

7th and 8th Grade
Course Selection
2025-2026

Tex Hill Middle School



Tex Hill Administration

Michelle Ramirez-Castaneda

Principal

Stacy Brooks

Asst. Principal

Alex Espey

Asst. Principal

Amanda Mireles

Academic Dean

Sarah True

Counselor

Lesley Reichert

Counselor

Jennifer Pressly

Special Education Coordinator

As questions arise regarding the selection of courses for next year, please contact the Tex Hill Counselors. Students who do not complete the registration process will have a schedule created for them by their assigned counselor. Please call or e-mail us, we will be glad to assist you in making these important decisions.

Tex Hill Middle School Counseling Office: 210-356-8030

Mrs. Leanne Smith -Counseling Clerk

Mrs. Choni Carranza - Data Processor

Academic-Core Course Information



All students must register for:


- Math (Honors or Regular Grade Level)
 - English (Honors or regular Grade Level)
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - PE or Athletics
 - And 3 electives
-
- ❖ If a student does not pass STAAR, an elective will be replaced with that STAAR subject area's intervention class (ALL interventions are a FULL year)



ELECTIVES

ALL Electives are FULL YEAR commitments

There are **NO** schedule changes at the semester.



AIM

(Academic Individual Motivation)

- This course is designed as a **Study Hall** – Offering students an opportunity to review academic concepts, seek assistance in solving academic problems, promote independent skills in time management, learn strategies for success such as vocabulary development, agenda use, binder organization, goal setting and character education .



DEBATE

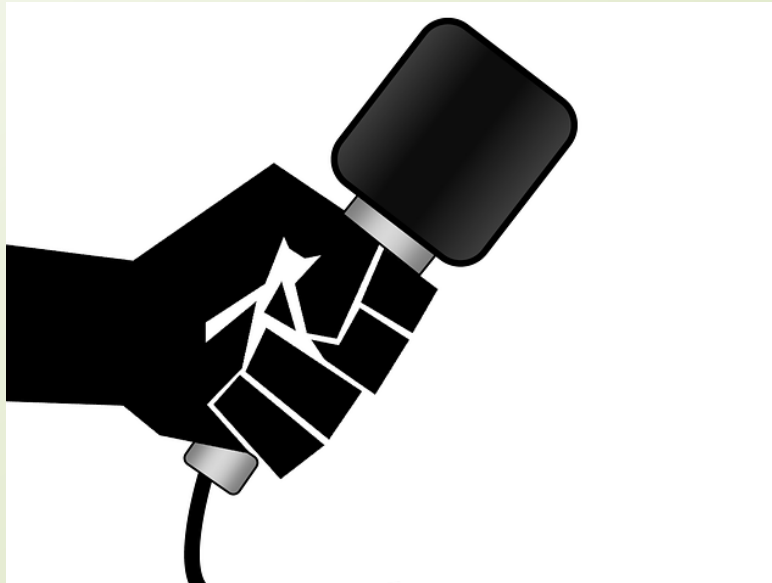
Students must have strong
reading and writing skills



- **First semester topics** : logic, persuasion, and speaking and debate formats. Competitive events covered in the class include impromptu speaking, modern oratory, and Lincoln Douglas debate.
- **Second semester topics:** philosophy, current events, and debate formats. Students in both semesters will research, write, and present original works as well as critically evaluate works from others. Competitive events covered in the class will include Student Congress, and Public Forum debate. Students should have strong reading and writing skills.

Broadcast Journalism

- Students will explore various styles and modes of writing, editing, and video production. Various digital tools will allow students to experience different aspects of producing and publishing news related media. Emphasis will be on self-improvement and self-expression.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



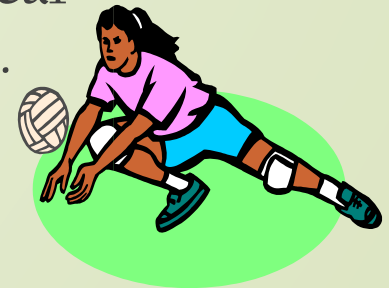
- All 7th grade students must take a full year of either P.E. or Athletics
- 8th grade students must take either a full year of P.E., or a full year of Athletics. Or they may take a semester of P.E paired with High School Health or AIM

****4 semesters of PE/Athletics are required throughout middle school and, at least, one semester per school year.****

ATHLETICS



- All students who participate in the Athletics course must play a minimum of two sports.
- The options are football, basketball, soccer, or track (boys) or must be volleyball, basketball, soccer, or track (girls).
- This course can be taken in place of Physical Education and is a year-long commitment.
- After school participation is required
- A physical is required PRIOR to try-outs and participation





Band, String Orchestra, Choir

- Students must be willing to commit to outside of school practice sessions/performances and to remain in the program for the entire year.

Band

Band I:

This course is designed for those students who exhibit an interest in learning a band instrument. In most cases, students will need to furnish their instruments and be committed to an advanced band after one year of study. Students will be placed appropriately according to instrument selection and/or proficiency level.

Band II:

This course is designed for students who have completed at least one year of study on their band instrument. The students will continue to strive to achieve this level in hopes of being placed in an advanced band after the second year of study.

Band III:

This is the advanced band that is made up of students who have attained a high degree of proficiency on their instrument. Members of this organization will perform at UIL competitions and at concerts, and should be prepared to spend time outside of the school day preparing for these performances.

Orchestra

Orchestra I:

This course is designed for students who exhibit an interest in learning how to play the violin, viola, cello, or string bass. In most cases the student will need to provide his/her own instrument and be committed to achieving an established level of performance commensurate with being placed in an advanced orchestra during his/her second year of performing.

Orchestra II:

This course is designed for those string performers who have completed one or more years of study. Students will be placed appropriately according to instrument selection and/or playing proficiency.

Orchestra III:

This course is offered to those students who wish to study orchestral literature and who have attained a certain level of performance capability. Members of this organization will perform at UIL competitions and at concerts, and should be prepared to spend time outside of the school day preparing for these performances.

Choir

Choir II:


The intermediate of choir is offered to those students who have not yet attained a performance proficiency commensurate with being in an advanced choir. Students will continue to focus on proper vocal techniques and sight-reading.

Choir III:

The advanced level of choir is offered to those students who have attained a performance proficiency commensurate with the ability grouping for a specific choral group (i.e. boy's choir, treble choir, etc.). Students enrolling in an advanced class should have a serious interest in singing. They will participate in concerts, programs, and UIL competitions, which require rehearsal and practice outside the school day.



THEATRE ARTS

- ▶ Theater Arts is offered as a full year course at all levels
 - ▶ Theater Arts I is designed for students who have never taken Theater in Middle School regardless of grade level.
 - ▶ Theater Arts II is available to 7th and 8th grade students who have taken Theater Arts I.
 - ▶ Theater Arts III is available to 8th grade only and to those who have taken Theater I and II. Outside of school day performances (plays) are part of this curriculum.
- 

ART



- Art is offered as a full year course at all levels
- Art I is designed for students who have never taken Art in Middle School regardless of grade level.
- Art II is available to 7th and 8th grade students who have taken Art I.
- Art I for High School Credit is available to 8th grade students ONLY. For a student to enroll in this High School Art class, they must have taken Art I and Art II.



Art 1 for High School Credit (available to 8th grade only)

MUST have taken Art 1 **AND** Art II in Middle School

Art provides a study of the art elements and principles through experience with a variety of art media and tools in design, drawing, painting, printmaking, textiles, ceramics, and sculpture; an exploration of art history and culture; and an evaluation of artwork through discussion and critique..

This course is 1.0 high school credit.



Dance

- ▶ This introductory/intermediate course is designed to focus on various mediums of dance, including ballet, modern jazz and folk/ethnic. Emphasis is on training the student to coordinate elements of dance and to enhance student confidence, poise and collaborative skills. Aerobic activities and fitness activities will be incorporated.



Career and College Exploration

7th grade only

- This course allows students to develop knowledge and skills regarding college and career opportunities, personal development, globalization, industry standards, details, practices and expectations related to the career areas under Agriculture. They will learn how to prepare for success, students need to have opportunities to learn, reinforce, experience, apply and transfer their knowledge and skills in a variety of settings.





Yearbook

Students must have strong
reading and writing skills



- This course involves the creation and design of the Tex Hill Middle School yearbook. Students will work as a cohesive staff in writing stories, taking pictures, and designing pages with online software. Students gain laboratory experience in magazine production as they produce the yearbooks. Experience includes writing copy, computer copy, page layout and design skills, photography, photo cropping and editing.
- Class registration is by application only

OFFICE AIDES



- Offered **only to 8th grade students**
- The areas students will serve are Main Office, Counseling Office, Nurse's Office, and Library.
- Students MAY NOT be both an Office Aide and enrolled in AIM

STUDENTS ARE ASSIGNED LOCATIONS – THEY DO NOT GET AN INPUT IN LOCATION OF ASSIGNMENT.

PALS-Peer Assistance Leaders

- The Peer Assistance and Leadership (PAL) program is a course that trains selected 8th grade students to work as peer helpers, peer mediators, and community service learners with students either on their own campus or from feeder elementary schools.
- Sign up for another elective now and, if chosen, your schedule will be changed.
- An application is required



Principles of Art/AV/Communication

(available to 8th grade only)

This course develops a strong background in computer and technology applications, a strong academic foundation, and a proficiency in oral and written communication. The student applies information technology applications when completing Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications projects. The student is expected to use information management, email, Internet, writing and publishing, presentation and spreadsheet or database applications.

This course is offered for the entire year and 1.0 Career and Technology High School Credit will be earned.



Principles of Applied Engineering (available to 7th grade and 8th grade)

This course provides an overview of the various fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematic and their interrelationships.

Students will use a variety of computer hardware and software applications to complete assignments and projects.

Upon completing this course, students will have an understanding of the various fields and will be able to make informed decisions regarding a coherent sequence of subsequent courses.

This course is 1.0 high school credit.



Principles of Human Services (available to 8th grade only)

- This is the first course in multiple programs of study. Principles of Human Services is a laboratory course that will enable students to investigate careers in the Human Services Career Cluster, including counseling and mental health, early childhood development, family and community, personal care, and consumer services. Each student is expected to complete the knowledge and skills essential for success in high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand human services careers.




Principles of Computer Science

(available to 7th and 8th grades)

Students will have the opportunity to design, implement, and present solutions to real-world problems. Students will collaborate and use computer science concepts to access, analyze, and evaluate information needed to solve problems.

This course is 1.0 high school credit.





Robotics

(available to 8th grade only)

Must have taken Engineering as a 7th grader

Students enrolled in this course will demonstrate knowledge and skills necessary for the robotic and automation industry. Through implementation of the design process, students will transfer advanced academic skills to component designs in a project-based environment. Students will build prototypes or use simulation software to test their designs. Additionally, students explore career opportunities, employer expectations, and educational needs in the robotic and automation industry. The Students may be required to pass a safety test(s) demonstrating 100% mastery before being allowed to participate in lessons that require use of equipment or tools.



Spanish 1

(available to 8th grade only)

All students are required to take two years of the same language to graduate high school. ***IF*** you are interested in Spanish being the language you take for this requirement, you can take the first year as an 8th grade student leaving your second year to take as a 9th grade student.

*** This class is **NOT** for native Spanish Speaking Students***