

# WIMBERLEY JUNIOR HIGH



2006-2007

COURSE CATALOG

**JUNIOR HIGH COURSE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE  
WIMBERLEY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The junior high day will follow a 7 period day schedule with classes 50 minutes in length. The curriculum allows for four core subjects and a choice of electives as required by Texas Education Association guidelines. State guidelines require that core subjects follow state adopted textbooks as well as Texas Essential Knowledge of Skills (TEKS) which is a comprehensive guideline for what students should learn in each of the core areas.

A junior high student's program of study is as follows for each grade:

**SIXTH GRADE PROGRAM**

Language Arts	1 unit
Reading	1 unit
Mathematics	2 units
World Culture Studies	1 unit
Integrated Science	1 unit
P.E./Band	1 unit

**SEVENTH GRADE PROGRAM**

Language Arts	1unit
Reading	1unit
Mathematics	1unit
Texas History	1unit
Integrated Science	1unit
P.E./Athletics	1unit
Elective	1unit

**EIGHTH GRADE PROGRAM**

Language Arts	1 unit
Reading	1 unit
Mathematics	1 unit
American History	1 unit
Integrated Science	1 unit
Elective	1 unit
Elective	1 unit

**6<sup>th</sup> GRADE CORE SUBJECTS**

**LANGUAGE ARTS****2 UNITS**

Sixth grade language arts students use adopted textbooks, novels, and library materials to focus on multicultural issues as the basis for all four components of the language arts curriculum: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Strong emphasis is placed upon Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, vocabulary, elements of literature, responses to reading, process writing, and the study of conventional uses of grammar.

**LANGUAGE ARTS (Pre-Advanced Placement)****2 UNITS**

Sixth grade language arts students use adopted textbooks, novels, and library materials to focus on multicultural issues as the basis for all four components of the language arts curriculum: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Strong emphasis is placed upon Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, vocabulary, elements of literature, responses to reading, process writing, and the study of conventional uses of grammar. Pre-AP course work develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP). It is highly recommended that a student follow a Pre-AP route before entering an AP course.

**MATHEMATICS****2 UNITS**

The sixth grade math course covers the fundamental math skills. The focus is on covering and mastering the objectives outlined in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Texas Essential Skills and Knowledge (TEKS). Class work focuses on projects and problem solving.

**WORLD CULTURES****1 UNIT**

This course covers historical and geographical effects on cultures and ancient civilizations. Course starts at the beginning of civilization and works its way through the world to the modern day. This is a broad based introduction to world history and geography. Course requires a major research paper during the second semester.

**SCIENCE****1 UNIT**

Students will be introduced to a variety of topics within the life, physical and earth science curriculums. This is an integrated science course in which students will develop science skills including use of equipment and working in cooperative lab groups. The curriculum and texts cover the Texas Essential Skills and Knowledge as outlined for Sixth graders.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**1 UNIT**

Students will develop knowledge, motor skills, and rules basic to beginning or intermediate participation in individual, dual, team, leisure, and lifetime recreational sport activities. Emphasis is placed on motivation and development of a high level of personal and physical fitness; good sportsmanship; as well as personal safety and success.

## **6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BAND**

**1 UNIT**

An introductory instrumental music course offering for students with no previous band experience. Students will provide their own band instruments, method books, and essential supplies (reeds, oils, etc). Specific instrument selection will be subject to band director approval and based on physical characteristics and related factors. In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, band may count for one of the two years required for P.E. for junior high students by the State of Texas.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES**

Special Education courses are provided through resource classes in math and language arts and content mastery assistance and study halls. Special Education students have programs unique to their special needs as developed by Individual Education Plans through the Annual Review and Dismissal Committee. Special Education students operate on a continuum of services in self-contained classes, resource classes, and regular education placement as developed by A.R.D.

## **GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM**

Students who have qualified for gifted and talented according to District policy can select participation in language arts, math, history, and science in the one or more core areas in which they qualified. Gifted and Talented students will be served in the classroom through differentiation and compacting of the curriculum.

## **READING AND MATH ENRICHMENT/INTERVENTION**

**1 UNIT**

These courses are designed and developed to assist students to be successful on state mandated tests and coursework. These are required courses for anyone who does not pass TAKS tests and related benchmark tests. These courses are yearlong courses for these students. These courses take the place of one elective.

## **7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CORE COURSES**

### **LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING**

**2 UNITS**

Seventh grade language arts and reading is an integrated, literature-based course that covers the TEKS objectives. In addition there is strong emphasis on process writing, literature enrichment, vocabulary, critical thinking skills, and research.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING (Pre- Advanced Placement) 2 UNITS**

Seventh grade language arts and reading is an integrated, literature-based course that covers the TEKS objectives. In addition there is strong emphasis on process writing, literature enrichment, vocabulary, critical thinking skills, and research. Pre-AP course work develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP). It is highly recommended that a student follow a Pre-AP route before entering an AP course.

### **MATHEMATICS**

**1 UNIT**

Seventh grade math explores math concepts that deal with real world applications. Math skills are developed through projects, problem solving, and calculator operations. Course includes: Operations, Properties and problem Solving, Data Analysis and Statistics, Area and Volume, Introduction to Algebra, Integers, Ration and Proportion, Fraction Operations, Percents and their Application, Geometry, Decimals and Measurement. The course follows use of state adopted textbooks and the TEKS.

### **MATHEMATICS (Pre- Advanced Placement)**

**1 UNIT**

Seventh grade math explores math concepts that deal with real world applications. Math skills are developed through projects, problem solving, and calculator operations. Course includes: Operations, Properties and problem Solving, Data Analysis and Statistics, Area and Volume, Introduction to Algebra, Integers, Ration and Proportion, Fraction Operations, Percents and their Application, Geometry, Decimals and Measurement. The course follows use of state adopted textbooks and the TEKS. Pre-AP course work develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP). It is highly recommended that a student follow a Pre-AP route before entering an AP course.

### **TEXAS HISTORY**

**1 UNIT**

Texas History begins with the early exploration of Texas and continues chronologically up through the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Course covers: colonization, independence from Spain, the Texas Revolution, Annexation, the Civil War in Texas, growth and development, the oil boom, and Texas as a modern state. Special projects and computer skills are taught and utilized during this course. The course follows use of state adopted textbooks and TEKS.

## **SCIENCE**

**1 UNIT**

In this course, students will examine a small group of topics from the perspective of biology, chemistry, physics, and earth/space sciences. Because the basic sciences are introduced simultaneously, students see how they fit together in a larger body of knowledge. Laboratory experiments, special projects, and use of the TEKS are included in this course.

## **SCIENCE PRE-AP**

**1 UNIT**

In this course, students will examine a small group of topics from the perspective of biology, chemistry, physics, and earth/space sciences. Because the basic sciences are introduced simultaneously, students see how they fit together in larger body of knowledge. Laboratory experiments, special projects, and use of the TEKS are included in this course. Pre-AP course work develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP). It is highly recommended that a student follow a Pre-AP route before entering an AP course.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**1 UNIT**

Students will develop knowledge, motor skills, and rules basic to beginning or intermediate participation in individual, dual, team, leisure, and lifetime recreational sport activities. Emphasis is placed on motivation and development of a high level of personal and physical fitness, good sportsmanship, as well as personal safety and success. 7<sup>th</sup> grade P.E. or athletics is required for all students as part of the general two-year state requirement for physical fitness for junior high students.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Students eligible for special education programs are served through a continuum of self-contained, resource, and regular education courses. Students are offered content mastery and content mastery study halls as additional support. Individual Education Plans for each student are developed by the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee (ARD Committee).

## **GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS**

Students who qualify for the gifted and talented district wide program are served through the regular education program through differentiation and compacting in the classroom. Gifted students may choose to participate in one or more core subject areas in which they qualify.

## **READING AND MATH ENRICHMENT/INTERVENTION**

**1 UNIT**

These courses are designed and developed to assist students to be successful on state mandated tests and coursework. These courses are required for anyone who does not pass TAKS tests and/or related benchmark tests. These yearlong courses are required for these students. These courses take the place of one elective.

**ELECTIVES****1 UNIT**

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade electives are described on the last two pages of this manual. 7<sup>TH</sup> grade students may choose from one elective. Eighth Grade students are allowed two electives.

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CORE COURSES****LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING****2 UNITS**

Eighth grade language arts and reading is an integrated, literature-based course that meets two periods a day. The course covers the TEKS objectives for writing and reading. Strong emphasis is placed on process writing, literature enrichment, reading for enjoyment as a life skill, vocabulary, critical thinking skills, and research.

**LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING (PRE-AP)****2 UNITS**

Eighth grade language arts and reading is an integrated, literature-based course that meets two periods a day. The course covers the TEKS objectives for writing and reading. Strong emphasis is placed on process writing, literature enrichment, reading for enjoyment as a life skill, vocabulary, critical thinking skills, and research. Pre-AP course work develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP). It is highly recommended that a student follow a Pre-AP route before entering an AP course.

**MATHEMATICS****1 UNIT**

Eighth grade math is a survey course of fundamental math skills and objectives. Emphasis is placed on mastery of 8<sup>th</sup> grade TEKS and the development of pre-algebra skills.

**ALGEBRA 1****1 UNIT**

Students must take a released 8<sup>th</sup> Grade TAKS Test at the end of the seventh grade year and have teacher recommendation to be eligible for Algebra I. This course meets the requirements for high school Algebra 1 credit. Students taking Algebra I in Junior High are still required to take at least three years of math in High School.

**ALGEBRA 1 (Pre-Advanced Placement)****1 UNIT**

Students must take a released 8<sup>th</sup> Grade TAKS Test at the end of the seventh grade year and have teacher recommendation to be eligible for Algebra I. This course meets the

requirements for high school Algebra 1 credit. Students taking Algebra I in Junior High are still required to take at least three years of math in High School. Pre-AP course work develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP). It is highly recommended that a student follow a Pre-AP route before entering an AP course.

## **AMERICAN HISTORY**

**1 UNIT**

This course covers the first half of American History from 1000 A.D. through the Reconstruction Period. The objective is to teach the development of the nation and culture (melting pot). Students will study the development of our economic, social and political institutions. This is done by emphasizing historic events and documents such as: the Mayflower Compact, Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, westward expansion, the causes and history of the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the land mark Supreme Court cases. The material reflects TEKS objectives and use of state adopted textbooks.

## **SCIENCE**

**1 UNIT**

Eighth grade science will be an integrated Science program including aspects of biology, earth/space science, physics and chemistry. Curriculum includes objectives of the TEKS as well as innovated laboratory experiments and projects.

## **SCIENCE (Pre-AP)**

**1 UNIT**

Eighth grade science will be an integrated Science program including aspects of biology, earth/space science, physics and chemistry. Curriculum includes objectives of the TEKS as well as innovated laboratory experiments and projects. Pre-AP course work develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP). It is highly recommended that a student follow a Pre-AP route before entering an AP course.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES**

Special Education courses are provided through resource classes in math and language arts and content mastery assistance and study halls. Special Education students have programs unique to their special needs as developed by Individual Education Plans through the Annual Review and Dismissal Committee. Special Education students operate on a

continuum of services in self-contained classes, resource classes, and regular education placement as developed by A.R.D.

### **GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM**

Students who have qualified for gifted and talented according to district policy and state guidelines can select participation in language arts, math, history, and science in the one or more core areas in which they qualified. Gifted and Talented students will be served in classroom through differentiation and compacting of the curriculum.

### **READING AND MATH ENRICHMENT/INTERVENTION 1 UNIT**

These courses are designed and developed to assist students to be successful on state mandated tests and coursework. These are required courses for anyone who does not pass TAKS tests and/or related benchmark tests. These courses are yearlong courses and replace one elective course for these students.

## **JUNIOR HIGH ELECTIVES**

7<sup>TH</sup> grade students may take any of the following electives unless designated as an eighth grade elective only.

### **ART 1 UNIT**

This is a course designed for students who are interested in expanding art into their every day lives. Students will study drawing, painting, and various sculpture techniques. This course will include across the curriculum projects.

### **ART GRAPHICS 1 UNIT**

**Prerequisite: Beginning art and teacher approval.**

This is an advanced course that is designed to provide students with an accelerated artistic experience. Students will use computers and computer software and will study art history, drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, and sculpture technique.

### **FAMILY LIVING 1 UNIT**

Students will learn home and family living survival skills that are a “lost art” to many teens. Cooking, table setting, child care, survival sewing, changing a flat tire, planning a budget, shopping skills, how to do laundry, and other survival necessities will be studied.

## **SPANISH 1 (PRE-AP)**

**1 UNIT**

**Prerequisite: Teacher approval and a grade of 85 or better in language arts  
Eighth grade elective**

This course teaches basic Spanish vocabulary, beginning grammar, and communication skills. Students also learn about the structure of language, and become familiar with cultural differences and similarities. This is an 8<sup>th</sup> grade elective only and counts for 1 high school credit. Pre-AP course work develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP). It is highly recommended that a student follow a Pre-AP route before entering an AP course.

## **7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BAND**

**Prerequisite: sixth grade band or teacher approval**

**1 UNIT**

An instrumental music course offering for students with a minimum of one full year and experience and who can demonstrate an acceptable mastery of basic playing fundamentals and rhythmic counting. This band performs at U.I.L. contests. Some out of school rehearsals and performances are required.

## **8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BAND**

**1 UNIT**

**Prerequisite: Two years of band or teacher approval**

This is a performance oriented band course intended to prepare the students for future membership in the high school band. Students will have daily practice requirements and frequent out-of-school rehearsals and performances. This band competes at U.I.L. performances.

## **ATHLETICS**

**Prerequisite: Coach approval and physical**

**1 UNIT**

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students may take athletics. The course involves instruction, skill development, rules, officiating, and fundamentals in each particular sport area. The course will involve before or after school practice in addition to one class period during the school day. Transportation to and from practice is the responsibility of the student. Also, students may be involved in competition against other schools that will require traveling. Students must pass all courses to be eligible to participate. Students must participate in at least one sport and must remain in athletics for the remainder of the year in off-season conditioning.

Athletic sports are as follows:

Girls: volleyball, basketball, track,

Boys: football, basketball, track

Students interested in tennis and golf may participate in after school programs and school teams. However, these do not count for athletic credit.

## **STUDENT AIDE**

**1 UNIT**

**Prerequisite: Students will be screened by a selection committee composed of administration personnel, must have passing grades, and no disciplinary problems.**

Students will work in the library, counselor's office, office of the principal or the assistant principal. Students might also serve as teacher aides if requested by a teacher. Students will learn phone answering skills, basic office work, message taking, and delivery. They will be required to greet and assist visitors or new students to the school. The library assistant will be required to shelve, check out books, file, and assist in the management of library assets. Some computer skills are required.

## **MUTLI-MEDIA (7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADES)**

**1 UNIT**

This course teaches students to design multi-media presentations using such computer software as Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Power Point, Adobe Premier, and Adobe Photoshop Elements.