

WELCOME LONGHORNS

BAINES MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT NIGHT SPRING 2026



6TH GRADE COUNSELOR

ERICKA BURR



6TH GRADE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Eric Murphy

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COURSE SELECTION

COURSE SELECTION GUIDE:

Fort Bend ISD Website



[2026-2027 Middle School Course Guide](#)

REQUIRED COURSES

- Math
- Science
- English Language Arts(ELA)
- Social Studies
- Physical Education (PE) **OR** Kickstart **OR** Pre-Athletics
- AVID **OR** Technovation **OR** Contest
- Elective
- Advisory

**No Recess*

** PE all year*

COURSE OPTIONS

- **Math** On-Level or **Math** AAC
- **Science** On Level or **Science** AAC
- **English Language Arts(ELA)** On-Level or **ELA** AAC
- **Social Studies** On-Level or **Social Studies** AAC
- Physical Education (PE) **OR** Kickstart **OR** **Pre-Athletics**
- AVID **OR** *Technovation*
- Elective _____
- Advisory (no options available)

*No Recess

*PE all year

ELECTIVES

- Art I
- Band I
- Choir (Beg)
- Orchestra I
- Theater I

- Technovation I
- Contest Math

These
courses are
considered
Fine Arts

* We strongly
encourage that the
students remain in
electives for the full
school year.

ELECTIVES

- Number elective choices on the course selection sheet in order of preference:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

- Students may not get their first choice due to availability
- In Skyward enter the first choice under “Requested” and choices 2, 3, & 4 under “Alternates”

BAND OR ORCHESTRA

- Arrangements should be made for band or orchestra instruments prior to the end of the current school year.
- Typically, in the Spring Semester there will be an Instrument Night. More information will be coming soon.
- Failure to do so may result in band/orchestra being replaced by another elective based upon availability.

TECHNOVATION I

- This introductory course ignites a passion for technology and innovation through the exciting worlds of robotics and engineering.
- Students will learn the fundamental principles in mechanics, electronics, and computer programming by engaging in hands-on projects.
- Students will design, construct, and program basic robots to tackle challenges, cultivate teamwork, improve problem-solving abilities, and develop a solid understanding of the engineering design process.

WHAT IS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION(CTE)?

Our students define CTE as a program that involves academic and hands-on skills to prepare students for a specific career that they want.

Career and Technical Education is a strategic educational plan for all students. It allows for academics, creativity and skills to merge therefore sparking career interest that will carry them from high school to college and career.



WHY STUDENTS SHOULD GET ACTIVE IN CTE EARLY!

Foundation for Skill Development

CTE in middle school allows students to explore interests and develop essential skills early for future success.

Informed Academic Pathways

Early CTE exposure helps students make informed decisions about high school and post-secondary courses.

Increased Engagement and Motivation

Real-world learning applications in CTE increase student engagement and motivation in school.

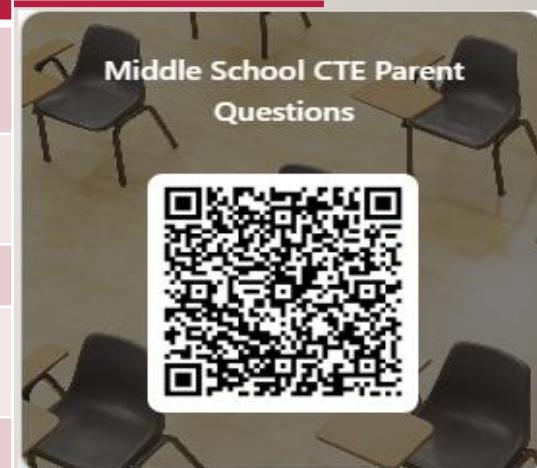
Family Benefits and Support

Families gain clarity and confidence in education planning, reducing stress and rushed decisions.

CTE COURSES AVAILABLE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL 26.27



6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
Technovation I	Touch System Data Entry/Dollars and Sense	Fundamentals of Computer Science
	Career and College Exploration	Principles of Human Services
	Technovation II	Technovation II
		Touch System Data Entry/Dollars and Sense
		Career and College Exploration



To enroll your incoming 6th grader in Technovation I or a rising 7th or 8th in Technovation II, make sure to select the course during course selection, use one of your elective spaces to add the course.

CONTEST MATH

Contest Math

Course Number: NC6001, NC7001, NC8004

Offered in: 6–8

Prerequisites: None

This **elective course** is designed as an opportunity for students in middle school, with an interest in mathematics competition, to prepare and participate in mathematics **contests** such as MathCounts, UIL Number Sense, and Texas Mathematics League. Students may take **this course** more than once.

AVID

- AVID Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success, and it is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long course.
- The sixth-grade AVID Elective course is an introduction to the AVID philosophy. Students will develop awareness of the values accompanying academic goals and success.
- The course will focus on building self-confidence and communication skills.
- Students will be exposed to reading strategies that will assist in vocabulary building and understanding a variety of texts, and will also focus on prewriting techniques, summary writing and structural components of note-taking.
- The students will increase college and career awareness through guest speaker presentations, field trip opportunities, and research.

AVID OR CONTEST MATH TECHNOVATION

- ALL 6TH GRADERS WILL BE PLACED IN AVID.
- IF YOUR STUDENT SELECTS TECHNOVATION:
 - TECHNOVATION WILL REPLACE AVID
 - CONTESTM MATH WILL REPLACE AVID

ACADEMICS & ELECTIVES

- Adjustments may be made to your child's schedule if there is a need for academic support. Our Campus Assessment Coordinator (CAC) utilizes data to determine academic needs for all students.

AAC COURSES

AAC

Advanced Academic Courses

Fort Bend ISD offers a variety of courses aligned to the College Board Advanced Placement (AP) program. The AAC/AP program is designed to develop college readiness. Beginning in 6th grade, highly motivated students may select and participate in AAC courses. These courses are academically challenging, face-paced and require more independent learning than on-level courses. Please see the FBISD's MS Course Guide for guidelines for AAC courses.

- ❑ AAC courses are designed to prepare students for AP coursework, but they are not a prerequisite for enrolling in most AP courses. Some AP courses do have specific prerequisites. Check each course description for any prerequisites.

AAC

- AAC courses are taught at a higher level of rigor than regular courses.
- Students will utilize higher order thinking skills and real-world applications of skills and concepts more often than a regular grade level course.
- AAC students will have a strong command of the subject area, be organized and highly motivated.

AAC

- Students who take AAC classes will be expected to maintain a passing average.
- Due to the challenging nature of AAC/ AP coursework, students may initially experience a drop in grades. Successful completion of coursework is generally defined as earning a 75 or higher as a semester average.
- If you notice your child's grades falling – contact the teacher to see what can be done to support your child as they work to improve their work habits, study skills, and grades.

OTHER FACTORS:

- AAC is not “**all or nothing**.” Students may enroll in as many or as few AAC courses as they choose.
- Additional support and encouragement are important to help sustain student participation in rigorous classes.

OTHER FACTORS:

- It is possible to move from on-level to AAC/ AP sections from one year to the next.
- In math, it is more challenging due to the acceleration of the curriculum in 6th and 7th grades.
- It is possible that additional support may be needed to support the transition to AAC math in middle school.

GUIDELINES FOR EXITING AN AAC COURSE

- Students are expected to seek support when needed to be successful in an AAC course.
- Actions taken should include tutorials and conferencing with the teacher.

Guidelines for Exiting an AAC Course

- Exit processes are necessary to assist students in making sound course selection decisions.
- Students and parents must be aware that the exact grade from the AAC class shall transfer to the on-level course with no grade adjustments.
- In the case of failing grades, teachers may assign alternative assignments in order to fulfill a grade change of up to a 70.
- These grades will be included in calculating the on-level course grade and may impact UIL eligibility.

GUIDELINES FOR EXITING AN AAC COURSE

- Requests to level down will be considered **after** the first three (3) weeks of school and only if space is available in the new class. Prior to requesting a change in level, the student and parent must have met with the teacher and put in place a plan for success. If the teacher and student feel the plan has been followed, and the student has completed all assignments, a request for a conference to discuss removal may be made.

GUIDELINES FOR EXITING AN AAC COURSE

- Success in an AAC course is defined as having a grade of 75 or above.
- Students who earn an F in an AAC course at the end of a grading period may be removed from the class unless otherwise recommended by the teacher and administrator. Students assigned to DAEP may lose their Pre-AP class.

GIFTED & TALENTED STUDENTS

- Students who are Gifted & Talented (GT) identified will automatically be placed in their GT identified subject area classes.
- Cluster grouping places a select number of GT students together for instruction. Grouping gifted students together provides opportunities for them to work with cognitive peers.
- Parents who do not want this should indicate that on the course selection sheet. Please contact the campus counselor for Gifted and Talented: Ericka.Burr@fortbendisd.gov

CONTENT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL AAC MATH COURSES

MIDDLE SCHOOL AAC MATH COURSES ARE ACCELERATED COURSES IN THAT THEY COVER TEXAS ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS (TEKS) FROM NOT ONLY THE CURRENT GRADE LEVEL, BUT THE NEXT GRADE LEVEL AS WELL

Middle School Math AAC Course TEKS Distribution

Course	Percent of Grade 6 TEKS	Percent of Grade 7 TEKS	Percent of Grade 8 TEKS	Algebra 1 TEKS
Grade 6 Math AAC	100%	51%		
Grade 7 Math AAC		49%	100%	
Algebra 1 AAC				100%

Is an AAC course right for me?

AAC courses add depth to the already rigorous grade level curriculum. These courses will take a commitment of strong effort to see success. A student who has a low work ethic or isn't motivated may be more successful in an on-level course.

AAC courses are demanding of time. Reading and writing assignments as well as projects and regular homework can be expected. If you already have commitments on your time from extracurricular activities or other outside of school responsibilities, you will need to make sure you are able to create a balance and make time for you academic work.

The pacing of some AAC courses is very fast. If you generally pick up new learning quickly, AAC may be a good fit. If you generally need a few interventions before picking up new material, an on-level course may be more appropriate for you.

AAC courses are designed to prepare students for the AP courses offered in FBISD. If you are committed to the study of a subject through high school to the AP level, and hope to take the associated AP test to try and earn college credit, then AAC is the place for you to be.

Your current teacher knows you and your learning style. You may want to have a conversation with him/her to see what they would recommend for your learning path. Your current skill set and motivation are both important consideration.

If your grades in the subject for which you are considering AAC have consistently been very good (85+) then you are thinking in the right direction. Students that have lower grade averages in a content area, may want to consider staying in an on-level course for that content.

Students considering AAC for ELA or SS classes should look at the STAAR Reading and Writing scores. Students considering AAC for Math or Science should look at their STAAR Math scores. Your scores should at least "Meet" and preferably "Master" in that subject area.

PRE-ATHLETICS

- This course is a variation of Girls/Boys Health Fitness: Grade 6 which will prepare students for successful participation in the middle school athletic program.
- The focus of the program would be to provide students with a preview of upcoming UIL sports in which they will be eligible to participate as 7th graders and to prepare them for the behavioral and academic expectations associated with being a participating member of the FBISD athletics program.
- FBISD Pre-Athletic curriculum will also include health standards and character education program.
- Each week students will have an opportunity to work through and improve themselves through interaction with the character education curriculum and learning about healthy habits.

KICKSTART

- The purpose of this course is to teach students the tools and support necessary to resolve conflicts, avoid participation in gangs, choose a drug-free lifestyle, resist negative peer pressure, and remain in school using karate.
- This safe and structured program focuses on the discipline and philosophies of the martial arts while engaging the students in fitness and educating them about self-defense.
- Parent/ guardian permission is required along with a participation fee.

Course Selection Worksheet

2026-2027 BAINES MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE REQUEST WORKSHEET - GRADE 6

Student's Name:

Student's I.D. Number

Required courses include English Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, Science, Physical Education, one Elective, AVID and Advisory.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AAC COURSES

AAC courses are taught at a higher level of rigor than regular courses. Students will utilize higher order thinking skills and real world applications of skills and concepts more often than a regular grade level course. Thus, successful AAC students will have a strong command of the subject area, be organized and highly motivated.

Students who take AAC classes will be expected to maintain an average of 75 or higher. Parents should schedule a conference with the teacher for students with a 74 or lower at the end of any 9 week grading period to discuss interventions that can be put in place to help your child be successful.

Choose ONE option for each of the five courses listed below.

<input type="checkbox"/> EL6111 ELA 6 AAC <input type="checkbox"/> EL6211 ELA 6	<input type="checkbox"/> MA6111 Math 6 AAC <input type="checkbox"/> MA6211 Math 6	<input type="checkbox"/> PH 6639 PE 6 <input type="checkbox"/> PH 6649 6 Kickstart <input type="checkbox"/> PH6641 Pre-Athletics
<input type="checkbox"/> SS6111 Social Studies 6 AAC <input type="checkbox"/> SS6211 Social Studies 6	<input type="checkbox"/> SC6111 Science 6 AAC <input type="checkbox"/> SC6211 Science 6	

ELECTIVES: Number elective choices in order of preference: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Students may not get their first choice due to availability. A Reading or Math Skills class may be assigned in place of an elective if 5TH grade STAAR scores are weak. All sixth grade students will have one elective.

<input type="checkbox"/> FA6689 Art I	<input type="checkbox"/> FC6759 Beg. Girls' Choir I	<input type="checkbox"/> FC6749 Beg. Boys' Choir I
<input type="checkbox"/> FB6799 Band I	<input type="checkbox"/> FO6809 Beg. Orchestra I	<input type="checkbox"/> FT6959 Theater I 6
	<input type="checkbox"/> CTE111 <u>Technovation</u> I	<input type="checkbox"/> NC6001 Contest Math

Arrangements must be made for **band/orchestra** instruments prior to May 31. Failure to do so may result in band/orchestra being replaced by another elective based upon availability.

All student will be given an AVID class, and an Advisory class.

NOTE: Electives are for a full year and may not be changed during the year.

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature

Date

SAMPLE COURSE SELECTION

Choose ONE option for each of the five courses listed below.

<input type="checkbox"/> EL6111 ELA 6 AAC <input type="checkbox"/> EL6211 ELA 6	<input type="checkbox"/> MA6111 Math 6 AAC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MA6211 Math 6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PH 6639 PE 6 <input type="checkbox"/> PH 6649 6 Kickstart <input type="checkbox"/> PH6641 Pre-Athletics
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SS6111 Social Studies 6 AAC <input type="checkbox"/> SS6211 Social Studies 6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SC6111 Science 6 AAC <input type="checkbox"/> SC6211 Science 6	

SAMPLE COURSE GUIDE

ELECTIVES: Number elective choices in order of preference: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Students may not get their first choice due to availability. A Reading or Math Skills class may be assigned in place of an elective if 5TH grade STAAR scores are weak. All sixth grade students will have one elective.

<u>3</u> FA6689 Art I	<u>4</u> FC6759 Beg. Girls' Choir I	<u> </u> FC6749 Beg. Boys' Choir I
<u>2</u> FB6799 Band I	<u> </u> FO6809 Beg. Orchestra I	<u>1</u> FT6959 Theater I 6
	<u>5</u> CTE111 <u>Technovation</u> I	<u> </u> NC6001 Contest Math

Arrangements must be made for **band/orchestra** instruments prior to May 31. Failure to do so may result in band/orchestra being replaced by another elective based upon availability.

All student will be given an AVID class, and an Advisory class.

NOTE: Electives are for a full year and may not be changed during the year.

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature

Date

COURSE REQUEST & SKYWARD

- Submit your completed course request worksheet to your elementary campus.
- The elementary counselors will complete the course selection process in Skyward with your child at the elementary campus.
- Dates will be provided by the elementary campus of when the Skyward course request entry will occur.

6TH GRADE COURSE EXAMPLE

- ELA AAC 6
- Math 6
- Science 6 AAC
- Social Studies 6 AAC
- P.E.
- AVID
- Theater I (Elective)
- Advisory

MORE INFORMATION

Clubs/Organizations: We highly encourage students to participate in clubs and/or organizations.

Skyward, SchooLinks and Schoology: Very useful tools. Students utilize these frequently at school and home. Please be sure to have access to Skyward.

Longhorn Round Up is an orientation for incoming 6th graders to Baines Middle School. More information regarding the orientation will be coming soon.



Baines
Middle School

5th Grade
Save the Dates!!!

	COURSE SELECTION PROCESS ELECTIVES FAIR	January 20, 2026 7:00- 8:00 p.m. @ BMS
	5 th Grade Visits CAMPUS TOUR FINE ARTS SHOWCASE LUNCH	January 23, 2026 9:00 – 11:10 a.m. @BMS
	5 th Grade Course Selection	January 26 – February 13, 2026
	Course Verification Windows	March 9-13, 2026

Longhorn Roundup – TBD

BMS WEBSITE:
HTTP://WWW.FORTBENDISD.COM/BMS



QUESTIONS?

