

# Hallsville Jr. High School

## Grades 6-8



### Course Guide

### 2020-2021

Excellence in Education



# HALLSVILLE JR. HIGH

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Students and Parents,

Welcome to Hallsville Jr. High!

This course selection guide has been developed to provide you with information that will help in making decisions that affect your high school career. At HJH you will begin taking classes that will be recorded on your high school transcript and classes that will influence the courses you take in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade. We are here to help guide you as you discover new things about yourself and your talents.

We are extremely excited to share this journey with you. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. It is our desire to ensure that you and your child have a successful junior high experience.

Sincerely,

James Gibson, Principal

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## HJH Contact Information

### Campus Administration

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### Campus Counselors

Counselor	Carolyn Cole	Ext. 2014	ccole@hisd.com
Counselor	Jennifer Roberts	Ext. 2063	jroberts2@hisd.com



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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### ATTENDANCE

Under House Bill 5 all students in kindergarten through grade 12 must be in attendance 90% of the days a class is offered to receive credit for that class.

Both excused and unexcused absences count against the 90%.

Students missing more than 10% of the days a class is offered will not receive credit and may not be promoted to the next grade level.

### CREDITS

At HJH our school year is divided into two semesters.

All students are required to have 8 credits per year.

- A course that lasts 1 semester is worth 0.5 credit.
- A course that lasts 2 semesters (full year) is worth 1.0 credit.

Courses that transfer as a high school credit (and are calculated in the GPA) are:

- Pre-AP Algebra I
- Pre-AP Spanish I

Courses that transfer as a high school credit (but are not calculated in the GPA) are:

- Health
- Touch Systems/Data Entry

### DATA MANAGEMENT - SKYWARD

Information about your student's attendance, tardies, grades, current schedule, and behavior records can be accessed through our student data management system, Skyward. A link can be found at [www.hisd.com](http://www.hisd.com)

### PRE-AP COURSES

Through Pre-Advanced Placement courses, advanced instruction is provided for students who have demonstrated a desire to experience more rigorous course content. Enrollment in these classes is open to students who will commit to do the advanced work and study that is required. It is a REQUIREMENT for students in Pre-AP classes to be passing the course at the end of the first semester in order to remain in the class.

### SCHEDULE CHANGE REQUESTS

Students and parents are given an opportunity to make change requests in elective course selections the first week of school and the first week of the second semester (for new electives only). Please contact your student's counselor. There will be no changes after that time.

## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR PRE-AP COURSES

The following expectations are required for a student in the rigorous Pre-AP courses offered at Hallsville Jr. High School. They are:

- Students must pass the most current STAAR in ALL content areas.
- It is recommended that students achieve “Master” level on STAAR in the content area of Pre-AP interest.
- If a student is moving from an “on-level” class to a Pre-AP class, a minimum grade of 90 is recommended. This grade will help insure success at a more rigorous pace and content.
- Summer work is a requirement for Pre-AP Algebra I and Pre-AP Spanish I. The summer assignments are due the first day of class after the summer break and will be graded and/or tested in some format.
- A high degree of academic rigor is expected in every Pre-AP course. Consequently, grades are affected. Students must recognize that challenging coursework can result in lower grades if class expectations are not met.
- Students that fall below an 80% on a progress report will be put on “probation” and parent contact will be made.
- Pre-AP courses offered at HJH are:
  - ELA 6, 7, 8
  - Math, 6, 7
  - Science 6, 7, 8
  - History 6, 7, 8
- Pre-AP courses offered for High School Credit are:
  - Pre-AP Algebra I\*
  - Pre-AP Spanish I\*

When deciding on the level of mathematics your child should take, consider the following pathway. Please be sure your student can handle the extra demands of these courses.

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th`	11th	12th
Course	Pre-AP	Pre-AP	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Cal	Calculus AB, Calculus BC or Stats
Curriculum	all 6th & ½ 7th	½ 7th & all 8th	Algebra I (High School Credit)	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Cal	Calculus AB, Calculus BC or Stats
Testing	6th STAAR	7th STAAR	Algebra 1 EOC (must pass for to graduate)	-- -	Algebra II EOC	-- -	AP Exams

# Hallsville Junior High

## SAMPLE Pre-AP Contract 2020-21

\*\*\*This is on the back of your course selection sheet\*\*\*

### Honor Code

All students will be expected to do their own work. Occasionally, students will be given projects or exams that must be completed outside of class. If a student breaks this code, the student may be removed from the course.

### 6<sup>TH</sup> Grade Students

Please check the Pre-AP course(s) that you desire to take this year.

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP English Language Arts 6

\*Prerequisite: meets or masters level on most recent STAAR

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP Math 6

\*Prerequisite: meets or masters level on most recent STAAR

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP Science 6

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP Social Studies 6

### 7<sup>TH</sup> Grade Students

Please check the Pre-AP course(s) that you desire to take this year.

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP Reading and Writing 7

\*Prerequisite: meets or masters level on most recent STAAR

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP Math 7

\*Prerequisite: Pre-AP Math 6

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP Science 7

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP Texas History

### 8<sup>TH</sup> Grade Students

Please check the Pre-AP course(s) that you desire to take this year.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pre-AP English Language Arts 8

\*Prerequisite: meets or masters level on most recent Reading and Writing STAAR

\_\_\_\_\_ Pre-AP Algebra 1

\*Prerequisite: Pre-AP Math 7 and completion of summer work

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP Science 8

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP US History 8

\_\_\_\_\_ PreAP Spanish 1 \*Prerequisite

#### Student Agreement

I have read the guidelines and expectations for Pre-AP courses. I agree to organize my time and efforts to meet the academic challenges of the course(s). I will notify the teacher immediately if I fall behind in class readings or assignments.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

#### Parent Agreement

I have read the guidelines and expectations for Pre-AP courses and agree to support and encourage my son/daughter in his/her endeavors in the course(s). I will help my son/daughter organize study time and will notify the teacher immediately of any concerns I have relating to the Pre-AP class or my child's progress.

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

# 6th Grade





## 6th Grade Schedules

### REQUIRED - 8 Credits

Course	Credits	Level(s) Available
ELA	2	On Level or PreAP
Math	2	On Level or PreAP
Fine Art	1	Band, Choir, Art, Computer/Graphic Design, or Theater
Physical Education	1	PE or Pre-Athletics
Science	1	On Level or PreAP
Social Studies	1	On Level or PreAP

### ELECTIVES - 1 Credit

Course	Credits
UIL Math/Science (Student Data Sheet Required) If chosen, this will replace your Fine Arts elective	1.0

# 6th Grade

## Course Descriptions

### Required Courses

Choose a level for each subject

#### English Language Arts - 2 Credits

##### On Level English Language Arts 6

Students will focus on the thinking required to make meaning of genres from a variety of media as well as craft communication effectively (orally, in writing, or multimedia), adjusting for purpose and audience. Students reflect on their own reading and writing processes throughout the year. The foundation of research and asking good questions guides the development of student inquiry.

##### Pre-AP English Language Arts 6:

Prerequisite: Meets or Masters level on most recent Reading STAAR assessment

Pre-AP English Language Arts 6 expands the academic capacity of all students through systematic skill development in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Media Literacy. Students learn through participation and active engagement with English language arts concepts that stretch and inspire thinking. Explicitly taught learning strategies enhance student's sense of independence and mastery so they develop confidence in their ability to succeed as readers and writers. This program engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. The Pre-AP English Language Arts program is designed to support and prepare students for high school AP English courses and the AP English Literature and Composition exams.

#### Math - 2 Credits

##### On Level Math 6:

The primary focal areas in Grade 6 are number and operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, and relationships; and measurement and data. While the use of all types of technology is important, the emphasis on algebra readiness skills necessitates the implementation of graphing technology.

##### Pre-AP Math 6:

Prerequisite: Meets or Masters level on most recent math STAAR

Pre-AP Math 6 provides students with a course designed to prepare them for Pre-AP Algebra I and other rigorous advanced coursework in the future. In addition to the primary focal points of using ratios to describe direct proportional relationships involving number, geometry, measurement, probability, and adding and subtracting decimals and fractions, the curriculum will include a rigorous problem solving component. Students should expect an additional time requirement and be willing to work independently. Through curriculum compacting, students will learn all 6<sup>th</sup> and half of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade math standards during this course. Because of this curriculum, students will take the 6<sup>th</sup> grade STAAR state assessment as 6<sup>th</sup> graders. In addition, students will be on track to learn the remaining 7<sup>th</sup> grade math standards all 8<sup>th</sup> grade math standards as 7<sup>th</sup> graders to prepare them for taking Algebra 1 Pre-AP in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.

## Science 6 - 1 Credit

### On Level Science 6

The strands for Grade 6 include:

- A. Scientific investigation and reasoning- allows students to develop a rich knowledge of science in the natural world by becoming familiar with modes scientific of inquiry and the diverse ways scientists study the natural world.
- B. Matter and energy- students concentrate on developing an understanding of elements and compounds.
- C. Force, motion, and energy- students will investigate the types of energy as well as the relationship between force and motion through a variety of means; including calculations and measurements.
- D. Earth and space- students will develop an understanding of Earth's processes, the way our solar system is organized, the role of gravity, and space exploration.
- E. Organisms and environments- students will gain an understanding of the broadest taxonomic classifications of organisms, the interdependence between organisms and their environments, and levels of organization within an ecosystem.

### PreAP Science 6:

In addition to the objectives outlined in on level course, advanced courses are differentiated through a combination of the following: Students will be challenged by the depth of content presentation, greater student responsibility for his/her learning, slightly faster pacing, greater complexity of thought, and development of higher-level cognitive understanding.

PreAP Science 6 curriculum also includes a wide variety of content-focused laboratory investigations as well as a strong emphasis on expository writing in the form of essays. In addition, a science fair project is also required.

## Social Studies 6 - 1 Credit

### On Level Social Studies:

In Grade 6, students study people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. Societies for study are from the following regions of the world: Europe, Russia and the Eurasian republics, North America, Central America and the Caribbean, South America, Southwest Asia-North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, and the Pacific realm.

### PreAP Social Studies 6:

In addition to what is outlined in regular 6<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies, students will be challenged by the depth of content presentation, greater student responsibility for his/her learning, slightly faster pacing, greater complexity of thought, and development of higher-level cognitive understanding. PreAP Social Studies students will participate in various projects, small group activities, and hands-on activities to further develop their critical thinking skills.

## Physical Education - 1 Credit

### Physical Education 6:

In Grades 6-8, students understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. They learn to use technology such as heart rate monitors to assist in measuring and monitoring their own performance. Identifying the types of activities that provide them with enjoyment and challenge and that will encourage them to be physically active throughout life is reinforced during instruction in these grades. This course will also develop and encourage students to participate in school sponsored athletics.

### Pre-Athletics 6:

In Grades 6-8, students understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. They learn to use technology such as heart rate monitors to assist in measuring and monitoring their own performance. Identifying the types of activities that provide them with enjoyment and challenge and that will encourage them to be physically active throughout life is reinforced during instruction in these grades. This course will also develop and encourage students to participate in school sponsored athletics.

## Fine Art/Elective - 1 Credit

### Beginning Band 6:

This course is designed to teach students the basic fundamentals of band instruments (Brass, Woodwind and Percussion.) The course covers selection and care of instruments, correct playing position, reading music and awareness of rhythm and pitch. Students will be placed into appropriate band classes upon taking an instrument test. Students are expected to practice regularly and will be required to perform in concerts throughout the year. (Instrument arrangements will be made.)

### Choir 6:

Students will be introduced to choral music, basic music theory, and sight singing. Students sing in unison and easy 2-part selections. Students will perform a Christmas program and a Spring program. This course is designed to prepare the student for participation in choir at the 7th and 8th grade levels where students are expected to compete at UIL both as a group and individually.

### Art 6:

Art 6 will emphasize drawing techniques and design principles while studying the elements of art and art history. Students will also have the opportunity to work with paper, clay, collage, acrylic paint, watercolor, pastels, and other media.

### Computer/Graphic Design 6:

This course is designed to emphasize the use of the computer as a tool while students develop knowledge of word processing, spreadsheets, desktop publishing and presentation software. Students will learn computer related terminology and practice keyboarding skills. Students will increase their understanding of digital safety and digital copyright. Students will also be introduced to the fundamentals of digital media creation and design.

### Theater 6:

Theater Arts 6 is designed to introduce the student to the many performing and technical aspects of theater. Acting is introduced through individual and group exercises in improvisational and memorized performances. Basic theatrical knowledge, play reading, and playwriting are emphasized. The primary objective is to develop the student's creativity and self-expression.

UIL Math/Science Team (1 Credit):

Prerequisite: Meets or Masters level on 5<sup>th</sup> grade math STAAR assessment

Coordinator Approval Required

The UIL Math/Science Team prepares students for competition in UIL number sense, calculator applications, general mathematics, and science. Students on the UIL Team are expected to compete at invitational meets held on Saturdays during the months of October through March. This class requires the recommendation and signature of the Math/Science coach.

# 7th Grade



## 7th Grade Schedules

High school credit courses are shown by an asterisk (\*).

### REQUIRED - 6 Credits

Course	Credits	Level(s) Available
ELA - Writing & Reading	2	On Level or PreAP
Math	1	On Level or PreAP
Science	1	On Level or PreAP
Texas History	1	On Level or PreAP
Physical Education	1	PE, Athletics, Band, Tennis

### ELECTIVES - Choose 2 Credits

Course	Credits
Art	0.5
Speech	0.5
Spanish A	0.5
College & Career Readiness	0.5
Intro to Theatre	0.5
Band	1
Beginner Band	1
Choir (Girls or Boys)	1
Yearbook ( Student Data Sheet Required)	1
UIL Math/Science ( Student Data Sheet Required)	1
For High School Credit - Not Calculated in GPA*	
Health*	0.5

# 7th Grade Course Descriptions

## Required Courses

Choose a level for each subject

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS - 2 CREDITS

#### On Level Reading & Writing 7

Students are provided opportunities to increase and refine their literary skills through: reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Throughout the year, special emphasis is placed on vocabulary building, critical thinking, and reading comprehension. Students will continue to improve reading skills as they are exposed to a wide variety of literary and informative texts.

Students cultivate their skills in oral and written communication in order to create a variety of detailed, well organized compositions using conventions in conjunction with revising and editing processes. Critical thinking skills are developed as reading and writing align to strengthen both areas of development in reading and writing comprehension.

#### Pre-AP Reading & Writing 7

Prerequisite: Meets or Masters level on most recent Reading STAAR assessment

These rigorous courses are recommended for students who achieve advanced scores on STAAR reading tests, have a love of reading and writing, and a strong work ethic. Students will experience the 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA curriculum with an emphasis on developing critical thinking and analysis of the style of selected authors and works through required reading, discussions, essays, and exams. In addition, these courses include summer reading/writing components. This Springboard PreAP course in English Language and Composition is used and designed to support and prepare students for high school AP English courses and the AP English Literature and Composition exams.

### MATH - 1 CREDIT

#### Math 7

The primary focal areas in Grade 7 are number and operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, and relationships; and measurement and data. While the use of all types of technology is important, the emphasis on algebra readiness skills necessitates the implementation of graphing technology.

#### Pre-AP Math 7

Prerequisite: Pre-AP Math 6

Pre-AP 7 Math provides capable students with a course designed to prepare them for Pre-AP Algebra I and other rigorous advanced coursework in the future. In addition to the primary focal points of using 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, the curriculum will include a rigorous problem solving component. Students should expect an additional time requirement and be willing to work independently. Students will complete the remaining 7<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum not completed in PreAP 6<sup>th</sup> grade math in addition to ALL 8<sup>th</sup> grade coursework. Students will be responsible for taking the 8<sup>th</sup> grade math STAAR as 7<sup>th</sup> graders.



## SCIENCE - 1 CREDIT

### Science 7

The strands for Grade 7 include:

\*Scientific investigation and reasoning- allows students to develop a rich knowledge of science in the natural world by becoming familiar with modes scientific of inquiry and the diverse ways scientists study the natural world.

\*Matter and energy- students concentrate on developing an understanding of how matter and energy are conserved throughout living systems.

\* Force, motion, and energy- students will investigate the ways in which force, motion, and energy are observed in living systems and the environment.

\* Earth and space- students will explore the ways in which both natural events and human activities can impact Earth systems and the characteristics of Earth and relationships to objects in our solar system that allow life to exist.

\* Organisms and environments- students will understand that living organisms are made up of smaller units called cells, the relationship between living organisms and their environment, and how all organisms obtain energy, get rid of wastes, grow, and reproduce.

### Pre-AP Science 7

PreAP Science provides capable students with skills designed to prepare them for the rigor and depth of an Advanced Placement program. In addition to the strand outlined in on level courses, advanced courses are differentiated through a combination of the following: \*the depth of content presentation

\*greater student responsibility for his/her learning

\*slightly faster pacing

\*greater complexity of thought

\*development of higher-level cognitive understanding, as demonstrated through discussion and essay writing PreAP Science 7 curriculum also includes a wide variety of content-focused laboratory investigations as well as a strong emphasis on expository writing in the form of lab reports.

## TEXAS HISTORY - 1 CREDIT

### Texas History 7

In Grade 7, students study the history of Texas from early times to the present. Content is presented with more depth and breadth than in Grade 4. Students examine the full scope of Texas history, including Natural Texas and its People; Age of Contact; Spanish Colonial; Mexican National; Revolution and Republic; Early Statehood; Texas in the Civil War and Reconstruction; Cotton, Cattle, and Railroads; Age of Oil; Texas in the Great Depression and World War II; Civil Rights and Conservatism; and Contemporary Texas eras. The focus in each era is on key individuals, events, and issues and their impact.

### Pre-AP Texas History 7

PreAP Texas History provides students with a more rigorous and in-depth look into the history of our great state. In addition to what is outlined in regular Texas History, students will be challenged by: \*the depth of content presentation

\*greater student responsibility for his/her learning

\*slightly faster pacing

\*greater complexity of thought

\*development of higher-level cognitive understanding

PreAP Texas History students will participate in various projects, small group activities, and hands-on activities to further develop their critical thinking skills.

Elective Courses  
Choose Enough to Equal 2 Credits

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 1 CREDIT**

**Physical Education 7**

In Grades 6-8, students understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. They learn to use technology such as heart rate monitors to assist in measuring and monitoring their own performance. Identifying the types of activities that provide them with enjoyment and challenge and that will encourage them to be physically active throughout life is reinforced during instruction in these grades.

**Athletics 7**

Prerequisite: Physical on file with the HJH nurse and athletic department

Both boys' and girls' athletic programs meet the state requirements for physical education. Practice time for all sports will be during the athletic period and either before or after school. Many games are out of town. Students should be prepared for a significant time commitment to sports. An annual U.I.L. physical form must be completed and on file in the coaches office prior to any student participation in athletics. Athletics is a year-long program for all participants. Students who participate in a fall-only or spring-only sport will participate in an "off season" conditioning program during other points of the year. Schedule changes will not be permitted at the end of a particular sport. Hallsville ISD offers the following competitive sports to junior high school students:

- Football
- Girls Volleyball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Track

Participation in Cross Country will occur exclusively before or after the regular school day.

**Tennis**

Both boys' and girls' tennis meets the state requirements for physical education. Practice time for all sports will be during the athletic period and possibly after school. Many meets are out of town. Students should be prepared for a significant time commitment to sports. An annual U.I.L. physical form must be completed and on file in the coaches office prior to any student participation in athletics. Athletics is a year-long program for all participants.

**FINE ARTS**

**Beginning Band 6/7/8 (1 Credit):**

This course is designed to teach students the basic fundamentals of band instruments (Brass, Woodwind and Percussion.) The course covers selection and care of instruments, correct playing position, reading music and awareness of rhythm and pitch. Students will be placed into appropriate band classes upon taking an instrument test. Students are expected to practice regularly and will be required to perform in concerts throughout the year. (Students are required to purchase their instrument.)

**Band (1 Credit):**

This course is an extension of beginning band. The course covers selection and care of instruments, correct playing position, reading music and awareness of rhythm and pitch. Weekly sectionals are also employed to strengthen instrument skills as music becomes increasingly more difficult.

**Boys Choir (1 Credit):**

Male singers will continue to develop and master vocal technique and sight reading skills learned in previous years.

Students will learn to perform more advanced music. Students will perform in concerts throughout the year, and may have the opportunity to participate in UIL or other music competitions.

**Girls Choir (1 Credit):**

Female singers will continue to develop and master vocal technique and sight reading skills learned in previous years. Students will learn to perform more advanced music. Students will perform in concerts throughout the year, and may have the opportunity to participate in UIL or other music competitions.

**Art (½ Credit):**

Four basic strands--foundations: observation and perception; creative expression; historical and cultural relevance; and critical evaluation and response--provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Each strand is of equal value and may be presented in any order throughout the year. Students rely on personal observations and perceptions, which are developed through increasing visual literacy and sensitivity to surroundings, communities, memories, imaginings, and life experiences, as sources for thinking about, planning, and creating original artworks. Students communicate their thoughts and ideas with innovation and creativity. Through art, students challenge their imaginations, foster critical thinking, collaborate with others, and build reflective skills. While exercising meaningful problem-solving skills, students develop the lifelong ability to make informed judgments.

**Intro to Theatre (½ Credit):**

Four basic strands--foundations: inquiry and understanding; creative expression; historical and cultural relevance; and critical evaluation and response--provide broad, unifying structures for organizing knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. No outside practice will be required.

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

**College and Career Readiness (½ Credit):**

Students will use decision-making and problem-solving skills for college and career planning. Students will explore valid, reliable educational and career information to learn more about themselves and their interests and abilities. Students integrate skills from academic subjects, information technology, and interpersonal communication to make informed decisions. This course is designed to guide students through the process of investigation and in the development of a college and career readiness achievement plan. Students will use interest inventory software or other tools available to explore college and career areas of personal interest. Students will use this information to explore educational requirements for various colleges and a variety of chosen career paths.

## ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

**Spanish A (½ Credit):**

Spanish A begins the development of the basic language skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. This is accomplished through the use of oral drills, vocabulary building, simple composition, reading assignments, dialogue, and creative writing. The course also stresses cultural awareness and understanding of the Spanish-speaking world and its impact on the United States. In this class, we cover the alphabet, greetings, goodbyes, polite words, numbers, days of the week, months of the year, seasons, writing dates, describing people, simple sentences and questions, describing classes, names of classes, and telling time. We also cover some of the history and culture of Spanish-speaking countries, especially Mexico.

Speech (½ Credit):

The speech class will help students gain the skills they will need for presentations in junior high and beyond. Becoming a good speaker requires some instruction and lots of practice, and this class offers plenty of both. During class students will develop confidence and public speaking skills. Some of the skills emphasized will be: organization of material, voice control, audience contact, expressive voice and gestures, and the use of visuals to make a speech/debate more effective.

UIL Math/Science Team (1 Credit):

Coordinator Approval Required

The UIL Math/Science Team prepares students for competition in UIL number sense, calculator applications, general mathematics, and science. Students on the UIL Team are expected to compete at invitational meets held on Saturdays during the months of October through March. This class requires the recommendation and signature of the Math/Science coach.

## HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT ELECTIVES

\*Health Education (½ Credit):

In Health 1, students develop skills that will make them health-literate adults. Students gain a deeper understanding of the knowledge and behaviors they use to safeguard their health, particularly pertaining to health risks. Students are taught how to access accurate information that they can use to promote health for themselves and others. Students use problem-solving, research, goal-setting and communication skills to protect their health and that of the community.

High school credit (.5) will be awarded.

This class is NOT calculated into high school GPA if taken at the junior high level.

\*\*\*Course offerings in the elective areas are subject to change and/or omission due to an insufficient amount of student requests, lack of qualified personnel, or funding. The student will be placed in the next elective choice on the schedule sheet filled out by the student and parent.

# 8th Grade



## 8th Grade Schedules

High school credit courses are shown by an asterisk (\*).

### REQUIRED - 5.5 Credits

Course	Credits	Level(s) Available
Language Arts	2	On Level or PreAP
U.S. History	1	On Level or PreAP
Science	1	On Level or PreAP
Math	1	On Level, Advanced, or PreAP Algebra I*
Touch Systems Data Entry*	0.5	On Level

### ELECTIVES - Choose 2.5 Credits

Course	Credits
Agricultural Business	0.5
Art	0.5
Speech	0.5
Spanish A	0.5
College & Career Readiness	0.5
Student Aide (Student Data Sheet Required)	0.5
HJH Odyssey	0.5
Intro to Theatre	0.5
PE (Girls or Boys) or Athletics (Girls or Boys), Tennis	1
Band	1
Choir (Girls or Boys)	1

Yearbook ( Student Data Sheet Required)	1
UIL Math/Science ( Student Data Sheet Required)	1
For High School Credit (no GPA)*	
Health*	0.5
For High School Credit (with GPA)*	
Pre-AP Spanish I*	1

## 8th Grade Course Descriptions

### Required Courses Choose a level for each subject

#### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS - 2 CREDITS

##### English Language Arts 8

Students will continue to improve their skills in oral and written communication in four basic areas: grammar, spelling, composition and literature. This course is also designed to prepare students for high school English and advanced vocabulary development. Emphasis is placed on correctly using the writing process and using critical thinking skills.

##### PreAP English Language Arts 8

Prerequisite: Meets or Masters level on most recent Reading AND Writing STAAR assessment

The advanced course in English Language Arts and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of non-fiction and prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. This Springboard PreAP course in English Language and Composition is used and designed to support and prepare students for high school AP English courses and the AP English Literature and Composition exams.

#### MATH - 1 CREDIT

##### Math 8

The primary focal areas in Grade 8 are proportionality; expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; and measurement and data. While the use of all types of technology is important, the emphasis on algebra readiness skills necessitates the implementation of graphing technology.

### Advanced Math 8

Prerequisite: Meets or Masters level on most recent Math STAAR

The primary focal areas in Grade 8 mathematics are proportionality, expressions, equations, relationships, foundations of functions, measurement, and data. Students will use geometric properties and relationships, as well as, spatial reasoning to model and analyze situations and solve problems. In Advanced Math 8 the 8th grade math curriculum will often move at a faster pace than Math 8, and the depth and complexity (or rigor) will be increased. In addition, extensions in the Algebra I curriculum will be increased. Upon successful completion of this course, student should be ready to enter Pre-AP Algebra I in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### \*Pre-AP Algebra I

Prerequisite: Pre-AP Math 7 and completion of summer packet

In Pre-AP Algebra I, students will build on the knowledge and skills for mathematics in Grades 6-8, which provide a foundation in linear relationships, number and operations, and proportionality. Students will study linear, quadratic, and exponential functions and their related transformations, equations, and associated solutions. Students will connect functions and their associated solutions in both mathematical and real-world situations. Students will use technology to collect and explore data and analyze statistical relationships. In addition, students will study polynomials of degree one and two, radical expressions, sequences, and laws of exponents. Students will generate and solve linear systems with two equations and two variables and will create new functions through transformations

Please note: This course will require students to take the Algebra 1 End of Course Exam in the Spring of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. In addition, this course will count for high school credit and the grade earned will be applied to high school GPA.

## SCIENCE - 1 CREDIT

### Science 8

The strands for Grade 8 include:

\*Scientific investigation and reasoning- allows students to develop a rich knowledge of science in the natural world by becoming familiar with modes scientific of inquiry and the diverse ways scientists study the natural world.

\*Matter and energy- students recognize that matter is composed of atoms and examine information on the Periodic Table to recognize that elements are grouped into families.

\*Force, motion, and energy- students experiment with the relationship between forces and motion through the study of Newton's three laws and learn how these forces relate to geologic processes and astronomical phenomena.

\*Earth and space- students identify the role of natural events in altering Earth systems, interpret land and erosional features, learn that stars and galaxies are part of the universe, use data to research scientific theories of the origin of the universe and learn how interactions in solar, weather, and ocean systems create changes in weather patterns and climate.

\*Organisms and Environments-students will understand that interdependence occurs among living systems and the environment and that human systems can influence these.

### PreAP Science 8

Advanced Science 8 provides capable students with skills designed to prepare them for the rigor and depth of the Advanced Placement program. In addition to the material outlined in on level courses, PreAP courses are differentiated through a combination of the following:

- \* the depth of content presentation
- \* greater student responsibility for his/her learning
- \* slightly faster pacing
- \* greater complexity of thought
- \* development of higher-level cognitive understanding, as demonstrated through discussion and essay writing

PreAP Science 8 curriculum also includes a wide variety of content-focused laboratory investigations as well as a strong emphasis on expository writing in the form of lab reports.



## US HISTORY - 1 CREDIT

### US History 8:

In Grade 8, students study the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. The knowledge and skills in subsection (b) of this section comprise the first part of a two-year study of U.S. history. The second part, comprising U.S. history from Reconstruction to the present, is provided in §113.41 of this title (relating to United States History Studies Since 1877 (One Credit), Beginning with School Year 2011-2012). The content in Grade 8 builds upon that from Grade 5 but provides more depth and breadth. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, religious, and social events and issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early republic, the Age of Jackson, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction.

### PreAP U.S. History 8:

This course is a journey through the early stages of American History. The years covered will be Early Exploration through the American Civil War, including an in depth look at European explorations, the Colonies, discontent with England, the American Revolution, the new Constitution, Jeffersonian and Jacksonian Democracy, Westward Expansion, Manifest Destiny, and Civil War. There will be a variety of projects and activities that will require the students to use higher order thinking skills.

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION - ½ CREDIT

### \*Touch Systems Data Entry

In Touch System Data Entry, students apply technical skills to address business application of emerging technologies. Students enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and reasoning skills and apply them to the business environment. Students will need to apply touch system data entry for production of business documents. High school credit (.5) will be awarded.

This class is NOT calculated into high school GPA if taken at the junior high level.

Elective Courses  
Choose Enough to Equal 2 ½ Credits

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 1 CREDIT**

**Physical Education**

In Grades 6-8, students understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. They learn to use technology such as heart rate monitors to assist in measuring and monitoring their own performance. Identifying the types of activities that provide them with enjoyment and challenge and that will encourage them to be physically active throughout life is reinforced during instruction in these grades.

**Athletics 8**

Prerequisite: Physical on file with the HJH nurse and athletic department

Both boys' and girls' athletic programs meet the state requirements for physical education. Practice time for all sports will be during the athletic period and either before or after school. Many games are out of town. Students should be prepared for a significant time commitment to sports. An annual U.I.L. physical form must be completed and on file in the coach's office prior to any student participation in athletics. Athletics is a year-long program for all participants. Students who participate in a fall-only or spring-only sport will participate in an "off season" conditioning program during other points of the year. Schedule changes will not be permitted at the end of a particular sport. Hallsville ISD offers the following competitive sports to junior high school students:

- Football
- Girls Volleyball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Track

Participation in Cross Country will occur exclusively before or after the regular school day.

**Tennis**

Both boys' and girls' tennis meets the state requirements for physical education. Practice time for all sports will be during the athletic period and possibly after school. Many meets are out of town. Students should be prepared for a significant time commitment to sports. An annual U.I.L. physical form must be completed and on file in the coaches' office prior to any student participation in athletics. Athletics is a year-long program for all participants.

**CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

**College and Career Readiness (½ Credit):**

Students will use decision-making and problem-solving skills for college and career planning. Students will explore valid, reliable educational and career information to learn more about themselves and their interests and abilities. Students integrate skills from academic subjects, information technology, and interpersonal communication to make informed decisions. This course is designed to guide students through the process of investigation and in the development of a college and career readiness achievement plan. Students will use interest inventory software or other tools available to explore college and career areas of personal interest. Students will use this information to explore educational requirements for various colleges and a variety of chosen career paths.

## FINE ARTS

### Band (1 Credit):

This course is an extension of beginning band. The course covers selection and care of instruments, correct playing position, reading music and awareness of rhythm and pitch. Weekly sectionals are also employed to strengthen instrument skills as music becomes increasingly more difficult.

### Girls or Boys Choir (1 Credit):

Male singers will continue to develop and master vocal technique and sight reading skills learned in previous years. Students will learn to perform more advanced music. Students will perform in concerts throughout the year, and may have the opportunity to participate in UIL or other music competitions.

### Art (½ Credit):

Four basic strands--foundations: observation and perception; creative expression; historical and cultural relevance; and critical evaluation and response--provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Each strand is of equal value and may be presented in any order throughout the year. Students rely on personal observations and perceptions, which are developed through increasing visual literacy and sensitivity to surroundings, communities, memories, imaginings, and life experiences, as sources for thinking about, planning, and creating original artworks. Students communicate their thoughts and ideas with innovation and creativity. Through art, students challenge their imaginations, foster critical thinking, collaborate with others, and build reflective skills. While exercising meaningful problem-solving skills, students develop the lifelong ability to make informed judgments.

### Intro to Theatre (½ Credit):

Four basic strands--foundations: inquiry and understanding; creative expression; historical and cultural relevance; and critical evaluation and response--provide broad, unifying structures for organizing knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. No outside time will be required for this course.

## ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

### Agricultural Business (½ Credit):

This course will serve as a precursor to the much broader high school Agricultural Science program. Students will learn the importance of agriculture in our everyday lives and the basics of where our food and fiber actually come from. They will also be introduced to the highly diversified agricultural industry including animal science, wildlife ecology, veterinary medicine, welding, horticulture, and plant science. An emphasis will be placed on developing leadership abilities and possible involvement at the high school level that are associated with our local chapter of the National FFA Organization.

### Spanish A (½ Credit):

\*Not allowed to repeat course if taken in 7<sup>th</sup> grade

Spanish A begins the development of the basic language skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. This is accomplished through the use of oral drills, vocabulary building, simple composition, reading assignments, dialogue, and creative writing. The course also stresses cultural awareness and understanding of the Spanish-speaking world and its impact on the United States. In this class, we cover the alphabet, greetings, goodbyes, polite words, numbers, days of the week, months of the year, seasons, writing dates, describing people, simple sentences and questions, describing classes, names of classes, and telling time. We also cover some of the history and culture of Spanish-speaking countries, especially Mexico.

Speech (½ Credit):

\*Not allowed to repeat course if taken in 7<sup>th</sup> grade

The speech class will help students gain the skills they will need for presentations in junior high and beyond. Becoming a good speaker requires some instruction and lots of practice, and this class offers plenty of both. During class students will develop confidence and public speaking skills. Some of the skills emphasized will be: organization of material, voice control, audience contact, expressive voice and gestures, and the use of visuals to make a speech/debate more effective.

HJH Odyssey (½ Credit):

Students are introduced to the historical importance of journalism in America. They study the basic principles of print and online journalism as they examine the role of printed news media in our society. They learn investigative skills, responsible reporting, and journalistic writing techniques as they read, respond to, and write their own news and feature articles. Students conduct interviews, research, write, and design their own publications.

Student Aide (½ Credit):

Application Required

Student aides are responsible for completing tasks that are assigned to them. Some of these assignments could include delivering items to students/teachers, filing, stuffing envelopes, giving new students tours, making copies, sorting mail, shelving books, and other assigned tasks from the front office staff.

UIL Math/Science Team (1 Credit):

Coordinator Approval Required

The UIL Math/Science Team prepares students for competition in UIL number sense, calculator applications, general mathematics, and science. Students on the UIL Team are expected to compete at invitational meets held on Saturdays

during the months of October through March. This class requires the recommendation and signature of the Math/Science coach.

Yearbook (1 Credit):

Application Required

Students will use school designated software to design an all-digital, state-of-the-art yearbook for the upcoming school year. Combining journalism techniques, digital photography and desktop computers, students will learn skills they can use in their high school years. Access to a camera, such as a phone, is beneficial, but not required.

## HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT ELECTIVES

\*Health Education (½ Credit):

\*Not allowed to repeat course if taken in 7<sup>th</sup> grade

In Health 1, students develop skills that will make them health-literate adults. Students gain a deeper understanding of the knowledge and behaviors they use to safeguard their health, particularly pertaining to health risks. Students are taught how to access accurate information that they can use to promote health for themselves and others. Students use problem-solving, research, goal-setting and communication skills to protect their health and that of the community. This class is NOT calculated into high school GPA if taken at the junior high level.

\*Pre-AP SPANISH I (1 Credit):

Prerequisite: 85 yearly average in Pre-AP 7<sup>th</sup> grade Reading and Writing or 90 yearly average in On Level 7<sup>th</sup> grade Reading and Writing and completion of summer packet

Spanish I teaches basic grammar, verb conjugation (present tense) and basic vocabulary. Students will learn to read, write, speak and understand basic sentences and conversations. Also, students will become familiar with the culture of Spanish-speaking nations. High school GPA points will be awarded.

\*\*\*Course offerings in the elective areas are subject to change and/or omission due to an insufficient amount of student requests, lack of qualified personnel, or funding. The student will be placed in the next elective choice on the schedule sheet filled out by the student and parent.