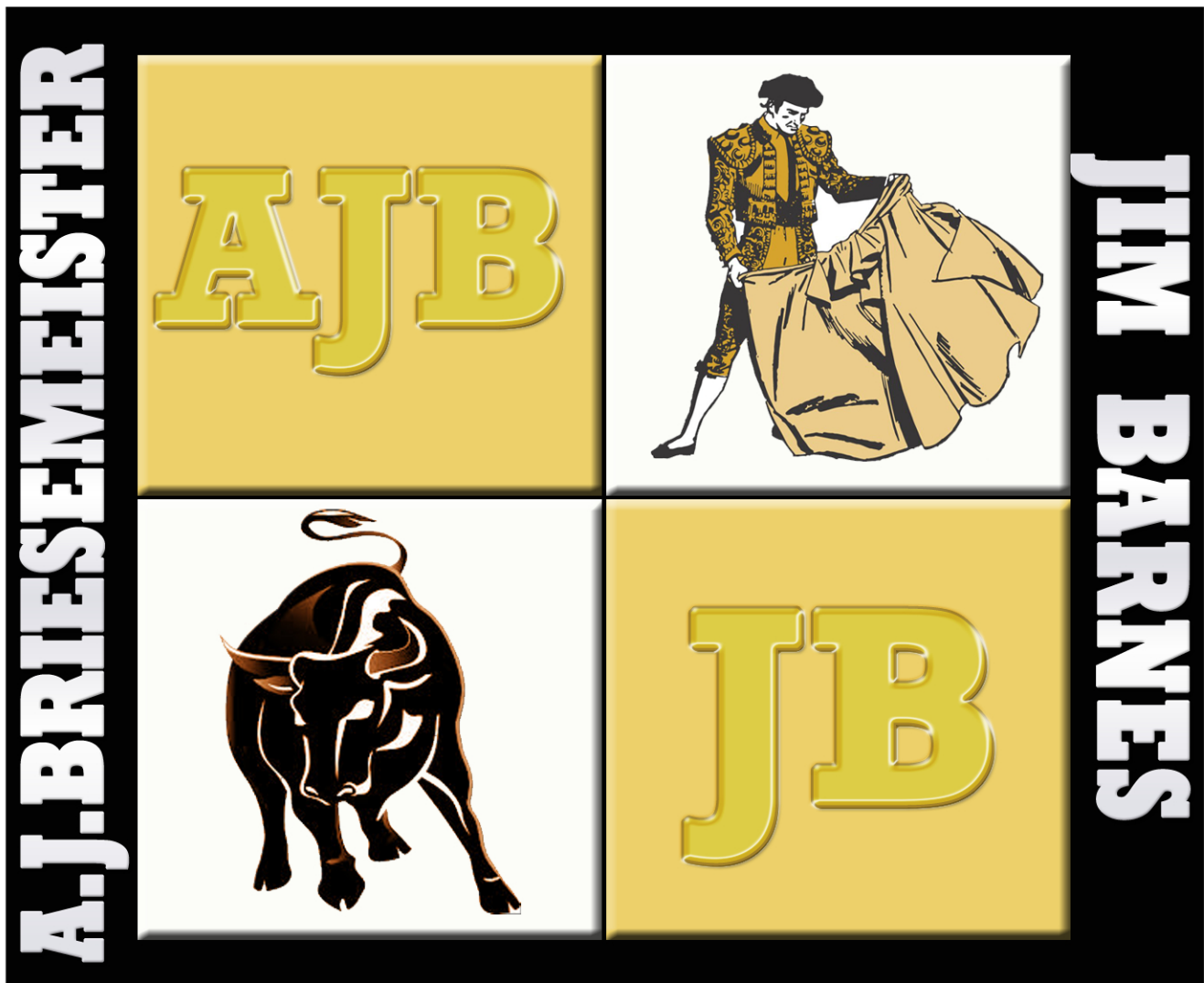


SEGUIN

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG 2016-2017



AN EDUCATION...AS GOOD AS GOLD

Message to Students and Parents

The Seguin ISD middle school course catalog was developed to support parents and students in planning and making informed choices for the student's educational career. Seguin ISD wants your middle school experience to be successful and enjoyable. Students will explore and discover their unique identities and demonstrate their academic achievement and character to succeed in middle school and beyond. During the middle school years, students continue to develop the foundation needed for success in high school. This is accomplished by engaging students in rigorous and relevant instruction, while also fostering meaningful relationships and supporting their social and emotional well-being.

Se tiene alguna pregunta sobre el contenido de este documento, favor de comunicarse con la oficina de la escuela AJ Briesemeister Middle School o Jim Barnes Middle School.

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Seguin ISD Vision Statement

Our vision is a culture of excellence within our schools and community.

Seguin ISD Mission Statement

To provide every child an excellent education in a supportive environment so they achieve their highest potential and become leaders and contributors in the global community through rigorous and relevant learning in partnership with committed staff, parents, and community.

Seguin ISD Leadership

Stetson Roane, Superintendent
Dr. Guadalupe Gorordo, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Carl Scarbrough, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Dorothy Whitman, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services
Vacant, Chief Financial Officer
Bill Lewis, Assistant Superintendent of Technology and Curriculum Support
Kirsten Legore, Executive Director of Student Services
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Sean Hoffmann, Public Information Officer

Seguin Independent School District

1221 E. Kingsbury Street
Seguin, TX 78155
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It is the policy of Seguin ISD not to discriminate on the basis of sex, handicap, race, color, or national origin in its educational programs, services and activities and in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Credit by Examination

In accordance with Board Policy EHDB (LEGAL), a student in any of grades 6–12 may be given credit for an academic subject in which he or she had some prior instruction if the student scores 70 percent or higher on a criterion-referenced test approved by the Board for the applicable course.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Program

Middle schools provide English as a Second Language (ESL)/sheltered instructional strategies to students identified as Limited English Proficient (LEP). Additionally, the middle school language arts curriculum provides ESL support for English Language Learners who are recent immigrants (0-3 years in U.S. schools) through an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) class. The purpose of the ESL program is to enable LEP students to be competent in the comprehension, speaking, reading and composition of the English language through the integrated use of second language methods.

Promotion Policy [EIE (LOCAL)]

In grades 6–8, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on an overall average of 70 on a scale of 100 based on course-level, grade-level standards (essential knowledge and skills) for all subject areas and a grade of 70 or above in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Except when a student will be assessed in reading or mathematics above his or her enrolled grade level, students in grade 8 must meet the passing standard on the applicable state-mandated assessments in reading and mathematics to be promoted to the next grade level.

Section 504 Services

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination against individuals with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. In order to fulfill its obligation under Section 504, Seguin ISD recognizes a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its students. No discrimination against any students solely due to his/her disability will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices in the school system. The school district has specific responsibilities under Section 504 which include the responsibility to identify, evaluate and, if the student is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to afford access to necessary educational accommodations. For more information regarding Section 504, contact the campus counselor.

Special Education Services

Seguin ISD provides a continuum of special education services for students with disabilities. Special education services are provided according to the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) as per the recommendation of the Annual Review and Dismissal (ARD) Committee. For more information, please see the Seguin ISD Special Education website at <http://www.seguin.k12.tx.us/default.aspx?name=specialeducation.home>

State Assessments

In spring 2012, the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) replaced the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS).

The STAAR program includes annual assessments for the following middle school subjects:

- 6th grade: Math and Reading
- 7th grade: Math, Reading and Writing
- 8th grade: Math, Reading, Science and Social Studies

Students who take Pre-AP Algebra I in 8th grade will be required to take the End-of-course (EOC) assessments for Algebra I.

Per Board Policy EIE (LOCAL), if a student fails to demonstrate proficiency on a state-mandated assessment, the student shall be provided accelerated instruction. A student in grade 8 will have two additional opportunities to take a failed Math or Reading assessment. If a student fails a second time, a grade placement committee, consisting of the principal or designee, the teacher, and the student's parent, will determine the additional special instruction the student will receive. After a third failed attempt, the student will be retained; however, the parent can appeal this decision to the committee. In order for the student to be promoted, based on standards previously established by the district, the decision of the committee must be unanimous and the student must complete additional special instruction before beginning the next grade level. Whether the student is retained or promoted, an educational plan for the student will be designed to enable the student to perform at grade level by the end of the next school year.

For more information on the STAAR state assessment program, visit the Texas Education Agency website at <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/>

Advanced Academics

Seguin ISD is committed to providing multiple opportunities for students to participate in advanced academic coursework during their middle school experience. The section below provides more information regarding available opportunities and district policies supporting advanced academics. Additionally, advanced academics provide opportunities to serve students identified as Gifted and Talented (GT).

Advanced Academic Course Student Agreement

Students who participate in advanced academic courses must complete an Advanced Academic Course Student Agreement and turn in the completed agreement signed by parent or guardian to their teacher before the end of the first week of school. Success in advanced academic courses requires the student's commitment to the expectations of the advanced level course program. Students will be expected to:

- analyze, synthesize, and manipulate knowledge and skills and think critically;
- budget time effectively and efficiently and develop successful study skills;
- commit to a daily academic action plan and attend tutoring regularly if needed;
- come to school early and/or stay late in order to attend tutoring;
- engage in electronically-assigned research and/or communications;
- increase advanced content area vocabulary.

For more information about the Advanced Level Course Agreement and to see a sample agreement, students and parents should contact Campus Administration.

Examination for Acceleration

In accordance with Board Policy EHDC (LEGAL), students in grades 6-12 may be given credit for an academic subject in which they had no prior instruction. If a student is given credit in a subject on the basis of an examination on which the student scored 80 percent or higher, the District shall enter the examination score on the student's transcript and the student is not required to take an end-of-course (EOC) assessment instrument, where applicable, under Texas Education Code 39.023(c) for the course.

Gifted and Talented (GT) Services

Seguin ISD defines gifted and talented as any child or youth in grades K-12 who performs at, or shows the potential for performing at, a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who:

- exhibits high performance capability in general intellectual ability; or
- excels in one or more specific academic fields: math, science, language arts, and/or social studies.

Students who participate in services designed for gifted students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment and that reflect individuality and creativity. High school graduates who have participated in services for gifted students will produce products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.

Seguin ISD offers services for identified GT students through Pre-AP courses from a GT trained teacher. The Pre-AP courses are designed to meet the needs of Gifted and Talented (GT) students.

Additionally, teachers may utilize resources from the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP) in their classes. This resource provides differentiated instruction to GT students through a coherent package of standards, curriculum, and assessments. For more information on the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP), visit <http://www.texaspsp.org/>.

Furthermore, advanced academic elective courses taught by GT trained teachers are offered during the school day. Out-of-school enrichment opportunities are also provided for students including Destination ImagiNation, UIL activities, and Science Fair.

High School Credit in Middle School

Seguin ISD offers courses that may count towards earning state or local high school credits. Examples of these courses are Health Education, Languages Other Than English (LOTE), and Algebra I. The grade for these courses taken prior to high school will not be averaged in the student's high school grade point average (GPA) or class rank [Board Policy EIC (LOCAL)].

Students in grades 6-8 who are also enrolled in a high school course will take the corresponding State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) End of Course (EOC), where applicable, as required for graduation.

Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) Courses

Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) courses are designed to teach students strong study habits, critical thinking skills and learning strategies to prepare them for taking Advanced Placement (AP) courses in high school. Pre-AP course offerings are available in English, Math, Science and Social Studies in grades 6-8 and are taught by teachers who are provided professional development in gifted and talented (GT) and Pre-AP strategies. The increased academic rigor of these courses is based on additional enrichment activities.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, SELECTION, AND SCHEDULING

Success in middle school and high school requires planning. This course catalog is intended to support students and parents with questions about planning for high school graduation and to help select courses that are required and those that are electives.

Middle School Course Requirements

Middle school courses offered in Seguin ISD meet and exceed the requirements set forth by the Texas Education Agency. A middle school student's program of study is as follows for each grade:

Required 6 th Grade Courses	Required 7 th Grade Courses	Required 8 th Grade Courses
Language Arts and Reading Mathematics Science Social Studies PE *Electives	Language Arts and Reading Mathematics Science Social Studies PE *Electives	Language Arts and Reading Mathematics Science Social Studies Health (Semester) Tech Apps: CCR (Semester) *Electives

College and Career Readiness Instruction Requirement

In accordance with the Texas Education Code §28.016, beginning in grade 6 information will be shared with students about college and career readiness, to include the following: high school personal graduation plans (PGPs), graduation requirements under the Distinguished Level of Achievement, endorsements, college readiness standards, and potential career choices and the education needed to enter those careers. In grade 8, all students are required to take the semester Technology Applications: College and Career Readiness (CCR) course (see page 22 for Course Description).

Fine Arts Requirement

*In accordance with House Bill 3, all middle school students must complete one fine arts course during grades 6, 7, or 8. Elective course offerings are dependent on staff and facilities availability at each middle school campus.

Physical Education Requirement

In accordance with the Texas Education Code §28.002(l), all students in Kindergarten-Grade 8 must participate in at least 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous daily physical activity. A student in grade 6, 7, or 8 must participate daily for at least four semesters during those grades.

Health Education Requirement

19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §74.3(a) strengthened TEKS-based health education as a requirement for students in grades 6-8. School districts must provide health education instruction in the middle school as a part of a school district's required curriculum. The focus of Seguin ISD's health education at the middle school level is to educate students about health concepts through a comprehensive focus. A semester-long Health Education course is available in 8th grade and students can earn 0.5 state high school credit for successful completion of the course. Topics covered in the Health Education course include: physical/social/mental health, environmental health, consumer health, disease prevention, human sexuality, parenting and paternity awareness, nutrition, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, healthy lifestyles, interpersonal skills, goal setting, decision-making, CPR, and first aid.

Course Selection Process

Step 1: Review Course Catalog and Course Offerings

Students will have the opportunity to review the course guide with special attention given to the graduation requirements. A student should select courses that will help them for their future academic and career goals. Review selections carefully to see if the prerequisites for courses of interest are met.

Step 2: Orientation of Courses

There will be an opportunity to become familiar with graduation plans, programs of study and all course offerings through a series of classroom and parent presentations. Students will be given a 2016-2017 course selection sheet for parents and students to use when planning their courses for the following year.

Step 3: Parent/Guardian Approval

When the 2016-2017 course selection sheet reaches home, parents/guardians and students should take time to discuss the courses and how they fit into the student's plans. Parent/guardians must sign the bottom of the 2016-2017 course selection sheet and the student must return it to their school counselor.

Scheduling Process

This course catalog includes course descriptions for all middle school courses offered in Seguin ISD. Seguin ISD requires that all students enroll in the required core area courses, which include English Language Arts and Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Students have the option of choosing electives based on interest during the pre-registration process. Elective choices are scheduled based on teacher and sections available for the current school year. If there is insufficient enrollment for a course, the course may not be offered and one of the three alternates listed on the student's 2016-2017 course selection sheet will be used. Additionally, electives may be replaced with accelerated instruction courses in Reading and Math if a student demonstrates a need for targeted intervention.

Students must carefully plan their course selections. Students will receive specific instructions and assistance from school counselors during the pre-registration process. However, it is important that students and parents give careful consideration to selecting appropriate courses. **Student schedule changes must be submitted in writing by parent or guardian and approved by campus administration.**

SEGUIN ISD MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The following descriptions briefly describe the courses that are offered in Seguin ISD. The courses are identified by two codes: the Seguin ISD course number, usually four digits, and the TEA PEIMS code, usually eight digits.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING

English Language Arts and Reading

Grade 6

SISD Course # 1161

PEIMS # 03200510

This course includes all TEKS for English Language Arts and Reading, which consist of reading, writing, research, listening, and speaking skills. This course provides instruction and practice in reading and writing a variety of genres to enhance students' language skills. Comprehension, writing, and research skills are developed through a variety of activities. Students learn grammar, usage, vocabulary, and other English language skills within the context of reading and writing.

Pre-AP English Language Arts and Reading

Grade 6

SISD Course # 1162

PEIMS # 03200510

This course includes all TEKS for English Language Arts and Reading, which consist of reading, writing, research, listening, and speaking skills. This course provides instruction and practice in reading and writing a variety of genres to enhance students' language skills. Comprehension, writing, and research skills are developed through a variety of activities. Students learn grammar, usage, vocabulary, and other English language skills within the context of reading and writing.

STAAR Accelerated Reading and Writing

Grade 6

SISD Course # 1552

PEIMS # 03273410

This course is designed to help students continue to build a foundation in reading and writing skills. Students will read both independent and instructional-level material for varied purposes such as collecting information, learning about and appreciating the writer's craft, and discovering models for their own writing. Targeted instruction and intervention will be based on student needs.

RECOMMENDED: *Students who did not meet passing standards on the Grade 4 STAAR Writing and/or Grade 5 STAAR Reading State Assessments.*

English Language Arts and Reading

Grade 7

SISD Course # 1172

PEIMS # 03200520

This course facilitates opportunities for students to explore multiple genres through the analysis of literary and informational texts. Students' language skills are enhanced through the study of reading, writing, research, and oral and written conventions. Technology is used to enhance the writing process to produce publications for specific audiences.

Pre-AP English Language Arts and Reading

Grade 7

SISD Course # 1173

PEIMS # 03200520

This course facilitates opportunities for students to explore multiple genres through the analysis of literary and informational texts. Students' language skills are enhanced through the study of reading, writing, research, and oral and written conventions. Technology is used to enhance the writing process to produce publications for specific audiences.

STAAR Accelerated Reading and Writing PEIMS # 03273420	Grade 7	SISD Course # 1178
This course is designed to help students continue to build a foundation in reading and writing skills. Students will read both independent and instructional-level material for varied purposes such as collecting information, learning about and appreciating the writer's craft, and discovering models for their own writing. Targeted instruction and intervention will be based on student needs. <i>RECOMMENDED: Students who did not meet passing standards on the Grade 4 STAAR Writing and/or Grade 6 STAAR Reading State Assessments.</i>		
English Language Arts and Reading PEIMS # 03200530	Grade 8	SISD Course # 1182
This course facilitates opportunities for students to explore multiple genres through the analysis of literary and informational texts. The course enhances students' language skills by emphasizing critical thinking and the logical development of ideas as students build skills in the areas of reading, writing, research, and oral and written conventions.		
Pre-AP English Language Arts and Reading PEIMS #03200530	Grade 8	SISD Course # 1183
This course facilitates opportunities for students to explore multiple genres through the analysis of literary and informational texts. The course enhances students' language skills by emphasizing critical thinking and the logical development of ideas as students build skills in the areas of reading, writing, research, and oral and written conventions.		
STAAR Accelerated Reading and Writing PEIMS # 03273430	Grade 8	SISD Course # 1185
This course is designed to help students continue to build a foundation in reading and writing skills. Students are provided time for reading both independent and instructional-level material for varied purposes such as collecting information, learning about and appreciating the writer's craft, and discovering models for their own writing. Targeted instruction and intervention will be based on student needs. <i>RECOMMENDED: Students who did not meet passing standards on the Grade 7 STAAR Reading and/or Writing State Assessments.</i>		
Reading Foundations PEIMS # 8200XXX, 82910XXX, 8300XXX	Grades 6-8	SISD Course #1666, 1710, 1885
In this course, students will complete lessons that include alphabet activities, review of spelling, reading practice, handwriting practice, listening and verbal expression (including phonological awareness), reading comprehension, writing activities and study skills. <i>COURSE NOTE: Students are placed in this course by the 504 or ARD Committee, or Counselor Approval</i>		
English as a Second Language (ESL) PEIMS #03210530 – 6th grade PEIMS #03200400 – 7th grade PEIMS #03200500 – 8th grade	Grade 6, 7, 8	SISD Course # 1660 1197 1198
ELL students are at different stages of language acquisition. Language proficiency levels are not grade specific. This course develops an understanding of English. Students engage in numerous language and cultural activities that build on their prior knowledge and skills to develop and strengthen their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. <i>COURSE NOTE: Students are placed in the appropriate ESL course by the LPAC Committee based on the student's level of English proficiency.</i>		

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics **Grade 6** **SISD Course # 2162**
PEIMS #02640060

The primary focal points at 6th grade are using all operations with integers, fractions and decimals to solve problems and understanding and applying ratios and rates to represent proportional relationships.

Pre-AP Mathematics **Grade 6** **SISD Course # 2163**
PEIMS #02640060

All 6th grade TEKS are taught in addition to selected 7th grade TEKS as appropriate for extensions and identified in the Year-at-a-Glance (YAG). Students enrolled in this course will take the 6th grade Math STAAR.

STAAR Accelerated Mathematics **Grade 6** **SISD Course # 2165**
PEIMS #82100103

Acceleration and an in-depth study of mathematical concepts based on student's previous state assessment performance. A prescriptive TEKS-based curriculum addresses difficult concepts while integrating targeted instructional strategies that build a strong foundation in mathematical thinking and reasoning.

RECOMMENDED: *Students who did not meet passing standards on the 5th grade STAAR Math State Assessment*

Mathematics **Grade 7** **SISD Course # 3172**
PEIMS #03103000

The primary focal points at 7th grade are number and operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, and relationships; and measurement and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of rational numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations.

Pre-AP Mathematics **Grade 7** **SISD Course # 2170**
PEIMS #03103000

All 7th grade TEKS are taught in addition to selected 8th grade TEKS as appropriate for extensions and identified in the Year-at-a-Glance (YAG). Students enrolled in this course will take the 7th grade math STAAR.

STAAR Accelerated Mathematics **Grade 7** **SISD Course # 3177**
PEIMS #82920001

Acceleration and an in-depth study of mathematical concepts based on student's previous state assessment performance. A prescriptive TEKS-based curriculum addresses difficult concepts while integrating targeted instructional strategies that build a strong foundation in mathematical thinking and reasoning.

RECOMMENDED: *Students who did not meet passing standards on the 6th grade STAAR Math State Assessment*

Mathematics **Grade 8** **SISD Course # 3182**
PEIMS #03103100

The primary focal points at 8th grade are proportionality; expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; and measurement and data.

STAAR Accelerated Mathematics **Grade 8** **SISD Course # 3181**
PEIMS #83100001

Acceleration and an in-depth study of mathematical concepts based on student's previous state assessment performance. A prescriptive TEKS-based curriculum addresses difficult concepts while integrating targeted instructional strategies that build a strong foundation in mathematical thinking and reasoning.

RECOMMENDED: *Students who did not meet passing standards on the 7th grade STAAR Math State Assessment*

Pre-AP Algebra I
PEIMS #03100500

Grade 8

SISD Course # 3184

High School Credit: 1.0

This course addresses the Algebra I TEKS and prerequisite topics for high school mathematics courses. One high school credit is earned upon successful completion of this course.

NOTE: The grade for this course will not be averaged in the student's high school grade point average (GPA) or class rank (see page 9).

SCIENCE

Science

Grade 6

SISD Course # 3166

PEIMS #03060600

The primary focus is on physical science through the use of exploratory and hands-on activities that follow the 5E Model of instruction. The strands include Scientific Investigation and Reasoning, Matter and Energy, Force, Motion, and Energy, Earth and Space, and Organisms and Environments. Students conduct laboratory and field investigations at least 40 percent of the time.

Pre-AP Science

Grade 6

SISD Course # 3167

PEIMS #03060600

The primary focus is on physical science through the use of exploratory and hands-on activities that follow the 5E Model of instruction. The strands include Scientific Investigation and Reasoning, Matter and Energy, Force, Motion, and Energy, Earth and Space, and Organisms and Environments. Students conduct laboratory and field investigations at least 40 percent of the time.

Science

Grade 7

SISD Course # 4172

PEIMS #03060700

The primary focus is on organisms and the environment through the use of exploratory and hands-on activities that follow the 5E Model of instruction. The strands include Scientific Investigation and Reasoning, Matter and Energy, Force, Motion, and Energy, Earth and Space, and Organisms and Environments. Students conduct laboratory and field investigations at least 40 percent of the time.

Pre-AP Science

Grade 7

SISD Course # 4173

PEIMS #03060700

The primary focus is on organisms and the environment through the use of exploratory and hands-on activities that follow the 5E Model of instruction. The strands include Scientific Investigation and Reasoning, Matter and Energy, Force, Motion, and Energy, Earth and Space, and Organisms and Environments. Students conduct laboratory and field investigations at least 40 percent of the time.

Science

Grade 8

SISD Course # 4182

PEIMS #03060800

The primary focus is on earth and space science through the use of exploratory and hands-on activities that follow the 5E Model of instruction. The strands include Scientific Investigation and Reasoning, Matter and Energy, Force, Motion, and Energy, Earth and Space, and Organisms and Environments. Students conduct laboratory and field investigations at least 40 percent of the time.

Pre-AP Science

Grade 8

SISD Course # 4183

PEIMS #03060800

The primary focus is on earth and space science through the use of exploratory and hands-on activities that follow the 5E Model of instruction. The strands include Scientific Investigation and Reasoning, Matter and Energy, Force, Motion, and Energy, Earth and Space, and Organisms and Environments. Students conduct laboratory and field investigations at least 40 percent of the time.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies

Grade 6

SISD Course # 4160

PEIMS # 02660060

This course includes the study of people and places of the contemporary world using a regional thematic approach. Primary and secondary source materials, reading and writing skills, technology, and critical thinking will be used to acquire and apply information.

Pre-AP Social Studies

Grade 6

SISD Course # 4163

PEIMS # 02660060

This course includes the study of people and places of the contemporary world using a regional thematic approach. Primary and secondary source materials, reading and writing skills, technology, and critical thinking will be used to acquire and apply information.

Social Studies

Grade 7

SISD Course # 5172

PEIMS # 03343000

This course includes the study of Texas history from Native Americans to the present. Primary and secondary source materials, reading and writing skills, technology, and critical thinking will be used to acquire and apply information.

Pre-AP Social Studies

Grade 7

SISD Course # 5173

PEIMS #03343000

This course includes the study of Texas history from Native Americans to the present. Primary and secondary source materials, reading and writing skills, technology, and critical thinking will be used to acquire and apply information.

Social Studies

Grade 8

SISD Course # 5182

PEIMS #03343100

This course includes the study of the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will gain a deep conceptual understanding of how our nation was founded, the influence of our founding fathers and the founding documents. Primary and secondary source materials, reading and writing skills, technology, and critical thinking will be used to acquire and apply information.

Pre-AP Social Studies

Grade 8

SISD Course # 5183

PEIMS #03343100

This course includes the study of the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will gain a deep conceptual understanding of how our nation was founded, the influence of our founding fathers and the founding documents. Primary and secondary source materials, reading and writing skills, technology, and critical thinking will be used to acquire and apply information.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)

Students will develop fitness knowledge and motor skills basic to efficient movement that promote healthy lifestyle choices and improve the quality of students' lives. Each student must complete a yearly fitness assessment identified as FITNESSGRAM®. All information regarding this assessment is available at: www.fitnessgram.net.

Physical Education (PE)	Grades 6-8	SISD Course #
PEIMS #02530003 – 6th grade		7006
PEIMS #03823000 – 7th grade		6171
PEIMS #03823000 – 8th grade		6181

Athletics

These UIL approved courses are for the serious student wishing to participate in a competitive environment. Technical aspects of the team sport will be taught along with philosophy, strategy, and sportsmanship. Students enrolled will be held to a high standard of academic performance as well as behavioral expectations. Enrollment in the class is reserved for students participating in at least two team sports or a combination of a Fall/Spring Team and Individual Sport. Due to the athlete/coach ratio, safety and security are highly considered. Thus, those wishing to ONLY participate in one sport will not be considered for entrance. Approval by the Middle School Coordinator or respective Head Coach is a must.

Boys Athletics PEIMS #03823000	Grade 7-8	SISD Course #6571, 6581
Girls Athletics PEIMS #03823000	Grade 7-8	SISD Course #6572, 6582

FINE ARTS

General Music 6 PEIMS #02890000	Grade 6	SISD Course # 8007
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This is a one-semester course for students to develop basic skills in music reading, writing, singing, arranging, playing and listening. This is a non-performance based class, but students will sing and play instruments that may include: xylophones, various drums, keyboards, tambourines, recorders and kazoos. Participation in class performance is required.

Note: This is a 1-semester course

ART

Art Middle School 1 PEIMS #03154110	Grade 6	SISD Course # 7104
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This course is an introduction to basic art vocabulary essential for the well-rounded child. Students will explore various styles of drawing, sculpture and digital media. Students are exposed to art history and cross-curricular links to core disciplines. This course teaches how to draw and how to render spatial relationships, light, texture and forms. Topics covered in class include rendering objects, light sources, drawing media, illusion of space, introduction to figure drawing, expressive qualities, painting techniques, and more. Subject matter may vary from still life, landscape, human figure drawing, and fantasy to abstract. A wide variety of drawing and painting media will be practiced.

Note: This is a 1-semester course

Art Middle School 1
PEIMS #03154110

Grade 7-8

SISD Course # 7105

This course is an introduction to basic art vocabulary essential for the well-rounded child. Students will explore various styles of drawing, sculpture and digital media. Students are exposed to art history and cross-curricular links to core disciplines. This course teaches how to draw and how to render spatial relationships, light, texture and forms. Topics covered in class include rendering objects, light sources, drawing media, illusion of space, introduction to figure drawing, expressive qualities, painting techniques, and more. Subject matter may vary from still life, landscape, human figure drawing, and fantasy to abstract. A wide variety of drawing and painting media will be practiced.

Art Middle School 2-3
PEIMS #03154210, #03154310

Grade 7-8

SISD Course # 7174, 7175

Recommended Prerequisite: Art Middle School 1

This course is a continued directed examination of personal approaches to art-making with an emphasis on making visual and artistic decisions and developing an appropriate attitude toward visual expression. Art II & III may participate in a variety of school projects such as SISD Technology Fair, Guadalupe County Annual Student Show, and district-sponsored contests.

BAND

Band Middle School 1 – Beginner
PEIMS #03154130

Grade 6

SISD Course # 8105

Beginning band focuses on developing instrument performance fundamentals and music literacy to prepare students for entrance into a Symphonic Band in 7th grade. Students make an instrument selection based on an interview/placement process conducted by the band director, which happens in the spring semester of the student's 5th grade school year. The class concentrates on the development of note-reading skills, aural skills, rhythmic patterns, intonation, and tone production. Students are expected to provide their own instrument for use in class and at home. Student Instrument rental or instrument purchase is therefore required. Rehearsals outside the school day are required but are limited to a few times each semester. Students are also responsible for specific supplies throughout the year as outlined for each instrument.

Band Middle School 2-3
PEIMS #03154230, #03154330

Grade 7-8

SISD Course # 8286, 8287

Prerequisite: Band 1

Symphonic Bands are performing bands at middle school. The classes consist of 7th and 8th graders. Students are placed in one of the Symphonic Bands through audition and director recommendation. Activities include concerts, solos and ensembles, region band, and concert contests. Sectionals outside the school day are required but are limited to once a week. There is a band fee of \$30.00 for all students and students using school instruments have an additional \$30.00 instrument rental fee per semester.

Instrumental Ensemble Middle School 1
Mariachi Beginner Guitar
PEIMS #03154133

Grade 6

SISD Course # 7365

This course is designed for those interested in learning to play the guitar, utilizing the folk music of Mexico. Students will study mariachi guitar performance technique through both instrumental and vocal performance. The class concentrates on the development of note-reading skills, aural skills, rhythmic patterns, intonation, and tone production. Students are expected to provide their own instrument for practice at home. Student Instrument rental or instrument purchase is therefore required. This group will be required to participate in concerts and other activities.

Instrumental Ensemble Middle School 1**Grade 6****SISD Course # 7366****Mariachi Beginner Violin****PEIMS #03154133**

This course is designed for those interested in learning to play the violin, utilizing the folk music of Mexico. Students will study mariachi violin performance technique through both instrumental and vocal performance. The class concentrates on the development of note-reading skills, aural skills, rhythmic patterns, intonation, and tone production. Students are expected to provide their own instrument for practice at home. Student Instrument rental or instrument purchase is therefore required. This group will be required to participate in concerts and other activities.

Instrumental Ensemble Middle School 2-3**Grade 7-8****SISD Course # 7367, 7368****Mariachi Ensemble****PEIMS #031544233, #031544333*****Prerequisite:*** Inst. Ensemble 1 (Mariachi)

This course is designed for those interested in learning and playing the folk music of Mexico. Students will study mariachi music through instrumental and vocal performance in an ensemble setting. Student instrumentalists must provide their own instrument (guitar or violin) for developing instrumental performance skills. Students who have previous mariachi experience are encouraged to enroll in this class. This group will be required to participate in concerts and other activities.

CHOIR

Choir Mixed MS 1**Grade 6****SISD Course # 8008****PEIMS #03154131**

This is a mixed choir for 6th grade singers who wish to work on their vocal and sight-reading skills. The class concentrates on the development of note-reading skills, aural skills, rhythmic patterns, intonation, and vocal tone production. This group will be required to participate in concerts and at school and community performances. Students who enroll in this class are expected to have a strong desire to actively participate and sing.

Choir Mixed MS 2-3**Grade 7-8****SISD Course # 7370, 7380****PEIMS #03154231, 03154331*****Recommended Prerequisite:*** Choir MS 1

This is a mixed choir for 7th and 8th grade singers who wish to work on their vocal and sight-reading skills. The class concentrates on the development of note-reading skills, aural skills, rhythmic patterns, intonation, and vocal tone production. This group will be required to participate in concerts and at school and community performances. Students who enroll in this class are expected to have a strong desire to actively participate and sing. This group will be required to participate in concerts and UIL activities.

THEATRE ARTS

Theatre Arts MS 1**Grade 6****SISD Course # 6002****PEIMS #03154140**

This elective course is an introduction to theatre concepts that will focus on understanding of theatre fundamentals, using creative expression in performances, relating to theatre history, and evaluating performances. Specific topics include characterization, pantomime, reader's theatre, theatre vocabulary and parts of the stage, and creating characters for dramatizations. The main focus of this course will be group performances including writing, memorizing, and performing a group scene using visual elements.

Note: This is a 1-semester course

Recommended Prerequisite: Theatre Arts MS 1

This elective course will refine theatre concepts, such as, using creative expression in performances, and evaluating performances. Specific topics include theatre history, careers in theatre, characterization, poetry reading, defining characters and portraying them in scenes, and improvisation. Many of the performances will be duets. The main focuses of this course will be a scripted group scene and a scripted duet scene. Both will be memorized and performed using visual elements.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

Spanish 1B
PEIMS #03440100

Grade 8

SISD Course # 2181B

This course introduces the basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students develop these communication skills by using knowledge of the language, including grammar, and culture, communication and learning strategies, technology, and content from other subject areas to socialize, to acquire and provide information, to express feelings and opinions, and to get others to adopt a course of action.

COURSE NOTE: *Students who successfully completed Spanish 1A in the 2015-2016 school year must register for this course to obtain the high school credit for Spanish. Level I of a language is a two-year program in middle school equivalent to the high school's first year course. Students must complete part A in 7th grade and part B in 8th grade to earn 1.0 high school credit, which will satisfy the first year of Languages other than English (LOTE) requirement on the Seguin ISD Foundation High School Program.*

Spanish 1
PEIMS #03440100

Grade 8

SISD Course # 2182

High School Credit: 1.0

This course introduces the basic Spanish language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students develop these communication skills by using knowledge of the language, including grammar, and culture, communication and learning strategies, technology, and content from other subject areas to socialize, to acquire and provide information, to express feelings and opinions, and to get others to adopt a course of action.

COURSE NOTE: *This is an accelerated course that covers the curriculum at the same pacing as the high school course. Students must complete the full year course to earn 1.0 high school credit, which will satisfy the first year of Languages other than English (LOTE) requirement on the Seguin ISD Foundation High School Program. The grade for this course will not be averaged in the student's high school grade point average (GPA) or class rank (see page 9).*

Spanish 1 for Spanish Speakers
PEIMS #03440110

Grade 8

SISD Course # 2183

High School Credit: 1.0

This course introduces the Spanish language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students develop these communication skills by using knowledge of the language, including grammar, and culture, communication and learning strategies, technology, and content from other subject areas to socialize, to acquire and provide information, to express feelings and opinions, and to get others to adopt a course of action.

COURSE NOTE: *This is an accelerated course that covers the curriculum at the same pacing as the high school course. Students must complete the full year course to earn 1.0 high school credit, which will satisfy the first year of Languages other than English (LOTE) requirement on the Seguin ISD Foundation High School Program. The grade for this course will not be averaged in the student's high school grade point average (GPA) or class rank (see page 9). In the Spring semester, students will take the Spanish 2 Credit by examination and may earn high school Spanish 2 credit with a score of 80 or above.*

ELECTIVES AND OTHER COURSES

AVID

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)

Grades 7-8

SISD Course # 7000, 8000

PEIMS #83800002, #83800001

AVID is a series of academic, regularly scheduled elective classes that uses writing as a tool for learning, inquiry, and collaboration. The three main components of the AVID program are academic instruction (AVID curriculum), tutorial support, and motivational activities. The mission of the AVID program is to ensure that all students capable of completing a college preparatory path, have a chance to succeed and to increase enrollment of these students in four-year colleges and universities.

TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS

Technology Applications: Digital Design

Grade 6-8

SISD Course # 5160, 8171, 8173

PEIMS #02670060, #03580100, #03580120

Students in this course will be introduced to a wide range of digital media processes and applications. They work on a variety of software and are challenged to advance their skills and produce high quality products for school projects.

COURSE NOTE: *This is a 1-semester course that may be repeated.*

Technology Applications: Robotics

Grades 7-8

SISD Course # 8176, 8177

PEIMS #03580100, #03580120

Students in this course will be introduced to robotics through the study of technology applications. Students make informed decisions by understanding current and emerging technologies, including technology systems, appropriate digital tools, and personal learning networks. They will work on building solutions to challenge-based problems for robotics competitions.

COURSE NOTE: *This is a 1-semester course that may be repeated.*

**Technology Applications:
College and Career Readiness (CCR)**

Grades 8

SISD Course # 8178

PEIMS #03580120

This course is designed to develop students' career and college readiness skills through the study of technology applications. Students make informed decisions by understanding current and emerging technologies, including technology systems, appropriate digital tools, and personal learning networks. Information will be shared about college and career readiness, to include potential career choices and the education needed to enter those careers. Additionally, the four keys to college and career readiness are integrated into the course: key cognitive strategies, key content knowledge, key transition knowledge and skills, key learning skills and techniques.

COURSE NOTE: *This is a 1-semester course that is required for all 8th grade students*

JOURNALISM

Broadcast Journalism
PEIMS #84500005

Grade 7-8

SISD Course # 1103

This course teaches students about broadcast preparation and delivery. Students will use various forms of media to communicate school, community and world events to the student body.

COURSE NOTE: *This is a 1-semester course.*

Journalism: Yearbook
PEIMS #83800101

Grade 8

SISD Course # 1485

This course teaches students yearbook design and composition in order to compose the school yearbook. Students are instructed in digital photography skills, interviewing, and writing skills.

HORTICULTURE

Horticulture
PEIMS #84900100

Grade 7-8

SISD Course # 7671

This course is designed to develop an understanding of common horticultural management practices as they relate to food and ornamental plant production.

COURSE NOTE: *This is a 1-semester course and is offered at AJ Briesemeister Middle School.*

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Education
PEIMS #03810100
High School Credit: 0.5

Grade 8

SISD Course # 6584

This course is a comprehensive study of the concepts and skills that foster individual personal health and safety, including the study of the human body and the functions of the systems, drug abuse, first aid, CPR, diseases, pollution and its effects, nutrition, exercise, health agencies and sex education.

COURSE NOTE: *This is a 1-semester course that is required for all 8th grade students. The grade for this course will not be averaged in the student's high school grade point average (GPA) or class rank (see page 9).*

STUDENT AIDE

Student Aide
PEIMS #85000999

Grade 8

SISD Course # 1000

Students have the opportunity to assist a member of the staff in one of the following capacities: office aide, counselor aide, and library aide.

Note: *This is a 1-semester course*

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PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL

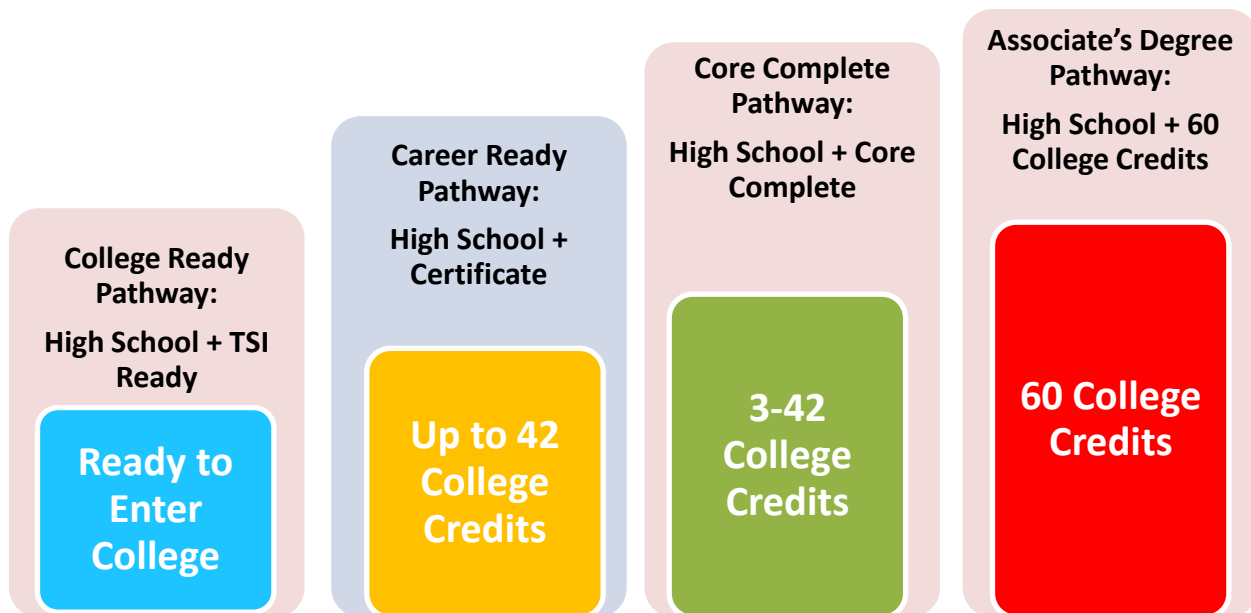
This section contains information about Seguin Early College High School and state requirements for high school graduation. As parents and students select courses for grades 6-8, they can use this information to prepare for their high school plan of study. In accordance with the Texas Education Code §28.016, beginning in grade 6 information will be shared with students about college and career readiness, to include the following: high school personal graduation plans (PGPs), graduation requirements under the Distinguished Level of Achievement, endorsements, college readiness standards, and potential career choices and the education needed to enter those careers. In grade 8, all students are required to take the semester Technology Applications: College and Career Readiness (CCR) course (see page 22 for Course Description).

All students are required to complete a high school personal graduation plan (PGP) before the end of their 9th grade year which will include a four-year plan of study, based on their selected endorsement. Preparations for completing this PGP will begin during the student's 8th grade year.

Seguin ISD Early College High School (ECHS)

Seguin's ECHS uses a comprehensive "College-for-All" model, developed by Seguin ISD and St. Philip's College designed to prepare all students to be college and career ready by providing articulated degree pathways that lead to postsecondary credentials. Each pathway works within the State of Texas graduation requirements and CTE Endorsements. Eighth grade students choose from the four pathways described in the table below, along with an endorsement as part of their high school graduation plan (see page 26).

The Four Pathways* to Success



*Students can transition from one pathway to another based on their desired goals, with the exception of the Associate Degree pathway. Students interested in this pathway must begin this plan freshman year. ***Associate degree students will also be required to participate in the Seguin ECHS Summer Bridge Program.***

The chart below provides more information about the Early College High School pathways.

I want my high school experience to be:	College & Career Pathways	Pathway Descriptions
I am not certain of my future plans, but I would like to have all options open to me after I graduate high school.	High School + TSI Ready = College Ready	Earn your high school diploma and be college ready.
I am not sure if college is in my future, but I would like to earn a certification that I can use to find a good job after high school.	High School + Level 1 Certificate or up to 42 college credits = Career Ready	Earn your high school diploma and either a Level 1 Certificate in a technical career OR earn up to 42 Core college credits that can be transferred to any 2-year college or 4-year public university in Texas.
I would like to participate in extracurricular activities such as athletics, band, FFA and possibly others. However, I would like to earn college credit hours that I can use toward an associate degree or bachelor's degree after high school.	High School + 3 – 42 College Credits = Core Complete	Earn your high school diploma and earn 3-42 Core college credits that can be transferred to any 2 year college or 4-year public university in Texas.
I do not plan to participate in extracurricular activities that involves a lot of after school hours but might join a club/organization. I would like to focus on academics and complete an associate degree by the time I graduate.	High School + 60 College Credits = Associate Degree	Earn your high school diploma and an Associate of Arts, Science, or Applied Science. This 2-year degree can be transferred to any 4-year public university in Texas. <i>Must begin this pathway freshman year.</i>

Benefits & Value:

- The cost of tuition for one traditional 3-hour course at St. Philip's College is \$1231 (Out of Alamo Colleges District Tuition), but all college credit courses at Seguin Early College High School will be FREE to the students and their families.
- Students who successfully complete college courses through the Seguin Early College High School can potentially save thousands of dollars!
- College textbooks can cost from \$100 - \$400 per semester, but students enrolled in college credit courses at Seguin Early College High School will have their textbooks paid for by SISD.
- According to the US Census Bureau, Texans with a college degree can earn nearly twice as much (at least \$50,441) as those with only a high school diploma (\$26,008).
- ALL Seguin ECHS students will have access to a variety of academic support programs to maximize attainment of their educational goals.
- Seguin ECHS college credit courses will expose students to rigorous college-level content.

Parent and student presentations are held at each middle school during the spring semester of the student's 8th grade year. All eighth graders also have the opportunity to visit Seguin ISD's college partner, St. Philip's College, in San Antonio.

For more information, see the school counselor or visit the Seguin Early College High School [website](#).

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)

Both middle schools are AVID sites. AVID is a series of academic, regularly scheduled elective classes available for grade 7 and 8 students. Beginning in grade 9, all Associate Degree Pathway students are enrolled in AVID classes at Seguin Early College High School.

AVID courses use writing as a tool for learning, inquiry, and collaboration. The three main components of the AVID program are academic instruction (AVID curriculum), tutorial support, and motivational activities.

The mission of the AVID program is to ensure that all students, especially those in the middle who are capable of completing a college-preparatory path, have a chance to succeed and to increase enrollment of these students in four-year colleges and universities.

Students will receive two hours of instruction per week in college entry-level skills, two hours per week in tutor-led study groups, and one hour per week in motivational activities and academic survival skills. AVID is not designed as a study hall or for students who have a discipline problem. This course supplements the student's progress through a college prep curriculum.

Advancement Via Individual Determination

AVID is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the achievement gap by preparing all students for college and other postsecondary opportunities.

It's not just another program, AVID is a system that:

- Holds students accountable to the highest standards
- Provides academic and social support
- Will make students rise to the challenge

AVID also:

- Teaches skills and behaviors for academic success
- Provides intensive support with tutorials and strong student/teacher relationships
- Creates a positive peer group for students
- Develops a sense of hope for personal achievement gained through hard work and determination

AVID trains educators to use proven practices in order to prepare students for success in high school, college, and a career, especially students traditionally under-represented in higher education.



Seguin ISD Graduation Requirements

Foundation High School Program

A new, more flexible graduation program that allows students to pursue their interests is currently in place. The program includes four parts:

- A 22-credit foundation program which is the core of the new Texas high school diploma
- Five endorsement options that allow students to focus on a related series of courses
- A higher performance category called Distinguished Level of Achievement, which is Seguin ISD's default plan
- Performance Acknowledgements that note outstanding achievement

Foundation + Endorsement <i>(Credit requirements specific to at least one endorsement)</i>	Distinguished Level of Achievement <i>(Credit requirements specific to at least one endorsement)</i>
4 credits English –ELA I, II, III, one credit in any authorized advanced English course	4 credits English –ELA I, II, III, one credit in any authorized advanced English course
4 credits Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, two credits in any authorized advanced math course	4 credits Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, one credit in any authorized advanced math course
4 credits Science –Biology; one credit in IPC, Chemistry or Physics; two credits in any advanced science courses	4 credits Science –Biology; one credit in IPC, Chemistry or Physics; two credits in any advanced science courses
3 credits Social Studies – World Geography or World History, US History, Government, Economics <i>*Seguin ISD recommends 4 credits of Social Studies</i>	3 credits Social Studies – World Geography or World History, US History, Government, Economics <i>*Seguin ISD recommends 4 credits of Social Studies</i>
2 credits Languages Other Than English (LOTE)	2 credits Languages Other Than English (LOTE)
1 credit Physical Education	1 credit Physical Education
1 credit Fine Arts	1 credit Fine Arts
7 credits in electives	7 credits in electives
Total: 26 credits	Total: 26 credits

Note: Students may move to the [Foundation Graduation Plan](#) only after completing their sophomore year AND with parent or guardian written permission.

Distinguished Achievement = Foundation + Endorsement + Algebra II

A student must earn *Distinguished Achievement* to be considered in the "Top 10%" of the class and qualify for automatic college admission.

Endorsements

Students will be able to earn one or more endorsements as part of their graduation requirements. Endorsements consist of a related series of courses that are grouped together by interest or skill set. They provide students with in-depth knowledge of a subject area. Students can earn an endorsement by completing the curriculum requirements for the endorsement, including 4th credit of math and science and 2 additional elective credits. **Students can choose from 5 endorsement areas:**

STEM	Business/ Industry	Public Service	Arts & Humanities	Multidisciplinary Studies
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State Assessments Required for Graduation		Performance Acknowledgements
English I	English II	Outstanding performance: Dual credit coursework; bilingualism; AP or IB exam; PSAT; SAT; ACT-Plan; or ACT Certification/Licensure: recognized nationally or internationally by business or industry or a Texas state agency
Algebra I	Biology	
US History		

Top Ten Automatic Admission

The Texas public college or university of your choice must admit a student in accordance with Texas Education Code §51.803, if the student meets the following criteria:

- Earn a grade point average (GPA) in the top 10 percent of the student's graduating class
- Apply no later than two years after graduating from a Texas high school
- Successfully complete the curriculum requirements for the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program **or** satisfy ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks on the ACT assessment or earn on the SAT assessment a score of at least 1,500 out of 2,400 or the equivalent
- Submit an application before the expiration of any application filing deadline established by the college or university and provide a high school transcript or diploma that satisfies the curriculum requirements or the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program

The University of Texas at Austin is not required to offer admission to applicants who qualify for automatic admission. Under Senate Bill 175, the University of Texas at Austin, is to limit automatic admission to 75 percent of the university's enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident undergraduates.

The University of Texas at Austin has determined that it will automatically admit all eligible freshman applicants who rank within the top 7-8% of their high school graduating classes, with remaining spaces to be filled through holistic review.

[illegible]