WHAT COURSES ARE AVAILABLE?

• All students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades are required to take four core classes (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies). Every student can select four elective classes of choice, except for 6th grade, who has a required PE elective. 6th graders can select three elective classes of choice. Please refer to the 2019-2020 Course Selection Sheet.

WHAT INSTRUCTIONAL TRACKS ARE OFFERED?

• Academic: students who are performing on grade level or needing additional interventions
• Pre-AP: students who are performing on/above grade level and have met their growth measures
• Vanguard: students who have tested and been identified as Gifted & Talented by Houston ISD into the Vanguard Magnet program.

WHAT ADVANCED CLASSES RECEIVE HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS?

Students can receive high school credit for Algebra, Biology, Geometry, Spanish, Principals of Information Technology, and Concepts of Engineering.

• All 6th grade Vanguard Math students are tested for Algebra Placement
• All 7th grade Vanguard and Pre-AP Math students are tested for Algebra Placement
• 7th grade students who have passed Algebra will automatically advance to 8th grade Geometry.
• All 7th grade Vanguard Science students are tested for Biology
• Pre-AP 7th Science students are tested for Biology at Teacher/Parent Request

*Testing takes place during the window of May 20 – May 31

WHAT ARE THE SPANISH CLASS OPTIONS?

• 6th grade students will only be placed in Spanish if they are native speakers and/or in dual language. This is an instructor-led class.

• 7th grade students can take:
  o Spanish 7th: Instructor-led class (first time taking Spanish)

  Spanish 1: Online class in Study Lab with Instructor as facilitator. Teacher/Admin selected.

• 8th grade students can be placed in either:
  o Spanish 1A/1B: Instructor-led class (prerequisite is Spanish 7th)

  Spanish 2: Online class in Study Lab with Instructor as facilitator. Prerequisite is Spanish 1.

* The Spanish Instructor and Admin will determine students for placement in the online class.
CAN AN 8TH GRADER TAKE SPANISH FOR THE FIRST TIME?

No. A student must take Spanish 7th to take Spanish 1A/1B.

WHAT HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS CAN A STUDENT RECEIVE FOR SPANISH?

- 7th Spanish and Spanish 1A/1B = 1 High School Credit
- Spanish 1 and Spanish 2 = 2 High School Credits

CAN 8TH GRADERS STILL TAKE PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

Yes. A student can select to continue with physical education in 8th grade.

CAN OTHER CLASSES SUBSTITUTE AS THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2 YEAR CREDIT?

In 7th grade, a student can use Karate, Athletics, Swim/Tennis, and Personal Fitness as their physical education credit for year two. This does not apply to 6th grade.

WHAT IS THE COURSE DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPLES OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (PIT)?

In Principles of Information Technology, students will develop computer literacy skills to adapt to emerging technologies used in the global marketplace. Students will implement personal and interpersonal skills to prepare for a rapidly evolving workplace environment. Students will enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and reasoning skills and apply them to the information technology environment. [www.txcte.org](http://www.txcte.org)

WHAT IS THE COURSE DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED ENGINEERING?

Principles of Applied Engineering provides an overview of the various fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and their interrelationships. Students will develop engineering communication skills, which include computer graphics, modeling, and presentations, by using a variety of computer hardware and software applications to complete assignments and projects. [www.txcte.org](http://www.txcte.org)

WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

- Michelle Moak, Vanguard Coordinator, [Mgordon3@houstonisd.org](mailto:Mgordon3@houstonisd.org)
- Jeffrey Bridgewater, 6th Gr Dean, [Jbridgew@houstonisd.org](mailto:Jbridgew@houstonisd.org)
- Michelle Dean, 7th Gr Dean, [Mdean@houstonisd.org](mailto:Mdean@houstonisd.org)
- Sean McClish, 8th Gr Dean, [Smcclish@houstonisd.org](mailto:Smcclish@houstonisd.org)
- Rhonda Honore, Principal, [Rhonore@houstonisd.org](mailto:Rhonore@houstonisd.org)