

2017-2018

PLANO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

COURSE CATALOG

MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 6-8

Course Catalog Revisions

Any revision made to the 2017-2018 Course Catalog after the initial printing will be listed here. The revised information will be highlighted in yellow for easy identification.

Revised:

- January 30, 2017 – **Career and Technology Education, pages 26 and 27**, course name, prerequisite, and/or course description sections for the following courses:
 - Skills for Living and Careers
 - Life Management and Careers
 - Exploring Arts, AV, and Communications
 - Exploring Information and Computer Technology

Cover Design Created by Mallory Fontanilla
Graphic Design & Illustration Student, Plano Senior High School

The Plano ISD website address for the Course Catalog is as follows: <http://www.pisd.edu/students/courses/index.shtml>. The website contains the current year, including any revisions after printing, as well as previous years for student / parent reference.

It is the policy of Plano ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Plano ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs. Plano ISD will take steps to ensure cost will not prevent access to programs.



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Dear Students and Parents:

Plano Independent School District offers a strong foundation for a lifetime of learning, providing opportunities for all students to experience success beyond graduation. Working together with their parents and schools, students can make informed decisions concerning programs and course selections during their secondary school years.

This middle school course catalog is designed to explain the basic requirements for successful steps from sixth through eighth grades and to prepare for a smooth transition into the high/senior high school program.

Plano ISD students are encouraged to begin early discussions with their parents, teachers and counselors about the possibility of applying to attend one of our school district's three academy programs that serve high school students. The Academy Programs of Plano comprise the Plano ISD Academy High School, the International Baccalaureate World School at Plano East Senior High and the Plano ISD Health Sciences Academy. Visit www.pisd.edu/academies for more information.

Counselors will be meeting with students and their parents to help them develop the appropriate educational plans from their middle school through their high/senior high school experience and the possibility of applying to attend one of the academies.

I encourage parents and students to use the information in this catalog and the resources provided by school counselors as you plan for future goals and program choices.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian T. Binggeli
Superintendent of Schools



The Plano Independent School District Course Catalog lists the courses that our middle schools and high schools generally make available to students. It should be noted, however, that not all of the courses listed are scheduled every year. Since it is not economically feasible to schedule classes in which only a few students enroll, it may be necessary to schedule such classes on an alternate-year basis or to eliminate them. Sufficient numbers of student requests for specific courses then become the determining factor as to whether or not a course is scheduled.

The Course Catalog provides a Table of Contents to assist in locating specific areas of information. The first section of the guide contains 6-8 grade curriculum requirements. The second section provides the specific description of courses by department. Descriptions, prerequisite, grade levels, and credits are listed for each course.

In addition to this basic district curriculum guide, each middle school offers elective courses to the population it serves.

The Course Catalog is also available online. The Plano ISD web site address for the Course Catalog is as follows: <http://www.pisd.edu/students/courses/index.shtml>

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Grade Point Average (GPA) Chart

Plano ISD
043910

EIC
(Local)

Academic Achievement:
Class Ranking

Grade points for **grades 9 – 12** shall be assigned according to the chart below:

Numerical Grade	AP / IB*	Pre-AP / IH / Honors*	Regular	Modified	Applied/Fundamental
97 & above	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	2.5
93 – 96	4.8	4.3	3.8	3.3	2.3
90 – 92	4.6	4.1	3.6	3.1	2.1
87 – 89	4.4	3.9	3.4	2.9	1.9
83 – 86	4.2	3.7	3.2	2.7	1.7
80 – 82	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	1.5
77 – 79	3.8	3.3	2.8	2.3	1.3
73 – 76	3.6	3.1	2.6	2.1	1.1
71 – 72	3.4	2.9	2.4	1.9	1.0
70	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0
Below 70	0	0	0	0	0

* EIC (EXHIBIT) for identified courses and grade points.

Plano ISD calculates class rank at the following times during the school year:

High School Class Rank¹

- 9th Grade - Spring rank available in February
- 10th Grade - Spring rank available in February

Senior High School Class Rank¹

- 11th Grade - Spring rank available in February
- 11th Grade - End of Junior Year rank available in June
- 12th Grade - Fall rank is available in September
- 12th Grade - Spring rank available in February
- 12th Grade - Final class rank at the end of the third nine-week grading period

The grade earned in a nine weeks grading period transfers when a student changes levels, i.e., honors to regular, regular to honors, etc.

¹Subject to change.

College/Career Preparation Timeline

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Goals and Objectives</u>
Grades 6 – 7	Begin to investigate college/career goals and objectives.
Grade 8	Plan a four-year high school academic program and become aware of the 16 career clusters. Each student attends an academic conference with parents and a school counselor during which course selections are chosen for the high school years. Review college websites and publications, which give college profiles and entrance requirements. Take advantage of district programs. Start researching scholarships and financial planning. Become aware of transcripts, grade point average, and graduation requirements. Attend evening parent meetings regarding academic planning and college admission.
Grade 9	Re-evaluate career goals and objectives. Review academic four-year plan and begin building a high school transcript. Research colleges and universities of interest. Attend campus evening meetings about post-secondary planning and college admission.
Grade 10	Review academic plan. Re-evaluate goals and objectives. Participate in an individual academic conference with parent(s) and the high school counselor to decide on courses for the 11 th grade. Take advantage of district programs. Review college websites and publications, which give college profiles and entrance requirements. Start researching scholarships and financial planning. Attend campus evening meetings about post-secondary planning and college admission. Take PSAT in October. Free test review materials may be found at https://www.khanacademy.org/sat .
Grade 11	Review academic plans and narrow college choices. Participate in an individual academic conference with parent(s) and the senior high school counselor to decide on courses for the senior year and to discuss post-graduation plans. Attend College Nights in September. Take PSAT in October (National Merit Qualifying Test). Take PSAT in October. Free test review materials may be found at https://www.khanacademy.org/sat . Take the SAT or ACT in the late spring. Explore scholarship opportunities.
Grade 12	Review post-secondary options. Confer with counselor in early fall. Attend College Nights in September. Take SAT and/or ACT in early fall. Send applications early in the fall semester. Be mindful of college application deadlines. Submit housing application in the early fall. Attend financial aid programs and begin financial aid process in October. Send federal financial aid applications in October. Submit scholarship applications beginning in the fall.

A web-based tool, *Naviance*, is used by students, parents, and Plano ISD staff to assist students with college and career readiness. All students receive an access code and tasks are assigned at each grade level. *Naviance* provides college and career search and exploration; resume building tips; and information on the college admission process. Through the *Naviance Family Connection* students may request letters of recommendation, manage college applications, access scholarship information, and complete tasks that will enhance the college and career preparation experience.

Another resource, *University Ready*, is designed to aid Plano students and parents as they prepare for all aspects of post-secondary experience. Be sure to take time to investigate Plano ISD's *University Ready* at <http://ur.pisd.edu/index.shtml> as a resource tool during your college preparation years.

Other websites:

www.collegeforalltexans.com

www.act.org

www.fafsa.ed.gov

www.collegeboard.org

www.ncaa.org

Middle School Program

Textbooks

Each student is responsible for his/her textbooks issued by their school and is responsible for payment for lost and/or damaged textbooks occurring in the school year.

Courses

Acceleration

At the middle school level, students may request to take examinations for acceleration in academic subjects. Please see the counselor for more information.

Advanced Placement Program

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program of the College Board enables students to complete college-level studies at Plano East Senior High, Plano Senior High and Plano West Senior High Schools. A limited number of Advanced Placement courses may be offered on the Grade 9-10 campuses. This "academic bridge" helps smooth the transition from high school to college. The primary goals of the AP Program are to enrich the secondary school experience of students ready to apply themselves to college-level courses and to provide the means by which colleges may grant credit or placement, or both, to students with satisfactory AP test scores. For more information on the Advanced Placement Program please visit their website at: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap/what-it-takes/student-voices>.

Elective Courses

In addition to these required courses, students may choose other courses to complete their schedules. The number of elective courses that students may choose varies from year to year.

Exploratory Courses

The exploratory courses in middle school offer the students a chance to pursue special activities or to discover new interests. The exploratory courses vary from campus to campus.

Fine Arts

Music

Music curriculum at the middle school level consists of music literacy, creative expression, historical and cultural relevance, and critical evaluation and response. Students will apply their skills to perform, read, write, and create music while developing criteria for making critical judgments and informed choices through analyzing, evaluating, and responding. Areas of focus will include production of characteristic sound, rhythmic and melodic accuracy, attention to expressive music making, and technical development demonstrated through public performance. No previous musical experience is necessary.

Sixth grade students must select beginning band, choir, or orchestra to fulfill the state Fine Arts requirement. Sixth grade band and orchestra classes are scheduled mostly in like-instrument groupings. Instruments included in beginning band are flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, horn, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, tuba, and percussion. Instruments included in orchestra are violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Sixth grade students may participate in competitive music events at the end of the school year. **Limited outside of school rehearsals and performances will be required.**

Seventh and eighth grade students must perform an audition for placement/admittance into music ensembles. Students will perform concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. Some activities at this level are considered extra-curricular. Students must maintain a 70 in all subjects in order to participate in competitions and other extra-curricular components of the music program. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.**

Theater Arts

Theater Arts may be included as a part of the sixth grade exploratory course offerings. Students may elect to participate in seventh and eighth grade Theater Arts. Students may be expected to participate in outside of school rehearsals and performances. Some activities at the seventh and eighth grade levels are considered extra-curricular. Students must maintain a 70 in all subjects in order to participate in competitions and other extra-curricular components of the music program. Attendance at outside of school curricular rehearsals and performances will be expected in order to meet performance requirements outlined by state course objectives.

Visual Art

Visual Art may be included as a part of the sixth grade exploratory course offerings. Students may elect Art as a course offering at the seventh and eighth grade level. Students may have opportunities to participate in competitions and exhibitions.

Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

Students who successfully complete TWO years of the same middle school LOTE course will earn one high school credit. The credit will count toward graduation. The course and grade will be recorded on the student's academic achievement record (transcript). Grade points will be counted toward rank in class. The course of study satisfies one of the two credits of the language requirement to meet the SBOE (State Board of Education) curriculum requirements of the Foundation High School program. It also serves as the prerequisite for Spanish II or French II at the high school level.

Honors Courses

A differentiated honors curriculum includes a wider range and greater depth of subject matter than that of the regular course. Emphasis will be placed on higher level and critical thinking skills, on creative, productive thinking, and on independent guided research. In the middle school program, these courses are offered in English, mathematics and science.

Mathematics

In middle school mathematics, students progress through the state and district learning goals for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade math. This trajectory typically corresponds with the grade level the student is in. Students who meet the honors profile have an opportunity to accelerate through these learning goals in order to take high school math courses during middle school. The honors sequence allows students to complete 6th, 7th, and 8th grade math standards by the end of 7th grade so that students may enroll in Algebra 1 as an 8th grader. Honors Algebra 1 is offered on every middle school campus. Middle school students who have successfully completed Algebra 1 may continue along the course progression. Geometry classes are offered on select campuses, depending on student enrollment. Students whose campus does not offer geometry may take the course as a zero-hour class at Vines Academy. Middle school students enrolled in high school math courses must earn a grade of 70 or higher each semester in order for credit to be awarded. The grade for each completed semester will be recorded on the student's high school transcript and used to determine grade points and class rank.

Math Rocks Program

The Math Rocks program seeks to identify and serve mathematically high performing students in grades 3 – 8. No referral process is needed. Students qualify based on district-administered assessments that are given to all students. The Math Rocks class takes the place of the student's math class, and extends learning using rich tasks based on classic mathematical topics that require thinking far beyond their grade level. Students in Math Rocks experience a unique progression of learning that encompasses all of the middle school math standards by the end of 6th grade, progresses to Honors Algebra 1 in 7th grade, and caps with Honors Geometry in 8th grade. Each course also includes enrichment and extension topics specific to the Math Rocks curriculum. The last opportunity for students to qualify for the program is going into 6th grade. Invitations to participate in the program are delivered to students at their elementary campus.

Middle School Courses for High School Credit

Students enrolled in a middle school course for high school credit (e.g., languages other than English, Algebra I Honors, etc.) will stay enrolled for the completion of the course except when they are failing or experiencing only marginal success (see EI Exhibit). If a student marginally passes the grade 7 year, and continues to have only marginal success in the second year, a schedule change may be considered; students who do not fit this profile will not be permitted a schedule change.

Required Courses

These courses are required to fulfill local and state educational requirements. A course may or may not have a prerequisite. A prerequisite is a course that must be taken prior to the course under consideration.

Programs

Athletic Program

Students may schedule athletics instead of physical education. In the sixth grade, students take regular physical education classes, as there is no competitive athletic program. In the seventh and eighth grades, volleyball, football, basketball, track, and cross country contests will be scheduled with schools inside and outside the district.

Students may try out for volleyball and basketball in the early fall. Football, track, and cross country are open to all students who meet the criteria. Students participating in athletics must maintain a 70 in all subjects and must pass the physical examination required by University Interscholastic League (UIL). Students interested in athletics should contact the head coach at the individual school campus to obtain the necessary forms.

AVID Program (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

The AVID course is designed to prepare students for success in postsecondary education. AVID 7 and AVID 8 provide support and skill development in areas specifically aligned with success in rigorous courses in the content areas. A recommendation, application and interview are required. Students must be accepted into the AVID program.

Cheerleading Program

The cheerleading program is open to any eighth grade student who desires to participate in the program. Interested students should contact the individual school campus cheerleading sponsor. Signups and packets are usually given out in the spring semester of the student's seventh grade year. A three-day middle school cheerleading camp is scheduled the summer before their eighth grade year, usually the end of July or the first of August. Professional cheerleaders from the national cheerleading associations staff the camp.

Coordinated School Health Program

Students will receive instruction in Plano ISD's Coordinated School Health Program. This program is a systemic approach to advancing student academic performance by promoting, practicing and coordinating school health education and services for the benefit and well-being of students. This program will help to establish health behaviors in students designed to last their lifetime. The curriculum will include lessons in physical fitness, health and wellness, decision-making, self-esteem/body image, nutrition, mental health/stress, your body systems, growth and development, diseases and disorders, drugs and alcohol, and personal safety.

English as a Second Language (ESL)

ESL classes, which focus on intensive development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English, are offered to English Language learners at all secondary campuses. Students who qualify for ESL services may enroll in ESL classes. The ESL program shall be an integral part of the regular educational program. State-adopted English as a second language instructional materials and supplementary materials are used as curriculum tools. This program is aligned with the district's general education literacy program.

Gifted and Talented Program

Gifted program services are provided for students formally identified for the gifted program. Participation in the program is based on a referral and assessment process indicating a need for services. Middle school PACE (Plano's Academic and Creative Education) students are served through their PACE history classes. Collaboration, independent work, presentations and research projects are important components of all PACE classes. In high school, course offerings include Humanities I and II. At the senior high school level, services are provided for gifted students through Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and the American Studies courses.

Off-Campus PE – The purpose of the Off-Campus Physical Education Program is to accommodate students who are making a serious effort to develop high-level capabilities and to allow those students to be involved in a program that provides training exceeding that offered in the school district. The student is taking this course for physical education credit and he/she may not be enrolled in athletics while participating in the Off-Campus Physical Education Program. A maximum of 4 credits can be earned towards state high school graduation requirements. A student interested in this program should contact his/her school counselor for the application, guidelines, and enrollment dates concerning off-campus physical education.

Off-campus physical education currently considers the following activities: **archery, art skating, badminton, dance, equestrian, fencing, gymnastics, ice hockey, ice skating, lacrosse, martial arts, golf*, rock climbing, rowing, squash, swimming, tennis, track cycling and table tennis.** There is a fee for participation in the off-campus physical education program. The student must participate in his/her activity, **under professional supervision, a minimum of 10 hours each week for Category 2 (cannot leave campus) or a minimum of 15 hours for Category 1 (can leave campus one class period early) at one approved agency.** The student must participate in the sport at least **a minimum of four (4) days during the week (Monday through Friday) plus one (1) additional day** that may fall on either the weekend or during the week for a total of five (5) days per week. *Please contact program coordinator for information.

Physical Education Program

Students are required to complete 4 semesters of physical education during their middle school grades 6 through 8. The Physical Education Program is designed to provide appropriate instruction in health, wellness, fitness and skill

development to enhance the physical, mental, and social/emotional development of every student. Every student has the opportunity to explore a variety of fun and challenging activities each semester engaging in an active lifestyle.

Activities such as, rock climbing, bowling, tennis, soccer, basketball, golf, archery, and Exergaming are just a few activities delivered during developmentally appropriate lessons. A variety of technological tools will be used during physical education class time to assist the student's education about their personal intensity of exercise and assist with personal fitness goal setting. Students enrolled in physical education could experience activity levels of moderate to high intensity.

Physical Fitness Assessment

Each student identified by the Texas Education Agency will participate in an annual physical fitness assessment. The Fitnessgram assessment instrument will contain criterion-referenced standards specific to a student's age and gender based on the physical fitness level required for good health. Good health components will include an aerobic capacity, body composition, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and a flexibility assessment.

Special Education Services Program

Special education services are provided for each student who meets eligibility requirements. Consideration of a student's eligibility for special education services is initiated by a referral to the Campus Monitoring and Intervention Team, which may be requested by parents, school personnel or outside agencies. Parental consent is required prior to assessment, and again, prior to placement in special education.

Components of the special education process include:

- Determining whether a student meets special education eligibility through formal assessment, data collection and determination of educational need
- Preparing an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for each student based on needs, if eligibility is determined.
- Implementing the IEP in the least restrictive environment
- Annually evaluating the student's progress and developing the IEP to address the student's needs

Special Education services are provided under state and federal guidelines. Special Education offers specially designed instruction and a full continuum of services to meet a variety of student needs. Programs range from fully self-contained learning environments to support in general education classrooms. A student's graduation plan, developed by the ARD/IEP Committee, determines how the student will meet credit and curriculum requirements of the state and district for graduation.

Promotion and Retention

Requirements – Grades 6-8

In grades 6-8, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on an overall average of 70 on a scale of 100 based on course-level, grade-level standards (essential knowledge and skills) for all subject areas and a grade of 70 or above in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 who fail to meet the above requirements shall attend summer school and successfully master the requirements prior to being promoted. The parent or guardian of each student who has not successfully completed a course shall be notified by the campus as soon as possible of any summer program available in the District that may permit the student to complete successfully the failed subjects or courses.

Campus assignment shall be at the discretion of the District in the event that the student passes some, but not all, courses in the eighth grade.

Requirements - Special Education

A student receiving special education services shall be promoted and shall graduate according to the criteria stated in his/her Individual Education Program and by the decision of the ARD/IEP committee.

Student Success Initiative

There are additional grade advancement requirements for 8th grade students under the Texas Student Success Initiative (SSI), which was passed by the 76th Texas Legislature in 1999. The purpose of this initiative is to ensure that every student achieves academic success in reading and math and shows sufficient understanding of the knowledge and skills taught at the grade level.

Admission to and Exit from Gifted and Talented Program

- I. Plano Independent School District offers educational opportunities for gifted and talented students in the four core areas. Plano's Academic and Creative Education (PACE) program serves grades 6 – 8 in the PACE History courses. Students enrolled in grades 9-10 receive services through the Humanities class, with additional services offered through Advanced Placement courses. Students enrolled in grades 11 – 12 receive services through the American Studies course, with additional services offered through Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses.
- II. Procedure for Admission

All students new to PISD must follow the referral and assessment process to determine the need for gifted services. PACE students who transfer within the district automatically continue program placement.

 - A. The referral form (available at school or online using the following link: <http://www.pisd.edu/parents/advanced.academics/gifted.pace/index.shtml>) is completed prior to the designated deadline. A student, parent, teacher, counselor, administrator or other professionals may make referrals.
 - B. Screening data is collected. Data may include the following:
 1. Ability test scores
 2. Achievement test scores
 3. Teacher recommendation
 4. Writing sample
 5. Additional parent information
 6. Grades
 7. Student portfolio
 8. Interview
 - C. Placement committee meets.
 - D. Parent(s) of placed students give written permission for program participation.
- III. Procedure for Exit
 - A. Student progress is review and documented.
 - B. Conference(s) with student, parent(s) and professional are held.
 - C. The PACE Exit Form is completed and signed.
 - D. The campus placement committee meets.

Admission to Middle School Advanced Placement Spanish Program

(Not offered on all middle school campuses)

- A. Successful achievement on the 6th grade entry-level diagnostic exam.
- B. Students entering Plano ISD after 6th grade must take the entry-level diagnostic exam before placement in Spanish III Honors.
- C. Students entering Plano ISD after the 7th grade must pass the Spanish III Honors exam before placement in AP Spanish IV.

Vines Academy

French 1 and Geometry are offered at Vines Academy to middle school students when those courses are not offered on a student's home campus. Classes begin at 7:45 a.m., starting on the first day of the school year. No transportation is provided to Vines though district buses are available to transport students from Vines back to their home middle school campus in time for 2nd period. Contact the counselor's office at your campus for more information.

Special Education Services

- I. Plano Independent School District offers special education services for students from 3 through 21. Children with vision and hearing impairments may begin services at birth.
- II. Procedures for Admission/Review/Dismissal/Transfer
 - A. Initial referrals
 1. Parents, school personnel or community agencies may make referrals for special education evaluations.
 2. All referrals are directed to the Campus Monitoring and Intervention Team (CMIT)
 3. The Campus Monitoring and Intervention Team collects information from teachers and parents.
 4. The Campus Monitoring and Intervention Team requests a Full Individual Evaluation (FIE) if there is a suspicion of a disability and an educational need for special education services.
 5. A meeting may be held prior to the evaluation for the purpose of defining the specific areas to be assessed.
 6. Parents or guardian must provide written consent for the evaluation. The district will provide consent forms that meet the state and federal requirements. The evaluation must be completed within 45 school days from the date the district receives written consent from the parent.
 7. The Admission, Review, Dismissal / Individualized Education Program (ARD/IEP) Committee, which includes parents, will meet to consider eligibility, goals, objectives and placement in special education within 30 calendar days after the evaluation has been completed.
 8. Parents provide written consent for the initial provision of special education services if eligibility is established and services are recommended.
 - B. Transfers from special education programs outside the district
 1. Parents/Students notify campus personnel of prior special education services. If possible, provide applicable documentation of special education services and evaluations at the time of registration.
 2. Campus staff confirms the provision of prior special education services.
 3. Services begin immediately. Within 30 school days, any changes determined necessary in the current IEP must be addressed by the ARD/IEP Committee and an ARD/IEP meeting will be held.
 - C. Continuation in the Program
 1. ARD/IEP Committee conducts an annual review of student progress and placement.
 2. Parents and other committee members agree upon student's continuation of services or dismissal from special education based on current performance data and demonstrated need.
 - D. Grading Procedures

Credit for courses may be earned only if the student receives a grade that is the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100, based upon the essential knowledge and skills for each course. The ARD/IEP committee may determine that a student receives modified course content. In this case, grades should reflect progress toward completion of IEP goals and objectives as well as demonstrated mastery of course content that is the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100.

Plano ISD eSchool

Plano ISD eSchool provides excellence in online learning to high school students here in Plano and throughout the world. Since 2001, we have served over 36,000 students with a completion rate of 88% and an overall success rate of 96%. Our course offerings afford students the flexibility and connectivity to meet their individual needs. eSchool students have access to a rigorous curriculum that is correlated to local, state, and national standards. Our online program allows students to enhance their high school experience, to work around scheduling difficulties, and/or to recapture credits for graduation. Our dedicated teachers are specifically trained to work with students in an online setting and are committed to providing a personalized and enriching learning experience for each student. Our goal is for students to master course content while acquiring the 21st Century skills needed to compete in a global society.

eSchool Course Offerings

Note: All of our eSchool courses are semester courses designed to be completed in 6-18 weeks. Please refer to the eSchool website for updated course offerings and tuition rates.

Algebra 1; Semester 1/2*	PE Foundations
Algebra 2; Semester 1/2	PE Foundations 2
Business Information Management; Semester 1/2	Physics; Semester 1/2
Chemistry; Semester 1/2	Pre-Calculus; Semester 1/2
Economics	Professional Communications
English 1; Semester 1/2*	Psychology
English 2; Semester 1/2*	Spanish 1; Semester 1/2*
English 3; Semester 1/2	Spanish 2; Semester 1/2*
English 4; Semester 1/2	US Government
Geometry; Semester 1/2	US History; Semester 1/2
Health	World Geography; Semester 1/2
Human Resources Management	World History; Semester 1/2
Money Matters	

**course cannot be taken for initial credit*

Important Points to Consider

- For more information, including registration procedures and eSchool Guidelines, please contact the eSchool office at 469.752.8894 or eSchool@pisd.edu. You can also visit our website at www.planoisdeschool.net.
- Students need to check with their school counselor to ensure appropriate course selection.
- Students taking eSchool courses are required to take the STAAR EOC assessment associated with the course.
- Grades earned in eSchool courses will not be used in computing class rank (Plano ISD Board Policy EIC Local).
- Some courses may require the purchase of additional materials, such as a textbook or lab materials, in addition to the tuition fee.
- Students must have an active, functional e-mail account. Refer to the eSchool website for specific technical requirements.

6-8 Grade Curriculum Requirements

6th Grade Requirements

Language Arts ¹	2 units
Mathematics.....	1 unit
Social Studies	1 unit
Science	1 unit
Physical Education*0.5 - 1 unit
Fine Arts ²	1 unit
Elective*	<u>.0 -0.5 unit</u>
	7 Units

Sample Schedule

1. Language Arts
2. Language Arts
3. Mathematics
4. Social Studies
5. Science
6. Physical Education/Elective
7. Fine Arts

¹One unit is the value given to a class when it meets for one period per day for the entire school year. This block includes reading required in sixth grade.

*The offering and length of these courses is determined by the individual campus.

²The fine arts course is selected from choir, band, or orchestra.

For students who do not meet *Satisfactory Academic Performance* on STAAR Reading in fifth grade, reading intervention is required.

7th Grade Requirements

English Language Arts.....	1 unit
Mathematics.....	1 unit
Texas History	1 unit
Science	1 unit
Physical Education.....	.0.5 or 1 unit
Elective	<u>1.5 or 2 units</u>
	7 units

Sample Schedule

1. English Language Arts
2. Mathematics
3. Texas History
4. Science
5. P.E./Elective
6. Elective
7. Elective

6-8 Grade Curriculum Requirements (Continued)

**8th Grade
Requirements**

English Language Arts.....	1 unit
Mathematics.....	1 unit
United States History Part I	1 unit
Science	1 unit
Physical Education**	0.5 - 1 unit
Elective	<u>1 - 2 units</u>
	7 units

Sample Schedule

1. English Language Arts
2. Mathematics
3. United States History Part I
4. Science
5. P.E. **/Elective
6. Elective
7. Elective

** Four semesters of physical education must be completed in grades 6 through 8.

DESCRIPTIONS OF
MIDDLE SCHOOL
COURSES OFFERED
FOR PLANO ISD
STUDENTS

Teamwork for Excellence



P L A N O
Independent School District

Course Descriptions - Sixth Grade

FINE ARTS

This required course may be fulfilled by taking one full year of choir, band, or orchestra. Please see course descriptions beginning on page 29.

LANGUAGE ARTS

601001 *Language Arts 6*

This course combines the study of English and reading and is a blocked (two class period) experience. Students will learn and practice reading comprehension through the study of theme, genre, literary texts, sensory language, and informational texts. Using the writing process, students will compose literary texts (poetry and imaginative stories), expository texts, and persuasive texts. Students will engage in a reading and writing workshop experience that includes the study of oral and written conventions, research and library skills, and teamwork.

601501 *Reading/English Block*

Grade Placement: 6

Prerequisite: English Language Arts 5

Credit: 2

What's next? English Language Arts 7 or English Language Arts 7 – Honors

READING

601451 *Multi-Sensory Reading*

Grade Placement: 6

Prerequisite: This course is designated for students who meet diagnostic criteria.

Credit: 0.5 – 1

This multisensory approach of language establishes procedures for systematically teaching speech-sound, spelling-sound patterns, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension.

MATHEMATICS

602001 *Mathematics 6*

Grade Placement: 6

Prerequisite: Mathematics 5

Credit: 1

What's next? Mathematics 7

The primary focal points in Mathematics 6 include operating with integers and rational numbers; exploring proportionality; representing relationships with equations, tables and graphs; and summarizing statistical data. Students will use tools, technology, and representations to explore and communicate mathematical ideas.

602031 *Mathematics 6 - Honors*

Grade Placement: 6

Prerequisite: Honors Profile Criteria

Credit: 1

What's next? Mathematics 7 – Honors

Mathematics 6 Honors includes a more in-depth study of topics in the Mathematics 6 course. This course also incorporates about half of the Mathematics 7 content by extending the 6th grade concepts that easily connect to 7th grade learning. Primary focal points include proportionality, two-dimensional measurement, data analysis, and algebraic representations.

SOCIAL STUDIES

604001 **Grade 6 Social Studies**
(Contemporary World Societies)

Grade Placement: 6

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

What's next? Grade 7 Social Studies (Texas History)

This course is a study of people and places in the contemporary world. Students identify the geographic characteristics of regions/societies and describe the economic and government systems of these regions/societies. The students will use this information to explain and compare cultures of the past and present.

604041 **Grade 6 PACE Social Studies**
(Contemporary World Societies)

Grade Placement: 6

Prerequisite: GT Identification

Credit: 1

What's next? Grade 7 PACE Social Studies (Texas History)

This course is a study of people, place and culture. Students will gain an understanding of contemporary cultures by researching the origins of significant societal characteristics. Specifically, students study geographic characteristics and how place determines the development of societies and societal shifts. Students will also explore different economic and governmental systems and how they affect societal and cultural development. Complex topics such as conflict and human rights help to grow critical and compassionate thinkers. Finally, the introduction of the elements of Humanities as a form of human expression and a catalyst for change contributes to a greater understanding of the world.

SCIENCE

Those science courses, which offer dissection as a means of instruction, will provide alternative assignments for those students and parents who have justifiable objections to dissection.

603001 **Science 6**

Grade Placement: 6

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

What's next? Science 7th Grade or Science 7th Grade – H/PreAP

6th grade science is an integrated course of earth, life and physical concepts taught through the context of the human body, the ocean ecosystem, energy and conservation, and space. Interactions and relationships are shown in each unit resulting in student learning beyond the facts of science.

60510B Physical Education 6

Grade Placement: 6

Prerequisite: None

Credit: .5

Students in this course will acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continued social development through physical activity. Students will learn specialized skills and concepts that lead to confidence and competency in a variety of physical activities. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports. Students enrolled in physical education could experience activity levels of moderate to high intensity.

Physical Fitness Assessment

Each student identified by the Texas Education Agency will participate in an annual physical fitness assessment. The Fitnessgram assessment instrument will contain criterion-referenced standards specific to a student's age and gender based on the physical fitness level required for good health. Good health components will include an aerobic capacity, body composition, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and a flexibility assessment.

Coordinated School Health Program

Students will receive instruction in Plano ISD's Coordinated School Health Program. This program is a systemic approach to advancing student academic performance by promoting, practicing and coordinating school health education and services for the benefit and well-being of students. This program will help to establish health behaviors in students designed to last their lifetime. The curriculum will include lessons in physical fitness, health and wellness, decision-making, self-esteem/body image, nutrition, mental health/stress, your body systems, growth and development, diseases and disorders, drugs and alcohol, and personal safety.

Course Descriptions - Seventh Grade

LANGUAGE ARTS: ENGLISH

701001 *English Language Arts 7*

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: Language Arts 6

Credit: 1

What's next? English Language Arts 8 or
English Language Arts 8 - Honors

This course is a reading and writing experience that relies on the study of well-crafted essays, stories, and poems to direct student writing in literary, expository, and persuasive texts. Students will study theme, genre, and sensory language through contemporary and traditional literary and informational texts and will use a reading and writing workshop approach as they engage in teacher-directed and self-selected reading and writing experiences. Language study in this course emphasizes grammar, spelling, sentence development, punctuation, and capitalization.

701031 *English Language Arts 7 – Honors*

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: Honors Criteria

Credit: 1

What's next? English Language Arts 8 or
English Language Arts 8 - Honors

This course is designed for students who wish to have a more challenging and rigorous seventh-grade English Language Arts experience. In addition to the emphasis areas listed above, ELA 7 Honors students will be afforded opportunities to engage in more challenging reading and writing experiences with deeper levels of instruction.

LANGUAGE ARTS: READING

701551 *Reading 7*

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

This course is designed for students who would benefit from a continued integrated experience in English Language Arts. Students will learn and practice reading/cognitive strategies to improve skills in comprehension, fluency and vocabulary through authentic reading experiences using a variety of materials. This course is recommended for students who need additional reading instruction for academic success. This is a two-semester course.

701451 *Multi-Sensory Reading*

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: This course is designated for
students who meet diagnostic criteria.

Credit: .5 – 1

This multisensory approach of language establishes procedures for systematically teaching speech-sound, spelling-sound patterns, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

Students must complete Spanish 8 or French 8 to be eligible for high school credit.

707001 Spanish 7

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Credit is earned upon completion of Spanish 8.

What's next? Spanish 8

This class is the first half of Spanish I. Spanish I is an introduction to Spanish language and culture. Students in this course will develop speaking, writing, and reading proficiency on topics dealing with the everyday life of a student. Students will be guided in recognizing the interrelationships between cultures and will be able to identify cultural perspectives and practices of the Spanish speaking world. The focus of this course is developing Novice mid proficiency. **This course is conducted in Spanish a significant amount of time.**

707501 French 7

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: None

Credit: Credit is earned upon completion of French 8.

What's next? French 8

This class is the first half of French I. French I is an introduction to French language and culture. Students in this course will develop speaking, writing, and reading proficiency on topics dealing with the everyday life of a student. Students will be guided in recognizing the interrelationships between cultures and will be able to identify cultural perspectives and practices of the Francophone world. The focus of this course is developing Novice mid proficiency. **This course is conducted in French a significant amount of time. This course may not be offered on all campuses.**

503401 Spanish III Honors

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: Diagnostic Exam

Credit: 1

What's next? Advanced Placement Spanish IV

This accelerated course is for students who can demonstrate Intermediate Mid or higher proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing. This course emphasizes high level/critical thinking, reading, and writing utilizing cross-curricular contexts as well as Hispanic literature and texts. Speaking and listening proficiencies are refined and further developed. Connections between first language skills and second language acquisition are targeted. **This course is conducted in Spanish. Students will receive high school credit after successfully completing Spanish III Honors. This course may not be offered on all campuses.**

MATHEMATICS

702001 Mathematics 7

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: Completion of Mathematics 6

Credit: 1

What's next? Mathematics 8

The primary focal points in Mathematics 7 include financial literacy; two- and three-dimensional measurement; representing relationships with equations, tables, and graphs; probability; proportionality related to similarity, measurement, and rates; and using statistical representations to analyze and compare data sets. Student will use tools, technology, and representations to explore and communicate mathematical ideas.

702031 Mathematics 7 - Honors

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: Honors Mathematics 6

Credit: 1

What's next? Honors Algebra I

In Mathematics 7 Honors students continue the sequence of learning that began in Mathematics 6 Honors. This course incorporates half of the Mathematics 7 content (the half that was not part of the previous course) blended with all of the Mathematics 8 content. Primary focal points include geometric relationships, three-dimensional measurement, functional relationships, and probability.

SOCIAL STUDIES

704001 Grade 7 Social Studies (Texas History)

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

What's next? Grade 8 Social Studies (US History from the early colonial period through Reconstruction)

This course involves a detailed study of Texas from the period of discovery and exploration through the twenty-first century. The study of the building of our state will not only stress historical facts but also promote an appreciation of the cultural heritage and geographic diversities, which have shaped the destiny of Texas.

704041 Grade 7 PACE Social Studies (Texas History)

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: GT Identification

Credit: 1

What's next? Grade 8 PACE Social Studies (US History from the early colonial period through Reconstruction)

This course is an in-depth study of Texas and its people beginning with a study of geography and its impact. Students will then examine the discovery and exploration of Texas by European forces and the ways in which they shaped the political and cultural landscape of our state. The tumultuous era of filibusters, empresarios, and revolutionaries provide students a look at the powerful effect of individualism upon history. Students are offered the opportunity to see through a broad historical lens that looks beyond a "winner's history" into both sides of conflict – particularly in topics such as the Texas Revolution, the Mexican-American War, and even social topics such as racism in the American South. Throughout the year, students will use historical events as springboards to current issues and will hone skills in research, public discourse, and critical thinking. The course concludes with a consideration of the impact of present day Texas on the larger national and international stage. The study of the Humanities helps to build an understanding of the state's diversity and rich cultural heritage.

SCIENCE

Those science courses, which offer dissection as a means of instruction, will provide alternative assignments for those students and parents who have justifiable objections to dissection.

703001 Science Grade 7

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

What's next? Science Grade 8 or Science Grade 8 – H/PreAP

Science Grade 7 is a course, which will focus on life science with an integration of chemistry, physics and earth science. Concepts, which are found in common with other sciences, will be emphasized in themes covering topics on environmental interactions, systems and structures, energy, and changes over time. This course will show relevance to student learning and understanding of science.

703031 Science Grade 7 – H/PreAP

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: Honors criteria

Credit: 1

What's next? Science Grade 8 or Science Grade 8 – H/PreAP

This is a course designed for the student who has demonstrated the ability and interest in science above and beyond that which is offered in the regular Science 7 course. The students are given a life science base with an integration of chemistry, physics, and earth science. Concepts, which are found in common with other sciences, will be emphasized in themes covering topics on environmental interactions, systems and structures, energy and changes over time. **Independent science research is a requirement of Honors Science.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

70510B *Physical Education*

Grade Placement: 7

Prerequisite: None

Credit: .5 – 1

What's next? Physical Education 8

Students enrolled in this course will understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. Students will continue to acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continued social development through physical activity. Instruction is directed more toward encouraging the incorporation of physical activity into a daily routine and less toward fundamental skill development. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports. Students enrolled in physical education could experience activity levels of moderate to high intensity.

Physical Fitness Assessment

Each student identified by the Texas Education Agency will participate in an annual physical fitness assessment. The Fitnessgram assessment instrument will contain criterion-referenced standards specific to a student's age and gender based on the physical fitness level required for good health. Good health components will include an aerobic capacity, body composition, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and a flexibility assessment.

Coordinated School Health Program

Students will receive instruction in Plano ISD's Coordinated School Health Program. This program is a systemic approach to advancing student academic performance by promoting, practicing and coordinating school health education and services for the benefit and well-being of students. This program will help to establish health behaviors in students designed to last their lifetime. The curriculum will include lessons in physical fitness, health and wellness, decision-making, self-esteem/body image, nutrition, mental health/stress, your body systems, growth and development, diseases and disorders, drugs and alcohol, and personal safety.

Course Descriptions - Eighth Grade

LANGUAGE ARTS: ENGLISH

801001 English Language Arts 8

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: English Language Arts 7

Credit: 1

What's next? English I or English I – H/PreAP (high school)

In this course, students will learn and practice reading comprehension, interpretation, and analysis processes through the study of literary and informational texts. With an emphasis on collaborative discussions to discover and develop understandings about texts, students will keep records of their reading responses and experiences and use these as the foundation for analytical writings. Using the writing process, students will compose literary texts (poetry and imaginative stories), expository texts, and persuasive texts. Language study in this course emphasizes grammar, spelling, sentence development, punctuation, and capitalization.

801031 English Language Arts 8 – Honors

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: Honors Criteria and/or English/Language Arts Honors Grade 7

Credit: 1

What's next? English I or English I – H/PreAP (high school)

This course is designed for students who wish to have a more challenging and rigorous eighth-grade English Language Arts experience. In addition to the emphasis areas listed above, ELA 8 Honors students will be afforded opportunities to engage in more challenging reading and writing experiences with deeper levels of instruction.

LANGUAGE ARTS: READING

801551 Reading 8

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

This course is designed for students who would benefit from a continued integrated experience in English Language Arts. Students will learn and practice reading/cognitive strategies to improve skills in comprehension, fluency and vocabulary through authentic reading experiences using a variety of materials. This course is recommended for students who need additional reading instruction for academic success. This is a two-semester course.

801451 Multi-Sensory Reading

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: This course is designated for students who meet diagnostic criteria.

Credit: .5 – 1

This multisensory approach of language establishes procedures for systematically teaching speech-sound, spelling-sound patterns, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

807001 Spanish 8

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: Spanish 7

Credit: 1

What's next? Spanish II or Spanish II H

This class is the second half of Spanish I, and continues the introduction to the Spanish language and culture. Students in this course will develop speaking, writing, and reading proficiency on topics dealing with the everyday life of a student. Students will be guided in recognizing the interrelationships between cultures and will be able to identify cultural perspectives and practices of the Spanish speaking world. The focus of this course is developing Novice mid proficiency. **This course is conducted in Spanish a significant amount of time. Students will receive high school credit and high school grade points after successfully completing both Spanish 7 and 8.**

807501 French 8

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: French 7

Credit: 1

What's next? French II or French II H

This class is the second half of French I, and continues the introduction to the French language and culture. Students in this course will develop speaking, writing, and reading proficiency on topics dealing with the everyday life of a student. Students will be guided in recognizing the interrelationships between cultures and will be able to identify cultural perspectives and practices of the Francophone world. The focus of this course is developing Novice mid proficiency. **This course is conducted in French a significant amount of time. Students will receive high school credit and high school grade points after successfully completing both French 7 and 8. This course may not be offered on all campuses.**

504401 Advanced Placement Spanish IV

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: Spanish III Honors OR Diagnostic Exam

Credit: 1

What's next? Consider taking another language in High School

This accelerated course is for students who can demonstrate Intermediate Mid or higher proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing. The Advanced Placement Spanish IV prepares students to sit for the Spanish Language & Culture Advanced Placement Exam. Students will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the target culture, incorporate interdisciplinary topics, make cultural comparisons, and communicate in a variety of settings. Using current events, global viewpoints and cultural literature, integrated resources, and content-based instruction, students will develop an increased awareness in the products, practices, and perspectives of the Spanish speaking world. The expected outcome of this course is developing Intermediate high/Advanced proficiency. **This course is conducted in Spanish. Students will receive high school credit and high school grade points after successfully completing Advanced Placement Spanish IV. This course may not be offered on all campuses.**

MATHEMATICS

802001 Mathematics 8

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: Mathematics 7

Credit: 1

What's next? Algebra I

The primary focal points in Mathematics 8 include geometric relationships (Pythagorean Theorem, transformations, angle relationships); using algebraic and graphical representations to represent proportional and non-proportional situations; measuring three-dimensional figures; and using statistical procedures to describe data. Student will use tools, technology, and representations to explore and communicate mathematical ideas.

802231 Honors Algebra I

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: Honors Mathematics 7 or Mathematics 8

Credit: 1

What's next? Geometry H/Pre-AP

Algebra I extends concepts from Mathematics 8 to provide students with a more focused learning around functional relationships. The primary focal points in Honors Algebra I include the study of linear, quadratic, and exponential functions and their related transformations, equations, and associated solutions. Students will use a variety of representations (concrete, pictorial, numerical, symbolic, graphical, and verbal), tools, and technology to model mathematical situations to solve meaningful problems.

SOCIAL STUDIES

804001 Grade 8 Social Studies
(US History from the early colonial period through Reconstruction)

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

What's next? World Geography, PreAP World Geography, AP Human Geography or World History PreAP

This course focuses on the beginning of America through the era of Reconstruction. Students will be introduced to the social, cultural, political, and economic happenings, which shaped early America. Studies will focus on contributions of various early groups and the basic elements of United States citizenship, including introduction to the Constitution, the structure and function of our national government, and the implications of the Bill of Rights. The concept of America as a pluralistic society and the elements of geography, which are necessary for a better understanding of the historical content, are an integral part of this course.

804041 Grade 8 PACE Social Studies
(US History from the early colonial period through Reconstruction)

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: GT Identification

Credit: 1

What's next? World Geography, PreAP World Geography, or AP Human Geography and Humanities (Pre-AP/H English1 and AP World History)

Students will be introduced to the social, cultural, political and economic events and philosophies which shaped early America. Students will examine the emergence and growth of the early English colonies in North America, and trace the development of representative government to the basic elements of the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the structure and function of our government today. The student's journey will continue with an exploration of the 19th century challenges of leadership, expansion, and conflict and resolution in the emerging nation that contributed to the development of the country and the American identity. Additionally, throughout year, the study of the Humanities (American art, music, literature, and architecture) will be examined in context to build a greater depth of understanding regarding the creation of the American ethos.

SCIENCE

Those science courses, which offer dissection as a means of instruction, will provide alternative assignments for those students and parents who have justifiable objections to dissection.

803001 Science Grade 8

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

What's next? Biology

Science Grade 8 will focus on earth science with an integration of chemistry, physics, and life science. Use of laboratory equipment, safety rules, measurement techniques, graphing and recording analysis, and interpretation of data will be stressed. The content that will be emphasized is environmental interactions, systems and structures, energy and changes over time. This course will show relevance to student learning and understanding of science.

**803031 Science Grade 8 –
H/PreAP**

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: Honors criteria and/or Science
Grade 7 H

Credit: 1

What's next? Biology or Biology – H/IH/PreAP

This accelerated course is designed for the student who has demonstrated the ability and interest in science above and beyond that which is offered in the regular Science 8 course. Use of laboratory equipment, safety rules, measurement techniques, graphing and recording analysis, and interpretation of data will be stressed. Science Grade 8 Honors will focus on earth science with an integration of chemistry, physics and life science. Preparing the student to enter advanced high school sciences will be emphasized. **Independent science research is a requirement of Science Honors.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

80510 B Physical Education

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: None

Credit: .5 – 1

What's next? Aerobic Activities, Adventure/Outdoor Activities, Team Sports, Individual Sports, Weight Training, or Foundations of Personal Fitness (high school). Team Sport Officiating may be taken for an elective credit.

Students enrolled in this course will understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. Students will continue to acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continued social development through physical activity. Students will begin to understand the need to remain physically active throughout life by participating in enjoyable lifetime activities. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports. Students enrolled in physical education could experience activity levels of moderate to high intensity.

*Four semesters of physical education must be completed in grades 6 through 8. If the student has completed 3 semesters prior to 8th grade, one semester credit of physical education in 8th grade is required.

Physical Fitness Assessment

Each student identified by the Texas Education Agency will participate in an annual physical fitness assessment. The Fitnessgram assessment instrument will contain criterion-referenced standards specific to a student's age and gender based on the physical fitness level required for good health. Good health components will include an aerobic capacity, body composition, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and a flexibility assessment.

Coordinated School Health Program

Students will receive instruction in Plano ISD's Coordinated School Health Program. This program is a systemic approach to advancing student academic performance by promoting, practicing and coordinating school health education and services for the benefit and well-being of students. This program will help to establish health behaviors in students designed to last their lifetime. The curriculum will include lessons in physical fitness, health and wellness, decision-making, self-esteem/body image, nutrition, mental health/stress, your body systems, growth and development, diseases and disorders, drugs and alcohol, and personal safety.

Career & Technical Education

Career & Technical Education (CTE) offers an opportunity for students to learn skills they may use in high school, in college, in a career after graduation, and/or as a financial means to help further their education. CTE blends academics and career preparation to produce well-rounded graduates ready for the opportunities of the world. **The following courses may not be offered at all campuses. Please see the school counselor for more information.**

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE (FCS) COURSES

70850B *Skills and Career*
80850B *Readiness*

Grade Placement: 7 - 8
Prerequisite: None
Credit: .5

This CTE course is designed to encourage students to start the process of becoming career ready. They will complete personal assessments, explore career clusters, and develop skills for personal, academic, and professional success. Students will research and create a presentation on a career that aligns with their interests. Students will learn and utilize effective employability skills such as teamwork, problem solving, time management, plus goal setting. Labs include food and nutrition lessons allowing students to create better food products. The design and construction unit stresses basic hand and machine sewing skills ending with a machine sewn project. Wise consumer principles and elements of design are also incorporated.

70840B *Life and College*
80840B *Readiness*

Grade Placement: 7 - 8
Prerequisite: None (*Skills and Career Readiness is recommended, but not required*)
Credit: .5

This CTE course is an extension of Skills and Career Readiness. The course is designed to encourage students to start the process of preparing and choosing the right college. Students will explore colleges based on career interests and will include their high school graduation plans and post-secondary opportunities. Students will research and create a college presentation on a college that aligns with their goals. In addition, students will gain an understanding of personal money management through the use of technology which includes planning a budget that will support their desired lifestyle. Labs include food and nutrition lessons to advance their skills in creating innovative and healthy food products. The design and construction labs enhance hand and machine sewing skills while creating a useful machine sewn project. Lab participation involves learning and modeling skills for personal and professional success such as decision making, teamwork, and time management.

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY COURSES

80927B *Gateway to Technology –*
Design &
Modeling/Automation &
Robotics

Grade Placement: 8
Prerequisite: None
Credit: .5

In this hands-on course, students learn how technology is used in engineering to solve everyday problems. This math, science, engineering, and technology integrated program relates technology to student's daily lives. Design and Modeling will introduce students to the design process and use that process to show how solid modeling has influenced their lives. Students will also explore the history and development of automation and robotics while learning about structures, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. This mathematics, science, engineering, and technology curriculum helps students develop and hone skills that enable them to enter high school with a foundation of the knowledge and skills necessary for success in pre-engineering. PLTW is a nationally recognized program that promotes pre-engineering courses at the middle and high school/senior high level. **Students will receive high school credit and high school grade points.**

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY COURSES CONTINUED

70915B/ 80915B ***Investigating Audio
Visual, Arts, and
Communications***

Grade Placement: 7 - 8
Prerequisite: None
Credit: .5

While doing fun and engaging activities, students will discover the skills needed for college and career readiness, learn about the labor market, and develop skills for success in the workplace. Students will also investigate how computers can be used to create and manipulate computer graphics using SimCity, work with multimedia, and design using Google Sketchup, a 3D modeling software. Different opportunities will be provided to use Photoshop, develop successful cities in simulated environment, and explore effective communication through various multimedia outlets.

70900B/ 80900B ***Exploring Information
and Computer
Technology***

Grade Placement: 7 - 8
Prerequisite: None
Credit: .5

Students will explore the technology behind computer software and hardware, using No Limits Roller Coaster, a 3D simulation software to design, build and ride virtual roller coasters, create web pages using HTML, build and program Lego robots, learn to program computers to make animations and interactive games with Game Maker, and learn how to effectively use presentation software to communicate your ideas. While doing fun and engaging activities, students will also discover the skills needed for college and career readiness, learn about the labor market, and develop skills for success in the workplace.

Fine Arts Education

The Fine Arts department offers opportunities for students to explore musical expression through Band, Choir or Orchestra participation, creative expression through Visual Arts courses, both acting and theatrical production through Theatre Arts and hone their public speaking and debate skills through Speech classes. One Fine Arts Course (Art, Music or Theatre) is required by the Texas Education Agency for every student in grades 6-8. **The following courses may not be offered at all campuses. Please see the school counselor for more information.**

<u>Band</u>

Beginning Band

606221 - Flute
606201 - Clarinet
606251 - Saxophone
606211 - Oboe
606301 - Bassoon
606271 - Trumpet/Cornet
606231 - Horn
606281 - Euphonium
606321 - Tuba
606261 - Trombone
606241 - Percussion

Grade Placement: 6
Prerequisite: None
Credit: 1

This course is designed to teach the basic fundamentals of playing a band instrument. Areas of focus will include characteristic tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Each student will provide his/her own instrument for this class with the exception of oboe, bassoon, horn, euphonium, tuba, and large percussion instruments which will be provided by the school for a small fee. Students will perform in concerts outside the school day during the school year. Students will have the opportunity to perform at a solo festival and concert festival in the spring. **Limited outside of school rehearsals and performances will be required.** No previous musical experience is necessary. Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

706201 *Band – Concert* **806201**

Grade Placement: 7 - 8
Prerequisite: Audition
Credit: 1

This course provides an opportunity for students to continue instrumental development at an intermediate or intermediate advanced level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will perform at concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

706221 *Band - Symphonic* **806221**

Grade Placement: 7 - 8
Prerequisite: Audition
Credit: 1

This course provides an opportunity for students to continue instrumental development at an advanced level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will perform at concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

706241 *Band – Wind Ensemble*
806241

Grade Placement: 7 - 8
Prerequisite: Audition and teacher approval
Credit: 1

This course provides an opportunity for students to continue instrumental development to a mastery level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will perform at concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required. This is a full-year course. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

Choir

606301 *Beginning Choir*

Grade Placement: 6
Prerequisite: None
Credit: 1

This course is designed to teach the basic fundamentals of choral singing, largely in the treble range for this first year. Areas of focus will include characteristic, age-appropriate tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Multiple sections of beginning choir typically combine for performances. Students will perform in concerts outside the school day during the school year. Students may have the opportunity to perform at a solo festival and concert festival in the spring. **Limited outside of school rehearsals and performances will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. No previous musical experience is necessary.

Intermediate Choir

706351 - *Mixed Choir*
706361 - *Tenor/Bass Choir*
706371 - *Treble Choir*

Grade Placement: 7 - 8
Prerequisite: Audition
Credit: 1

This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an intermediate level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic, age-appropriate tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Ensembles at this level may be gender specific or mixed gender at the discretion of the director. Students will perform at concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

Advanced Choir

806351 - Mixed Choir

806361 - Tenor/Bass Choir

806371 - Treble Choir

Grade Placement: 7 - 8

Prerequisite: Audition

Credit: 1

This course provides an opportunity for students to continue choral development at an advanced level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic, age-appropriate tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Ensembles at this level may be gender specific or mixed gender at the discretion of the director. Students will perform at concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

Orchestra

Beginning Orchestra

606461 - Violin

606441 - Viola

606421 - Cello

606401 - Double Bass

606481 - Beginning Orchestra

Grade Placement: 6

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

This course is designed to teach the basic fundamentals of playing an orchestra instrument. Areas of focus will include characteristic tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Each student will provide his/her own instrument for this class with the exception of cello and bass which will be provided by the school for a small fee. Students will perform in concerts outside the school day during the school year. Students will have the opportunity to perform at a solo festival and concert festival in the spring. **Limited outside of school rehearsals and performances will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. No previous musical experience is necessary.

706401 Intermediate Orchestra

806401

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: Audition

Credit: 1

This course provides an opportunity for students to continue instrumental development at an intermediate level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will perform at concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

706421 Advanced Intermediate

806421 Orchestra

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: Audition

Credit: 1

This course provides an opportunity for students to continue instrumental development at an advanced intermediate level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will perform at concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

706431 *Advanced Orchestra*
806431

Grade Placement: 7 and 8
Prerequisite: Audition
Credit: 1

This course provides an opportunity for students to continue instrumental development at an advanced level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will perform at concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

706471 *Chamber Orchestra*
806471

Grade Placement: 7 and 8
Prerequisite: Audition
Credit: 1

This course provides an opportunity for students to continue instrumental development to a mastery level. Through appropriate literature for this level students will focus on continued development of characteristic tone, tonality, meter, rhythm, form, articulation, dynamics, balance, notation/terminology, melody/line, harmony, scales/patterns, posture, hand position, and technique. Students will perform at concerts on and off campus including UIL competitions. Students may participate in individual activities such as solo and ensemble contest and All-Region auditions. **Student attendance at rehearsals and performances outside of school will be required.** Course placement is determined by audition. This is a full-year course.

Speech

70650B *Speech 1-Introduction to*
80650B *Public Speaking*

Grade Placement: 7 and 8
Prerequisite: None
Credit: .5

Students will develop skills focused on five identifiable functions of expressing and responding appropriately to feelings, participating in social traditions, informing, persuading, creating, and imagining. To become competent communicators through verbal and nonverbal messages, presentation skills and effective social practices will emerge. Students will develop and apply skills in using oral language, nonverbal communication, and listening in interpersonal, group, academic, and public contexts. The student will be given the opportunity to understand the communication process, and will participate in social traditions in order to develop procedural communication processes, respond with informative messages, and develop an understanding of persuasion.

70660B/1 *Speech 2-Introduction*
80660B/1 *to Debate*

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: Speech 1-Introduction to Public Speaking

Credit: .5 or 1

Students will continue to develop skills focused on five identifiable functions of expressing and responding appropriately to feelings, participating in social traditions, informing, persuading, creating, and imagining with an emphasis on the formats and forms for various debate methods. To become competent communicators, students will develop and apply skills in using oral language, nonverbal communication, and listening through the process of logic and critical thinking in the context of preparing briefs and cases. The student will be given the opportunity to continue an understanding of the communication process, express and respond to verbal and nonverbal messages, develop procedural communication processes, respond with informative and negative case messages, develop an understanding of persuasion and learn to write, present and compete in various public speaking events. **Students will be expected to participate in classroom presentations and local speech tournaments as a required performance component.**

70665B/1 *Speech 2-Introduction*
80665B/1 *to Oral Interpretation*

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: Speech 1-Introduction to Public Speaking

Credit: .5 or 1

Students will continue to develop skills focused on five identifiable functions of expressing and responding appropriately to feelings, participating in social traditions, informing, persuading, creating, and imagining. To become competent communicators, students will develop and apply skills in using oral language, nonverbal communication, and listening through the principals of the oral interpretation of literature. The student will be given the opportunity to understand the communication process, express and respond to verbal and nonverbal performance techniques, and participate in the performance process in order to develop an artistic understanding, respond with criticism, and develop an understanding of different genres and character development. **Students will be expected to participate in classroom presentations and local speech tournaments as a required performance component.**

70667B/1 *Speech 3-Advanced*
80667B/1 *Debate*

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: Speech 1-Introduction to Public Speaking , Speech 2-Introduction to Debate

Credit: .5 or 1

Students will continue to develop skills focused on five identifiable functions of expressing and responding appropriately to feelings, participating in social traditions, informing, persuading, creating, and imagining with an emphasis on the formats and forms for various debate methods. To become competent communicators, students will develop and apply skills in using oral language, nonverbal communication, and listening through the process of logic and critical thinking in the context of preparing briefs and cases. The student will be given the opportunity to continue an understanding of the communication process, express and respond to verbal and nonverbal messages, develop procedural communication processes, respond with informative and negative case messages, develop an understanding of persuasion and learn to write, present and compete in various public speaking events. **Students will be expected to participate in classroom presentations and local speech tournaments as a required performance component.**

70668B/1 *Speech 3- Advanced*
80668B/1 *Oral Interpretation*

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: Speech 1-Introduction to Public Speaking , Speech 2-Introduction to Oral Interpretation

Credit: .5 or 1

Students will continue to develop skills focused on five identifiable functions of expressing and responding appropriately to feelings, participating in social traditions, informing, persuading, creating, and imagining. To become competent communicators, students will develop and apply skills in using oral language, nonverbal communication, and listening through the principals of the oral interpretation of literature. The student will be given the opportunity to understand the communication process, express and respond to verbal and nonverbal performance techniques, and participate in the performance process in order to develop an artistic understanding, respond with criticism, and develop an understanding of different genres and character development. **Students will be expected to participate in classroom presentations and local speech tournaments as a required performance component.**

Theatre

70670B *Theatre 1-Introduction to*
80670B *Theatre*

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: None

Credit: .5

Students will develop a perception of self, human relationships, and the world using elements of drama and conventions of theatre. With an emphasis on all aspects of theatre study, students will be introduced to basic acting, directing, movement, technical theatre, literature, voice, and design. Through creative expression, students communicate in a dramatic form, engage in artistic thinking, build positive self-concepts, relate interpersonally, and integrate knowledge with other content areas in a relevant manner. Students increase their understanding of heritage and traditions in theatre and the diversity of world cultures as expressed in theatre. Through performance opportunities, technical theatre skills and artistic practices, students learn to accept constructive criticism, revise personal views to promote creative and critical thinking, and develop the ability to appreciate, construct and evaluate live theatre.

70680B *Theatre 2-Intermediate*
80680B *Theatre*

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: Theatre 1- Introduction to Theatre

Credit: .5

Students will continue to develop a perception of self, human relationships, and the world using advanced elements of drama and conventions of theatre. With an emphasis on all aspects of theatre study, students will be introduced to basic acting, directing, movement, technical theatre, literature, voice, and design. Through creative expression, students communicate in a dramatic form, engage in artistic thinking, build positive self-concepts, relate interpersonally, and integrate knowledge with other content areas in a relevant manner. Students increase their understanding of heritage and traditions in theatre and the diversity of world cultures as expressed in theatre. Through performance opportunities and artistic practices, students learn to accept constructive criticism, revise personal views to promote creative and critical thinking, and develop the ability to appreciate, construct and evaluate live theatre.

70685B/1 Theatre 2-Technical
80685B/1 Theatre

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: None

Credit: .5 or 1

Students will continue to develop a perception of self, human relationships, and the world using elements of technical theatre. Through creative expression, students learn to communicate concepts of technical theatre practices through set construction, theatrical lighting, sound system operations, stage and shop safety, stage management and engage in artistic thinking, build positive self-concepts, relate interpersonally, and integrate knowledge with other content areas in a relevant manner. Students increase their understanding of heritage and traditions in theatre and the diversity of world cultures as expressed in theatre. Through the pre-production process through concept to performance, students learn to accept constructive criticism, revise personal views to promote creative and critical thinking, and develop the ability to appreciate, construct and evaluate live theatre.

70683B/1 Theatre 3-Advanced
80683B/1 Theatre

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: Theatre 1- Introduction to Theatre ,
Theatre 2 -Intermediate Theatre

Credit: .5 or 1

Students will continue to develop a perception of self, human relationships, and the world using advanced elements of drama and conventions of theatre. With an emphasis on all aspects of theatre study, students will be introduced to basic acting, directing, movement, technical theatre, literature, voice, and design. Through creative expression, students communicate in a dramatic form, engage in artistic thinking, build positive self-concepts, relate interpersonally, and integrate knowledge with other content areas in a relevant manner. Students increase their understanding of heritage and traditions in theatre and the diversity of world cultures as expressed in theatre. Through performance opportunities and artistic practices, students learn to accept constructive criticism, revise personal views to promote creative and critical thinking, and develop the ability to appreciate, construct and evaluate live theatre.

70687B/1 Theatre 3-Advanced
80687B/1 Technical Theatre

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: Theatre 2-Technical Theatre

Credit: .5 or 1

Students will continue to develop a perception of self, human relationships, and the world using elements of technical theatre. Through creative expression, students learn to communicate concepts of technical theatre practices through set construction, theatrical lighting, sound system operations, stage and shop safety, stage management and engage in artistic thinking, build positive self-concepts, relate interpersonally, and integrate knowledge with other content areas in a relevant manner. Students increase their understanding of heritage and traditions in theatre and the diversity of world cultures as expressed in theatre. Through the pre-production process through concept to performance, students learn to accept constructive criticism, revise personal views to promote creative and critical thinking, and develop the ability to appreciate, construct and evaluate live theatre.

Visual Arts

70600B Art 2D
80600B

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: None

Credit: .5

Art 2D is the study and creation of art in two-dimensions. Students will work with the elements and principles of design and technique in drawing, painting, graphic design, photography, collage, and printmaking. Materials will include pencil, charcoal, ink, watercolor, tempera paint, etc.

70610B *Art 3D*

80610B

Grade Placement: 7 and 8

Prerequisite: None

Credit: .5

Art 3D is the study and creation of art in three-dimensions. Students will study the various sculpture techniques and sculpture processes of ceramics, wire, paper, cardboard, plaster, etc. Students will study art history, art criticism, and aesthetics in art.

80615B *Advanced Art*

806151

Grade Placement: 8

Prerequisite: 2D Art and/or 3D Art ;Teacher Approval

Credit: .5 or 1

Advanced Art is designed for students who demonstrate exceptional talent and have a desire to further their advancement in the study of art in the various mediums. Students will experience techniques in two-dimensional and three-dimensional, as well as explore advanced ideas in art history, art criticism, and aesthetics. This course will prepare students for high school and AP art programs. Enrollment is by teacher approval.

Other Electives

The following elective courses may not be offered at all campuses. Please see the school counselor for more information.

70180B ***Yearbook***

80180B

Grade Placement: 7-8

Prerequisite: Application is required

Credit: .5

This semester long course is designed for students who wish to create and market a yearbook that records their middle school's memories and events. Students will learn design, technology, journalism, photography, advertising, and interpersonal skills. Students have the opportunity to design page layouts, learn basic photography and computer skills, interview peers and staff, write stories and photo captions, learn time management and organization skills, and create sales campaigns. Yearbook production is a creative process that also incorporates real-world skills like working as a team and meeting deadlines. **This course may not be offered on every campus.**

701801 ***Yearbook/Journalism***

801801

Grade Placement: 7-8

Prerequisite: Application is required

Credit: 1

This year long course is designed for students who wish to create and market a yearbook that records their middle school's memories and events. Students will learn design, technology, journalism, photography, advertising, and interpersonal skills. Students have the opportunity to design page layouts, learn basic photography and computer skills, interview peers and staff, write stories and photo captions, learn time management and organization skills, and create sales campaigns. Yearbook production is a creative process that also incorporates real-world skills like working as a team and meeting deadlines. **This course may not be offered on every campus.**