

>> 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Course Planning  
2024-2025

# How do I get to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade?

Come to School!

Pass ALL classes in 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Pass all 4 STAAR tests:

- >> Math
- >> Science
- >> English
- >> Social Studies

## Grades

- >> Grades accumulate over the 4 years of high school.
- >> Grades are averaged from all the classes you take in all four years of High School to create your grade point average, or GPA.
- >> If you fail a class, that low grade still counts in your average even if you retake the class.
- >> Your GPA determines your class rank.

# GPA

>> On-Level= 4.0

>> Advance=5.0

>> AP/IB=6.0

# What is a credit?

- >> 1 semester course = .5 credit
- >> 1 year long course = 1 credit
- >> You need 26 credits to graduate

# High School Graduation Requirements is 26 Credits

- >> 4 English Credits
- >> 4 Math Credits
- >> 4 Science Credits
- >> 4 Social Studies Credits
- >> .5 Health Credit & .5 Speech Credit
- >> 1 Technology Credit
- >> 1 Fine Art Credit
- >> 1 PE Credit
- >> 2 Credits of the same Foreign Lang.
- >> 4 Elective Credits

# Endorsements-

Consist of a related series of courses that are grouped together by interest or skill set. Students must select an endorsement in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade

- >> Arts and Humanities
- >> Business and Industry
- >> Public Service
- >> STEM
- >> Multidisciplinary Studies

# Programs of Study

Programs of study are course sequences that prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in their chosen career.

 <b>Architecture and Construction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Architectural Design</li></ul>	 <b>Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Digital Communications</li><li>□ Graphic Design and Multimedia Arts</li></ul>	 <b>Business, Marketing, and Finance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Accounting and Financial Services</li><li>□ Business Management</li><li>□ Entrepreneurship</li><li>□ Marketing and Sales</li></ul>	 <b>Education and Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Early Learning</li><li>□ Teaching and Training</li></ul>
 <b>Health Science</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Healthcare Diagnostics</li><li>□ Healthcare Therapeutic</li><li>□ Medical Therapy</li><li>□ Nursing Science</li></ul>	 <b>Hospitality and Tourism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Culinary Arts</li></ul>	 <b>Human Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Cosmetology and Personal Care Services</li><li>□ Family and Community Services</li><li>□ Health and Wellness</li></ul>	 <b>Information Technology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Information Technology Support and Services</li><li>□ Networking Systems</li><li>□ Web Development</li></ul>
 <b>Law and Public Service</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Emergency Services</li><li>□ Law Enforcement</li><li>□ Legal Studies</li></ul>	 <b>Manufacturing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Advanced Manufacturing and Machinery Mechanics</li><li>□ Welding</li></ul>	 <b>Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Biomedical Science</li><li>□ Cybersecurity</li><li>□ Engineering</li><li>□ Programming and Software Development</li><li>□ Renewable Energy</li></ul>	 <b>Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Automotive</li><li>□ Drone (Unmanned Flight)</li></ul>



# Arts and Humanities

>> A pathway which allows students an opportunity to study ancient and modern literature, history, language, and culture.

>> Related Arts and Humanities careers include: performing arts of music and theatre, as well as the visual arts.



## Endorsement Arts and Humanities

### Program:

A student may earned this endorsement by completing the general graduation credit requirements and completing at least **one** of the following:

- A. Total of 5 social credits in a coherent sequence
- B. 4 credits of the same language in a language other than English
- C. 2 Credits of the same language in a language other than English and 2 levels of a different language in a language other than English
- D. A coherent sequence of 4 credits by selecting courses from 1 or 2 disciplines from Art, Dance, Music, or Theatre
- E. 4 English elective credits by selecting from the following:
  - English
  - Creative Writing
  - IB English IV
  - Independent Study in English
  - AP English Literature & Composition (AP English IV)
  - IB Research and Technical Writing

# Business and Industry

>> A pathway which allows a student to focus deeply on courses directly related to the business field.

>> Related Business and Industry careers include: information technology specialist, financial advisor, marketing specialist, welding, and automotive.



Endorsement  
Business and Industry

Cluster

Hospitality and  
Tourism

Program of  
Study:

Culinary Arts

Cluster

Transportation,  
Distribution,  
and Logistics

Program of  
Study:

Automotive

Drone  
(Unmanned  
Flight)

Cluster

Information  
Technology

Program of Study:

Information  
Technology  
Support and  
Services

Network Systems

Web  
Development

Cluster

Manufacturing

Program of  
Study:

Advanced  
Manufacturing  
and Machinery  
Mechanics

Cluster

Business,  
Marketing,  
and Finance

Program of Study:

Accounting and  
Financial Services

Business  
Management

Entrepreneurship

Marketing and  
Sales

Cluster

Architecture  
and  
Construction

Program of  
Study:

Architectural  
Design

Cluster

Arts,  
Audio/Video  
Technology,  
and  
Communicati  
ons

Program of  
Study:

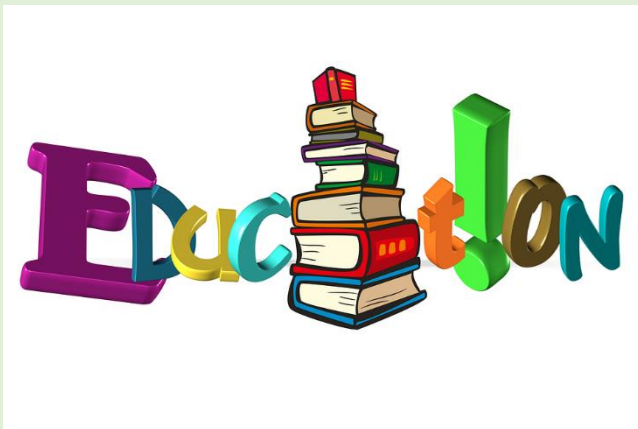
Design and  
Multimedia Arts

Digital  
Communications

# Public Service

>> A pathway that allows a student to focus directly on Public Service.

>> Related Public Service careers include: Education, Firefighter, Health Science, and Law.



Endorsement  
Public Service

Cluster

Education  
and Training

Program:

Early Learning

Teaching and  
Training

Cluster

Health  
Science

Program:

Health  
Diagnostics

Healthcare  
Therapeutic

Medical Therapy

Nursing Science

Cluster

Human  
Services

Program:

Cosmetology and  
Personal Care  
Services

Family and  
Community  
Services

Health and  
Wellness

Cluster

Law

Program:

Emergency  
Services

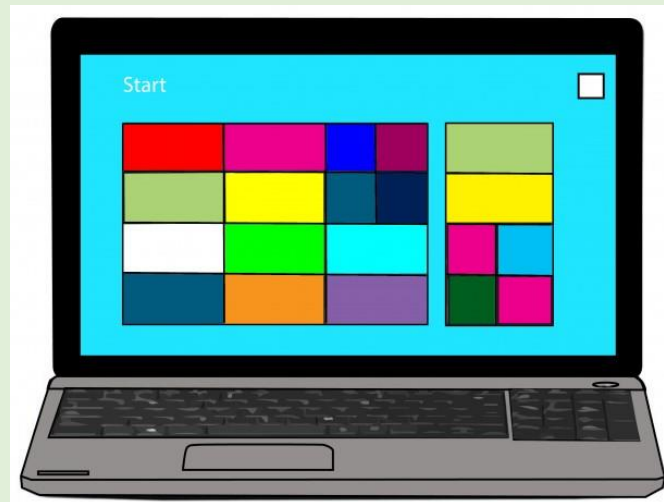
Law Enforcement

Legal Studies

# STEM

>> A pathway that allows students to focus directly on a variety of courses of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.

>> Related STEM careers include: Computer Science, Technology Service, and Software Programming



Endorsement  
STEM

Cluster

STEM

**Program:**

Biomedical Science

Cybersecurity

Engineering

Programming and  
Software Development

Renewable Energy



# Multi-Disciplinary Studies

>> A pathway that allows students to focus on more than one career or academic pathway.

>> Related Multi-Disciplinary Studies careers include: careers can varied depending on the students focus.



## Endorsement Multidisciplinary

### Program:

A student may earned this endorsement by completing the general graduation credit requirements and completing at least one of the following:

- A. 4 Credits of advanced CTE or core academic courses that prepare a student to enter the workforce successfully or postsecondary education without remediation from within 1 endorsement area or among endorsement areas that aren't in a coherent sequence.
- B. 4 Credits in each of the 4 foundation subject areas to include English IV and Chemistry and/or Physics.
- C. 4 Credits in AP, IB, or dual credit selected in English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Economics, World Languages, or Fine Arts.

# Program of Study Descriptions

Architectural Design explores developing, engineering, and designing building structures. Including collecting and interpreting geographic information, researching and preparing maps, and interior design.

Digital Communications explores the production of audio and visual media formats for various purposes, such as TV broadcasts, advertising, video production, or motion pictures. Exposure to operating machines and equipment to record sound and images, such as microphones, sound speakers, video screens, projectors, video monitors, sound and mixing boards, and related electronic equipment.

Graphic Design and Multimedia Arts explores designing graphics to meet specific commercial needs, such as packaging, displays, or logos. Includes creating clothing, accessories, special effects, animation, or other visual images using film, video, computers, or other electronic tools and media, for use in computer games, movies, music videos, and commercials.

Accounting and Financial Services examines, analyzes, and interprets financial records. Students will learn skills necessary to perform financial services, prepare financial statements, interpret accounting records, give advice, audit and evaluate statements prepared by others using mathematical modeling tools.

# Continue

Business Management teaches how to plan, direct, and coordinate administrative services and operations of an organization. Student will learn the skills to formulate policies, manage daily operations, allocate the use of materials and human resources. Introduces students to mathematical modeling tools and organizational evaluation methods.

Entrepreneurship teaches how to plan, direct, and coordinate the management and operations of public or private sector organizations. Students will learn the skills necessary to formulate policies, manage daily operations, analyze management structures, and plan for the use of materials and human resources.

Marketing and Sales teaches how to collect information to determine potential sales of a product or service and/or create a marketing campaign to market or distribute goods and services. Students will learn the skills necessary to understand and apply data on customer demographics, preferences, needs, and buying habits.

Early Learning focuses on early childhood education, which consists of instructing and supporting preschool and early elementary school students in activities that promote social, physical and intellectual growth as well as in basic elements of science, art, music, and literature. Introduces tasks necessary for planning, directing, and coordinating activities for young children.

# Continue

Teaching and Training prepares for careers related to teaching, instruction, and creation of instructional and enrichment materials. Introduces a wide variety of student groups and their corresponding needs. Familiarizes students with the processes for developing curriculum, coordinating educational content, and coaching groups and individuals.

Healthcare Diagnostics introduces students to occupations and education opportunities related to performing complex medical laboratory tests for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. Includes exploration into the opportunities associated with blood laboratories as well as radiologic technology and ultrasound technology.

Healthcare Therapeutic introduces students to occupations and educational opportunities related to diagnosing, treating acute, episodic, or chronic illness independently or as part of a healthcare team. Reviews opportunities associated with providing treatment and counsel to patients; rehabilitative programs which help restore daily living skills to persons with disabilities or developmental delays.

Medical Therapy is the study of biology and medicine in order to introduce students to the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in the healthcare field in occupations such as, Respiratory, Occupational, Physical, or Speech Therapy.

# Continue

Nursing Science introduces students to the knowledge and skills related to patient care. Will about or practice caring for patients, routine procedures such as monitoring vital signs, development and implementation of care plans, maintenance of medical records, and disease or pain management.

Culinary Arts introduces occupations and educational opportunities related to the planning, directing, or coordinating activities of a food and beverage organization or department. Details the directing and participating in the preparation and cooking of food.

Cosmetology and Personal Care Services provides skills related to giving beauty and personal care services. Will learn the practice of managing personal care facilities and coordinating or supervising personal service workers.

Family and Community Services introduces students to skills related to social services, including child and human development and consumer sciences. Will practice managing social and community services and teaching family and consumer sciences. Students may follow career paths in social work or therapy for children, families, or school communities.

## Continue

Health and Wellness introduces students to skills related to promoting physical, emotional, social, and mental health and wellness. Students will learn how to assist patients in planning for their health and wellness, respond to crises, and advise, provide education or counseling, or make referrals. Focus on addressing barriers to access health and wellness services.

Information Technology Support and Services is administering, testing, and implementing computer databases and applying knowledge of database management systems. Includes analyzing user requirements and problems to automate or improve existing systems and review computer system capabilities. Exploration into the research, design, or testing of computer or computer-related equipment for commercial, industrial, military, or scientific use.

Networking Systems is the designing and implementing computer and information networks, such as local area networks (LAN), wide area networks (WAN), intranets, extranets, and other data communications networks. Exploration into analyzing science, engineering, and other data processing problems to implement and improve computer systems.

Web Development is the designing, creating, and modifying websites. Integrates websites with other computer applications, and converting written, graphic, audio, and video components to compatible web formats by using software designed to facilitate the creation of web and multimedia content.

# Continue

Emergency Services focuses on training to respond to emergency situations, such as medical emergencies and fire-based emergencies. Students will learn how to prevent emergencies, respond appropriately and in accordance with rules and regulations during crises, and investigate and delineate the source of the emergency.

Law Enforcement is the development of, adherence to, and protection of various branches of law. Teaches to appropriately and legally respond to breaches in the law according to statutory rules and regulations as well as investigate how and why the breaches occurred.

Legal Studies introduces representing clients in criminal and civil litigation and other legal proceedings, as well as assisting lawyers and preparing legal documents. Explores possible specializations in a single area of law.

Advanced Manufacturing and Machinery Mechanics focuses on the assembly, operation, maintenance, and repair of electromechanical equipment or devices. Will study in a variety of mechanical fields, gaining knowledge and experience in robotics, refinery and pipeline systems, deep ocean exploration, or hazardous waste removal.

Welding focuses on the development and use of automatic and computer-controlled machines, tools, and robots to perform work on metal or plastic. Will learn how to modify parts to make or repair machine tools or maintain individual machines, and how to use hand-welding or flame-cutting equipment.



## Continue

Biomedical Science introduces skills necessary to be successful in the healthcare field, such as researching and diagnosing diseases, pre-existing conditions, or other determinants of health. Students may also practice patient care and communication.

Cybersecurity is the planning, implementing, upgrading, or monitoring security measure for the protection of computer networks and information. Examines responding to computer security breaches and viruses and administering network security measures.

Engineering is designing, development, and use of engines, machines, and structures. Will apply science, mathematical methods, and empirical evidence to the innovation, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of different manufacturing systems.

Programming and Software Development is researching, designing, developing, and testing operating systems-level software, compilers, and network distribution software for medical, industrial, military, communications, aerospace, business, scientific, and general computer applications. Includes creating, modifying, and testing the codes, forms, and script that allow computer applications to run.

## Continue

Renewable Energy helps discover to assemble, inspect, maintain, and repair different equipment required for renewable energy. Introduces students to solar photovoltaic equipment and wind turbines, the systems and processes used to maintain and manage these types of equipment, and helps students develop the skills needed to do so.

Automotive teaches how to repair and refinish automobiles and service various types of vehicles. Learn to collect payment for services or supplies and perform typical vehicle maintenance procedures such as lubrication, oil changes, installation of antifreeze, or replacement of accessories like wiper blades or tires.

Drone-Unmanned Flight is the operating or designing an unmanned aircraft using a ground-based controller and the systems of communications between the controller and the aircraft.

# Checklist

- >> Monitor high school credits; be sure to meet all local and state requirements for graduation.
- >> Take Advanced Placement or dual credit courses if possible to earn college credit while still in high school.
- >> Explore the possibility of the International Baccalaureate program. 10th graders apply for IB and begin in 11th grade, if accepted to the program. Texas public universities award at least 24 hours of college credit to students graduating with the IB diploma.
- >> Keep a list of awards, honors, and extra-curricular activities for scholarship and college applications.
- >> Research colleges or universities you are interested in attending. It is very important to check application and admission requirements, and adhere to all timelines.
- >> Explore your areas of interest with XELLO and continue to align your course selection with your career goals.
- >> Attend college fairs hosted by HEB ISD. Talk with school representatives about the majors they offer and the types of financial aid available.
- >> Monitor your GPA/class rank.

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Request

## English

- >> Advance English (must meet district) criteria
- >> GT English (must already be in GT)
- >> On-level English

\*\*\*ALL STUDENTS WILL BE IDENTIFIED AS ON LEVEL UNTIL DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCED CLASSES CAN BE REVIEWED AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. THIS WILL INCLUDE REPORT GRADES, STAAR SCORES, WORK ETHIC, AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION. \*\*\*

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Request

## History

>> AP Human (must meet district criteria)

>> Advance World Geography (must meet district criteria)

>> On-level World Geography

\*\*\*ALL STUDENTS WILL BE IDENTIFIED AS ON LEVEL UNTIL DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCED CLASSES CAN BE REVIEWED AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. THIS WILL INCLUDE REPORT GRADES, STAAR SCORES, WORK ETHIC, AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION.

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	On Level World Geography	Advanced Academics World Geography	AP Human Geography
<b>Course Description</b>	Gives students a unique perspective about their own culture and physical environment in relation to other places, cultures, and societies.	Gives students a unique perspective about their own culture and physical environment in relation to other places, cultures, and societies.	Explore how humans have understood, used, and changed the surface of the Earth. You'll use the tools and thinking processes of geographers to examine patterns of human population, migration, and land use. (Collegeboard.org)
<b>Homework</b>	2-5 pages of reading homework each week	5-10 pages of reading homework each week	15-30 pages of reading homework each week
<b>Reading Level</b>	Textbook and tests are written for 9 <sup>th</sup> graders	Textbook and tests are written for 9 <sup>th</sup> graders	Textbooks (online and physical), articles, and outside readings are written at a college reading level and questions on the AP test are written at higher reading levels.
<b>Course Structure</b>	Various Units.	Broken into 21 units and takes a more regional approach to the study of geography.	Broken into 7 thematic units focusing on a depth of understanding of each major topic.
<b>Exam</b>	Routine class and district exams.	No national or state test	The goal of this course is for students to take the AP Human Geography test in May with the intent of making a 3 or higher, meaning each student will be taking the AP Exam for possible FREE college credit. *HEB ISD is currently paying for the CB exam.
<b>Grade Point and Grading</b>	Grades are on a 4 point scale and the course will be graded as an on level high school course.	Grades are on a 5 point scale and the course will be graded like a high school Advanced Academics course.	Grades are on a 6 point scale and the course will be graded like a college course. *The course grade and the AP Exam grade are NOT dependent on each other.
<b>Rigor</b>	Manageable Rigor for all students on grade level.	This course is designed to prepare students to take the college level AP World History in 10 <sup>th</sup> grade, so rigor will be increased, but will scaffold students in order to build AP skills needed in 10 <sup>th</sup> grade.	This is a college level class so rigor of reading, discussion, writing, and testing will be higher than at an Advanced Academics level

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Request

## **Math**

>> Advance Geometry (must have been in Advance Algebra in 8<sup>th</sup> grade)

>> Algebra 1

**\*\*\*ALL STUDENTS WILL BE IDENTIFIED AS ON LEVEL UNTIL DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCED CLASSES CAN BE REVIEWED AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. THIS WILL INCLUDE REPORT GRADES, STAAR SCORES, WORK ETHIC, AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION. \*\*\***

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Request

## **Science**

>> Advance Biology

>> On-level Biology

**\*\*\*ALL STUDENTS WILL BE IDENTIFIED AS ON LEVEL UNTIL DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCED CLASSES CAN BE REVIEWED AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. THIS WILL INCLUDE REPORT GRADES, STAAR SCORES, WORK ETHIC, AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION. \*\*\***

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Course Descriptions

## Athletics

A doctor's physical is required. The University Interscholastic League governs the rules and regulations of each program. Includes the following sports: *Boys*-football, basketball, cross-country, track. *Girls*-volleyball, basketball, cross-country, track, and soccer.

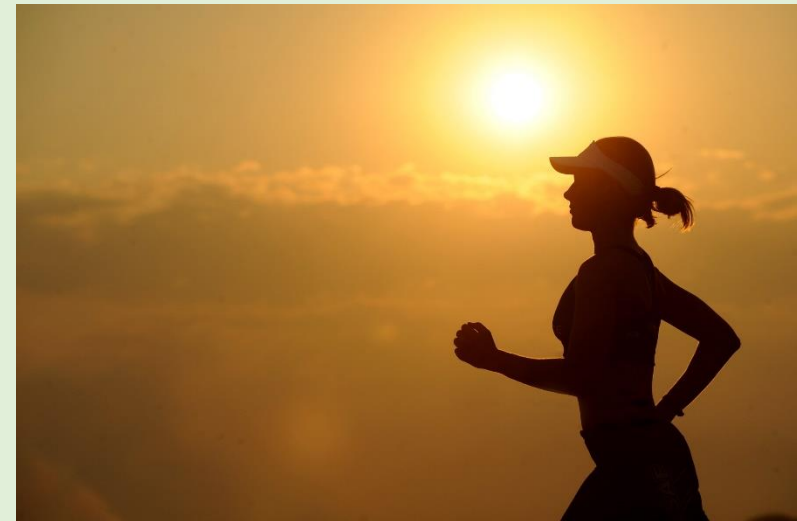




# Electives

## **Physical Education**

This course enables students to have a broad overview of leisure and lifetime sport activities, individual, dual, and team sports. This course places emphasis upon promoting wellness, physical fitness, refining motor skills, and developing an awareness of rules.



# Electives

## Gymnastics

This is a beginning course designed to introduce basic gymnastic skills. It introduces each apparatus and relevant skills with safety being a primary focus. A \$25 fee is required. Girls may join the gymnastics class or try out for the gymnastics team. Boys can only be on the gymnastics team.



# Electives

## Art 1

This is a broad course utilizing art fundamentals in areas of two-dimensional and three-dimensional design. Areas covered may include design, drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture.

\*\*\*If you already took this class as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, you may not select it again as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader.\*\*\*



# Electives

## **Band**

This is an introductory course in band. Students will learn the fundamentals of music and basic playing skills. No previous music training is required. Students will need to practice individually outside of school hours and attend a few outside rehearsals and performances. The band director will approve instruments and students will rent them through the school or a music dealer.



# Electives

## Choir

Students will learn music fundamentals and basic singing skills. The teacher, according to voice type and level of development, makes assignment to appropriate classes. Students will need to practice individually outside of school hours and attend a few outside rehearsals and performances. Some expense for a choir uniform may be required.



# Electives



## Health/Speech

Health –course content provides personal safety, drugs and drug abuse, risky behaviors, infectious and non-infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS and other STD, consumer health, first aid, stress management, personal fitness and nutrition. These studies focus on individual health status, practices, attitudes, interest and knowledge.

Speech- helps students develop the effective communication skills necessary for successful participation in professional and social life. This course blends written, oral, and graphic communication in a career-based environment. By the end of this course, students will be comfortable, efficient, and poised for success when given the opportunity to speak in public.



# Electives

## **Principles of Human Services**

This laboratory course enables students to investigate careers in the human services career cluster, including counseling and mental health, early childhood development, family and community, and personal care services. *Successful completion of two semesters fulfills the health graduation requirement.*

\*\*\*If you already took this class as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, you may not select it again as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader.\*\*\*

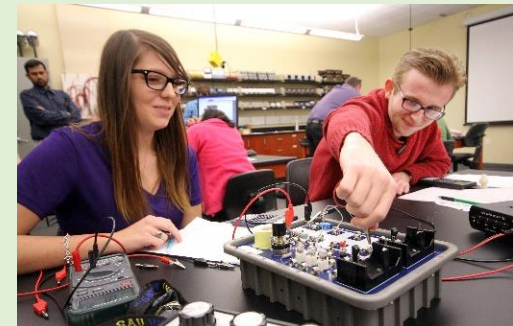


# Electives

## **Principles of Applied Engineering**

This course gives an overview of technology with application of knowledge from many fields like biotechnology, communication, computer applications, construction, energy, power, transportation, and manufacturing. Students discover the link between engineering and technology while utilizing varied computer programs and many hands-on design, team, and technology projects. Students build scale models and prototypes as well as learn emerging technologies, technology history, workplace safety, career possibilities, and college and career information. A primary goal is the application of science, technology, engineering, and math to everyday life. *This course meets the technology requirement for high school graduation.*

\*\*\*If you already took this class as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, you may not select it again as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader.\*\*\*





# Electives

## **Business Information Management**

This course orients students with word processing, database, spreadsheet, and multi-media presentation applications. Students implement personal and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in the workplace, in society, and to make a successful transition to the workforce and/or post-secondary education. Students apply technical skills to address business applications for emerging technologies. *This course meets the technology requirement for high school graduation.*

\*\*\*If you already took this class as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, you may not select it again as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader.\*\*\*



# Electives



## **Spanish I**

This course is an introduction to the Spanish world, its language and its people. The course emphasizes oral proficiency while developing reading, writing, and listening skills. The Spanish culture will also be explored. Students will attain a novice proficiency level. This course will be taught *primarily* in Spanish.

## **Spanish II**

This course is only for students who were in Spanish 1A as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and Spanish 1B as a 8<sup>th</sup> grader

## **Spanish IV**

This course is only for students who took Spanish III as an a 8<sup>th</sup> grader.

# >> 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Timeline

## » 8th to 9th Grade Planning

01

Complete

Xello Career Planning  
in History class.  
September 19th, 20th, and 21st

02

Tour

CTE Buinger Academy  
October 6, 2023

03

Review

Presentation Preview Available  
Online  
<https://hurstjhcounseling.weebly.com/coming-9th-graders.html>  
Starting Oct. 10th



04

Select

9th grade course request, alternates &  
endorsement will take place in Science  
classes.  
November 2nd, 3rd, and 6th

05

Attend

8th grade Buinger Night  
Buinger Academy Blvd. E 6017, 1849 Central Dr.,  
Bedford, TX 76022  
November 9, 2022 at 6:00pm - 8:00pm  
\*Must register in advance, watch for email.

06

Finalize

9th grade course request & alternates  
deadline. Please review with your child.  
No changes after submission  
November 10, 2023