

Waller I.S.D.

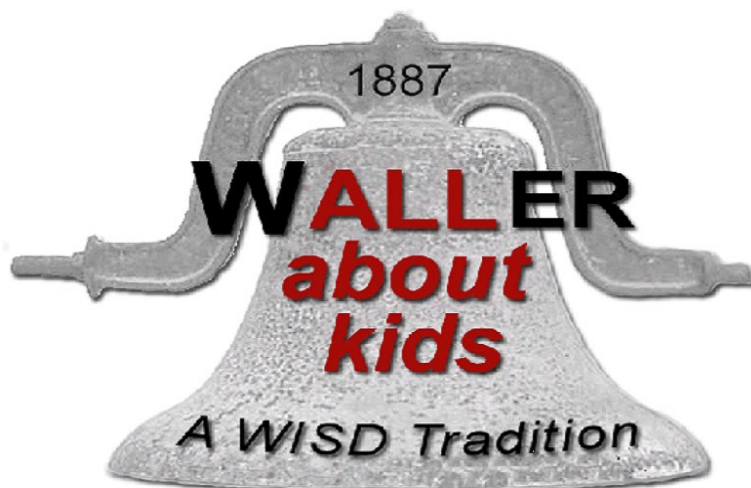
Junior High Course Offerings
Descriptions & Information

www.wallerisd.net

2023-2024

2023 – 2024

**Waller I.S.D. Junior High
Course Offerings and Descriptions**



Waller Independent School District

Mission Statement

Waller ISD believes that all students will be successful learners and graduate with skills that will allow them to compete in the 21st century workplace. It is therefore the intent of the District to serve all students regardless of their ability, environment, or national origin. Students will be provided opportunities to develop intellectually, physically, and socially through a quality system of teaching and learning. Through these opportunities, students will become responsible and productive members of a constantly changing society and world.

WALLER I.S.D. JUNIOR HIGH REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Table of Contents

General Registration Information	1
High School Graduation Requirements	3
Junior High Three-Year Planning Guide	6
High School Credit Courses Offered At Junior High	6
Course Work.....	7
Acceleration Alternatives	8
Testing Information.....	8
Special Programs	9
Looking Ahead To Waller High School	11
Course Offerings	
Reading Language Arts.....	14
Mathematics.....	16
Science	18
Social Studies	19
Electives	21
Physical Fitness	21
Fine Arts.....	22
Languages Other Than English (LOTE).....	25
Other Electives	26
Appendix	
Preliminary Six-Year Graduation Plan	A

General Registration Information

New Students

All students new to the school district should report to the registrar's office with the documents listed below:

1. Birth certificate
2. Immunization records as follows:
Immunization records from a previous school
Or
A validated document of immunization issued by a public health clinic or one signed by a licensed physician.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

A student shall show acceptable evidence of vaccination prior to entry, attendance, or transfer to a child-care facility or public or private elementary or secondary school in Texas.

- Proof of DT booster and/or second measles vaccine must be presented to the school nurse at the beginning of the semester in which they are due. Parents and students will be notified when vaccines are due. Immunization requirements differ for elementary school children. See elementary school nurse.
3. Copy of the student's academic record from the previous school
 4. A copy of his/her STAAR Confidential Student Report for the most recent test administration (students enrolling from another Texas school)
 5. Social Security number
 6. Proof of residency in the district (lease agreement, proof of home ownership, etc.)
 7. Documentation of participation in any special programs (Special Education, 504, Gifted and Talented, and ESL.)

2023-2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

This chart summarizes the vaccine requirements incorporated in the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Title 25 Health Services, § § 97.61-97.72. This chart is not intended as a substitute for consulting the TAC, which has other provisions and details. The Department of State Health Services is granted authority to set immunization requirements by the Education Code, Chapter 38, Health & Safety, Subchapter A, General Provisions.

Vaccine Required (Attention to notes and footnotes)	Minimum Number of Doses Required by Grade Level			NOTES
	K – 6 th	7 th	8 th - 12 th	
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP/DTP/DT/Td/Tdap) ¹	5 doses or 4 doses	3 doses primary series and 1 Tdap/Td booster <i>within last 5 years</i>	3 doses primary series and 1 Tdap/Td booster <i>within last 5 years</i>	<p>For K - 6th grade: 5 doses or diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine; one dose must have been received on or after the 4th birthday. However, 4 doses meet the requirement if the 4th dose was received on or after the 4th birthday.</p> <p>For 7th grade: 1 dose of Tdap is required if at least 5 years have passed since the last dose of tetanus-diphtheria-containing vaccine.</p> <p>For 8th – 12th grade: 1 dose of Tdap is required when 10 years have passed since the last dose of tetanus-diphtheria-containing vaccine. Td is acceptable in place of Tdap if a medical contraindication to pertussis exists.</p>
Polio ¹	4 doses or 3 doses			<p>For K - 12th grade: 4 doses of polio; 1 dose must be received on or after the 4th birthday. However, 3 doses meet the requirement if the 3rd dose was received on or after the 4th birthday.</p>
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella ^{1,2} (MMR)	2 doses of MMR	2 doses of measles and 1 dose each of rubella and mumps vaccine		The 1 st dose of MMR must be received on or after the 1 st birthday. For K -6 th grade, 2 doses of MMR are required.
Hepatitis B ²	3 doses			For students aged 11-15 years, 2 doses meet the requirement if adult hepatitis B vaccine (Recombivax) was received. Dosage and type of vaccine must be clearly documented. (Two 10 mcg/1.0 ml of Recombivax). If Recombivax was not the vaccine received, a 3-dose series is required.
Varicella ^{1,2,3}	2 doses			The first dose of varicella must be received on or after the 1 st birthday. For K - 12th grade: 2 doses are required.
Meningococcal		1 dose		For 7 th – 12 th grade, 1 dose of meningococcal vaccine is required upon enrollment. For students 11-12 years of age entering 7 th grade, 1 dose of meningococcal vaccine is required.
Hepatitis A ^{1,2}	2 doses			The 1 st dose of hepatitis A must be received on or after the 1 st birthday. For K - 8th grade: 2 doses are required. Special note: a child will not be considered delinquent in this series until 18 months have elapsed since receiving the 1 st dose.

¹Receipt of the dose up to (and including) 4 days before the birthday will satisfy the school entry immunization requirement.

²Serologic confirmation of immunity to measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, hepatitis A, or varicella or serologic evidence of infection is acceptable in place of vaccine.

³Previous illness may be documented with a written statement from a physician, school nurse, or the child's parent or guardian containing working such as: "This is to verify that (name of student) had varicella disease (chickenpox) on or about (date) and does not need varicella vaccine." This written statement will be acceptable in place of any and all varicella vaccine doses required.

**Waller ISD Graduation Plan 2023-2024
(Students Entering High School in 2014-2015 and Thereafter)**

Discipline	Foundation Plan with Endorsements
English/Language Arts	Four (4) Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I • English II • English III • Advanced English Course*
Mathematics	Four (4) Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I • Geometry • Advanced Mathematics Course* • Advanced Mathematics Course*
Science	Four (4) Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology • IPC or Advanced Science Course* • Advanced Science Course* • Advanced Science Course*
Social Studies	Three (3) Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Geography or World History • US History • US Government (.5 credit) • Economics (.5 credit)
Languages Other Than English (LOTE)	Two (2) Credits
Fine Arts	One (1) Credit
Physical Education	One (1) Credit
Elective Courses	Seven (7) Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least two (2) credits in endorsement area as specified
Total Credits	Twenty Six (26) Credits

*Refer to Waller High School Course Offerings Book for a list of eligible courses within each subject area.

Endorsements

Students shall specify in writing an endorsement the student intends to earn upon entering Grade 9. Students must earn at least twenty-six (26) credits to earn an endorsement:

- Must demonstrate proficiency for the foundation high school program (22 credits)
- An additional credit (1.0) in mathematics
- An additional credit (1.0) in science
- Two (2.0) additional elective credits that may be selected from endorsement area

Endorsement Options	Specified Requirements
<p>STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STEM endorsement includes courses related to science, technology, engineering and advanced mathematics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alg. II, Chemistry & Physics required
<p>Business and Industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes courses related to database management, information technology, accounting, finance, graphic design, automotive technology and agricultural science 	
<p>Public Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes courses related to health sciences, education and training, law enforcement, culinary arts and hospitality 	
<p>Arts and Humanities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes courses related to fine arts, history, world languages, cultural studies, English literature, and political science 	
<p>Multidisciplinary Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows a student to select courses from the curriculum of each endorsement area 	

Distinguished Level of Achievement

A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by successfully completing the curriculum requirements for the Foundation High School Program and the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement, including Algebra II as one of the four mathematics credits. In order to graduate in the top 10% and qualify for automatic admissions to a public university in Texas, a student must graduate with the distinguished level of achievement.

Performance Acknowledgments

A student may earn a performance acknowledgement on the student’s transcript for outstanding performance by successfully completing one or more of the following:

- Dual Credit
- Bilingualism/Bi-literacy
- College Board Advanced Placement Test/International Baccalaureate Examination
- PSAT, ACT-Aspire 10, SAT, ACT
- National or Internationally Recognized Business or Industry Certification or License

Testing Requirements for Graduation

Students take EOC (End-of-Course) assessments for courses in which they are enrolled as part of their graduation requirement. The five (5) EOC assessments required for graduation are:

- English I
- English II
- Biology
- Algebra I*
- US History

Students must earn an “approaches grade level” score on each of the five (5) assessments. *Students who take Algebra I in JH will be required to take the SAT/ACT in high school as a requirement for Federal Accountability.

Other Requirements for Graduation

- §74.1023. Financial Aid Application Requirement for High School Graduation- Beginning with students enrolled in Grade 12 during 2021-2022, each student in Grade 12 must complete and submit a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA), a Texas application for state aid (TASFA), or submit the TEA provided financial aid application Opt Out Form. Counselors will provide more detailed information to seniors each year.
- CPR- Hands Only
- Peace Officer Interaction Instruction
- Speech Components

Junior High Three-Year Planning Guide

6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
Reading Language Arts (2 periods)	Reading Language Arts (2 periods)	Reading Language Arts
Math	Math	Math
Science	Science	Science
World Cultures	Texas History	American History
Physical Fitness Class	Physical Fitness Class	3 Electives*
1 Elective*	1 Elective*	

*Students not mastering STAAR requirements may have fewer electives. Students are required to take one year of a Fine Arts credit in junior high.

The Technology Applications TEKS are integrated into the language arts, reading, math, science, and social studies curriculum in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.

This course catalog has been developed to assist you in planning your junior high course of study. Listing of a course description in this catalog does not guarantee a course will be offered during the 2023-2024 school year. If not enough students register for the course or the campus does not have a teacher to teach the course, then the course will not be offered.

High School Credit Courses Offered At Junior High

All students graduating from Waller High School must complete 26 units of credit under the foundation with endorsement plan and meet the passing standard on the EOC/STAAR assessments. It is our vision to see that every student has the opportunity to take as many courses for high school credit as possible. Therefore, the following courses are offered for high school credit at the junior high level.

<u>Course</u>	<u>Credits</u>
● Algebra 1	1
● Art I	1
● Dance I	1
● Spanish I	1
● Spanish I for Native Speakers	1
● Spanish II	1
● Spanish II for Native Speakers	1
● Theatre Arts I	1
● Fundamentals of Computer Science	½
● Health	½
● LeadWorthy The Course	½
● Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance	1
● Principles of Hospitality and Tourism	1
● Professional Communications (Speech)	½

Grades for high school credit taken at a junior high level campus shall not count towards class rank; however, grades earned by eighth grade students in high school courses taken at the high school campus shall count towards class rank.

COURSE WORK

Attendance

State law mandates that “every student must be in attendance for **90%** of the semester IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CREDIT.”

Course Selection and Schedule Changes

Students receive information about course offering and advisement about appropriate course selection from the counselors in early spring. During that time, students have the opportunity to discuss their course options with parents, teachers, and counselors. Based on input, students may request a change in course selections for the following year until the conclusion of the spring semester. The master schedule and staffing for the following year is built based upon student requests during the spring semester. All requests for changes must be submitted in writing by the last day of the spring semester to the appropriate counselor.

Changes in a schedule or a course may only be made within the published timeframe. After the course change deadline, the following guidelines will be used in honoring changes/requests made after that date.

- 1) Schedule changes will be made through the first three weeks (first 15 days) of a semester for the following reasons:
 - Error in scheduling on part of school such as a data entry error
 - Course completed/credit earned via Credit by Exam
 - Student does not meet prerequisite(s) for the course
 - Student requests a change in program (Athletics or Band)
 - Student did not meet standard on the STAAR/EOC
 - Level changes from an advanced course to an appropriate regular course with parent approval
- 2) No schedule changes are allowed after the third week (first 15 days) of each semester. The only exception to this rule is removal from Honors courses. See Exit Information Regarding Advanced Courses below.
- 3) A student may exit a full year course at the end of the fall semester pending space available in a semester-long course for the spring semester. Requests should be made three weeks before the semester ends.

Entrance/Exit Information for Honors Courses

Advanced courses have a more rigorous and in-depth content focus than on-level/regular classes. Classes often move at a faster pace, include different types of assignments, and require additional outside reading. These classes are designed to challenge students beyond grade-level academic courses and prepare them for success in future advanced coursework. Students may require additional encouragement and support from both family and campus staff to be successful in advanced classes. Students enrolled in advanced classes in English, Math, Science, LOTE, and Social Studies should have an interest in and an aptitude for the subject. Waller ISD is committed to expanded access in challenging courses and recognizes the value of student participation in advanced courses.

Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses

We encourage students who are interested in advanced courses to enroll. The following information provides a profile of a student who typically experiences success in advanced courses:

- Successful completion of prerequisite coursework
- Current or previous successful performance in related area/course
- Demonstrates mastery on course-related state-mandated performance assessments including STAAR
- Students must have parent permission to enroll in advanced courses (signed course selection sheet)
- Teacher recommendation
- Careful consideration of demands of extracurricular activities, employment, community service, outside of school activities, and homework

2023-2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

Exit Information Regarding Advanced Courses

- Students in an Advanced course (Honors, AP, or Dual Credit) will be removed and placed in the appropriate regular course if their grade fails to meet the follow guidelines:
 - Earn below a 65 for the first grading period in a semester course
 - Earn below a 60 for the first grading period in yearlong course
 - Earn below a 65 for the first semester of a yearlong course
- A student may, upon his/her request and with parent approval, transfer from an advanced course to an equivalent on-level course, if an equivalent on-level course is available, during any grading period pending class size in the equivalent on-level course. (i.e. A student moving from US History AP would be moved to on-level US History) The student will take the previous grade to the new course, but will not receive the 5.0 points in the case of Honors, AP or DC courses.
- Due to the special training required of teachers along with the rigor or classroom interaction required of advanced courses, they cannot be taught in an alternative setting long term. Students who are removed from the classroom and placed in a district disciplinary alternative school setting (DAEP) may be removed from the advanced course and placed in the appropriate regular course for the remainder of the semester/year. The student will take the previous grade to the new course but will not receive the 5.0 points in the case of Honors, AP or DC courses. The student will also be dropped from their college course with Lone Star College – Tomball.

ACCELERATION ALTERNATIVES

Gifted/Talented

Gifted/Talented learners are currently being served through the Honors program and are also provided instructional and organizational patterns that enable identified students to work together as a group, to work with other students, and to work independently. This allows students the opportunity to accelerate in the areas of their strengths. Parents, teachers, and students may nominate in each school year those who exhibit G/T traits, such as advanced vocabulary, critical/creative thinking, and an intense curiosity. Nomination forms are available from the junior high school counselor or the G/T coordinator. Program exiting may be initiated by the teacher, student, or parent at designated times during the school year.

TESTING INFORMATION

Credit by Exam for Placement/Recovery and Acceleration Credit

Students may take a credit by exam for courses in which they have had previous instruction or are wishing to accelerate. The students are allowed three hours to complete the exam, and it is similar to taking a final exam at the end of a semester. To award recovery credit, the score on the exam must be 70 or above on a criterion-referenced test. A score of 80 is required for recovery credit when no previous instruction has been received. Acceleration credit is awarded when the score on the exam is a 3 or higher for College Board Advanced Placement exam or 80% on any other criterion-referenced test approved by the school district. If a student is given credit by exam for a course with a corresponding EOC assessment on the basis of an examination on which the student scored 80 percent or higher, the district must enter the examination score on the student's transcript, and the student is not required to take an applicable EOC assessment instrument for the course. 19 TAC 74.24(c)(11). The only board approved credit by exams are offered through Texas Tech University and the University of Texas. Credit by Exam scores are not calculated in GPA and do not average with a semester grade for full year credit. Students should consult their counselor if they choose to take a credit by exam for make-up credit. Exams are administered four times a year. A student may not attempt to earn credit by exam for a specific high school course more than two times. If a student fails to earn credit by examination for a specific high school course before the beginning of the school year in which the student would ordinarily be required to enroll in that course in accordance with the school district's prescribed course sequence, the student must satisfactorily complete the course to receive credit.

2023-2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR)

The State of Texas assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) replaced the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) in 2011-2012. STAAR includes the 5 end-of-course (EOC) assessments for high school graduation and the grade 3-8 assessments.

In junior high school, students take the following STAAR tests:

Grade 6: reading language arts, math

Grade 7: reading language arts, math

Grade 8: reading language arts, math, science, social studies. Students enrolled in Algebra I will take the Algebra I EOC instead of the 8th grade STAAR math.

In the summer of 2021, the Texas Legislature passed HB 4545. HB 4545 establishes new requirements for accelerated instruction for students who do not pass or participate in the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR). At a high level, the legislation includes

- Elimination of grade retention and retesting requirements in grades 5 and 8
- For any student who does not pass or participate in the STAAR test in grade 3, 5, or 8 in math or reading language arts, a new LEA requirement to establish an accelerated learning committee to develop an individual educational plan for the student and monitor progress
- For any student who does not pass or participate in the STAAR test in grades 3-8 or STAAR (EOC) end-of-course assessments, clarification of prior accelerated instruction requirements, specifying that it must include either:
 - Being assigned a classroom teacher who is a certified master, exemplary, or recognized teacher or
 - Receiving supplemental instruction (tutoring) before or after school, or embedded in the school day (30 hours per subject area)

The state testing program continues in high school. In order to receive a diploma and graduate from a Texas public high school, students must pass their required classes as well as meet the satisfactory standard score on the STAAR EOC: Algebra I, English I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Special Education

Through Waller Independent School District's Child Find procedures or the campus' Response to Intervention Team (RTI), students experiencing difficulties in school may be referred for services in Special education. Contact the Counseling Center for more information. Before a student can receive special education and /or related services for the first time, an initial evaluation must be conducted and the evaluation must reflect that the student meets eligibility for special education services. Decisions regarding the provision of special education services are made by an Annual, Review, Dismissal (ARD) Committee. A full array of special education services are available to eligible students. These services are designed to support the student's efforts in the Least Restrictive Environment. If a student is determined to be eligible for services in accordance with the Texas Education Agency guidelines, an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is developed. Instructional settings may include (a) general education classroom with designated supports/modifications (b) general education classroom with support, (c) resource classroom, (d) self-contained classroom or (e) on a separate campus. Specialized courses which do not appear in this catalog may be available for students with disabilities as determined by the ARD Committee. Program information can be obtained by contacting Schultz Junior High 936-931-9103 or Waller Junior High 936-931-1353 or the Waller ISD Special Education Department at 936-931-9146.

§504

Section 504 is a federal law passed by the United States Congress in 1973 with the purpose of prohibiting discrimination against disabled persons. Under Section 504, a student is considered "disabled" if he or she suffers from a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. A request for a Section 504 evaluation should be made to the §504 Coordinator. Evaluation data will be gathered by the designated campus coordinator. A committee of knowledgeable persons of the student is convened to determine eligibility and a possible services place. Periodic reviews are held at all grades to insure transition from one grade to another or to facilitate the transition following graduation to either work, school, military, trade/technical school, etc. The periodic review may be for the purpose of continuing a service plan for the following school year. A 3-year period re-evaluation is also held in order to determine continued eligibility and for a §504 services plan. Please

2023-2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

call Schultz Junior High 936-931-9103 or Waller Junior High 936-931-1353 to speak to your child's assistant principal for further information.

Dyslexia

Waller Independent School District offers a dyslexia program to students who qualify. The intervention should happen early in the student's academic career but may occur whenever it is needed. Students identified as being dyslexic should be given support throughout their academic career. This includes student in all grades. Waller I.S.D. provides a dyslexia intervention program that is conducted by trained dyslexia specialists. No single program is specified for all dyslexic students; rather, services are based upon individual student needs. W.I.S.D. utilizes reading programs for students with dyslexia that incorporate all of the critical, evidence-based components required by 19 TAC §74.28(c). Dyslexia teachers work closely with regular education teachers and special program teachers in order to provide an appropriate education for dyslexic students. Parent/Guardian permission is required for evaluation, and if eligible, placement into the program.

ESL

English as a Second Language (ESL) is a Waller ISD pull out model approved by TEA and designed for English Learners (EL) who are still acquiring English language proficiency. All courses for ESL students provide instruction based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and follow the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS). The ESL instruction program strives to meet the affective, linguistic, and cognitive needs of ELs [19 TAC Chapter 89.1210 (f)(g)].

New Arrival Center (NAC)

This EL placement provides instructional opportunities for secondary recent immigrant students with little or not English proficiency. These students are newcomers within two years or less in U.S. schools and have scored at the very limited English proficiency level of the state approved English oral language proficiency tests. This course enables students to become increasingly more proficient in English in all four language domains. It will develop language, survival vocabulary, and the basic building blocks of literacy for newly arrived and preliterate students.

Response to Intervention (RTI)

Response to Intervention, or RTI, is the practice of meeting the academic and behavioral needs of all students through a problem-solving process with three key elements: high quality instruction and research-based interventions aligned with student need, frequent monitoring of student progress, and use of student data in making important educational decisions. As principals, teachers, staff, or parents become aware of a student struggling to meet his/her education needs, the RTI campus coordinator is contacted. Following the RTI timeline, the campus coordinator organizes a student support team consisting of campus personnel who have knowledge concerning that individual student's academics or behavioral concerns. After gathering pertinent information, the RTI committee problem solves and recommends a course of action for each individual student. The course of action will vary depending upon the individual student's needs.

Career and Technical Education

Waller ISD offers career and technical education programs in business, management, and administration; agriculture, food, and natural resources; arts, a/v, and communications; law and public safety; human services; manufacturing; hospitality and tourism; architecture and construction; marketing, sales, and services; health science; finance; information technology; and education and training. Admission to these programs is based on student interest, age and grade requirements specified by the Texas Education Agency.

It is the policy of Waller ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational 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.

It is the policy of Waller ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age 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; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended.

Waller ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

2023-2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Bennie Mayes, at 2214 Waller Street, Waller, TX 77484, 936-931-3685 and/or the Section 504 Coordinator, Shawna Kelley, at 2214 Waller Street, Waller, TX 77484, 936-931-3685.

LOOKING AHEAD TO WALLER HIGH SCHOOL

Nine Weeks Honor Roll

Students making all A's or all A's and B's during a nine weeks grading period are placed on the Nine Weeks Honor Roll.

Annual Honor Roll

Annual honor roll is determined by your GPA for the current year in all courses.

A Honor Roll – GPA of 3.75 – up

A/B Honor Roll – GPA of 3.50 – 3.74

Top 10%

All eligible students whose grade point averages comprise the top ten percent of the graduating class as determined by the district's procedure to qualify for automatic admission under Education Code 51.803 shall be recognized as honor graduates.

Note: Colleges may limit the number of first time freshmen eligible for admission due to enrollment caps (e.g., University of Texas). In some instances, students may be admitted to the university but not to the college of choice within the university. Colleges may admit students on a first-come-first-admitted basis or may use a lottery system. A student must also meet the requirements of Distinguished Level of Achievement to qualify for automatic admissions under the TOP 10% Rule.

Honor Graduates

Summa Cum Laude: Top 2 Highest-ranking students in graduating class

The following honors are based on the number of students in the graduating class of the given year.

Magna Cum Laude: Top 5% students in graduating class

Cum Laude: Next 10% students in graduating class

Determination of Class Rank

The following provisions shall apply to students entering ninth grade in the school year **1999 and thereafter**.

Cumulative GPA

Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by using only credits earned on the high school campus in the following content areas:

- 1) English
- 2) Mathematics
- 3) Science
- 4) Social Studies
- 5) Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

2023-2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

Limitations and Exclusions

Credits earned in the following courses are **not used** in calculating class rank:

- 1) Correspondence courses*
- 2) Distance learning courses*
- 3) Credit by examination with prior instruction
- 4) Credit by examination without prior instructions (acceleration)

*Please note: Texas Virtual School Course credit is included in grade point average.

Grades for high school credit taken at a junior high or middle school level campus shall not count toward class rank; however, grades earned by eighth grade students in high school courses taken at the high school campus shall count toward class rank.

Courses taken at the college or university campus for college credit **ONLY** shall not count toward class rank.

*Please refer to the online Waller ISD School Board Policy for actual grade point equivalence. (i.e. 99-1.98 on a 2.0 scale per semester equivalent to the 4.0 scale)

Points for each grade are awarded according to each course weight (AP, Dual Credit, Regular, etc.)

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Number Grade</u>
A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-75
D	74-70
F	69 and below

Class Rank

Class rank for senior students shall be calculated by averaging grades earned in grades 9-12 for which the student earned state graduation credit in English, mathematics, science, social studies, and languages other than English (LOTE). The numeric semester average shall earn grade points according to the District's weighted grade point scale. An estimated class rank for graduation ceremony only purposes will be calculated at the end of the third nine-week grading period. The estimated class rank for graduation ceremony only purposes will duplicate the third nine-week grading period average for the fourth nine-week grading period average. The actual class rank will be determined after all grades are reported on the final transcripts.

2023-2024 Course Offerings

REQUIRED COURSES

READING LANGUAGE ARTS

6th Reading Language Arts

1 year

(LA6RG)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: The goal of the 6th grade reading language arts curriculum is to develop, strengthen, and broaden a student’s literacy and communication skills so that they become self-directed, critical learners. The 6th grade reading language arts block course incorporates listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking throughout the following TEKS strands: developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author’s purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The standards are cumulative-students will continue to address earlier standards as needed while they attend to standards for their grade. In 6th grade, students will engage in activities that build upon prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, oral language, and thinking skills. Students will engage in academic conversations, writing, and reading to facilitate critical thinking and adapt to the ever-evolving nature of language and literacy.

6th Honors Reading Language Arts

1 year

(LA6HON)

Prerequisite: None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: The goal of the 6th grade reading language arts curriculum is to develop, strengthen, and broaden a student’s literacy and communication skills so that they become self-directed, critical learners. The 6th grade reading language arts block course incorporates listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking throughout the following TEKS strands: developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author’s purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The standards are cumulative-students will continue to address earlier standards as needed while they attend to standards for their grade. In 6th grade, students will engage in activities that build upon prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, oral language, and thinking skills. Students will engage in academic conversations, writing, and reading to facilitate critical thinking and adapt to the ever-evolving nature of language and literacy.

6th grade honors students follow the same scope and sequence as on-level students. Through increased rigor, deeper thinking, and the development of advanced-level products, students will further refine their reading and writing skills.

7th Reading Language Arts

1 year

(LA7RG)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: The goal of the 7th grade reading language arts curriculum is to develop, strengthen, and broaden a student’s literacy and communication skills so that they become self-directed, critical learners. The 7th grade reading language arts block course incorporates listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking throughout the following TEKS strands: developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author’s purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The standards are cumulative-students will continue to address earlier standards as needed while they attend to standards for their grade. In 7th grade, students will engage in activities that build upon prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, oral language, and thinking skills. Students will engage in academic conversations, writing, and reading to facilitate critical thinking and adapt to the ever-evolving nature of language and literacy.

7th Honors Reading Language Arts

1 year

(LA7HON)

Prerequisite: None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: The goal of the 7th grade reading language arts curriculum is to develop, strengthen, and broaden a student’s literacy and communication skills so that they become self-directed, critical learners. The 7th grade reading language arts block course incorporates listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking throughout the following TEKS strands: developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author’s purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The standards are cumulative-students will continue to address earlier standards as needed while they attend to standards for their grade. In 7th grade, students will engage in activities that build upon prior

2023–2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, oral language, and thinking skills. Students will engage in academic conversations, writing, and reading to facilitate critical thinking and adapt to the ever-evolving nature of language and literacy.

7th grade honors students follow the same scope and sequence as on-level students. Through increased rigor, deeper thinking, and the development of advanced-level products, students will further refine their reading and writing skills.

8th Reading Language Arts **1 year** **(LA8RG)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: The goal of the 8th grade language arts curriculum is to develop, strengthen, and broaden a student's literacy and communication skills so that they become self-directed, critical learners. The 8th grade language arts/reading course incorporates listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking throughout the following TEKS strands: developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author's purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The standards are cumulative-students will continue to address earlier standards as needed while they attend to standards for their grade. In 8th grade, students will engage in activities that build upon prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, oral language, and thinking skills. Students will engage in academic conversations, writing, and reading to facilitate critical thinking and adapt to the ever-evolving nature of language and literacy.

8th Reading Honors Language Arts **1 year** **(LA8HON)**

Prerequisite: None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: The goal of the 8th grade language arts curriculum is to develop, strengthen, and broaden a student's literacy and communication skills so that they become self-directed, critical learners. The 8th grade language arts/reading course incorporates listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking throughout the following TEKS strands: developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author's purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The standards are cumulative-students will continue to address earlier standards as needed while they attend to standards for their grade. In 8th grade, students will engage in activities that build upon prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, oral language, and thinking skills. Students will engage in academic conversations, writing, and reading to facilitate critical thinking and adapt to the ever-evolving nature of language and literacy.

8th grade honors students follow the same scope and sequence as on-level students. Through increased rigor, deeper thinking, and the development of advanced-level products, students will further refine their reading and writing skills.

6th Reading Language Arts Intervention **1 year** **(RR6180)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course may be required for any student who did not meet the required passing standard on the first administration of the fifth grade STAAR Reading exam. This course focuses on word analysis, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension skills, literary responses, and reading strategies. Targeted intervention closes gaps identified by reading diagnostic assessments to ensure academic success. **This course will take the place of one sixth grade elective.**

7th Reading Language Arts Intervention **1 year** **(RR7180)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course may be required for any student who did not meet the required passing standard on the sixth grade STAAR Reading exam. Students will practice reading strategies to improve skills in word analysis, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and written literary responses using a variety of materials differentiated to meet student needs. Targeted intervention closes gaps identified by reading diagnostic assessments to ensure academic success. **This course will take the place of one seventh grade elective.**

8th Reading Language Arts Intervention **1 year** **(RR8180)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course may be required for any student who did not meet the required passing standard on the seventh grade STAAR Reading exam. Students will practice reading/cognitive strategies to improve skills in word analysis, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and written literary responses using a variety of materials differentiated to meet student

2023–2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

needs. Targeted intervention closes gaps identified by reading diagnostic assessments to ensure academic success. **This course will take the place of one eighth grade elective.**

MATHEMATICS

6th Mathematics **1 year** **(MM6RG)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Sixth grade students will explore essential academic elements of mathematics throughout the school year. In this course, the primary focal points are numbers and operations, proportionality, expressions, equations, relationships, measurement and data. Students will add, subtract, multiply and divide integers and positive rational numbers fluently. Students will connect verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships, including equations and inequalities. Also, students will use problem solving in meaningful contexts, language and communication, connections within and outside mathematics, and formal and informal reasoning along with technology and mathematical tools to develop conceptual understanding and to solve problems in mathematics.

6th Honors Mathematics **1 year** **(MM6HON)**

Prerequisite: None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: Sixth grade Honors is an advanced course to prepare students for Algebra I that is offered in the eighth grade. In this course, students will explore 6th and 7th grade essential elements of mathematics throughout the school year. The primary focal points are proportionality, expressions, equations, relationships, measurement and data. Students use the concepts of proportionality to explore, develop, and communicate mathematical relationships, including numbers, geometry, measurement, and statistics and probability. Also, students will use problem solving in meaningful contexts, language and communication, connections within and outside mathematics, and formal and informal reasoning along with technology and mathematical tools to develop conceptual understanding and to solve problems in mathematics. **Success in honors classes requires a high level of commitment and responsibility. The increased rigor of this course provides a challenge and deep understanding for students who have shown a need for enrichment in the area of mathematics.**

7th Mathematics **1 year** **(MM7RG)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Seventh grade students will explore the essential academic elements of mathematics throughout the school year. In this course, the primary focal areas are proportionality, expressions, equations, relationships, measurement and data. Students use the concepts of proportionality, algebraic relationships, and multiple representations of mathematical relationships to effectively communicate mathematical ideas. Also, students will communicate information about geometric figures or situations by their attributes and use procedures to solve problems. Students will use appropriate statistics, representations of data, and reasoning to draw conclusions and make recommendations. The emphasis of algebra readiness skills necessitates the implementation of graphing technology.

7th Honors Mathematics **1 year** **(MM7HON)**

Prerequisite: 6th Honors Mathematics (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: Seventh grade Honors is an advanced course to prepare students for Algebra I that is offered in the eighth grade. Students entering 7th grade Honors should have a complete understanding of all 6th grade TEKS and those 7th grade mathematics TEKS included in 6th grade Honors curriculum. The students will build a foundation of basic understandings in number, operation, and quantitative reasoning; patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking; geometry and spatial reasoning; measurement and probability and statistics. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of rational numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasing complex situations. Students use algebraic thinking to describe how a change in one quantity in a relationship results in a change in another. The connection between verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships will be extensively investigated. The emphasis of algebra readiness skills necessitates the implementation of graphing technology. **Success in honors classes requires a high level of commitment and responsibility. The increased rigor of this course provides a challenge and deep understanding for students who have shown a need for enrichment in the area of mathematics.**

2023–2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

8th Mathematics **1 year** **(MM8RG)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: The primary focal areas in Grade 8 are proportionality, expressions, equations, inequalities, foundations of functions, measurement and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of real numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations. The concept of proportionality, that will include slope, will be used to explore, develop, and communicate mathematical relationships. Algebraic thinking will be extended from the previous grades to describe and further the developed functional relationships. Students will use geometric properties and relationships, as well as spatial reasoning, to model and analyze situations to solve problems. While the use of all types of technology is important, the emphasis on algebra readiness skills necessitates the implementation of graphing technology.

Algebra I

(High School Credit) **1 credit** **(MALG1)**

Prerequisite: 7th Honors Math (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: In Algebra I, students will build on the knowledge and skills for mathematics in Grades 6-8, which provide a foundation in linear relationships, number and operations, and proportionality. Students will study linear, quadratic, and exponential functions and their related transformations, equations, and associated solutions. Students will connect functions and their associated solutions in both mathematical and real-world situations. Students will use technology to collect and explore data and analyze statistical relationships. In addition, students will study polynomials of degree one and two, radical expressions, sequences, and laws of exponents. Students will generate and solve linear systems with two equations and two variables and will create new functions through transformations. Students successfully completing Algebra I in eighth grade will receive high school credit and should enroll in geometry in ninth grade. *****Students will take the Algebra I End of Course Assessment which is required for high school graduation*** One high school credit is awarded if student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement. Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by using only credits earned on the high school campus. *Enrolled students will be required to take the SAT/ACT in high school as a requirement for Federal Accountability.***

6th Math Intervention **1 year** **(MM6LAB)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course may be required for any student who did not meet the required passing standard on the first administration of the fifth grade STAAR Math exam. This course focuses on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division fluency, all operations with decimals and fractions, integer operations fluency, solving equations and inequalities, geometry concepts, and problem solving strategies. This class will also reinforce the skills and concepts that are being taught in the regular math class. Targeted intervention closes gaps identified by math diagnostic assessments to ensure academic success. **This class will take the place of one sixth grade elective.**

7th Math Intervention **1 year** **(MM7LAB)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course may be required for any student who did not meet the required passing standard on the sixth grade STAAR Math exam. This course focuses on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division fluency, all operations with decimals and fractions, integer operations fluency, solving equations and inequalities, geometry concepts, and problem solving strategies. This class will also reinforce the skills and concepts that are being taught in the regular math class. Targeted intervention closes gaps identified by math diagnostic assessments to ensure academic success. **This class will take the place of one seventh grade elective.**

8th Math Intervention **1 year** **(MM8LAB)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course may be required for any student who did not meet the required passing standard on the seventh grade STAAR Math exam. This course focuses on all operations with rational numbers, solving multi-step equations, geometry comprehension, problem solving strategies, and proper use of the TI-84 calculator to solve problems. This class will also reinforce the skills and concepts that are being taught in the regular math class. Targeted intervention closes gaps identified by math diagnostic assessments to ensure academic success. **This class will take the place of one eighth grade elective.**

SCIENCE**6th Science** **1 year** **(SC6RG)****Prerequisite:** None

Course Description: Grade 6 science is interdisciplinary in nature; however, much of the content focus is on physical science. Middle school science objectives are organized into five separate strands of concepts. All of these strands are investigated in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade science. However, emphasis will be placed upon the Matter and Energy, and the Force, Motion, and Energy strands within 6th grade science. These physical science topics will also form the foundation in which we investigate the remaining three strands throughout the year. The strands for Grade 6 include: (A) Scientific investigations and reasoning. (B) Matter and energy. Students will study the classification of matter and investigate the differences between elements and compounds as well as the various physical properties of different types of elements. Students will also investigate various types of energy resources, specifically their origins and uses. (C) Force, motion, and energy. Energy occurs in two types, potential and kinetic, and can take several forms. Thermal energy can be transferred by conduction, convection, or radiation. It can also be changed from one form to another. Students will investigate the relationship between force and motion using a variety of means, including calculations and measurements. (D) Earth and space. (E) Organisms and environments.

6th Honors Science **1 year** **(SC6HON)****Prerequisite:** None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: Honors classes follow the same learning standards as on-level. Honors Science provides capable students with skills designed to prepare them for the rigor and depth of the Advanced Placement program. In addition to the TEKS strands outlined in on level courses, Honors courses are differentiated through a combination of the following: the depth of content presentation, greater student responsibility for his/her learning, slightly faster pacing, greater complexity of thought, and higher-level of cognitive understanding as demonstrated through class discussion, essay writing, and products.

7th Science **1 year** **(SC7RG)****Prerequisite:** None

Course Description: Grade 7 Science is interdisciplinary in nature; however much of the focus is on organisms and the environment. The strands for Grade 7 include: Matter and Energy (photosynthesis, food chains, food webs, energy pyramids, physical and chemical changes of matter in digestion) Force, Motion, and Energy (transfer from chemical energy to heat and thermal energy in digestion, emergence of seedlings, turgor pressure, geotropism) Organisms and Environment (cell theory, cell structure and function, human body systems, genetics, maintaining stable internal conditions in response to external and internal stimuli, adaptations, ecology, dichotomous keys, succession) Earth and Space (natural disasters, weathering, erosion, and deposition on Texas ecoregions, watersheds, effects of human activity on groundwater and surface water in a watershed).

7th Honors Science **1 year** **(SC7HON)****Prerequisite:** None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: Honors classes follow the same learning standards as on-level. Honors Science provides capable students with skills designed to prepare them for the rigor and depth of the Advanced Placement program. In addition to the TEKS strands outlined in on level courses, Honors courses are differentiated through a combination of the following: the depth of content presentation, greater student responsibility for his/her learning, slightly faster pacing, greater complexity of thought, and higher-level of cognitive understanding as demonstrated through class discussion, essay writing, and products.

8th Science **1 year** **(SC8RG)****Prerequisite:** None

Course Description: Grade 8 Science is interdisciplinary in nature; however, much of the content focus is on earth science. The strands for Grade 8 include: Chemistry (atomic structure, the arrangement of the periodic table, and chemical reactions), Physics (speed, velocity, acceleration, balanced/unbalanced forces, and Newton's Laws), Astronomy (characteristics of the universe, Earth's movement, lunar cycle, and tides), Geology (plate tectonics, weathering and erosion), Ecology (ecological relationships and short and long term changes in the environment), and Weather.

2023–2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

8th Honors Science **1 year** **(SC8HON)**
Prerequisite: None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: Honors classes follow the same learning standards as on-level. Honors Science provides capable students with skills designed to prepare them for the rigor and depth of the Advanced Placement program. In addition to the TEKS strands outlined in on level courses, Honors courses are differentiated through a combination of the following: the depth of content presentation, greater student responsibility for his/her learning, slightly faster pacing, greater complexity of thought, and higher-level of cognitive understanding, as demonstrated through class discussion, essay writing, and products.

SOCIAL STUDIES

6th Social Studies **1 year** **(SS6RG)**
Prerequisite: None

Course Description: In Grade 6, students study people and places of the contemporary world. Societies selected for study are chosen from the following regions of the world: Europe, Russia and the Eurasian Republics, North America, Middle America, South America, Southwest Asia-North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Realm. Students use critical-thinking skills, including the analysis of historical documents in written, oral, and visual material.

6th Honors Social Studies **1 year** **(SS6HON)**
Prerequisite: None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: This course focuses on the same units of study as on-level students; however, the curriculum is compressed and accelerated within each grading period. Differentiation of on-level and honors is accomplished through pacing, depth, and complexity of assignments. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving, role playing, simulations, independent research, and the use of technology.

7th Social Studies **1 year** **(SS7RG)**
Prerequisite: None

Course Description: In Grade 7, students study the history of Texas from early times to the present. Students examine the full scope of Texas history, including Natural Texas and its People; Age of Contact; Spanish Colonial; Mexican National; Revolution and Republic; Early Statehood; Texas in the Civil War and Reconstruction; Cotton, Cattle, and Railroads; Age of Oil; Texas in the Great Depression and World War II; Civil Rights and Conservatism; and Contemporary Texas eras. The focus in each era is on key individuals, events, and issues and their impact. Students use critical-thinking skills, including the analysis of historical documents in written, oral, and visual material.

7th Honors Social Studies **1 year** **(SS7HON)**
Prerequisite: None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: This course focuses on the same units of study as on-level students; however, the curriculum is compressed and accelerated within each grading period. Differentiation of on-level and honors is accomplished through pacing, depth, and complexity of assignments. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving, role playing, simulations, independent research, and the use of technology.

8th Social Studies **1 year** **(SS8RG)**
Prerequisite: None

Course Description: In grade 8, students study the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, religious, and social events and issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early republic, the Age of Jackson, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students use critical-thinking skills, including the analysis of historical documents in written, oral, and visual material.

2023–2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

8th Honors Social Studies

1 year

(SS8HON)

Prerequisite: None (Refer to Entrance Information Regarding Advanced Courses on page 7.)

Course Description: This course focuses on the same units of study as on-level students; however, the curriculum is compressed and accelerated within each grading period. Differentiation of on-level and honors is accomplished through pacing, depth, and complexity of assignments. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving, role playing, simulations, independent research, and the use of technology.

ELECTIVES

PHYSICAL FITNESS

6th - 8th Physical Education

1 year

(PEFITB/PEFITG)

Prerequisite: None

(PEF2B/PEF2G)

Course Description: Students are exposed to a variety of activities that promote health-related fitness. This course is designed to help students understand, develop, improve or maintain the skills needed to participate in team sports such as volleyball, basketball, football, and soccer as well as individual sports such as tennis, strength training and conditioning, tumbling, aerobics and orienteering. While the acquisition of physical fitness and the development of skill remain important, this course emphasizes participation for enjoyment and challenge. Students' knowledge of safety and the ability to manage their own behavior is reinforced. All students are expected to dress out accordingly and participate daily.

7th - 8th Boys Athletics

1 year

(PE7BA1/PE8BA1)

Prerequisite: Athletic physical for current school year

Course Description: The athletics class is open to boys interested in playing football, basketball, track, soccer, cross country, tennis or golf. Students are required to attend mandatory practices after school and students are responsible for all equipment issued. Students will have to pay for all equipment not returned. A doctor's physical is required before entering the program. An athlete's grade will be based on 1) athletic participation, 2) following class procedures, and 3) dressing out in school issued clothing each day. Athletes desiring to participate in high school athletics should sign up and participate in 8th grade athletics. Golf, tennis, and cross-country are sports offered outside of the athletic class, and class enrollment is not mandatory for participation in these sports. Practice for these sports will be before or after school only.

7th - 8th Girls Athletics

1 year

(PE7GA1/PE8GA1)

Prerequisite: Athletic physical for current school year

Course Description: The athletics class is open to girls interested in playing volleyball, basketball, track, soccer, cross country, tennis or golf. Students are required to attend mandatory practices after school and students are responsible for all equipment issued. Students will have to pay for all equipment not returned. A doctor's physical is required before entering the program. An athlete's grade will be based on 1) athletic participation, 2) following class procedures, and 3) dressing out in school issued clothing each day. Athletes desiring to participate in high school athletics should sign up and participate in 8th grade athletics. Golf, tennis, and cross-country are sports offered outside of the athletic class, and class enrollment is not mandatory for participation in these sports. Practice for these sports will be before or after school only.

FINE ARTS

6th Art, Grade 6 **1 year** **(FA1AR)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Art, Grade 6 is a comprehensive, full year course that provides students with introductory experiences in problem solving and expression of personal ideas through a variety of art media, techniques, and vocabulary. Emphasis is placed on art production, incorporating the study of art and styles, the elements of art, and principles of design. Each student will maintain a portfolio.

Note: Students are responsible for purchasing basic art supplies in addition to items provided by the school. Some supplies that get used up during the course of the year may need to be replenished by each student as needed.

7th Art, Grade 7 **1 year** **(FA2AR)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Art, Grade 7 expands upon the basic elements of art and principles of design by challenging students to problem solve at higher levels, communicating personal ideas and emotions. Students will develop a strong foundation for future art courses through the study and processes of design, drawing, painting, three-dimensional work, and art history. The course will emphasize the development of originality, creativity, craftsmanship, and effort in personal artworks. Each student will maintain a portfolio.

Note: Students are responsible for purchasing basic art supplies in addition to items provided by the school. Some supplies that get used up during the course of the year may need to be replenished by each student as needed.

8th Art I

(High School Credit)

1 credit

(FAAR1)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Four basic strands—perception, creative expression/performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation—provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Students will rely on their perceptions of the environment, developed through increasing visual awareness and sensitivity to surroundings, memory, imagination, and life experiences, as a source for creating artworks. Students will express their thoughts and ideas creatively, while challenging their imagination, foster reflective thinking, and development disciplined effort and problem-solving skills. By analyzing artistic styles and historical periods students develop respect for traditions and contributions of diverse cultures. Students will respond to and analyze artworks, thus contributing to the development of lifelong skills of making informed judgments and evaluations. **This course will satisfy the fine arts requirement for graduation. One high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement.**

Note: Students are responsible for purchasing basic art supplies in addition to items provided by the school. Some supplies that get used up during the course of the year may need to be replenished by each student as needed.

6th - 8th Beginning Band **1 year** **(FA1BB)**

Prerequisite: Instrument Fitting and Placement by Band Director

Course Description: Beginning band is the initial opportunity for students to acquire skills in playing a musical instrument. No previous musical experience is required. Beginning band classes are divided into like-instrument classes that are taught by the band staff. While the primary focus will be on acquiring and developing the skills needed to play an instrument, students will also cover the basics of music reading, music theory, music history, and instrument maintenance. The Waller ISD band program also helps students develop the qualities of leadership, responsibility, cooperation, and self-discipline. **Students are responsible for attaining the necessary instrument and supplies. Loaner instruments and financial assistance may be available for those with hardships. Please contact your school's band director for more information.**

2023–2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

Concert Band 1 year (FA2BCB/FA3BCB)
Prerequisite: Beginning Band, Band Director Placement
Course Description: This course will focus on the further development of the skills learned in beginning band and allow students the opportunity to develop the necessary skills to be placed in Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble. Students will perform at least one concert per semester and may be required to attend some extra rehearsals after school. The Waller ISD band program also helps students develop the qualities of leadership, responsibility, cooperation, and self-discipline. **Students are responsible for attaining the necessary instrument and supplies. Loaner instruments and financial assistance may be available for those with hardships. Please contact your school's band director for more information.**

Symphonic Band 1 year (FA1BSY/FA2BSY/FA3BSY)
Prerequisite: Audition and Band Director Placement
Course Description: The Symphonic Band is the non-varsity performing ensemble. This class will give students the opportunity to further develop musical skills through the performance of music appropriate for their ability level. Symphonic band will perform in a variety of competitions and concerts throughout the school year, and will be given the opportunity to audition for the all-region band and participate in solo and ensemble contest. This class will require a minimum amount of rehearsal outside the school day. The Waller ISD band program also helps students develop the qualities of leadership, responsibility, cooperation, and self-discipline. **Students are responsible for attaining the necessary instrument and supplies. Loaner instruments and financial assistance may be available for those with hardships. Please contact your school's band director for more information.**

Wind Ensemble 1 year (FA2BWE/FA3BWE)
Prerequisite: Audition and Band Director Placement
Course Description: The Wind Ensemble is the varsity performing ensemble consisting of students who have demonstrated a high level of skill and commitment. This class will give students the opportunity to further develop musical skills through the performance of higher level music. Wind Ensemble will perform in a variety of contests and concerts throughout the year, and will be given the opportunity to audition for the all-region band and participate in solo and ensemble contest. Due to the advance ability level of students in this ensemble, students are highly encouraged to participate in the all-region audition. This class will require a limited amount of rehearsal outside the school day. The Waller ISD band program also helps students develop the qualities of leadership, responsibility, cooperation, and self-discipline. **Students are responsible for attaining the necessary instrument and supplies. Loaner instruments and financial assistance may be available for those with hardships. Please contact your school's band director for more information.**

6th - 8th Beginning Choir 1 year (FA1CH)
Prerequisite: None
Course Description: Beginning Choir (Music Minors) is a performing arts course intended to give students increased understanding and appreciation of choral music. This course is intended for students who are beginning their choral music and music theory instruction. The study of choral music will be seen through four aspects: perception, creative expression, historical/cultural heritage, and critical evaluation. Students will be introduced to basic element of music theory, literacy, and vocabulary. Students will have rehearsals daily during the class period and will have occasional after school rehearsals. Students will be required to attend several concerts throughout the year. Students will also have the opportunity to go on choir field trips. Each student is required to pay an annual membership fee.

7th - 8th Intermediate Women's Choir 1 year (FA2ICH/FA3ICH)
Prerequisite: Beginning Choir
Course Description: Intermediate Women's Choir (Bella Voce) is a performing arts course intended to give students increased understanding and appreciation of choral music through the study of intermediate choral music. The study of choral music will be seen through four aspects: perception, creative expression, historical/cultural heritage, and critical evaluation. Students will learn more advanced elements of music theory, literacy, and vocabulary. Students will have rehearsals daily during the class period and will have occasional after school rehearsals. Students in this choir will have the opportunity to perform in UIL events. Students will be required to attend several concerts throughout the year, and students will have the opportunity to go on choir field trips. Each student is required to pay an annual membership fee.

2023–2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

7th - 8th Men's Choir **1 year** **(FA2ICH/FA3ICH)**

Prerequisite: Beginning Choir

Course Description: Men's Choir is a performing arts course intended to give students increased understanding and appreciation of choral music through the study of intermediate level men's choral music. The study of choral music will be seen through four aspects: perception, creative expression, historical/cultural heritage, and critical evaluations. Students will learn more advanced elements of music theory, literacy, and vocabulary. Students will have rehearsals daily during the class period and will have occasional after school rehearsals. Students in this choir will have the opportunity to perform in UIL events. Students will be required to attend several concerts throughout the year, and students will have the opportunity to go on choir field trips. Each student is required to pay an annual membership fee.

6th Dance, Grade 6 **1 year** **(FA1DN)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: A beginning dance class that incorporates terminology, history, and technique at the beginner level. Students will participate in the study of ballet, modern, jazz and various other dance genres.

7th Dance, Grade 7 **1 year** **(FA2DN)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Dance, Grade 7 expands the difficulty level in the performance of ballet/lyrical, modern, jazz, tap and choreography/production. An extension of terminology, history and technique will be included.

8th Dance I
(High School Credit) **1 credit** **(FADN1)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Dance I focuses on fundamental skills in the following dance techniques: ballet, modern jazz, lyrical, tap, folk, character, and ethnic. Students will develop creative expression through movement using improvisation, exploration of basic concepts and movement problems. Students will develop an awareness of space, time, and energy as design factors in dance technique and composition. Students will develop self-confidence through the use of the body as an expressive instrument. Most importantly, students will gain an appreciation of dance as an art form through viewing performances on tape and live performances. Students will learn the history of various dance styles. Student is required to perform a dance choreographed by the teacher. One outside performance a semester is required. Each student will also be asked to choreograph a complete dance during the second semester. **This course will satisfy the fine arts requirement for graduation. One high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement.**

6th Theatre Arts, Grade 6 **1 year** **(FA1TH)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: In this full year course, students explore the fundamentals of performance, technical theatre, and theatre appreciation (including historical and cultural heritage and critical evaluation). Students learn the basics of stage direction and acting through individual and group performances. Activities include pantomime, improvisation, role playing, characterization, storytelling, costume and set design, makeup, lighting and sound, play/movie reviews, play production, and audience etiquette. **Students will be required to participate in a class production which will require after school rehearsals.**

7th Theatre Arts, Grade 7 **1 year** **(FA2TH)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This full year course is a continuation and progression of Theatre Arts, Grade 6 course. Students are given more challenging activities in the areas of creative expression; effective use of voice and diction; story creation; play direction; creation of technical elements such as scenery, props, lighting, sound, costumes, makeup, and publicity. **Students will be required to participate in a class production which will require after school rehearsals.**

2023–2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

8th Theatre Arts I
(High School Credit)
Prerequisite: None

1 credit

(FATH1)

Course Description: Theatre Arts I is an introductory overview to the world of theatre. This course covers the general areas of performance, technical theatre, and theatre appreciation. Students will have an opportunity to explore their creativity through theater subjects including, but not limited to improvisation, pantomime, acting, design, play production, and scriptwriting. **Student will be required to participate in a class production which will require after school rehearsals.**

This course will satisfy the fine arts requirement for graduation. One high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement.

Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

7th - 8th Spanish I
(High School Credit)
Prerequisite: None

1 credit

(FLSP1)

Course Description: An elementary introduction to the Spanish language beginning with oral Spanish of everyday life situations. It progresses to more difficult language patterns and a study of two simple tenses. Grammar patterns necessary for the comprehension of the language are studied. Speaking, writing, reading, and comprehension of the language are studied and experienced. Materials used include audiovisuals made by native Spanish teachers. **One high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement. Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by using only credits earned on the high school campus.**

7th - 8th Spanish I for Native Speakers
(High School Credit)
Prerequisite: None

1 credit

(FLNS1)

Course Description: An elementary introduction to the Spanish language beginning with oral Spanish of everyday life situations. It progresses to more difficult language patterns and a study of two simple tenses. Grammar patterns necessary for the comprehension of the language are studied. Speaking, writing, reading, and comprehension of the language are studied and experienced. Materials used include audiovisuals made by native Spanish teachers. **One high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement. Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by using only credits earned on the high school campus.**

8th Spanish II
(High School Credit)

1 credit

(FLSP2)

Prerequisite: *Required* Spanish I or demonstrated equivalent proficiency as determined by the district

Course Description: Grammar patterns are extended to include additional tenses. Reading lessons are concerned with the Hispanic nations, their history, culture, economy, etc. More time is devoted to reading and writing language than the first year. Speaking and comprehending the spoken language are still primary aims. **One high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement. Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by using only credits earned on the high school campus.**

8th Spanish II for Native Speakers
(High School Credit)

1 credit

(FLSNS2)

Prerequisite: *Required* Spanish I or demonstrated equivalent proficiency as determined by the district

Course Description: Grammar patterns are extended to include additional tenses. Reading lessons are concerned with the Hispanic nations, their history, culture, economy, etc. More time is devoted to reading and writing language than the first year. Speaking and comprehending the spoken language are still primary aims. **One high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement. Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by using only credits earned on the high school campus.**

OTHER ELECTIVES

8th Health **½ credit** **(PHLTH)**
(High School Credit)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course provides opportunities for students to acquire facts, to develop proper attitudes, and to establish practices and habits that contribute to personal and community health. Hands only CPR is a state graduation requirement and will be covered in this course. **One-half high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the semester and meets the 90% attendance requirement.**

8th Investigating Careers **1 year** **(CTCP1)**

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: The goal of this course is to create a culture of high expectation and continuous improvement that provides middle school students with a foundation for success in high school, future studies, and careers. Students explore college and career planning within specific career cluster(s). The students research labor market information, learn job-seeking skills, interview skills, and create documents required for employment. Students use self-knowledge to explore and set realistic goals.

8th Leadworthy The Course **½ credit** **(TEENL)**
(High School Credit)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: *Leadworthy* is a program in which students develop leadership, professional, and business skills. They learn to develop a healthy self-concept, healthy relationships, and learn to understand the concept of personal responsibility. They will develop an understanding of Emotional Intelligence and the skills it measures, which include self-awareness, self-control, self-motivation, and social skills. Students will develop skills in public speaking and communication and an understanding of personal image. They will develop an understanding of the concept of principle-based decision-making and learn to make responsible financial decisions. They will develop an understanding of the effects of peer pressure and will develop skills to counteract those effects. **One-half high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the semester and meets the 90% attendance requirement.**

8th Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance **1 credit** **(CTPRMK)**
(High School Credit)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: In Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance, students gain knowledge and skills in economies and private enterprise systems, the impact of global business, the marketing of goods and services, advertising, and product pricing. Students analyze the sales process and financial management principles. This course allows students to reinforce, apply, and transfer academic knowledge and skills to a variety of interesting and relevant activities, problems, and settings in business, marketing, and finance. **One high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement.**

8th Principles of Hospitality and Tourism **1 credit** **(CTHTPR)**
(High School Credit)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Principles of Hospitality and Tourism introduces students to an industry that encompasses lodging, travel and tourism, recreation, amusements, attractions, and food/beverage operations. Students learn knowledge and skills focusing on communication, time management, and customer service that meet industry standards. Students will explore the history of the hospitality and tourism industry and examine characteristics needed for success in that industry. **One high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the school year and meets the 90% attendance requirement.**

2023–2024 Waller I.S.D. Junior High Course Offerings

8th Professional Communications (High School Credit) $\frac{1}{2}$ credit (CTATPC)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Professional Communications blends written, oral, and graphic communication in a career-based environment. Careers in the global economy require individuals to be creative and have a strong background in computer and technology applications, a strong and solid academic foundation, and a proficiency in professional oral and written communications. Within this context, students will be expected to develop and expand the ability to write, read, edit, speak, listen, apply software applications, manipulate computer graphics, and conduct Internet research. **One-half high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the semester and meets the 90% attendance requirement.**

6th Technology Applications, Grade 6 1 year (FA6TEC)

Prerequisite: None

Course Descriptions: Through the study of technology applications foundations, including technology-related terms, concepts and data input strategies; students learn to make informed decisions about technologies and their applications. The curriculum for this course has four strands: foundations, information acquisition, work in solving problems, and communications. The Technology Applications course includes instruction in the use of hardware and software, keyboarding basics, digital portfolios, coding basics, multi-presentation software, spreadsheets, word processing, desktop publishing, and graphic design.

7th Technology Applications, Grade 7 1 year (FA7TEC)

Prerequisite: None

Course Descriptions: This elective will build upon proficiencies students acquired from the Technology Applications course. Students will integrate previously learned tools, such as word processing, multi-media, desktop publishing, and spreadsheets into cumulative projects. Students will use appropriate technology skills to conduct research and complete curriculum projects that reinforce and integrate core subject areas. Legal, social and ethical issues related to the use of computers in our daily life will continue to be reinforced.

8th Fundamentals of Computer Science (High School Credit) $\frac{1}{2}$ credit (TAFCS)

Prerequisite: Proficiency in the knowledge and skills relating to Technology Applications, Grades 6-8

Course Description: Fundamentals of Computer Science is intended as a first course for those students just beginning the study of computer science. Students will learn about the computing tools that are used every day. Students will foster their creativity and innovation through opportunities 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. Students will learn the problem-solving and reasoning skills that are the foundation of computer science. By using computer science knowledge and skills that support the work of individuals and groups in solving problems, students will select the technology appropriate for the task, synthesize knowledge, create solutions, and evaluate the results. Students will learn digital citizenship by researching current laws and regulations and by practicing integrity and respect. Students will gain an understanding of the principles of computer science through the study of technology operations and concepts. **One-half high school credit is awarded if the student earns an average of 70 or above at the end of the semester and meets the 90% attendance requirement.**

APPENDIX

WALLER ISD
PRELIMINARY SIX-YEAR GRADUATION PLAN (GRADES 7-12)

The following information is provided to help assist you in the planning of your child's education. Please review and fill out the Post High School Plan Section and return to the campus counselor.

Preliminary Junior High School Plan	
7th Grade Required Courses	8th Grade Required Courses
Reading Language Arts	Reading Language Arts
Math	Math
Science	Science
Texas History	American History
Physical Fitness	Electives (3)*
Elective (1)*	

**Students meeting placement criteria may take High School credit courses as electives in Jr. High School*

Jr. High School Course and Electives for High School Credit		
7th Grade Elective Offerings	8th Grade Course and Elective Offerings	
Spanish I (1 credit)	Algebra I (1 credit)	Art I (1 credit)
Spanish I for Native Speakers (1 credit)	Dance I (1 credit)	Theater Arts I (1 credit)
Spanish II (1 credit)	Spanish I (1 credit)	Spanish II (1 credit)
Spanish II for Native Speakers (1 credit)	Spanish I for Native Speakers (1 credit)	Spanish II for Native Speakers (1 credit)
	Fundamentals of Computer Science (1/2 credit)	Health (1/2 credit)
	Leadworthy The Course (1/2 credit)	Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance (1 credit)
	Principles of Hospitality and Tourism (1 credit)	Prof Comm (1/2 credit)

Graduation Requirements for the Foundation Plan with Endorsements	
Reading Language Arts	4
Math	4
Science	4
Social Studies	3
Languages Other Than English	2
Fine Arts	1
Physical Education	1
Elective Courses	7
Total Credits	26 credits

Endorsement Options	
Stem (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)	
Business and Industry	
Public Services	
Arts and Humanities	
Multidisciplinary Studies	

Note: Refer to the High School course description booklet located at www.wallerisd.net each year for updated information from the Texas Education Agency & Waller ISD regarding graduation requirements.

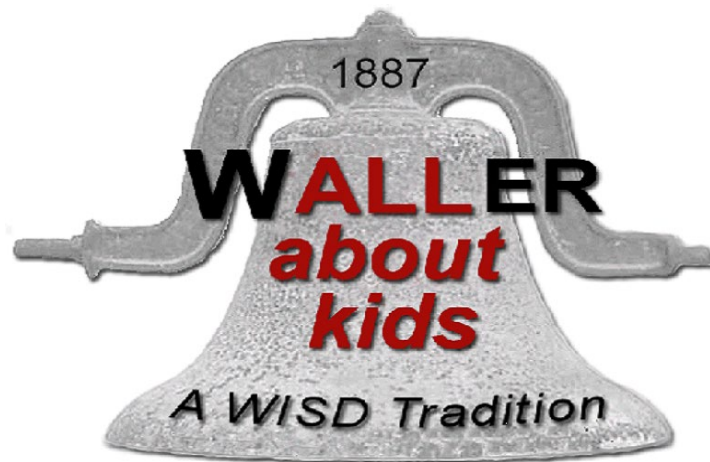
Post High School Plan	
After Graduation I will enroll in:	
_____ Four year University (Bachelor's Degree)	
_____ Community College (Associate's Degree)	
_____ Technical School	
_____ Military	
_____ Other (specify) _____	

Date: _____ **Student Signature:** _____ **Parent Signature:** _____

WALLER I.S.D. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Course Offerings & Descriptions

2023-2024



WALLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Waller ISD offers career and technical education programs in business, management, and administration; agriculture, food, and natural resources; arts, a/v, and communications; law and public safety; human services; manufacturing; hospitality and tourism; architecture and construction; marketing, sales, and services; health science; finance; information technology; and education and training. Admission to these programs is based on student interest, age and grade requirements specified by the Texas Education Agency.

It is the policy of Waller ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational 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.

It is the policy of Waller ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age 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; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended.

Waller ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Bennie Mayes, at 2214 Waller Street, Waller, TX 77484, 936-931-3685 and/or the Section 504 Coordinator, Shawna Kelley, at 2214 Waller Street, Waller, TX 77484, 936-931-3685.