FBISD

Chart your Course

Graduation and Career Planning

Knowledge is POWER

FORT BEND
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
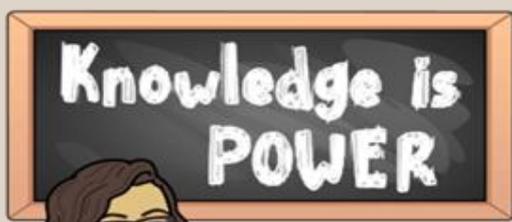
Fort Settlement Middle School
7th to 8th Grade
Course Selection Information

Spring 2024

Course Selection Timeline

Skyward Course Entry

January 22, 2024 – February 9, 2024

Course Selection

2024-2025 FORT SETTLEMENT MIDDLE SCHOOL
COURSE REQUEST WORKSHEET - GRADE 8

Please complete all Demographic information.

Student Name:_____   Parent/Guardian: _____

ID Number: _____   Phone #: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Students should select their level of choice for core courses.

Please make selections carefully. If a student should need a level change, many of the students scheduled classes could change.

Students may select PE, Kickstart or Dance for their Physical Education class.

Required courses: Select an English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education. Advisory is a required class for 8th grade. Students will be placed in core classes based on individual needs.

ELA:	**MATH:**	**SCIENCE:**	**SOCIAL STUDIES:**
____EL8211 ELA 8 ____EL8011 ELA 8 AAC	____MA8211 Math 8 ____MA211 Algebra I AAC ____MA221 Geometry AAC	____SC8211 Science 8 ____SC8111Science 8 AAC	____SS8211 US History ____SS8111 US History AAC

PE:	**ADVISORY:**
____PH8669 Regular PE ____PH8670 Kickstart (Prerequisites – Kickstart 6 and 7) ____PH8671 Introduction to Dance	√__NC0800 Advisory 8

Advanced Academic Course (AAC)

Consider the following before having your child sign up for advanced courses:

- Do they enjoy a particular subject and are motivated to learn more about it?
- Are they willing to devote more time and energy to this subject?
- What are their long-term goals? (future AP courses)
- Would they know what to do if they were to fall behind in the work because the pacing is faster?

* Please Note: Gifted and Talented students are expected to enroll in AAC courses for the areas they are identified as GT. Students may be furloughed from GT or exited if they are not enrolled in AAC courses.

Grade 8 Course Selection - Electives

The only electives offered at FSMS for 8th grade are listed on this sheet. An elective may not be offered if there are not enough students requesting that course.

Please number electives in order of preference. Please list five.

Electives: Number elective choices in order of preference: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5.** Use all five numbers. Spaces in some electives are limited. A reading and/or math intervention class may be assigned in place of an elective if 7th grade STAAR scores indicate a need for extra support.

What Grade 6 Elective did you take? _____ What Grade 7 Elective(s) did you take? _____

FINE ARTS:
____ FA7869 Art 8
____ FA7879 Art II 8 (Prerequisite – Art I)
____ FA8679 Art III 8 (Prerequisites – Art I & II)
____ FC8749 Boys Choir 8
____ FC8779 Girls Choir 8
____ FB8739 Band III 8
____ FO8839 Orchestra III 8
____ FT7939 Theatre Arts I 8
____ FT7999 Theatre Arts II 8 (Prerequisite – Theatre I)
____ FT8809 Theatre Arts III 8 (Prerequisites – Theatre I & II)

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION:
____ CTE021 Career and College Exploration
  (1.0 High School Credit – Regular Level)

____ CST280 Fundamentals of Computer Science
  (1 High School Credit – Regular Level)

____ CBU020 Touch System Data Entry (*Fall Semester Only*)
  (.5 High School Credit – Regular Level)
____ CHU020 Dollars and Sense (*Spring Semester Only*)
  (.5 High School Credit – Regular Level)
____ CHU040 Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness (*Fall Semester Only*)
  (.5 High School Credit – Regular Level)
____ CHU030 Interpersonal Studies (*Spring Semester Only*)
  (.5 High School Credit – Regular Level)

WORLD LANGUAGE:

____ FL112 Spanish I *
  (1 High School Credit – Regular Level)

SPECIALIZED MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

____ LS1433 Teen Leadership
____ NC8979 PALS - Peer Assistance and Leadership
      (Application and Interview required)
____ NC8969 Office Work (Pending Approval)
____ NC8004 Contest Math (Pending Testing)
____ FJ7899 Intro to Broadcasting
____ FJ8899 Advanced Broadcasting
      (Prerequisite: Intro to Broadcasting)
____ FJ8877 Journalism

TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS
____ LC7011 Robotics & Engineering I
____ LC8012 Robotics & Engineering II
  (Prerequisite: Robotics & Engineering I)

Course Selection Sheets

Both student and parent signatures are required on the sheets.

Student's Signature   Parent's Signature   Date

Middle School Course Selection Guide

You should use the Middle School Course Selection Guide to read about all the Middle School programs and courses FBISD has to offer.

Remember the courses listed are for the entire school district 6th, 7th and 8th grades. The only courses your student will be allowed to take will be listed on the FSMS Course Selection Worksheet.

FORT BEND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Course Selection Guide
2024–25
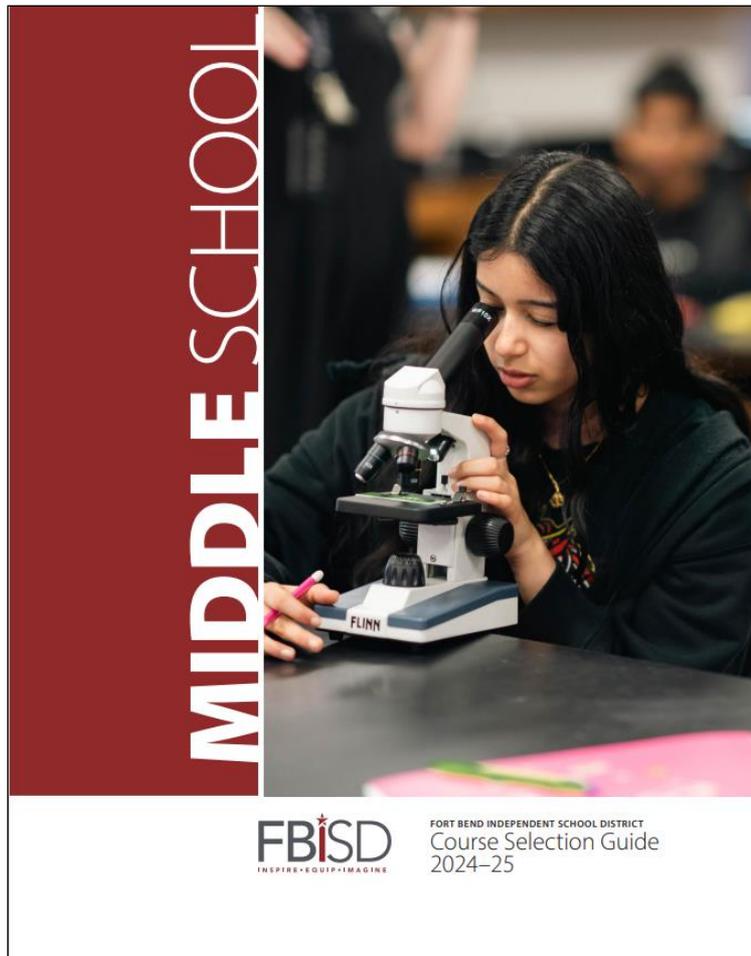
Middle School Course Selection Guide

Frequently asked questions
- UIL Eligibility Rules – Pg. 2
- High School Courses and GPA 100-Point Scale – Pgs. 2-3
- Off Campus PE – Pg. 3
- Schedule Corrections – Pg. 4
- AAC Courses – Pgs. 5-6
- STAAR, PSAT and Credit by Exam – Pg. 7
- Course Descriptions starting on Pg. 9
- High School Graduation Requirements – Pg. 30

Grade 8 Fine Arts Electives

These are the Fine Arts Courses that are available for 8th grade next year.

FINE ARTS:

_____ FA7869 Art 8

_____ FA7879 Art II 8 (Prerequisite – Art I)

_____ FA8679 Art III 8 (Prerequisites – Art I & II)

_____ FC8749 Boys Choir 8

_____ FC8779 Girls Choir 8

_____ FB8739 Band III 8

_____ FO8839 Orchestra III 8

_____ FT7939 Theatre Arts I 8

_____ FT7999 Theatre Arts II 8 (Prerequisite – Theatre I)

_____ FT8809 Theatre Arts III 8 (Prerequisites – Theatre I & II)

CTE Electives Overview

Career and College Exploration
- Study of different career clusters
- explore college and career planning within specific career clusters

Fundamentals of Computer Science
- 1 full high school credit/part of STEM Endorsement
- HTML, Scratch, Python, or JavaScript programming languages

CTE Electives Overview

Touch System Data Entry (.5 high school credit, Fall only)
- develop keyboarding skills and techniques
- develop and format basic business documents
- Must be taken with Dollars and Sense.

Dollars and Sense (.5 high school credit, Spring only)
- consumer practices, money-management, decision-making
- Demonstrate management of finances, food, clothing, shelter, health care, recreation, transportation, time, and human capital
- Must be taken with Touch System Data Entry.

CTE Electives Overview

Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness (.5 high school credit, Fall only)

- Learn to stay healthy the rest of your life
- Analyze current lifestyle habits that increase health risks
- Learn important food buying strategies
- Investigate careers in nutrition
- Concentrates on nutrition, food choices, and food management skills
- Hands-on experience with fundamentals of food preparation and nutrition.

Interpersonal Studies (.5 high school credit, Spring only)

- Examines how relationships between individuals and among family members affect the quality of life
- Learn principles of personal development, decision-making, family life cycle, and stress management through hands-on projects
- Investigate roles and influence of technology on relationships
- Consumer roles, decision-making, rights & responsibilities and personal hygiene

Technology Applications
Electives Overview
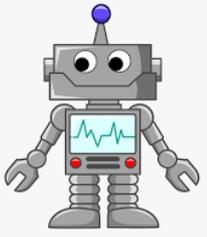
Robotics and Engineering I
- Problem-based, hands-on; utilize the Engineering Design Process
- Computational thinking, machines, force and motion, basic circuitry, electricity, energy transformations, and rocketry

Robotics and Engineering II (must have taken Rob I)
- Unit studies may include: robotics careers, advanced robotics, sensors and circuits, gaming peripherals, turbine design, physics concepts, space exploration, advanced coding, mechanical and electrical engineering, and human flight
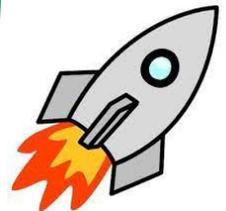
Specialized Electives Overview

Contest Math
- Testing required to enroll
- Prepare and participate in Math Counts, UIL Number Sense, and Texas Mathematics League

Teen Leadership
- Leadership skills
- Conflict resolution
- Tolerance
- Communication skills

Specialized Electives Overview

Introduction to Broadcasting

- Basic graphic design
- Video and audio production techniques
- Creating, editing, and directing videos for school-wide communications

Advanced Broadcasting

- Basic graphic design
- Video and audio production techniques
- Creating, editing, and directing videos for school-wide communications
- Responsible for FSMS Daily school announcements

Journalism

- Learn journalistic writing, editing, illustration, layout, distribution and sales
- A school yearbook is produced by students in the class.

Specialized Electives Overview

Office Work
- Pending Approval (best behavior, no discipline writeups, good grades, great attitude)
- Will be assigned to an office area or the library to do tasks as needed

Peer Assistance & Leadership (PALS)
- Application and interview with approval by a campus committee
- Learn and develop leadership skills, communication, peer listening, group dynamics, project planning and implementation.
- Perform service and leadership projects at school and around the community.

PALS
Peer Assistance, Leadership & Service

Specialized Electives Overview

Peer Assistance & Leadership (PALS)

- Requirements for consideration:
    - Submit an Application, 2 teacher recommendations, and an interview video.
- **Sign up in Schoology using the CODE below**

    ➡ **QX65-WM3Z-V46WV**

Pals Checklist

- **Fill out this entire form-PALS Application (by February 10th)**

- **Send this Teacher Recommendation Form to a current 7th grade teacher:**
    Teacher Rec 1 (by February 10th)

- **Send this Teacher Recommendation Form to a current 7th grade teacher:**
    Teacher Rec 2 (by February 10th)

- **(Optional) Send this Teacher Recommendation Form to a current 7th grade teacher:**
    Teacher Rec 3 (optional)

- **Enter PALS as one of your top 2 elective choices in your Course Selection.**
    (by February 9th)
- **Submit your Video Interview into the Media Album in this Schoology Course.**
    (by February 15th)

World Language
8th Grade Only

WORLD LANGUAGE:

____FL112 Spanish I *
   (1 High School Credit – Regular Level)

If you take Spanish I in 8th grade, you should plan to **take Spanish II during your 9th grade year**.

You must earn TWO full credits in the same world language to meet your high school graduation requirements.

So, if you don't take Spanish in 8th grade it's okay. You have time in high school.

Tips to consider for Spanish:
• The student should have a good understanding and grasp of the English language, including grammar and vocabulary.
• The student should have strong reading and writing skills and be able to memorize and master concepts of the language, not just colors, numbers, etc.
• The student needs to be prepared to work hard, both in the classroom and at home. Learning a foreign language requires consistent studying at home on a daily basis.
• The student should expect to have homework often, perhaps every day, and lots of quizzes and tests, both written and oral.
• The student should have good organizational skills in order to keep up with assignments and the pace of the course.
• The student should understand that this is a high school academic course that will be recorded on their high school transcript for grade points.

High School Credit Courses offered at FSMS for 8th Grade

Spanish I (8th Grade Only)

Algebra I AAC

Geometry AAC

Biology AAC

Fundamentals of Computer Science (8th Grade Only)

Touch System Data Entry

Dollars and Sense

Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness

Interpersonal Studies
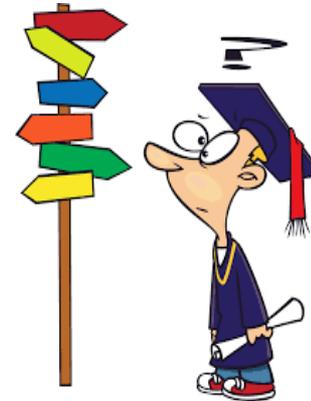
All HS credit courses, whether it is a core class or an elective, AND whether you pass it or fail it, **will be recorded on your high school transcript**.

If you are not motivated or prepared to do high school level work, do not take it. It will affect your Grade Point Average.

Schedule Corrections/Changes

- In the early spring of each school year, students are given the opportunity to choose courses after having met with their counselor for an informational session.

- In March, students are given an opportunity to verify their course request in Skyward Family Access.

- After that time, the Master Schedule is developed. The student course requests are used to make decisions about the number of sections of each course.

- Therefore, after the Master Schedule has been created, there are very few slots available to accommodate late request for changes.

- In order to maintain balance of classroom numbers and minimize disruptions, schedule changes will be made for the following reasons.
    - A student has already taken a class in which they are currently scheduled.
    - A male has been scheduled into a female PE/Athletics, or vice versa.
    - A student is in a class for which they do not have the appropriate prerequisite (i.e., enrolled in Spanish II and has not taken Spanish I).

A student requiring a schedule correction must complete a Schedule Change Request Form and submit it to their counselor. The deadline for all schedule corrections is 9 days after the start of each semester.

In general, elective change requests will not be honored. However, if a student is trying to move from a regular elective into an extracurricular program (i.e., band, choir, and athletics) the request for the change will be considered but must be initiated by the coach/program director.

Skyward Family Access Course Input

Students will log in to Skyward Family Access using their student log-in to request courses and select alternates.

A minimum of 7 classes should be added to the Course Request tab.

A minimum of 3 classes should be added to the Alternates tab.

Requests	**Alternates**
ELA	1 Alternate
Math	2 Alternate
Science	3 Alternate
Social Studies	
PE	
Elective 1	
Elective 2	

Click here for the Skyward Family Access "How To" Document for Online Course Requests.

Skyward Family Access Course Input

Students will complete course requests, endorsements, and career plans for the next school year online through **Family Access**.

Begin by clicking Skyward - **Family Access**, located at the bottom of your screen.

Then click on **Login to Family Access**

When the login screen opens, the students will type in their login and password, and click on the **Sign In**. *You will use your student network login and password that you use at school*.

Bus Routes   **School Meals**   **Student Registration**   **Family Access**
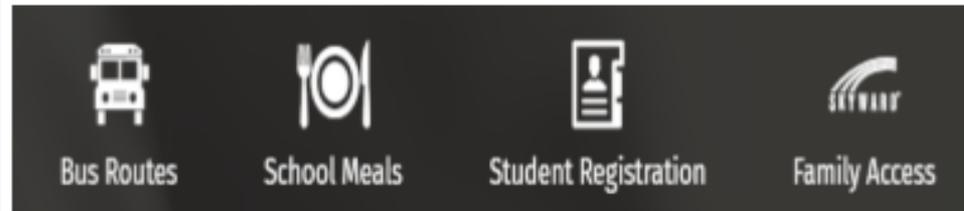
SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS

Login to Family Access

SKYWARD

FORT BEND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
FBISD PRODUCTION

Login ID:

Password:

Sign In

Forgot your Login/Password?

Skyward Family Access Course Input

When students log into Student Access, helpful district links are located on the top right. The High School and Middle School planning guides are available online if you have a question about a course.

District Links

District Links
- DULLES MS HOME PAGE
- FBISD PARENT LINK
- ATOMIC LEARNING
- FAMILY ACCESS GUIDE
- HS PLANNING GUIDE
- MS PLANNING GUIDE
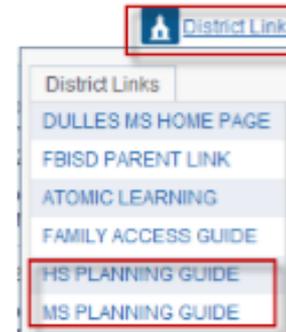
COURSE REQUEST

To access the Course Request link for the next school year:

- Click **Schedules**
- Click on the link Request Courses for xxxx-xxxx (future school year) in your next year school to start the process.

Home
Calendar
Gradebook
Attendance
Student Info
Food Service
Schedule

Course Requests **now open**

Request Courses for 2...
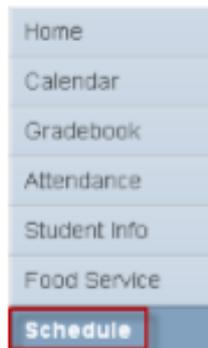
Skyward Family Access Course Input

The **Available Courses** list is in alphabetical order on the left. Scroll down the list and highlight a course to request. After highlighting the course, click **Add Course**. The requested course then moves to the Selected Course column on the right side. Middle School students transitioning into high school for the next school year will need to review the **Total Credits** field to determine the number of courses selected. Your school will give you the appropriate number of courses to select.

Request Courses for in JAMES BOWIE M S

SAMPLE MS (JAMES BOWIE M S) *Request Courses* | Request Alternates

Total Requests/Scheduled: 2   Total Credits: 0.500

Available Courses for

			Selected Courses
AV7111	AVID Gd 7 0.000 Credits	Add Course >	CTE55M Coding and Keyboarding 0.500 Credits
CTE55M	Coding and Keyboarding 0.500 Credits	< Remove Course	MA7111 Math 7 PreAP/GT 0.000 Credits
EL7111	ELA I 7 PreAP/G 0.000 Credits		

Skyward Family Access Course Input

If you are having difficulty locating a course from the list, there is a search filter at the bottom left of the screen. To locate a course, you can enter a portion or all of the course **description**. Click the **Search** button. You do need to **clear** the field after use to display the entire list of courses again.

| Math | | Search | Clear |

To view particulars of a course, click once on course name and a detail box will display.
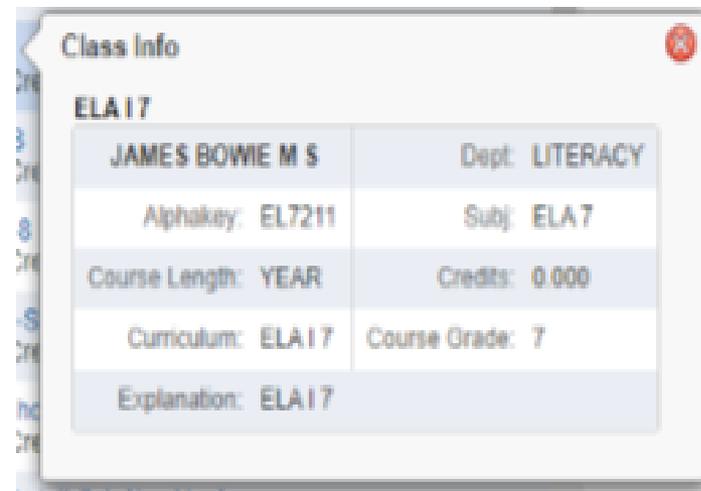
Class Info

ELA I 7

| JAMES BOWIE M S | | Dept: LITERACY |
Alphakey: EL7211		Subj: ELA 7
Course Length: YEAR		Credits: 0.000
Curriculum: ELA I 7	Course Grade:	7
Explanation: ELA I 7		

Skyward Family Access Course Input

ALTERNATE COURSE REQUEST

To add Alternate Course Requests:

- Click on **Request Alternates** at the top left of the screen.
- Select alternates as directed by your school.
- List them in the order of your preference by setting the priority (#1 being the highest).

Note: Click on the arrows and move it up and/or down in priority or remove it.

Skyward Family Access Course Input

Verify your selected **course requests (R)** and the **alternate course requests (numbers in the priority column)**.

Total Requests/Scheduled: 2   Total Alternates: 2   Tota:

Selected Alternate Courses

1	↓	9SA01	Organic Chemistry 1.000 Credits
2	↑	CFI02	Accounting I 1.000 Credits
R		EL142	Eng IV 1.000 Credits
R		FL231	French III Pre 1.000 Credits

Skyward Family Access Course Input

When the selection process is completed, you may print a copy of your selections by clicking on the **Printer Icon**.
(Be sure to be on the **Request Alternate Courses Screen to see requests and alternate requests**.)
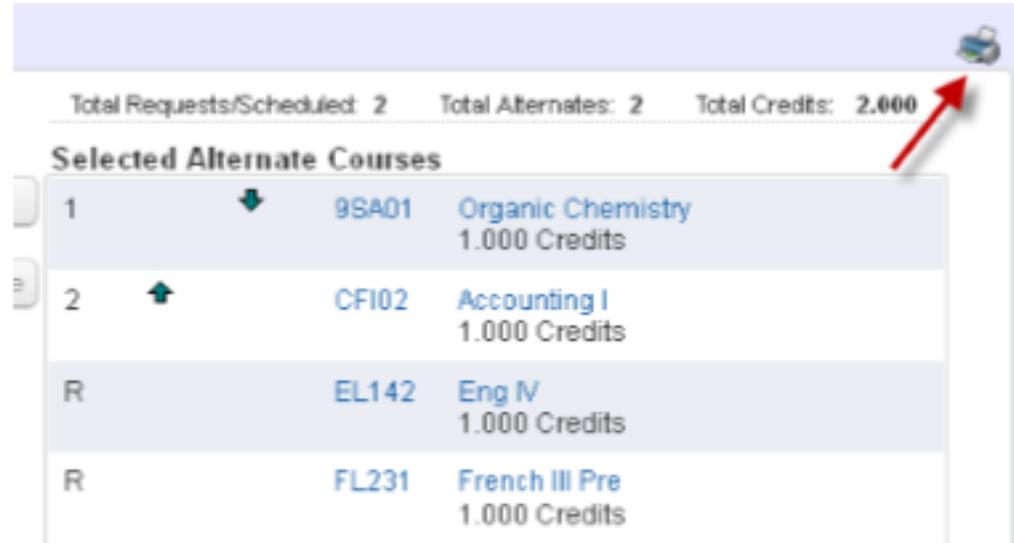
Total Requests/Scheduled: 2		Total Alternates: 2	Total Credits: 2.000

Selected Alternate Courses

1	↓	9SA01	Organic Chemistry 1.000 Credits
2	↑	CFI02	Accounting I 1.000 Credits
R		EL142	Eng IV 1.000 Credits
R		FL231	French III Pre 1.000 Credits

Click the **X** and then the **Logout** button when finished.

Important Dates

➢ **January 17, 2024**
  - ➢ Course Selection talk during Advisory
  - ➢ Course Selection Sheets sent home

➢ **January 22, 2024**
  - ➢ Skyward Family Access window opens for Course Requests

➢ **January 24, 2024**
  - ➢ Current 6th & 7th Grade Course Selection Parent Night

➢ **February 9, 2024**
  - ➢ Last day for courses to be entered in Skyward
  - ➢ Turn in Course Selection Sheet to Counselor
    (It's okay to turn it in early if you have entered your courses into Skyward Family Access)

➢ **March 1, 2024 – March 8, 2024** – Course Verification Window is open.
    (Log in to verify course requests. If you need to make changes print the courses, make the adjustment on the hard copy and turn it in to your counselor. She will update your classes.

Please make sure all courses and alternates are entered into Skyward Family Access under the student's login by February 9th.

FSMS
Counselor Contacts
2024-2025

Kristin Kendrick – Counselor Grade 6 – 2024-2025
Kristin.Kendrick@fortbendisd.com

Stefanie Armatta – Counselor Grade 7 - 2024-2025
Stefanie.Armatta@fortbendisd.com

Marla Angibeau – Lead Counselor/Counselor Grade 8 - 2024-2025
Marla.Angibeau@fortbendisd.com

Quick Links

Fort Settlement Webpage https://www.fortbendisd.com/fsms

Fort Settlement Counselors' Webpage https://www.fortbendisd.com/Domain/2976

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)
https://www.fortbendisd.com/Domain/2979#calendar286680/20240124/month

Credit By Exam https://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/296

Off Campus PE https://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/96272

Middle School Course Guide
https://www.fortbendisd.com/cms/lib/TX01917858/Centricity/domain/74/course%20selection%20guides/MIDDLE%20SCHOOL%2024_25.pdf

Please email me with any questions.

7th Grade Counselor
Marla.Angibeau@fortbendisd.com