .Taught in Spanish.

**801532 (03103100) Math – Spanish, Grade 8****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: These classes will be taught in Spanish. Recommendation is student be a native Spanish speaker or gone through a dual language program.

The primary focus of this course is to use algebraic thinking to apply and analyze proportional relationships, use expressions and equations to describe relationships including the Pythagorean Theorem, and make inferences from data. This Course prepares students for the future study of Algebra. Taught in Spanish.

**830205 (03443000) Spanish A Honors, Grade 6****2 Semesters**

Integration of language and culture and strong focus on authentic communication helps students develop language, vocabulary, and grammar skills in authentic contexts. This curriculum integrates language, content and literacy to prepare students for Spanish B in 7th grade.

**830206 (03443000) Spanish B Honors, Grade 7****2 Semesters**

Integration of language and culture and strong focus on authentic communication helps students develop language, vocabulary, and grammar skills in authentic contexts. Designed to expand unit themes and cultural perspectives, as well as build literacy skills for students at intermediate level. This curriculum integrates language, content and literacy to prepare students for Spanish for Native Speakers.

**817310 (03440110) Spanish for NativeSpeakers/Spanish 1****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite: In Dual Language program, or native speaker; and fluent on language proficiency assessment.

The Spanish for Native Speakers classes are designed for students who speak Spanish as their first language and students who are in the Dual Language Program and wish to improve their literacy skills in Spanish. The classes will enable the students to develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in Spanish by providing them the opportunity to listen, speak, read and write in a variety of contexts for a variety of audiences including the family, school, and the immediate community. This curriculum integrates language, content and literacy to prepare students to pass the AP exam at the end of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year.

# Physical Education

**Each student must complete a yearly fitness assessment identified as FITNESSGRAM®. All information regarding this assessment is available on: [www.fitnessgram.net](http://www.fitnessgram.net) all students must complete four (4) semesters of the following physical education courses:**

## **Physical Education (Boys), Grades 6-8**

Students will develop fitness knowledge and motor skills basic to efficient movement. Students will learn about decision making skills that promote healthy lifestyle choices and improve the quality of student's lives. Students are required to purchase a P.E. t-shirt and shorts identified by the campus P.E. Department.

## **Physical Education (Girls), Grades 6-8**

Students will develop skills in a physically active environment which may include fitness concepts and a variety of individual sport, recreational or team sport models. Students will learn about health-related decision making skills that promote healthy lifestyle choices. Students are required to purchase a P.E. t-shirt and shorts identified by the campus P.E. Department

## **Athletics Boys' Athletics Football, Grades 7-8 Basketball and Track & Field**

Students must be in the 7th or 8th grade and meet UIL age restrictions. All participants must have a yearly physical exam completed on a UIL form. Students may be required to try out for participation in athletic classes. Participants must pass all courses to be eligible for competitions. Participants will develop fundamental skills as well as learn strategies, rules and procedures used for each sport activity. Transportation by the parent will be required to accommodate before or after school hours for practice time. The District will provide transportation for competitions only.

## **Girls' Athletics Volleyball, Grades 7-8 Basketball, Track and Field**

Students must be in the 7th or 8th grade and meet UIL age restrictions. All participants must have a yearly physical exam completed on a UIL form. Students may be required to try out for participation in athletic classes. Participants must pass all courses to be eligible for competitions. Participants will develop fundamental skills as well as learn strategies, rules and procedures used for each sport activity. Transportation by the parent will be required to accommodate before or after school hours for practice time. The District will provide transportation for competitions only.

## **Off-Campus Physical Education, Grades 7-8**

DeSoto ISD may approve an off-campus private or commercially-sponsored physical education program that provides special and/or accelerated activities that are not offered by the District's physical education program. Students must receive prior approval from the District's Coordinator of Physical Education, and the program must address the state TEKS. Students must meet the District's deadline for submission of the request which is the second Monday in May for fall semester approval and the second Monday in November for spring semester approval. The request form is available on the District's physical education webpage by following:

District Home Page>Students>Curriculum Framework>Health & PE (resources tab). Information and a current list of approved programs are located there. For more information contact the counselor or the District's Coordinator of Physical Education.

**013570 Beginning Tennis, Grades 7-8**

An introductory course teaching the fundamental skills of tennis. Basic strokes; the forehand and the backhand drives, the flat serve, volley, lob, and smash; history, rules, scoring, and court etiquette. Basic singles and doubles court play and game strategies. In addition, warm-up and cool-down procedures, as well as conditioning and nutrition for sport participation will be covered.

**013571 Tennis Competition, Grades 7-8**

This course is designed for students who have previous tennis experience. Students are expected to know serve and groundstroke technique and understand scoring and game management fundamentals. Emphasis in instruction will be to develop techniques and to explore other skills necessary to play competitively. Singles and doubles strategies will be covered in this course.

**Jr ROTC, Grades 7-8**

The Military Science (JROTC) program prepares students for leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities and privileges as Americans. The mission of JROTC is to motivate young people to be better citizens. The program promotes graduation from high school, and provides instructional opportunities which benefit the student, community and nation