

# La Porte ISD Junior High Planner

2020-2021



La Porte Junior High Bullpups

Lomax Junior High Lobos

## Academic Planning Guide

**Dear Students and Parents,**

**This Academic Planning guide is developed to provide important information for students and their parents regarding course selections and degree plans. The enclosed information will assist you in making wise decisions concerning programs and courses that you will be taking during these secondary school years. It is important you read this guide thoroughly before selecting your courses.**

**The goal of LPISD is to prepare students for their next step in life, whether that step is admission to college or immediate entrance into the job market. To achieve this goal, parents and students are urged to study the information contained in this guide. The state of Texas offers two high school diploma plans for students, and seventh grade is an important time to consider which one will be chosen for high school graduation.**

**LPISD offers several high school credit courses. It is important for you to see how our courses will blend with your student's future plans. The courses a student selects in seventh grade may have an effect on the academic path chosen during high school.**

**When studying this guide, review the choices carefully since your course selection sheet is the basis for your class schedule next year. Each choice is important.**

**The Junior High Campuses believe there are opportunities to explore varying interests and the staff supports each student in this endeavor. We look forward to working with you during the junior high years. As always, we are here for you.**

**Sincerely,**

**La Porte ISD**

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# JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

## World Language (Spanish)

In world language, students who successfully complete two semesters of the same middle school world language will earn Level I high school credit. The credit will count toward graduation. The course of study satisfies one of two/three world language requirements for high school graduation. It also serves as the prerequisite for the Level II course.

## Gifted and Talented Program

The students in the Gifted and Talented Program experience training in creativity, critical thinking, research, problem solving, and logic. Classes provide accelerated and enriched content. G/T students may participate in Pre-AP Language Arts, Science, Social Studies and Advanced Math. Participation in the program is based on a referral, screening, and qualification process. Students are expected to comply with G/T guidelines, as well as participate in the TPSP Project Showcase as lined out in the GT manual.

## Special Education Program

The special education program provides a comprehensive program for each student between the ages of three and twenty-one who meets eligibility requirements. Students eligible for special education may have physical, mental, emotional or learning disabilities.

Consideration of a student's eligibility for special education services is initiated by a referral which may be made by the parent(s), school personnel or outside agency. In all cases, parental permission is required for participation.

The program operates under state guidelines for admission, program content, and dismissal from the program. Students and parents who are interested in this program should contact the counselor at the individual school campus.

The courses that a student takes will be determined by a campus committee (ARD/IEP committee) which includes the parent.

# Pre-AP Program

La Porte ISD participates in the Advanced Placement (AP) Program sponsored by College Board ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)). Pre-AP courses offered at the junior high and high school prepare learners for AP courses at the high school, which are equivalent to first year college courses and are intended for students who possess proven ability, interest, and motivation to handle the extra workload and study requirements. At the end of the AP course, the student is expected to take the course AP Exam, scoring at criterion or above (minimum of a 3). The decision to take a Pre-AP course at the junior high level should not be taken lightly. It is strongly recommended any student considering Pre-AP courses seek advice from his/her counselor, parent(s), the course instructor, and current students enrolled in the particular Pre-AP course of interest. Student involvement in extracurricular activities and available time outside of class should also be factored into Pre-AP course selection.

When considering Pre-AP courses, students must carefully consider the extra time commitment the courses entail, including possible summer reading requirements. By definition, Pre-AP courses are demanding and require extensive homework and self-directed study. Therefore, a strong degree of motivational, organizational and time management skills are critical. For high school, extra points are awarded onto a student's grade point average for every Pre-AP and AP course taken.

Pre-AP courses taken at the junior high do not count towards high school GPA. Students participating in Pre-AP courses at the junior high are expected to maintain at least a 80% average. Failure to do so may lead to removal of the student from the Pre-AP class. Students do not have to be identified as gifted and talented to enroll in Pre-AP classes.

In an effort to place students in appropriate level classes, admission criteria have been established for Pre-AP courses, which include: past performance, performance on state standardized tests, parental approval, and in some cases, administrative approval. Should a student register for a Pre-AP level course which they do meet specified criteria, parents will be asked to sign a Parent Override Form indicating they understand the student is applying for a course which is deemed inappropriate for the student at this time. Students receiving a parent override will be responsible for all course requirements, including summer reading.

Once a Parent Request Form is complete, a schedule request to move from a Pre-AP course to the regular course equivalent will not be made until the end of the first six weeks.

## English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

All students who register in this school district will complete a home language survey form. If this survey indicates that a language other than English is spoken in the home or is spoken by the student most of the time, the student must be referred to the ESOL teacher or consultant for evaluation. Tests will be administered, and students who are found to be Limited English Proficient (LEP) will be served through an ESOL program. The ESOL program, which focuses on intensive development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English, is offered to eligible limited English proficient students.

## Required Courses

These courses are required to fulfill state educational guidelines. A course may or may not have a prerequisite. A prerequisite is a course that must be taken prior to the course under consideration.

## Elective Courses

In addition to required courses, students may choose other courses to complete their schedules.

## Promotion and Retention

To be promoted from one grade level to the next in grades 7-8, a student must have an overall average of 70 or above for the year in all core courses: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

The parent or guardian of students who have not successfully completed a course shall be notified by the District as soon as possible. Summer programs available in the failed area may permit the student to successfully complete the failed courses.

Eighth grade students are required to pass the STAAR 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading and the STAAR 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math assessments in order to promote to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. In the event the student does not perform successfully on the first administration of the STAAR Reading or Math Assessment, the student will take a second administration of the assessment(s). In the event the student is not successful on the second administration, a Grade Placement Committee (GPC) meeting will be held. The parent has the option to

allow the student to attend the summer acceleration program and take the 3<sup>rd</sup> administration. In the event that the student fails to attend the summer acceleration program and take the 3<sup>rd</sup> administration, they will automatically be retained in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.

## IYG

It's Your Game, Keep it Real (IYG) is a program of the University of Texas Prevention Research Center in cooperation with the Center for Health Promotion and Prevention Research at The University of Texas School of Public Health. It is a combination of classroom and computer-based lessons designed for middle school aged students which has been developed to prevent teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.lpsid.org/>. Click on Campuses, La Porte Junior High, Quick Links, and finally It's Your Game. A parent may exclude their student from the IYG program by signing and returning the IYP form included in the First Day Packet.

## NAVIANCE

In an effort to help students learn about future careers and how their interests align with those careers, LPISD has joined with the NAVIANCE program to offer our students a tool to investigate future career possibilities. NAVIANCE is a program which is introduced to our Baker students and follows them into high school assisting them in the development of their Four Year Plans. It is a program that is designed to help students identify how their interests connect with future career choices and lastly how to develop a course of study that will prepare them to enter a career path, technical school, junior college or 4-year university upon graduating high school.

## High School Credit Courses/Programs – 8<sup>TH</sup> Grade

LPISD offers the opportunity for students to enroll in certain high school credit courses at the junior high campus. These are not advanced classes but instead true high school credit courses. High school credit courses should be chosen very carefully with a full understanding on the part of the student that the course will be taught above grade-level with an advanced-level work load and be different from the regular academic courses. High school credit courses are offered in mathematics and world language. Refer to the appropriate section in this booklet. Failing grades at semester will result in a possible schedule change and loss of high school credit for that class. If students do not meet criteria for high school credit courses at the junior high level, they cannot be waived into the class.

### ALGEBRA I:

*To enroll in Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, a student MUST be enrolled and successful in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-AP Math. They must take and Meet Grade Level on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Math STAAR test. Teacher recommendation may be considered for 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra placement*

Students that enroll in high school Algebra I in Junior High must maintain a semester average of 70 or higher. If an end-of-course (or final exam) is part of the High School credit course, it will count as 20% of the final average.

### SPANISH I:

*To enroll in Spanish I in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, a student MUST maintain an 80% in all 7<sup>th</sup> grade Core Courses AND Meet Grade Level on the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Reading STAAR test.*

Students that enroll in high school Spanish 1A and 1B in Junior High must maintain a semester average of 70 or higher. If an end-of-course (or final exam) is part of the High School credit course, it will count as 20% of the final average.

High School credit classes WILL BE CALCULATED in the student's cumulative high school grade point average (GPA).

### Art 1A/1B:

*This course is taught at a high school level. The high school level semester and final exams/projects are required for this course. Successful completion of this course will provide one credit for high school Art 1. High School credit classes WILL BE CALCULATED in the student's cumulative high school grade point average (GPA).*

Students will use direct observation, imagination and personal experiences as inspiration for artwork. For planning original works, students record visual ideas in a sketchbook. Learners use correct art vocabulary to compare and contrast the use of art elements and design principles in personal works and the works of others. Students will use a variety of multiple media, and students in Art 1 investigated selected historical periods and styles from many cultures. To enroll in Art I in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, a student MUST maintain an 80% in all 7<sup>th</sup> grade Core Courses AND be recommended by the art teacher.

Students that enroll in high school Art 1A and 1B in Junior High must maintain a semester average of 70 or higher. If an end-of-course (or final exam) is part of the High School credit course, it will count as 20% of the final average.

## **ACE-Accelerated College Education (ACE) Program:**

- **Goal of Program**-to provide students who meet the program's requirements with an opportunity to graduate from LPHS with both a high school diploma and an Associate of Arts Degree from San Jacinto Community College (SJC) by the end of their senior year.
- **Program Duration**-Students selected will begin taking college classes at SJC during the summer before their 11th grade year, and continue taking college classes throughout their 11th grade year during the school day. The same process will occur during the summer before their 12th grade year and throughout their 12th grade year of high school.
- **Junior High Required Courses to be on Track for ACE**
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Pre-AP Math
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Algebra I

### **Student Requirements:**

- Evaluations of students eligible for acceptance into the ACE Program will occur during the spring of their 10<sup>th</sup> grade year.
- Students must make at least an 80 in Algebra II Pre-AP or Pre-Calculus during their 10<sup>th</sup> grade year.
- In addition to the Pre-AP math requirement, students must also make at least an 80 in two other Pre-AP/AP courses during their 10<sup>th</sup> grade year.
- Student attendance must be at least 95%.
- Students must also have no SAC, out of school suspensions, or DAEP placements.
- Students who qualify for the ACE program will be informed of their eligibility at the beginning of the spring semester of the 10<sup>th</sup> grade school year.

## **Dual Enrollment Program**

LPISD and San Jacinto College offer courses at the College Center, as well as San Jacinto College allowing students to earn high school and college credit at the same time. Registration is open to students in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Students must meet enrollment and testing requirements of San Jacinto College. Grades, discipline records and attendance are verified before enrollment. Students must have a meningitis vaccination prior to enrollment.

## **Benefits of Pre-AP/AP toward college enrollment**

Pre-AP and AP courses teach students skills that can lead to success in college. Students will develop the writing skills, problem-solving techniques, and study habits that will prepare them for college academics. Plus, taking rigorous Pre-AP and AP courses demonstrates a student's maturity, willingness to push him/herself intellectually, and commitment to academic excellence, which can help him/her stand out in the college admissions process. AP and Pre-AP students are also rewarded with an extra point on their GPA.

At the end of the AP class, students are expected to take the AP Exam. AP Exams are given once a year in May. These exams provide students with a standardized measure of what they've accomplished in the AP classroom. Colleges and universities will use these AP Exam grades to possibly award the student credit, placement or both.

# PLANNING GUIDE

## REQUIRED COURSES SEVENTH

<u>COURSES</u>	<u>UNITS</u>
English Language Arts/ Writing	2
Mathematics	1
Texas History	1
Science	1
PE or Athletics	1
2 <sup>nd</sup> Elective:	1
Art	
Band	
Choir	
Orchestra	
Theatre Arts	
Yearbook	
Total	7

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## REQUIRED COURSES EIGHTH

<u>COURSES</u>	<u>UNITS</u>
Language Arts	1
Mathematics	1
US History	1
Science	1
Exploring Careers AND Technology Applications (1 semester each)	1
2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Electives:	2
Art	
Athletics or PE	
Band	
Ambassador (Must have Principal approval based on Student Letter of Interest)	
Choir	
Orchestra	
Spanish 1	
Theatre Arts	
Yearbook	

**ELECTIVES SEVENTH GRADE**

Grade	Course Title	Prerequisite	Length	Credits	Elective
7	Athletics Boys		Year		Elective
7	Athletics Girls		Year		Elective
7	Boys PE		Year		Elective
7	Girls PE		Year		Elective
7	Art		Year		Elective
7	Band (Non Varsity, Varsity)	Director Placement	Year		Elective
7	Choir Boys		Year		Elective
7	Choir Girls		Year		Elective
7	Choir Varsity	Director Placement	Year		Elective
7	Orchestra (Non Varsity, Varsity)	Director Placement	Year		Elective
7	Theatre Arts		Year		Elective
7	Yearbook		Year		Elective

**ELECTIVES EIGHTH GRADE**

Grade	Course Title	Prerequisite	Length	Credits	Elective
8	Athletics Boys		Year		Elective
8	Athletics Girls		Year		Elective
8	Boys PE		Year		Elective
8	Girls PE		Year		Elective
8	Art		Year		Elective
8	Art 1A/1B	High School Credit/ Director placement	2 Sems		Elective
8	Band (Non Varsity, Varsity)	Director Placement	Year		Elective
8	Choir Boys		Year		Elective
8	Choir Girls		Year		Elective
8	Choir Varsity	Director Placement	Year		Elective
8	Orchestra (Non Varsity, Varsity)	Director Placement	Year		Elective
8	<u>Exploring Careers &amp; Technology Applications</u>		1 Sem each		Elective
8	Lobo Ambassador	Administration placement	Year		Elective
8	Spanish I	High School-World Lang	2 Sems	1	Elective
8	Theatre Arts		Year		Elective
8	Yearbook		Year		Elective

# REQUIRED COURSES

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/ WRITING

COURSE NAME	GRADE PLACEMENT		PREREQUISITE
	7	8	
7th ELA/ Writing	X		
7th Pre-AP ELA/ Writing	X		See Prerequisite in below course descriptor
7 <sup>th</sup> GT/ Pre-AP ELA/ Writing	X		See Prerequisite in below course descriptor
8th ELA		X	
8th Pre-AP ELA		X	See Prerequisite in below course descriptor
8th GT/ Pre-AP ELA		X	See Prerequisite in below course descriptor

### **7th ELA/ Writing**

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts

ELA - Students will address the reading and language arts TEKS for 7th grade through reading novels, short stories, various types of nonfiction, poetry and drama. The course includes vocabulary development and integrates composition with literature. Composition emphasizes the construction of multi-paragraph papers and instruction in an understanding of the writing process. Technical proficiency in spelling, capitalization, punctuation and usage are developed through specific skill work as well as editing and polishing pieces of writing. Students will be required to complete an outside activity each semester.

Writing - This course will provide students an opportunity to develop their writing skills. They will write thoughtful and engaging personal narratives that skillfully convey the experience by including details and vivid, expressive language that strengthen the cohesiveness of the narrative, significantly contributing to the writer's portrayal of the experience. The students will write thoughtful and engaging expository essays with sustained focus on a clear central idea, an organizing structure that is well suited to the expository task and development that adds substance to the essay. They will also choose sentences that are purposeful, varied, and well controlled.

## **7th Pre-AP ELA/ Writing**

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: Performed at *Meets Grade Level* on the STAAR 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading Assessment, 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Course Averages of 85 or Higher

ELA - The student who meets the criteria for this course will study the same basic Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills required for each grade level. The advanced content for this academic course will expand the student's learning opportunities in a more challenging way and in greater depth. The student will be expected to employ critical thinking skills and is required to read additional novels, short stories, prose, and poetry. A greater emphasis is placed on writing style and variety of sentence and paragraph construction in writing project assignments. The course includes extensive vocabulary development. Work outside the classroom is required.

Writing - This course will provide students an opportunity to develop their writing skills. They will write thoughtful and engaging personal narratives that skillfully convey the experience by including details and vivid, expressive language that strengthen the cohesiveness of the narrative, significantly contributing to the writer's portrayal of the experience. The students will write thoughtful and engaging expository essays with sustained focus on a clear central idea, an organizing structure that is well suited to the expository task and development that adds substance to the essay. They will also choose sentences that are purposeful, varied, and well controlled.

## **7th GT/ Pre-Ap ELA/ Writing**

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: Must be GT Identified, must participate in either the GT End of Year Showcase or History Fair

The student who meets the criteria for this course will study the same basic Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills required for each grade level. The advanced content for this academic course will expand the student's learning opportunities in a more challenging way and in greater depth. The student will be expected to employ critical thinking skills and is required to read additional novels, short stories, prose, and poetry. A greater emphasis is placed on writing style and variety of sentence and paragraph construction in writing project assignments. The course includes extensive vocabulary development. Work outside the classroom is required.

Writing - This course will provide students an opportunity to develop their writing skills. They will write thoughtful and engaging personal narratives that skillfully convey the experience by including details and vivid, expressive language that strengthen the cohesiveness of the narrative, significantly contributing to the writer's portrayal of the experience. The students will write thoughtful and engaging expository essays with sustained focus on a clear central idea, an organizing structure that is well suited to the expository task and development that adds substance to the essay. They will also choose sentences that are purposeful, varied, and well controlled.

## **8th ELA**

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts/Reading

This course continues the integration of composition and literature. Composition emphasizes the construction of multi-paragraph papers using more complex sentence structures and an understanding of the writing process. Technical proficiency in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and usage are developed through editing and polishing pieces of writing. Literature studies encourage appreciation and analysis of the short story, novel, poetry, and drama.

## **8th Pre-AP ELA**

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Performed at *Meets Grade Level* on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade STAAR Reading Assessment, 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Course Averages of 85 or Higher

The student who meets the criteria for this course will study the same basic Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills required for each grade level. The advanced content for this academic course will expand the student's learning opportunities in a more challenging way and in greater depth. The student will be expected to employ critical thinking skills and is required to read additional novels, short stories, prose, and poetry. A greater emphasis is placed on writing style and variety of sentence and paragraph construction in writing project assignments. The course includes extensive vocabulary development.

## **8th GT/ Pre-AP ELA**

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Must be GT Identified, must participate in either the GT End of Year Showcase or Science Fair

The student who meets the criteria for this course will study the same basic Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills required for each grade level. The advanced content for this academic course will expand the student's learning opportunities in a more challenging way and in greater depth. The student will be expected to employ critical thinking skills and is required to read additional novels, short stories, prose, and poetry. A greater emphasis is placed on writing style and variety of sentence and paragraph construction in writing project assignments. The course includes extensive vocabulary development.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

COURSE NAME	GRADE PLACEMENT	PREREQUISITE
7th Grade Texas History	X	None
7th Grade Pre-AP Texas History	X	See Prerequisite in below course descriptor
8th Grade US History	X	None
8th Grade Pre-AP US History	X	See Prerequisite in below course descriptor

## 7th Texas History

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: None

This course provides an overview study of Texas from the discovery and exploration period through the Twentieth Century. While studying the development of our state, students will learn historical facts and also an appreciation of the cultural heritage and geographic diversities that have shaped Texas. All state-mandated Social Studies objectives are covered. Seventh grade students are given encouragement and guidance to participate in the LPISD History Fair.

## 7th Pre-AP Texas History

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: Performed at *Meets Grade Level* on the STAAR 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading Assessment, 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Course Averages of 85 or Higher

This course will expand the objectives of the 7th grade Texas History course and will require extended reading and writing with activities to develop higher order thinking skills. All state-mandated Social Studies objectives are covered. Participation in LPISD History Fair is **required**. (G/T students have the option to participate in the LPISD History Fair or the GT End-of-Year Showcase.)

## 8th US History

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: None

Eighth grade social studies is a survey course which spans American history from Pre-Columbian times through Reconstruction. Throughout the course, students will be exposed to many other social studies disciplines such as geography, government, and economics. All state-mandated Social Studies objectives are covered. Encouragement and guidance will be given to participate in LPISD History Fair.

## **8th Pre-AP US History**

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Performed at *Meets Grade Level* on the STAAR 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading Assessment, 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Course Averages of 85 or Higher

This course will augment the objectives of the 8th grade US History course with increased rigor. Pre-AP will require extended reading, writing and differentiated assessments to develop higher order thinking skills. All state-mandated Social Studies objectives are covered. Encouragement and guidance will be given to participate in LPISD History Fair.

# SCIENCE

COURSE NAME	GRADE PLACEMENT		PREREQUISITE
	7	8	
7th Science	X		None
7th Pre-AP Science	X		See Prerequisite in below course descriptor
7 <sup>th</sup> GT/ Pre-AP Science	X		See Prerequisite in below course descriptor
8th Science		X	None
8th Pre-AP Science		X	See Prerequisite in below course descriptor
8th GT/ Pre-AP Science		X	See Prerequisite in below course descriptor

## 7th Science

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: None

Seventh grade science is a course which focuses on Life Science with an integration of Environmental Sciences, Ecology and Space Exploration. These concepts are presented in a laboratory-based classroom where students are engaged in hands-on exploration and problem-solving activities. This course shows relevance to student learning and the understanding of science while mastering the state mandated TEKS. Seventh grade students are encouraged to participate in the LPISD Science Fair.

## 7th Pre-AP Science

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: 1<sup>st</sup> Semester 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Course Averages of 85 or Higher

This is a course designed for the student who has demonstrated the ability and interest in science above and beyond that which is offered in 7th Science. The student who meets the criteria for this course will be expected to learn the basic Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for the grade level as well as expanded content of the scientific process and its application. The student's learning opportunities will be more challenging and the material presented will be in greater depth. The demands of the course will stretch the student to use critical thinking and high level investigative processes. Laboratory experiences will require students to formulate a hypothesis that will use data to draw conclusions. A significant component of the learning will be centered on technology and the application of the scientific process. Seventh grade students are encouraged to participate in the LPISD Science Fair.

## 7th GT/ Pre-AP Science

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: Must be GT Identified, must participate in either the GT End of Year Showcase or History Fair

This is a course designed for the student who has demonstrated the ability and interest in science above and beyond that which is offered in 7th Science. The student who meets the criteria for this course will be expected to learn the basic Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for the grade level as well as expanded content of the scientific process and its application. The student's learning opportunities will be more challenging and the material presented will be in greater depth. The demands of the course will stretch the student to use critical thinking and high level investigative processes. Laboratory experiences will require students to formulate a hypothesis that will use data to draw conclusions. A significant component of the learning will be centered on technology and the application of the scientific process. Seventh grade students are encouraged to participate in the LPISD Science Fair.

## 8th Science

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: None

Eighth grade science is a developmentally appropriate laboratory/field-oriented course coordinating instruction in physics, chemistry, biology, and earth/space science. Concepts which are found in common with other sciences are emphasized in themes covering topics on environmental interactions systems and structures, energy, and changes over time. Elements included in the course are laboratory management, processing scientific data, problem solving, technology and the scientific method. Eighth grade students are encouraged to participate in the LPISD Science Fair.

## 8th Pre-AP Science

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: 1<sup>st</sup> Semester 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Course Averages of 85 or Higher

The student who meets the criteria for this course will be expected to learn the basic Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for the grade level as well as expanded content of the scientific process and its application. The student's learning opportunities will be more challenging and the material presented will be in greater depth. The demands of the course will stretch the student to use critical thinking and high level investigative processes. Laboratory experiences will require students to formulate a hypothesis that will use data to draw conclusions. A significant component of the learning will be centered on technology and the application of the scientific process. Science Fair participation is **required**. (G/T students have the option to participate in the LPISD Science Fair or the GT End-of-Year Showcase.)

## 8th GT Pre-AP Science

Grade: 8

Prerequisite - Must be GT Identified, Must participate in the GT End of Year Showcase

The student who meets the criteria for this course will be expected to learn the basic Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for the grade level as well as expanded content of the scientific process and its application. The student's learning opportunities will be more challenging and the material presented will be in greater depth. The demands of the course will stretch the student to use critical thinking and high level investigative processes. Laboratory experiences will require students to formulate an hypothesis that will use data to draw conclusions. A significant component of the learning will be centered on technology and the application of the scientific process. G/T students have the option to participate in the LPISD Science Fair or the GT End-of-Year Showcase.

# MATHEMATICS

COURSE NAME	GRADE PLACEMENT		HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT	PREREQUISITE
	7	8		
7 <sup>th</sup> Math	X			None
7 <sup>th</sup> Pre-Algebra	X			See Prerequisite in below course descriptor
8 <sup>th</sup> Math		X		None
8 <sup>th</sup> Algebra IA/1B		X	1	See Prerequisite in below course descriptor

## 7th Math

Grade: 7th

Prerequisite: None

This seventh grade course is designed for grade level students. Higher level applications and problem solving skills are emphasized. Pre-Algebra objectives with emphasis on STAAR objectives and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) are covered in this program.

## 7th Pre-Algebra

Grade: 7th

Prerequisite: Performed at *Meets Grade Level* on the STAAR Math 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Assessment, 1<sup>st</sup> Semester 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Course Averages of 85 or Higher

This course is designed to prepare students for Algebra I with an emphasis on principles in algebra and geometry. Higher level applications and problem solving skills are emphasized. All Pre-Algebra objectives with emphasis on STAAR objectives and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) are covered. Students will take the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade STAAR Math Assessment, First Administration. **In 7th grade if your child's average falls below an 80, your child may be moved to an appropriate level math class.**

## 8th Math

Grade: 8th

Prerequisite: None

This eighth grade course is designed for grade-level students. Higher level applications and problem solving skills are emphasized. Pre-Algebra objectives with emphasis on STAAR objectives and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) are covered in this program.

## 8th Math Acceleration Class

Grade 8

Prerequisite: Students will be placed in this class (as an elective) by Administration based upon Math STAAR scores and classroom performance.

**This is a program designed to give mathematics support to students and is required for those who do not pass the Math STAAR test the previous year.** This will take the place of an elective. Placement is made administratively by school personnel

## 8th Algebra I

Grade: 8th

Credit: 1 High School Credit

Prerequisite: Performed at *Meets Grade Level* on the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade STAAR Math Assessment, 1<sup>st</sup> Semester 7th Grade Pre-Algebra Course Averages of 85 or Higher

This is a college preparatory course. Students are expected to maintain an average of 80 or better. Emphasis is placed on graphing, solving equations and inequalities, and problem solving. This credit is recorded as mathematics credit on the high school transcript. Algebra I taken at the junior high will count toward the high school graduation requirements. Credit earned at junior high will count toward the high school the Grade Point Average (GPA) and Class Rank. If your child's average falls below an 80, your child may be moved to an appropriate level math class. **Students taking Algebra I will be required to take an End of Course (EOC) exam. If the student does not pass the EOC they may be required to retake the EOC and/or retake the course the following year.**

***Due to High School Credit being received for Algebra I and factored into a student's High School GPA, students must meet District Requirements to be placed into 8<sup>th</sup> Algebra I and cannot be waived into 8<sup>th</sup> Algebra I.***

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

COURSE NAME	GRADE PLACEMENT		PREREQUISITE
	7	8	
7th Grade PE– Boys – General PE or Sports other than Football	X		None
7th Grade PE Girls	X		None
7th Grade Boys Athletics – Football or Football and Other Sports	X		None
7th Grade Athletics Girls	X		None
8th Grade PE– Boys – General PE or Sports other than Football		X	None
8th Grade PE Girls		X	None
8th Grade Boys Athletics – Football or Football and Other Sports		X	*Teacher’s Initials Required
8th Grade Athletics Girls		X	*Teacher’s Initials Required

**\* Teacher’s Initials Required**

## 7<sup>th</sup> PE Boys

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: None

Wellness puts an emphasis on activities that increase the development of movement skills, rhythm and perceptual awareness skills. Students are given the opportunity to participate in individual and team sport contests. Skills, sportsmanship and safety are discussed, displayed and tested during each unit. Developmental activities are done during each class in an effort to improve strength, flexibility, power, agility, coordination and cardio respiratory endurance. Fitness testing is done twice a year for each student. Health education will be integrated into the course of study. This class will include classroom assignments and periodic Health tests.

This class is for boys who want to participate in a general PE class **or** want to participate in UIL Basketball, Track, Cross Country, or Tennis. **Any student who wishes to participate in UIL Basketball, Track, Cross Country, Soccer, or Tennis - MUST HAVE A PHYSICAL TURNED INTO LPISD CAMPUS PRINCIPAL BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR.**

## 7<sup>th</sup> PE Girls

Grade: 7

Prerequisite:-None

Wellness puts an emphasis on activities that increase the development of movement skills, rhythm and perceptual awareness skills. Students are given the opportunity to participate in individual and team sport contests. Skills, sportsmanship and safety are discussed, displayed and tested during each unit. Developmental activities are done during each class in an effort to improve strength, flexibility, power, agility, coordination and cardio respiratory endurance. Fitness testing is done twice a year for each student. Health education will be integrated into the course of study. This class will include classroom assignments and periodic Health tests.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Boys Athletics – Football or Football and other Sports (girls may participate in Football)

Prerequisite: Physical Form completed by physician and turned in to LXJ by May 28, 2020.

The Athletic Program places a major emphasis on enhancing individual performance through offseason development. These non-sport specific workouts focus on cardiorespiratory endurance, speed, agility, and flexibility. Weight training is utilized to increase muscular strength. With this training, athletes will be able to perform at a higher level in their sports. Health education will be integrated into the course of study. Students in the athletics class will be required to participate in football. Any student who wishes to participate in football - **MUST HAVE A PHYSICAL TURNED INTO LPISD CAMPUS PRINCIPAL BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR or the student will be placed into a PE section and will not receive a schedule change into the Athletics period for the school year. They may participate in the athletic sport by trying out for and making the team, attending before and/or afterschool practices, and participating in the games.**

## 7<sup>th</sup> Girls Athletics

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: Physical Form completed by physician turned in to LXJ by May 28, 2020.

The Athletic Program places a major emphasis on enhancing individual performance through offseason development. These non-sport specific workouts focus on cardiorespiratory endurance, speed, agility, and flexibility. Weight training is utilized to increase muscular strength. With this training, athletes will be able to perform at a higher level in their sports. Health education will be integrated into the course of study. For 7th grade, athletes will be required to participate in at least one of the following sports: volleyball, cross country, basketball, track and field, soccer, or tennis. Any student who wishes to participate in Girls Athletics **MUST HAVE A PHYSICAL TURNED INTO LPISD CAMPUS PRINCIPAL BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR or the student will be placed into a PE section and will not receive a schedule change into the Athletics period for the school year. They may participate in the athletic sport by trying out for and making the team, attending before and/or afterschool practices, and participating in the games.**

## 8<sup>th</sup> PE Boys

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: None

Wellness puts an emphasis on activities that increase the development of movement skills, rhythm and perceptual awareness skills. Students are given the opportunity to participate in individual and team sport contests. Skills, sportsmanship and safety are discussed, displayed and tested during each unit. Developmental activities are done during each class in an effort to improve strength, flexibility, power, agility, coordination and cardio respiratory endurance. Fitness testing is done twice a year for each student. Health education will be integrated into the course of study. This class will include classroom assignments and periodic Health tests.

The class is for boys who want to participate in a general PE class or want to participate in UIL Basketball, Track, Cross Country, or Tennis. **Any student who wishes to participate in UIL Basketball, Track, Cross Country, Soccer, or Tennis - MUST HAVE A PHYSICAL TURNED INTO THE LPISD CAMPUS PRINCIPAL BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR.**

## 8<sup>th</sup> PE Girls

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: None

Wellness puts an emphasis on activities that increase the development of movement skills, rhythm and perceptual awareness skills. Students are given the opportunity to participate in individual and team sport contests. Skills, sportsmanship and safety are discussed, displayed and tested during each unit. Developmental activities are done during each class in an effort to improve strength, flexibility, power, agility, coordination and cardio respiratory endurance. Fitness testing is done twice a year for each student. Health education will be integrated into the course of study. This class will include classroom assignments and periodic Health tests. Health education will be integrated into the course of study.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Athletics Girls

Grade: 8

Physical Form completed by physician turned in to LXJ by May 28, 2020.

The Athletic Program places a major emphasis on enhancing individual performance through offseason development. These non-sport specific workouts focus on cardiorespiratory endurance, speed, agility, and flexibility. Weight training is utilized to increase muscular strength. With this training, athletes will be able to perform at a higher level in their sports. Health education will be integrated into the course of study. 8th grade athletes must have participated in at least one of the following sports in 7th grade: volleyball, cross country, basketball, track and field, soccer, or tennis. Any student who wishes to participate in Girls Athletics - **MUST HAVE A PHYSICAL TURNED INTO THE CAMPUS PRINCIPAL BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR or the student will be placed into a PE section and will not receive a schedule change into the Athletics period for the school year. They may participate in the athletic sport by trying out for and making the team, attending before and/or afterschool practices, and participating in the games.**

## 8<sup>th</sup> Boys Athletics – Football or Football and other Sports

Grade: 8 (Girls may participate in Football)

Physical Form completed by physician turned in to LXJ by May 28, 2020.

The Athletic Program places a major emphasis on enhancing individual performance through offseason development. These non-sport specific workouts focus on cardiorespiratory endurance, speed, agility, and flexibility. Weight training is utilized to increase muscular strength. With this training, athletes will be able to perform at a higher level in their sports. Health education will be integrated into the course of study. Students in the athletics class will be required to participate in football. Any student who wishes to participate in football - **MUST HAVE A PHYSICAL TURNED INTO THE LPISD CAMPUS PRINCIPAL BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR or the student will be placed into a PE section and will not receive a schedule change into the Athletics period for the school year. They may participate in the athletic sport by trying out for and making the team, attending before and/or afterschool practices, and participating in the games.**

### P.E. Waiver (Physical Education 7th and 8th Grade Only)

A student who is enrolled in a state and district approved private or commercially sponsored physical activity program whose primary purpose is to train students in Olympic level capabilities (gymnastics, swimming, diving, figure skating, and ballet) may receive a waiver under the following conditions:

1. The waiver must be submitted no later than 10 school days after the first day of school. The waiver documentation is needed each year in Junior High. No waiver documentation will be accepted after the ten days, unless the request is made by a student who newly enrolls at LPISD during the year or there is a change in the program outlined in the waiver.
2. Documentation is to include a dated memo on official letterhead of the organization providing the training, which will include the student's name, the activity, the daily schedule, and the total hours of physical training for a week.
3. A minimum of 5 hours per week must be scheduled for a waiver. Time on task must be under the direct supervision of a coach or professional trainer, not to include actual time in competition, performance, or travel time. Time on task must occur Monday through Friday. Weekend training hours do not count towards the minimum number of hours per week.
4. The physical activity program must provide both instruction and physical application.
5. **A minimum of 15 hours per week will allow a student to leave school for one period (1st or 7th). This is allowed for 8th grade students only.**
6. The parent is responsible for providing transportation to and from the physical activity program.
7. A daily training log must be maintained and submitted each 9 weeks to the counselor to be able to continue in the waiver program.
8. The student must participate in the Fitness Gram Fitness Test at the pretest and posttest levels. Pre and post tests will be administered by the LPISD physical education department.
9. The documentation is presented to the principal, who in turn presents it to the district deputy superintendent for final approval.
10. If a student opts out of the waiver program at any time during the year, the counselor will place the student in an elective that has room for additional students.

# ELECTIVE COURSES

## WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVES

COURSE NAME	GRADE PLACEMENT – 8TH		HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT
	Sem 1	Sem 2	
Spanish IA	X		.5
Spanish IB		X	.5

World Languages - Since these are high school credit courses taken at LPISD, a semester average lower than 80 may result in removal from the course. Grades earned in these courses at the junior high will count towards the high school Grade Point Average (GPA) and Class Rank High school credit will be awarded upon successful completion of each semester of Spanish I A and Spanish I B.

### 8th Spanish I

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: 80 in All 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Core Classes and Meet Grade Level on 7<sup>th</sup> Grade STAAR - Reading

This course looks into Spanish culture, language and conversation. It focuses on complex grammar structures and verb conjugations. Spanish I prepares a student for Spanish II through role playing, classroom dialogues, conversation, and writing. High school credit is awarded for each semester resulting in a grade average of 70 or higher at the junior high level. **80% mastery is recommended to ensure success at the next level.**

***Due to High School Credit being received for Spanish 1A & 1B and factored into a student's High School GPA, students must meet District Requirements to be placed into 8<sup>th</sup> Spanish 1A & 1B and cannot be waived into 8<sup>th</sup> Spanish 1A & 1B.***

# FINE ARTS ELECTIVES

## **7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Art (Fee \$6.00)**

Grade: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: None

Course Length: Year

This basic exploration course is designed to acquaint the student with knowledge and fundamental skills involving various artistic medium. Students may paint, draw. Experience is not required for imaginative expression through art materials and tools. A basic foundation is provided so that all students can achieve in art and apply lessons learned to other core classes.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Art 1A/ 1B (Fee \$6.00) High School Credit**

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Art class, Teacher recommendation, portfolio, and participation in class

Course Length: 2 semesters

Students will use direct observation, imagination and personal experiences as inspiration for artwork. For planning original works, students record visual ideas in a sketchbook. Learners use correct art vocabulary to compare and contrast the use of art elements and design principles in personal works and the works of others. Students will use a variety of multiple media, and students in Art 1 investigated selected historical periods and styles from many cultures.

*Due to High School Credit being received for Art 1A & 1B and factored into a student's High School GPA, students must meet District Requirements to be placed into 8<sup>th</sup> Art 1A & 1B and cannot be waived into 8<sup>th</sup> Art 1A & 1B.*

## **7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Non-Varsity Band**

Grade: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Audition and experience playing a band instrument

Course Length: Year

Non Varsity Band is comprised of both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students. Admission is by audition or placement. This ensemble participates in UIL and TMEA activities, contest, festivals, and school events scheduled throughout the year. Each student may participate in Solo and Ensemble contests as well as other eligible competitive events. This ensemble may be required to attend extra rehearsal to prepare for event/concerts as deemed necessary. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory, with the exception of unusual or emergency situation.

## **7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Varsity Band**

Grade: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Audition and experience playing a band instrument

Course Length: Year

Varsity Band is comprised of the most accomplished 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band student at LPISD. Admission is by audition only. This band participates in UIL and TMEA Contests, festivals, school concerts, pep rallies, and some athletic events. This band has a more active schedule of activities than the other LPISD Bands. Each student will be required to participate in the All-Region Band auditions in November. Each student will participate in Solo and Ensemble Contest in the spring semester. Each student will attend rehearsals (a sectional and an individual listening) scheduled outside of the normal school day in order to participate in the Varsity Band. The band director will call extra rehearsals to prepare for competitive events as deemed necessary. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory, with the exception of unusual or emergency situations.

### **7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Girls' Choir**

Grade: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Beginning Choir or Teacher Recommendation

Course Length: Year

This is a non-varsity 7/8 girls' performing and competing group. This ensemble requires a simple audition showing that the student can match pitch. This ensemble is for girls who have had previous vocal experiences before (such as church or community musical groups) and who are aiming for choral and vocal excellence. This ensemble will learn to sight-read, to sing two and three part music, musicianship skills, and proper choral tone and technique.

### **7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Boys' Choir**

Grade: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Beginning Choir or Teacher Recommendation

Course Length: Year

Open to ALL BOYS interested in singing, no audition required and no prior experience is necessary. This ensemble will learn how to sing two and three-part music, will learn musicianship skills and pitch control, and will be taught how to sight-read music. This is a competing, performing group.

### **7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Varsity Choir All Girls**

Grade: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Audition only

Course Length: Year

This is a varsity 7/8 girls' performing and competing group. A successful audition that demonstrates a strong sense of pitch matching memory, sight-reading skills, a healthy range, and pleasant vocal tone is required in order to place into this group. Dedication to the group and the performances is expected and required. All Chamber Choir singers are required to compete and are expected to maintain passing grades in all classes. This choir performs for the community, school, and other events by invitation. This choir will prepare students for success in the high school choir.

## **7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Non-Varsity Orchestra**

Grade: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Audition and experience playing a band instrument

Course Length: Year

Non Varsity Orchestra is comprised of both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade orchestra students. Admission is by audition or placement. This ensemble participates in UIL and TMEA activities, contest, festivals, and school events scheduled throughout the year. Each student may participate in Solo and Ensemble contests as well as other eligible competitive events. This ensemble may be required to attend extra rehearsal to prepare for event/concerts as deemed necessary. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory, with the exception of unusual or emergency situation.

## **7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Varsity Orchestra**

Grade: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Audition and experience playing a band instrument

Course Length: Year

Varsity Orchestra is comprised of the most accomplished 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Orchestra students at LPISD. Admission is by audition only. This orchestra participates in UIL and TMEA contests, festivals, school and concerts. This orchestra has a more active schedule of activities than the other LPISD orchestra. Each student will be required to participate in the All Region Orchestra auditions. Each student will participate in Solo and Ensemble contest during the year. Each student will attend rehearsals (sectional and individual listening) scheduled outside the normal school day in order to participate in the Varsity Orchestra. The Orchestra director will call extra rehearsals to prepare for competitive events/performances as deemed necessary. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory, with the exception of unusual or emergency situations.

## **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Theater Arts**

Grade: 7 or 8

Prerequisite: None

Course Length: Year

This class introduces students to Theater Arts through exposure to physical and vocal acting techniques and general theater knowledge (history, stage terms, and directing and production concepts and skills). Students will have an opportunity to practice various warm-up techniques, develop basic skills in pantomime, improvisation, acting, stage movement and audience etiquette. As the students participate in a collaborative and creative manner they are led to develop an appreciation and understanding of the many facets of theatre. Students are expected to: work cooperatively, participate actively in class performances, stay on task, evaluate self and others in a constructive manner, manage time wisely and exhibit self-discipline and self- initiative. Students enrolled in this course will have the opportunity to participate in the UIL One Act Play. This course will address Theater Middle School 1 TEKS.

# REQUIRED ELECTIVES

## Semester Courses (1/2 a school year)

COURSE NAME	GRADE PLACEMENT	HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT	PREREQUISITE
Exploring Careers	X		None
Technology Applications	X		None

### 8<sup>th</sup> Exploring Careers

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: None

Course Length: Semester

Students will achieve proficiency in decision making and problem solving skills as these skills are essential for career planning and lifelong learning. Students use self-knowledge, educational, and career information to set and achieve realistic career and educational goals. The student will analyze the effect of personal interest and aptitudes upon educational and career planning,

- know how to locate, analyze, and apply career information,
- know that many skills are common to a variety of careers and that these skills can be transferred from one career opportunity to another,
- know the process used to locate and secure employment,
- recognize the impact of career choice on personal lifestyle,
- know the process of career planning,
- know the importance of productive work habits and attitudes, and
- know the effect change has on society and career opportunities.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Technology Applications

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: None

Course Length: Semester

This course will provide our students with the ability to exercise appropriate communication skills when using technology. This course combines the skills of electronic design, editing, and production of products using a variety of hardware and software tools. This project-based course focuses on real-world digital communication and citizenship.

# OTHER ELECTIVES

## Year Long Courses (Both Semesters)

COURSE NAME	GRADE PLACEMENT		HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT	PREREQUISITE
	7	8		
Office Ambassador		X		Administrative Approval
Yearbook	X	X		Teacher recommendation based on application

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade—Office Ambassador

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Administrative Approval Based on Student Letter

Course Length: Year

This is a one year elective which is approved by LPISD administrators based on student letters of interest along with student records of grades, attendance and discipline. This is an elective reserved for LPISD students who demonstrate the attributes of an exemplary LPISD students. The student must submit, no later than May 15<sup>th</sup> a letter describing why they believe they should be considered for this elective.

### 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>-Yearbook

Grade: 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

Prerequisite: ELA semester grade of 85% or higher. Teacher recommendation based on application

Course Length: Year

Students interested in continuing with journalism may choose the yearbook program of study. This field of study reviews and applies journalistic writing, editing, design and graphics skills necessary to produce a high school yearbook. In the course students use and develop computer skills to produce a camera ready document. It also introduces students to the elements of staff management, including financing and time management. Students may be required to complete assignments outside of the classroom or after school.

## Assurances

The La Porte Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex or disability in providing education services, activities, and programs, including vocational programs, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Title IX Coordinator is Mrs. Angela Garza-Viator, Executive Director of Human Resources, 1002 San Jacinto, La Porte, Texas 77571, Telephone (281) 604-7110. The Section 504 Coordinator is Mrs. Cynthia Anderson, Executive Director of Special Programs, 1002 San Jacinto, La Porte, Texas 77571, Telephone (281) 604-7034.