

# **New Braunfels ISD's 2009-2010 Middle School Course Guide**



**New Braunfels Middle School  
OakRun Middle School**

# NEW BRAUNFELS ISD

## Middle School Course Guide

### 2009-2010

#### Middle School Campuses

New Braunfels Middle School  
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New Braunfels, TX 78130  
830-627-6270  
Principal: John Burks

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New Braunfels, TX 78130  
830-627-6400  
Principal: David Simmons Ed.D

Parents and Students:

We are pleased to present the following course catalog for the 2009-2010 school year. This publication provides information to assist our students as they make critically important decisions in planning their middle school and high school programs, ultimately leading to their chosen post-graduation plans.

Course decisions that students make this year will impact future course choices and help to determine which academic programs are available to these students in high school. At first glance the information in this program may appear overwhelming; please be assured that it will become more familiar as you develop your academic goals and post graduate plans.

If you have any questions about information in this publication or questions regarding your educational goals, your teachers, counselors and administrators are ready to provide you with guidance. We believe two – way communication is vital to the success of our students, and we encourage you to take advantage of the parent

meetings held during registration week. Additionally, the email addresses of the campus counselors are included on the next page for your convenience.

Whether you represent the class of 2013, 2014, 2015, or 2016 New Braunfels ISD is committed to your success!

**NBISD Education Center**

**Superintendent of Schools:Mike Smith**

Assistant Superintendent for  
Business and Operations:Randy Moczygemba  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum:Victoria Pursch, PhD  
Public Information Officer:Stephanie Ferguson  
Personnel Director:Leigh Ann Dees  
Special Education Director:Martie Rodriguez  
Special Programs Director:Elisa Racanelli  
Curriculum Director:Ron Rychel  
Coordinator for Career and Technology:Mike Reimer  
Coordinator for Bilingual/ESL and Migrant  
Programs:Jessi Wong



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# NBISD: A Premier District...One Student at a Time!

## Academic Planning for Successful Futures

### Middle School Success

Success in middle school requires *careful planning* so that students progress academically and intellectually during their middle school years. This preparedness ensures advancement to the high school levels and provides students with the needed foundation to meet the graduation requirements set forth by State Board of Education. This course guide is intended to assist in answering many of the questions parents and students have about the middle school and high school course requirements. Of course, campus administrators, counselors and teachers are a great resource for information and guidance. Please do not hesitate to call, email or schedule a meeting in order to receive assistance with questions or concerns. Helpful phone numbers and email addresses are:

OakRun Middle School – Office Number: 830-627-6400

OakRun Middle School - Counselor: Stephanie Hataway ([shataway@newbraunfels.txed.net](mailto:shataway@newbraunfels.txed.net))

New Braunfels Middle School – Office Number: 830-627-6270

New Braunfels Middle School Counselors:

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Rene Vega ([rvega@newbraunfels.txed.net](mailto:rvega@newbraunfels.txed.net))

NBISD course guides are also available online at [www.newbraunfels.txed.net](http://www.newbraunfels.txed.net)

### Parent Guide for Student Success

Parents play an influential role in helping their student to plan, prepare and enroll in appropriate courses of study.

- Parents should make every effort to stay informed by attending the registration parent meetings, reviewing materials and information as they receive them.
- Parents need to go over the course materials with their students and discuss course options and other curricular opportunities
- Parents should encourage all students to get involved in at least one extra curricular activity or after school club/program. Students who stay involved in these activities are more likely to experience academic success.

### Middle School Course Requirements

Middle school courses offered in NBISD meet and exceed the requirements set forth by the Texas Education Agency. NBISD ensures sufficient time is provided for teachers to teach and for students to learn the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) in all subject areas including the core areas of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Additionally, the middle school programs offer opportunities for students to develop socially and emotionally through multiple academic and social programs and activities.

NBISD middle school campuses provide instruction in a variety of arrangements which allows for developmentally appropriate instruction for all student populations, supporting student attainment of course expectations and grade level standards. NBISD middle schools are on a semester system of two (2) semesters, approximately 90 days each.

**Course Planning and Requirements at a Glance**

<b>6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE</b>			<b><u>Sample Schedule</u></b>
Language Arts	1	credit	1Language Arts 2Math I 3Social Studies 4Science 5Physical Education 6Beginning Band Elective 7Problem Based Inquiry Elective
Mathematics	1	credit	
Science	1	credit	
Social Studies	1	credit	
**Physical Education	1	credit	
***Fine Arts	1	credit	
Elective	1	credit	
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
Fine Arts course is selected from choir, band, theater arts, or art. *All students scoring below 2200 on TAKS will be placed in a <b>Targeted Elective</b> . ** Students must earn 2 PE credits between 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade. 1 credit will be taken in 6 <sup>th</sup> grade ***Students must earn 1 credit in Fine Arts between 6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> grade.			
<b>7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE</b>			<b><u>Sample Schedule</u></b>
English Language Arts	1	credit	1 English Language Arts 2Math II 3Texas History 4Science 5Physical Education 6Band 7Spanish I (high school credit)
Mathematics	1	credit	
Science	1	credit	
Texas History	1	credit	
**Physical Education	1	credit	
Elective	1	credit	
Elective	1	credit	
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
*All students scoring below 2200 on TAKS will be placed in a <b>Targeted Elective</b> . ** Students must earn 2 PE credits between 6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> grade. ***Students must earn 1 credit in Fine Arts between 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade.			
<b>8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE</b>			<b><u>Sample Schedule</u></b>
English Language Arts	1	credit	1English Language Arts 2Algebra I (high school credit) 3US History 4Science 5Health/Speech (high school credit) 6Spanish II (high school credit) 7Band
Mathematics	1	credit	
Science	1	credit	
US History	1	credit	
**Physical Education	1	credit	
Elective	1	credit	
Elective	1	credits	
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Credits</b>	

\*All students scoring below 2200 on TAKS may be placed in a **Targeted Elective**.

\*\* Students must earn 2 PE credits between 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Note: By 2010 all 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take Algebra I

## Grade Level Electives

6th Grade Electives	7th Grade Electives	8th Grade Electives
0650 Physical Education Boys	0750 Physical Education Boys	0401 Career Investigations
0651 Physical Education Girls	0751 Physical Education Girls	
0900 Introduction to Spanish	0401 Career Investigations	0938 Problem Based Inquiry
0419 Spanish I Pre AP*	0419 Spanish I Pre AP (beginners)	0419 Spanish I Pre AP (beginners)
0970 Choir	0429 Spanish II Pre AP ***	0429 Spanish II Pre AP ***
0960 Beginning Band	0900 Introduction to Spanish	0926 Beginning Journalism
0901 Theatre Arts I	0937 Problem Based Inquiry	0900 Introduction to Spanish
0911 Art I	0961 Beginning Band/Band	0404 Speech Communications/ Health
0926 Beginning Journalism	0754 Athletics Boys 0755 Athletics Girls	0854 Athletics Boys 0855 Athletics Girls
0936 Problem Based Inquiry	0758 Dance (counts as PE)	0402 Chinese I (HS Zero Hour Only)
0601-0604 **Targeted Elective	0971 Choir	0758 Dance (counts as PE)
0944 Computer Literacy	0901 Theatre Arts I, II	0971 Choir
0928 Recreational Reading	0756 Pep Squad (counts as PE)	0901 Theatre Arts I, II, III
	0944 Computer Literacy	0756 Pep Squad (counts as PE)
	0405 Desktop Publishing	0944 Computer Literacy
	0911 Art I, II	0405 Desktop Publishing
	0953 Synergistic Lab	0911 Art I, II, II
	0926 Beginning Journalism	0953 Synergistic Lab
	0701-0704 **Targeted Elective	0942 Yearbook Journalism
	0757 Cheerleading 7 (counts as PE) tryouts required	0857 Cheerleading 8 (counts as PE) tryouts required
		0408 Intro to Agriculture/ Horticulture (HS Zero Hour Only)
		0801-0804 **Targeted Elective
		0961 Band
		0998 PALS

\*Proficiency test required for admittance

\*\*Students may be placed into a targeted elective based on academic needs

\*\*\*Prerequisite Spanish courses required

High School Credit Awarded Upon Successful Completion of the Course

### **5 – 8 TAKS Requirements**

The Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) is given in the following core areas at the specific grade levels:

Grade 5: Reading, Math, Science

Grade 6: Reading, Math

Grade 7: Reading, Writing, Math

Grade 8: Reading, Math, Social Studies, Science

Students in grades **5 and 8 must pass the math and reading TAKS** in order to be promoted to the next grade level (Students are given three opportunities to pass these assessments). NBISD has established several interventions to assist students who do not pass these assessments. A grade placement committee (GPC) consisting of the principal or designee, the student's parent or guardian, and the teacher of the subject area failed by the student will prescribe the accelerated instruction that the district will provide the student during the summer before the statewide assessment is administered a third time (June/July). **However, if the student fails a third time, the student is retained at the same grade level. The parent or**

guardian may appeal this retention to the student's grade placement committee (GPC), and the committee may promote the student if it determines by unanimous decision that, in accordance with local school board standards, it is likely the student will perform at grade level given accelerated instruction upon promotion. The final decision of this committee cannot be appealed.

### **High School Courses Taken in Middle School**

NBISD offers several courses designated for grades 9-12 in middle school. Students who take these courses may be required to meet a district approved entrance criteria and must show satisfactory completion of:

- the prerequisite grade 7 and 8 Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills; and
- the state requirements for the high school courses taken.

Students who successfully complete a high school level course in middle school will continue the sequence of courses in grades 9-12.

### **Class Ranking for High School Graduating Classes**

The purpose of class ranking is to determine a student's academic standing in their high school graduating class. Academic class rank is the academic position a student holds in relation to other students in his or her grade level. Currently, any student who ranks in the top 10% of their graduating class earns automatic admission into any university in the state of Texas. At this time, high school courses taken at the middle school level are not calculated into the student's class rank (Pending legislative action, a state standard may supersede this policy).

### **Class Rank Changes Pending (House Bill 3851)**

*The 80<sup>th</sup> Legislature mandates that a uniform weighted GPA program (HB 3851) be developed by The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).*

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is currently meeting to determine the full scope of the guidelines of weighted GPA calculations which will be instituted at all Texas public high schools for determination of admissions into public colleges and universities. Some of the immediate changes **may** include:

- calculating high school courses taken in middle school into the uniform GPA;
- giving equal weight to dual credit, articulated tech prep dual credit courses, and advanced placement classes;
- include all TEKS based courses into the uniform GPA calculation.

New Braunfels ISD staff will keep students and parents informed of the changes as they become available.

New Braunfels ISD High School Graduation Requirements

<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Recommended High School Program</b>	<b>Distinguished Achievement Program</b>
<b>English Language Arts</b>	<b>4</b> English 1-4	<b>4</b> English 1-4
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>4</b> including Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry (Math Models may be taken in grades 9 and 10)	<b>4</b> including Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry
<b>Science</b>	<b>4</b> including Biology, Chemistry, Physics and a fourth State Approved laboratory Science course (IPC can be taken in grades 9 or 10 only)	<b>4</b> including Biology, Chemistry, Physics and a fourth State Approved laboratory Science course (No IPC)
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>3.5</b> including World Geography, World History, US History, and Government	<b>3.5</b> including World Geography, World History, US History, and Government
<b>Economics</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>1.5</b> Substitutions Allowed	<b>1.5</b> Substitutions Allowed
<b>Health Education</b>	<b>.5</b> Health	<b>.5</b> Health
<b>Languages Other than English</b>	<b>2</b> must consist of Level 1 & 2 in the same language	<b>3</b> must consist of Level 1, 2 & 3 in the same language
<b>Fine Arts</b>	<b>1</b> From Art, Band, Drill Training, Dance, Choir, or Theatre Arts	<b>1</b> From Art, Band, Drill Training, Dance, Choir, or Theatre Arts
<b>Speech</b>	<b>.5</b> Communication Applications	<b>.5</b> Communication Applications
<b>Computer Technology Applications</b>	<b>1</b> BCIS, Computer Science, Computer Applications, Technology Systems, Computer Science, Computer Multimedia and Animation Technology, or Communication Graphics	<b>1</b> BCIS, Computer Science, Computer Applications, Technology Systems, Computer Science, Computer Multimedia and Animation Technology, or Communication Graphics
<b>Additional Components (Electives)</b>	<b>3.5</b> Selected from state approved courses	<b>2.5</b> Selected from state approved courses
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b> <b>+Advanced Measures Required</b> <b>(see next page for clarifications)</b>

## + Advanced Measures Qualifying for the Distinguished Achievement Program

### Requirements:

A student must achieve any combination of four of the following:

#### Original research/project/gifted and Talented Advanced Research Project Offered in High School

- judged by a panel of professionals in the field that is the focus of the project;
- conducted under the direction of mentor(s) and reported to an appropriate audience;
- may not be used for more than two of the four advanced measures.

#### Test data:

- a score of three or above on The College Board Advanced Placement examination;
- a score on the PSAT that qualifies a student for recognition as a Commended Scholar or higher by National Merit Scholarship Corporation
- may be used for four advanced measures

#### College courses:

- a grade of 3.0 or higher on courses that count for college credit, including tech prep courses.

# ***NBISD: Developing a College - Going Culture***

## **Preparing for College**

From [www.CollegeforTexans.com](http://www.CollegeforTexans.com):

It's never too early to start. Ready, set, **go!** For the best chance of success, students need to begin preparing for college long before it's time to apply. The better prepared students are, the easier it will be to do everything that's required for getting into college and getting on with their dreams.

## **Strategies for Opening Doors in the Future**

Middle school is a time of transition, and a time when we must give students the opportunity to learn and achieve at higher levels in order to prepare them for academic success in high school. NBISD is committed to providing all 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with the tools and strategies needed to experience success and develop the critical foundational skills needed to be successful in high school and beyond. All 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade core classes will be infused with Pre AP strategies. The integration of these effective teaching strategies engage all students in active, high level learning while developing knowledge, skills, and habits of mind to support rigorous curriculum standards.

Students who enter the ninth grade in 2011 or after 2012 will be required to pass twelve end of course assessments to graduate in high school. Students will also have to complete a college readiness diagnostic test in the eighth and tenth grades beginning in 2012, which will allow schools to work with students who are deficient in certain core subjects in order to better prepare them for post high school education\*. \*Pending legislative changes.

## **Planning Ahead...**

High school students can earn college credits by signing up for high school courses which include **Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, or Local/State Articulations** through **Tech Prep** agreements with local colleges.

**Advanced Placement:** NBISD students may take Advanced Placement courses which are rigorous college prep courses that allow students to earn college credit through the College Board AP Examinations which are offered in May of each year. There is a fee for each AP exam but not for the course.

**Dual Credit:** New Braunfels Independent School District is partnering with the Alamo Community College District to give students an opportunity to earn college credit while in high school by enrolling in dual credit courses. These courses *may* be offered concurrently as Dual Credit and Advanced Placement. There is no fee to take these classes.

**Local/State Articulated Tech Prep courses:** Students take high school courses in which approved teachers are using college level curriculum enabling them to accrue college credits.

AP, Dual Credit and high school PreAP courses focus on college-preparatory and college-level skills and thinking. Often, additional time outside of class is required to adequately complete coursework. Successful students in these courses are often well-organized and self-motivated.

**Targeted Electives:** Students who have academic gaps in content areas will be assigned to a targeted elective which will focus/target their academic gaps.



# **Section 2: Course Descriptions**

## ***COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SIXTH GRADE***

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Credits</b>
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### **LANGUAGE ARTS**

Language Arts 6 Pre AP	611	Grade Placement: 6	(1 Credit)
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Prerequisite: English Language Arts 5

The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English course will focus on the introduction of close reading, analyzing tone, mood, and style through a variety of genres including fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. The course will expound on the foundation in the technical aspects of writing and reading. All students will begin the process of applying, analyzing, evaluating, and creating using advanced strategies. Students will recognize and analyze basic literary elements such as plot structure, symbolism, and theme. Using their own life experiences, they will write narratives that reflect deep concerns and ideas. They will write to explain, analyze, and to understand with further development of coherence, organization, voice, depth of ideas, and conventions. This course will give students the foundation for the study of literature and composition in later grades.

*What's Next? English Language Arts 7 Pre AP*

### **MATHEMATICS**

Mathematics 6 Pre AP	631	Grade Placement: 6	(1 Credit)
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Prerequisite: Mathematics 5 / 5<sup>th</sup> grade math TAKS

Special emphasis is placed on problem-solving and applying concepts learned to real-world situations. Students compute fluently with nonnegative rational numbers and have facility with their application in mathematical and real-world settings. Students reason with rates and ratios to solve problems. Students investigate, represent, and solve problems involving patterns, geometry, measurement, data analysis, and probability. This course will blend the 6<sup>th</sup> grade TEKS and part of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade TEKS.

*What's Next? Mathematics 7 Pre AP*

### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Social Studies 6 Pre AP (Contemporary World Societies)	621	Grade Placement: 6	(1 Credit)
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Prerequisite: none

This course is a study of people and places in the contemporary world. The focus is on **contemporary cultures** using an examination of geography and the past to support critical knowledge of present circumstances and culture. This course is not a course in World History, nor is it an examination of just World Geography. The curriculum is an exploratory look at the “highpoints” of history, political science, economics and culture set in the framework of geography. The emphasis of the course is on developing critical thinking and analysis skills, study skills, and research skills through integration of strategies sanctioned by the College Board. In addition to covering the major aspects of the concepts, knowledge, and skills as outlined in the TEKS, this course extends the study to include a more detailed look at content and an emphasis on the use and analysis of primary source documents.

*What's Next? Social Studies 7 Pre AP (Texas History)*





**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SEVENTH GRADE**

**Subject  
Grade  
Credits**

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

Social Studies 7 Pre AP (Texas History)                      721                      Grade Placement: 7                      (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

This course involves a detailed study of Texas from the period of discovery and exploration through the twentieth century. The study of the building of our state will not only stress historical facts but also promote an appreciation of the cultural heritage and geographic diversities, which have shaped the destiny of Texas. The emphasis of the course is on developing critical thinking and analysis skills, study skills, and research skills through integration of strategies sanctioned by the College Board. In addition to covering the major aspects of the concepts, knowledge, and skills as outlined in the TEKS, this course extends the study to include a more detailed look at content and an emphasis on the use and analysis of primary source documents.

*What's Next? Social Studies 8 (US History) PreAP*

**SCIENCE**

Science 7 Pre AP    741    Grade Placement: 7    (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

Seventh grade science is an integrated course of earth, life, and physical science concepts. Students will be engaged in numerous hands-on laboratory investigations which emphasize process skills such as experimental design and using tools to collect, record, and analyze data. Topics of study include: physical and chemical properties; Newton's Law of Motion; the solar system; weathering and erosion; energy transformation; genetic traits; and how human activity impacts Earth's resources. In addition, students will learn about safe behaviors, puberty, and the reproductive system through the "Worth the Wait" curriculum.

*What's Next? Science Pre AP 8*



Algebra I will expand students' understanding of number, operation, and quantitative reasoning; patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking; geometry; measurement; and probability and statistics. Students reason with expressions, equations, inequalities, and functions to model and solve problems in linear settings and to investigate nonlinear settings (exponential and quadratic) in order to further their understanding of linear and nonlinear settings. Special emphasis is placed on problem solving and application of skills and concepts. Students will also be instructed in the use of the graphing calculator. This course will count as a high school math credit and will also count towards your high school grade point average (GPA.)

*What's Next? Geometry or Geometry Pre AP*

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – EIGHTH GRADE**

**Subject  
Grade  
Credits**

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

Social Studies 8 Pre AP (US History)                      821                      Grade Placement: 8                      (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

This course is a survey course from the beginning of America through the era of Reconstruction. Students will be introduced to the geographical, social, cultural, political, and economic influences that have shaped early America. Studies will focus on contributions of various early groups and the basic elements of United States citizenship, including introduction to the Constitution, the structure and function of our national government, and the implications of the Bill of Rights. The emphasis of the course is on developing critical thinking and analysis skills, study skills, and research skills through integration of strategies sanctioned by the College Board. In addition to covering the major aspects of the concepts, knowledge, and skills are outlined in the TEKS, this course extends the study to include a more detailed look at the content and an emphasis on the use and analysis of primary source documents.

*What's Next? World Geography or World Geography Pre AP (High School)*

**SCIENCE**

Science 8 Pre AP    841    Grade Placement: 8    (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Science Pre AP 7

Eighth grade science is an integrated course of earth, life, and physical science concepts. Students will be engaged in numerous hands-on laboratory investigations which emphasize process skills such as experimental design and using tools to collect, record, and analyze data. Topics of study include: properties of matter and chemical reactions; the universe; genetics; properties of waves; the rock cycle; and how natural events and human activities can alter Earth systems. In addition, students will learn about safe behaviors, puberty, and the reproductive system through the "Worth the Wait" curriculum.

*What's Next? Biology or Biology Pre AP/ Integrated Physics and Chemistry*

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ELECTIVES

Subject  
Grade  
Credits

### ELECTIVES – FOREIGN LANGUAGE

***Intro to Spanish*** 900 Grade Placement: 6-8 (1 Credit)

This course is an introduction to the nature of the Spanish language and is designed to evaluate and understand a Language Other Than English (LOTE) that exist in the world. This course is intended to evaluate the five C's of a foreign language: Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. After completion of the course, students will be able to listen, read, and write the basic formation of Spanish through the use of vocabulary, basic grammar, and syntax. In addition, Students will be able to broaden their horizons by learning about a new language, its cultures, history, and art.

***Spanish I Pre AP*** 419 Grade Placement: 6-8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Proficiency Exam required for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Open enrollment for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. This year long course is taught at the high school level and may be differentiated to meet the needs of fluent Spanish speakers and beginners. The emphasis will be placed on higher level critical thinking and the development of accuracy in reading, writing, and speaking. Students will earn 1.0 foreign language high school credit upon successful completion of this course. Talk for further details.

*What's Next? Spanish II Pre AP*

429

***Spanish II Pre AP (2009-2010)*** Grade Placement: 6-8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Spanish I /Spanish I Pre AP

The major essential elements begun in Spanish I are continued. This course is designated to increase aural-oral proficiency. A more comprehensive view of Hispanic life is included in the conversations and reading selections as exemplified in the history, social institutions, traditions, and culture of Spanish-speaking people. Early presentations are based on material previously learned. The presentation of basic grammar is continued in Spanish II. A greater emphasis is placed on writing the language and the ability to read and understand. Students will earn 1.0 high school foreign language credit upon completion of this course.

*What's next? Spanish III/Spanish III Pre AP or Spanish III Dual Credit*

402

***Chinese I (Mandarin) Pre AP (offered zero hour only at NBHS for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students)*** Grade Placement: 8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Completion of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade

The major essential elements of reading, writing, speaking, and listening are taught. Cultural aspects of China are integrated into the teaching of these linguistic skills. Students are expected to complete assignments and practice the language outside of class time.

*What's next? Chinese II Pre AP*



## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ELECTIVES

**Subject  
Grade  
Credits**

### ELECTIVES –HEALTH / PHYSICAL EDUCATION

650

***Physical Education: 6 Boys***

Grade Placement: 6      (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

Students in this course will acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continued social development through physical activity. Students will learn specialized skills and concepts that lead to confidence and competency in a variety of physical activities. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports.

*What's Next? Physical Education 7 or Athletics*

651

***Physical Education: 6 Girls***

Grade Placement: 6      (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

Students in this course will acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continued social development through physical activity. Students will learn specialized skills and concepts that lead to confidence and competency in a variety of physical activities. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports.

*What's Next? Physical Education 7 or Athletics*

***Physical Education 7 Boys***

750

Grade Placement: 7      (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

Students enrolled in this course will understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. Students will continue to acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continued social development through physical activity. Instruction is directed more toward encouraging the incorporation of physical activity into a daily routine and less toward fundamental skill development. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports.

*What's Next? Physical Education 8 or Athletics*

***Physical Education 7 Girls***

751

Grade Placement: 7      (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

Students enrolled in this course will understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. Students will continue to acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continued social development through physical activity. Instruction is directed more toward encouraging the incorporation of physical activity into a daily routine and less toward fundamental skill development. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports.

*What's Next? Physical Education 8 or Athletics*

### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ELECTIVES**

**Subject  
Grade  
Credits**

***Pep Squad 7 / Satisfies the PE Requirement***      756      Grade Placement: 7 or 8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

This elective is designed for the student interested in preparing for high school drill teams. The six basic skills needed for Mystic tryouts will be introduced and several opportunities will be presented to perform the routines learned in class. Parent meeting is required. This class is limited to 50 students.

***Cheerleading 7 / Satisfies the PE Requirement***      757      Grade Placement: 7 or 8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Tryouts

Cheerleaders promote spirit and sportsmanship in all middle school activities. This course develops students' understanding of cheer techniques, stunt building, and dance movement. Students also participate in intense physical conditioning. The student pays costs incurred from this course. Students must try out in front of trained judges for a position on the squad. Students will earn 1.0 Physical Education credit after successfully completing this course.

***Dance 7 / Satisfies the PE Requirement***      758      Grade Placement: 7 or 8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

In this P.E. elective, different facets of the world of dance will be explored. Along with experiencing the physical activity of dance, students will also learn about choreography, how fitness relates to dance and the cultural aspects of dance. Students will also gain a broader understanding of dance through guest speakers/demonstrators, video presentations and by working on group projects.

***Athletics 7 All Year (Boys)***      754      Grade Placement: 7 (1 credit)

Prerequisite: none

This athletic period is offered to those students who are playing football and are trying out for basketball and track. Team selection for basketball is by tryouts and coaching staff approval. Students must have a strong work ethic and limited absences. Students must then pass all classes each six weeks to remain eligible for participation. Students who are selected for athletic teams must show proof of insurance and pass a physical exam that will be good for two years.

*What's Next? Physical Education 8 or Athletics*

***Athletics 7 All Year (Girls)***

755

Grade Placement: 7 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

This athletic period is offered to those students who are playing volleyball and are trying out for basketball and track. Team selection for basketball is by tryouts and coaching staff approval. Students must have a strong work ethic and limited absences. Students must then pass all classes each six weeks to remain eligible for participation. Students who are selected for athletic teams must show proof of insurance and pass a physical exam that will be good for two years.

*What's Next? Physical Education 8 or Athletics*



**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ELECTIVES**

**Subject  
Grade  
Credits**

<b>ELECTIVES</b>			
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<b><i>Speech Communication Apps/.5 high school credit</i></b>	404	Grade Placement: 8	(.5 Credit)
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Prerequisite: none

This is the only course that meets the ½ credit speech requirement for high school graduation. Students will examine the communication process, interpersonal communication, group communication, and public speaking. Students will identify, analyze, develop and evaluate communication skills needed for professional and social success in interpersonal situations, groups interactions, and personal and service component to this course. Students will be required to give oral presentations. Students will receive .5 high school credits. **Strongly recommended for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.**

<b><i>Health/High School Credit</i></b>	406	Grade Placement: 8	(.5 credit)
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Prerequisite: none

This course in health education is required of all students in high school. In Health, students develop knowledge and skills to address adolescent health issues. Students gain a better understanding of the knowledge and behavior they use to safeguard their health, particularly pertaining to health risks. Major areas of study will include fitness, nutrition, mental/emotional health, substance abuse, and interpersonal relationship. Students will receive .5 high school credits. **Strongly recommended for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.**

<b><i>Career Investigations</i></b>	401	Grade Placement: 7 or 8	(.5 Credit)
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Prerequisite: none

This course is designed for students to explore a variety of career opportunities. Units of study include career planning foundation, introduction to the career groups, personal money management, job acquisition information, and educational planning.

<b><i>Intro to Agriculture</i></b>	408	Grade Placement: 8	(.5 credit)
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Prerequisite: none

A basic course designed to provide an introduction to global agriculture. The course includes instructional units in agricultural career development, leadership, communications, personal finance, and mechanized agriculture. Students will receive .5 High School credits upon successful completion of this course. This course is offered during zero hour before school at the High School.

<b><i>Horticulture</i></b>	409	Grade Placement: 8	(.5 Credit)
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Prerequisite: none

Students will have the opportunity to identify career opportunities in the field of horticulture; develop and perform technical expertise in horticultural plant propagation, apply design principles through the development of landscapes and floral design and integrate plant-growing principles related to the management of environmental conditions required for growing horticultural crops. Hands-on class sessions will be held off-campus. Students will receive .5 High School credit upon successful completion of this course. This course is offered the second semester and during a zero hour before school at the High School.

## ***COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ELECTIVES***

### **Subject Grade Credits**

<b><i>Problem Based Inquiry 6<sup>th</sup></i></b>	0936	Grade Placement: 6, 7, 8	(1 Credit)
<b><i>Problem Based Inquiry 7<sup>th</sup></i></b>	0937		
<b><i>Problem Based Inquiry 8<sup>th</sup></i></b>	0938		

Prerequisite: advanced learners

Problem-Based Inquiry is geared toward the gifted and advanced learner. The multi-disciplinary course prepares students for challenging situations with undefined problems, incomplete information, and unasked questions.

Units of study will present significant subject matter content in a variety of academic arenas such as math, science, history, arts, and language. Each unit will allow students to develop creative and unique ideas for solving problems using a variety of research skills. This course will prepare students for group content area research projects in seventh grade and for the Texas Performance Based Project in eighth grade.

<b><i>Choir 6<sup>th</sup></i></b>	0970	Grade Placement: 6,7 and/or 8	(1 Credit)
<b><i>Choir Beginning 7-8</i></b>	0971		
<b><i>Choir Varsity 7-8</i></b>	0972		

Prerequisite: none

The choir program provides students the opportunity to learn to sing. There are separate classes for boys and girls. Students also have the opportunity to participate in large and small ensembles, as well as to perform solos, if they desire. Students learn to use their voices and to read music. Choir concerts are scheduled throughout the year to provide the students an opportunity to perform for the public. There is further opportunity for UIL competitions.

<b><i>Beginner Band</i></b>	960	Grade Placement: 6, 7	(1 Credit)
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No prior instrumental musical training is required as a prerequisite to begin in the band program. Beginner Band is devoted to the fundamentals of music. Classes are grouped by instrument. Personal interviews will be conducted with parents and students in order to select an appropriate instrument for the student. Interviews are held in the spring before the new school year. Parents/Students are required to purchase beginner instruments with the exception of the larger school owned instruments. Please do not purchase an instrument until you have a conference with the band director. Students will need the recommended instrument and/or supplies by the end of the third week of school in order to participate in the band program. Although beginner band is available to 7<sup>th</sup> graders, band directors highly recommend that beginner band be taken in grade 6.

<b><i>Band</i></b>	961	Grade Placement: 7 and 8	(1 Credit)
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Prerequisite: Beginner Band

This class is for students who play a musical instrument. Students will be assigned to appropriate bands based on tryouts and teacher recommendation. Students have the opportunity to participate in large and small ensembles, as well as to perform solos, if they desire. Band concerts are scheduled throughout the year to give the students an opportunity to perform for the public. There is further opportunity for UIL competitions. In order for students to be in band, they must have participated in band the previous year.

<b><i>Theater Arts I</i></b>	901	Grade Placement: 6- 8	(1 Credit)
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Prerequisite: none

This is a full year course where students learn audience etiquette, basic stage movement, acting concepts, play writing and basic technical aspects for production. Students will also participate in performance and production of a play, pantomime and story telling. Student will learn building and the ability to access and show case their individual talents.

## ***COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ELECTIVES***

**Subject  
Grade  
Credits**

***Theater Arts II*** 902 Grade Placement: 7 and/or 8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Theater Arts I

This is a full year course where students work together in an ensemble setting toward production and performance. In the past students have had the opportunity to tour at least one of their plays. In addition they will cover stage movement, stage combat, readers, theater, Bunraku puppetry from Japan, set design, and costume design.

903

***Theater Arts III***

Grade Placement: 8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Theater Arts II

This course is a continuation of Theater II. Emphasis will be placed on established dramatic techniques to enhance performance, including developing stage management and the technical aspects of theater and the historical development of theater.

911

***Art I***

Grade Placement: 6,7 or 8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: none

Through various art media, students learn the language of art and express themselves through the elements and the principles of design. Activities include drawing, shading, weaving, pastels, painting, and mask making.

***Art II***

912

Grade Placement: 7 and/ or 8 (1 Credit)

Prerequisite: Art I

Art II is a continuation of Art I. Students build on knowledge and skills learned in Art I. More advanced techniques are introduced and utilized. Activities include mosaics, watercolor, sculpture, etc.

***Art III***

913

Grade Placement: 8 (1.0 Credit)

Prerequisite: Art II

Art III is a continuation of Art II. The teacher develops independence in the student by honing art skills. Activities include oil painting, airbrushing, claymation, and an art field trip. Average of a 'B' in Art II and teacher's approval is required

# **Section 3: Planning Tools**



Grade 6		
Course Title	Course#	Credit
English (Lang Arts)		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
PE		
Elective		
Elective		
<b>Total High School Credits</b>		

Grade 7		
Course Title	Course#	Credit
English (Lang Arts)		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
Elective/PE		
Elective		
Elective		
<b>Total High School Credits</b>		

Grade 8		
Course Title	Course#	Credit
English (Lang Arts)		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
Elective/PE		
Elective		
Elective		
<b>Total High School Credits</b>		

Grade 9		
Course Title	Course #	Credit
English		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
Elective		
Elective		
Elective		
Elective		
<b>Total Credits for 9<sup>th</sup> year</b>		

Grade 10		
Course Title	Course #	Credit
English II		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
Elective		
Elective		
Elective		
Elective		
<b>Total Credits for 10<sup>th</sup> year</b>		

Grade 11		
Course Title	Course #	Credit
English III		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
Elective		
Elective		
Elective		
Elective		
<b>Total Credits for 11<sup>th</sup> year</b>		

Grade 12		
Course Title	Course #	Credit
English IV		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
Elective		
Elective		
Elective		
Elective		

**2009-2010 New Braunfels ISD  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Selection Card**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parent E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please carefully consider course selections, and thoroughly read the course descriptions for each course selected. Elective courses are an important part of the curriculum and help students to develop current interests, discover new interests, and develop knowledge in various career pathways.

1	<b>English/Language Arts</b>	
2	<b>Math I</b>	
3	<b>Science</b>	
4	<b>Social Studies</b>	
5	<b>Physical Education</b>	
6	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice Elective	
7	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice Elective	
8	3 <sup>rd</sup> Choice Elective	
9	4 <sup>th</sup> Choice Elective	

There will be two slots in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade schedule for electives. It is necessary to list extra elective choices in the event that an elective class isn't available (a class may become filled, may not fit into the schedule, or there may not be sufficient interest to offer the course). In this case, other elective choices will be scheduled.

**Students who score below a scaled score of 2200 on one or more sections of 5<sup>th</sup> grade TAKS may be scheduled into a "targeted elective" for extra academic support in the needed core area(s).** These students will, therefore, be scheduled into one elective of their choice and the targeted elective.

Your signature below indicates that you have participated in the completion of this choice card and agree to the coursework selections indicated.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent Signature**

# 2009-2010 New Braunfels ISD 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Selection Card

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student ID** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Street Address**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent E-mail**  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please carefully consider your course selections, and thoroughly read the course descriptions for each course you select. Elective courses are an important part of the curriculum and help students to develop current interests, discover new interests, and develop knowledge in various career pathways.

	Course Title			For Office Use Only
1	<b>English/Language Arts</b>			
2	<b>Math</b>			
3	<b>Science</b>			
4	<b>Social Studies</b>			
5	<b>Check one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Physical Education</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Athletics</b>			
6	1 <sup>st</sup> Preference Elective			
7	2 <sup>nd</sup> Preference Elective			
8	3 <sup>rd</sup> Preference Elective			
9	4 <sup>th</sup> Preference Elective			
10	5 <sup>th</sup> Preference Elective			
11	6 <sup>th</sup> Preference Elective			

There will be two slots in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade schedule for electives. It is necessary to list extra elective choices in the event that an elective class isn't available (a class may become filled, may not fit into the schedule, or there may not be sufficient interest to offer the course). In this case, other elective choices will be scheduled. If you select a .5 credit elective, please be sure to choose a 2<sup>nd</sup> .5 credit elective course so a full year of coursework may be scheduled.

**Students who score below a scaled score of 2200 on 6<sup>th</sup> Grade TAKS may be scheduled into a "targeted elective" for extra academic support in the needed core area(s).** These students will, therefore, be scheduled into one elective of their choice and the targeted elective.

Your signature below indicates that you have participated in the completion of this choice card and agree to the coursework selections indicated.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature**

**Parent Signature**

**Please return your completed choice card to school by the deadline.  
School staff will choose courses for students who do not turn in their choice card.**

# 2009-2010 New Braunfels ISD 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Selection Card

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Parent E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please carefully consider your course selections, and thoroughly read the course descriptions for each course you select. Elective courses are an important part of the curriculum and help students to develop current interests, discover new interests, and develop knowledge in various career pathways.

1	<b>English/Language Arts</b>			
2	<b>Check one:</b> _____ <b>Math 8<sup>th</sup>/</b> _____ <b>Algebra I</b>			
3	<b>Science</b>			
4	<b>Social Studies</b>			
5	<b>Check one:</b> _____ <b>Athletics</b> *Students with 2 years of PE in 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> may leave this line blank if PE is not desired.			
6	1 <sup>st</sup> Preference Elective			
7	2 <sup>nd</sup> Preference Elective			
8	3 <sup>rd</sup> Preference Elective			
9	4 <sup>th</sup> Preference Elective			
10	5 <sup>th</sup> Preference Elective			
11	6 <sup>th</sup> Preference Elective			

There will be two to three slots in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade schedule for electives. Students who have met the PE requirement (2 years of PE are required in grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) will have three electives, and students who have not met the PE requirement will have two electives. It is necessary to list extra elective choices in the event that an elective class isn't available (a class may become filled, may not fit into the schedule, or there may not be sufficient interest to offer the course). In this case, other elective choices will be scheduled. If you select a .5 credit elective, please be sure to choose a 2<sup>nd</sup> .5 credit elective course so that a full year of coursework may be scheduled.

**Students who score below a scaled score of 2200 on one or more sections of 7<sup>th</sup> grade TAKS may be scheduled into a "targeted elective" for extra academic support in the needed core area(s).** These students will, therefore, be scheduled into one to two electives of their choice and the targeted elective.

Your signature below indicates that you have participated in the completion of this choice card and agree to the coursework selections indicated.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

**Please return your completed choice card to school by the deadline.  
School staff will choose courses for students who do not turn in their choice card.**

New Braunfels Independent School District offers career and technology education programs in business, health careers, agriculture, law enforcement, automotive technology, engineering/manufacturing graphics, and consumer science education. Admission to these programs is based on interest and aptitude, age appropriateness and class space available.

It is the policy of the New Braunfels Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap, in its career and technology programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

The New Braunfels Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and career and technology programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Leigh Ann Dees at The Education Center, 430 W. Mill Street, 830/643-5700.

El Distrito Escolar Independiente De New Braunfels ofrece programas vocacionales en Educación Tecnológica y de Carrera. La admision a estos programas se basa en interes y aptitud, edad apropiada y disponibilidad de espacio en clase.

Es norma de el Distrito Escolar Independiente De New Braunfels de no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972; y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Distrito Escolar Independiente De New Braunfels tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuníquese acerca sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador de el Título IX, nombre Leigh Ann Dees en direccion Centro Educativo, 430 W. Mill Street, número de telefono 830/643-5700.