

# 8TH GRADE COURSE SELECTION

BAINES MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR 2026

# REQUIRED SUBJECTS

## English On-Level or AAC

# Math On-Level

## Algebra On-Level or AAC

# Science On-Level or AAC

## P.E., KickStart, or Dance

## 2 Electives

## Advisory

## 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 to 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 your 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 skillset and motivation are both important considerations.

If your grades in the subject for which you're 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.

# Algebra I On-Level or AAC

- This is a high school credit course
  - The intention of this course is to prepare students for AP level Math courses.
  - Prerequisites: Successful completion of Math 7 AAC or a passing score on the Credit by Exam test for Math 8.
  - If students want to go from On-level Math 7 to Algebra they MUST take AND PASS the Credit by Exam test for Math 8. Registration window for **Session 3** is February 25<sup>th</sup> – March 4<sup>th</sup>. The registration window for **Session 4** is May 5<sup>th</sup> – May 13<sup>th</sup>. Let Ms. Brockie know if you are interested.

# ELECTIVES

- Number elective choices in order of preference: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 on your course selection sheet.
- Students may not get their 1<sup>st</sup> choice due to availability or application requirements.
- Electives are for a **FULL YEAR ! Choose carefully.**

# 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.

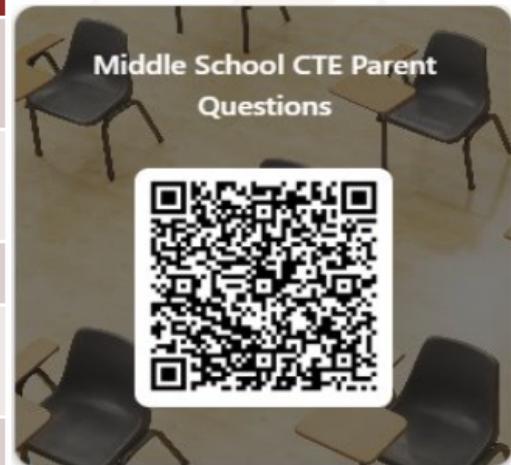
## Family Benefits and Support

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

# CTE Courses available for Middle School 26.27



6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> grader in Technovation I or a rising 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> in Technovation II, make sure to select the course during course selection, use one of your elective spaces to add the course.

# ELECTIVES

- Career & Technical Education:
  - Touch System Data Entry/Dollars and Sense 1 Cr.
  - Principles of Human Services 1 Cr.
  - Fundamentals of Computer Science 1 Cr.
  - Technovation II 1 Cr.
  - Career and College Exploration

# ELECTIVES

- PALS
  - Prerequisites: application, interview, & teacher recommendations
- Intro to Broadcasting
  - SSTV - requires an application
  - The Intro class is available to all
- Journalism/Yearbook
  - Prerequisites: application, interview, & teacher recommendations

**See Ms. Loh in room 2124 (or the gym this evening) for application information. Application deadline is February 6<sup>th</sup>.**

# ELECTIVES

## Spanish I AD

Academic Grades in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade must be strong in order to have a chance of being successful. Spanish I is available in 8<sup>th</sup> grade where students can earn 1 high school credit in 1 year.

## French I AD

Academic Grades in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade must be strong in order to have a chance of being successful. This course is taken at RPHS daily at 7:30 am – Parents to provide transportation.

# ELECTIVES

## Spanish for Spanish Speakers :

- Students who are native speakers of Spanish may receive credit for Spanish I & II upon successful completion of this course in one year. 2 Cr.
- The main objective of this course is to help students to continue to develop their heritage and linguistic and cultural skills in order to become fully bilingual and biliterate .
- A placement test is required.

# **ELECTIVES**

## **Fine Arts:**

Men's Choir – Varsity and JV

Women's Choir – Varsity, JV, and Concert

Band – Honors, Symphonic, and Concert

Orchestra – Honors and Intermezzo

Theater – Production (requires an audition)  
and on-level class

Art – Honors and on-level class

# **ELECTIVES**

## **AVID**

### **Advancement Via Individual Determination**

An academic system for grades K-12

Dedicated to closing the achievement gap by preparing all students for college eligibility and other opportunities

A program that prepares academically average students for placement in advanced classes

A proven system established over 30 years ago and today impacts more than 700,000 students in 45 states and 16 countries.

Students new to AVID in 8<sup>th</sup> grade must complete an application.

# **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**PE**

**KickStart – counts for PE**

**Dance – counts for PE**

**(Athletics)**



# **COURSE SELECTION PROCESS**

Students will be given a course selection sheet 1 week before they are scheduled to go into SchooLinks with me to select their classes.

They should bring their course selection sheet filled out and signed by parents on the day they are scheduled. We will select their courses online in SchooLinks.

They will enter their requests with their History teacher. They will work with me on February 6<sup>th</sup> (Lopes), February 9<sup>th</sup> (Stevens) and February 11<sup>th</sup> (Olivier)

# Important Course Selection Info

When selecting electives, DON'T FORGET.....

- 1. Top 2 elective choices go under (1st & 2nd choice)  
**"Requested Courses"**
- 2. Next 3 elective choices (3, 4, & 5) go under  
**"Request Alternates"**
- 3. Verify that selected course requests are listed that way and the alternate course request show as numbers in the priority column – **1st, 2nd, 3rd**

# Important Dates to Remember

- **January 30<sup>th</sup>** – Students receive Course Selection Sheets from History teachers. Parents and students should complete and sign the Course Selection Form
- **February 6<sup>th</sup> – February 11<sup>th</sup>** - Students are with Ms. Brockie through History classes for assistance with completing course selection process in SchooLinks. Course Selection Worksheets are collected at this time.

Course Selection Guides are available here:

[https://www.fortbendisd.com/cms/lib/TX01917858/Centricity/domain/74/course%20selection%20guides/MS%20Course%20Selection%20Guide%202026-27\\_v2.pdf](https://www.fortbendisd.com/cms/lib/TX01917858/Centricity/domain/74/course%20selection%20guides/MS%20Course%20Selection%20Guide%202026-27_v2.pdf)

On the FBISD Website under “Parents & Students”, “Student Resources”, “Course Selection Guides”

**If you are considering a high school credit class for next year, I STRONGLY recommend that you attend the 7:00 session, in the Library, all about high school credit classes and their implications for GPA and class rank.**

**Questions???**

Ms. Maria Brockie

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Thank You!

