Criteria for Honors Classes
1. 80% or above on ITBS.
2. Maintain an A or B every nine weeks in each Honors subject.
3. Teacher recommendation.

Gifted Courses
Gifted courses are available in English, Math, Reading, Science and Social Studies. Admission into the Gifted program is determined by parish evaluation.

Talented Program
The talented program is a pull out program. Talented classes are not considered electives. Students must schedule an elective and physical education in addition to talented classes.

Seventh Grade Curriculum

English/ Reading Block
English at the junior high level consists of a review of the parts of speech, spelling/vocabulary skills, various modes of writing including narrative, expository, persuasive, informative, and creative writing, poetry writing techniques, analyzing poetic forms, journal writing, research skills, oral presentations, writing about current events, figurative language, and the use of technology to publish writing a research a topic. Seventh grade focuses more on introduction of higher order thinking skills and concepts.

While in Reading, students participate in the development of reading skills consistent with the state’s grade level expectancies through multi cultural literature in a variety of genres. Students also participate in Reading Counts and Sustained Silent Reading activities.

These classes are taught in a two hour block of time by the same teacher to allow students the opportunity to write in response to literature studied in the Reading class.

English/ Reading Honors
Honors English classes differ from on-level classes by presenting information and assignments at a faster pace and also by offering students more complicated vocabulary and assignments that address their curiosity and capabilities.

Honors Reading classes are differentiated by the novels required and students are tested on skills and vocabulary at a higher level of understanding. Required projects are more numerous and intense. Additionally, there is a higher expectation for evaluation of literature both in writing and in oral discussions.

These classes are taught in a two hour block of time by the same teacher to allow students the opportunity to write in response to literature studied in the honors Reading class.

Math
Students will review basic computations with numbers and number relations. They will explore geometry and measurement. The students will be exposed to algebra skills involving variables and equations.

Math-Honors
The Honors class covers the same concepts as the regular class. These students will follow the curriculum at a faster pace and will be introduced to more difficult problems.

Physical Education
Team sports as well as lifetime sports and recreational games are introduced in the seventh grade with an emphasis on positive student cooperation and skills building.
Science (Honors Not Offered)
Students in seventh grade Life Science will be introduced to the cell and its structure and function, Genetics and Heredity, Ecology, the six kingdoms of life (Animalia, Plantae, Protista, Fungi, Archaeabacteria, Eubacteria), and sex education. Students will incorporate chemistry and measurement into their lessons. Cooperative learning, lab activities and dissections, and technology will be used to enhance these studies.

Social Studies (Honors Not Offered)
The content of seventh grade Social Studies deals mainly with the development of the United States as a nation from Pre-Colombian times through the Civil War era. Students will be exposed to a variety of methods used to introduce, reinforce, and enrich the central theme. Geography concepts and maps skills will be emphasized as well as the development of pride and responsibility as a citizen.

Electives

Art
The art elective is ideal for students who are interested in learning the fundamentals of art. Those who have some art experience will be able to apply what they know to the projects that they work on during the one-year course. Students who have no art experience are introduced to the basic foundations of art. The students learn face and body proportions, proportional enlargement, linear perspective, drawing and shading techniques, and color theory. The students work in a variety of media – pencil, pen, colored pencil, oil pastel, watercolor, acrylic, and clay. There is a $5.00 Art fee to help cover expenses of these supplies. Seventh grade students who take Art I and make “A’s” in Art on two of their first three report cards are recommended for Art II.

Beginning Band
Requirements: Students do not need prior experience in band classes or private lessons; however they should own their own instrument.
Students in this course will complete Book 1 of a Band Method, covering basic techniques of music performance. Performances will include end of the year concerts.

Intermediate Band
Requirement: All students need prior experience in band classes or private lessons. They should know how to read music and own their own instrument.
Students in this course will complete Book 2 of a Band Method, covering different time signatures and key signatures. In addition, students will also work music to be performed for honor band auditions, concerts, and contests. The band is featured at a Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, and Hurricane Highlights in addition to participating in parish band festivals.

Chorus
Students will be taught basic vocal techniques which include correct breathing, vowels, diction, tone placement, sight reading skills, and reading music. Students will experience all types of music from the Renaissance period to the Romantic period in music to contemporary. Students will learn how to sing in parts.

Computer Literacy
Requirements: The class is for beginner computer users only.
Computer Literacy provides students with the necessary tools to survive in today’s world of technology. Students will learn the QWERTY keyboard and proper finger placement and techniques. They will learn basic operations of Word, Paint, Inspiration, Excel, Search Engines, and Power Point. Students will
be assigned several projects, but all work will be done during class time.

**French I**
Students do not need to have previous knowledge to be in French I. Students will start from the French alphabet. Goals in French class are communication in a language other than their own, knowledge and understanding of other cultures, connection with other disciplines and acquiring information, developing insight into their own language and culture, and participation in multilingual activities at home and around the world. French I students will learn how to introduce themselves, talk about their friends and family, order in a French restaurant, talk about what they like to do and about people and possessions.

**Home Economics I**
Students in Home Economics I will explore four areas of life skills: Sewing/Self Improvement, Child Care, Foods and Interior Design. Students will learn basic sewing skills, complete a simple garment, learn to launder and press, and complete a cross-stitching project. Students will learn baby-sitting skills, care of infants and toddlers, parenting skills and complete the Baby Think It Over activity. Students will learn about food sanitation and safety, kitchen equipment, nutrition information, table setting, etiquette and planning and preparing nutritious foods and meals. Students will complete a floor plan and room design project.

**Agricultural Science**
This is a survey course involving soil, animal and plant science, metalworking, woodworking, drawing and crafts, and instruction in the proper use of tools and shop safety.

**Piano**
No previous experience needed. The class is taught at students’ individual levels. Headphones with an adapter and four piano books are needed. They will give a recital at Hurricane Highlights.

**Spanish I**
In Spanish I, the students will be in contact with the basic level of Spanish language and Hispanic culture. They will be able to communicate (to ask and to answer) at Spanish in the basic level of talking, reading and writing. A previous Spanish course is not required. Students will complete various projects throughout the year.

**Speech/Drama I**
This class is an introduction to various aspects of drama and the theatre, as well as an initiation of the process of effective speaking as a tool for the successful student. It includes basic acting and character development through monologues, dialogues, improvisation, pantomime, storytelling, and theatre games. Debate and expository speech are also activities used to round out the performance processes that will enhance student achievement and provide insight into the importance of use of speech in communication. Students are expected to participate in at least one public performance (Hurricane Highlights). Grading includes participation in all of the following areas: Theatre games, Improvisation, Pantomime, Mime, Oral Interpretation, Debate, Readers Theatre, Storytelling, Monologues, Expository Speech, Skits & Scenes, “Hurricane Highlights” (Musical Montage).

**Study Skills**
This course provides students with the tools that can help them be successful
They will be introduced to a variety of studying techniques. Some of the important skills they will learn include: organization ideas, taking notes, developing schedules, reading strategies, and preparing for tests. Use of the student planner for tracking homework assignments will be required. Learning Strategies will also be developed which are best suited to the students’ individual learning styles. The students will be required to do an oral report, but will be given time in class to prepare for the assignment. The SIM model of teaching will be used throughout the course.

Talented Art
The Talented Arts Program-Visual Art class is available to students who have been identified as having exceptional ability in the visual arts in accordance with Bulletin 1508 for special education classification. The mission of the Talented Visual Art Program is to further the aesthetic and artistic maturity of Talented Arts Program students in classes that include teacher supported individualized instruction at an accelerated pace with broad experiences in developing studio skills, knowledge of artists, art history, aesthetics, portfolio preparation and exhibition experience throughout the student’s academic career.

Talented Theatre
Talented Theatre students are given instruction in theatre history and performance techniques. Special attention is given to scene and monologue work. Students have several performance opportunities throughout the year.

Talented Music classes are also available.
8th Grade

English/Reading Block
English at the junior high level consists of a review of the 8 parts of speech, spelling/vocabulary skills, various modes of writing including narrative, expository, persuasive, informative, and creative writing, poetry writing techniques, analyzing poetic forms, journal writing, research skills, oral presentations, writing about current events, figurative language, use of technology to publish writing and research a topic. Eighth grade puts those concepts and skills into practice, seeking mastery in preparation for high school with an emphasis on research.

In reading students participate in the development of reading skills consistent with the states grade level expectancies through multi cultural literature in a variety of genres. Student also participates in Reading Counts and Sustained Silent Reading activities.

These classes are taught in a two hour block of time by the same teacher to allow students the opportunity to write in response to literature studied in the Reading class.

English/Reading Block-Honors
Honors English classes differ from on-level by presenting information and assignments at a faster pace and also by offering students more complicated vocabulary and assignments that address their curiosity and capabilities.

Honors classes are differentiated by the novels required and students are tested on skills and vocabulary at a higher level of understanding. Require projects are more numerous and intense. There is higher expectation for evaluation of literature both in writing and in oral discussions.

These classes are taught in a two hour block of time by the same teacher to allow students the opportunity to write in response to literature studied in the Reading class.

Math Pre-Algebra
Students will review and extend skills containing fractions, decimals, and percents. A unit on geometry will extend knowledge of polygons, area, and perimeter. Students will also be introduced to algebra skills, such as solving one and two step equations and graphing linear equations.

Math Honors Pre-Algebra
The Honors Pre-Algebra class covers the same concepts as the regular class. These students will follow the curriculum at a faster pace and will be introduced to more difficult problems.

Math Algebra
Students will follow the ninth grade curriculum. This involves extensive studies into algebra skills. These skills include solving multiple step equations and inequalities, solving systems of equations and inequalities, graphing relations and functions, and exploring and factoring polynomials. Students are challenged with problems that promote critical thinking skills. Students who maintain an “A” or “B” average will have the opportunity to take a test at the end of the year to possibly earn high school credit for the class.

Science (Honors Not Offered)
Students in the eighth grade Earth Science classes will be introduced to the planet Earth in terms of oceanography, astronomy, geology, meteorology, and hydrology. Students will also incorporate chemistry, physics, and measurement into their lessons. Cooperative learning, lab activities, and technology, such as the computer labs
and the Tech Lab, will be used to enhance these studies.

Social Studies (Honors not offered)
In eighth grade Social Studies students will examine the History and culture of Louisiana from the colonial period through present –day. Major events in US history will also be reviewed in the context of Louisiana’s involvement in these events. Geography is also a major focus of this course.

Electives
Admissions into Eighth Grade Electives are based on teacher recommendations.

Art II
Students will experience a more advanced and in-depth study involving the principles of art.

Beginning Band
Requirements: Students do not need prior experience in band classes or private lessons; however they should own their own instrument.
Students in this course will complete Book 1 of a Band Method, covering basic techniques of music performance. Performances will include end of the year concerts.

Intermediate Band
Requirement: All students need prior experience in band classes or private lessons. They should know how to read music and own their own instrument.
Students in this course will complete Book 2 of a Band Method, covering different time signatures and key signatures. In addition, students will also work music to be performed for honor band auditions, concerts, and contests. The band is featured at a Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, and Hurricane Highlights in addition to participating in parish band festivals.

Advanced Band
Requirement: All students must audition for acceptance into advanced band.
Students in this course will complete Book 3 of a Band Method, covering new time signatures and key signatures as well as rhythmic studies. In addition, students will also work music to be performed for honor band auditions, concerts, and contests. The band is featured at all home football games. The Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, and Hurricane Highlights in addition to participating in parish, district, and state band festivals are various events where the band may perform.

Chorus
Students will be taught basic vocal techniques which include correct breathing, vowels, diction, tone placement, sight reading skills, and reading music. Students will experience all types of music from the Renaissance period to the Romantic period in music to contemporary. Students will learn how to sing in parts.

Chorus-Show Choir
Students will further their knowledge of vocal health, vocal anatomy, vocal tension, and success in the music industry. Higher levels of sight reading skills are taught. This choir also must learn all the same literature as beginning choir plus five to ten songs for each concert. This class moves at much faster pace. Audition and director approval before taking this course are required.

Computer Literacy
Requirements: The class is for beginner computer users only.
Computer Literacy provides students with the necessary tools to survive in today’s world of technology. Students will learn the QWERTY keyboard and proper finger placement and techniques. They will learn basic operations of
Word, Paint, Inspiration, Excel, Search Engines, and Power Point. Students will be assigned several projects, but all work will be done during class time.

**French II**
Students will build on the skills they learned in French I. Students that have completed French I and II while in Junior High will have the opportunity to pass the proficiency test at the end of French II for possible high school credit.

**Home Economics II**
Students will complete an advanced sewing project and a craft project. Students will also participate in a fashion show during Hurricane Highlights wearing the garments they have made. Students will enhance their food preparation skills and will take a field trip to a local restaurant in the spring.

**Agricultural Science**
This is a survey course involving soil, animal and plant science, metalworking, woodworking, drawing and crafts, and instruction in the proper use of tools and shop safety.

**LEAP Intervention**
In a small group setting, students are able to receive tutoring of basic skills and preparation for the LEAP test. Students work on tutoring lessons from the Louisiana Department of Education as well as supplemental materials based on learning needs. Students are selected based on test results from the ITBS.

**Piano**
No previous experience needed. The class is taught at students’ individual levels. Eighth graders may take piano a second year with teacher approval. Headphones with an adapter and four piano books are needed. They will give a recital at Hurricane Highlights.

**Spanish II**
Students will build on the skills learned in Spanish I and become more proficient in their communication. Students that have successfully completed Spanish I and Spanish II have the opportunity to pass the proficiency test at the end of the year for possible high school credit.

**Speech/Drama II**
This class further develops production and performance skills through an advanced application of the Speech and Drama I activities, costume and set assessment, scenery sketches, some history of theatre, and memorization of a Shakespearean soliloquy, debate, parliamentary procedure and persuasive speaking. It includes the evening production of a musical montage at Hurricane Highlights. All Drama I expectations apply. Grading includes participation in all of the following areas: Advanced Application of Drama I Activities, Vocal Project, Theatre Terminology, Costume & Set Assessment, Scenery Sketches, History of Theatre, Shakespearean Soliloquy, Student Congress, Debate, “Hurricane Highlights” (Musical Montage), “Storytelling w/Prop or Costume”, Persuasive Speech.

**Study Skills**
This course provides students with the tools that can help them be successful academically. They will be introduced to a variety of studying techniques. Some of the important skills they will learn include: organization ideas, taking notes, developing schedules, reading strategies, and preparing for tests. Use of the student planner for tracking homework assignments will be required. Learning Strategies will then be developed that best suit the students’ individual learning styles. The students will be required to do an oral report, but will be given time in class to prepare for the assignment.
The SIM model of teaching will be used throughout the course.

**Talented Art**
The Talented Arts Program-Visual Art class is available to students who have been identified as having exceptional ability in the visual arts in accordance with Bulletin 1508 for special education classification. The mission of the Talented Visual Art Program is to further the aesthetic and artistic maturity of Talented Arts Program students in classes that include teacher supported individualized instruction at an accelerated pace with broader experiences in developing studio skills, knowledge of artists, art history, aesthetics, portfolio preparation and exhibition experience throughout the student’s academic career.

**Talented Theatre**
Talented Theatre students are given instruction in theatre history and performance techniques. Special attention is given to scene and monologue work. Students have several performance opportunities throughout the year.

**Talented Music classes are also available.**