



# Intermediate School Course Description Guide

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## ACADEMIC & GENERAL INFORMATION

### *MISD Grading System for Grades 5-6*

The district intermediate schools use a weighted numerical grading system.

<b>A</b>	<b>90-100</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>80-89</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>70-79</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>Below 70</b>

### *Enrollment*

A student enrolling in the district for the first time must be accompanied by his/her parent(s) or legal guardian and must provide satisfactory evidence of required immunization, **proof of residence (utility bill or lease agreement)**, copy of birth certificate and social security card, and a withdrawal form from the previous school. To complete admission, the following demographic information is necessary: home address, home phone, mother's name, place of business and work phone, father's name, place of business and work phone, and a friend or relative's name and number in case of emergency.

### *A note to students entering MISD for the first time in grades 5-6:*

The following is a conversion chart for students entering the MISD for the first time in grades 5-6. This chart will be used if the previous school does not have a conversion chart of its own. MISD will use the conversion chart of the student's previous school if one is provided.

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
98	95	92	88	85	82	78	75	72	68	65	62	55

### *Scheduling at the Intermediate School*

MISD intermediate schools are organized on a traditional 8 period schedule.

### *Pre-Advanced Placement*

A student may enter the Pre-Advanced Placement course sequence at the beginning of any semester/school year based upon his/her interest and identified potential.

## **INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### ***A note about intermediate school ELECTIVES:***

Please see intermediate school enrollment form/course request sheet for elective choices.

### ***ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS***

#### **Grade 5 Language Arts**

This course covers grammar, literature/reading, composition, vocabulary development and spelling. The course stresses concepts and skills in speaking, reading and writing. Students read from classic, contemporary and informational texts.

#### **Grade 5 Pre-Advanced Placement Language Arts**

Pre-AP students will begin investigating reading and writing at an advanced level using materials designed to lay the foundation for their future studies in Pre-Advanced Placement Language Arts. These skills are developed through reading, critical thinking, composition, vocabulary and grammar. Students will be responsible for reading outside of class.

#### **Grade 6 Language Arts**

This course covers grammar, literature/reading, composition, vocabulary development and spelling. The students master previously learned skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections and written compositions. Students read from classic, contemporary and informational texts.

#### **Grade 6 Pre-Advanced Placement Language Arts**

Pre-AP students are introduced to the building blocks of Pre-Advanced Placement strategies in reading and writing using materials specifically selected for the Pre-Advanced Placement students. These skills are developed through Close reading, critical thinking, composition, vocabulary and grammar. Students will be responsible for reading outside of class.

# ***MATHEMATICS***

## **Grade 5 Mathematics**

Fifth grade mathematics includes a study of the concepts and skills associated with the understanding of numbers, the place-value system, the basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division), and comparing and contrasting lengths, areas, and volumes, representing and interpreting data in graphs, charts, and tables, and applying whole number operations in a variety of contexts. The students will concretely develop basic concepts of fractions and decimals and use formal language to describe their reasoning as they identify, compare, and classify two- or three-dimensional geometric figures. They will use numbers, standard units, and measurement tools to describe and compare objects, make estimates, and solve application problems.

## **Grade 5 Pre-Advanced Placement Mathematics**

Pre-AP fifth grade mathematics includes topics covered in Grade 5 Mathematics with a more in-depth, rigorous study of fractions, algebraic reasoning and unit rate.

## **Grade 6 Mathematics**

Sixth grade mathematics includes a study of the concepts and skills associated with the understanding of numbers, the place-value system, the basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) and adding and subtracting decimals and fractions. Students will study problem solving techniques, measurement concepts using both metric and customary units, properties and relationships of geometric shapes, the representation of numbers on a line, percent, and ratios to describe proportional relationships. Emphasis is placed on acquiring problem solving skills, understanding of fractions and decimals, and understanding of the properties and relationships of geometric shapes, algebraic reasoning and proportional relations. This course will include the appropriate use of graphing technology.

## **Grade 6 Pre-Advanced Placement Mathematics**

Pre-AP sixth grade mathematics includes topics covered in Grade 6 Mathematics with a more in-depth, rigorous study of fractions, algebraic reasoning and proportionality. This course will include the appropriate use of graphing technology.

# ***SCIENCE***

## **Grade 5 Science**

Fifth grade science will focus on the objectives prescribed by the State of Texas by using the district core curriculum. It includes hands-on experimentation (teacher and student-directed), some inquiry-based learning, real world experiences, and opportunities for vocabulary expansion.

## **Grade 5 Pre-Advanced Placement Science**

Pre-AP fifth grade science will focus on the objectives prescribed by the State of Texas extending the core curriculum through complex inquiry-based learning. Students will be given the opportunity to ask and answer higher order questions in order to improve their problem-solving abilities.

Further differentiation from the core curriculum may include:

- \*Accelerated instruction for greater depth,
- \*Self-directed learning through product choice or independent study, and
- \*Various scientific competitions.

## **Grade 6 Science**

Sixth grade science will focus on the objectives prescribed by the State of Texas by using the district core curriculum. It includes hands-on experimentation (teacher and student-directed), some inquiry-based learning, real world experiences, and opportunities for vocabulary expansion.

## **Grade 6 Pre-Advanced Placement Science**

Pre-AP sixth grade science will focus on the objectives prescribed by the State of Texas with various extensions to the district core curriculum. Students will be challenged to become successful problem-solvers through analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of higher order questions. Further differentiation from the core curriculum may include:

- \*Accelerated instruction for greater depth,
- \*Self-directed learning through product choice or independent study, and
- \*Various scientific competitions.

## ***SOCIAL STUDIES***

### **Grade 5 American History**

In fifth grade, students learn about the history of the United States from its early beginnings to the present with a focus on colonial times through the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Historical content includes the colonial and revolutionary periods, the establishment of the United States and issues that led to the Civil War. This course includes an overview of major events and significant individuals of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Grade 5 Pre-Advanced Placement American History**

Pre-AP American History students survey all of American history and will be introduced to the habits of mind: analysis of primary sources and formulation of arguments based on evidence. Students will be responsible for readings outside of class.

### **Grade 6 Contemporary World Cultures**

World Cultures 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.

### **Grade 6 Pre-Advanced Placement Contemporary World Cultures**

Pre-AP Contemporary World Cultures students analyze global patterns and processes over time. Students will be made aware of culturally diverse ideas and values while discovering human commonalities. This course continues analysis of primary sources and formulation of arguments based on evidence. Students will be responsible for readings outside of class.