

PAMPA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

2017-2018 COURSE CATALOG



Pampa ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. El Distrito de la Escuela Independiente de Pampa (PISD) no discrimina en base a raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, discapacidad, o edad.

6th GRADE

CORE CLASSES:

ELA

This course is an integrated class that involves communications skills such as reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, research, technology skills, and vocabulary. The 6th grade TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) serves as the basis for the class. Students will prepare for the STAAR assessments. Literature studied may include plays, poetry, nonfiction, and short stories.

ELA Pre-AP

This course is designed for students who excel in regular English and who have good reading skills. The curriculum is aligned with high school advanced placement and honors classes and stresses critical thinking skills, research tactics, and creativity. Students will cover the same skills as in regular English, but will read more advanced literature selections. There will be more homework, faster pacing, and more projects required. *Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.*

Social Studies

In Grade 6, students study people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. Societies for study are from the following regions of the world: Europe, Russia and the Eurasian republics, North America, Central America and the Caribbean, South America, Southwest Asia-North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, and the Pacific realm. Students describe the influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in those societies and identify the locations and geographic characteristics of various societies. Students identify different ways of organizing economic and governmental systems. The concepts of limited and unlimited government are introduced, and students describe the nature of citizenship in various societies. Students compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religious institutions. Students explain how the level of technology affects the development of the various societies and identify different points of view about events. The concept of frame of reference is introduced as an influence on an individual's point of view.

Social Studies Pre-AP

This course is designed for students who have high levels of achievement in previous social studies classes and who have well developed reading and writing skills. The course will include the above description of the TEKS for 6th grade social studies and will require students to participate in outside readings to include historical novels and supplementary readings from historical journals and primary resources. There will be projects that may include research reports requiring the use of school and public libraries, creative writing such as editorials, campaign speeches, biographical sketches, diary entries, contest essays, video productions, interviewing other people, and creating political cartoons. *Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.*

Math

This course will cover 6th grade TEKS as required by the state and will include learning mathematics vocabulary, concepts, and skills that are essential to solving problems involving multi-step word problems, and including fractions, measurements, order of operation, and other mathematic skills.

Math Pre-AP

This course will include the 6th grade TEKS of the regular class. Projects and enrichment in higher level thinking skills will prepare students for future advanced math classes. *Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.*

Science

This course will cover 6th grade TEKS and will cover concepts and skills about physical, life, and Earth science. You will be required to read, do activities, work in groups, and do laboratory explorations.

Science Pre-AP

Students will learn the same concepts and skills as in the regular 6th grade class. Additional requirements will be outside assignments of article abstracts, novels, research projects, building models, investigations, and a science fair, which is a requirement for participation in the class. *Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.*

ELECTIVES:

Character Ed/Tech Apps – full year

Students will learn about development of good character and morals. Students will actively participate in activities that prepare them to become leaders and positive role models, demonstrating evidence to peers and adults. Students will learn to apply technical and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in applications of emerging technologies to prepare for successful transition to the workforce and post-secondary education. They will enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and reasoning skills and apply them to the everyday world. Students will learn to apply these skills to create documents and develop spreadsheets with charts and graphs among other business applications.

Band – full year

This course is an introduction to the world of instruments for 6th graders who have never played an instrument. They will learn the basics of music, how to read music, what the different instruments are and how to play their chosen instrument.

Choir – full year

The 6th grade Girls Choir and Boys Choir are a continuation of music reading and singing from elementary school with an emphasis on performance. 6th grade students compete for the distinction of achieving a position in the 6th grade Honor Choir.

Physical Education – full year

This is a course for 6th grade boys and girls. This course introduces basic knowledge and understanding of exercises, stretches and different types of games, activities and skill builders. This course will give the basic tools needed to have a healthy and fit lifestyle through physical activity and will prepare the student for competitive athletics.

7th GRADE

CORE CLASSES:

ELA

This course involves communications skills such as reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, research, technology skills, and vocabulary. The 7th grade TEKS serves as the basis for the class. Students will prepare for the STAAR assessments. Literature studied may include plays, poetry, nonfiction, and short stories.

ELA Pre-AP

This course is designed for students who excel in regular English and who have good reading skills. The curriculum is aligned with high school advanced placement and honors classes and stresses critical thinking skills, research tactics, and creativity. Students will cover the same skills as in regular English, but will read more advanced literature selections. There will be more homework, faster pacing, and more projects required. *Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.*

History

7th grade TEKS covers Texas History. The course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to learn about the history of our state; its diverse cultures, customs, and demographics. Texas government is also studied. The course explores the rich history of the different countries that have called Texas home and the conflicts that eventually led to annexation. Elements of geography and skills relating to the development of higher-level thinking are incorporated in lessons.

History Pre-AP

This course is designed for students who have high levels of achievement in previous history classes and who have well developed reading and writing skills. The course will include the TEKS for 7th grade social studies and will require students to participate in outside readings to include historical novels and supplementary readings from historical journals and primary resources. There will be projects that may include research reports requiring the use of school and public libraries, creative writing such as editorials, campaign speeches, biographical sketches, diary entries, contest essays, video productions, interviewing other people, and creating political cartoons. *Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.*

Math

This course will cover 7th grade TEKS as required by the state and will include learning mathematics vocabulary, concepts, and skills that are essential to solving problems involving multi-step word problems, and including fractions, measurements, order of operation, and other mathematic skills.

Math Pre-AP

This course will include the 7th grade TEKS of the regular class. Projects and enrichment in higher level thinking skills will prepare students for future advanced math classes. *Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.*

Science

This course will cover 7th grade TEKS and will cover concepts and skills about physical and life science. Students will be required to read, participate in classroom activities, work in groups, and conduct laboratory explorations.

Science Pre-AP

Students will learn the same concepts and skills as in the regular 7th grade class. Additional requirements will be outside assignments of article abstracts, novels, research projects, building models, investigations, and a science fair, which is a requirement for participation in the class.

Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.

ELECTIVES:

Beginning Art – full year

7th grade students will have the opportunity to learn the basic use of art materials. They will learn the importance of the elements of art and the principles of art design. Students will learn different mediums and types of art. The class will also touch on art history and how it is related to their core curriculum classes. Student's work will be displayed throughout the school and in the yearly Showcase.

Band – full year

7th grade students are now placed into a full band class. There will be more performances and chances to perform individually. This level is centered more on performance and competition. Students will have the opportunity to participate in All-Region, Solo Ensemble, Concert, Sight Reading, and a Festival.

Choir – full year

The 7th and 8th grade Girls Choir and Boys Choir are a continuation of music reading and singing. Emphasis on being independent singers and sight readers is stressed. More advanced performance opportunities are offered each semester as the classes become prepared. Out of town trips are taken to participate in UIL and other contests.

Physical Education – full year

This is a course for 7th grade boys and girls who are not interested in competitive sports. This course includes exercises, stretches and different types of games, activities and skill builders. This course will give the basic tools needed to have a healthy and fit lifestyle through physical activity.

Competitive Athletics for Girls – full year

This is a course for 7th grade girls and introduces students to all aspects of sportsmanship. Sports included in this course are volleyball, basketball, track, and cross country. Junior High Athletics lays the foundation for High School Athletics. ***The designated sports above are competitive in nature and a signature of the coach (es) involved is necessary for enrollment. Continued participation in these sports requires successful performance and is determined by the coach of each sport. A current physical is also required.***

Competitive Athletics for Boys – full year

This is a course for 7th grade boys and introduces students to all aspects of sportsmanship. Sports included are football, basketball, track, and cross country. Jr. High Athletics lays the foundation for High School Athletics. ***The designated sports above are competitive in nature and a signature of the coach (es) involved is necessary for enrollment. Continued participation in these sports requires successful performance and is determined by the coach of each sport. A current physical is also required.***

Swimming – full year

A non-competitive swimming program will be offered for those students who are interested in swimming on a competitive level in high school. The class size will be limited and students must try-out for the program. Parents will be required to provide transportation to the Pampa Youth and Community Center at 6:30 a.m. and a bus will transport students from the Youth Center to school for their second period class. *The designated sport above requires a signature of the coach (es) involved for enrollment. Continued participation in this sport requires successful performance and is determined by the coach. A current physical is also required.*

Tennis – full year

7th grade students will have the opportunity to build their skills in tennis, preparing them for high school tennis. Students will actively participate in competitive matches. During the winter months, practice will be held indoors at the Pampa Youth Center. This is an after school sport. (UIL rules govern student participation in Tennis) *The designated sport above requires a signature of the coach involved for enrollment. Continued participation in this sport requires successful performance and is determined by the coach. A current physical is also required.*

8th GRADE

CORE CLASSES:

ELA

This course involves communications skills such as reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, research, technology skills, and vocabulary. The 8th grade TEKS serves as the basis for the class. Students will prepare for the STAAR assessments. Literature studied may include plays, poetry, nonfiction, and short stories.

ELA Pre-AP

This course is designed for students who excel in regular English and who have good reading skills. The curriculum is aligned with high school advanced placement and honors classes and stresses critical thinking skills, research tactics, and creativity. Students will cover the same skills as in regular English, but will read more advanced literature selections. There will be more homework, faster pacing, and more projects required. *Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.*

History

8th grade students will study United States history and citizenship. The course is designed to provide students the opportunity to study the growth and development of the United States from its exploration and colonization through the events leading to independence and establishment of the Republic. The course also explores the United States involvement in foreign affairs, international conflicts, the Civil War and Reconstruction and the impact of these events on the nation. Content emphasizes the social, cultural, political and economic development of the United States. Elements of geography and skills relating to the development of higher-level thinking are also taught.

History Pre-AP

This course is designed for students who have high levels of achievement in previous history classes and who have well developed reading and writing skills. The course will include the TEKS for 8th grade social studies and will require students to participate in outside readings to include historical novels and supplementary readings from historical journals and primary resources. There will be projects that may include research reports requiring the use of school and public libraries, creative writing such as editorials, campaign speeches, biographical sketches, diary entries, contest essays, video productions, interviewing other people, and creating political cartoons. *Students and parents should consider the amount of work involved in an advanced class before registering for the class.*

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Science

This course will cover 8th grade TEKS and will cover concepts and skills about physical, life, and earth science. Students will be required to read, participate in classroom activities, work in groups, and conduct laboratory explorations.

Science Pre-AP

Students will learn the same concepts and skills as in the regular 8th grade class. Additional requirements will be outside assignments of article abstracts, novels, research projects, building models, investigations, and a science fair (which is a requirement for participation in the class).

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ELECTIVES:

College and Career Readiness – one semester

The career development process is unique to every person and evolves throughout one's life. 8th grade students will use decision-making and problem-solving skills for college and career planning. Students will explore valid, reliable educational and career information to learn more about themselves and their interests and abilities. Students integrate skills from academic subjects, information technology, and interpersonal communication to make informed decisions. This course is designed to guide students through the process of investigation and in the development of a college and career achievement plan. Students will use interest inventory software or other tools to explore areas of personal interest. Students will use this information to explore educational requirements for a variety of chosen career paths. Districts have the flexibility of offering career exploration knowledge and skills in a variety of instructional arrangements.

Health – one semester

Health is concerned with human beings, how they function and what ills may befall them. Areas of emphasis are the following: (1) personal grooming, (2) dietary habits, (3) relation of alcohol, tobacco, and narcotics to physical health, (4) First Aid, (5) home and recreational safety, (6) HIV and sexually transmitted diseases, (7) abstinence as the method of prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. *This course fulfills the 1/2 credit Health requirement for high school.*

Art & Design – full year

8th grade students opportunities to develop techniques and organize ideas from the environment; express ideas through original art works using a variety of media with appropriate skill; demonstrate an understanding of art history and culture as records of human achievement; and make informed judgments about personal art work and the art work of others. All projects give the student opportunity to use problem solving, critical thinking, creative thinking, and research skills. Student's work will be displayed throughout the school and in the yearly Showcase.

Band – full year

8th grade students will be in either Concert Band or Symphonic Band. There will be more performances and chances to perform individually. These 8th grade levels are centered more on performance and competition. They will participate in All-Region, Solo Ensemble, Concert, Sight Reading, and a Festival.

Choir – full year

The 8th grade Girls Choir and Boys Choir are a continuation of music reading and singing. Emphasis on being independent singers and sight readers is stressed. More advanced performance opportunities are offered each semester as the classes become prepared. Out of town trips are taken to participate in UIL and other contests.

Physical Education – full year

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This is a course for 8th grade boys. Students will continue to learn all aspects of sportsmanship and competition sports. Sports included are football, basketball, track, and cross country. Junior High Athletics lays the foundation for High School Athletics. *The designated sports above are competitive in nature and a signature of the coach (es) involved is necessary for enrollment. Continued participation in these sports requires successful performance and is determined by the coach of each sport. A current physical is also required.*

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Tennis – full year

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Texas Project Lead The Way (PLTW) – 1st semester

Design & Modeling: Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a playground and furniture, capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Autodesk® design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions.

Texas Project Lead The Way (PLTW) – 2nd semester

Automation & Robotics: Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

SPECIALITY CLASSES:

English Language Learner (ELL) Support

A course designed for students whose native language is different than English. Students will have support based on their English language level: Beginning, Intermediate, or Advanced. The students will be helped to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English. They will be given practical instruction in listening to spoken English and understanding the speaker's use of statements, questions, exclamations, commands, and non-verbal language. *This course is available only to those students who have been identified as limited English Proficient (LEP).*

Reading 180 – full year

This teacher recommended class emphasizes basic reading skills, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. It is taken in conjunction with the grade level ELA class and is available for all grade levels.

Wilson Language – full year

This course is a dyslexia program for students who have been tested and qualify as students with dyslexia. Most students start this program in elementary school and continue with the program through its completion.

The State Board of Education requirements for junior high school students are as follows:

- **Three years of core courses (ELA, History, Math, & Science)**
- **Four semesters of Physical Education**
- **Two semesters of Fine Arts**