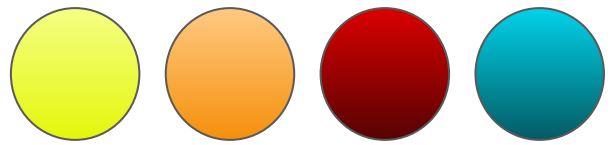


James R. Brooks Middle School
2020-2021
Course Catalog



Quick Start Guide



James R. Brooks Middle School course catalog was developed to support parents and students in planning and making informed choices for the student's educational career. The Quick Start Guide below is designed to support the use of this resource by highlighting the main areas of consideration when selecting courses.

Middle School Plan

Learn more about required courses, elective options, and state assessments.

Course Descriptions

Learn more about the courses offered in middle school.

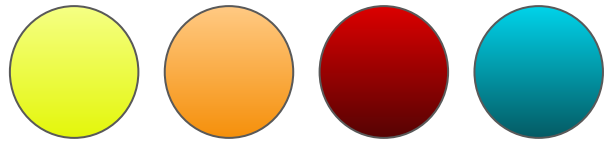
Preparing for High School

Learn more about state graduation requirements.

Other Information

Learn more about advanced academics, special programs and district policies.





Greenwood ISD Vision Statement

Greenwood ISD is a value-driven community that purposefully inspires individual excellence.

Greenwood ISD Mission Statement

Greenwood ISD, in partnership with the community, maximizes individual potential. We provide a safe learning environment and a culture that models, practices, and reinforces integrity, leadership, and self discipline.

Greenwood Independent School District

2700 FM 1379
Midland, Texas 79706
www.greenwood.esc18.net

Greenwood ISD Board of Trustees

Justin Brooks, President
Justin Outlaw, Vice President
Troy Keel, Secretary
John Ellis
Joe Flores
Dusty Robertson
Jeff Somers

Greenwood ISD Leadership

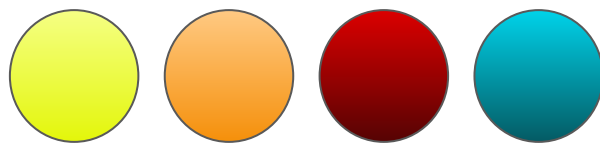
Ariel Elliott, Superintendent
Debra Keel, Assistant Superintendent
Brian Cooper, Assistant Superintendent-Operations

James R. Brooks Middle School

Kristi Griffin, Principal
Tabitha Castillo, Assistant Principal
Jayme Tedder, Assistant Principal
Amy Huddleston, Counselor



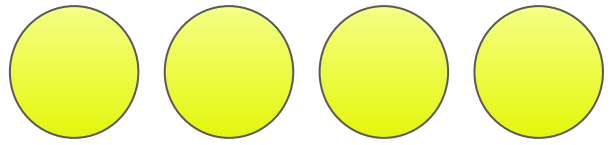
Table of Contents



QUICK START GUIDE.....	1
GREENWOOD ISD INFORMATION.....	2
MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAN.....	4
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS.....	6
Reading and Language Arts.....	6
English as a Second Language (ESL).....	8
Mathematics.....	8
Science.....	9
Social Studies.....	10
Physical Education and Athletics.....	11
Fine Arts.....	13
Languages Other Than English.....	15
Additional Courses.....	16
PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL.....	19
Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID).....	19
Endorsements and Programs of Study.....	20
OTHER INFORMATION.....	22
Advanced Academics.....	22
English as a Second Language (ESL).....	23
Graduation Placement Committees.....	23
Middle School Course Requirements.....	23
Promotion Policy.....	24
Section 504 Services.....	24
Special Education Services.....	25
State Assessments.....	25



Middle School Plan



Course Selection and Scheduling

Student must carefully plan their course selections. Students will receive specific instructions and assistance from the school counselor during the scheduling process. However, it is important that students and parents give careful consideration to selecting appropriate courses. After the course selection process is complete, student schedule changes must be submitted in writing by parent or guardian and approved by campus administration.

Below are steps to consider during the course selection process:

Review the Course Catalog

Look over the course descriptions and consider any prerequisites for courses of interest. Also consider how courses in middle school may impact high school graduation requirements. Select courses that relate to your future academic and career goals.

Greenwood ISD requires that all students enroll in the required core area courses, which include Reading Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Students have the option of choosing electives based on interest. Elective choices are scheduled based on teachers and sections available for the current school year.

Orientation of Courses

Attend student and parent presentations on course offerings. Review the 2020-2021 course selection sheet and discuss how the courses fit into the student's plans.

Parent/Guardian Approval

A parent or guardian must sign the bottom of the 2020-2021 course selection sheet. Students will return the sheet to their school counselor, once complete.

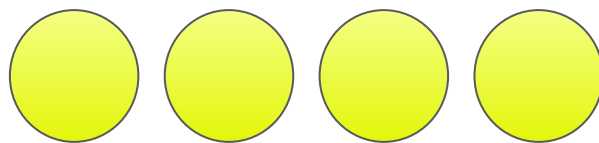
Please note the following:

- If there is insufficient enrollment for a course, the course may not be offered and one of the three alternates listed on the student's 2020-2021 course selection sheet will be used.
- Electives may be replaced with accelerated instruction courses in Reading and Math if a student demonstrates a need for targeted intervention.

Information in this catalog is subject to changes by action of the Board of Trustees of the Greenwood Independent School District of the Texas Education Agency. James R. Brooks Middle School reserves the right to add courses not described herein and to delete if minimum enrollment criteria are not met.



Middle School Plan



Middle School courses offered at James R. Brooks Middle School meet and/or exceed the requirements set forth by the Texas Education Agency. For more information on the Middle School Course Requirements, see page 23 & 24.

A sample middle school student's three-year plan for grades 6-8 is as follows:

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Reading Language Arts* Mathematics* Science Social Studies Physical Education Fine Arts	Reading Language Arts (Writing)* Mathematics* Science Social Studies Physical Education/Athletics Elective	Reading Language Arts* Mathematics* / Algebra 1 + Science Social Studies Elective Elective
Courses available as Advanced = *	Courses for High School Credit = +	STAAR/EOC Tested Subjects = Bold

Elective Options			
Physical Education/Athletics	Fine Arts	Languages Other Than English	Other Courses
Physical Education, Grades 6-8 Pre-Athletics, Grade 6 Boys Athletics, Grades 7-8 Girls Athletics, Grades 7-8 Cheer, Grades 7-8 Dance, Grades 7-8 Strength & Conditioning, Grades 7-8	Intro to Art, Grade 6 Art 1 & 2, Grades 7-8 Band, Grades 6-8 Theatre Arts, 7-8	Spanish 1 +, Grade 8	Technology Applications, Grade 6 College & Career Readiness, Grade 7 Investigating Careers, Grade 8 Outdoor Education, Grades 7-8 Personal Fitness, Grades 7-8 GT Academic Comp, Grades 6-8 Robotics, Grades 6-8 Intro to Ag +, Grade 8 Yearbook, Grades 7-8 Leadership, Grades 7-8 AVID, Grades 7-8

State Assessments

The STAAR test includes annual assessments for the following middle school subjects:

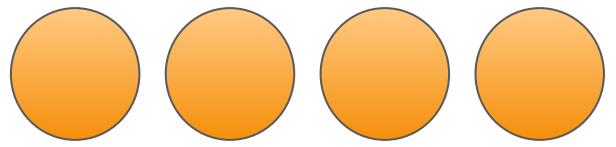
- 6th grade: Math and Reading
- 7th grade: Math, Reading, and Writing
- 8th grade: Math, Reading, Science and Social Studies

*Students who take Algebra 1 in 8th grade will be required to take the End-of-Course (EOC) assessments for Algebra 1.



For more information on the STAAR state assessment, visit the Texas Education Agency website.

Course Descriptions



READING AND LANGUAGE ARTS

GISD Course Number	Course Title	Grade	PEIMS ID
0660	Reading and Language Arts	6	02800000
0659	Advanced Reading and Language Arts	6	02800000
9194	Secondary Readiness	6	82900194
0190	Reading and Language Arts	7	03273420
0177	Advanced Reading and Language Arts	7	03200540
9195	Secondary Readiness	7	82990195
0111	Reading and Language Arts	8	03200550
0114	Advanced Reading and Language Arts	8	03200550
9195	Secondary Readiness	8	82990195
0123 / 4001	English as a Second Language	6, 7, 8	84600401 / 03200400

Reading and Language Arts

Grade 6

GISD Course Number: 0660

This course includes all TEKS for Reading and Language Arts, which consists of reading writing, research, listening, and speaking skills. This course provides instruction and practice in reading and writing a variety of genres to enhance students' language skills. Comprehension, writing, and research skills are developed through a variety of activities. Students learn grammar, usage, vocabulary, and other English language skills within the context of reading and writing.

Advanced Reading and Language Arts

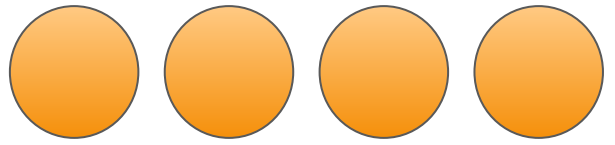
Grade 6

GISD Course Number: 0659

This course includes all TEKS for Reading and Language Arts, which consists of reading writing, research, listening, and speaking skills. This course provides instruction and practice in reading and writing a variety of genres to enhance students' language skills. Comprehension, writing, and research skills are developed through a variety of activities. Students learn grammar, usage, vocabulary, and other English language skills within the context of reading and writing.



Course Descriptions



Secondary Readiness

Grade 6

GISD Course Number: 9194

This course is designed to help students continue to build a foundation in reading and writing skills. Students are provided time for reading both independent and instructional-level material for varied purposes such as collecting information, learning about and appreciating the writer's craft, and discovering models for their own writing. Targeted instruction and intervention will be based on student needs.

Reading and Language Arts

Grade 7

GISD Course Number: 0190

This course facilitates opportunities for students to explore multiple genres through the analysis of literary and informational texts. Students' language skills are enhanced through the study of reading, writing, research, and oral and written conversations.

Advanced Reading and Language Arts

Grade 7

GISD Course Number: 0177

This course facilitates opportunities for students to explore multiple genres through the analysis of literary and informational texts. Students' language skills are enhanced through the study of reading, writing, research, and oral and written conversations.

Secondary Readiness

Grade 7

GISD Course Number: 9195

This course is designed to help students continue to build a foundation in reading and writing skills. Students are provided time for reading both independent and instructional-level material for varied purposes such as collecting information, learning about and appreciating the writer's craft, and discovering models for their own writing. Targeted instruction and intervention will be based on student needs.

Reading and Language Arts

Grade 8

GISD Course Number: 0111

This course facilitates opportunities for students to explore multiple genres through the analysis of literary and informational texts. The course enhances students' language skills by emphasizing critical thinking and the logical development of ideas as students build skills in the areas of reading, writing, research, and oral and written conventions.

Advanced Reading and Language Arts

Grade 8

GISD Course Number: 0114

This course facilitates opportunities for students to explore multiple genres through the analysis of literary and informational texts. The course enhances students' language skills by emphasizing critical thinking and the logical development of ideas as students build skills in the areas of reading, writing, research, and oral and written conventions.

Secondary Readiness

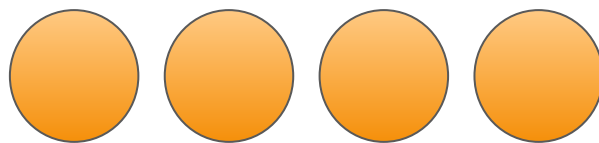
Grade 8

GISD Course Number: 9195

This course is designed to help students continue to build a foundation in reading and writing skills. Students are provided time for reading both independent and instructional-level material for varied purposes such as collecting information, learning about and appreciating the writer's craft, and discovering models for their own writing. Targeted instruction and intervention will be based on student needs.



Course Descriptions



English as a Second Language (ESL) Grade 6, 7, 8 GISD Course Number: 0123 / 4001

ELL students are at different stages of language acquisitions. Language proficiency levels are not grade specific. This course develops an understanding of English. Students engage in numerous language and cultural activities that build on their prior knowledge and skills to develop and strengthen their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

Note: Students are placed in the appropriate ESL course based on the student's level of English proficiency.

MATHEMATICS

GISD Course Number	Course Title	Grade	PEIMS ID	Prerequisite	High School Credit
0661	Mathematics	6	02820000		
0690	Advanced Mathematics	6	02640060		
0200	Mathematics	7	03103000		
0201	Advanced Mathematics	7	03103000		
0202	Mathematics	8	03103100		
0221	Algebra 1	8	03100500	X	X

Mathematics

Grade 6

GISD Course Number: 0661

This course is designed for 6th grade students to use all operations with integers, fractions and decimals to solve problems while understanding and applying ratio and rates to represent proportional relationships.

Advanced Mathematics

Grade 6

GISD Course Number: 0690

All 6th grade TEKS are taught in addition to selected 7th grade TEKS as appropriate for extensions and identified in the Year-at-a-Glance (YAG). Students enrolled in this course will take the 6th grade Math STAAR.

Mathematics

Grade 7

GISD Course Number: 0200

This course is designed to teach number and operations, proportionality, expressions, equations, and relationship, as well as, measurement and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of rational numbers to explore mathematical relationships to describe increasingly complex situations. Students enrolled in this course will take the 7th grade Math STAAR.

Advanced Mathematics

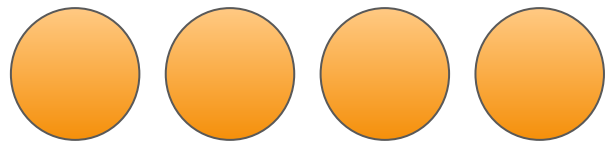
Grade 7

GISD Course Number: 0201

The remainder of the 7th grade TEKS will be taught while all of the 8th grade TEKS will be taught focusing on proportionality, expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; and measurement data. Students enrolled in this course will take the 8th grade Math STAAR.



Course Descriptions



Mathematics

Grade 8

GISD Course Number: 0202

This course is designed to teach 8th graders proportionality; expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; and measurement and data.

Algebra 1

Grade 8

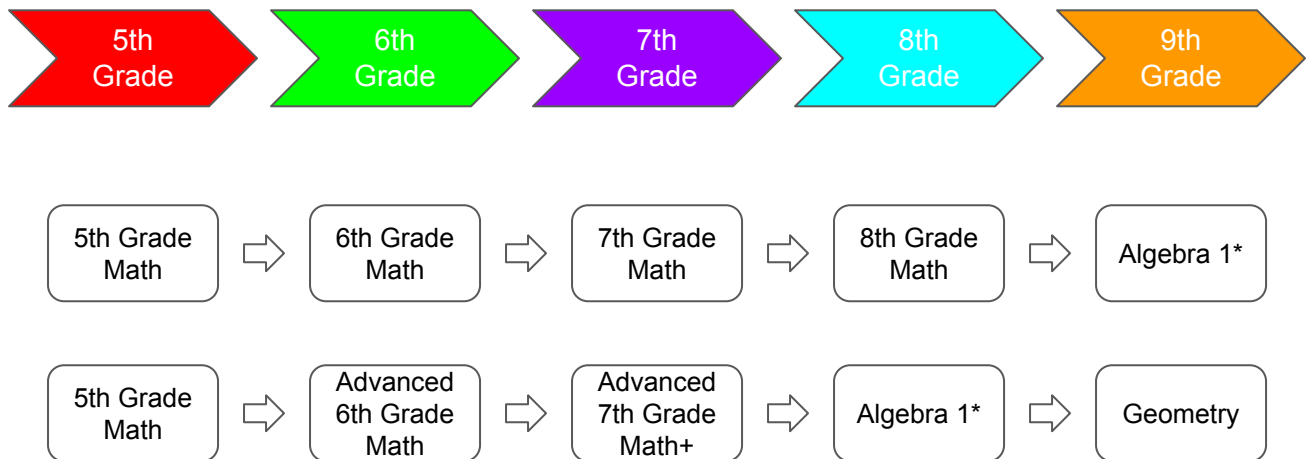
GISD Course Number:0221

High School Credit: 1.0

This course addresses the Algebra 1 TEKS and prerequisites topics for high school mathematics courses. One high school credit is earned upon successful completion of this course. Students will be required to take the End-of-Course (EOC) assessment for Algebra 1.

Note: The grade for this course will not be averaged in the student's high school grade point average (GPA) of class rank (see page 23).

The graphic below shows two pathways for middle school Math courses, including the option for taking Algebra 1 in Grade 8.



+ Students who are enrolled in this course will take the 8th grade Math STAAR.

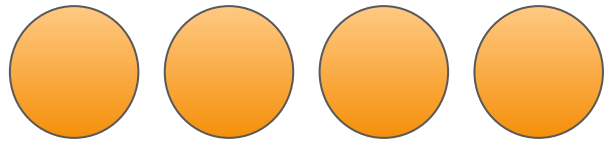
* This course have an End-of-Course (EOC) exam that fulfills a graduation requirement.

SCIENCE

GISD Course Number	Course Title	Grade	PEIMS ID
0663	Science	6	02830000
0300	Science	7	03060700
0302	Science	8	03060800



Course Descriptions



Science

Grade 6

GISD Course Number: 0663

The primary focus is on physical science through exploratory and hands-on activities. The strands include Scientific Investigation and Reasoning; Matter and Energy; Force, Motion, and Energy; Earth and Space; and Organisms and Environments.

Science

Grade 7

GISD Course Number: 0300

The primary focus is on organisms and the environment through the use of exploratory and hands-on activities. The strands include Scientific Investigation and Reasoning; Matter and Energy; Force, Motion, and Energy; Earth and Space; and Organisms and Environments.

Science

Grade 8

GISD Course Number: 0302

The primary focus is on earth and space science through the use of exploratory and hands-on activities. The strands include Scientific Investigation and Reasoning; Matter and Energy; Force, Motion, and Energy; Earth and Space; and Organisms and Environments.

SOCIAL STUDIES

GISD Course Number	Course Title	Grade	PEIMS ID
0664	World History	6	02870000
0400	Texas History	7	03343000
0402	JR American History	8	03343100

World History

Grade 6

GISD Course Number:0664

This course includes the study of people and places of the contemporary world using a regional thematic approach. Primary and secondary source materials, reading and writing skills, technology, and critical thinking will be used to acquire and apply information.

Texas History

Grade 7

GISD Course Number: 0400

This course includes the study of Texas history from Native Americans to the present. Primary and secondary source materials, reading and writing skills, technology, and critical thinking will be used to acquire and apply information.

JR American History

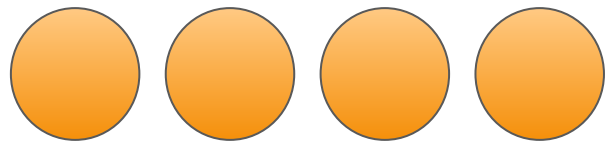
Grade 8

GISD Course Number: 0402

This course includes the study of the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will gain a deep conceptual understanding of how our nation was founded, the influence of our founding fathers and the founding documents. Primary and secondary source materials, reading and writing skills, technology, and critical thinking will be used to acquire and apply information.



Course Descriptions



PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE) AND ATHLETICS

GISD Course Number	Course Title	Grade	PEIMS ID
0666 / 0687	Physical Education (PE)	6	02530003
0688 / 0689	Pre-Athletics Physical Education	6	02850000
7501 / 7502	Physical Education (PE)	7	03823000
0501	Boys' Athletics	7	03823000
0502	Girls' Athletics	7	03823000
0510	Cheerleading	7	82990510
7503 / 7504	Physical Education (PE)	8	03823000
0503	Boys' Athletics	8	03823000
0504	Girls' Athletics	8	03823000
0511	Cheerleading	8	83800511
7506	Dance	7/8	03823000
7505	Strength and Conditioning	7/8	03823000

Physical Education

Grade 6, 7, 8

GISD Course Number: 0666 / 0687 7501 / 7502 / 7503 / 7504

Students will develop fitness knowledge and motor skills basic to efficient movement that promote healthy lifestyle choices and improve the quality of students' lives.

Note: Each student must complete a yearly fitness assessment identified as FITNESSGRAM®. All information regarding the assessment is available at: www.fitnessgram.net.

Pre-Athletics Physical Education (PE) Grade 6

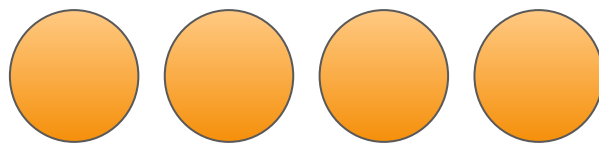
GISD Course Number: 0688 / 0689

Pre-Athletics is open to all 6th grade students. This course is for students who are interested in athletics. Students will be taught the fundamentals of team sports and training, while also focusing on agility, speed/endurance, explosiveness, nutrition, the basics of proper weight training, and sport specific skills.

Note: Each student must complete a yearly fitness assessment identified as FITNESSGRAM®. All information regarding the assessment is available at: www.fitnessgram.net.



Course Descriptions



Boys' Athletics
Girls' Athletics

Grade 7,8
Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0501 / 0503
GISD Course Number: 0502 / 0504

These UIL approved courses are for the serious student wishing to participate in a competitive environment. Technical aspects of the team sport will be taught along with philosophy, strategy, and sportsmanship. Student athletes enrolled will be held to a high standard of academic performance and behavior.

Note: Sports offered are Volleyball, Football, Basketball, Track, Cross Country, Powerlifting, Golf, and Tennis.

Cheerleading

Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0510 / 0511

Students participating in this class will exemplify and promote school spirit, pride, and sportsmanship. Cheerleaders enrolled will be held to a high standard of academic performance and behavior.

Note: Cheerleaders are selected in the Spring of the previous year. Tryouts are required.

Dance

Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number: 7506

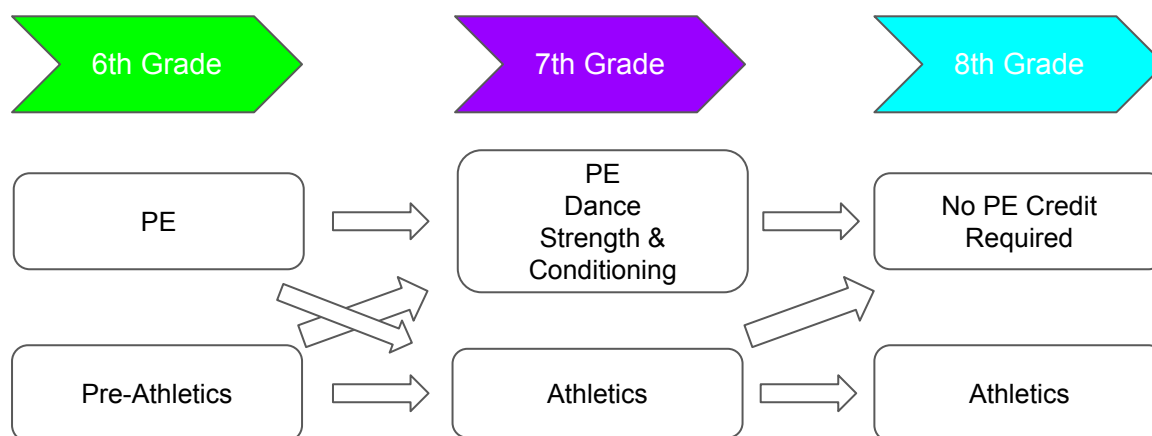
Students focus on dance styles that characterize our dance world in the new millenium. The diversity within the class will include intermingled repertory within a single choreography works.

Strength and Conditioning

Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number: 7505

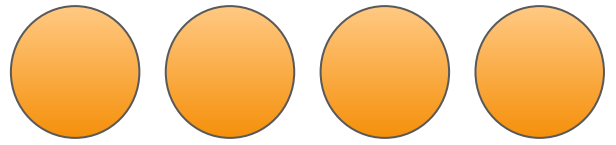
Students will focus on agility, speed/endurance, explosiveness, nutrition, and the basics of proper weight training.



Note: Physical Education Requirement: In accordance with the Texas Education Code §28.002(1), all students in Kindergarten-Grade 8 must participate in at least 31 minutes of moderate to vigorous daily physical activity. A student in grades 6, 7, or 8 must participate daily for at least four semesters during those grades.



Course Descriptions



FINE ARTS

GISD Course Number	Course Title	Grade	PEIMS ID	Prerequisite
Art				
0670	Introduction to Art	6	03154110	
0700	Art 1	7, 8	03154210	
0729	Art 2	7, 8	03154310	X
Band				
0739 / 0668 / 0656	Beginning Band (Red, White, & Blue)	6, 7, 8	03154230 / 03154130	
0737	7th Grade Band	7	03154130	X
0738	8th Grade Band	8	03154230	X
Theatre Arts				
	Theatre Arts	7, 8	03154140	

Note: Fine Arts Requirement: In accordance with House Bill 3, all middle school students must complete one fine arts course during 6, 7, or 8. Elective course offerings are dependent on staff and facilities availability on campus.

Introduction to Art

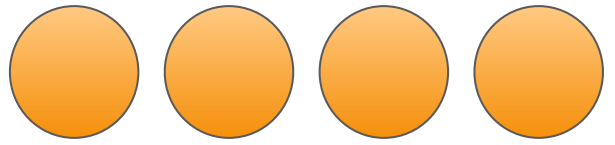
Grade 6

GISD Course Number:

This course is an introduction to basic art vocabulary essential for the well-rounded child. Students will explore styles of drawing, sculpture and digital media. Students are exposed to art history and cross-curricular links to core disciplines. This course teaches how to draw and how to render spatial relationships, light, texture and forms. Topics covered in class include rendering objects, light sources, drawing media, illusion of space, introduction to figure drawing, expressive qualities, painting techniques, and more. Subject matter may vary from still life, landscape, human figure drawing, and fantasy to abstract. A wide variety of drawing and painting media will be practiced.



Course Descriptions



Art 1 & 2

Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0700 0729

These courses are designed to continue directed examination of personal approaches to art-making with an emphasis on making visual and artistic decisions and developing an appropriate attitude toward visual expression. Art 1 & 2 may participate in a variety of school projects and district sponsored contests.

Beginning Band

Grade 6, 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0739 / 0668 / 0656

Beginning band focuses on developing instrument performance fundamentals and music literacy to prepare students for entrance into the next level band. Students make an instrument selection based on an interview/placement process conducted by the band director, which happens in the spring semester of the student's 5th grade school year. The class concentrates on the development of note-reading skills, aural skills, rhythmic patterns, intonation, and tone production. Students are expected to provide their own instrument for use in class and at home. Student instrument rental or instrument purchase is therefore required. Rehearsals outside the school day are required, but are limited to a few times each semester. Students are also responsible for specific supplies throughout the year as outlined for each instrument.

7th & 8th Grade Band

Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0737 / 0738

Seventh and eighth grade bands are performing bands at the middle school. The classes consist of 7th and 8th graders. Activities include concerts, solos, ensembles, region band, and concert contests. Sectionals outside the school day are required, but are limited.

Prerequisite: Beginning Band

Theatre Arts

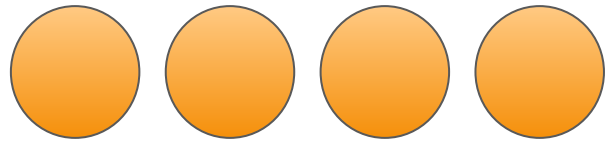
Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number:

Students will have an introduction to theatre concepts that will focus on understanding of theatre fundamentals, using creative expression in performances, relating to theatre history, and evaluating performances. Specific topics include characterization, pantomime, reader's theatre, theatre vocabulary and parts of the stage, and creating characters for dramatizations. The main focus of this course will be group performances including writing, memorizing, and performing a group scene using visual elements.



Course Descriptions



LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

GISD Course Number	Course Title	Grade	PEIMS ID	Prerequisite	High School Credit
0169	Spanish 1	8	03440100		X

Spanish 1

Grade 8

GISD Course Number: 0169

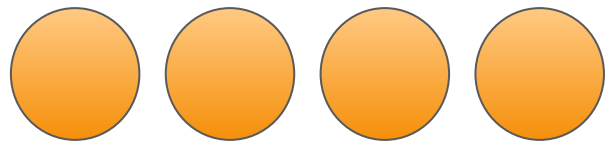
High School Credit: 1.0

This course introduces the basic Spanish language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students develop these communication skills by using knowledge of the language, including grammar, and culture, communication and learning strategies, technology, and content from other subject areas to socialize, to acquire and provide information, to express feelings and opinions, and to get others to adopt a course of action.

Note: This is an accelerated course that covers the curriculum at the same pacing as the high school course. Students must complete the full year course to earn 1.0 high school credit, which will satisfy the first year of Languages other than English (LOTE) requirement on the Greenwood ISD Foundation High School Program. The grade for this course will not be averaged in the student's high school grade point average (GPA) or class rank (see page 23).



Course Descriptions

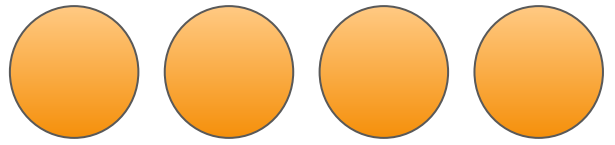


ADDITIONAL COURSES

GISD Course Number	Course Title	Grade	PEIMS ID	Prerequisite	High School Credit
0608	Technology Applications	6	03580120		
0641	College and Career Readiness	7	12700300		
0642	Investigating Careers	8	12700400		
0518	Outdoor Education	7, 8	83210518		
0578	Personal Fitness	7, 8	83210578		
0767	Gifted & Talented Competition	6, 7, 8	85000767	X	
0191	Speech and Drama	7, 8	83800191		
0143 / 0771	Robotics	6, 7, 8	82900143 / 85000771		
0919	Yearbook	7, 8	03580120		
0142 / 0148	Leadership	7, 8	82990142 / 83800148	X	
0519	Trainer	7, 8	83210518		
	AVID	7, 8		X	
	Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR)	8	13000200		X



Course Descriptions



Technology Application

Grade 6

GISD Course Number: 0608

This course is designed as an introductory course for students. Students will work individually and with partners on various projects with computer applications in the Microsoft Suite such as PowerPoint, Publisher, Word, and Excel.

College and Career Readiness

Grade 7

GISD Course Number: 0641

This course will provide instruction in preparing for college and career. Students will search colleges and technical schools that provide courses and training to match their area of interest. Students will also research potential career choices and the education needed based on their interests.

Investigating Careers

Grade 8

GISD Course Number: 0642

This course will provide instruction in preparing for careers. Students will research potential career choices and the education and skills needed based on their interests.

Outdoor Education

Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0518

This course is designed to learn the importance and benefits of habitat preservation, conservation, and environmental stewardship. Students will have the opportunity to take a hunter safety course, ATV safety, boater safety, etc.

Note: This is a 1- semester course that is paired with Personal Fitness.

Personal Fitness

Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0578

Personal fitness offers students an opportunity to study concepts and skills related to physical, mental and social well-being of individuals or groups. Students will study nutrition, first aid, safety, emergency care, physical fitness, and drug abuse. Current health and community health will also be discussed.

Note: This is a 1- semester course that is paired with Outdoor Education

Gifted and Talented Competition

Grade 6, 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0767

This course is designed to provide instruction in areas of intellectual, creativity, artistic, and leadership. Students are provided challenges that encourage outside of the box thinking. Students will also use this time to prepare for the Destination Imagination competition.

Note: Students must be identified as Gifted and Talented to enroll in this course.

Speech and Drama

Grade 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0191

This course is designed for students who are interested in building knowledge in all aspects of Drama. This includes elements of characterization, poetry, talks and impromptu exercises. Students will build on general communicative skills while increasing their imagination and confidence in a supportive environment.

Robotics

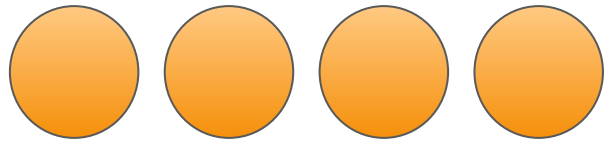
Grade 6, 7,8

GISD Course Number: 0143 / 0771

Students in this course will be introduced to robotics through the study of technology applications. Students will make informed decisions by understanding current and emerging technologies, including technology systems, appropriate digital tools, and personal learning networks. They will work on building solutions to challenge-based problems for robotics competitions.



Course Descriptions



Yearbook

Grade 7, 8

GISD Course Number: 0919

This course teaches students yearbook design and composition in order to compose the school yearbook. Students are instructed in digital photography skills, interviewing, and writing skills.

Leadership

Grade 7, 8

GISD Course Number: 0142 / 0148

This course is designed for planning various events for the student body, staff, and community. Through this leadership class, students learn and practice leadership skills that they can use with the student body, staff, and community.

Note: Applications are required for the selection process.

Student Athletic Trainer

Grade 7, 8

GISD Course Number: 0519

This course is designed to provide hands-on opportunities for students to apply the knowledge and skills acquired in sports medicine. Students will serve as athletic trainers during the athletic period. Student Athletic Trainers will assist the coaching staff and the Athletic Trainer with injury management, physical therapy, and rehabilitation techniques as appropriate for skill level.

AVID

Grade 7, 8

GISD Course Number:

AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination and is a junior high through senior high school college readiness system designed to prepare self-determined students for college readiness. A component of the AVID college readiness system is the AVID Elective class, which is designed to support students as they enroll in rigorous courses. In the AVID Elective class, students receive training in effective study skills, such as note taking, organizational skills, and goal-setting strategies. Students also receive a research-based college preparation curriculum. Finally, a critical component of AVID is tutoring, where AVID students receive tutoring from mentors twice per week to support them in their academic coursework.

Note: A follow-up application requirement and teacher recommendation is required before enrollment.

Principles of AFNR

Grade 8

GISD Course Number:

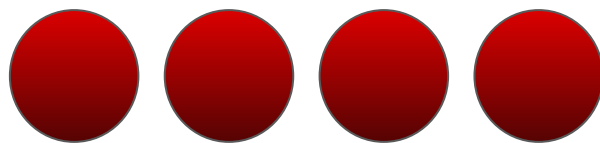
High School Credit: 1.0

This course prepares students for careers in agribusiness systems, students need to attain academic skills and knowledge, acquire technical knowledge and skills related to leadership development and the workplace, and develop knowledge and skills regarding agricultural career opportunities, entry requirements, and industry expectations. To prepare for success, students need opportunities to learn, reinforce, apply, and transfer their knowledge and skills in a variety of settings. This course primarily focuses on leadership, communication, employer-employee relations, and problem solving.

Note: This course will fulfill a requirement for the Business and Industry Endorsement.



Preparing for High School



Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)

AVID is an elective class for students in grades 7 and 8. Students will be able to continue with the supports and systems that AVID has when continuing into high school.

AVID is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the achievement gap by preparing all students for college and other postsecondary opportunities.

The mission of the AVID program is to ensure that all students, especially those in the middle who are capable of completing a college-preparatory path, have a chance to succeed and to increase enrollment of these students in four-year colleges and universities.

The three main components of the AVID program are:

Academic Instruction (AVID curriculum)

- Students will receive two hours of instruction per week in college entry-level skills.

Tutorial Support

- Students will receive two hours of instruction per week in tutor-led study groups.

Motivational Activities

- Students will receive one hour of instruction per week in motivational activities and academic survival skills.

It's not just another program, AVID is a system that:

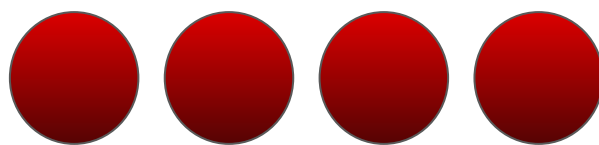
- Holds students accountable to the highest standards
- Provides academic and social support
- Will make students rise to the challenge

AVID also:

- Teaches skills and behaviors for academic success
- Provides intense support with tutorials and strong student/teacher relationships
- Creates a positive peer group for students
- Develops a sense of hope for personal achievement gained through hard work and determination
- Uses writing as a tool for learning, inquiry, and collaboration



Preparing for High School



Endorsements

Students will be able to earn one or more endorsements as part of their graduation requirements. Endorsements consist of a related series of courses that are grouped together by interest or skill set. They provide students with in-depth knowledge of a subject area. Students can earn an endorsement by completing the curriculum requirements for the endorsement, including a 4th credit of math and science and two additional elective credits. **Students can choose from 5 endorsement areas:**

STEM	Business/ Industry	Public Service	Arts & Humanities	Multidisciplinary Studies
------	-----------------------	----------------	----------------------	------------------------------

Programs of Study

Students will be able to choose a course sequence that prepares the student with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in his or her chosen career. Career and technical education courses (CTE) provide all students opportunities to prepare for secondary and post-secondary education, career preparation and advancement, meaningful work, and active citizenship.

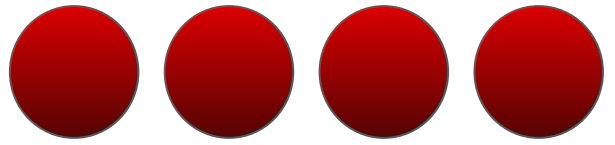
Programs of study require that the students complete a sequence of courses in which skill level will increase along with the challenge and rigor of each course.

Students, along with their parents, counselors and teachers, can plan a focused course of elective study, identified within a specific occupational “cluster”.

Endorsement	Cluster	Programs of Study
Business & Industry	Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal Science Plant Science Applied Agricultural Engineering-Welding
Business & Industry	Business, Marketing & Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accounting & Financial Services
Business & Industry	Energy Cluster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil and Gas Exploration and Production
Public Service	Human Services Career	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family and Community Services
Public Service	Law and Public Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law Enforcement
Public Service	Manufacturing Career	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welding-Midland College
Business & Industry	Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automotive-Midland College



Preparing for High School



Other Information

State Assessment Required for Graduation

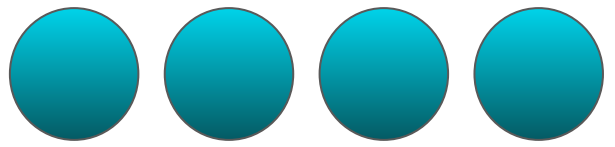
- English I
- English II
- Algebra I
- Biology
- US History

Students may earn a Performance Acknowledgement on their transcript for outstanding performance on the following:

- Dual Credit Coursework
- Bilingualism and Biliteracy
- Advanced Placement (College Board) or International Baccalaureate Exams
- PSAT, SAT, ACT-Aspire, or ACT
- State-recognized, nationally, or internationally recognized business or industry certification and/or license



Other Information



Below is other information that may be helpful through the course selection process. Topics are arranged alphabetically.

Advanced Academics

Greenwood ISD is committed to providing multiple opportunities for students to participate in advanced academic coursework during their middle school experience. The section below provides more information regarding available opportunities and district policies supporting advanced academics. Additionally, advanced academics provide opportunities to serve students identified as Gifted and Talented (GT).

Advanced Academic Courses

Advanced courses are designed to teach students strong study habits, critical thinking skills and learning strategies to prepare them for taking Advanced Placement (AP) courses in high school. Advanced course offerings are available in English and Math in grades 6-8 and are taught by teachers who are provided professional development in gifted and talented (GT) strategies. The increased academic rigor of these courses is based on additional enrichment activities.

Advanced Academic Course Student Agreement

Student success in advanced academic courses requires the student's commitment to the expectations of the advanced level course program. Students will be expected to:

- Analyze, synthesize, and manipulate knowledge and skills and think critically
- Budget time effectively and efficiently and develop successful study skills
- Commit to a daily academic action plan and attend tutoring regularly if needed
- Come to school early and/or stay late in order to attend tutoring
- Increase advanced content area vocabulary

Gifted and Talented (GT) Services

Greenwood ISD defines gifted and talented as any child or youth in grades K-12 who performs at, or shows the potential for performing at, a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who:

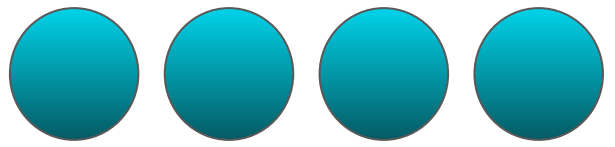
- Exhibits high performance capability in general intellectual ability; or
- Excels in one or more specific academic fields: math, science, language arts, and/or social studies

Students who participate in services designed for gifted students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication as evidence by the development of innovative products and performances that are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment and that reflect individuality and creativity.

Greenwood ISD offers services for identified GT students through advanced courses. The advanced courses are designed to meet the needs of Gifted and Talented (GT) students. Furthermore, an advanced academic elective course taught by a GT trained teacher is offered during the school day (Gifted and Talented Competition). Out-of-school enrichment opportunities are also provided for students through UIL Academics.



Other Information



High School Credit in Middle School

Greenwood ISD offers courses that may count towards earning state or local high school credits. Examples of these courses are Language Other Than English (Spanish 1), Algebra 1, and Introduction to Agriculture. The grade for these courses taken prior to high school will not be averaged in the student's high school grade point average (GPA) or class rank. Students in grades 6-8 who are also enrolled in a high school course will take the corresponding State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) End of Course (EOC), where applicable, as required for graduation.

English as a Second Language

James R. Brooks Middle School provides English as a Second Language (ESL)/sheltered instructional strategies to students identified as an English Learner (EL). Additionally, the middle school language arts curriculum provides EL support for English Language Learners who are recent immigrants (0-3 years in U.S. schools) through co-teach support. The purpose of the ELL program is to enable LEP students to be competent in the comprehension, speaking, reading and composition of the English language through the integrated use of second language methods.

Grade Placement Committees

Per Board Policy EIE (LOCAL), if a student fails to demonstrate proficiency on a state-mandated assessment, the student shall be provided accelerated instruction. A student in grade 8 will have two additional opportunities to take a failed math or reading assessment. If a student fails a second time, a grade placement committee, consisting of the principal or designee, the teacher, and the student's parent will determine the additional special instruction the student will receive. After a third failed attempt, the student will be retained; however, the parent can appeal this decision to the committee. In order for the student to be promoted, based on standard previously established by the district, the decision of the committee must be unanimous and the student must complete additional special instruction before beginning the next grade level. Whether the student is retained or promoted, an educational plan for the student will be designed to enable the student to perform at grade level by the end of the next school year.

Middle School Course Requirements

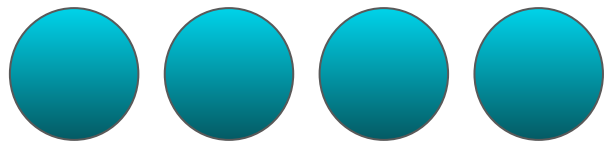
Middle school courses offered in Greenwood meet and exceed the requirements set forth by the Texas Education Agency. Below is additional information for specific course requirements, per Texas Education Code.

College and Career Readiness Instruction Requirement

In accordance with the Texas Education Code §28.016, beginning in grade 6 information will be shared with students about college and career readiness, to include the following: high school personal graduation plans (PGPs), graduation requirements under the Distinguished Level of Achievement, endorsements, college readiness standards, and potential career choices and the education needed to enter those careers.



Other Information



Fine Arts Requirement

In accordance with House Bill 3, all middle school students must complete one fine arts course during grades 6, 7, or 8. In Greenwood ISD we have all students fulfill this requirement during their 6th grade year. Elective course offerings are dependent on staff and facilities availability.

Health Education Requirement

19 Texas Administrative Code §74.3(a), strengthened TEKS-based health education as a requirement for students in grades 6-8. School districts must provide health education instruction in the middle school as a part of the school district's required curriculum. The focus of Greenwood ISD's health education at the middle school level is to educate students about health concepts through a comprehensive focus.

Physical Education Requirement

In accordance with the Texas Education Code §28.002 (I), all students in Kindergarten-Grade 8 must participate in at least 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous daily physical activity. A student in grade 6, 7, or 8 must participate daily for at least four semesters during those grades.

Promotion Policy [EIE (LOCAL)]

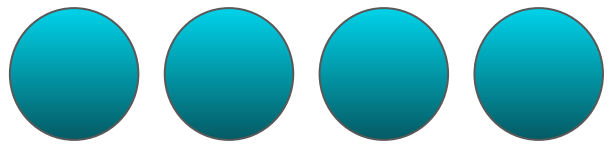
In grades 6-8, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on an overall average of 70 on a scale of 100 based on course level, grade level standards (essential knowledge and skills) for all subject areas and a grade of 70 or above in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Except when a students will be assessed in reading or mathematics about his or her enrolled grade level, students in grade 8 must meet the passing standard on the applicable state-mandated assessments in reading and mathematics to be promoted to the next grade level.

Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination against individuals with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. In order to fulfill its obligation under Section 504, Greenwood ISD recognizes a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its students. No discrimination against any students solely due to his/her disability will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices in the school system. The school district has specific responsibilities under Section 504 which include the responsibility to identify, evaluate and, if the student is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to afford access to necessary educational accommodations. For more information regarding Section 504, please contact the campus counselor.



Other Information



Special Education Services

Greenwood ISD provides a continuum of special education services for students with disabilities. Special education services are provided according to the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) as per the recommendation of the Annual Review and Dismissal (ARD) Committee. For more information, please contact the campus diagnostician.

State Assessments

In spring 2012, the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) replaced the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS).

The STAAR program includes annual assessments for the following middle school subjects:

- 6th grade: Math and Reading
- 7th grade: Math, Reading, and Writing
- 8th grade: Math, Reading, Science, and Social Studies

Students who take Algebra I in 8th grade will be required to take the End-of-Course (EOC) assessments for Algebra I.

Per Board Policy EIE (LOCAL), if a student fails to demonstrate proficiency on a state-mandated assessment, the student shall be provided accelerated instruction. A student in grade 8 will have two additional opportunities to take a failed Math or Reading assessment. If a student fails a second time, a grade placement committee, consisting of the principal or designee, the teacher, and the student's parent will determine the additional special instruction the student will receive. After a third failed attempt, the student will be retained; however, the parent can appeal this decision to the committee. In order for the student to be promoted, based on standard previously established by the district, the decision of the committee must be unanimous and the student must complete additional special instruction before beginning the next grade level. Whether the student is retained or promoted, an educational plan for the student will be designed to enable the student to perform at grade level by the end of the next school year.

For more information on the STAAR state assessment program, visit the Texas Education Agency website at <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar>.

