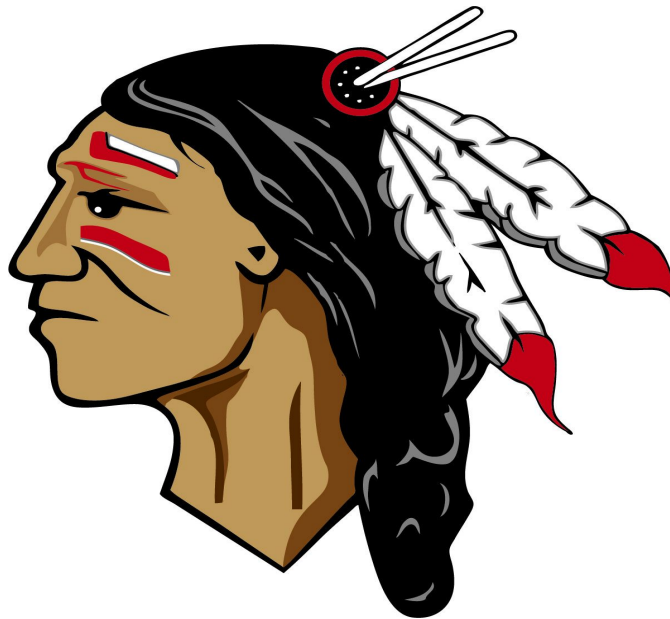


# **WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL**

## **8TH GRADE COURSE SELECTION GUIDE**

**2019-2020**



**JULIE TUBBS**

**SCHOOL COUNSELOR - GRADES 8, 9, AND 10**

[jtubbs@westsideschools.org](mailto:jtubbs@westsideschools.org)

870-336-8021

# Westside High School

## 2019-2020 Bell Schedule

| <b>“A” Day</b>   | <b>“B” Day</b>   |
|--|--|
| 1st Block (A): 8:00am-9:35am                             | 1st Block (B): 8:00am-9:35am                             |
| Second Chance Breakfast<br>9:35am-9:45am                 | Second Chance Breakfast<br>9:35am-9:45am                 |
| 2nd Block (A): 9:45am-11:50am<br>(includes lunch period) | 2nd Block (B): 9:45am-11:50am<br>(includes lunch period) |
| 3rd Block (A): 11:55am-1:30pm                            | 3rd Block (B): 11:55am-1:30pm                            |
| 4th Block: 1:35pm-2:25pm                                 | 4th Block: 1:35pm-2:25pm                                 |
| 5th Block: 2:30pm-3:20pm                                 | 5th Block: 2:30pm-3:20pm                                 |

\*The first bell rings at 7:55am every morning.

\*A student’s lunch period is determined by their 2nd block teacher. (First Lunch: 10:40am-11:10am    Second Lunch: 11:20am-11:50am)

Eighth grade students at Westside High School will be enrolled in eight classes. Four classes will be academic core classes, such as English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Two classes will be chosen elective courses, and two will be required elective courses. Some of the classes available for eighth grade students are high school credit courses and are noted (\*). **It is important to know that high school credit courses will appear on the student's permanent high school transcript, and the 8th grade student's final grades will be taken into account when/if determining honor graduate status. Please see the WHS Student Handbook for more information.** Explanations of these courses have been provided.

PreAP courses are offered to 8th grade students in the subjects of English, Science, and Social Studies. PreAP courses cover the same curriculum as regular 8th grade core courses, but PreAP courses are designed to prepare students for higher intellectual engagement. In addition, summer work may be required for PreAP courses. These courses will prepare students for the honors program at Westside High School, but they are not required. Summer work will be posted to the school's website, [www.westsideschools.org](http://www.westsideschools.org), by June 1st.

Algebra I is the advanced 8th grade math course. Students who take this course must be approved. Please see the following excerpt from the Westside Consolidated Student Handbook:

#### **Eighth grade enrollment in Algebra I**

In order to enroll in Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, the students must meet the following requirements:

- Math grade in 7<sup>th</sup> grade A or B
- Recommendations from 7<sup>th</sup> grade math teachers confirming mature work habits and good organizational skills.
- Diagnostic test scores, if other test indicators are not available.
- The principal has the right to review individual cases.

Eighth grade students who are enrolled in Algebra I may be moved to Algebra A or Math 8 at the end of the first quarter if they are not maintaining at least a C average and the teacher recommends the change.

## Course Offerings for 8th Grade Students

### **English:**

1. English 8
2. PreAP English 8
3. Resource English 8 (Special Education)

### **Math:**

1. Math 8
2. **Algebra I\*** (must meet recommendation criteria)
  - Provides a foundation in the language, basic skills, and concepts of Algebra. Topics include properties and classification of real numbers, algebraic expressions, linear equations, functions, polynomials, factoring, real world applications, inequalities, and graphing.
3. Resource Math 8 (Special Education)

### **Science:**

1. Science 8
2. PreAP Science 8

### **Social Studies:**

1. History 8
2. PreAP History 8

### **Elective Courses:**

1. **Survey of Agriculture\* (high school credit course)**
  - Introduction to all studies of agriculture. This course includes general agriculture, record keeping, supervised agricultural experiences, FFA, animal science, soil science, plant science, and agricultural mechanics.

## **2. Spanish I\* (high school credit course)**

- Introduction to the basics of communication, structure, and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Students should expect a rigorous curriculum when taking this course.

## **3. EAST**

- Environmental and Spatial Technology (EAST) is a student-driven learning environment. Students will learn how to use state of the art technology and help solve problems within the school and community.

4. Student Council (must be an elected member)
5. Boys Athletics (Football and Basketball)
6. Girls Athletics (Volleyball and Basketball)
7. Cheerleading (must be a member of the squad)
8. Band
9. Choir
10. Art Elective 8

## **Required Electives:**

1. Rotation Classes - Classes will change every quarter. Students will take P.E., Health, Art, and Music throughout the school year.
2. Keyboarding (semester) - Students will learn basic computer/keyboarding skills that will help them with their day-to-day Chromebook use.
3. Tools for Learning (semester) - This class is a study/life skills class for all 8th grade students.

8th Grade Course Request Form  
2019-2020

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one course from each category:

1. English
  - a. English 8
  - b. PreAP English 8 (may require summer work)
  - c. Resource English
  
2. Math
  - a. Math 8
  - b. Algebra I\* (must be approved-high school credit course)
  - c. Resource Math
  
3. Science
  - a. Science 8
  - b. PreAP Science 8 (may require summer work)
  
4. Social Studies
  - a. History 8
  - b. PreAP History 8 (may require summer work)

Choose 3 elective courses, and rank them 1, 2, and 3 with 1 being your top choice. Students will be placed in 2 elective courses and choices will be taken into consideration.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Survey of Agriculture\* (high school credit course)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish I\* (high school credit course)
- \_\_\_\_\_ EAST
- \_\_\_\_\_ Student Council (must be an elected member)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Boys Athletics
- \_\_\_\_\_ Girls Athletics
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cheerleading
- \_\_\_\_\_ Band
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choir
- \_\_\_\_\_ Art Elective 8 (year-long)

\*8th grade students are required to take four rotation classes: P.E., Health, Art, and Music. They are also required to take one semester of Keyboarding and one semester of Tools for Learning.

