



Pride, Knowledge, Respect

York Junior High School
Program of Studies
Campus Supplement
2016-2017

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2016-2017 Counseling Assignments

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If you have a question regarding placement into a specific core class, please email the following department heads:

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All assignments are tentative

COURSE SELECTION PHILOSOPHY

In conjunction with parents, we want every student to take the appropriate courses based on available information and interests. Please consider your child's outside of school activity responsibilities in making academic placement decisions. **As the parent/guardian, you have until April 22 to make final selections. All selections made on this date are final.**

REQUIRED COURSES

List of required subjects and electives:

7 th Grade		8 th Grade	
Language Arts	(2 Semesters)	Language Arts	(2 Semesters)
Mathematics	(2 Semesters)	Mathematics	(2 Semesters)
Science	(2 Semesters)	Science	(2 Semesters)
Texas History	(2 Semesters)	U.S. History	(2 Semesters)
Physical Education	(2 Semesters)	Physical Education	(1 Semester)
Electives – 4	(1 Semester)	Electives – 5	(1 Semester)*

* A two-semester elective may be substituted for two one-semester elective choices.

COURSE REGISTRATION

One of the most critical functions performed by a school is the registration of students. Based on the information submitted by parents/guardians prior to the April 22 deadline, courses are scheduled and staffing decisions are made for the next school year. Therefore, it is important that course selection be given serious consideration. Every effort will be made to accommodate all students, but this may not be possible due to class size, times slots, conflicts with a specialized class a student requests, etc. Please make sure that you number elective courses 1 through 10. Year-long electives should be chosen first. All elective classes offered at York may be utilized to properly complete a student's schedule. Please keep in mind that all two semester courses should be listed first, and then prioritize the remaining classes. ***Once the April 22 course request deadline passes, no changes will be made.*** We have included in this document a comprehensive calendar we hope you will find useful, which includes a tentative list of all important spring tryout/course selection dates. Included in this detailed calendar are key dates connected to registration. **Any student** enrolling in any course, including **Pre-Advanced Placement Core Courses, Athletics, Band, Choir, and/or Orchestra** is making a **commitment** to be in that program for one year. **No students** will be allowed to drop from these programs after the April 22 course registration final deadline.

COURSE REQUEST DEADLINES

York Junior High works hard to recruit and keep the best teachers in the business. In May, we begin to build our master schedule, as well as individual student schedules, based on the choices students and parents made by the April 22 course request deadline. Additionally, we hire specific staff based on these requests. **Please note the final deadline for any core level course change or elective request change is April 22.**

ASSIGNMENT TO CLASSES

Academic Courses – 7th Grade

Parents/Guardians working in conjunction with their children and school personnel choose core classes of language arts, social studies, and science that are identified as Level and/or Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP). **All** level education classes are high school/college preparatory. Gifted/Talented (GT) students must qualify for the GT program based on the criteria set by the district. A student and parent/guardian signing the course registration form agree to remain in the course for the entire year. The parents/guardians of any student not meeting that expectation will be notified and encouraged to have the student placed in the regular program for the next year.

A student identified as GT in a core area should enroll into the corresponding Pre-AP class for that discipline. Information will be sent home during the spring detailing your child's initial placement in core courses, as well as electives he/she has requested. **Ultimately, as the parent/guardian, you will be able to place your child in any level of language arts, science, or social studies you choose for a general education student as long as we receive notification before the April 22 deadline.**

Math assignments are completely different in that it is critical students receive each sequential math course along the way to obtain the foundation needed for math success in junior high, high school, and beyond.

Core Course Request Sheets

Incoming seventh and eighth students for 2016-2017 will bring home elective and core course request sheets in January and February. Please take the time to review these double sided documents closely as your children *request* electives and choose core language arts, science, and social studies courses for 2016-2017. If your student wishes to be in an elective course which meets all year that selection should be marked #1. One semester electives should be numbered 2 through 10 as they last only a semester. Courses that last all year should be firmly committed to taking these year long classes. Placements for band, choir, and orchestra will be announced on the tentative schedule students receive in August. All placements are final. Core courses require a parent/guardian signature. When completing this form, please take the time to read all the helpful information on the document. You and your child can choose either regular or PreAP classes in all core courses except math. Specific information for returning the document will be included on the form. Please consider homework demands for each course and the grades you wish your child to achieve when making these selections. Helpful details are available in the C.I.S.D. Program of Studies, the York Program of Studies Supplement, parent information meeting notes online, and the district math placement flyer. Look for all of this helpful information on our website in late January.

Math Course Selection for Incoming Seventh Graders

Parents/guardians of incoming seventh grade students will be enrolled in the math course in which the student is best prepared:

7th grade math

7th grade Pre-Algebra PreAP

Students in advanced sixth grade math will test for qualification to 7th grade Pre-Algebra PreAP or high school Algebra. Parents/Guardians of qualifying students will receive a letter of commitment or “opt out” of this advanced class which could be one or two years ahead of grade level.

We will send home information to assist you in making the most appropriate choice for your child. Sixth grade students will take a readiness test as one measure for determining the correct math course for each student.

All incoming students will receive a letter with placement test score and correct level of Math.

District Math Readiness Testing Details

District math readiness testing will occur in February and March at the student’s home intermediate campus. Sixth grade regular math students will take the C.I.S.D. Readiness Exam for entrance in Pre-algebra PreAP in February. This exam is taken to see if the students in regular sixth grade math have the skills to be successful in Pre-Algebra PreAP in seventh grade and bypass regular seventh grade math. These results will be sent to you for your consideration in your child’s placement. Please note students in regular sixth grade math cannot skip two years of math to enter high school Algebra in seventh grade. 70 percent is passing for incoming seventh grade math diagnostic tests.

Students who are currently enrolled in advanced sixth grade math will take the C.I.S.D. Readiness Exam for entrance into Pre-Algebra Pre-AP and may qualify to take the Algebra Readiness Exam. Students in advanced sixth grade math who successfully pass for acceleration the C.I.S.D. Readiness Exam for entrance into Pre-Algebra PreAP will then take the C.I.S.D. Algebra Readiness Exam for potential placement in high school Algebra in seventh grade. The Algebra Readiness Exam window is also in February-March. These exams are designed to be administered in February and will be administered online. There is no retesting of these exams.

Students Currently in Regular Sixth Grade Math

- Students in regular sixth grade math will be enrolled in the next course which is regular seventh grade math.
- Seventh grade math is taken by the *majority* of our seventh grade students.
- Students will receive the appropriate subsequent level of instruction in the proper sequence necessary for them to be successful in all following math courses at York, the high school, and beyond.
- Should a student wish to go from level sixth grade math to Pre-Algebra PreAP in seventh grade, he/she may be missing the sequential building block course of seventh grade math.
- Students in regular sixth grade math cannot skip two years of math instruction to advance to high school Algebra.
- Parents/guardians of students in sixth grade level math may request their child take Pre-Algebra PreAP.
- The District may offer the course of seventh grade math for acceleration beginning in April and running through July. Look for more information on this possibility in the spring.

Students Currently in Advanced Sixth Grade Math

- Students in advanced sixth grade math will be tested for qualification to be placed in Pre-Algebra Pre-AP in seventh grade.
- Pre-Algebra PreAP is taken by *some* of our seventh grade students.
- Seventh grade students in Pre-Algebra PreAP will be responsible for the **eighth** grade STAAR math exam.

For a Student to Move from Sixth Grade Advanced Math to Algebra 1 (HS) Pre-AP, Students Must Meet All of the Following Criteria

- Final Level II or Level III on STAAR Math in 5th grade and 6th grade
- Minimum of 70% on the C.I.S.D. Readiness Exam for entrance into Pre-Algebra PreAP
- Minimum score of 70% on the C.I.S.D. Algebra Readiness Exam

What if My Child Qualifies for High School Algebra?

- If your child qualifies for high school Algebra, you will receive a letter placing them in Algebra which is operating two years ahead of grade level.
- *You will need to opt your child "in" to the high school algebra class once he/she qualifies*
- *Students in high school algebra are responsible for taking the STAAR high school Algebra End of Course (EOC) examination.*
- An advanced math sixth grade student who passes the C.I.S.D. Readiness Exam for entrance into Pre-Algebra PreAP, but fails to successfully pass the district Algebra Readiness Exam, will be placed in Pre-Algebra Pre-AP working one year ahead in math.

Academic Courses – 8th Grade

Parents, guardians, and students choose a course for language arts, science, and social studies at the Level or Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP). **All** level education classes are high school/college preparatory. Gifted/Talented (GT) students must qualify for the GT program based on the criteria set by the district. All identified GT students will automatically qualify for the Pre-AP program in the specific areas of study in which they have been identified. All students in an advanced program are expected to meet all course expectations with a minimum of a 70%. A student and parent/guardian signing the commitment form agree to remain in the course for the entire year.

Parents/guardians will choose their child's eighth grade core courses. Initial assignments for each student in eighth grade core classes will be sent home via students in the spring so that parents/guardians of incoming eighth graders can determine which level of social studies, science, or language arts they would like for their child to take in eighth grade. In math, students will be rolled to the next corresponding course in the math learning sequence. For example, a student in level seventh grade math will go to eighth grade Pre-Algebra. A student in seventh grade pre-algebra Pre-AP will move to high school algebra Pre-AP in eighth grade.

Math Course Selection for Incoming Eighth Graders

Incoming eighth graders normally will roll to the next appropriate course in the math sequence. For example, students in seventh grade math will progress to eighth grade Pre-Algebra. Seventh grade students in Pre-Algebra will take Algebra in eighth grade. Seventh grade algebra students will take geometry in eighth grade.

For a student to move from seventh grade level math to Algebra, students must meet all of the following criteria:

- 80+ average in seventh grade math
- Final Level II or Level III on STAAR Math in 6th grade and 7th grade

- Minimum of 70% on the C.I.S.D. Pre-Algebra Readiness Exam
- Minimum score of 70% on the C.I.S.D. Algebra Readiness Exam

Electives

Students will rank all of the electives based on their preference (1 through 10). The computer system will then schedule each student's academics and electives. The elective choices are determined by which courses will work in the student's schedule. Every effort is made for each student to receive as many of his or her elective choices as possible. Most students will take most electives offered over the two year period. **Please note that the course verification in the spring will indicate courses each student has requested. If any of these appear incorrect, or if you would like to make a change, please submit these changes to the Counseling Center prior to the April 22 elective request deadline. These elective change requests need to be submitted in writing either by email or a hand delivered note to the front office.** For purposes of completing a specific student schedule, it is possible that a student may receive an elective of which they did not request.

THE SCHEDULE

7TH Grade and 8th Grade

Students in the 7th and 8th grade will attend seven classes per day. All classes meet every day. Students will attend lunch during their fourth period class. There are three lunch assignments. A student's lunch is based on the class he/she is in during fourth period. All students will take final exams during the last week of each semester. Please make arrangements for your child to be present for these important examinations and also for the semester reviews the previous week if possible. Our website contains a link which has our exact regular schedule and alternate schedules posted.

OFF CAMPUS PRIVATE P.E. GUIDELINES

Off Campus Private P.E. information for students will be available online March 21, 2016 on the Conroe I.S.D. district website. Look for information on approved facilities and the individual student application form beginning March 21st. Please note the important bulleted details below for parents/guardians considering Off Campus physical education for their child:

- The final date to electronically submit all paperwork, including all signatures, is May 1, 2016 at midnight.
- By state law, Private P.E. is for **participation in individual Olympic sports only.**
- Students are only allowed to participate at CISD approved facilities.
- Vendors/facilities will have the opportunity to apply to Conroe I.S.D. between January 20th and March 10th to be a part of the program for 2016-2017. If you would like your child to be a participant in this program, please make **sure** your *facility* attends the January 20th "Vendor Meeting" at 10:00 a.m. in the Jett Center cafeteria in Conroe. (601 West Lewis Street)
- Off Campus physical education is a year-long commitment. There are no one-semester versions of this program. Students participating in Off Campus physical education are committed to both the fall and spring semesters. Class schedules for students are developed in May based on parent/guardian requests.
- By state law, students in this year-long program will not be able to participate in school athletic programs which have their own athletic class during the day. Participants may be able to tryout for school club programs such as track, golf, tennis, and soccer that meet outside of the school day and do not have an athletic class period.
- Choose your facility carefully. A vendor change will only be considered at "the semester" by the district coordinator of Physical Education.

- Students wishing to sign up for the program should initially choose Private P.E. on the Course Request Sheet. A student will not be enrolled in Off Campus Private P.E. until all required online forms are properly submitted by May 1st, 2016, and district approved.
- Any student choosing Off Campus physical education must be picked up daily at 3:00 p.m. in the front of the school. Make sure as a parent/guardian you have year-long afternoon pick up arrangements in place **prior** to choosing Off Campus physical education.
- Students are not allowed to leave campus and walk home unsupervised.
- Grades and attendance for a child in Off Campus physical education are submitted each three weeks by the *Grade Signer designee* at the CISD approved facility. Grades are submitted electronically from the outside facility *Grade Signer designee* to the campus-based overseer for grades. These grades are reflected on report cards and do count toward U.I.L. eligibility.
- Vendors who do not submit the student Grade Report Form on the assigned due date, will be notified by the district Coordinator of Physical Education. Repeated lateness “may” result in the removal from the program the facility and any students utilizing their services.
- The Texas Education Agency allows Category I (15+ hours per week) participants to leave campus one hour prior to the end of the school day.
- Choosing Off Campus physical education (Category 1) requires a commitment to leave early on both red and green days.
- Students in Category 2, Off Campus physical education do not leave school early each day and do not have a physical education class on campus. However, students do receive two extra classroom classes above and beyond. As a result, a student choosing and qualifying for Category 2, Off Campus physical education must be enrolled in band, choir, or orchestra.
- Students who fail to meet state guidelines for completion of hours or are not picked up promptly at 3:00 p.m. will be dropped from Off Campus P.E. and placed in a regular campus P.E. class.

GRADING

Each semester is divided into two nine-week increments. A report card will be issued at the end the year as well as made available online. A student’s report card can also be viewed by accessing the Parent Access Center at www.conroeisd.net. This free service also gives parents/guardians a fairly recent update of grades in almost real time during each nine weeks. Dates for progress reports will be posted on our website in the student and parent services sections.

For junior high classes, each nine-week grade will account for 45 percent of the overall grade. A final semester exam worth 10 % will be administered. Nine-week grading is determined as follows:

60%	Major Grades (Exams, Projects)
20%	Daily Grades
20%	Other

Please schedule holiday and end of year vacation plans around these important cumulative semester exams. Final semester averages for junior high classes will be determined as follows:

First nine weeks:	45%
Second nine weeks:	45%
Semester Exam:	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Students taking high school courses (algebra, geometry, health, communications applications, Spanish, and Spanish II for Native Speakers) will have their semester exams count for 15% of their grade.

- 70% Major Grades (Test/Major Projects, etc.)
- 20% Quiz Grades (Quizzes, Minor Projects, etc.)
- 10% Daily Grades (Homework, In-Class Assignments, etc.)

Final semester averages for high school classes will be determined as follows:

First nine weeks:	42.5%
Second nine weeks:	42.5%
Semester Exam:	15%
	100%

Note that students in high school algebra are mandated by the Texas Education Agency to take the STAAR end of course exams for those courses.

Grade breakdown will be assigned as follows:

90-100	A
80-89	B
75-79	C
70-74	D
Below 70	F

- Please note that to maintain UIL eligibility, students must pass all courses, including any high school courses or Pre-AP courses taken. Seventy percent is considered the passing threshold for C.I.S.D. For a complete listing of UIL eligibility dates, please visit our campus website.

Homework is due on the day designated by the instructor. These assignments may be taken as a grade.

PREAP PROGRAM

The PreAP and Advanced Placement program are designed to align the curriculum from junior high through high school. The PreAP program is a more challenging curriculum that will prepare students for the Advanced Placement program (AP) at the high school level. The teaching strategies that will be utilized will be uniform from grade level to grade level in order to provide students with skills that will promote creativity and independent learning.

It is the goal of our feeder system for all students to take at least one AP course prior to graduation. All courses, whether they are Level or Pre-AP, are designed to prepare the students for this task. The rigors of the course will differentiate between the two levels.

Why AP? Research has shown that a student who participates in an AP course at the high school level experiences more success in that subject area in college. A student that takes an AP course is better prepared for college because the class promotes thinking that students need to be successful in college: more challenging curriculum, study skills, organization skills, independence, critical thinking, and college type expectations. Students that complete the

course in high school will have the opportunity to take the AP exam for that course. Upon successful completion of the AP exam, a student may earn college credit for that course. College websites typically list the AP score and number of credits which can be awarded for specific AP exams. Students could earn anywhere between 3 and 45 college hours depending on the number of exams taken. This saves money and time toward college with a high quality education.

Why PreAP? In the past, the GT student has been the typical person to excel in the AP program even though other students are capable of handling the material. The PreAP program opens the doors to the student who is not GT but needs a challenge. The Pre-AP program offers the support to the AP program and passes on the skills to more students, so they all have the opportunity to be successful. In our approach, all of our teachers have been trained in the PreAP program. Therefore, all of our students, Level and PreAP, will benefit from this program. All students will be prepared to excel in the area of their strength.

SPECIAL NOTES ON HIGH SCHOOL COURSES:

ALGEBRA, GEOMETRY, HEALTH, COMMUNICATIONS, SPANISH, and SPANISH II FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS

- High school courses taken in junior high school will receive numeric grades, but will not be calculated in the student's grade point average or high school class rank.
- The grade received in a high school course taken in junior high will be reflected on the student's high school transcript.
- High school courses are taken in half-credit increments (semesters).
- Students who do not successfully pass both semesters of a two-semester high school course (i.e. Algebra 1) taken in junior high school will be required to repeat the entire course in high school.
- If the student successfully completes one semester of a two-semester high school course during junior high school (7-8), the student will receive .5 credit for that semester. The grade for that semester along with .5 credit will appear on the student's high school transcript, but the student will receive no grade points for GPA or class rank. If the student fails to successfully complete the second semester of two-semester high school course in junior high, the student will need to repeat the entire course in high school. At the completion of the course, the course and the grade will appear on the transcript along with the grade point for the semester course successfully completed in high school (not previously taken or passed in junior high school). The grade for the course previously taken and passed in junior high school, but repeated in high school will also appear, but no grade points or credits will be listed since this course was successfully completed (in the event a student passes one semester, but not the other in junior high).
- Students who successfully pass both semesters of a course in junior high school, but sign up to take the course again in high school will have the junior high school course on their transcript and the credit for the course along with the numeric grades. The repeated course will show the numeric grades but will not show any credits since credit was already earned. No grade points will be calculated for the junior high school course or the repeated course.
- If a student fails both semesters or one semester of a high school course taken in junior high school, the failing grade will appear on the high school transcript, but the course will not count as an attempt for grade point purposes. High school courses that are repeated because a student did not receive credit for the course in junior high school will be awarded credit (if the student passes) and receive grade points since no prior credit was awarded.

- High school courses, along with all other courses, do count toward UIL eligibility as of 1/16/15. In junior high, there are no “exceptions” with Board approved classes which do not count for eligibility.
- Students who complete Algebra I and/or Geometry in junior high must still complete four math courses in the high school building.
- Note that students in high school algebra are mandated by the Texas Education Agency to take the STAAR end of course exams for algebra.

TENTATIVE YORK JUNIOR HIGH IMPORTANT DATES 2016-2017

TBD	Parent Night at Oak Ridge 9 th grade campus for 8 th graders transitioning to 9 th grade 6:30pm
January 25	Incoming 8 th grade students – watch course selection video in Language Arts
January 26	Parent Information Night for incoming 8 th grade students – 6:30pm
January 26	York Counselors answer questions during all lunches
TBD	9 th grade counselors will present to our 8 th grade students during their Language Arts class
TBD	Academic & Elective Showcase at Oak Ridge 9 th grade campus for 8 th grade students and parents 4pm-7pm
February 4	Incoming 8 th grade Course Selection sheets due to Language Arts teacher
TBD	Course Selection sheets for 9 th grade are due to their 8 th grade Language Arts teachers this day
February 9	6 th graders watch Course Selection video in homeroom at Cox
February 10	York Counselors answer questions at Cox during lunches
February 11	York Parent Information Night for incoming 7 th graders - 6:30pm
February 18	Incoming 7 th grade Course Selection sheets due to homeroom teacher at Cox
TBD	Oak Ridge High School Counselors will meet one on one with our 8 th grade students at York during their Language Arts class
March 8	Incoming 7 th and 8 th graders – Course Verification sheets go home
March 11	Changes to Verification sheets due from incoming 7 th and 8 th graders
April 5	Drill Team Mandatory Parent Meeting 6:30pm
TBD	ORHS 9 th - Students receive 1 st Verification sheets - Electronically
TBD	Course Request changes due for ORHS Course Selection sheets
April 18-21	Drill Team Tryout Clinic: Returners trying out for Officer 4:00–5:00 p.m.; New Members 5:00-6:30 p.m.
April 22	Drill Team Tryouts: 4:00 p.m.
April 22	Posting of Liberty Babes results after all tryouts and results have been verified
April 22	York – incoming 7 th and 8 th graders – Final date to make course request changes
May 13	Cox tours York 9-10am & 10-11am
TBD	ORHS Students receive final Course Verification sheets through PAC
TBD	ORHS – Final date to make course request changes (this applied to all 8 th grade students going to 9 th grade). If you need to make a change, parents need to fill out this form and fax or email to their student’s 9 th grade counselor.
June 27 & 28	New Student Pre-Registration
July 12 & 13	New Student Pre-Registration
August 10	7 th grade Schedule Pick up & Locker 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. 8 th grade Schedule Pick up & Locker 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
August 11	7 th and 8 th grades Schedule Pick up Make-up day 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Early August	Football equipment pickup
First week of school	Volleyball Team try-outs
Second day of school	Football Practice starts
First week of school	Cross-country starts

First of November

Boys and Girls basketball team try-outs

- Please note that all dates and times are tentative. Please have your student collect any information about events from his/her intermediate campus when they are available. We will advertise and announce all events at the intermediate schools as well as in The York Connection. The dates advertised and announced will be followed unless special circumstances occur.

The Conroe Independent School District (District) as an equal opportunity educational provider and employer does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in educational programs or activities that it operates or in employment matters. The District is required by Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, as well as Board policy not to discriminate in such a manner. For information about **Title IX rights or Section 504/ADA rights**, contact the Title IX Coordinator or the Section 504/ADA coordinator at 3205 W. Davis, Conroe, Texas 77304; (936) 709-7752.