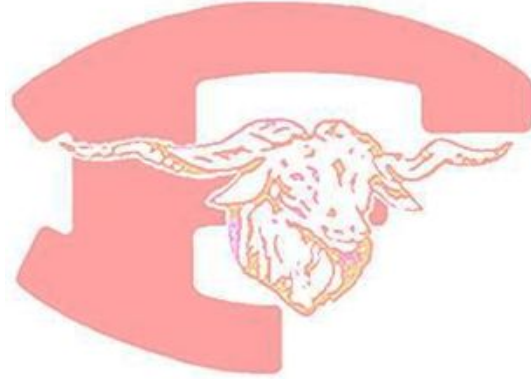


2021-2022

Course Description Guide



Fredericksburg Middle School

Battlin' Billies

110 West Travis Street

Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

Office: 830-997-7657

Counselors: 830-990-0105

Fax: 830-997-1927

www.fisd.org

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Fredericksburg Middle School is pleased to offer students a wide array of educational opportunities through participation in our core curriculum, Advanced curriculum, and electives. Students and parents should use this registration booklet as a guide to choose classes for the coming year. Please talk with your child about his or her interests and goals as you consider plans for the 2021-2022 school year and beyond.

Highly motivated, disciplined, and academically capable students should consider enrollment in Advanced classes. Please also review information, policies, and recommendations related to Advanced courses in this booklet.

Each student is required to complete the course selection process indicating his or her elective and courses. We build the master schedule based on these requests. It is important that students carefully consider their options since it is not always possible to change schedules later.

It is a privilege and pleasure to work with your children. If you have questions, please come and visit with us about our educational programs.

Our counselors, Cayle Koennecke (last names A-K) and Laura McCammon (last names L-Z), may be reached at 830-990-0105. Should you wish to speak with one of our principals, the main number to FMS is 830-997-7657.

We are looking forward to a great 2021-2022 school year!

Sincerely,

Sheryl Wallace, Principal

Jeff Wanek, Assistant Principal

Marti Spruiell, Assistant Principal

Estimados Padres/Guardianes:

Fredericksburg Middle School se complace en ofrecer a los estudiantes una ancha serie de oportunidades educativas por la participación en nuestras asignaturas comunes, en el plan de Avanzados , y en optativas. Los estudiantes y los padres deben utilizar este folleto de matrícula como una guía a elecciones de clase para el año que viene . Por favor hable con sus niños acerca de sus intereses y metas como usted considera los planes de el 2021-2022 año escolar y más allá.

Los estudiantes sumamente motivados, disciplinados y académicamente capaces deben considerar la matriculación en clases Avanzados de Colocación. Por favor también revisen información de las políticas, y las recomendaciones relacionadas al Avanzados en este folleto.

Cada estudiante debe completar las formas de registracion escolar que indican sus electivos y/o Avanzados. Nosotros construimos un horano magistrar basado por solicitud. Es importante que estudiantes consideren con cuidado sus opciones asi que no es siempre posible cambiar los horarios más tarde.

Es un privilegio y un placer de trabajar con sus niños. Si usted tiene preguntas, venga por favor y visitenos para platicar de nuestros programas educativos. Nuestras consejeras, Cayle Koennecke (A-K) y Laura McCammon (L-Z), pueden ser llamadas al numero 830- 990-0105. Si usted desea hablar con uno de nuestros directores, El número principal de FMS es 830-997-7657.

¡Esperamos un gran 2021-2022!

Sinceramente,

Sheryl Wallace, Principal

Jeff Wanek, Assistant Principal

Marti Spruiell, Assistant Principal

Registration Policies

Required Courses

6th Grade - English, Math, Science, World Cultures, SOAR, Pre-Athletics/Wellness

7th Grade - English, Math, Science, TX History, PE Credit

8th Grade - English, Math, Science, US History, Health

- All students in the 6th grade are required to have Math double blocked. Please see the schedule flow chart in the back of this booklet for further info.
- Students in all grades who are below level in reading and math may be placed in an intervention class as an elective.
- All 6th grade students who are identified as GT will be placed in the GT elective in place of SOAR. All 7th and 8th grade students who are identified as GT will have the option of being served in advanced courses.
- Schedules of students who qualify for special programs are subject to change by the office in order to ensure the best academic program possible.

Schedules

You will receive information this summer regarding instructions for the upcoming online registration process. Students may pick up their schedule upon the completion of online registration according to the designated dates. Schedules will also be available for pick up on the first day of school at assigned grade level areas.

PE / Athletics

*** All students are required to take Physical Education in the 6th and 7th grade.*

6th Graders - Students will learn basic fundamentals and skills to be used in various sports. Pre-Athletics will help students determine if competitive athletics is the right choice for them. The Living Well Aware Sexual Health Program will be included in this class. Students are presented with information necessary to help them develop healthy habits and relationships.

7th Graders - Athletics may be substituted for PE in the 7th and 8th grade. ***Students in athletics must have a physical on file in order to practice and participate.*** Students are encouraged to take advantage of the free physicals that are offered at FHS in late Spring. Students playing any sport will also be required to fill out the RankOne forms on the FISS athletic site.

High School Credit

The following courses are available to 7th and 8th grade students for high school credit:

- Fundamentals of Computer Science & Business Information Management (BIM) 1

The following courses are available to 8th grade students for high school credit:

- PreAp Algebra 1, Spanish 1, Art 3, & Professional Communications

Disclaimer: *Required subjects and elective choices may be changed by FMS staff due to STAAR testing results, staffing changes, legislative mandates, scheduling conflicts, FISS School Board directives or lack of interest.*

Advance Courses

Overview

Advanced courses are designed to challenge students beyond grade-level courses and better prepare them for success in AP and Dual Credit courses in high school. Although these are open enrollment, students must maintain at least a 70 average at the end of each designated grade check date in order to stay enrolled in the course. If a 70 is not maintained in the course, students will be removed and placed in the equivalent grade-level course (please refer to designated grade check times). FISD offers a strong curriculum in all courses. If a schedule change to a grade-level course occurs, the student will continue to receive quality academics that are designed to effectively prepare him/her for our high school curriculum.

Schedule changes out of Advanced/PreAP courses will only be permitted if the student is failing at the designated grade check times. Grade checks to stay in an Advanced course will occur at the following times:

- Accelerated Math or PreAP Algebra 1- Weeks 3, 6, 9, and at Semester
- Advanced English, Social Studies, and Science- Semester
- Spanish 1- Semester

The following should be considered by students and parents/guardians before enrolling:

- Advanced curriculum courses
 - * are more rigorous
 - * require independent learning
 - * move at a faster pace
 - * require outside reading and work
- Students should
 - have proven history of academic success in the subject area (see recommended guidelines on the back)
 - consider balance of outside commitments and academic load
 - maintain good study skills
 - possess strong organization and time management skills
 - be actively engaged in their own learning
 - take responsibility for the workload and ask questions when needed

***Please note, students will not be permitted to enter the accelerated math program beyond 6th grade unless they were previously enrolled and passed the advanced course. The accelerated math curriculum combines 6th, 7th, and 8th grade standards into a compacted 2-year program. Therefore, it requires initial placement to not miss any academic standards.*

Advanced Course Recommended Guidelines:

Recommended guidelines for advanced courses (6th grade only):

- 92 + semester average
- Masters on STAAR assessment

Recommended guidelines moving from grade-level courses to advanced courses (7th and 8th grade):

- 92 + semester average
- Masters on STAAR assessment

Recommended guidelines to stay in advanced courses (7th and 8th grade):

- 80 + semester average
- Meets on STAAR assessment

*** Please note: If your child does not meet the recommended standards, a meeting with an FMS administrator and an Advanced/PreAp teacher(s) of the course(s) desired will be required before enrollment. Please call FMS to arrange a conference date and time.*

6th Grade Electives

SOAR

2 Semesters

Study skills, Organization, Academics and Relationships - Students will receive instruction and practice with study skills, organization, academic behaviors and goal setting to enhance student's success. Students will also learn basic technology skills, explore careers, work on character education and other enrichment activities.

This course is required for all 6th grade students that are not placed in an intervention.

Art I

1 Semester

This course focuses on ensuring a solid foundation of the **Elements of Art** through a variety of projects. Students will be exposed to as many mediums as the semester allows including; pencil, pen and ink, tempera paint, acrylic paint, watercolor, clay and glaze.

Art History will cover Prehistoric Art through Ancient Egypt.

Supplies (sketchbook, markers, pencils, etc.) and a \$5.00 lab fee are required.

Theatre Arts 1

1 Semester

A beginner's course where students will study Theatre techniques and will be introduced to the art of acting, modeling self-expression and personal growth. Students will also learn how to properly audition for a play and go through the rehearsal process culminating in a production at the end of the semester for an audience.

Beginner Band

2 Semesters

This course is for anyone interested in playing one of the following instruments: Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba or Percussion. No prior experience needed! Students can expect to learn how to read music, the fundamentals of playing their instrument, ensemble/classroom rehearsal procedures, and how to express themselves through playing an instrument. There will be at least 2 off campus trips, 1 contest, and 4 concerts during beginner band. At the end of beginner band, all students will be placed into either the Honor Band or Symphonic Band, depending on their individual development on their instrument. In band, we will work with all budgets so any student wanting to participate is able to do so.

Beginner Choir

2 Semesters

Choir members learn to develop their voices as individuals and as part of a choir. They explore a variety of music and learn the art of performance through 4 concerts, pep rallies and community performances. All students purchase a choir t-shirt which they wear with blue jeans for performances. Students have the opportunity to go on the end of the year field trip.

Gifted and Talented

2 Semesters

This course will only be available to students that are already identified.

7th Grade Electives

Art I

1 Semester

This course focuses on ensuring a solid foundation of the **Elements of Art** through a variety of projects. Students will be exposed to as many mediums as the semester allows including; pencil, pen and ink, tempera paint, acrylic paint, watercolor, clay and glaze.

Art History will cover Prehistoric Art through Ancient Egypt.

Supplies (sketchbook, markers, pencils, etc. see supply list) and a \$5.00 lab fee are required.

Theatre Arts 1

1 Semester

A beginner's course where students will study Theatre techniques and will be introduced to the art of acting, modeling self-expression and personal growth. Students will also learn how to properly audition for a play and go through the rehearsal process culminating in a production at the end of the semester for an audience.

7th & 8th Grade Electives

Symphonic Band

2 Semesters

Symphonic Band is usually made up of 7th and 8th graders, with mostly 7th graders. Symphonic Band is the natural progression from 6th grade to 7th grade. If students are placed in the Symphonic Band, they can expect to continue working on their own individual playing through in class playing assignments and at home practice. Students will focus on tone production, rhythmic and harmonic understanding, ensemble and individual playing and ensemble rehearsal procedures. Students in Symphonic Band are encouraged to audition at region band in the fall. All eligible students in 7th and 8th Grade will have 2 trips, 2 contests, 4 concerts and will perform at every pep rally!

Honor Band

2 Semesters

Honor Band is usually made up of 7th and 8th graders, with mostly 8th graders. Honor Band is the advanced version of Band if students are placed in the Honor Band, they can expect to continue working on their own individual playing through in class playing assignments and at home practice. Students will focus on tone production, rhythmic and harmonic understanding, ensemble and individual playing and ensemble rehearsal procedures. Students in Honor Band are required to audition at region band and attend the clinic and concert. The Honor Band will perform at the Veteran's Day Assembly. All eligible students in 7th and 8th grade will have 2 trips, 2 contests, 4 concerts and perform at every pep rally!!

Jazz Band

2 Semesters

Jazz Band is a course for 7th and 8th grade students who are already in band and wish to learn how to play in the Jazz style. Styles will include, but are not limited to, Swing, Funk, Latin and Pop. Students can expect to improve their own playing abilities through in class performances and individualized feedback. The main focus of this class will be teaching students how to play with great jazz style and students can expect to learn the foundations of jazz improvisations. Students wishing to be in the Jazz Band must be concurrently enrolled in either Symphonic Band or Honor Band.

7th & 8th Grade Electives (continued)

Art II (Art I is a prerequisite)

2 Semesters

Building on the foundation of Art I, students will incorporate the **Principles of Design** to their knowledge base and repertoire.

Art History will pick up where Art I left off, beginning with Ancient Rome and working our way through the Italian Renaissance and beyond.

Theatre Arts 2 (Theatre Arts I is a prerequisite)

2 Semesters

An advanced course where students will learn the fundamentals of the understanding of a character including analysis work. This course will get students ready for high school or One Act next year. The students will perform a total of two shows. One each semester and understand the basics of what goes on backstage during a performance.

Choir

2 Semesters

Students continue to develop their voices individually and as a part of the whole choir. They explore advanced music and learn the art of performance through All-Region Choir, 4 concerts, UIL Concert and Sight reading Contest, pep rallies and community performances. All students purchase a choir t-shirt which they wear with blue jeans. The school provides “formal uniforms,” but girls must purchase black dress shoes and boys must purchase black dress shoes or boots. Students have the opportunity to go on the end of the year field trip.

Gardening & Landscaping

2 Semesters

This course will provide opportunities for students to learn about plants, soil and other concepts related to gardening and landscaping. Student activities will include caring for plants in a greenhouse, landscape projects on campus and growing a vegetable garden. The second semester will build on the skills from the previous semester and focus on plant propagation, greenhouse management, growing grapes and advanced gardening.

Outdoor World (partnered with Rockets and Robotics)

1 Semester

Students will learn about outdoor recreations, survival, team building and archery. This course teaches team building activities that encourage trust, responsibility, team work, leadership, and communication skills. Included in this course are basics in wilderness backpacking orienteering, rock climbing/bouldering, fly fishing and fly tying. Survival techniques in extreme conditions will be included in the class. Archery and safety on the range is the culminating activity of this class.

Rockets and Robotics (partnered with Outdoor World)

1

Semester

A course designed to introduce 8th grade students to the principles and foundations of rocketry and robotics. A beginner level course that will prepare students wanting to pursue a more in-depth study of rockets and robotics at the high school level. This course will include applications in Newton’s laws, aerodynamics,

acceleration, velocity, robot design and construction as well as rocketry fundamentals. Problem solving, creative thinking and communication skills are major components of the class

7th & 8th Grade Electives (continued)

Industrial Technology (Wood Shop)

2 Semesters

The primary emphasis of this class will be on safety, basic tool use and measurement. Projects may include whirly-gig, puzzle, pasta scoop, bird house, penny soccer board fishing lure, wooden key ring and shop improvement. Safety care, general knowledge and the use of most power equipment will be included. Students will be shown proper hand placement, technique and safety considerations for all tools used. The second semester will include more advanced projects such as shop improvement and tool maintenance, octagonal washer boxes, bird feeder, wood strip canoe, trebuchet design and building, and more advanced wood turning (wooden pen, bowl). Students will focus on one area of the shop to improve, make safer, or more functional. This class is a great introduction to construction classes at FHS.

Fundamentals of Computer Science

H/S Credit

2 Semesters

This course is intended as a first course for those students just beginning the study of computer science. Students will learn about the computing tools that are used every day. Students will foster their creativity and innovation through opportunities to design, implement and present solutions to real-world problems. Students will learn digital citizenship by researching current laws and regulations and by practicing integrity and respect. Students will gain an understanding of the principles of computer science through the study of technology operations and concepts.

Business Information Management I

H/S Credit

2 Semesters

In this course, students will implement personal and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in the workplace and in society and make a successful transition to the workforce and postsecondary education. Students apply technical skills to address business applications of emerging technologies, create word-processing documents, develop a spreadsheet, formulate a database, and make electronic presentations using appropriate software.

One Act Play/Theatre 3

2 Semesters

This course is offered to students who have auditioned for the class and have the director's approval.

8th Grade Electives

Spanish 1

H/S Credit

2 Semesters

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to understand the fundamentals of spoken and written Spanish and will be able to answer questions appropriate at this level. Students will acquire a general knowledge of various aspects of Spanish-American life and specific knowledge of Mexican culture. Students are expected to use/practice the language in and out of the classroom. Oral participation with partners, small group and whole group is also an expectation in the classroom..

Skills for Living

1 Semester

This is a course designed to offer students with the opportunity to acquire basic skills to meet the challenges of their daily lives with confidence. Students will learn basic information and practical skills related to such topics as interpersonal and family relationships, planning/preparing for the future and safe food preparation. Food lab participation will involve learning and modeling workplace skills such as decision-making, teamwork, and time management. The goal of this course is to provide students with perspective as to the importance of the upcoming years of their lives and prepare them for some of the skills necessary to tackle them.

Professional Communications (Speech)

H/S Credit

1 Semester

Professional Communications blends written, oral, and graphic communication in a career based environment. Careers in the global economy require individuals to be creative and have a strong background in computer and technology applications, a strong and solid academic foundation, and a proficiency in professional oral and written communication. Within this context, students will be expected to develop and expand the ability to write, read, edit, speak, listen, apply software applications, manipulate computer graphics, and conduct internet research.

Art III

H/S Credit

2 Semesters

This course is similar to an Advanced course and serves as a high school fine arts credit. Students who are considering committing to Art III should have completed Art I and Art II as well as be willing and able to “juggle” several different projects at a time. Students should have a good work ethic as well as an enthusiasm for learning and exploring new things. If a student wonders if Art III is for them, please visit with the Art teacher.

After a brief review, Art III students will reflect on past projects to determine class objectives and goals. A wide variety of mediums will be further explored and employed. Students will be encouraged to work with “open-ended” projects, responding to the Socratic Method while using their vision to complete. Community

Commissions are usually a part of this advanced program. Art History will review highlights of Art I and II allowing this more advanced student to explore 20th and 21st century artists and movements.

Supplies (sketchbooks, markers, pencils, etc.) and a \$10.00 lab fee are required.

Schedule Flow Chart

<i>Period</i>	<i>6th Grade</i>	<i>7th Grade</i>	<i>8th Grade</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>English or Advanced English</i>	<i>English or Advanced English</i>	<i>English or Advanced English</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>Math or Accelerated Math</i>	<i>Math or Accelerated Math</i>	<i>Math or Pre-AP Algebra 1(HS Credit)</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>Math or Accelerated Math</i>	<i>Science or Advanced Science</i>	<i>Science or Advanced Science</i>
<i>4</i>	<i>Science or Advanced Science</i>	<i>History or Advanced History</i>	<i>History or Advanced History</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>History or Advanced History</i>	<i>PE or Athletics</i>	<i>Health / Elective</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>Pre-Athletics/ Wellness</i>	<i>Elective</i>	<i>Athletics or Elective</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>SOAR</i>	<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>
<i>8</i>	<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>	<i>Elective</i>

