

Criteria for *Honors Classes*

1. Advanced or Mastery on iLEAP.
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.

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 a research paper on a research topic.

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, Archaeobacteria, Eubacteria), and sex education. Students will incorporate chemistry and measurement into their

lessons. Cooperative learning, lab activities, and technology will be used to enhance these studies. A \$6.00 lab fee is collected to help cover the cost of supplies for student labs.

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 Revolutionary times through the Civil War era with an emphasis on Civics. Students will be exposed to a variety of methods used to introduce, reinforce, and enrich the central theme. Geography concepts and maps skills will also be emphasized as well as the development of pride and responsibility as a citizen.

Electives

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. Students receiving a B or better in the course are allowed to take Agriculture I HS in 8th grade for High School credit.

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 \$6.00 Art fee to help cover expenses of

these supplies. Students receiving a B or better in the course are allowed to take Art I HS in 8th grade for High School credit.

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. After school rehearsal may be required. Students receiving a B or better in the course are allowed to take Intermediate or Advance Band I HS in 8th grade for High School credit. Students will be required to purchase a book at a cost of approx. \$7.00.

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. After school rehearsal may be required. Students receiving a B or better in the course are allowed to take Intermediate or Advance Band I HS in 8th grade for High School credit. Students will be required to purchase a book at a cost of approx. \$7.00.

Chorus

Students taking chorus will focus on vocal technique, music reading, and performance skills. In addition, they

will work on diction using the International Phonetic Alphabet, laying a foundation for the study of foreign languages. Repertoire will include a wide variety of music, such as patriotic, holiday, traditional choral literature, Broadway, and light pop. Students are also given the opportunity to perform on hand bells. Performances include Veterans Day, Winter and Spring Concerts, Hurricane Highlights, Parish and District Assessments, and other community opportunities. Auditions for and participation in District and All-State Honor Choirs as well as Solo and Ensemble Festival are encouraged, but not required. After school rehearsal may be required. Students receiving a B or better in the course are allowed to take Chorus I HS in 8th grade for High School credit. There is a \$25 chorus fee.

French

Students do not need to have previous knowledge to be in French. 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 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. For student success a minimum of Basic on iLEAP English/Reading is required for placement in French. Students receiving a B or better in the course are allowed to take French I HS in 8th grade for High School credit.

Gateway to Technology

This course offers a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)

curriculum for middle school students based on national standards. Students receive career readiness and real world, hands-on learning experiences through the use of CAD software, robotics, and other vital introductory engineering skills. Critical thinking and problem solving skills are essential as students create ideas in a collaborative and cooperative way. Students must complete an application for GTT to be eligible for the class. Admittance into this class is by application only. Students must have earned a minimum of basic on the iLeap in both math and science to qualify for GTT. The fee for this class is \$10.

Home Economics

Students in Home Economics will explore five areas of life skills: Personal Development/ Resource Management, Sewing, Child Development, Food and Nutrition, Housing: architectural designs, applying elements of design to a room. 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. 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. Students receiving a B or better in the course are allowed to take Home Ec I HS (Family Consumer Science) in 8th grade for High School credit. There is an \$11.00 to help cover the cost of supplies for this class.

Orchestra (STRINGS)

Requirement: All students need prior experience in string classes or private lessons. They should know how to read music and own their own instrument.

The main objectives are to improve performance skills, awareness of many kinds of music, and appreciation of music. We require participation in performance activities, including but not limited to extra rehearsals (after school, if necessary), concerts, participation in LMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival, and Hurricane Highlights.

Piano

Students do not need prior piano experience to enroll in Piano I. Prior experience is required for Piano II. Goals focus on music reading, piano technique, and performance skills. Students are required to purchase a piano lessons book. In addition, they will learn supplementary holiday, movie, and light pop music. Performance goals are individualized for each student. Students perform at Hurricane Highlights. They are also encouraged, but not required, to perform on hand bells. Students receiving a B or better in this course are allowed to take Piano Class HS in 8th grade for High School credit. There is a \$15 piano fee.

Spanish

In Spanish, 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. For student success a minimum of Basic on iLEAP English/Reading is required for placement in Spanish. Students receiving a B or better in the course are allowed to take Spanish I HS in 8th grade for High School credit.

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 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. (very limited class size)

Talented Program

The Talented Programs are 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 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.

Talented Art- (by Audition)

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-(by Audition)

In addition to the accelerated study of dramatic literature, theatre history, and production elements, Talented Theatre students explore a variety of performance techniques in order to deepen their understanding of and ability in the art of acting. Viola Spolin's theatre games, monologues, and scenes are three aspects of acting training addressed in Talented Theatre. Students

have several performance opportunities throughout the year.

Talented Music –(by Audition)

The course consists of accelerated and independent training in performance skills, technical skills, musicianship, ear training, music theory and analysis, composition, improvisation and music history and styles. Students have several performance opportunities throughout the year.

Eighth Grade Curriculum

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

Student who take an entrance test and 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. A \$6.00 lab fee is collected to help cover the cost of supplies for student labs.

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

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.

Agricultural Science I HS

This course is a more advanced study of soil, animal and plant science, metalworking, woodworking, drawing and crafts, and instruction in the proper use of tools and shop safety. Students in this class will receive high school Carnegie Units and the semester grade will become a permanent part of their high school transcript. Students must

adhere to the high school attendance requirements.

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 \$11.00 Art fee to help cover expenses of these supplies.

Art I HS

Students will experience a more advanced and in-depth study involving the principles of art. Composition and creative thinking are developed through a variety of projects such as drawing, painting, sculpture and ceramics. There is a \$5.00 Art fee to help cover expenses of these supplies. Students in this class will receive high school Carnegie Units and the semester grade will become a permanent part of their high school transcript. Students must adhere to the high school attendance requirements.

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. Students will be required to purchase a book at a cost of approx. \$7.00.

Advanced Band HS

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. Students in this class will receive high school Carnegie Units and the semester grade will become a permanent part of their high school transcript. Students must adhere to the high school attendance requirements. Students will be required to purchase a book at a cost of approx. \$7.00.

Broadcast

Open to a limited number of 8th grade students by audition and application only. Students learn about video production, including writing scripts and editing video. Students should have a strong background in technology. The class is responsible for creating the daily broadcast for the entire school.

Chorus

Students taking chorus will focus on vocal technique, music reading, and performance skills. In addition, they will work on diction using the International Phonetic Alphabet, laying a foundation for the study of foreign languages. Repertoire will include a wide variety of music, such as patriotic, holiday, traditional choral literature, Broadway, and light pop. Students are also given the opportunity to perform on hand bells. Performances include Veterans Day, Winter and Spring

Concerts, Hurricane Highlights, Parish and District Assessments, and other community opportunities. Auditions for and participation in District and All-State Honor Choirs as well as Solo and Ensemble Festival are encouraged, but not required. There is a \$25 chorus fee.

Chorus I HS

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. Students in this class will receive high school Carnegie Units and the semester grade will become a permanent part of their high school transcript. Students must adhere to the high school attendance requirements. There is a \$25 chorus fee.

French

Students do not need to have previous knowledge to be in French. 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 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.

French I HS

Students will build on the skills they learned in 7th Grade French. This course covers more advanced conversation,

listening skills, reading, writing and translating. Cultural awareness activities are also included. Students in this class will receive high school Carnegie Units and the semester grade will become a permanent part of their high school transcript. Students must adhere to the high school attendance requirements.

Home Economics

Students in Home Economics will explore five areas of life skills: Personal Development/ Resource Management, Sewing, Child Development, Food and Nutrition, Housing: architectural designs, applying elements of design to a room. 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. There is an \$11.00 to help cover the cost of supplies for this class.

Home Economics I HS (Family and Consumer Science)

This course emphasizes the value of teens gaining skills for managing their daily lives. Making decisions, effective communication, clothing care, food preparation techniques, interior design concepts, household safety, budgets, careers and child care guidelines are covered. 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 in class. Students will enhance their food preparation skills and will take a field trip to a local restaurant

in the spring. A lab fee is required for this course. Students in this class will receive high school Carnegie Units and the semester grade will become a permanent part of their high school transcript. Students must adhere to the high school attendance requirements. There is an \$11.00 to help cover the cost of supplies for this class.

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.

Orchestra (STRINGS) HS

Requirement: All students need prior experience in string classes or private lessons. They should know how to read music and own their own instrument.

The main objectives are to improve performance skills, awareness of many kinds of music, and appreciation of music. We require participation in performance activities, including but not limited to extra rehearsals (after school, if necessary), concerts, participation in LMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival, and Hurricane Highlights.

Piano

Students do not need prior piano experience to enroll in Piano I. Prior experience is required for Piano II. Goals focus on music reading, piano technique, and performance skills. Students are required to purchase a piano lessons book. In addition, they will learn supplementary holiday, movie, and light pop music. Performance goals are individualized for each student. Students perform at Hurricane Highlights. They are also encouraged,

but not required, to perform on hand bells. There is a \$15 piano fee.

Piano Class HS

This course is an advanced study of piano. Students progress through daily practice and class activities, perform in ensembles and prepare for written, as well as performance exams. Students in this class will receive high school Carnegie Units and the semester grade will become a permanent part of their high school transcript. Students must adhere to the high school attendance requirements. The purchase a piano book for approx. \$16.00 and headphones with an adapter are required for this class.

Spanish

In Spanish, 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. Students receiving a B or better in the course are allowed to take Spanish I HS in 8th grade for High School credit.

Spanish I HS

Students will build on the skills learned in 7th Grade Spanish and become more proficient in their communication. This course covers basic conversation, listening skills, reading, writing and translating. Cultural awareness activities are also included. Students in this class will receive high school Carnegie Units and the semester grade will become a permanent part of their high school transcript. Students must adhere to the high school attendance requirements.

Journey to Careers

Journey to Careers is a survey course in which the students will explore 16 career clusters through Louisiana Connect

enabling the student to develop an individual career plan. Exploration of post secondary choices, colleges, TOPS, ACT prep and job opportunities are included throughout the course. Students in this class will receive high school Carnegie Units and the semester grade will become a permanent part of their high school transcript. Students must adhere to the high school attendance requirements.

Gateway to Technology

This course offers a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculum for middle school students based on national standards. Students receive career readiness and real world, hands-on learning experiences through the use of CAD software, robotics, and other vital introductory engineering skills. Critical thinking and problem solving skills are essential as students create ideas in a collaborative and cooperative way. Students must complete an application for GTT to be eligible for the class. Admittance into this class is by application only. Students must have earned a minimum of basic on the iLeap in both math and science to qualify for GTT. The fee for this class is \$10.

Talented Program

The Talented Programs are 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 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.

Talented Art- (by Audition)

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-(by Audition)

In addition to the accelerated study of dramatic literature, theatre history, and production elements, Talented Theatre students explore a variety of performance techniques in order to deepen their understanding of and ability in the art of acting. Viola Spolin's theatre games, monologues, and scenes are three aspects of acting training addressed in Talented Theatre. Students have several performance opportunities throughout the year.

Talented Music –(by Audition)

The course consists of accelerated and independent training in performance skills, technical skills, musicianship, ear training, music theory and analysis, composition, improvisation and music history and styles. Students have several performance opportunities throughout the year.