

**J. Frank Dobie Junior High School**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Registration**  
**2020-2021**

**Important Notice**

**THIS PRE-REGISTRATION FORM DOES NOT GUARANTEE YOU WILL GET ALL THE ELECTIVES YOU CHOOSE. Due Date: February 22, 2021 to your CCR teacher**

As an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student, four of your full-year courses are required. On this pre-registration sheet, you and your parent/guardian will carefully select elective classes that you may be able to take next year. Some elective courses will earn you a high school credit.

Full Year Schedule	
*Language Arts	(Required)
*Math	(Required)
*Science	(Required)
*Social Studies	(Required)
Elective	
Elective or Applied Math	
Elective or Applied Reading	

Please read the course descriptions and make an informed decision about the classes you choose. You will take three elective courses, and remember that you are able to take some courses which will earn you high school credit. **Here are some things to keep in mind:**

1. We offer both Regular and Honors classes for all core subjects. Regular and honors Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies cover the same TEKS (objectives). Honors courses are an enriched, faster paced, college-bound curriculum designed to challenge students at a higher level. 7<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Math is a prerequisite for Honors Algebra I and prepares students to succeed in Honors Algebra I which is the Honors Math for 8<sup>th</sup> grade. **Students who master Honors 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math can only take Honors Algebra I and will not be permitted to drop the class. 7<sup>th</sup> grade math students will be placed into 8<sup>th</sup> grade math.**
2. You will be placed in an Applied Math and/or Applied Reading class, based on not passing performance standards. This intervention course will be given to you in place of your elective choice.
3. You may not take Journalism I if you took it in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
4. Athletics and Tennis is an elective course for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Tennis requires practice at Steele during the week. Athletic classes are Boys Football only or Tennis and/or any Girls sports. Boys, if you would like to try out for basketball, cross country, soccer, or track, DO NOT choose athletics. These athletes will meet at a different time. **You must have an annual physical before you can participate in the Athletic class and/or try out for a sport.**
5. **Scheduling and class sizes can affect the number of students who are able to take an elective class. Some electives fill up quickly. Every effort is made to ensure students receive selections.**
6. To receive credit in a high school course, student must be in attendance 90% of the time and pass the year with a 70 or higher. GPAs are calculated for Honors Algebra and Honors Spanish. If you are not successful your high school GPA will be affected negatively.
7. After 10 days, students remain in their elective course through the end of the school year. We do not permit changes to elective courses.

**Students will be using txMyZone to submit their course selections electronically beginning the first week of March during College and Career Readiness classes. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS ARE ATTACHED. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR COUNSELOR, IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT COURSE OFFERINGS.**

# J. Frank Dobie Junior High School

2020-2021

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Registration Course Selection Form

**Due Date: February 22, 2021**

(Return to your College and Career Readiness Teacher)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Male/Female I.D. # \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Circle

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

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**STEP 1: Please check one per subject.**

<b>Language Arts</b>	_____ Regular (2182)	_____ Honors (2184)
<b>Science</b>	_____ Regular (2381)	_____ Honors (2382)
<b>Social Studies</b>	_____ Regular (2485)	_____ Honors (2482)
<b>Math</b>	_____ Regular (2282)	_____ Honors Algebra I (2284) High School Credit Prerequisite: 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Pre-AP Math

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**STEP 2: Elective Course Selection:**

Please place a 1, 2, 3, or 4 by the elective classes you like most. Some classes fill up quickly. Be sure to make 4 choices. Boys if you would like to try out for basketball, cross country, track, or soccer, DO NOT choose athletics. These athletes will meet at a different time.

\_\_\_\_\_ Band (2680)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Choir (2670)  
\_\_\_\_\_ String Orchestra (2687)  
\_\_\_\_\_ College and Career Readiness (2782)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Investigating Careers (2772)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Journalism II (2196) \*Prerequisite: Journalism I  
\_\_\_\_\_ Theatre Arts I (2676)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Theatre Arts II (2677) \*Prerequisite: Theatre I  
\_\_\_\_\_ Girls' Athletics (2583)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Boys' Football Athletics (2584)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tennis (2574) (Limited availability-please read course description)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Keyboarding/Technology Applications (2036) (each course of the combination is one semester long)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Robotics (2892)

**High School Credit Courses:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Art I Survey (2296)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Honors Spanish I (2663)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Honors IPC (2360) \*Prerequisite: concurrently enrolled in Algebra I  
\_\_\_\_\_ Journalism I (2186)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Principles of Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources (1701)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Principles of Business, Marketing, & Finance (2780)

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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### ART 1 SURVEY

Art Students are introduced to the Elements and Principles of Design vocabulary. Students will apply knowledge of the Elements and Principles to studio projects throughout the year. Students are provided with the opportunity to work in areas of design, including perspective concepts, drawing types and techniques, color studies, painting, ceramics, and more. Art History and Appreciation are included as they apply to visual design. Emphasis is placed on general terms in each area studied and students are tested on those terms as well as problems related to their usage.

**Prerequisite: None; Credit: 1 high school credit**

### BAND

Students will be selected for their appropriate band class based on skill level, attitude/discipline, past grade performance (eligibility), and balanced instrumentation (proper ratio of instruments in each section to establish a correct band ensemble sound). Participation at all band functions is required and is a part of the final grade of each grading period.

**Intermediate Band** is for students who either have had no band experience, in need of reinforcement of fundamental skills, or are changing from one instrument to another.

**Concert Band** is for students who have had a least one year of instruction with a band instrument.

**Symphonic Band** is a continuation of Concert Band.

**Honor Band** is a continuation of Symphonic Band.

### BOYS' FOOTBALL ATHLETICS

Only students who wish to play football should sign up for Boys' Athletics. Due to a large number for football, football is practiced during the athletic period as well as before or after school. If you participate in basketball only, you should not sign up for Boys Athletics. Physicals and medical history are required for enrollment and participation in class and tryouts. Athletics is an intensive skill developmental program focusing on team sports. Intense running, conditioning, agilities, and weight training will be performed daily. Grades are based on daily participation. Workouts performed are geared toward preparing students for the high school athletic programs. You do not have to be in the athletics class to try out for basketball, cross country, tennis, or track. All sports have practice before or after school. Coaches will provide practice times and dates.

### CHOIR

Choir includes the study of singing, both individually and as a member of the choir. Sight reading skills will be taught as well as basic music theory. Several concerts will take place throughout the school year. Students may also elect to participate in UIL competitions.

### COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

The goal of this course is to create a culture of high expectations and continuous improvement that provides junior high students with a foundation for success in school, future studies, and careers. The career development process is unique to every person and evolves throughout one's life. Students will use decisions-making and problem-solving skills for college and career planning. Students will explore valid, reliable educations, and career information to learn more about themselves and their interests and abilities. This course is designed to guide students through the process of investigation and in the development of a college and career achievement plan. Students will use this information to explore educational requirements for a variety of chosen career paths. Study skills, organizational skills, and goal setting will also be focal points.

**"Students in this course will complete a variety of assessments including Aptitude, Ability, and Interest assessments. These assessment results will be available for the student, parents, and counselors in order to assist in developing a personal plan for future studies and careers."**

### GIRLS' ATHLETICS

Students interested in trying out for volleyball, basketball, soccer, and/or track should sign up for Girls' Athletics. Athletics is an intensive developmental program focusing on building skills, strength, speed, and explosion. Intense running, conditioning, agilities, and weight training will be performed daily along with sport specific training. It is a challenging course designed for athletes who want to play competitive sports and continue in high school. Physicals and medical history are required for enrollment and participation in class and tryouts. Grades are based on daily participation. Workouts performed are geared toward preparing students for the high school athletic programs. Try-outs will be held for volleyball, basketball, and soccer to keep teams manageable. Not making a team does not mean that you are removed from the athletic period at the JH level. You do not have to be in the athletics class to try out for cross country or track, but it is preferred. **Participation in team sports requires students to be in an athletic period.** All sports have practice before or after school. Coaches will provide practice times and dates.

### HONORS IPC (INTEGRATED PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY)

Honors Integrated Physics and Chemistry is an advanced course which covers topics of Chemistry and Physics at an increased level of depth and rigor where students collaborate with peers on concepts of motion, energy, force, electricity, chemical properties and reactions. This course integrates critical thinking skills and problem solving to prepare students for the rigor of subsequent Chemistry and Physics courses. Honors IPC is a high school credit course. **Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra I or higher; Credit: 1 high school credit**

### HONORS SPANISH 1

This accelerated course gives a firm linguistic foundation for the dedicated student who will eventually take the respective AP exam in his/her senior year, with emphasis to develop receptive (listening, reading) and productive (speaking, writing) skills, as well as gain insight into Hispanic cultures through classroom activities and exercises that emphasize proficiency. Supplementary audiovisual materials enhance the program and reinforce grammatical concepts. Cultural and geographical lessons acquaint students with the diversity of people who speak Spanish.

(Text/workbook) This course is only offered to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students or 7<sup>th</sup> grade dual language students. **Prerequisite: None; Credit: 1 high school credit**

### **INVESTIGATING CAREERS**

The goal of this course is to create a culture of high expectations and a solid character education that provides junior high students with a foundation for success in high school, future studies, and careers. The students will have extensive review and training of the six pillars of character education that will teach them to be trustworthy, respectful, caring, responsible, fair, and good citizens. Not only will this course prepare them for high school, but it will help them work toward individual, school, district, and community goals. Students will also explore college and career planning within the 16 career clusters. The students will research high school classes and clubs, learn job-seeking skills, and create documents required for employment. The students will have the opportunity to practice hand-on application of knowledge and skills.

### **JOURNALISM I**

This course focuses on basic news writing skills. Students learn to write news stories, editing, copy reading, proofreading, and understand techniques of layout and design. Students will produce the school newspaper. **Prerequisite: None; Credit: 1 high school credit**

### **JOURNALISM II**

Journalism II is an extension of Journalism I. Design, interview, photography, marketing, and writing skills are applied to yearbook production. Journalism I is a pre-requisite.

### **KEYBOARDING**

Students will be provided instruction on how to create, format, and edit personal and business documents, including letters, reports, memos, and outlines. The course includes skill development in proofreading, spelling, and punctuation. Students will learn skills using software for word processing, visual presentation, and spreadsheet application while learning file management skills. By the end of the semester, all students are expected to key a minimum of 20 wpm with 80% accuracy. (1 semester)

### **PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources will allow students to develop knowledge and skills regarding career and educational opportunities, personal development, globalization, industry standards, details, practices, and expectations. **Prerequisite: None; Credit: 1 high school credit**

### **PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS, MARKETING, AND FINANCE**

In Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance, students gain knowledge and skills in economies and private enterprise systems, the impact of global business, the marketing of goods and services, advertising, and product pricing. Students analyze the sales process and financial management principles. This course allows students to reinforce, apply, and transfer academic knowledge and skills to a variety of interesting and relevant activities, problems, and settings in business, marketing, and finance. This course is a high school credit course. **Prerequisite: None; Credit: 1 high school credit**

### **ROBOTICS**

Students enrolled in this course will demonstrate knowledge and skills necessary for the robotic and automation industry. Through implementation of the design process, students will transfer advanced academic skills to component designs in a project-based environment.

### **STRING ORCHESTRA**

Students will be in small group lessons/sectionals as well as large ensemble to learn and perform string orchestra music. Choose from: string bass, cello, violin, or viola. No previous experience is necessary.

### **TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS**

This course is an introductory computer class for students who would like to learn keyboarding, word processing, and other software tools. Students will continue to expand their knowledge of technology using a variety of software tools related to spreadsheets and other related fields. (1 semester)

### **TENNIS**

Students who wish to play ONLY tennis should sign up for this class. Ability ranges from beginners to experienced are encouraged to sign up for the class. Tryouts may be held to keep tennis athletic class size manageable. Students will learn all the basics of the game including strokes, scoring, rules, tennis etiquette, and footwork. The tennis class will include ball feeding drill, live-ball hitting with other classmates, and personal stroke instruction. Students will also be introduced to effective ways to practice, as well as fundamental singles and doubles positioning and play. Physicals and medical history are required for enrollment and participation in class and tryouts. Tennis will also be practiced before or after school. Coaches will provide practice times and dates.

### **THEATRE ARTS I**

This class is for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have an interest in learning about all aspects of the theatre, from the basics to technical theatre. Students will have the opportunity to participate in various class activities while learning about various acting styles and methods of production associated with the theatre.

### **THEATRE ARTSP II**

This class builds on the aspects of theatre studied in Theatre I. Theatre I is a prerequisite.