# Incoming $6^{\text {TH }}$ GRADE COURSE SELECTION 

For the 2024-2025 School Year

## DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH

- Students have 6 separate classes with different teachers.
- All classes meet every day.
- An Advisory (ELT) period is built in to allow students time to do homework, study, or see a teacher for extra help.
- A locker with a combination lock is assigned to students only if requested and needed after the first 3 weeks.
- Backpacks are allowed to be carried to classes.


## DIFFERENCES CONTINUED...

- Students go between classes, to the restroom, lunch, and P.E. by themselves, not escorted by teachers.
- Tardies! - Students must get to class on time every period. There is a 5 minute passing period between each class.
- Expect more homework than elementary school.
- Lunch - You can choose where you want to sit, and sit with anyone in the cafeteria.
- Responsibilities - Expect more responsibilities (i.e. monitoring grades, communicating with teachers, attending tutorials when necessary)


## A TYPICAL ${ }^{\text {TH }}$ GRADE SCHEDULE

| Period | Subject | Room\# |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | RLA (blocked) | 208 |
| 2 | RLA (blocked) | 208 |
| 3 | Math | 202 |
| 4 | Social Studies | 217 |
|  | LUNCH | Cafeteria |
| 5 | P.E. | Gym |
| 6 | Elective | 159 |
| 7 | Science | 212 |
| 8 | Advisory/ELT | 205 |

## SCHOOL DAY

- Each class period is approximately 45-50 minutes long.
- Lunch is 30 minutes.
- There is a 5 minute passing period between classes.
- The school day is 8:55-4:05.
- Tutoring is available after school and a late bus is available.
- Advisory or Extended Learning Time (ELT) meets every day for 35 minutes: this is a time to study/homework, get extra help and retake tests.
- Most classes will be close together.
- Administrators and teachers will be available in the hallways between classes to help.
- Counselors will be available to help you during the year.


## COURSE REQUESTS OVERVIEW

- Course sheets must be turned in to Elementary Counselor by February 2nd, 2024.
- If you are moving or plan to move, you must complete it anyway.
- Both the student and parent must sign the course selection planning sheet.

All students must sign up for the following courses:

1. RLA (blocked)
2. RLA (blocked)
3. Math
4. Social Studies
5. Science
6. P.E.
7. One elective and 3 alternate electives


## CHOOSING COURSES CLASS FORMATS:

- Academic- Challenging work- for everyone, on grade level, more time to review concepts.
- Katy Advanced Program (KAP)- More challenging courses, fast-paced, and more homework.
- GT- Students must be screened and identified to be eligible for GT courses.


## CHOOSING COURSES

The decision to take academic or KAP should be made between you, your parents and your teachers.

Think about:

- Your interests and strengths.
- How hard you are willing to work.
- The grades you have earned in school and the kind of grades you like to make.
- Motivation and attitude.
- Standardized test scores.
- Study habits.
- Extracurricular activities and time commitments.
- How quickly you catch on to new material.


## P.E. AND ELECTIVES

P.E. is a graded class that meets daily.

- You must dress out.
- You will be assigned a locker and a combination lock.
- Pre-Athletics is like a KAP class for PE

Electives are specialty classes in various areas of interest.

- DO- consider your interests carefully and choose the elective that interests you most.
- DON'I- Let your friends influence your choice!
- You will be in the elective you choose for the entire school year.


## ELECTIVES

- Band- Woodwind, Brass, Percussion- Band directors will meet with the student to determine the best instrument. Plan to practice 30 min . a day outside of the regular classroom. Must rent or buy an instrument. There will be two or three concerts per year.
- Orchestra- Stringed instruments, violin, cello, viola and bass. Plan to practice 30 min . per day outside of the regular classroom. There will be two or three concerts per year.
- Choir- Singing, music reading, and concerts. There will be three or four performances per year.


## ELECTIVES

- Art- painting, drawing, mixing colors to create confrast, drawing from imagination, art vocabulary, art history and ceramics
- Theater- introduction and development of expression, acting skills, and theater production
- Leadworthy Intermediate- Leadership \& Development, projects, public speaking, games, group activities, and self esteem/confidence exercises

Choose 3 alternate electives in order of preference. CHOOSE WISELY!

## OTHER COURSES

- Math Lab - designed to help refine and review math skills in preparafion for the STAAR test.
- Reading Elective - designed to help improve reading level and basic reading skills in preparation for the STAAR test.
- You will be required to take these classes if you do not pass the Math or Reading section of the $5^{\text {th }}$ grade STAAR test. This class will replace your elective.


## REMEMBER!

- Course selection planning sheets are due to Elementary Counselor by February 2nd, 2024.
- Keep your course selection sheet neat and clean. Take good care of it!
- Choose your courses wisely - think carefully about your choices.
- Talk to your teachers about KAP placement.
- Choose the elective that's most interesting to you.
- Choose 3 alternate electives in order of preference.
- Sign and return the course sheet on time!

