

# **Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Selection Information**



## **Beckendorff Junior High**

# Course Selection Information

- Available on the [BDJH Counseling Website](#)
  - Incoming 7th Grade Course Selection Presentation
  - Incoming 7th Grade Course Request Planning Sheet

BDJH Counseling Website



# Schoolinks

The district is using a college and career platform called Schoolinks. Course selection will use Schoolinks for the course selection process.  
Your child can access Schoolinks through My Katy Cloud.



# Welcome to 7th grade!

- Higher expectations
- More responsibility
- More independence for your own learning
- More homework
- More juggling with extra curricular activities - No Pass, No Play
- Curriculum is challenging and demanding
- You must learn how to study.
- **Organization is a key to success!**

# Course Requests Overview

All students must sign up for the following courses:

1. Language Arts 7 Block
2. Math
3. Social Studies
4. Science
5. PE or Athletics
6. One elective and three alternate electives
  - ▶ Current GT students will choose 2 electives and 3 alternate electives

**Katy** 6th Grade Course Selection Worksheet 2018 - 2019 CAMPUS NAME AND/OR LOGO

STUDENT NAME: Last, First, Middle Initial	PKS	MSD NUMBER	STREET NAME
PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: Last, First, Middle Initial	PKS		PARENT/GUARDIAN PHONE
ADDRESS: Street			CITY/STATE
PARENT/GUARDIAN HOME PHONE	PARENT/GUARDIAN CELL PHONE		PARENT/GUARDIAN WORK PHONE

**DIRECTIONS:** Choose one course from each of the required areas of English, Math, Science, Social Studies and PE, and one Fine Arts. The ADVISEMENT agreement on the back of this page must be signed if any PE/PAK courses are selected. Mark selections with a check mark in the space next to the course titles. Alternate Fine Arts should be listed in case a course has insufficient enrollment or if the student's schedule cannot accommodate a particular choice. Student and parent signatures confirm that all course guidelines have been reviewed and course selections have been made based on the student's individual strengths, interests and commitment. Final placement into courses is contingent upon campus approval. GT placement requires the student to have met specific Katy ISD placement criteria.

<b>REQUIRED COURSES</b> <b>ENGLISH AND READING</b> English and Reading must be taken at the same level. #602 English 6 #607 Reading 6 #608 English 6 P/PAK #604 English 6 GT* #609 Reading 6 P/PAK #609 Reading 6 GT* #602L English 6 ESL #607L Reading 6 ESL If placement will be determined in the spring <b>MATH</b> #611 Math 6 #612 Math 6 P/PAK #612L Math 6 GT* <b>SCIENCE</b> #630 Science 6 #633 Science 6 P/PAK #632L Science 6 GT* <b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b> #620 Social Studies 6 #622 Social Studies 6 P/PAK #622L Social Studies 6 GT* <b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b> #680 PE 6 - Boys I #681 PE 6 - Girls I	<b>FINE ARTS**</b> One year of Junior High Fine Arts is required for all students. #668 Theater I #650 Beginning Art I #660 Beginning Band I Placement based on Director approval. Director will contact the student regarding instrument assignment. #653 Beginning Orchestra I Placement based on Director approval. Director will contact the student regarding instrument assignment. #667 Choir I - Girls I #668 Choir I - Boys I <b>LIST 2: ALTERNATE FINE ARTS COURSE CHOICES BELOW</b> 1) _____ 2) _____ **Fine Arts change requests made after the last day of the school year (Thursday, June 1, 2017) will be considered on a space available basis only. Please be advised that scheduling conflicts may prevent your student from being in the Fine Arts classes. Please let us know Fine Arts choices. #688 Lunch #695 Advisory Placement in Intentional courses may be required for students who did not pass the STAAR and/or based upon documented reading level or math level. * All GT courses are based on PKD test scores. If recommended for GT students, GT course placement requires the student to meet specific Katy ISD screening criteria. † Course fees apply. See Junior High fee schedule and course descriptions in the 2018-2019 Course Catalog for more information.
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Student and parent/guardian are required to confirm that all course guidelines and course selections have been reviewed.

Student Signature	Date	Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
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# Choosing Courses-Class formats:

- **Academic-** Challenging work- available to everyone, on grade level, more time to review concepts.
- **KAP-** More challenging courses, fast-paced, and more homework.
  - Students must maintain a 70% or higher each 6 weeks to remain in the KAP class.
  - Must meet passing standard on course-related state-mandated performance assessments including STAAR.
- **KAP/GT-** Students must be screened and identified to be eligible for GT courses.

# Gifted and Talented Program

- Students who are *currently* being screened should *not* request GT classes. You can only sign up for the ones for which you have qualified.
  - Counselors will get a list of who qualifies and make those changes. You will not need to request a change. The counselor will make the schedule change.
- If you **HAVE** qualified for GT classes, you must sign up for them or you will be exited.
  - If you are exited from a GT course, you are required to take a GT screening to take a future GT course of the same subject.

# Choosing Courses

- You will most likely sign up for courses similar to what you had in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Consider the following when choosing which class level to sign up for:
  - Past grades in school and the kind of grades you would like to make
  - Motivation and attitude
  - Standardized test scores
  - Study habits
  - Willingness to complete homework
  - Outside interests and activities
  - How quickly they catch on to new material
  - Independence level



# Choosing a Math Level for 7th Grade

- Concepts taught are the foundation for all higher level math courses and therefore should not be rushed
- **7th grade Academic** - on grade level curriculum
  - Math practice is given each night to practice concepts
- **7th grade KAP**- 40%-50% of remaining 7<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum and most of 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum
  - A new concept is learned each day
  - Math practice is given each night to reinforce concepts.
  - Students will be placed in High School Algebra 1 in 8th grade, after the successful completion of 7th grade KAP math.

# Advancing Math Levels

- If you choose to advance from 6th grade Academic math to 7th grade KAP math, you will be advancing from 6th grade concepts to second semester 7<sup>th</sup> grade concepts.
- You will be missing instruction on at least 50% of 7<sup>th</sup> grade math concepts but still accountable for knowing the missed information.
- Math KAP is the compacting of the junior high curriculum from 3 years to 2 years so that students can take Algebra I (a high school credit class) in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

# Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies

- The difference in academic and KAP for language arts, 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.

# Possible Required Courses

*These courses take the place of your elective class.*

- **Math Lab** - designed to refine math concepts and fill in gaps.
- **Reading Elective**- designed to 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

# Physical Education

- Students pay a \$15 fee at the beginning of the year for their PE uniform, lock for locker, and laundry service.
- Students will dress out daily in their PE uniform.
- Students will receive a numeric grade for this course.
- Students will develop a basic level of fitness and wellness along with learning the skill of each sport.
- All students are required to be in PE or Athletics

# Athletics

Football  
Volleyball  
Basketball  
Soccer  
Track  
Tennis

- Athletics Cost: \$40.00
- Physical must be on file before participation in Athletics.
- Coaches will determine placement and notify the Counselor's office.
- Students may NOT sign up for athletics during course selection UNLESS they are signing up to play football.

**Remember:** *UIL “No Pass, No Play” is in effect* - any grade *below 70* on the report card will prevent participation.

# Off-Campus PE

- Students who are participating in 5-14 hours of approved off-campus PE training will have their PE class replaced with a study hall.
- If you participate in 15 or more hours, you may be released from campus after 6<sup>th</sup> period.
- All PE waiver applications can be turned into the BDJH Counseling Office or emailed to the counseling office starting in **May** or at the beginning of August of the school year.
- All applications must be emailed to your counselor by the first 5 days of the school year.
- Information and applications can be found at: [Off-Campus PE Information](#)

# Leadworthy

## What will I learn?

- About yourself - how to develop your strengths & overcome personal constraints
- Decision making skills that will help you make healthy choices
- Create better relationships with friends/family/teachers/coaches
- Become an effective communicator
- How to serve others
- To work effectively with a group

## How will I learn?

- *Leadworthy*- Flip Flippen curriculum
- Service project/fundraising opportunities
- Class discussion, role plays and team building games

Class is open to 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade only



# Art 1 and 2

- Art in the areas of drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, textiles, and technology
- Exciting projects in both 2D and 3D
- Explore different mediums like colored pencils, acrylic paint, paper mache, and more
- Develop both artistic and creative skills
- Beginning Art 1 is a prerequisite to Art 2
- Students interested in taking the High School credit art in 8<sup>th</sup> grade must have taken art in either 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Course fees apply

# Publications I

- Application and interview required
- Students will learn how to work as part of a team as a staff member in the process of building a yearbook.
- Basic photography and journalism techniques will be explored, as well as building leadership and communication skills.
- Application can be found on the BDJH counseling website.

# Theater 1 and 2

- Focus on vocabulary and theatrical terms
- Creating scripts and performing
- Performing short scenes from published works or self written
- Playing theater games such as improvisation
- Theatre 1 is a prerequisite to Theatre 2
- Course fees apply

# Band

## Woodwind, Brass, Percussion

- Students are grouped by audition into a performing band.
- Designed to enhance skills of self-confidence, teamwork, problem solving, creativity and communication through the art of music performance.
- Auditions will be held at the end of this school year.
- Perform a variety of music: Classical, pop, movie music, and jazz
- Performances and social events include:
  - Football Game
  - Instrument Clubs
  - Three concerts per year
  - Contests and festivals throughout the year
- Course fees apply

# Choir

## Singing, Reading music, and Concerts

- Music literacy in preparation for lifelong enjoyment of music
- Learning to use the voice appropriately as a musical instrument
- Development of necessary skills for musical theater
- Performances and social events include:
  - Three or four concerts per year, including pop show
  - Choir socials
- Perform a variety of music including: classical, movie music, Broadway, folk songs, holiday, pop, and foreign language
- Opportunities for solos and small groups
- Preparation for participation in high school choir, show choir, and the All-State Process
- Course fees apply

# Orchestra

## Violin, Cello, Viola, and Bass

- Students are divided into 7 separate orchestras based on ability and experience.
- Auditions are held at the end of the previous school year.
- Instruments:
  - Violins and violas: Student owned or rented.
  - Cello and bass: Encouraged to have a “home” rental instrument and use a school instrument during the day (\$100 maintenance fee).
- Students will learn and practice skills necessary for playing in large and small ensemble performance. Among those skills are teamwork, responsibility, and persistence.
- Music played is from a wide variety of resources; classical, jazz, fiddling, contemporary, baroque, etc.
- Four or five concerts per year
- Course fees apply

# High School Credit Classes

## C. Exit Guidelines for High School Credit Courses in Junior High

1. Teachers should make reasonable effort to contact parents of struggling students.
2. Students may request to exit a high school credit course through the end of the first grading period.
3. Students who earn an "F" at the end of the first or second grading period in a high school credit course will be removed to a junior high course unless otherwise recommended by the teacher and administrator.
4. During the first semester no course changes will be made after the second grading period.
5. Students who earn a first semester failing grade will have the grade recorded on their transcript, and will be removed from the course for the second semester.
6. Students will not be removed from the course during the second semester.
7. The District's Gifted & Talented Reassessment and Exit policy will be followed for identified GT math students enrolled in Algebra I/GT. Note: GT students who do not enroll in Algebra I/GT in 8th grade will be exited from the GT Math program..

# ★ Career Launchpad High School Credit Course **(NEW)**

*Semester grades and grade points earned in all high school credit courses become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript.*

- Replacing Career Investigations
- Students will explore different careers.
- Students will learn and apply knowledge of what is expected in the workplace.
- Students will obtain the knowledge and essential employability skills that are transferable among a variety of jobs and career.
- Course fee may apply.
- Class for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.



# ★ Business Information Management High School Credit Course **(NEW)**

*Semester grades and grade points earned in all high school credit courses become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript.*

- Students learn computer skills essential for college and work readiness using the industry standard Microsoft Office Suite.
- Students 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.
- For 7th and 8th graders

# Verification Process

- Students/parents will check course requests through SchooLinks. The course requests shown in SchooLinks are not the schedule – it is the list of courses you selected.
- This is your last opportunity to make changes to your course requests.
- Any changes to the student's courses should be made in SchooLinks.
- If we do not receive a course verification change through SchooLinks, we assume no corrections need to be made to your course selections.

# REMEMBER!

- Choose your courses wisely - think carefully about your choices.
- Talk to your teachers about course level placement.
- Choose the elective that's most interesting to you.
- Choose 3 alternate electives.
- Any changes to course selections will be made during course verification.



# QR Library



BDJH Counseling Website



FAQ for Course Selection

Course Catalog is available in SchoolLinks.

If you have additional questions, please email your child's counselor.

Mrs. Kristin Pitts (Last Names A-E) - [kristinapitts@katyisd.org](mailto:kristinapitts@katyisd.org)

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