



RICE MIDDLE SCHOOL
Home of the Ravens



8th Grade
Parent Information Night

Course Requirements

- Math
- US History
- Science
- English
- PE or Athletics (1 or 2 semesters)

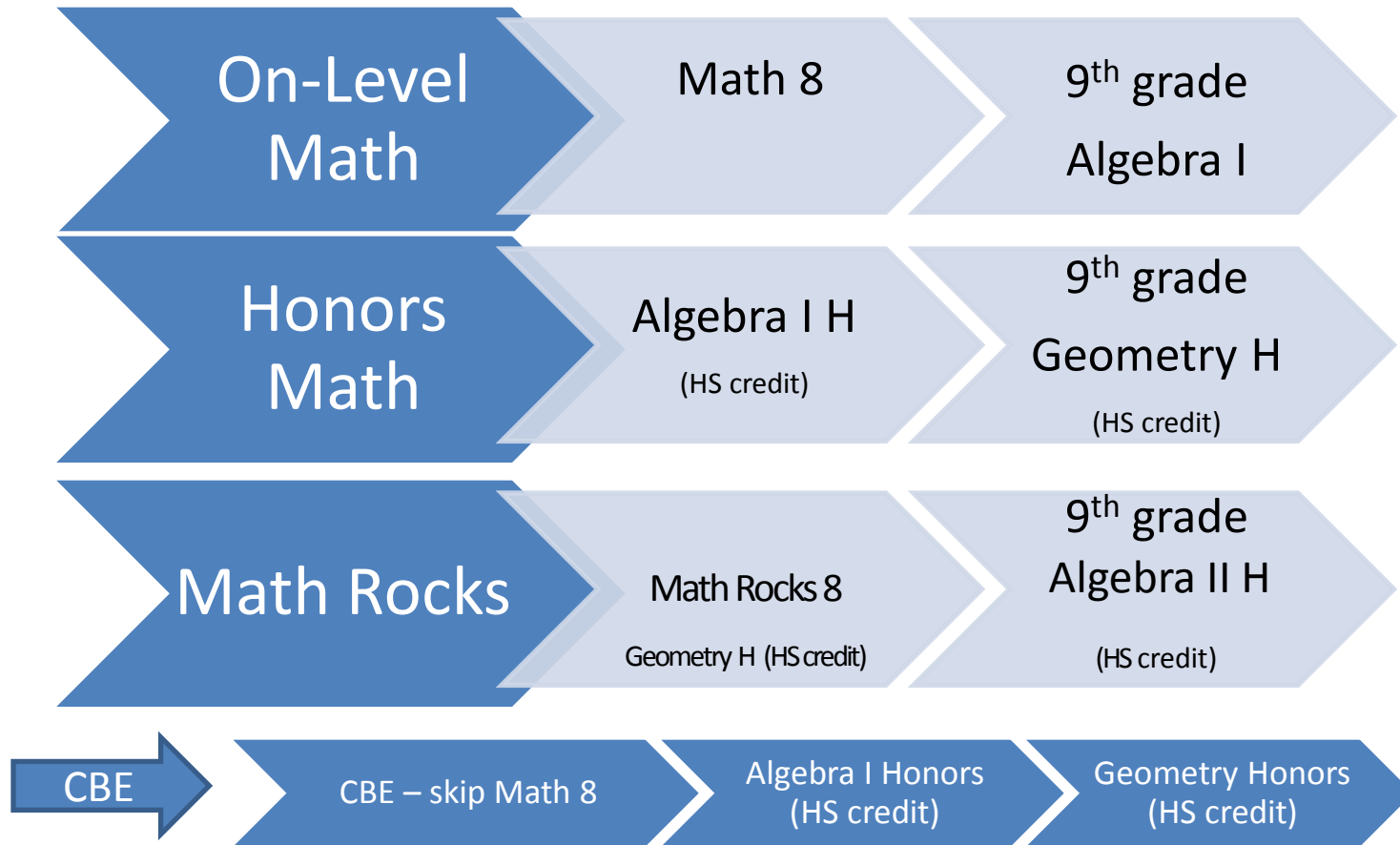
Honors Criteria

Honors placement is based on 5 Criteria:

1. STAAR
 2. CogAT
 3. MAP
 4. Teacher Recommendations
 5. Semester averages in class (85+)
- ❖ A student must meet at least 3 out of the 5 criteria to qualification for an honors class.
 - ❖ A student may qualify for all Honors classes, but this does not mean they should take all Honors classes.
 - ❖ Appeal Form

8th Grade Math

- Credit by Exam is an option for 8th grade math.
- **NO CBE for Algebra I.**



8th Grade Social Studies

- United States History
- PACE United States History
- ❖ Students who are currently enrolled in PACE do not re-test in Middle School.
- ❖ PACE is serviced through Social Studies.

8th Grade Science

- Science 8
- Science 8H
- ❖ Science 8H first semester- requires participation in Science Fair or Independent Research Project.
- ❖ Students are only allowed to drop Honors Science during first 6 weeks. After that they must wait until semester.

8th Grade English

- English 8
- English 8H

8th Grade Reading Classes

Reading placements will be determined at the end of the Spring Semester. Teachers will look at MAP and STAAR scores, in addition to grades and teacher recommendations, to determine reading placements.

8th grade Reading structure:

- Students will have the same teacher for Reading 8 and English 8 for their entire 8th grade year. This will allow for continuity between students and teachers to build a stronger reading foundation that will benefit all subject areas.

At the end of the year, your child's ELA teacher will be contacting you regarding placements. You will only hear from your child's ELA teacher if they are recommending your child for Reading in 8th grade.

8th Grade Athletics

- Rigorous physical activity aimed at preparing students for participation in high school Athletics.
- Boys Athletics is 7th period.
- Girls Athletics is 1st period.
- Boys Athletics: football, basketball and off season
- Girls Athletics: volleyball and basketball

8th Grade Athletics

- Track and Cross Country are after school activities. Students are not required to be in athletics to participate.
- All athletes need physicals
- Athletic participation on a team is tied to UIL guidelines. Students must average a 70 in classes to participate in competitive events.
- Coaches will have information available about sports and physicals at the end of the year.

8th Grade Boys Athletics

- All boys enrolled in 1st semester athletics are expected to play Football.
- Basketball only players will try out in October/November and if they makes the team their schedule will be changed.
- 2nd semester athletics is off-season conditioning and is open to all boys that want to register for the class.

8th Grade Girl Athletics

- Girls, currently in 7th grade athletics, can sign up for athletics in 8th grade. Tryouts are still required for volleyball and basketball.
- Girls currently not in athletics can tryout. If they make a team their schedule will be changed.
 - Volleyball tryouts are the first of the school year
 - Basketball tryouts are in October/November
- Girls will stay in off season conditioning after their sport season is over.

OCPE

Students applying for Off-Campus Physical Education will be considered under two (2) categories.

- **CATEGORY ONE:** These programs involve a minimum of fifteen (15) hours per week of highly intense, professionally supervised training. Students qualifying at this level may be dismissed from school one period per day for such participation.
- **CATEGORY TWO:** These programs are to be of high quality, well supervised by appropriately trained instructors, and consisting of a minimum of ten (10) hours per week. Students certified to participate at this level **MAY NOT** be dismissed from any part of the regular school day.
- OCPE information can be found at-
<http://www.pisd.edu/students/athletics/off.campus.pe.shtml>

Year Long Electives

- Band (UIL)
- Orchestra (UIL)
- Choir (UIL)
- Athletics (UIL)
- Spanish 8 (must complete Spanish 7 – HS credit course)
- French 8 (must complete French 7 – HS credit course)
- AVID (application)
- Speech III – Tournament Prep (application)
- Yearbook (application)

Semester Electives

- Art 2D
- Art 3D
- Honors Art (teacher recommendation required)
- Skills for Living
- Life Management (must take Skills for Living)
- Theater I
- Theater II (must take Theater I)
- Speech I
- Gateway to Technology (HS credit course)
- Debate- Speech II (application)
- HOPE (application)
- Student Assistant (application)

Rice Middle School

8th Grade Registration 2017-2018

Name: _____ ID # _____ DOB ____/____/____

Mother: _____ Father: _____

Email: _____ Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

	1 st Semester	2 nd Semester	Semester Electives	Year-long Electives
ELA		→	Art 2D Art 3D	Spanish 8 *Spanish 7 required French 8 *French 7 required
Math		→	Honors Art *teacher approval Skills for Living	Yearbook *application Speech III *application AVID *application and interview
Science		→	Life Management *SFL required Theater I	
US History		→	Theater II *Theater I required Debate *application	Band Choir Orchestra
PE/Athletics /Elective			Speech I HOPE *application	
Elective			Student Assistant *application Gateway to Technology *HS credit	
Elective				
Alternate Electives			PE: Students are required to take 4 semesters of PE/Athletics during middle school. Track and Cheerleading DO NOT count for PE credits. Athletics: See back of the card. →	
School Use Only ELA H__ Science H__ PACE__ Algebra IH__ Math Rocks__ Geometry H__ CMIT__ 504__ Sped__ Reading 8__ Power Math__			Reading and Power Math: Decisions about placement in Reading and Power Math will be made at the end of the school year. See back of card for more information. →	

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____

Card due back to your TX. History/PACE teacher no later than Friday January 20, 2017

Last day to make schedule changes is June 2, 2017

8th Grade Registration Information

- ⇒ **Honors placement** is based on district criteria. Honors courses are offered in ENGLISH, MATH, and SCIENCE for those who qualify. If your child qualifies for an honors class and does not wish to participate, please indicate this on the BLUE honors opt out form. You may appeal your child's placement in honors classes by completing the YELLOW appeals application in your child's packet. Fill out the form and return it to the counseling office on or before the due date on the application. Appeals committee decisions will be made before the end of the school year and you will be notified by email or phone of their decision.
- ⇒ **French or Spanish** is a two-year program that will equal one high school credit. Students may not start Spanish or French in the 8th grade if they did not complete Spanish 7 or French 7. French and Spanish are high school credit courses and will be reflected on a student's high school transcript. Spanish 8 and French 8 are year-long courses and cannot be dropped at the semester.
- ⇒ **Athletics** takes the place of the required PE class.
- Boys:** You are required to play football if you sign up for Athletics 1st semester.
You can take off-season athletics, 2nd semester, if you do not play football or basketball
- Girls:** If you are currently in athletics, you can sign up for 8th grade girls athletics.
Tryouts will still be required and are open to any girl not currently in athletics.
- **Cheerleading and Track**** are after-school sports and do not replace PE or impact a student's schedule.
- ⇒ A student may be required to take **Power Math** (2 semesters) or **Reading** (2 semesters) based on STAAR scores, MAP scores, grades, and teacher input. **Placement in one or both of these classes will result in dropping one or more elective courses.**
- ⇒ Band, Choir, Orchestra, Speech III, Yearbook and AVID are year-long elective classes. Students may not drop these classes at the end of the first semester.
- ⇒ If you are interested in Off Campus PE, go to the Plano ISD website: <http://www.pisd.edu/students/athletics/off.campus.pe.shtml>
- ⇒ If you are interested in Credit by Exam, go to the PISD website:
<http://k-12.pisd.edu/research/CreditBYExam/HomePage/HomePage.htm>

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Credit by Exam (CBE)

CBE information can be found at-

<http://www.pisd.edu/parents/assessment.accountability/AccelerationCreditbyExamPlanoISD.shtml>

Credit by Exam for high school courses cannot be taken for STAAR EOC courses:

Algebra I, Biology, US History and English II

Student in 8th grade cannot take Credit by Exam for high school credit courses until they have completed 8th grade.

These courses would include:

Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, Foreign Language, Health, Professional Communications, and PE Foundations.

High School Credit Courses

The following courses will award high school credit to middle school student:

1. Spanish 7 and Spanish 8 = Spanish I credit
2. French 7 and French 8 = French I credit
3. Gateway to Technology = .5 semester elective credit
4. Algebra I Honors = required math credit
5. Math Rocks 7 = Algebra I Honors = required math credit
6. Geometry Honors = required math credit
7. Math Rocks 8 = Geometry Honors = required math credit

ALL of these courses will be recorded on a student's high school transcript and count towards their overall high school grade point average.

When do we plan for high school?

- Academic Conferences for 9th grade registration will take place in February 2018
- Academy High Schools accept applications in the fall of 2017 – you can find more information about the Academy Schools here:
<http://www.pisd.edu/Academies/index.shtml>
- Our feeder pattern is **Rice** >> **Jasper** >> **West**

Your child's counselor for 8th grade will
continue to be Ms. Edwards

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469-752-6017