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## Katy Advanced Program (KAP)



#### Goals for the presentation

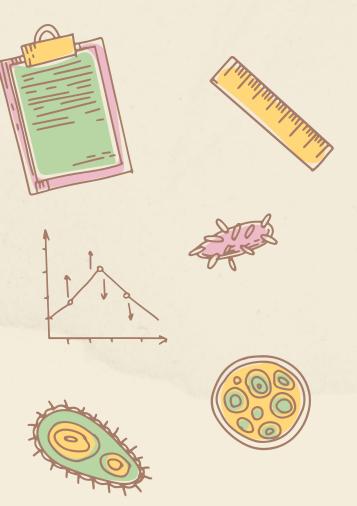


- 1. Provide information on advanced course options for 6th grade and beyond
- 2. Explain how GT students are served within KAP



# Purpose of KAP

- Help students develop academic skills needed for success in AP
- Provide an opportunity for students to engage in appropriately challenging coursework in a low-risk environment
- Expose students to critical thinking and reasoning tasks intended to build academic stamina (productive struggle)





Analytical and critical thinking

Productive struggle





# KAP is the place to learn.



Close reading

Thesis and essay writing

Note-making







# only 11%

Of students who <u>do not</u> take an advanced course in high school will graduate with a Bachelor's degree in 4 years.

That means that students who DO take advanced courses, are more likely to be successful in college.







# In Katy ISD...

Students who start on the advanced academics track (KAP) as 6th graders are more likely to remain in advanced academics courses throughout high school.





#### What do the teachers say?

"While the content in 6th grade science is not drastically different between KAP and ACA, the process of experiencing the content is. While an ACA class will have some "buffer" or "review/ reinforcement" days built in, a KAP class will complete an extension lab where they are able to further research, explore, and experience the content in a way that they find interesting, or in a way that reinforces skills such as critical and creative thinking. There are days where on paper, an ACA and KAP class look fairly similar, however, a KAP class will make observations and connections that will allow for deeper thinking within a topic than what is explored within the ACA setting."





What's the difference between academic and KAP?

### In terms of learning, the WHAT is mainly the same, but the HOW differs.



What about the GT students?

GT students are clustered in KAP courses taught by teachers with specialized training.







#### In Math:

#### Academic

6th grade math 7th grade math 8th grade math

Algebra I

Pre-Calculus or AP Statistics

6th

7th

8th

9th

12th

All 6th grade TEKS + 1/2 7th grade TEKS

1/2 7th grade TEKS + All 8th grade TEKS

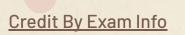
Algebra I

**KAP Geometry** 

AP Calculus AB, BC, and/or AP Statistics

KAP/AP





#### In the other areas in Junior High

English Language Arts	Science	Social Studies
ELA KAP 6	Science KAP 6	Social Studies KAP 6
ELA KAP 7	Science KAP 7	Social Studies KAP 7
ELA KAP 8	Science KAP 8	Social Studies KAP 8





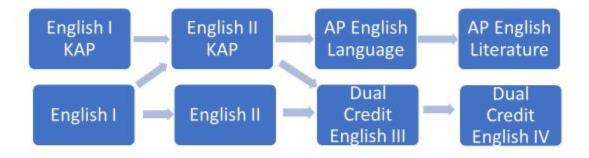


# What about for high school?



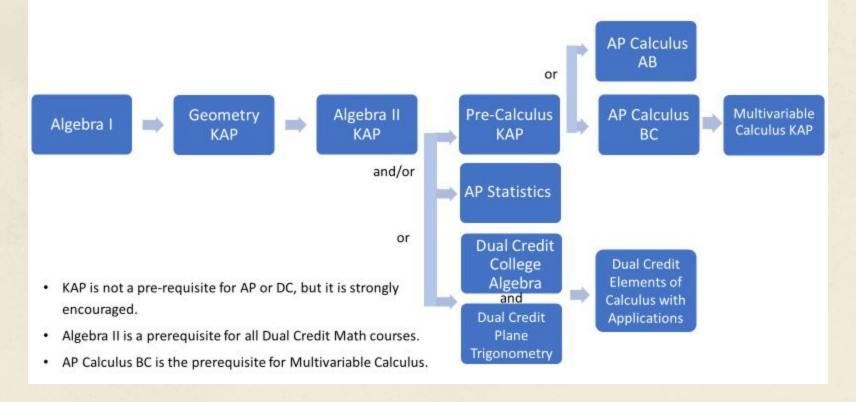


#### Advanced Academics Pathways - English

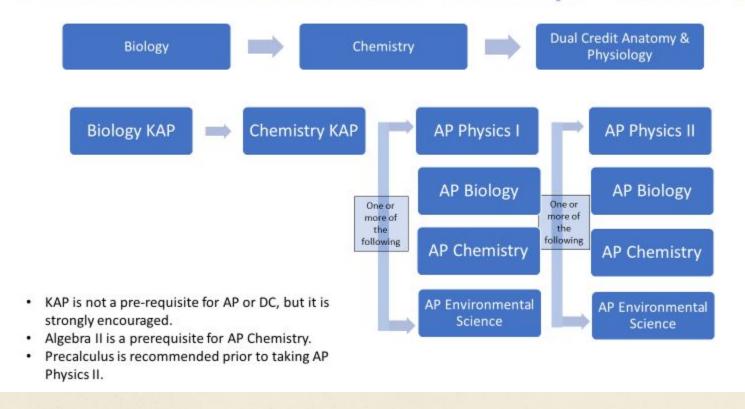


- KAP is not a pre-requisite for AP or DC, but it is strongly encouraged.
- Dual Credit English III is the equivalent of English 1301 and 1302 at HCC. The content includes American Literature & Composition.
- Dual Credit English IV is the equivalent of English 2322 and 2323 at HCC. The content includes British Literature.
- Both courses are required for graduation from a 2- or 4-year college in Texas.

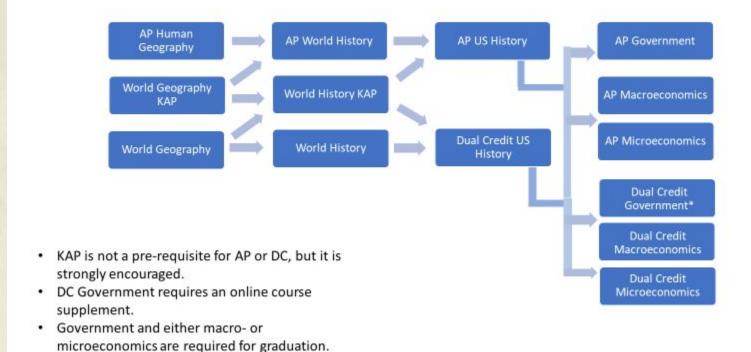
#### Advanced Academics Pathways - Math



#### Advanced Academics Pathways - Science



#### Advanced Academics Pathways – Social Studies







# FAQS



### Who can take a KAP class?

Anyone! Katy ISD has an **open-enrollment** policy for advanced academics.

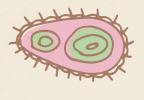
Students who score masters on STAAR are automatically placed in KAP course for the corresponding subject.

Scoring masters on STAAR indicates that a child is capable of performing above grade level, but masters is not a requirement for KAP enrollment.





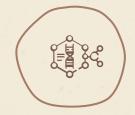
## How many KAP classes should a child take?



#### It depends.



6th grade options are reading, math, science, and social studies. As many students take all KAP courses as take some KAP courses

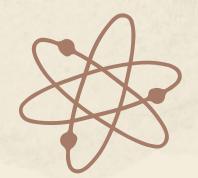


All students are encouraged to take at least one advanced course in an area of interest at some point in their secondary career.





## Should a child adjust to junior high before attempting KAP?

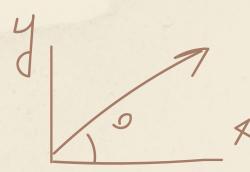


Students who enroll in KAP in junior high benefit from early preparation and academic rigor to develop the academic skills to more easily transition to AP coursework.

With the exception of high school credit courses (like Algebra I), grades earned in junior high courses do not count toward the high school GPA.

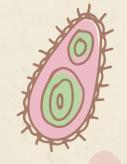
It is easier for students to try KAP and then move to academic if necessary than to do the opposite.







#### What if a child struggles?



That's okay! Many children will be challenged for the first time once they reach junior high.

KAP Teachers are expected to provide support for struggling students.

Junior high is a safe place to struggle.





#### More Questions...



### Will there be lots of homework?

Families say that the homework amount is generally appropriate for the course.

### When do we decide?

Course selections generally take place in January. Specific dates vary by campus.





#### What about extracurriculars?

Students can participate in any extracurricular and still take KAP courses.



