



Welcome to FSMS

*Coffee
with
Counselors*

MAY 7, 2026

Agenda

Introductions

Counseling Mission Statement

Counseling Office Staff

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Credit by Exam

High School Credits

Grading Systems/100 Point Scale



Mission

Mission Statement

Fort Settlement Middle School counselors are committed to supporting every student in order to achieve mental wellness, academic achievement, personal success, and preparation for post-secondary goals/aspirations.



Staff

Counseling Office Staff

Marla Angibeau – Lead/6 th	<u>Marla.Angibeau@fortbendisd.gov</u>	
Kristin Kendrick – 7 th	<u>Kristin.Kendrick@fortbendisd.gov</u>	
Stefanie Armatta – 8 th	<u>Stefanie.Armatta@fortbendisd.gov</u>	
Ipsita Bose – Counselor’s Secretary		281-634-6452
Isabel Arellano – Registrar/Data Clerk		281-634-6444



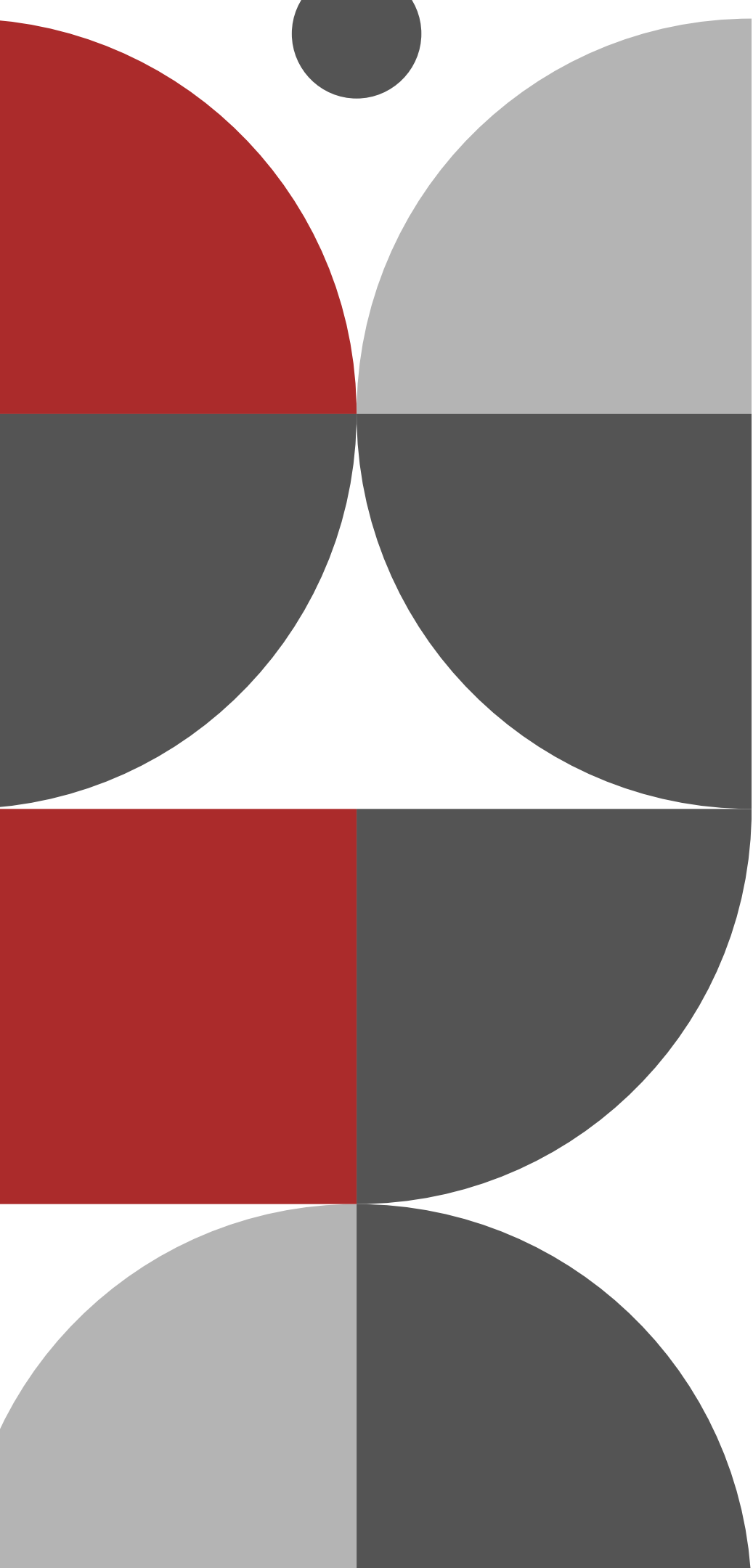
What is **CREDIT BY EXAM**

Credit by Exam

Credit by Exam is an exam for Acceleration which provides an opportunity for students to earn grade level or course credit in which no prior formal instruction was completed.

Credit by Exam is designed for a small percentage of students who have an academic and emotional need to advance to the next grade level.

Credit by Exam is not designed for grade level recovery after being retained in a previous grade level.



**Registration forms are available in the
counseling office during the
registration window only.**

Credit by Exam

Deadline is at 2pm on the last day of registration.

Registration Eligibility (Students must meet all eligibility requirements)

- Student is enrolled in a Fort Bend ISD school. *
- Elementary students must meet the state law age requirement— five years old by September 1st for Kindergarten, or six years old by September 1st for First Grade.
- Registration form is completed indicating grade level/subject for testing.
- Campus counselors must sign registration form to verify the student's grade level and CBE eligibility.
- All registration forms must be received by the school counselor by the registration deadline.

Credit by Exam

Score Requirements

Middle School Test and Score Requirements: Middle School courses are awarded credit for the entire year. A student must earn a minimum score of 80 percent on the exam in a subject area to be awarded course credit. Scores of 80, or above will be recorded as the grade on the student's academic achievement record and the student will receive regular/non-weighted course credit. Scores below 80 will not be recorded on the student's permanent transcript.



Credit by Exam

Additional Information

- The district will not accept scores of testing completed outside of our district scheduled testing window without prior approval from the Department of Accountability, Assessment & Compliance.
- If the student meets the score requirements for a course, the scores must be recorded as the grade on the student's transcript and regular/non-weighted course credit must be awarded to the student and calculated in the student's GPA, whether the designation is With Prior Instruction (minimum standard: 70) or Without Prior Instruction (minimum standard: 80).
- The student is only allowed one attempt at a course exam.

Credit by Exam

Additional Information

- All sessions are to test out of the following school year.
- A 'No Show' is considered an attempt for a CBE score. Students who do not appear for their scheduled exam are not eligible to register for the same exam that same school year.
- Students can test multiple subjects in one session, they just cannot take multiple levels of the same subject in one session.
- World Languages test is progressive. They may test out of more than one level during a session
- Only 8th grade and above can test out of world languages.

Graduation Programs

Only 22 Credits*	26 Credits	26 Credits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 credits English – ELA I, II, III, IV or one credit in any authorized advanced English course • 3 credits Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, one credit in any authorized advanced math course • 3 credits Science – Biology, IPC/ Chemistry/ Physics, and one credit in any authorized science course • 3 credits Social Studies – US History, Government, Economics or Personal Financial Literacy and Economics, World Geography and/or World History • 2 credits World Language or Computer Science (level I and level II) • 1 credit Physical Education • 1 credit Fine Arts • .5 credit Health (FBISD) • .5 credit Speech (FBISD) • 4 credits in electives (may include CTE or certification courses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 credits English – ELA I, II, III, IV or one credit in any authorized advanced English course • 4 credits Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, two credits in any authorized advanced math course • 4 credits Science – Biology, IPC/ Chemistry/ Physics, and two credits in any authorized science course • 3 credits Social Studies – US History, Government, Economics or Personal Financial Literacy and Economic, World Geography and/or World History • 2 credits World Language or Computer Science (level I and level II) • 1 credit Physical Education • 1 credit Fine Arts • .5 credit Health (FBISD) • .5 credit Speech (FBISD) • 6 credits in electives (may include CTE or certification courses) • Credit requirements specific to at least one endorsement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 credits English – ELA I, II, III, IV or one credit in any authorized advanced English course • 4 credits Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II**, one credit in any authorized advanced math course • 4 credits Science – Biology, IPC/ Chemistry/ Physics, and two credits in any authorized science course • 3 credits Social Studies – US History, Government, Economics or Personal Financial Literacy and Economic, World Geography and/or World History • 2 credits World Language or Computer Science (level I and level II) • 1 credit Physical Education • 1 credit Fine Arts • .5 credit Health (FBISD) • .5 credit Speech (FBISD) • 6 credits in electives (may include CTE or certification courses) • Credit requirements specific to at least one endorsement
<p>* Students may opt to Foundation-only after completing sophomore year with parent</p>		

Endorsements

An endorsement is a set of courses that allows students to explore an area of interest and learn more about a particular subject or career area.

Students in the Fort Bend Independent School District select their Endorsement in their 8th grade year during the career planning/course selection process. In middle school, students complete the Find Your Path and Top Skills assessments in School Links to narrow their career interests, which in turn helps them select an endorsement.

There are five Endorsements from which to choose:

- **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)**
 - **Business and Industry**
 - **Public Service**
 - **Arts and Humanities**
- **Multidisciplinary Studies**

Endorsements

Each endorsement has a variety of pathways students may take to earn the endorsement.

Program options in FBISD include:

STEM

- Engineering
- Programming and Software Development
- Math

Business and Industry

- 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

Multidisciplinary Studies

- 4x4
- AP/IB/Dual Credit
- Advanced Courses

Arts and Humanities

- 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

Public Service

- Education and Training
- Health Science
- Human Services
- Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC)
- Law and Public Service



Credits

High School Credits

- Grade points are awarded for any high school courses completed (passed or failed), including high school courses taken in middle school.
- Grade points are determined by the level at which the course is taken.
(Exceptions apply to certain GPA-exempt options discussed in a later section.)
- All high school credit courses taken in Fort Bend ISD Summer School or Evening School receive regular/on-level points on the GPA scale with the exception of identified AAC/AP and dual credit courses that may be offered.



Credits

High School Credits

- The FBISD GPA system is a 100-Point Scale.
- All grades shall be recorded numerically on a 100-point system and reflected as such on a transcript and report cards.
- Courses shall be weighted as follows:
 - Category Weight Advanced Placement (AP), Beyond AP, Dual Credit, and OnRamps+10 points to the semester average
 - AAC and Honors +5 points to the semester average
 - Regular/On-level courses Not weighted
- When required by colleges or scholarships, the 100-point scale cumulative GPA shall be converted to a 4-point scale.

High School Credits

Credits

- The GPA system utilized in Fort Bend ISD is referred to as a 100-Point Scale. With this system, the 100-Point Scale is calculated by adding all the semester averages earned by a student and dividing by semesters courses attempted.
- All courses recorded on the Academic Achievement Record (high school transcript) shall count toward Grade Point Average (GPA) and Class Rank using the grades received.
- Class Rank is determined by the grade point average (GPA) of all high school credit courses taken through the end of the eighth semester.
- Rank for honor graduation status is determined by the GPA through the end of the third 9 weeks of the senior year. Grade points for other courses taken for high school credit outside of the regular school day or earned through advanced placement exams will be determined according to District guidelines.

High School Credits

Credits

Example of a high school student's grades:

Physics (on level)
86 = 86 points

AP English III
94 = 104 points

US History Dual Credit
84 = 94 points

Athletics
100 = 100 points

Choir
100 = 100 points

AAC Pre-Calculus
86 = 91 points

Journalism
94 = 94 points

Total points
669 points, divided by 7 =
95.5714286

Advanced Placement (AP)/ Beyond AP Courses, Dual Credit Courses, OnRamps Courses	AAC, Honors Courses	On Level Courses
Receives 10 point weight	Receive 5 point weight	Non- weighted

Needs Assessment

**FSMS Counseling
Needs Assessment for Parents**

2026





Thank you!

*We appreciate
your time and
support!*

Thanks for attending!

Open Forum

Questions





Counselor Contacts 2025-26

6th Grade - Marla.Angibeau@fortbendisd.gov

7th Grade - Kristin.Kendrick@fortbendisd.gov

8th Grade - Stefanie.Armatta@fortbendisd.gov