## AJH Course Selection

## Incoming $7^{\text {th }} \& 8^{\text {th }}$ Graders <br> 2024-2025



Kind HEART. Fievce MIND. Brave SPIRIT.
WE ARE VIKINGS!

## Our Viking Family

$7^{\text {th }}$ Grade AP: Eric Finley

$7^{\text {th }}$ Grade Counselor:
Vicky Mata

$8^{\text {th }}$ Grade AP: Julie Schneller

$8^{\text {th }}$ Grade Counselor: Brianna Pollinger

## $7^{\text {th }} \& 8^{\text {th }}$ Grade Dromotion

To be promoted to $7^{\text {th }} \& 8^{\text {th }}$ grade:

- You must have an overall average of 70 or higher in all courses.
- You must also have an overall average of 70 or higher in 3 of the 4 core subject areas:

1. English and Reading
2. Math
3. Science
4. Social Studies

## Students who do not meet these requirements must either

attend summer school or repeat your current grade.

## Course Requests Overview

* course Selections must be submitted online through SchooLinks between February 5-February 19!
* A course planning sheet will be provided to students to help make placement decisions and will need to be turned into their ELA teacher by wednesday


## February 7 th.

- If you are moving or planning to move, you still must complete the course selection process
- If you are signing up for KAP classes, both the student and parent must read the KAP commitment letter on the back of the course selection sheet

All students must sign up for the following courses:

- English
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- PE
- Elective(s) \& alternate elective choices

See your counselor if you have any questions.


* Available on AJH Counselor website


## Choosing Courses

## Three Class Format:

Academic - For everyone, on grade level, more time to review concepts, prepares students for college as well as other postsecondary education

KAP - More challenging, fast paced, prepares students for AP classes in high school *we recommend students have an " $A$ " average in an Academic class

## GT - Must be currently screened and identified

## 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


## KAD DROGRAM INFORMATION



- Although we highly encourage students to stay in a KAP class, they may exit a course during the first 6 weeks grading period or at the end of the $1^{\text {st }}$ semester.
- The student must have teacher and parent approval to exit.
- If the student's 6 -weeks average falls below 70, the student will be placed into an Academic class at the end of the grading period unless otherwise recommended by the teacher.


## Math for $7^{\text {th }}$ Graders

$6^{\text {th }}, 7^{\text {th }}$, and $8^{\text {th }}$ grade math classes are the foundations for high school math classes and should not be rushed.
Academic Math - on grade level curriculum

- Students will have math homework weekly to practice the concepts
* Students will learn $7^{\text {th }}$ grade math skills/concepts only

KAP Math - accelerated math class covering the remaining $1 / 2$ of $7^{\text {th }}$ grade and all of $8^{\text {th }}$ grade math curriculum

- A new concept is learned almost every day
- Students will have math homework every night to practice the concepts
* KAP math focuses on preparing students for High School Algebra 1 in $8^{\text {th }}$ grade
* $7^{\text {th }}$ grade KAP Math Students will take the $8^{\text {th }}$ grade STAAR
* Current high achieving students in $6^{\text {th }}$ grade KAP Math can take a Credit By Exam (CBE) for $8^{\text {th }}$ grade Math this summer (June/July testing windows). Students who pass the $8^{\text {th }}$ grade Math CBE will be eligible to take Algebra in the $7^{\text {th }}$ grade.
* $6^{\text {th }}$ Graders currently in ACA Math can choose to take $7^{\text {th }}$ Grade KAP Math in $7^{\text {th }}$ Grade. It is highly recommended to attend Math Bridge Program over the summer to teach missed concepts from $6^{\text {th }}$ Grade KAP Math. (more details coming closer to summer)


## Math for $8^{\text {th }}$ Graders

$6^{\text {th }}, 7^{\text {th }}$, and $8^{\text {th }}$ grade math classes are the foundations for high school math classes and should not be rushed.

* Academic Math - on grade level curriculum
* Students will have math homework weekly to practice the concepts
* Students will learn $8^{\text {th }}$ grade math skills/concepts only
* Algebra 1 - High School credit math class covering Algebra 1 curriculum
- A new concept is learned almost every day
* Students will have math homework every night to practice the concepts
* Students will receive HS credit upon completion of the course
* $8^{\text {th }}$ grade Algebra 1 students will take the Algebra 1 EOC
* Current high achieving students in $7^{\text {th }}$ grade Aca Math can take a Credit By Exam (CBE) for $8^{\text {th }}$ grade Math this summer (June/July testing windows). Students who pass the $8^{\text {th }}$ grade Math CBE will be eligible to take Algebra in the $8^{\text {th }}$ grade.


## KAD Math for $\boldsymbol{6}^{\text {th }}-8^{\text {th }}$ Grade

KAP is the compacting of the junior high curriculum from 3 years to 2 years so that your child would be able to take Algebra I (a high school credit class) by $8^{\text {th }}$ grade.

By taking your first high school math class in junior high, this frees up your child's senior year, to choose to take AP calculus, AP statistics, or other dual credit college credit math classes.

## FLA-R, Science, and Social Studies

* The difference in academic and KAP for English Language Arts \& Reading (ELAR), Science, and Social Studies comes in the resources/materials used and performance expectations.
* KAP is built upon the core academic curriculum and is designed to build student capacity to understand more rigorous content.
* KAP is designed to help prepare students for advanced courses in high school.
- KAP/ACA ELA-R classes are blocked in $7^{\text {th }}$ grade (meaning it is 2 class periods in a row with the same teacher). $7^{\text {th }}$ grade GT ELA-R and $8^{\text {th }}$ grade KAP/GT/ACA ELA-R classes are only 1 class period long.


## Dossible Required Courses

These courses take the place of your elective class.

* Math Lab: designed to help refine math concepts and fill in gaps
- Strategic Reading: designed to help improve reading proficiency and comprehension

Placement may be mandatory as a result of KISD standards and graduation requirements.
STAAR results are used to determine placement in the above courses.

Electives

* $7^{\text {th }}$ grade students will receive 1 elective for the year
* $7^{\text {th }}$ grade GT ELA-R students will receive 2 electives for the year as the GT ELA-R course is only one class period long
* $8^{\text {th }}$ grade students will receive 2 electives for the year
- Please be aware that some electives require after school commitments.
* Electives have assignments \& receive numeric grades.
* Due to the high demand of certain electives, placement in elective courses will be limited based on availability and is not guaranteed.


## Elective Options



## BEGINNING BAND

## BAND INSTRUMENTS

- No experience necessary! We will teach you everything you need to know.
- Directors will assist you in choosing the right instrument for you, after you choose band as your elective.
- Band students may participate in band AND athletics, pep squad, cheer, clubs, Sci-Oly, etc.
- There are only 2 after school rehearsals in Beginning Band.


## Trumpet

 HornTrombone
Euphonium
Percussion

## Tuba

## ADVANCED BANDS

## ADVANCED BAND ACTIVITIES and BENEFITS

- Students who have completed a full year of daily Beginning Band class will audition for placement in one of our three advanced bands.
- All Advanced Bands meet in full band class daily and attend one before or after school section rehearsal per week.
- All Advanced Bands perform and compete throughout the school year.
- Students may participate in Band AND athletics, pep squad, cheer, clubs, Science Olympiad, etc.

Parties<br>Competitions Pep Rallies<br>Friendships

Concerts
Football Game
Field Trips
Movie Night
and

MUCH, MUCH, MORE!



## First Year Orchestra

INSTRUMENTS WE OFFER:
Violin
Viola
Cello
Double Bass

- No experience necessary!
- We can help you find the right instrument for you.
- Instrument classes meet separately every day.
- Your daily homework is to practice your instrument!
- Andretti Karting \& Games trip for FYO students.
- FYO Festival performance at MErrill Center and stop for lunch afterwards.



# Performing Orchestra <br> <br> (1 or more years of experience.) 

 <br> <br> (1 or more years of experience.)}

- Performance-based course that builds on fundamental techniques and skills every year, from FYO and beyond.
- All orchestras perform a variety of music and presents several concerts throughout the year, including UIL music evaluations.
- Opportunity to perform in Region Orchestra Auditions and Solo \& Ensemble Contest.
- Upper level ensembles will require weekly 45 minute sectionals in the morning.
- Students will audition for placement into a performing orchestra




## 7th/8th grade Choirs

Auditioned and Non Auditioned Choirs

Be a Part of the Viking Choir Family

- Solo and small group competitions
- Concerts
- Audition for Region Choir
- Social Events
- Sing in different languages
- Solo Opportunities
- Leadership Opportunities
- Learn how to read music
- Men and Womens' Classes

- End of Year Choir Trip
- End of Year Choir Banquet
- Pop Show and LOTS MORE!


# VikingTheatre 



Earn points for:


## Till <br> INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY



Points are earned based upon work done in productions \& technical work as well as commanity service.

## Theatre 2 \& Theatre 3

- This class is for students who have successfully completed Theatre 1 and are interested in increasing their theatre skills. Further emphasis on acting skills, history of theatre, technical, and design work are explored.
- Students who are interested in furthering their acting or technical skills in front of a larger audience are encouraged to audition for the annual spring show, and to volunteer as ushers for our productions.
- After school participation for this course is not required, but encouraged.



## Theatre 2/3 Droduction

Completion of Theatre 1 and an audition is required to be considered for this class. Packets and audition information are handed out at the beginning of March.


Perform in 3 shows a year:


Fall show, One-Act Play Contest, Spring Show
Students can act OR do tech (lights, sound, crew, stage management)

Rehearsal Requirements: 2-3 after school rehearsals $+2-3$ Saturday rehearsals per show. We work around school sports for rehearsal schedules.

Eligibility: Students must be eligible to perform or take on a Technical role for a show. Theatre follows the no pass/no play rule.

## Art 1 = Create, Grow, \& lave FUN! <br> , <br> (

\section*{Clay $+3 d$ art development

$\star$ First Year Art Student (no art experience) 3 Just a sampling...we do so much more!

Paint, Draw collaborate




* Students create with the elements of art Sketchbook + skill
development
* First Year Art Student (no art
\& Students create with the elem
skills for a successful year in art.
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## Art 2

Ant we will create: Drawing Basics Painting Ceramics Sculpture Mixed Media Art History Contests:
Scholastic Art Contest Visual Art Scholastic Event Houston Dog Show Youth Art Month


Publications Nearthooll -applicion
Required!

PUBLICATIONS


If you like to take pictures, like to write, and enjoy socializing with others, Publications may be the elective for you!

- Open to students entering $7^{\text {th }}$ or $8^{\text {th }}$ grade
- Subject to an application process which includes letters of recommendations from current teachers
- Students will learn photography, marketing, yearbook design, and how to cover events that will be included in the Rune Stone Yearbook

Applications due by Friday, March 1st


## Leadwortiny

Leadership is not a position or title, it

Is action and example. In our
Class we are a

TEAM.

Leadworthy is based on the curriculum by Flip Flippen. You will discuss and learn about first impressions, IPOSSESS skills, how to give a speech, you will look at yourself and how to present yourself to others.

You will play games, role-play, and really get to know each other when you work as a TEAM.

This is a fun class that will help prepare you to take the mandatory speech class in high school.


## PEEER ASSISTANT LEADERSHMP (PALS)

- This is a NEW elective next year
- For 8 th graders who took LeadWorthy in 7th grade
- Students use their potential to make a difference
- Focuses on serving the school and community
- Will act as student leaders on AJH campus
- Application Required - scan the QR if you are interested in taking this class!



## Student Aide - $\boldsymbol{8}^{\mathbf{t h}}$ Grade Only

## Must be approved by Administrator/Counselor

- Applications must be completed by March $10^{\text {th }}$ via the google doc
- Incoming 8 th grade students (current $7^{\text {th }}$ graders) can apply to be a student aide as one of their elective choices. Students will be selected based on their application and teacher recommendations.
- Students who are selected as aides are helpful, respectful, and trustworthy. They must have good attendance and be passing all their classes. The student aides need to be positive representatives of our school. They must always behave appropriately and follow the student dress code.
- Student aides must be friendly, welcoming, and respect the confidentiality of our office.
- Student aides must be passing all classes and not have any N's or U's in conduct.
- Students are not eligible if they have been assigned I.S.S., been suspended from school, or received an attendance referral for excessive absences during the current school year.


## High School Credit Electives



## HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COURSES



- If you take a high school credit course in $7^{\text {th }}$ or $8^{\text {th }}$ grade, you MUST NOT request the same course in high school.
- You CANNOT repeat a course for which you have already earned credit.
- No credit is awarded for a duplicated course.
- Please make sure to choose HS credit classes carefully as once a grade is on their transcript it cannot be removed. Students enrolled in a HS credit course who are making below an 80\% should seriously consider dropping the course to avoid any negative affects to their GPA in high school. You will not be able to drop after the $1^{\text {st }}$ grading period.
- If the student does not pass the $1^{\text {st }}$ or $2^{\text {nd }}$ grading period or fails the $1^{\text {st }}$ semester, he/she will automatically be dropped from the course per district policy.
- Regardless of the grade, no students will be removed from a HS credit course after the $1^{\text {st }}$ semester.

All semester grades and grade points earned in high school credit courses become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript and are factored into the student's grade point average and class rank.

## Career Launchpad



## Career Launchpad

## Subject: CTE

Eligible grades: 7th, 8th
Prerequisite: N/A
Corequisite: N/A
Students will explore and learn about the CTE Programs of Study offered in KISD through fun, hands-on projects and virtual job shadowing opportunities. Students will also be exposed to the soft-skills needed to be successful in tomorrow's workforce. Students will develop a resume and practice interviewing skills.


## COLLEGE 8

 CAREER READINESS


The 16 CAREER CLUSTERS


## NAVIGATE <br> Exploring College and Careers

## Business Information Management

## 7th \＆ $\boldsymbol{8}^{\text {th }}$ Grade

In Business Information Management， students will
－learn computer skills essential for college and work readiness using the industry standard Microsoft Office Suite
－produce a variety of Word documents，create Excel spreadsheets and charts，develop and maintain Access databases，and design professional PowerPoint presentations．
－Outlook is introduced as a necessary skill in college and work．
＊Dual Credit BIM available in high school

## UNITS COVERED

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## Principles of Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications

$7^{\text {th }} \& 8^{\text {th }}$ Grade

In Principles of Arts, A/V Technology and Communications, students will

- understand arts, audio/video technology, and communications systems.
- Within this context, students will be expected to develop an understanding of the various and multifaceted career opportunities in this cluster and the knowledge, skills, ad educational requirements for those opportunities.

Pre-requisite for:
*Audio Video Courses
*Graphic Design

* Digital Arts
*Commercial photography
*Animation
*Fashion Design


## UNITS COVERED



## Spanish $1-8^{\text {th }}$ grade only

- 8th Grade Only Course
- Covers all curriculum of Spanish 1 in a single year, just like in high school.
- Earn 1 full credit of high school in 1 year.
- This is a course for non-native Spanish speakers.

If Spanish is spoken at home, enroll in the Spanish for Spanish Speakers
 course instead.

## Spanish for Spanish Speakers $8^{\text {th }}$ grade only

- Esta clase es para estudiantes quienes su primer idioma es el español.
- Los estudiantes obtienen 2 créditos por 1 año escolar en esta clase.
- Clase perfecta para estudiantes que lo hablan y quieren aprender a escribir y leer mejor, así como practicar el idioma en diferentes situaciones.
- iNo tiene que ser experto en el idioma!



## Art 1 for Hiah School Credit

 Requirements: $8^{\text {th }}$ Graders Only*Pre-requisite for all additional art classes*
Art We Will Create:
Grid Drawing
Painterly Painting Techniques
Mixed Media
Ceramics
Sculpture
Sketchbook Fridays:

* Art Technique Practice
* Art History
* Experimenting with Art Methods Contests:
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Scholastic Art Contest
Visual Art Scholastic Event
Houston Dog Show
Youth Art Month



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## Drinciples of Information Technology $8^{\text {th }}$ grade only

*Prerequisite for Networking
Systems and Cyber Security
( $11^{\text {th }} / 12^{\text {th }}$ grade courses)

In Principles of Information Technology, students will

- develop computer literacy skills to adapt to emerging technologies used in the global marketplace.
- Implement personal and interpersonal skills to prepare for a rapidly evolving workplace environment.
- Enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and reasoning skills and apply them to the information technology environment.


## UNITS COVERED



## Drinciples of Human Services $8^{\text {th }}$ grade only

- Do you want to learn how to manage money, cook, sew, and learn the basics in mental health, child development, and design?
- Do you want to earn high school credit?
- Enroll in Principles of Human Services and learn the skills for life!


## Drinciples of Applied Engineering - $8^{\text {th }}$ grade only


*Pre-requisite for all additional engineering classes*

## Principles of Applied Engineering

Subject: CTE
Eligible grades: 8th


Prerequisite: N/A
Corequisite: $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$
Course Fee: $\$ 60.00$ per year
Students use a variety of computer hardware and Autodesk applications to complete assignments and projects to gain an understanding of the interrelationships between various fields
 of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. It is highly recommended that students take Algebra I so that they can follow the concurrent pathway. Course Fee: $\$ 60.00$ per year.

## D.E. \& D.E. Waivers

- P.E.

All students will be enrolled in a Physical Education class

- Both boys and girls (separate gyms)

Graded class/attend everyday
Dress out in uniforms: bring your own athletic shoes \& socks
Lockers in locker room
Students will pay a \$15 fee at the beginning of the year for their PE uniform, locker, and laundry service.
$\square$ Off Campus P.E.
Off campus P.E. forms will not be accepted until August 1, 2024 through the first week of school in the front office.
If you participate in an approved individual sport for less than 15 hours per week, you will receive Study Hall as your replacement class.

If you participate in an approved individual sport for 15 or more hours a week you will leave campus after $7^{\text {th }}$ period. These students will sign themselves out daily at the attendance window.
$\square$ Forms should be printed from the AJH counselor website or the Katy ISD website.
$\square$ Information and applications can be found at: Health \& Physical Education Curriculum / Off Campus PE (katvisd.org)

## Dance for $8^{\text {th }}$ Graders

$\square$ Dance
$\square$ Available to all $8^{\text {th }}$ grade students
$\square$ Counts as PE course
Graded class/attended every day
Class is based on a vailability
If the course does not make, students will be placed in a regular PE class
-Takes place during $1^{\text {st }}$ period with Dance director at Jordan HS

- Students in Athletics will not be able to participate since $8^{\text {th }}$ grade Athletics is $1^{\text {st }}$ period also

Dance teacher will pick students up at 8:55 a.m. from AJH and walk them over to JHS for the class
Class takes place in JHS dance studio

- Students will be brought back to AJH at the end of $1^{\text {st }}$ period in time to make it to their $2^{\text {nd }}$ period class
$\square$ Does not count as a high school credit PE course. This is a junior high credit class that allows our students the opportunity to explore the JHS dance program


## Athletics

* Based on tryouts at the end of your $6^{\text {th }}$ and $7^{\text {th }}$ grade school year
* coaches determine placement into athletics
* Must have physical on file dated after May 1, 2024 \& RankOne online forms completed
- Athletic period (Fall) sports:
* Football
- Volleyball
- Basketball
* After school (Spring) sports not placed in the athletic period:
* Track
* Soccer
* Tennis
* Please see the coach if you are interested in playing a sport in $7^{\text {th }}$ or $8^{\text {th }}$ grade
coaches will give the counselors a list of students to be scheduled into the athletic period later this semester

Athletics is only for football, volleyball, and baske+ball. No one is exclusively in athletics for the other 3 sports.
Remember: UIL "No Pass, No Play" is in effect - any grade below 70 on the report card will prevent participation.

## Course Selection

* The district is using a college and career platform call Schoo Links. Students will use SchooLinks for the course selection process. Course Selection Window is February 5-February 19.
- Students can access SchooLinks through MyKaty Cloud
* Every student will receive a course planning sheet to help make class. placement decisions. You will use this to enter your courses into Schoo Links and then turn in the course Planning Sheet to your ELA teacher by February 7 th.
* Circle one course from each required course areas:
* 1 ELA-R
- 1 Math
* 1 Science
- 1 Social Studies
- 1 PE course
- Elective Choice(s)

* For Electives. please list your choices in order of preference
* Online Course Selections must be completed by February 19 in SchooLinks
* Course Planning Sheets are due to ELA Teachers by February $7^{\text {rd }}$


## Course Catalous



## Course Selection Drocess



## Verification Drocess

- Course Verification Window is March 18-26 and will take place in SchooLinks.
- Students/parents can check course requests through SchooLinks.
- The course requests shown in SchooLinks are not the schedule - it is the list of courses you selected.
- All students will receive Course Verification Sheets After Spring Break. This is not a list of courses that $y$.
- Students/parents review course selections on the Verification sheets, cross through the course you are changing, and write the correct course next to it.
- This is your last opportunity to make changes to your course requests.
- Course Verification sheets are due to ELA teacher Friday, March 22.
- If we do not return a Course verification sheet, we will assume that no corrections need to be made to your course selections.


## AJH Counseling Website



Scan the QR code to get to our website for more
Course Selection Information


All course selection information can be found here!








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## DEMEMBER:

- Course selection submissions are due in SchooLinks by February 19
- Course selection sheets are due to ELA Teachers by February $7^{\text {th }}$
- 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.
- List alternate electives.
- Submit course requests on time!
- Any changes to course selections are made during the verification process. Course verification Sheets due march 22.


# QR Code Library 

AJH Counseling website


PALS Application
(current $7^{\text {th }}$ graders only)


Publications (Yearbook)
Application


Student Aide Application
(current $7^{\text {th }}$ graders only)


## we can't wait for next year:




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