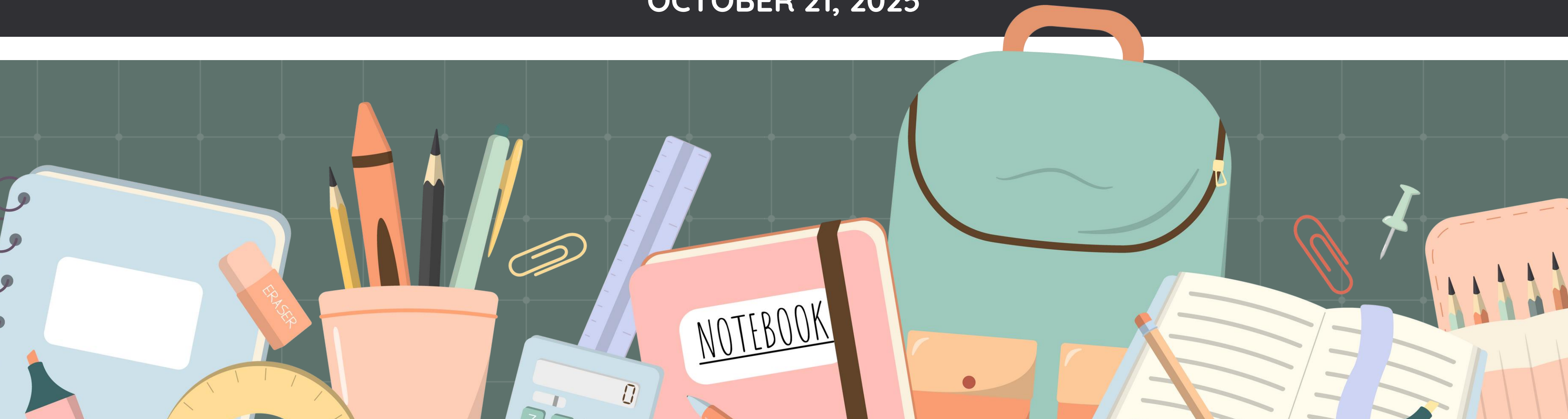


DCMS 8TH GRADE ENDORSEMENT INFORMATION NIGHT

HELPING YOUR STUDENT PLAN FOR HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND

PRESENTED BY: MRS. WILLIAMS-PIERRE, DCMS 8TH GRADE COUNSELOR
OCTOBER 21, 2025



AGENDA

- Review high school credits & graduation requirements
- Explore endorsements & career pathways
- GBHS Endorsement options
- FBISD Programs of Choice
- Available resources
- Next Steps & Career Day





WHAT IS A CREDIT?

- A full year course will earn you 1 credit (1 credit awarded at the end of the year)
Ex. English 1, Geometry, Spanish, Algebra etc.
- A semester course will earn you a $\frac{1}{2}$ credit ($\frac{1}{2}$ credit awarded at the end of the semester)
Ex. Health, Communication Applications



High School Credit Classes at DCMS

- Spanish I – year long course (1.0 credit)
- Spanish for Spanish Speakers I/II - semester long courses (1.0 credit each semester)
- Fundamentals of Computer Science – year long course (1.0)
- Algebra I/ Algebra I AAC – year long course (1.0)
- Touch Systems Data Entry – semester long course (.5 credit)
- Dollars and Sense - semester long course (.5 credit)



CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

- *Grade level advancement for students in grades 9-12 shall be determined by the number of earned course credits according to the classification chart below.

Class Standing	Credits Required for Class Standing
<i>Freshman</i>	0-5
<i>Sophomore</i>	6-11
<i>Junior</i>	12-17
<i>Senior</i>	18 & up
<i>Graduate</i>	26 (plus endorsement)

WHAT IS NEEDED FOR GRADUATION?

**4 Credits
of English**

**4 Credits
of Math**

**4 Credits
of Science**

**4 Credits
of Social
Studies**

**2 Credits of
World Language
or Computer
Programming**

**.5 Credit
of Health**

**.5 Credit of
Professional
Communications**

**1 Credit of
PE**

**1 Credit of
Fine Arts**

**6 Credits
of Electives**

**Completion of
1
endorsement**

***** Total:
26**



END OF COURSE EXAMS

Algebra I
(9th grade)

Biology
(9th Grade)

English I
(9th Grade)

English II
(10th Grade)

US History
11th Grade

**STAAR EOC Exams are required for
graduation**



ATTENDANCE

- All students are required by law to be at school and IN class every day... All day...
- The Texas Compulsory Law states you must be in school 90% of the time
- Example: If a semester has 80 instructional days, and you have more than 8 absences, even with a 70 or better, you will lose credit and may qualify for seat time recovery
- If you have more than 20 absences, then you would lose credit, have to appeal, wait for a committee decision, and still participate in seat time recovery or take the class again
- Moral of the story... Go to class!!



WHY IS 9TH GRADE IMPORTANT?

- Grades determine your grade point average (GPA) and Class Rank used for post-secondary opportunities!!
 - ***Every year counts!



What is an Endorsement?

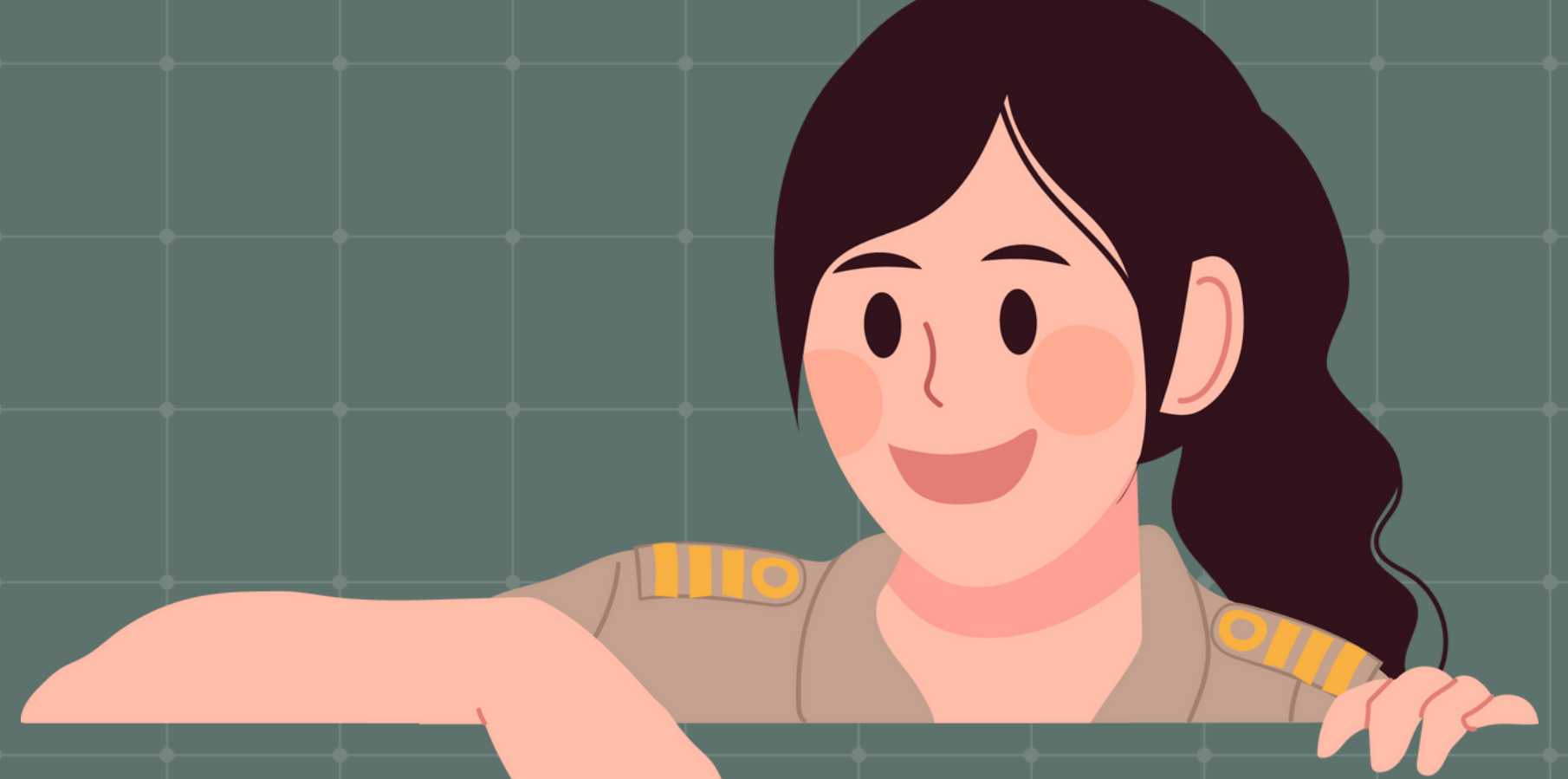
- Selecting an **ENDORSEMENT** is like choosing a **MAJOR** in College even if you plan to go directly into the workforce. It's your career pathway into your field of interest.
- Endorsements consist of **a related series of courses that are grouped together by interest or skill set**. They **provide** students with in-depth knowledge of a subject area.
- There are 5 Endorsement Areas w/ each having several specializations:

Endorsements, Programs and Pathways

STEM	Business and Industry	Public Service	Arts and Humanities	Multidisciplinary Studies
• Math • Science • STEM	• Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources • Architecture and Construction • Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications • Business, Marketing, and Finance • Hospitality and Tourism • Information Technology • Manufacturing • Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics • English — Journalism and Debate	• Education and Training • Health Science • Human Services • Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) • Law and Public Service	• Visual Art (drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, and digital art) • Music (band, orchestra, choir) • Theatre (theatre, technical theatre, and theatre production) • Dance • World Languages • Social Studies	• 4x4 • Advanced Courses • AP/IB/Dual Credit

Check out the possibilities for your future.

Endorsements are paths to help you graduate ready to go into college or a job you want with some specific skills! Upon entering ninth grade, Texas students are now asked to choose an endorsement. When you make your plan, we'll show your school's specific endorsement options. You can also check with your school counselor or adviser and teachers to find out!



WHY DO ENDORSEMENTS MATTER?

- Explore career interests early
- Prepare for college & technical careers
- Take more relevant and engaging classes
- Opportunity for certifications or dual credit
- FBISD 8th graders must select their endorsement as part of the course selection process

Endorsement Overview

Endorsement	Who Would Be Interested	Related Careers
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)	Students considering a career in engineering or computer science, and those who enjoy math, science, design, and problem solving	Robotics technicians, Computer Programmer, Medical Researcher, Engineer, Biochemist, Microbiologist, Environmentalist
Business & Industry	Students interested in agriculture, business, accounting, digital graphics, and architecture	Accountant, Aircraft controller, Interior design, Electrician, Chef, Architect
Public Services	Students who love helping others and are interested in law enforcement, military, education, firefighter, or government	Teacher, Social Worker, Fire Fighter, Private Investigator, Animal Control Worker, Mental Health Counselor
Arts & Humanities	Students interested in the fine arts, world languages, and social studies	Actor, Movie Director, Translator, Ambassador, Musician
Multidisciplinary	This endorsement pathway provides students with the opportunity to earn an endorsement from courses taken from multiple subject areas. The options include a coherent sequence or series of courses designed to prepare students for college course work	

Sample Endorsement & Pathways

Arts & Humanities Endorsement

Pathway	Freshman Year (9 th)	Sophomore Year (10 th)	Junior Year (11 th)	Senior Year (12 th)
Band	Band I	Band II	Band III	Band IV
Orchestra	Orchestra I	Orchestra II	Orchestra III	Orchestra IV
Color Guard	Color Guard I	Color Guard II	Color Guard III	Color Guard IV
Choir	Choir I	Choir II	Choir III	Choir IV
Dance	Principles of Dance I	Principles of Dance II	Principles of Dance III	Principles of Dance IV
Dance Team	Dance Team I	Dance Team II	Dance Team III	Dance Team IV
Theatre	Theatre I	Theatre II	Theatre III	Theatre IV
Theatre Tech	Theatre I	Theatre Tech I	Theatre Tech II	Theatre Tech III
Theatre Production	Theatre I	Theatre Production I	Theatre Production II	Theatre Production III
Spanish	Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish III	Spanish IV
French	French I	French II	French III	French IV
Japanese	Japanese I	Japanese II	Japanese III	Japanese IV

James Reese Career and Technical Center



- Students from all eleven FBISD high schools have access to advanced CTE programming in multiple pathways including, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Architecture and Construction, Arts and Audio/Video Technologies and Communications, Culinary Arts, Human Services, Education and Training, Information Technology, Law and Public Safety, Manufacturing, and Transportation and Logistics
- Students also have the opportunity to earn industry certifications and dual credit in some program areas while completing coursework at the facility.



GBHS Course Selection 2026-2027

GROWING & EMPOWERING STUDENTS

BUILT TO LEAD AND THRIVE!

FBISD Programs of Choice

Application Window: November 17 - December 12



- Early College High School (ECHS) @ Marshall HS
 - Associates of Arts degree in Multidisciplinary Studies
- Pathways in Technology Early College High Schools (P-Tech)
 - Health Science @ Hightower HS
 - Computer Programming @ Willowridge HS
- FBISD Academies
 - Digital Media Academy @ Hightower HS
 - Engineering Academy @ Elkins HS
 - Global Studies Academy @ Kempner HS
 - International Business & Marketing Academy @ Kempner HS



CAREER READINESS ROADMAP PROGRAMS OF CHOICE

Explore Fort Bend ISD's Programs of Choice, including specialized Career & Technical Education (CTE) Programs of Study, Academies, Piano Technician, P-TECH, and Early College that open pathways from classroom learning to real-world careers. Begin with a virtual webinar to hear from program representatives, then join us in person to connect with district leaders, educators, and students for an innovative look at how these opportunities prepare every student for success. **Families must be zoned to FBISD at the time of application.**

Application window: November 17th - December 12th



VIRTUAL SESSION

October 28, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Meeting ID: 834 9677 4639
Passcode: 218894



IN-PERSON FAIR

November 6, 2025
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

James Reese Career &
Technical Center
12300 University Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77479



FEATURED PROGRAMS

- CTE PROGRAMS OF STUDY
- STEM & HUMANITIES ACADEMIES
- P-TECH & EARLY COLLEGE
- PIANO TECHNICIAN



Upcoming Programs of Choice Events

- FBISD Programs of Choice Recruitment at DCMS
 - Thursday, October 23, 2025
 - Through PE/Kickstart classes
- Career Readiness Virtual Session
 - Tuesday, October 28, 2025 - 6:00 - 7:00pm
 - Virtual Session
- Career Readiness In-Person Fair
 - Thursday, November 6, 2025 - 6:00 - 8:00pm
 - James Reese Career & Technical Center

For more information on FBISD Programs of Choice

FBISD HOME

OUR SCHOOLS

OUR INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

Español

العربية

Tiếng Việt

普通话

한국어

မြန်မာ

हिन्दी

မြန်မာ

My Account

FBISD

FORT BEND ISD

Established 1959

INSPIRE • EQUIP • IMAGINE

FBISD exists to inspire and equip all students to pursue futures beyond what they can imagine

HOME

OUR DISTRICT

DEPARTMENTS

PARENTS & STUDENTS

COMMUNITY

STAFF

EDUCATION FOUNDATION

CAREERS

CALENDAR

I WOULD LIKE TO...

Home

Departments Directory

Departments Directory

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W

A

- Academies
- Accountability, Assessment & Compliance
- Athletics
- Attendance
- Attendance Boundaries
- AVID

B

- Behavioral Health & Wellness
- Bond Programs
- Boundary Planning and Enrollment Management
- Business and Finance

C

- Career & Technical Education
- Child Nutrition
- Collaborative Communities
- Communications
- Community Education
- Counseling and Postsecondary Readiness

D

- Design and Construction
- Dyslexia Services

E

- Early Childhood
- Early College High School
- Employee Benefits and Wellness
- Enrollment
- Enterprise Funds
- Extended Learning (Before & After School Programs)

F

- Facilities

G

- Fine Arts
- Fort Bend Education Foundation

H

- Gifted and Talented
- Grants

I

- Homeless & Foster Student Programs
- Human Resources

J

- Information Security
- Information Technology

K

- Library Media Services

L

- Multilingual Programs

M

- New Student Registration

N

- Organizational Development

O

- Police
- Prekindergarten
- Print Shop
- P-TECH
- Public Information
- Purchasing

P

- Registration
- Research Requests

Q

-

R

-

S

- Safety and Security Master Plan
- School Health Services
- Section 504
- SHAC (School Health Advisory Council)
- Shared Dreams
- Skyward Family Access
- Social Emotional Learning & Enrichment Programs
- Social Emotional Learning and Comprehensive Health
- Social Workers
- Special Education
- State & Federal Programs
- Student Affairs
- Student Enrollment/Registration
- Student Leadership
- Student Support Services
- Summer School

T

- Teacher Center Makerspace
- Teacher Incentive Allotment
- Teaching and Learning
- Texas Reading Academies
- Textbooks
- Title I
- Transportation

U

- Volunteer

V

- Warehouse

Let's connect

High School Course Planning Timeline

1

8th Grade Fall:
Choose
endorsement

2

8th Grade Spring:
Complete 4-year
plan & 9th grade
course selection

3

9th Grade: Start
endorsement
pathway

4

10th–12th Grade:
Continue
pathway & take
advanced options

Sample Four-Year Plan

Endorsement: Public Services

Pathway: Health and Wellness

Graduation Plan: Foundations w/Endorsement (26 credits)

	High School Credits Earned (7 th – 8 th Grade)	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
English (4 credits)		EL 112 English I	EL121 AAC English II	EL131 English III AP	EL141 English IV AP
Math		MA212 Algebra 1	MA222 Geometry	MA232 Algebra II	MA4242 <u>PreCalculus</u>
Science		SC321 AAC Biology	SC332 Chemistry	SC342 Physics	SC122 Aquatic Science
Social Studies		SS412 World Geography	SS424 World History AP	SS431 U.S. History AP	SS4411 Government AP/ SS4522 Economics
Language Other Than English or Substitute (2 credits)	FL 112 Spanish I	FL122 Spanish II			
Fine Arts (1credit)				FT113 Theater Arts I	
Physical Education (1 credit)		FD113 Principles of Dance			
Health (1/2 credit)			PH0112 Health	EJ113 Journalism	
Speech (1/2 credit)			CAT380 Speech		
CTE Elective		CHU010 Principles of Human Services	CHU040 Lifetime Nutrition/CHU030 Interpersonal Studies	CET020 Human Growth & Development	CH050 Counseling and Mental Health
Other Electives					Off Campus or Office Aide



8TH GRADE PSAT - 10/30/25

- Designed by College Board to establish a baseline of 8th grader's academic skills
- Provides insight into strengths and weaknesses in reading, writing, and math, allowing students to track progress and receive personalized practice recommendations for the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT.
- The digital test features multiple-choice and computer-based questions, with a score report offering detailed feedback and connections to resources like Khan Academy.

Next Steps

- **PSAT - October 30, 2025**
- **Academy Applications Open - November 17th - December 12th**
- **Begin familiarizing yourselves with endorsements in preparation for selection**
- **8th Grade Career Day - November 20, 2025**
- **Course Selection & 4-year planning - Spring 2026**



DCMS' Annual 8th Grade Career Day - 11/20/25

DCMS' 8TH GRADE CAREER DAY 2025

 **Thursday**
November 20, 2025  9:00 am -
1:00pm

Presenters Needed!!

Do you love your career? Do you work in an interesting field? Do you have a job that students might not know about? We would love to have you share about your career with our students!

2 Options to participate:

Career Day Guest Speaker - (6) 20-minute speaker sessions

Career Fair Guest - Set-up a booth to discuss/advertise your business

Scan the QR Code below to Sign up



Theme: Pathways to the Future

- **Professionals from various fields share information about their**
 - **jobs**
 - **industries**
 - **required skills**
- **Helps students**
 - **explore career paths**
 - **connects academics to the real world**
 - **gain career guidance**

For Guest Speakers contact: Anitra.Moore@fortbendisd.gov

For Career Fair contact: Jessica.Williams@fortbendisd.gov

8th Grade Panoramic Picture



Goldbeck Co.



David Crockett Middle School

8th Grade Panoramic Picture
Thursday, November 20th
At 2:15pm

Option #1 - Prepay



Goldbeckcompany.com

Coupon Code: **MAVERICKS**

***Code expires at midnight on picture day**

Option #2

Bring money to lunch on

Friday, November 21st

All students will pick up pictures on September 21st during lunch

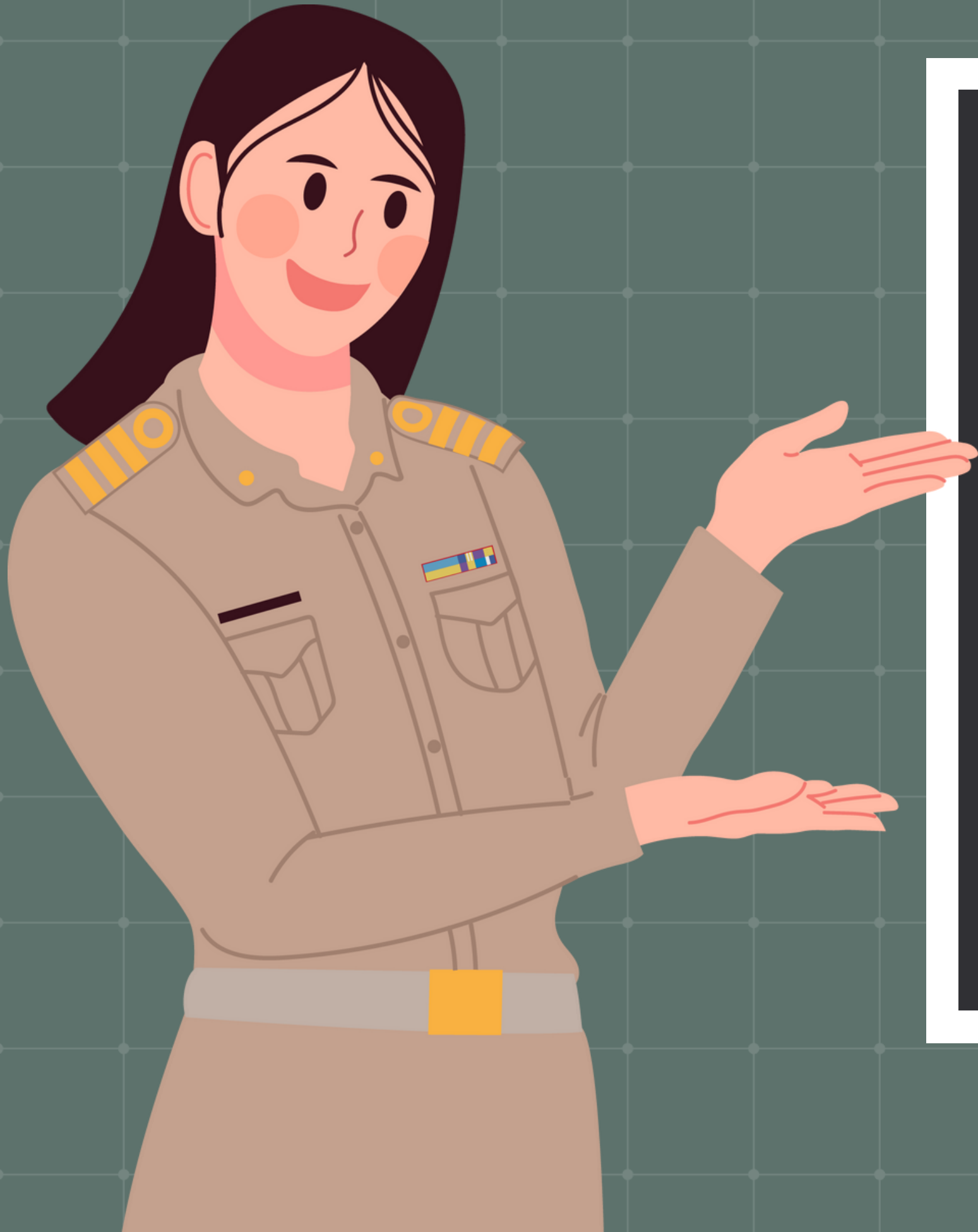
We Accept Cash, Check, or Debit/Credit Cards
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "Goldbeck Company"

\$30.00 – 1 Picture Package
> 1 large laminated formal

Not Available Online

\$35.00 – 2 Picture Package
> 1 large laminated formal
> 1 medium informal

Call or Email Us
(210) 656-1445
customerservice@goldbeckcompany.com



RESOURCES

- [SchoolLinks](#)
- [Mytexasfuture.org](#)
- [Bigfuture.collegeboard.org](#)
- Fort Bend ISD Counseling & Postsecondary Readiness website

THANK YOU!

Your involvement in our child's education is greatly appreciated.

