

J. Frank Dobie Junior High School
8th 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 6

As an 8th 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. Please make a selection for the type of course you would like to take for next year. Honors courses cover the same TEKS objectives as a regular core class. Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies Honors courses are an enriched, faster paced, college-bound curriculum designed to challenge students at a higher level. 7th 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 8th grade. **Students who master Honors 7th grade Math can only take Honors Algebra I and will not be permitted to drop the class.**
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 Investigating Careers in Architecture and Construction, Investigating Careers in Human Services, Journalism I, STEM, Keyboarding or Technology Applications if you took it in 7th grade.
4. Athletics and Tennis is an elective course for 8th grade students. Athletics is only for Boys Football. Girls athletics is all 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.

Students will be using txMyZone to submit their course selections electronically the week of February 18th-21st during their College and Career Readiness classes.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS ARE ATTACHED. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR COUNSELOR, IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT COURSE OFFERINGS. A-GO mnavarro@scuc.txed.net, GR-O sschroeder@scuc.txed.net or P-Z jruhd@scuc.txed.net

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.

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.

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.

THEATRE I

This class is for 7th and 8th 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 II

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

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 8th grade students or 7th grade dual language students.

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 1 high school credit

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

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: 8th Grade
Credit: 1 high school credit

INVESTIGATING CAREERS IN ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION (WOODSHOP)

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 high school, future studies, and careers. Students explore college and career planning within the Architecture and Construction Career Cluster. The students research labor market information, learn job-seeking skills, and create documents required for employment. Students use self-knowledge to explore and set realistic goals and have the ability to practice hands-on application of knowledge and skills.

INVESTIGATING CAREERS IN HUMAN SERVICES

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.

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. This class is 1 semester.

CODING

Students enrolled in this course will focus on computer coding, programming, and information technology to build the foundation for fields of computer programming, visualization, and computer science. This class is 1 semester.

STEM EXPLORATIONS

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math – Students are immersed in hands-on, problem-based learning while they create, invent, and solve challenging real-world problems in science and mathematics using engineering and technological tools in the process. This class is 1 semester.

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. This class is 1 semester.

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. This class is 1 semester.

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.

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.

BOYS 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, agility, 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.

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, agility, 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. However, full participation is expected to remain in the athletic period. 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.

TENNIS ATHLETICS

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. However, try-outs will be held in order to keep class sizes manageable. 35-40 students is the maximum allowed in the class due to court space limitations. 7th grade try-outs will be held in the first 3 weeks of school. 8th grade try-outs will be held in the Spring of a student's 7th grade year. New students will be tried out when they enroll in the tennis period. 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.