



MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG

2010-2011



Boerne Middle School North



Boerne Middle School South



Boerne Middle School North

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Boerne Middle School South

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Message to Students and Parents

The information provided in this publication is designed to help students and parents in planning and making appropriate choices.

The Boerne ISD Board of Trustees, administrators, counselors and teachers want your middle school experience to be both fruitful and enjoyable. Occasionally, changes occur in course requirements due to action by the Texas Legislature and/or the Texas State Board of Education (SBOE). Your counselor will communicate any changes that are required.

The development of the course catalog is a collaborative process. Final course offerings are based on staffing, student interest and facilities.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

CORE REQUIREMENTS

SUBJECT	7 th GRADE	8 th GRADE
English	1 full year course	1 full year course
Math	1 full year course	1 full year course
Reading	1 full year course	1 full year course
Science	1 full year course	1 full year course
Social Studies	1 full year course	1 full year course
P.E.	1 full year course	1 semester course
Athletics	1 full year course	1 full year course (semester PE credit and semester elective credit)
Computer Technology	1 semester course	1 semester course
Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 semester courses • 1 semester course and 1 full year course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 semester courses • 2 semester courses and 1 full year course • 2 full year courses

PRE-ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Pre-Advanced Placement (PreAP) courses are offered in many content areas. These courses offer an enrichment of the regular curriculum taught through a variety of strategies. These strategies foster higher order thinking, such as critical thinking and problem solving skills. PreAP courses are rigorous and intended to prepare students for Advanced Placement courses at the high school level.

Any student may enroll in a PreAP course and is strongly encouraged to take as many PreAP courses as possible, as long as the student and the parents are willing to commit to the program. When making the decision to take a PreAP course, consider the demands of academic and extracurricular involvement. Teachers, counselors and administrators strongly recommend that students and parents conference with the current teacher before making their final decisions.

Students who choose to enroll in one or more of the PreAP courses must complete a PreAP Level Course Agreement Form and turn in the completed form as directed by the campus.

See page 17 for a sample of the PreAP Level Course Agreement Form. Copies are provided by the Counseling Office.

PROMOTION STANDARDS

Classification	Minimum Requirements
7 th Grade	Promotion from 6 th grade with a minimum grade of 70 in three of the four core subjects (ELA/Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies) and an overall average of at least 70
8 th Grade	Promotion from 7 th grade with a minimum grade of 70 in three of the four core subjects (ELA/Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies) and an overall average of at least 70
9 th Grade	Promotion from 8 th grade with a minimum grade of 70 in three of the four core subjects (ELA/Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies), an overall average of at least 70, and Pass 8 th Reading & Math TAKS

SCHEDULE INFORMATION

The development of a student's class schedule is a deliberate and lengthy process. It is very important that students and parents give careful consideration to selecting courses. The choices students make on the course selection sheet determine the master schedule of course offerings available. The master schedule, though never perfect, is designed to maximize student opportunities and minimize scheduling conflicts. Student schedules will not be changed to select different teachers and lunch periods. Once a class schedule is formulated, the student is expected to follow that schedule.

A recommended change from a PreAP course may occur only at one of the following times: between the 4th-6th weeks of school or at the end of the 1st semester. When a student transfers from one level to another level of a course, i.e. PreAP to regular, grades earned in the original class will be transferred as earned without alteration. Since parents are involved in the initial selection of courses, requests for changes in schedules should be signed by parents.

Initial confirmation of requested courses occurs after the registration process is completed for all grade levels. Course changes must be made prior to June 3.

TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills)

Students will take section(s) of the TAKS in 3 – 11. The Exit Level TAKS, required to pass for graduation, is given in grade 11. Students failing any portion(s) of the prescribed TAKS test(s) for their grade level will be assigned an accelerated TAKS course(s) and/or a specifically designed elective(s) in that subject area to better prepare them for the next level of TAKS test(s).

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

Course: ENGLISH 7

Description: English 7 core elements include writing, research, oral and written conventions and listening and speaking skills. Students will use the writing process to compose a variety of written texts (original stories, poetry, letters, persuasive essays and research) with clear ideas, coherent organization and sufficient detail. One major work will be read each quarter.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: PRE-AP ENGLISH 7

Description: PreAP English 7 core elements include writing, research, oral and written conventions and listening and speaking skills. Students will write a variety of written texts including literary analysis and persuasive essays. One major work will be read each quarter that supports elements of the AP English Language and AP English Literature exams. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP English courses and testing offered at the junior and senior levels.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: ENGLISH 8

Description: English 8 core elements include writing, research, oral and written conventions and listening and speaking skills. Building on their prior knowledge, skills, and experiences, students will use the writing process to compose a variety of written texts (original stories, poetry, letters, persuasive essays and research) with clear ideas, coherent organization and sufficient detail. One major work will be read each quarter.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Course: PRE-AP ENGLISH 8

Description: PreAP English 8 core elements include writing, research, oral and written conventions and listening and speaking skills. Building on their prior knowledge, skills, and experiences, students will write a variety of written texts including literary analysis and persuasive essays. One major work will be read each quarter that supports elements of the AP English Language and AP English Literature exams. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP English courses and testing offered at the junior and senior levels.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Course: ESL 7

Description: English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are designed to help non-English speaking students and Limited English proficiency (LEP) students learn to better communicate in the regular classroom. The classes focus on learning to speak, write and understand English while at the same time learning skills needed to survive in school and once school is completed.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7 Administrator/Counselor Placement Only

Course: ESL 8

Description: English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are designed to help non-English speaking students and Limited English proficiency (LEP) students learn to better communicate in the regular classroom. The classes focus on learning to speak, write and understand English while at the same time learning skills needed to survive in school and once school is completed.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8 Administrator/Counselor Placement Only

Course: READING 7

Description: Reading 7 core elements include reading, research and listening and speaking. Students will read, understand and respond to a wide variety of literary and informational texts. Emphasis is on comprehension, vocabulary, and critical-thinking skills in an interactive environment.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: PRE-AP READING 7

Description: PreAP Reading 7 core elements include research, listening, and speaking. This course is designed to prepare students for the complex reading required for the AP English courses and testing offered at the junior and senior levels.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: READING 8

Description: Reading 8 core elements include reading, research, and listening and speaking skills. Students will engage in activities that build on their prior knowledge and skills in order to read and understand increasingly complex text. Emphasis is on comprehension, vocabulary and critical thinking skills in an interactive environment.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Course: PRE-AP READING 8

Description: PreAP Reading 8 core elements include reading, research, and listening and speaking skills. This course is designed to prepare students for the complex reading and in-depth analysis required for the AP English courses and testing offered at the junior and senior levels.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Course: READING FOUNDATIONS 7 – 8

Description: Reading Foundations is a TEKS-based course designed specifically for struggling readers that will strengthen students' learning in all core areas. Specific reading and study skills, strategies and spelling techniques will be incorporated into the curriculum, offering students many opportunities to improve their reading skills.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7 and/or 8 Administrator/Counselor Placement Only

MATH

Course: MATH 7

Description: Math 7 curriculum is designed by the state of Texas. Focal points include the use of direct proportional relationships in number, geometry, measurement, and probability; applying addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals, fractions, and integers; and using statistical measures to describe data. Students will use concepts, algorithms, and properties of positive rational numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations. Problem solving in meaningful contexts, language and communication, connections within and outside mathematics, and formal and informal reasoning underlie all content.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: MATH LAB 7

Description: Math Lab 7 allows support for students who evidence foundational weaknesses in mathematics. Students receive daily instruction in mathematics producing greater understanding and success. The curriculum is aligned to seventh grade math, but the pacing is more individualized based on the needs of students.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Administrator/Counselor Placement Only: Based on prior TAKS and classroom performance

Course: PRE-AP MATH 7

Description: PreAP Math 7 expands the seventh grade curriculum and focuses on pre-algebra concepts and skills throughout the school year. The course moves quickly at an accelerated pace, and the standard of achievement and performance are challenging. Focal points include the use of basic principles of algebra to analyze and represent both proportional and non-proportional linear relationships and the use of probability to describe data and make predictions. Students use algebraic thinking to describe how a change in one quantity in a relationship results in a change in the other; and they connect verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships. This course is the prerequisite for PreAP Algebra I in the eighth grade.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7 Prerequisite: PreAP Math 6

Course Offering Availability Subject to Student Enrollment and Staffing Levels

Course: MATH 8 (PRE-ALGEBRA)

Description: Math 8 Pre-Algebra curriculum is designed by the state of Texas. Focal points include the use of basic principles of algebra to analyze and represent both proportional and non-proportional linear relationships and the use of probability to describe data and make predictions. Students use algebraic thinking to describe how a change in one quantity in a relationship results in a change in the other; and they connect verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships. Problem solving in meaningful contexts, language and communication, connections within and outside mathematics, and formal and informal reasoning underlie all content.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Course: MATH LAB 8

Description: Math Lab 8 allows support for students who evidence foundational weaknesses in mathematics. Students receive daily instruction in mathematics producing greater understanding and success. The curriculum is Pre-Algebra as defined by the state, but the pacing is more individualized based on the needs of students. Highly qualified teachers serve as instructors for the course.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Administrator/Counselor Placement Only: Based on prior TAKS and classroom performance

Course: PRE-AP ALGEBRA I

Description: PreAP Algebra I develops algebraic thinking and symbolic reasoning, expands basic arithmetic knowledge from grades K through 8. Functions are studied to represent the systematic dependency of one quantity on another. Students use functions to formulate and solve equations, problem solve, communicate, and model real life data through technology, computers, and concrete representations. The course moves quickly at an accelerated pace, and the standard of achievement and performance are challenging.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: PreAP Math 7 (single-year acceleration) OR successful completion of the EXCEL Summer Institute after PreAP Math 6 (double-year acceleration)

Special Note: Successful completion of this course earns one credit of math for high school graduation.

Course: PRE- AP GEOMETRY

Description: PreAP Geometry emphasizes logical reasoning and spatial relationships. Topics of study include those of regular geometry, as well as formal two-column proofs. Memorization of postulates, theorems, and definitions is required. The course demands additional student application of learned skills in the study of patterns and geometry in nature. The course pace is rigorous with high expectations. Students will complete a minimum of 3 major projects. The ultimate goal of the course is to prepare students for the rigor of upper-level mathematics.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: PreAP Algebra I (double-year acceleration)

Special Note: Successful completion of this course earns one credit of math for high school graduation.

SCIENCE

Course: SCIENCE 7

Description: Science 7 is an integrated approach to science instruction covering basic concepts in biology, chemistry, earth science, environmental science, and physics. Units include: ecosystems, human body systems, matter, simple machines, forces and motion, and space. Students will be expected to learn to collect and analyze data, and to present material in an organized manner using basic math, writing, and computer skills.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: PRE-AP SCIENCE 7

Description: PreAP Science 7 covers the same topics as the on-level science curriculum but in greater depth. Higher level thinking and motivation are expected. Students will be required to design and perform inquiry labs using the scientific method to develop a question, collect and analyze data, and present the findings in formal lab reports. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Science courses and testing offered at the junior and senior levels.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: SCIENCE 8

Description: Science 8 is an integrated approach to science instruction covering basic concepts in biology, chemistry, earth science, environmental science, and physics. Students will study the interactions of solar, weather, and ocean systems; and describe how human activities have modified soil, water, and air quality. Additionally, students will study stars and galaxies, the periodic table, chemical reactions, the rock cycle, land features, and extinction.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Course: PRE-AP SCIENCE 8

Description: PreAP Science 8 covers the same topics as on-level science but in greater depth. Higher level thinking and motivation are expected. Students will be required to design and perform inquiry labs using the scientific method to develop a question, collect and analyze data, and present the findings in formal lab reports. The students will also be required to do a major project each semester. These projects require outside-of-class research-based activities. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Science courses and testing offered at the junior and senior levels.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

SOCIAL STUDIES

Course: TEXAS HISTORY

Description: Texas History is the study of the history of Texas from prehistory to the present. Historical content is integrated with the study of geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science, technology, and society, as well as social studies skills. Students will use both primary and secondary sources to acquire information about Texas.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: PRE-AP TEXAS HISTORY

Description: PreAP Texas History is the study of the history of Texas from prehistory to the present. Content is presented with more depth and breadth than in Texas History, with an emphasis on writing, and analytical skills. Students will use both primary and secondary sources to acquire information about Texas. Outside reading and research are required. Projects require student initiative and time management out-of-class. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Social Studies courses and testing offered at the high school level.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: AMERICAN HISTORY

Description: American History is the study of the U.S. from the early colonial period to Reconstruction (1877). This is the first part of a two-year study of American History. Historical content will be integrated with the study of geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science, technology, and society, as well as social studies skills. Students will use both primary and secondary sources to acquire information about the U.S.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Course: PRE-AP AMERICAN HISTORY

Description: PreAP American History is the study of the history of the U.S. from the early colonial period to Reconstruction (1877). Content is presented with more depth and breadth than the on-level American History with an emphasis on writing and analytical skills. Students will use both primary and secondary sources to acquire information about the U.S. Outside reading and research are required. Students must complete a project for the History Fair, although participation in the History Fair competition is not required. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Social Studies courses and testing offered at the high school level.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Course: PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7

Description: Physical Education offers conditioning, lifetime skills, team and individual sports with a focus upon fundamental instruction and practice in skill techniques of a variety of team and individual sports. Units may include volleyball, basketball, badminton, tennis, archery, floor hockey, Lacrosse, soccer, softball, gymnastics and tumbling.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Course: ATHLETICS 7

Description: Athletics students are expected to maintain grade eligibility for the year and must consistently dress out for class participation. In addition, students must have a physical examination and parent permission. Medical insurance is not required, though strongly recommended. The program includes basketball, football, and volleyball. **All students are expected to participate in at least one sport.**

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7

Special Note: Students who will be participating in only track, cross country, and/or tennis will not sign up for athletics. These sports are before or after school. Students will need to register for P.E.

Course: PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8

Description: Physical Education offers conditioning, lifetime skills, team and individual sports with a focus upon fundamental instruction and practice in skill techniques of a variety of team and individual sports. Units may include volleyball, basketball, badminton, tennis, archery, floor hockey, Lacrosse, soccer, softball, gymnastics and tumbling.

Semester or Full Year Grade Placement: 8

Course: ATHLETICS 8

Description: Athletics students are expected to maintain grade eligibility for the year and must consistently dress out for class participation. In addition, students must have physical examination and parent permission. Medical insurance is not required, though strongly recommended. The program includes basketball, football, and volleyball. **All students are expected to participate in at least one sport.**

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisites: Participants must have successfully completed one sport in the 7th grade Athletics and be recommended by their 7th grade Athletics P.E. teacher

Special Note: Students who will be participating in only track, cross country, and/or tennis will not sign up for athletics. These sports are before or after school. Students will need to register for P.E.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Course: COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY 7

Description: Computer Technology incorporates technology applications, which consists of four strands: foundations, information acquisition, solving problems, and communication. Students build upon their elementary technology applications knowledge and will learn and improve word processing, database, spreadsheets, multimedia presentations, desktop publishing, keyboarding, and telecommunications skills.

Semester Course **Grade Placement: 7**

Course: COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY 8

Description: Computer Technology is designed so that students learn to make informed decisions about technologies and their applications through the study of technology applications foundations, including concepts, technology-related terms, and data input strategies. This course emphasizes a project-based approach in which students create products to solve real-world and relevant problems across the content areas. Students will use a variety of technology tools that support the work of individuals and/or groups in solving problems. Students will select the technology appropriate for the task, synthesize knowledge, create a solution, and evaluate the results. Projects will reinforce and enhance the students' understanding of the seventh grade computer curriculum and will better prepare students to specialize in one or more of the Technology Applications courses in high school.

Semester Course **Grade Placement: 8**

ELECTIVES

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Course: CAREER PORTALS: HUMAN SCIENCES I (Formerly known as Skills for Living I)

Description: Career Portals: Human Sciences I is designed to introduce a broad range of knowledge and skills related to personal development and management, promotion of strong families and preparation for adult roles. Content includes a focus on interpersonal skills, decision making, promotion of family strengths and well-being, developing relationships with peers, child development and care, nutrition and dietary practices, food selection and prep methods, and budgeting and consumer-buying practices. Also included are lessons on the influences of societal and technological changes, career options and the management of multiple family, community and career roles. All studies will be career-related and presented from a career investigation perspective.

Semester Course **Grade Placement: 7 and 8**

Special Note: Some projects may require a student fee for the purchase of special materials.

Course: CAREER PORTALS: HUMAN SCIENCES II (Formerly known as Skills for Living II)

Description: Career Portals: Human Sciences II provides an opportunity for students to continue the study from the previous course. Many of the topics that are of interest to today's students are covered, such as Interior Design/Architecture, Child Development from preschool through elementary, Marketplace and Consumer Skills, and Career Exploration. Software such as 3-D Architect and Occupational Outlook Handbook will be used to encourage creativity and thoughtful consideration with regard to future career possibilities and the educational background each field requires. Field trips and guest speakers will be incorporated.

Semester Course **Grade Placement: 8** **Prerequisite: Human Sciences I**

Special Note: Some projects may require a student fee for the purchase of special materials.

Course: CAREER PORTALS: MANUFACTURING I (Formerly known as Technology Education I)

Description: Career Portals: Manufacturing I is an introductory course in which students explore valid, reliable educational and career information to learn more about themselves and their interests and abilities. Students utilize skills from academic subjects, information technology and interpersonal communication to make informed decisions. Using hands-on problem solving and creative activities, students develop a better understanding of technology and its impact. Activities may include designing and making products, assessing technology, constructing scale models, using computers, investigating energy, and using both hand and power tools. .

Semester Course Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Special Note: Some projects may require a student fee for the purchase of special materials.

Course: CAREER PORTALS: MANUFACTURING II (Formerly known as Technology Education II)

Description: Career Portals: Manufacturing II offers the student the opportunity to extend knowledge and skills learned in Manufacturing I course.

Semester Course Grade Placement: 8 Prerequisite: Manufacturing I

Special Note: Some projects may require a student fee for the purchase of special materials.

Course: EXPLORING CAREERS (Formerly known as Career Investigation)

Description: Exploring Careers is designed to guide students through the process of investigating and developing a college and/or career achievement plan. Students will use interest inventory software or other tools to explore areas of personal interest.

Semester Course Grade Placement: 7 and 8

FINE ARTS

Course: ART 7 - 8

Description: Art 7 - 8 is an introductory course that familiarizes students with various mediums and techniques while focusing on the elements of art and the principles of design. Drawing and painting with several materials is experienced while fibers and clay are used in three-dimensional form.

Semester Course Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Special Notes: Students will have a supply list to purchase and some projects may require a supply fee for special materials.

Course: ART 8

Description: Art 8 is an extension of Art 7-8 and is designed for students who wish to expand their art experience and who seek a greater artistic challenge. Art 8 students will complete work in painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpting, and fibers. The course emphasizes artistic composition, color knowledge, and technical discipline.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8 Prerequisite: Art 7 - 8

Special Notes: Students will have a supply list to purchase and some projects may require a supply fee for special materials.

Course: BAND

Description: Band focuses on the development and refinement of skills introduced in earlier years. Proper instrument technique, music theory and creative self-expression are included. Preparation for and participation in UIL competition and concerts are required. Emphasis is placed on gaining interest in and preparation for upper level band classes. Many individual and group band activities are planned such as Region Band, Solo & Ensemble, football games, and a spring trip as well as other concerts. Placement into Concert, Symphonic and Honors band is based upon student's ability and band director's approval. There are three performing bands at the middle school: Concert, Symphonic, and Honors. Placement is based upon student ability and director approval.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisites: Band 7: 6th grade Band or director approval

Band 8: 7th grade Band

Special Notes: Students who utilize instruments owned by BISD will be charged a district instrument usage fee of \$30/semester. A fee may also be required for the purchase of special materials, such as a Band T-shirt.

Course: CHOIR

Description: Choir students will learn the techniques of correct vocal training in order to develop and strengthen the singing voice. The basics of sight-reading and music theory are also taught. Members of the choir will participate in concerts, festivals and UIL competitions. They will also have the opportunity to sing in the UIL Solo and Ensemble competition. This is a wonderful opportunity to participate in individual and group performances and competitions, develop vocal skills and musical knowledge – all in a positive, supportive environment.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Special Note: Students are required to purchase a uniform for \$60.

Course: ORCHESTRA

Description: Orchestra is open to all students who play orchestral instruments (violin, viola, cello, and string bass). It is performance oriented with a goal of improving the individual and group playing skills of its class members. Music played will vary from traditional pieces to contemporary selections. In addition to orchestra performances students will be encouraged to participate in solo and/or small ensemble events. An audition/conference with the director is necessary for admission to the class. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is required.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisites: Orchestra 7: 6th grade Strings or Director approval

Orchestra 8: 7th grade Orchestra

Special Notes: Students who utilize instruments owned by BISD will be charged a district instrument usage fee of \$30/semester. A fee may also be required for the purchase of special materials, such as an Orchestra T-shirt.

Course: TECHNICAL THEATER

Description: Technical Theater focuses on the technical elements of theatre. Students will study costume design, publicity design, sound design, stage lighting and scenic design. Students will also read scripts and create a complete production design.

Semester Course Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Course: THEATER ARTS 7 - 8

Description: Theatre Arts is an introduction to theatre with a focus on helping the performer build confidence and skills in using the body and voice in creative communication. Students will participate in voice and diction development, theatre games, pantomime, and a variety of performances.

Semester Course Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Course: THEATER ARTS 8 (Advanced Theatre)

Description: Theatre Arts 8 focuses on the production of both published and student-created scenes and plays through all phases of production. Students will read and analyze scripts, study techniques of acting and directing, construct costumes and props, plan lighting and sound effects, publicize performances, and perform scripted plays. This course develops the student's ability to make artistic decisions while setting and meeting realistic goals and deadlines. This course provides the student with a comprehensive knowledge of formal play production.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisites: Technical Theater or Theater Arts 7-8

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Course: INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH

Description: Introduction to Spanish provides a foundation that will help to make language acquisition a natural, personalized, enjoyable, and rewarding experience. Spanish vocabulary, culture, and geography are the focus of the course. Historical topics and current events are also discussed. **This course is not a prerequisite for Spanish I.**

Semester Course Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Course: SPANISH I

Description: Spanish I is the first course of a recommended high school three-year sequence designed to develop the fundamental language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The emphasis of Spanish I is the development of oral language. The study of introductory vocabulary, phonetics, and grammar are included. The culture and civilization of the Spanish-speaking world is integrated into all aspects of the course. The rigor and pace of the Spanish I course content are commensurate with the high school level curriculum.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8

Special Note: Successful completion of this course earns one credit of foreign language for high school graduation.

Course: PRE-AP SPANISH I

Description: PreAP Spanish I exceeds the on-level Spanish I requirements by including many independent activities involving performance in the language. Students will refine skills through exposure to an enriched and accelerated curriculum.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 7* or 8

***7th grade students must have completed an elementary Dual Language program or be a Native Speaker**

Special Notes: Successful completion of this course earns one credit of foreign language for high school graduation.

OTHER

Course: STUDENT AIDE

Description: Student Aides are assigned to the library, office or to a teacher to assist with various clerical tasks.

Semester Course Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisites: Excellent academic and citizenship grades, application, and parent and administrator approval

Course: YEARBOOK

Description: Campus Yearbook is based on established principles of writing in journalism while incorporating the creative process. Students learn the basic concepts of journalism by conducting interviews, writing copy, designing layouts and composing photographs to produce the school yearbook. Students create the yearbook with the aid of computer software. The course works as a business with students responsible for the financial planning, photography, writing, organization, and layout deadlines.

Full Year Course Grade Placement: 8 Prerequisites: Application and two teacher references

PRE-AP LEVEL COURSE AGREEMENT - SAMPLE

Pre-Advanced Placement courses challenge and enrich motivated students to expand their education beyond the typical middle school program. PreAP coursework develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for college-level work in Advanced Placement (AP) courses at the high school level and on the Advanced Placement exams. Success requires the student's commitment to the expectations of an advanced level program.

Students will be expected to:

- Demonstrate a strong work ethic
- Budget time effectively and efficiently, develop successful study skills
- Commit to a daily academic action plan
- Analyze, synthesize and manipulate knowledge and skills; think critically
- Come to school early and/or stay late in order to attend needed tutoring
- Engage in technology-assisted research and/or communications; increase advanced content area vocabulary; build portfolios, if applicable
- Utilize community and industry as resources in research projects, if applicable
- Sign this agreement supporting the PreAP programs and expectations

PLACEMENT REVIEW: The teacher may recommend that a student be changed into a regular class if that student is encountering great difficulty with the rigorous course content. The teacher will expect a positive attitude about scholarship and assignments. A parent-teacher-counselor communication is required prior to withdrawal from the course. Students must also have attended tutoring with the teacher on a regular basis. **A recommended change may occur only at one of the following times: between the 4th-6th weeks of school or at the end of the 1st semester.**

HONOR CODE: All students will be expected to do their own work and exhibit academic honesty.

SUCCESS REQUIRES SUPPORT FROM ALL STAKEHOLDERS: STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS.

STUDENT: I agree to organize my time and effort to successfully complete the rigorous work in the course(s). I have read the course description(s) and agree to the college preparatory or college level requirements of the class(es). I understand that I may need to attend tutoring, as needed.

PARENT(S): I understand the rigorous course requirements and agree to help my son/daughter organize study time in support of class assignments and requirements. I will notify the teacher immediately of any concern I have relating to the PreAP class(es). I understand that my son/daughter may need to attend tutoring.

TEACHER(S): The teacher will conduct the course(s) at a college preparatory pace appropriate to the grade level and BISSD curricula. Students and parents will be notified in a timely fashion if student work and/or assessments are unsatisfactory. The teacher will be available for tutoring.

The course(s) listed below are ones to which the student and parent agree to commit. The student may enroll in any PreAP course(s) provided the student and parent agree to the commitment on this form. Students are encouraged to take as many rigorous courses as they can handle. **Please consider carefully the time and academic requirements for both academic and extracurricular commitments.**

PreAP Course Title

I agree to commit the time and effort required for the rigorous courses. I understand that I may need to attend tutoring on a regular basis.

Student's Signature: _____ **Parent's Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

For questions about this agreement, call the counselor at your campus.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSE SEQUENCE PATHWAYS

Grade	Pathway A German or Spanish for Non-Native Speakers	Pathway B Spanish for Non-Native Speakers	Pathway C Spanish for Native Speakers and Dual Language
6			Dual Language Program
7		Intro. to Spanish*	PreAP Spanish I or PreAP Spanish for Spanish Speakers I
8		Intro. to Spanish* or Spanish I or PreAP Spanish I	PreAP Spanish II or PreAP Spanish for Spanish Speakers II
9	Spanish I or PreAP Spanish I German I	Spanish I or PreAP Spanish I or Spanish II or PreAP Spanish II	PreAP Spanish III or PreAP Spanish for Spanish Speakers III (TBD)
10	Spanish II or PreAP Spanish II German II	Spanish II or PreAP Spanish II or Spanish III or PreAP Spanish III	AP Spanish IV Language
11	Spanish III or PreAP Spanish III German III PreAP	Spanish III or PreAP Spanish III or AP Spanish IV Language	AP Spanish V Literature
12	AP Spanish IV Language AP German IV Language	AP Spanish IV Language or AP Spanish IV Literature	Spanish VI

Notes

*Introduction to Spanish is a semester course and *is not* a prerequisite for Spanish I. Scheduling of this class for 7th and/or 8th grade students is based upon student enrollment and staffing levels.

- Recommended Diploma: Must consist of any two levels in the same language
- Distinguished Achievement Diploma: Must consist of any three levels in the same language

MATHEMATICS COURSE SEQUENCE PATHWAYS

Grade Level	Pathway A	Pathway B	Pathway C	Pathway D	Pathway E
6	Math 6	Math 6	PreAP Math 6	PreAP Math 6	PreAP Math 6 and EXCEL Math Institute in summer
7	Math 7	Math 7	PreAP Math 7	PreAP Math 7	PreAP Algebra I
8	Math 8	Math 8	PreAP Algebra I	PreAP Algebra I	PreAP Geometry
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra I Algebra I with Lab 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra I Algebra I with Lab 	PreAP Geometry	PreAP Geometry	PreAP Algebra II
10	Geometry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geometry Geometry and Math Models with Apps 	PreAP Algebra II	PreAP Algebra II	PreAP PreCalculus
11	Math Models with Applications	Algebra II	*AP Statistics	PreAP PreCalculus	*AP Calculus AB *AP Calculus BC *AP Statistics
12	Algebra II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent Study of Mathematics * Dual Credit College Algebra Pre-Calculus *AP Statistics 	PreAP PreCalculus	*AP Calculus AB *AP Calculus BC *AP Statistics	*AP Calculus AB *AP Calculus BC *AP Statistics

Notes

- *Indicates college courses for which students may receive college credit based on successful completion of course and/or AP scores of 3, 4, or 5 (at most universities).
- PreCalculus and AP Statistics may be taken concurrently, as successful completion of Algebra II is the prerequisite for each.
- Traditional: Pathways A-B One Year Acceleration: Pathways C-D Two Year Acceleration: Pathway E**

BOERNE ISD HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Graduation Requirements for Students Entering 9th Grade in 2010-2011 & Thereafter

The default graduation plan for ALL BISD students is the Recommended High School Program.

Courses	Minimum*	Recommended	Distinguished***
English Language Arts	4 credits	4 credits	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits	4 credits	4 credits
Science	2 credits^	4 credits	4 credits
Social Studies	2 ½ credits^	3 ½ credits	3 ½ credits
Economics	½ credit	½ credit	½ credit
Languages other than English	None	2 credits	3 credits
Fine Arts	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit
Health Education**	½ credit**	½ credit**	½ credit**
Physical Education	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit
SAT/ACT/Accuplacer Prep**	None	½ credit**	½ credit**
Speech	½ credit	½ credit	½ credit
Technology Applications**	1 credit**	1 credit**	1 credit**
Academic Electives^	1 credit	None	None
Additional State Electives	5 credits	4 credits	3 credits
Total	22 credits	26 ½ credits	26 ½ credits

*In order to opt into the Minimum HSP must: (1) be at least 16 years of age, **or** (2) have completed two credits required for graduation in each subject of the foundation curriculum; **or** (3) have failed to be promoted to the tenth grade one or more times. SBOE rule also allows special education students to be placed in the Minimum program if their Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee places the student "on a modified curriculum in a subject area." Minimum HSP graduates are not eligible to attend a four-year college upon graduation from high school.

**Indicates BISD local graduation requirements: ½ credit Health, ½ credit SAT/ACT/Accuplacer Prep (except for Minimum Plan), and 1 credit Technology.

***Four advanced measures are required to graduate on the Distinguished Achievement Plan: National recognition on the PSAT (1 measure maximum); original research/project (2 measures maximum); and performance on AP exams or grades in college credit courses (4 measures maximum). See your counselor for specific requirements.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are offered in many content areas at the high school level. These courses are extremely rigorous as they are college level courses which follow a college curriculum approved by the College Board. Students taking these courses are expected to take the AP tests offered in the spring. These tests have additional fees paid by the students. The district may provide a reduced fee for these tests when funding is available. Students scoring a 3, 4, or 5 on one or more of these tests may gain some college credit. Students should consult specific colleges/universities to verify accepted AP scores and tests.

TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE

The Texas Success Initiative is a state-legislated program designed to improve student success in college. Students entering college must meet the College Readiness Standards to be eligible for college-level courses in Math, Reading and Writing. Students must take developmental courses when they enter college in any subject(s) where they do not meet the standard as defined below.

TEST	Math Exemption	Reading Exemption	Writing Exemption
TAKS – EXIT LEVEL*	2200	2200	3
SAT <i>Note: The SAT Composite is the total of Math and Reading</i>	500 Math & Composite 1070	500 Reading & Composite 1070	500 Reading & Composite 1070
ACT <i>Note: The ACT Composite is the Average of Math and Reading scores</i>	19 Math & Composite 23	19 Reading & Composite 23	19 Reading & Composite 23

Students not meeting an exemption score on any one of the above tests may be required to take a placement exam, such as Accuplacer, Asset, Compass, or THEA. More information is provided as students enter high school.

High School TAKS tests will be replaced with End-of-Course assessments beginning with students who enter 9th grade in 2011-2012.

TEXAS VIRTUAL SCHOOL NETWORK – TxVSN

During the 80th Texas Legislative Session, Senate Bill 1788 established a state virtual school network to provide online courses for Texas students, and the 81st Texas Legislature provided funding for electronic courses provided by the TxVSN in House Bill 3646.

The courses for grades 9-12 are aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) as well as the National Standards of Quality for Online Courses (iNACOL). All courses offered through the TxVSN are provided by public school districts, open-enrollment charter schools, institutions of higher education, or education service centers. All high school courses are taught by an instructor that is Texas-certified in the course subject area and grade level. In addition, instructors have completed a TxVSN-approved professional development on effective online instruction.

As online academic opportunities become increasingly available to Texas students, and in response to inquiries from TxVSN Receiver districts, the University Interscholastic League (UIL) determined that an online course taken through TxVSN through a student's local high school is to be included when considering a student's eligibility under "No Pass, No Play."

TxVSN options include courses not currently offered in the traditional setting, such as Astronomy as a 4th science, French I, Latin I, or Driver's Education. Students interested in learning more about online course offerings through TxVSN should contact the school counselor or visit the following web site: www.txvsn.org.

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CAREER CLUSTERS

As students plan for their futures, they should consider which career pathway or cluster they wish to explore while in high school. Texas Education Agency through the Achieve Texas program recommends the following career clusters for students to pick from as a career path that will lead to post-secondary decisions. **Boerne ISD offers CTE high school courses in the following clusters: Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources, Architecture & Construction, Arts, A/V Technology & Communications, Business Management & Administration, Education & Training, Finance, Health Science, Human Services, Information Technology, Manufacturing, and Transportation Distribution & Logistics.**

	The production, processing, marketing, distribution, financing, and development of agricultural commodities and resources including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products/resources.
	Careers in designing, planning, managing, building and maintaining the built environment
	Designing, producing, exhibiting, performing, writing, and publishing multimedia content including visual and performing arts and design, journalism, and entertainment services.
	Business Management and Administration careers encompass planning, organizing, directing and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations. Business Management and Administration career opportunities are available in every sector of the economy.
	Planning, managing and providing education and training services, and related learning support services.
	Planning, services for financial and investment planning, banking, insurance, and business financial management.
	Executing governmental functions to include Governance; National Security; Foreign Service; Planning; Revenue and Taxation; Regulation; and Management and Administration at the local, state, and federal levels.
	Planning, managing, and providing therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development.
	Hospitality & Tourism encompasses the management, marketing and operations of restaurants and other foodservices, lodging, attractions, recreation events and travel related services.
	Preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs.
	Building Linkages in IT Occupations Framework: For Entry Level, Technical, and Professional Careers Related to the Design, Development, Support and Management of Hardware, Software, Multimedia, and Systems Integration Services.
	Planning, managing, and providing legal, public safety, protective services and homeland security, including professional and technical support services.
	Planning, managing and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products and related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering.
	Planning, managing, and performing marketing activities to reach organizational objectives.
	Planning, managing, and providing scientific research and professional and technical services (e.g., physical science, social science, engineering) including laboratory and testing services, and research and development services.
	Planning, management, and movement of people, materials, and goods by road, pipeline, air, rail and water and related professional and technical support services such as transportation infrastructure planning and management, logistics services, mobile equipment and facility maintenance.