

NEW CANEY ISD

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE SELECTION GUIDE

2010 – 2011



KEEFER CROSSING



Cougar Country



New Caney ISD Middle School Course Selection Guide 2010 – 2011

PUBLIC EDUCATION IN TEXAS

The direction for public education in Texas is set by the legislature and is delegated to the State Board of Education as the chief governing body of public school in Texas.

The philosophy of the State Board of Education established the framework for the goals of public school education. Public education is responsible for providing each student with the opportunity for development of knowledge, skills, and competencies that every student should possess in order to be a self-supporting, self-governing, and contributing member of society. A primary purpose of the curriculum must also be to prepare thoughtful, active citizens, who understand the importance of patriotism, can function productively in a free enterprise society, and appreciate the basic democratic values of our national heritage.

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

The middle school level of New Caney ISD provides instruction for all students based on state requirements. Course requirements mandated by the Texas Education Agency are reflected in the courses listed below. Electives are one semester (½ unit) or two semesters (1 unit). In grades 6-8, students are required to complete 4 semesters of physical education and 1 year of fine arts credit.

6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
English Lang. Arts	English Lang. Arts	English Lang. Arts
Mathematics	Mathematics **	Mathematics **
Science 6	Science 7	Science 8
Social Studies 6	Social Studies 7	Social Studies 8
Physical Education/Tech Appl	Physical Education	Elective or Reading*
Fine Arts Elective	Elective	Physical Education/Elective

* Exempt if student scores 85% or above on 7th grade TAKS – Reading.

** 1 or 2 periods of math based on Math TAKS scores

Advanced/Pre-AP/GT Classes

Students in advanced classes will be expected to go above and beyond the regular class work. The subject will be studied in a more in-depth manner and students will be required to read at or above their grade level. There will be both in class and outside projects that will require research, creativity, and independent thinking on the student's part. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.** The academically advanced student who qualifies may consider enrolling in the following classes:

Advanced/GT English/Language Arts 6	Pre-AP/GT English/Language Arts 7	Pre-AP/GT English/Language Arts 8
*ADV/GT Science 6	*Pre-AP/GT Science 7	*Pre-AP/GT Science 8
* ADV/GT Math 6	* Pre-AP/GT Math 7	*Algebra I (HS Credit)
ADV/GT Social Studies 6	Pre-AP/GT Social Studies7	Pre-AP/GT Social Studies 8
		Language Other than English (HS Credit)

***Math and science advanced courses are sequential. It is advised that math and science advance coursework be simultaneous. In these courses students move through an acceleration of the math and science curriculum starting in 6th grade students are discouraged from starting these advance courses in 7th or 8th grade.**

Content Mastery Center (CMC)

Content Mastery is designed to provide the adaptations and modifications that each individual student may need in order to help them be successful in their classes.

Courses Taken for High School Credit

Students taking high school courses while enrolled in the eighth grade earn credit toward the credits required for high school graduation. It is recommended that all students completing 8th grade, should have at least one high school credit prior to entering the 9th grade. Classes available for high school credit are: Algebra I, APEX (online course work), Art I, French I, Health, Spanish I, and Mandarin Chinese. **Grades earned in these classes will become part of the permanent high school transcript. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2009-10 school year, grades earned in middle school courses taken for high school credit in English, math, science, social studies, and languages other than English shall be included in the calculation of the weighted grade average for high school class rank.**

Credit by Exam without Prior Instruction

Students wanting information regarding credit by exam without prior instruction should contact the counseling office.

Credit by Exam with Prior Instruction

Students wanting information regarding credit by exam with prior instruction should contact the counseling office. Students may use credit by exam to gain credit when credit has been denied for excessive absences.

Eligibility Requirements for Extracurricular Activities

A student may participate in extracurricular activities by having a passing grade of 70 in ALL subjects and by meeting the other requirements set by local and state policy. See student handbook for additional information.

Grading

The State grading scale is as follows:

90-100	A
80-89	B
75-79	C
70-74	D
69-Below	F

National Junior Honor Society Requirements

The National Junior Honor Society is a wonderfully active service organization at the middle school level. New members are accepted every spring. To qualify to be a member of the N.J.H.S. you must have a cumulative average of 90 in your core subjects of Reading, Math, History, Science, and English. In addition to high grades you must also display exemplary behavior in your classrooms, the hallway, and in the community. As a member you will be expected to uphold the qualities held in high esteem by the society: scholarship, character, citizenship, leadership, and service.

Promotion to the Next Grade Level

Promotion will be based on a grade of 70 or above in language arts and mathematics and in one of the following two areas: science and/or social studies.

In grades 1-8, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on an overall average of 70 on a scale of 100 based upon course-level and grade-level standards (essential knowledge and skills) for all subject areas.

****The grade advancement requirements of the Texas Student Success Initiative (SSI), which was passed by the 76th Texas Legislature in 1999, requires that beginning in 2007-2008, Grade 8 students must meet the passing standard on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skill (TAKS) in reading and mathematics before they can be promoted to Grade 9. For more information about SSI contact the school counselor.**

Schedule Changes

Schedule changes will be considered only under the following conditions:

1. A level change in an academic area.
2. Overcrowding in a class.
3. Extenuating circumstances approved by the assistant principal or principal.
4. All requests have been submitted to the counselor before the end of the tenth school day.

Special Education Program

Special Education services are available at the middle school level. An Admission Review and Dismissal (ARD) committee schedules Special Education students. This committee consists of a parent, a student, an administrator and a teacher to develop an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) based on each individual's needs the spring before each school year. For more information, contact a campus counselor.

Standards for Mastery

Mastery shall be determined as follows:

1. Course assignments and unit evaluation shall be given to determine a student's grades in a subject. An average of 70 or higher shall be considered a passing grade.
2. Mastery of the skills necessary for success at the next level shall be validated by assessments that may either be incorporated into unit, six-week, and final exams, or may be administered separately. Mastery of at least 70 percent of the objectives shall be required.

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)

The Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) is the testing program designed to test the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and has been developed to reflect good instructional practice and to accurately measure student learning. Sixth grade students will be tested in math and reading. Seventh grade students will be tested in math, reading, and writing. Eighth grade students will be tested in math, reading, social studies, and science. Students must meet exit level testing criteria before they are eligible to receive a high school diploma.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English/Language Arts

(102) English Language Arts 6 (02800000) – Students master previously learned skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Lessons will include vocabulary, grammar usage, composition, and literature. Students will also be required to read library books to reinforce their comprehension skills.

(103/104) English Language Arts 6 Adv/GT (02800000) – Students master previously learned skills in increasingly complex presentation, reading selections, and written composition. Lessons will include vocabulary, grammar usage composition, and literature. For placement criteria see page 15. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.**

(710) English Language Arts 7 (03200540) –During the year, teachers and students put together all the pieces of the language puzzle to present thoughtful compositions that demonstrate student’s knowledge. Students will have the opportunity to read a variety of materials in order to enhance his/her reading and critical thinking skills. Students will also be required to read library books to reinforce his/her comprehension skills.

(716/715) English Language Arts 7 Pre-AP/GT (03200540) –During the year, teachers and students put together all the pieces of the language puzzle to present thoughtful compositions that demonstrate student’s knowledge. Lessons will include working with literary analysis and SAT vocabulary. For placement criteria see page 15. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.**

(820) English Language Arts 8 (03200550) – Students are presented with lessons covering vocabulary, grammar usage, compositions, and literature. During the year, teachers and students put together all the pieces of the language puzzle to present thoughtful compositions that demonstrate student’s knowledge.

(826/825) English Language Arts 8 Pre-AP/GT (03200550) – Students are presented with lessons covering vocabulary, grammar usage, compositions and literature. During the year, teachers and students put together all the pieces of the language puzzle to present thoughtful compositions that demonstrate student’s knowledge. For placement criteria see page 15. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.**

(1100) TAKS ELA (84100018)- This course is an additional class for students in grade 6 who need help mastering basic skills and developing higher order thinking skills. Participation in this class is determined by teacher recommendation and TAKS scores. This class will replace an elective.

(718/818/918) ESL (English as a Second Language) (03200400/03200500) – This course provides intensive instruction in English as a second language and emphasizes listening, speaking, reading and writing skills that permit a smooth transition into content area classes. The social use of the English language and exposure to American culture are also addressed. LPAC committee determines placement in this course.

(810) Reading 8 (03273450) - Exemption to 8th Reading will be based on scoring 85% or above on TAKS Reading in the 7th grade.

(115/722/813/822) Basic English Language Arts 6, 7, 8 (90010038) – If determined appropriate by the ARD committee, basic courses may be taken in place of general education English/Language Arts classes. A student taking a basic course has an individual education plan (IEP) written at the student’s functioning level.

(100/712/812) Basic Reading 6, 7, 8 (90010038) – This course will be offered to students who need to continue reading TEKS skills. The student taking a basic course has an IEP within the area of reading at the student’s functioning level.

(1400) Applied English Language Arts (90010303) - If determined appropriate by the ARD committee, applied courses may be taken in place of general education English/Language Arts classes. A student taking an applied course has an individual education plan (IEP) written at the student’s functioning level.

(1400/1401) Applied Reading (90010303) – This course will be offered to students who need to continue TEKS objectives in reading. Skills related to home, school, community, and workplace will be emphasized. A student taking an applied course has an IEP written at the student’s functioning level.

Math

(202) Math 6 (02820000) – This course reviews and reinforces basic math skills involving whole numbers, fractions, exponents, and decimals. New concepts in mathematical relations, geometric properties, measurement, and probability and statistics will also be introduced. Finally, this course will strengthen problem-solving skills by reviewing and introducing new concepts in estimation, solution strategies, mathematical representations, and reasonableness.

(203/204) Math 6 Adv/GT (02820000) – This class reviews and reinforces basic math skills involving whole numbers, fractions, exponents, and decimals. New concepts in mathematical relations, geometric properties, measurement and probability & statistics will also be introduced at a more intense level. Students will be accelerated through the 7th grade math TEKS. For placement criteria see page 15. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.**

(730) Math 7 (03103000) – Math at 7th grade level begins to introduce abstract algebraic concepts while reinforcing the objectives learned in the previous year. The TEKS objectives are followed while incorporating higher-level thinking skills and solving real life questions.

(736/735) Math 7 Pre-AP/GT (03103000) – Math at 7th grade level begins to introduce abstract algebraic concepts while reinforcing the objectives learned in the previous year. The TEKS objectives are followed while incorporating higher level thinking skills and solving real-life questions at a more intense level. Students will be accelerated through the 8th grade math TEKS. For placement criteria see page 15. **Students who fail to maintain**

a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.

(730A/830A) Math Block 7/8 (03103000) – This is a 2 period math class. It is designed for the student who needs to strengthen both basic skills and higher level thinking skills. Placement criteria are determined by TAKS scores and teacher recommendations.

(830) Math 8 (03103100) – The students will extend learning of proportions, percents, probability and statistics, geometry, measurement, and the foundations of algebra.

(900) TAKS Math (84100002) – This course is an additional course for students in grades 6 who need help mastering basic skills and developing higher order thinking skills. Participation in this course is determined by teacher recommendation and TAKS scores. This course takes the place of an elective.

(834) Algebra I (03100500) – This high school credit course will teach the foundation concepts for high school mathematics. These concepts will include: algebraic thinking and symbolic reasoning; function concepts including linear systems, quadratics and nonlinear systems; the relationship between equations and functions; underlying mathematical processes; the use of algebraic representations, including concrete, numerical, algorithmic, and graphical. This course will include the continual use of problem solving, computation in problem solving contexts, language and communication, connections within and outside mathematics, and reasoning, as well as multiple representations, applications and modeling, and justification and proof. This course will include the use of technology as a tool for solving meaningful problems. Students who have successfully completed the advanced/GT/Pre-AP math program will be eligible for Algebra I. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.** Students who complete this course will be given high school credit.

(200/732/733/832/833) Basic Math 6, 7, 8 (90010021) - If determined appropriate by the ARD committee, basic courses may be taken in place of general education math classes. A student taking a basic course has an individual education plan (IEP) written at the student's functioning level.

(1430/1437/1438) Applied Math (90010303) - If determined appropriate by the ARD committee, applied courses may be taken in place of general education math classes. A student taking an applied course has an individual education plan (IEP) written at the student's functioning level.

Science

(302) Science 6 (02830000) – A general science course, which incorporates these areas of science: life science, earth science, and physical science. This course introduces, develops, and maintains key concepts from these three areas.

(303/304) Science 6 Adv/GT (02830000) – A general science course, which incorporates these areas of science: life science, earth science, and physical science. This course introduces, develops, and maintains key concepts from these three areas. For placement criteria see page 15.

Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.

(740) Science 7 (03060700) – The major themes of science instruction are reviewed and expanded upon in the 7th grade curriculum. These include the following: the nature of science, interactions in the physical world, and the diversity of life, interactions in organisms, human body systems, ecology, and the changing surface of the earth. Included within these broad themes is generalized instruction relating to the scientific method, matter and chemistry forces, energy, simple machines, motion, conservation of resources, erosion and weathering, the solar system, and living organisms from bacteria to animals. The basic systems of the human body are identified as to both structure and function.

(746/745) Science 7 Pre-AP/GT (03060700) – The major themes of science instruction are reviewed and expanded upon in the 7th grade curriculum. These include the following: the nature of science, interactions in the physical world, the diversity of life, interactions in organisms, human body systems, ecology, and the changing surface of the earth. Included within these broad themes is generalized instruction relating to the scientific method, matter and chemistry, forces, energy, simple machines, motion, conservation of resources, erosion and weathering, the solar system, and living organisms from bacteria to animals. The basic systems of the human body are identified as to both structure and function. Students enrolled in PreAP and GT classes will be expected to complete six major projects during the year that will expand their knowledge and understanding of the basic curriculum. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.**

(840) Science 8 (03060800) – Focuses on a myriad of topics including chemical interactions, physical interactions, earth's interior, change over time, interactions in earth's systems, the student and the environment, and the universe. This course is designed to meet the objectives in science and maintain the development of student's interest in the different branches of science.

(846/845) Science 8 Pre-AP/GT (03060800) – Focuses on a myriad of topics including chemical interactions, physical interactions, earth's interior, and change over time, interactions in earth's systems, the student and the environment, and the universe. This course is designed to meet the objectives in science and maintain the development of student's interest in the different branches of science. Students enrolled in PreAP and GT classes will be expected to complete six major projects during the year that will expand their knowledge and understanding of the basic curriculum. For placement criteria see page 15. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.**

(1470) Applied Science (90010303) – If determined appropriate by the ARD Committee, an applied course may be taken in place of general education courses in the areas of science. Broad areas of study include plant life, animal life, housekeeping, meal preparation, and clothing care. A student taking an applied science course has an individual education plan (IEP) written at the student's functioning level.

Social Studies

(402) Social Studies 6 (02870000) – Students will study people and places of the contemporary world. The nature of citizenship in various societies and organization of economic and government systems will be explored in many regions throughout the world.

The students will compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religion.

(403/404) Social Studies 6 Adv/GT (02870000) – Students will study people and places of the contemporary world. The nature of citizenship in various societies and organization of economic and government systems will be explored in many regions throughout the world. The students will compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religion. For placement criteria see page 15. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.**

(750) Social Studies 7 (03343000) – Covers the geography of Texas and individual regions as they relate to the people who settled them. The course focuses on a survey of Texas history during early settlement of the frontier through the twentieth century. Development of Texas government is studied along with good citizenship.

(756/755) Social Studies 7 Pre-AP/GT (03343000) – Covers the geography of Texas and individual regions as they relate to the people who settled them. The course focuses on a survey of Texas history during early settlement of the frontier through the twentieth century. Development of Texas government is studied along with good citizenship. For placement criteria see page 15. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.**

(850) Social Studies 8 (03343100) – Begins with the founding of Jamestown in 1607 through The Civil War and Reconstruction Period. Democratic ideals that have helped form the American government are also emphasized. The application of geography, social studies skills, and citizenship will also be reinforced.

(856/855) Social Studies 8 Pre-AP/GT (03343100) – Begins with the founding of Jamestown in 1607 through The Civil War and Reconstruction Period. Democratic ideals that have helped form the American government are also emphasized. The application of geography, social studies skills, and citizenship will also be reinforced. For placement criteria see page 15. **Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for two consecutive six weeks may be returned to the regular curriculum.**

(1480) Applied Social Studies (90010303) – If determined appropriate by the ARD Committee, applied courses may be taken in place of general education Social Studies. Broad areas of study include economics, community participation, family life, recreation/leisure, money management, geography, government, mobility, and transportation. A student taking an applied social studies course has an individual education plan (IEP) written at the student's functioning level.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Minimum Class Size for Elective Courses

Elective courses listed in the Course Selection Guide will be scheduled during the following school year provided a sufficient number of students in pre-registration exceed the student minimum (15 students). If that number drops below the minimum prior to final

scheduling, the course will be dropped unless the Superintendent approves the exception to the class size minimum rule.

Alternative Selections – Electives

Students must select alternate selections in order to ensure a complete schedule. Every attempt will be made to honor student's first choices but due to physical limitations, maximum class sizes may need to be imposed.

Classes of Limited Enrollment

In certain classes, enrollment must be limited because of facilities and/or equipment. Enrollment priority will be given to 8th graders. Students will be scheduled into their alternate choices if space is not available in their first choice class.

Fine Arts

(500/774) Art 6, 7 (02880000/03503001) – In this hands-on course students will learn the basic principles of art techniques and how to apply them. Students will express their thoughts creatively in a variety of art mediums. Grades are based on participation and self-improvement.

(874) Art I (03500100) – Art I is a foundation course of study in the visual arts. Students will examine both natural and man-made objects, explore art elements and apply art principles in designing, developing and creating original art works. Students will study the art works of contemporary and past artists and that of fellow students to grow in the appreciation of art culture and heritage and to develop visual discrimination and evaluative skills in applying aesthetic judgments. Students are responsible for the cost of materials used in products they take home.

(600/601/602/603/604/605/606/607/608/760/761/762) Band 6, 7, and 8 (02910000/03154101/03154503) – Band is an instrumental music class that develops the values of music through performance skills and theory comprehension. Beginning band is a prerequisite to enroll in 7th and 8th grade band.

(501/772/894) Choir 6, 7, and 8 (02920000/03154301/03154504) – Students with a great love for singing may be a part of the choir where they can perform with other students. Choir performs at many activities inside and outside of school. All members are required to participate in rehearsals and concerts. The choir curriculum will emphasize music fundamentals, sight singing, and performance opportunities.

Communication

(724/824) Creative Writing (84000017) – This is a one-semester course that will focus on the various ways in which ideas can be expressed through writing. Each student will explore their creative side through poetry, fiction, advertisement/persuasion, biography, parody and comics. Each student will create a final project of choice that will demonstrate their ability to express themselves creatively.

(770) Journalism 7: Newspaper (84000016)—This one-semester course exposes students to the world of communication with emphasis on press ethics, news analysis, and news, feature, and editorial writing. This course includes instruction in headline writing and page design, and writing skills are emphasized. Students make application of news writing and design skills by composing the school newspaper periodically.

(860) Journalism 8: Yearbook (84000016) - This one-semester course teaches students yearbook design and composition. Direct application is achieved by composing the school yearbook. Students are instructed in basic 35mm photography skills, and student photography is featured in the yearbook.

(502/777/898) Theatre 6, 7, 8 (02900000/03253001/03253002) – Theatre is a performance class. The students are responsible for a series of prepared speeches and skits. This course will introduce the different eras of theatre. Students will develop a sense of confidence and pride through performance and daily journal writing.

Technology Courses

(700) Technology Applications 6 (02670060) –Students learn the touch method of keyboarding. Students also learn to write business letters and how to properly use proofreading marks. Students will be shown how to properly use the Microsoft Word program and its components. Research techniques are taught via the use of the Internet.

(793/794) Technology Applications 7 (03580100) - Students will develop skills in operating the keyboard as well as achieving acceptable speed and accuracy levels. There will be instruction in formatting of basic documents for both personal and business use; opportunities for students to apply keyboarding skills in real life situations; instruction in the production of letters, manuscripts, tabulations, business communications, reports and themes; composition at the keyboard; and skill development in proofreading, spelling, word division, punctuation, and correction techniques.

(893) Technology Applications 8 (03580120) – Through the study of technology applications foundations, including technology-related terms, concepts, and data input strategies, students learn to make informed decisions about technologies and their applications. By using technology as a tool that supports the work of individuals and groups in solving problems, students will select the technology appropriate for the task, synthesize knowledge, create a solution, and evaluate the results. Students communicate information in different formats and to diverse audiences.

Physical Education/Health

(800/780) PE – 6, 7, and 8 (02850000/03823000) – Four (4) semesters of physical education are required in grades 6 - 8. Athletics may be substituted for physical education in the 7th & 8th grade. Students will be provided opportunities to participate safely and efficiently in movement skills included in sports and other physical activities. The student

shall be provided opportunities to participate in varied physical fitness activities that should be continued throughout life.

(782/783/784/786/882/883/884) Athletics 7 and 8 (03823000)

- ◆ Students must be enrolled in a total of 1 unit of physical education or athletics during their 7th grade year.
- ◆ Students participating in athletics must enroll for a full year of athletics to receive a physical education credit of 1 unit.
- ◆ Students may not be enrolled in more than one period of athletics or PE per year.
- ◆ Sports: football, volleyball, basketball, track
- ◆ Students must meet all UIL grade and attendance requirements in order to participate.

(890) Health (03810100) 8 - This one-semester high school course is a required course for high school graduation. This course is designed for students to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become healthy adults and learn behaviors to promote healthy lifestyles. Topics included are: the decision making process, roles and responsibilities of families, developing healthy eating habits, the importance of exercise, the male and female reproductive systems, lifesaving procedures, and the effect of: alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and sexually transmitted diseases. One half credits will be earned for High School with successful completion of this course. This credit will not count in the high school grade point average or class ranking.

Languages Other Than English

(790) Introductory Spanish (03440800) – Introductory Spanish is a semester course designed to create a solid foundation for students who are interested in learning the Spanish language. This course will emphasize vocabulary and beginning grammar. After successful completion of Introductory Spanish, students will be prepared for the Spanish I course.

(896) Spanish I (03440100) 8 – This high school course will provide basic skills and concepts that result in understanding most routine questions, statements, and commands of everyday conversation. It includes the basic sound, structures, and vocabulary necessary for developing conversation and comprehension skills. This course includes some culture and written expression proficiency. After successful completion of this course, students will receive one High School Credit for Spanish I.

(795) Introductory French (03411080) – Introductory French is a semester course designed to create a solid foundation for students who are interested in learning the French language. This course will emphasize vocabulary and beginning grammar. After successful completion of Introductory French, students will be prepared for the French I course.

(887) French I (03410200) 8 – This course is designed to provide the student with basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing necessary for everyday oral and written communication in French. The student will be introduced to French history and culture.

Introductory to Mandarin Chinese – Introductory Mandarin Chinese is a semester course designed to create a solid foundation for students who are interested in learning the Mandarin Chinese language. This course will emphasize vocabulary and beginning grammar. After successful completion of Introductory Mandarin Chinese, students will be prepared for the Mandarin Chinese I course.

Mandarin Chinese I (03490100) 8 – Intended for students with no previous formal or informal training in Mandarin Chinese. Development of proficiency in receptive and productive skills, and understanding of Chinese culture. Comprehending and creating with the language at the sentence level, and handling simple, everyday, life situations.

Other Electives

(870) Academic Pentathlon (85000027) – The Academic Pentathlon is an elective course comprised of students from all academic levels. It is an academic competition team where participants compete in five events: Math, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, and Super Quiz, a public event covering a specific topic of study. This course is designed to support and extend the TEKS from these subject areas.

(900/902/910/912/920/922/930/932/940/942/950) Student Aide (85000011) – Students must have good attendance, good behavior, and have mastered all objectives on the 7th grade TAKS Reading to be an Aide. This is an 8th Grade elective only. Types of aides are: Office, Library, Counselor, Athletic, Teacher, and Nurse.

(886) Pre-Ag (84900411) – This course is intended to introduce students to a broad range of agriculturally oriented occupations and skills. It will explore the fields of animal science, personal skills, leadership, and agricultural mechanics. Students should enjoy working outdoors and be prepared to do hands-on activities.

(952) Study Skills - Success for Students is a curriculum developed for a semester-length course covering over twenty key subject areas with lessons designed to build students' skills in time management, goal setting, and study strategies. Sample topics include the following: How to Study, Keeping Track of Schoolwork, Note Taking, Memory Skills, Prioritizing and Decision Making, Critical and Creative Thinking, Test Taking, and much more.

Teen Leadership - Through the Teen Leadership curriculum, students will: a) develop a healthy self-concept, healthy relationships, and a sense of personal responsibility, b) understand emotional Intelligence and the skill it measures, including self-awareness, self-motivation, and social skills c) build skill in public speaking and communication as well as an understanding of personal image, d) recognize and resist peer pressure and e) learn to become better family members and citizens. The course builds personal responsibility and leadership skills through role-plays, group activities, speeches, and projects.

(951) Career Investigation (12721100) – The scope of this course is to help students achieve proficiency in decision-making and problem solving as an essential skill for career planning and lifelong learning. Students use self-knowledge, educational, and career information to set and achieve realistic career and educational goal.

Middle School Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement Criteria for Grade 6:

6th Grade	5th Grade			
Subject/Level	Course/Level	Yearly Average	Other Considerations	Maintenance Requirements
Advanced ELA	On level ELA	85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance on Reading TAKS	70+ average
Advanced Math	On level Math	85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance-on Math TAKS	70+ average
Advanced Science	On level Science	85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance-on Science TAKS	70+ average
Advanced Social Studies	On level Social Studies	85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance-on Reading TAKS	70+ average

Advanced Placement Criteria for Grade 7:

7th Grade	6th Grade			
Subject/Level	Course/Level	Yearly Average	Other Considerations	Maintenance Requirements
Pre-AP ELA	On level ELA Advanced ELA	90+ 85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance on Reading TAKS	70+ average
Pre- AP Math	On level Math Advanced Math	90+ 85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance on Math TAKS	70+ average
Pre-AP Science	On level Science Advanced Science	90+ 85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance on Math TAKS	70+ average
Pre-AP Social Studies	On level Social Studies Advanced Social Studies	90+ 85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance on Reading TAKS	70+ average

Advanced Placement Criteria for Grade 8:

8th Grade	7th Grade			
Subject/Level	Course/Level	Yearly Average	Other Considerations	Maintenance Requirements
Pre-AP ELA	On level ELA Pre-AP ELA	90+ 85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance on Reading TAKS	70+ average
Algebra I	On level Math Pre-AP Math	90+ 85+	Teacher recommendation or 80+ on the 8 th grade Math TAKS	70+ average
Pre-AP Science	On level Science Pre-AP Science	90+ 85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance on Math TAKS	70+ average
Pre-AP Social Studies	On level Social Studies Pre-AP Social Studies	90+ 85+	Teacher recommendation or commended performance on Reading TAKS	70+ average

6th Grade Campus

22784 US Highway 59 S.
Porter, TX 77365
281-577-8860

Keefer Crossing Middle School

20350 FM 1485
New Caney, TX 77357
281-577-8840

White Oak Middle School

24161 Briar Berry Ln.
Porter, TX 77365
281-577-8800