

Course Selection Night 2025 Parent Question and Answer

1. Can a Team Sport outside of school be in lieu of PE?

Off Campus PE is for students that participate in a high level of a competition activity that requires several hours outside of school. Category 1 requires a student to practice at least 15 hours a week for national competition. A student can request approval to participate in training at a private or commercially sponsored physical activity program that is not offered to the student by their campus's PE, athletic, or fine arts department for PE credit. The student's training and the program must meet the following criteria to be eligible for approval. Parents and students are responsible for ensuring the required number of training hours are met each week. If an establishment is unable to offer the required number of hours the parent/student should make the district aware, so that the student can be placed back into a PE class on their campus. If they do not meet the required number of training hours each week, the student will receive a failing grade and be placed back into a PE class on their campus. For more information on off-campus PE and to apply for the course, please visit the [Fort Bend ISD Off-Campus PE Website](#).

2. What are Elementary School Visits and who can attend?

Elementary School Visits are when our current feeder Elementary Schools come to visit Sartartia. Students will be bussed over from their Elementary School, participate in activities, go on a school tour, and eat lunch on campus. Elementary School Visits will be on Wednesday, January 29, 2025 for all of our current 5th graders at Walker Station, Cornerstone, or Brazos Bend Elementary and are zoned to attend Sartartia in the fall. Only current 5th grades at these elementary campuses are allowed to attend.

3. What is Jag Camp?

Jag Camp is an orientation session for incoming students. Jag camp will be on Thursday, July 31, 2025, and we invite all of our incoming 6th grade students to attend. Students will receive a list of their courses, tour the school, attend a Pep Rally, and attend an informational session to learn more about SMS. There will be a parent information session during Jag Camp for our parents to attend. Look for information this summer regarding registration.

4. What is the selection criteria for students getting into electives?

The Associate Principal builds a master schedule based on student requests from the spring. Once the master schedule is created, Skyward automatically schedules students based on their requests. All students are given the same opportunity to be scheduled into a course, with the exception of courses that require teacher application, an interview, and/or teacher approval. All students are scheduled at the same time in Skyward. Skyward builds a schedule for each student that will maintain balance across courses. It is imperative your child selects 2 electives and 2 alternate courses that they are willing to take.

5. What course does my child select on their Course Selection Sheet if they plan on taking a Credit by Exam (CBE)?

When selecting courses, students will select the course for their grade level as if they did not take a CBE (ex. If your child took the Math 6 CBE, you will select Math 6 on your course selection sheet). Scores are sent to the campus counselor, and we will place students in the appropriate course.

6. What are TEKS?

TEKS stands for Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, which are the state standards for what students should know and be able to do. For more information on TEKS, please visit the [TEA Website](#).

7. My child is taking Math7AAC this year, should they take Algebra AAC next year or on level Math 8?

We recommend reaching out to your child's current teacher on placement for the following school year. Regarding Math, we will now be offering On Level Algebra 1 for students to select. If your child is currently in Math 7 AAC, they will have the option to choose On Level Math 8, On Level Algebra 1, or Algebra 1 AAC.

8. How are students eligible to take Algebra in 7th Grade?

Students must meet the prerequisites to take Algebra. For an AAC student, the prerequisites for Algebra 1 are Math 6 AAC and Math 7 AAC. If your child is in On-Level math classes, the prerequisite for Algebra 1 is Math 6, Math 7 and Math 8. Your child must complete Math 8 to take Algebra 1. For an AAC student, Math 8 TEKS are covered in Math 7 AAC.

9. Can a student take Kickstart AND participate in team sports?

Students who are in Kickstart are eligible to try out for any team sport. However, in the event they make the team they will not be scheduled in the athletic period because they have already been scheduled into the Kickstart period. The team does use the specific athletic period for additional practice time. Your child will still be responsible for attending all morning and after school practices as well as games and tournaments.

10. How many electives are students allowed to choose in 6th grade?

In 6th grade, students will have a total of 2 electives. 6th Grade students will be enrolled in their 4 core classes (Math, Science, English, and Social Studies), PE (PE, Kickstart, or Pre-Athletics), and 2 Electives.

11. How does my child get in the 8th Grade Athletics class?

Current SMS students who are interested in Athletics will need to speak with the coaches to express their interest in Athletics. This can be done during their current Physical Education or Health class. Typically, the coaches request this information from all students towards the end of

the school year to gather names and interest level. The counselors are given a list from the coaches of who to place in the Athletics period.

12. My child is GT identified in Math/Science. Can they take AAC in English Language Arts and Social Studies also? (or Vice Versa)

Fort Bend ISD has an open enrollment policy for all AAC courses. Any student can enroll in an AAC course. The exception at the middle school level is Algebra I. Students must meet the prerequisite requirements for this course (See Question #8).

13. What is AVID?

AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. AVID classes are part of the regular class schedule and are an approved course that receives credit in Texas. AVID students take the most rigorous classes they can and receive time in AVID to collaborate with their peers and with college tutors. The program also ensures students are aware of all the necessary steps they must take to be admitted to a four-year university, including helping students to prepare for the PSAT/SAT and ACT tests. Additionally, students learn about different universities and colleges, careers and majors. They receive help choosing the major that is right for them, and get help with university admissions essays, scholarship applications, financial aid and more. For more information visit the [FBISD AVID Website](#).

14. Is AVID required for 6th grade students?

At Sartartia all 6th grade students will take AVID or GT Independent Study and 1 elective.

15. Which are the most popular electives?

There is a wide range of interest in all of our elective classes. Please have your student rank their choices 1 – 4 on their course selection sheet based on their individual interests.

16. How will we know what grade point average (GPA) the Electives are on for Electives that qualify for high school credit. Are Electives on a 4.0 or 5.0 grade point average?

We do not calculate GPA in middle school. Fort Bend ISD calculates GPA using the 100 point scale. For more information on FBISD grading policy and GPA please visit the [FBISD Academic Development Webpage](#).

17. When should private school students submit their course selection sheets in order to be fairly considered for limited spots.

Students are not able to submit their requests until they are enrolled in FBISD. Typically, during the enrollment process the registrar will provide the course selection information and give to the grade level counselor upon completion. Then, the counselor inputs the courses into Skyward. All students are scheduled at the same time via Skyward.