# Midland Independent School District 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Calendar What's Your Plan?



## 7<sup>th</sup> /8<sup>th</sup> Grade Calendar

### August

- Focus on doing well academically this year. If you are enrolled in PreAP classes, remember you must maintain an average of 80 to remain in the class.
- TEA's deadline for schedule changes is within the first 10 days of school.
  Talk to your counselor by the deadline if you are needing to request a change. All changes are subject to course availability.
- Setup Parent access in Skyward so you can access your child's grades throughout the year.
- Look for extracurricular activities this school year and strive to be a leader on your campus.
- If you are signed up for athletics, make sure you turn in your physical the first week of school to avoid being removed from the class.
- Pay attention to your 3 week progress reports to ensure you're academically on track for the six weeks.
- If you have missing assignments or failing grades, attend tutorials before and/or after school.

#### September

- Continue to focus on grades and talk to your teachers if you have any concerns.
- If you speak fluent Spanish, talk to your counselors about Credit by Exam testing for Spanish I and II for high school credit.
- If you are enrolled in Spanish, Algebra or Art I, remember these grades count towards your high school GPA.
- Check your school website for specific dates for Open House.
- If your 7<sup>th</sup> grader qualifies for Duke Tip, don't forget to sign up to take the ACT or SAT by the deadline stated in the letter.
- Begin talking with your child about the different college & career paths they may be interested in.
- Pay attention to your 3 week progress reports to ensure you're academically on track for the six weeks.
- If you have missing assignments or failing grades, attend tutorials before and/or after school.



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#### October

- Look at your campus calendar on the website for a list of activities promoting college and career readiness.
- Red Ribbon Week is in October. Your future is key, so stay drug free.
- Keep thinking about your future and possible college majors.
- Stay focused on grades and turning work in on time.
- Continue to attend tutoring as needed to stay on track.

#### November

- Keep your focus on your grades. You'll want your grades for this year to be as strong as possible.
- This month counselors will conduct a program called Signs of Suicide with 7<sup>th</sup> graders to identify at risk students.
- Talk with teachers, family members, and other adults you respect about the colleges they attended.
- Find a mentor; seek out a knowledgeable adult. A parent, teacher, counselor, or family friend can be a valuable advisor on your journey through junior high.
- Take time to volunteer. Community service looks great on a college scholarship application. It's never too soon to start your resume.

#### December

- Start early in the month beginning your personal reviews for finals the last week of December.
- This month counselors will conduct a program called More Than Sad with 8<sup>th</sup> graders to identify at risk students.
- On your holiday travels, take a quick trip to a nearby college to check out the campus.
- Finish the semester strong; form good study habits now to guide you throughout your school career.



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### January

- Early College High School and the Industry Academies will be presenting to parents and students this month. If you are interested in applying, make sure you turn your application in by the deadline. Check your school calendar for the ECHS parent night.
- Continue to check progress reports and setup teacher/parent conferences as needed.
- GT applications will be going out this month to both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who are interested in testing.
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be choosing an endorsement for high school in the upcoming months to complete their 4 year plan. Log in to <u>SchooLinks</u> House Bill 5 and the 5 endorsements.
- Instruction now will prepare you for the STAAR test. Being present and paying attention this semester will play a huge role in doing well on your state exams.

#### **February**

- This month Early College High School will conduct interviews at the junior high campus with all students who turned in an application by the deadline.
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders will start receiving information on filling out their 4 year high school plan using <u>School inks</u>. Start checking your school calendar for parent information night dates.
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders, if you are still unsure which endorsement to choose in high school, talk to your counselor about interest inventories you can take online.
- Continue to check grades and stay on track this semester. Keep attending tutoring as needed.



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#### March

- This month four year plans for 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be due to their counselor and must be signed by a parent in <u>SchooLinks</u>. Setup a conference with your counselor if you need help filling it out.
- 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be filling out their course registration cards for 8<sup>th</sup> grade and must return these signed by a parent.
- It is never too early to start a brag sheet that organizes all your accomplishments, community service, awards, internships, etc. This document will help you later to fill out scholarship applications, college applications, and in job interviews.
- STAAR testing is fast approaching. Continue to study hard and meet with teachers for extra help as needed.

#### **April**

- This month 7<sup>th</sup> graders will take the STAAR writing and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take the STAAR reading.
- Freshman counselors will visit this month to finalize four year plans with 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Make sure you have returned your 4 year plan to your counselor signed by a parent in SchooLinks.
- As the year is coming to an end, continue to focus on grades. STAAR scores will play a huge role in meeting the guidelines for PreAP classes next year
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders need to start thinking in depth about high school. Make sure you understand things like GPA, dual credit, and SAT/ACT testing. Talk to your counselors if you need more information on these things.



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### May

- This month 7<sup>th</sup> graders will take the STAAR reading and math and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take the STAAR science and social studies. Algebra students will also take the End of Course Exam.
- Academic/Athletic Awards Ceremonies are this month to recognize all the hard work students have put in this year.
- If you are enrolled in high school credit classes this year, make sure you are on track for receiving credit. If you have missed more than 10 days this year, see the attendance clerk on how to make up hours.
- Final exams are the last week of school. Make sure you are studying all month to prepare for them.

### June-July

- Be sure to contact your counselor by the deadline stated for any schedule changes for the upcoming school year
- If you plan on playing sports next year, get your physical completed during these months for the upcoming school year
- Check your school calendar for dates on all beginning of year events

It is always good to be reminded, criminal convictions and/or drug/alcohol use now could have a negative effect on career plans and/or college admission in the future.