

What to Expect in Middle School?

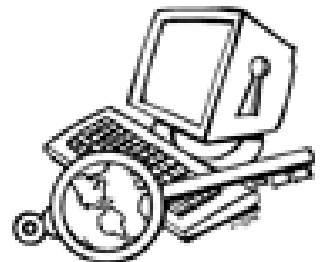
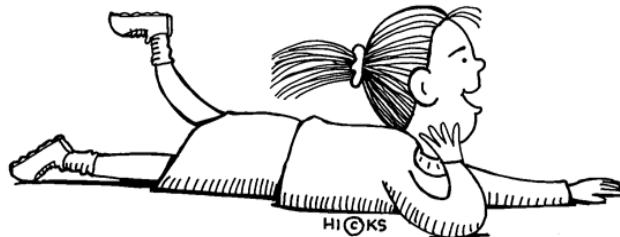
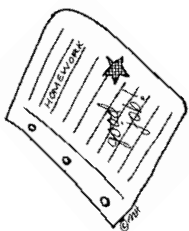


2023-2024



Table of Contents

Middle School Information	1
What To Expect in Middle School	2
Student Activities	3
Attendance	4
Grading	4-6
Testing	6
Student Services	7
Campus Safety	8
Class Schedule	9
College & Career Planning	9-10
What's Next?	10
Graduation Plans	10-11
Beyond High School	12
Tips for Parents	13
Resources	14-18
Lubbock Independent School District Middle Schools	19



Middle School Information

<p>Atkins Middle School 5401 Ave U ♦ 219-3000 Principal: Ryan Rodriguez</p> <p>Faith Tambasi 6th faith.tambasi@lubbockisd.org Melinda Thomas 7th melinda.thomas@lubbockisd.org Megan Talbert 8th megan.talbert@lubbockisd.org</p>	<p>Irons Middle School 5214 79th ♦ 219-4000 Principal: Tommy Duncan</p> <p>Suzanne Blair 6th suzanne.blair@lubbockisd.org Araceli Rodriguez 7th araceli.rodriguez@lubbockisd.org Kristina Faust 8th kristina.faust@lubbockisd.org</p>
<p>Cavazos Middle School 210 N University ♦ 219-3200 Principal: Marti Makuta</p> <p>Anna Rey 6th anna.rey@lubbockisd.org Anna Montalvo 7th anna.montalvo@lubbockisd.org Amy Braswell 8th amy.braswell@lubbockisd.org</p>	<p>Mackenzie Middle School 5402 W. 12th ♦ 219-4200 Principal: Dr. John Martinez Jr</p> <p>Mandy Rhoades 6th mandy.rhoades@lubbockisd.org Rebecca Meeks 7th rebecca.meeks@lubbockisd.org Ivanka Underwood 8th ivanka.underwood@lubbockisd.org</p>
<p>Dunbar Middle School 2010 E. 26th ♦ 219-3400 Principal: Natalie Anderson</p> <p>Brian Galaviz 6th brian.galaviz@lubbockisd.org MarQuisha Moody 7th marquisha.moody@lubbockisd.org Theresa Stevens 8th theresa.stevens@lubbockisd.org</p>	<p>McCool Academy 4402 31st ♦ 219-4600 Principal: Carolyn Wadley</p> <p>TBD A-L Alison Mann M-Z alison.mann@lubbockisd.org</p>
<p>Evans Middle School 4211 58th ♦ 219-3600 Principal: Justin Newman</p> <p>Marisa Sullivan 6th marisa.sullivan@lubbockisd.org Yvonne Banda 7th yvonne.banda@lubbockisd.org Hannah Jones 8th hannah.jones@lubbockisd.org</p>	<p>O.L. Slaton Middle School 1602 32nd ♦ 219-4400 Principal: Chris Lopez</p> <p>Beatrice Aguilar 6th beatrice.aguilar@lubbockisd.org Tosha Woodberry 7th tosha.woodberry@lubbockisd.org Colette Klopp James 8th colette.kloppjames@lubbockisd.org</p>
<p>Hutchinson Middle School 3102 Canton ♦ 219-3800 Principal: Michael Stewart</p> <p>Shelly Pattison A-K shelly.pattison@lubbockisd.org Chelsea Woody L-O chelsea.woody@lubbockisd.org Alina Sims P-Z alina.sims@lubbockisd.org</p>	<p>*Talkington 415 N. Ivory ♦ 219-2200 Principal: Julie Wyatt</p> <p>Kami Graham Lead Counselor kami.graham@lubbockisd.org Sally Jo Jackson Counselor sally.jackson@lubbockisd.org</p>
<p>*Margaret Talkington School for Young Women Leaders is a 6th through 12th grade campus. CEEB Code: 449310</p>	

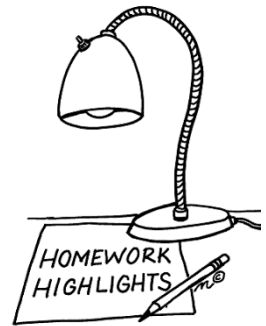
What to Expect in Middle School?

Different Classes – In middle school, you will change classrooms for each subject. One of the first things you will learn is where all your classes are and how long you have to get there. Finding your classes is not hard to do and you will be an “expert” in no time at all. The faculty will help you as you learn your way around the building.

Homework – You will probably have more homework in middle school than you did in elementary. Therefore, it is important to be organized and make sure you have plenty of time to get the work done.

Tips for Academic Success -

- Use different sections of your notebook for each subject. Each section should be labeled with the subject and teacher’s name. This will help keep the information for each class organized and easy to locate.
- Use an assignment notebook. Take it to each class every day and always write down your assignments and their due dates. Check your notebook when you get home to make sure all of your assignments have been completed.
- Ask questions! If you do not understand an assignment, how can you possibly finish it at home by yourself? Usually, if you do not understand, there are probably other students who feel the same way.
- Plan homework time every day. There will be something for you to finish, study, or look over almost every day, so have a set time in your daily schedule for doing homework. During this time:
 - Find a quiet place to work.
 - Gather any supplies you need before you start working.
 - Ask family members not to disturb you. They can also take messages from your friends if they call while you are working.
- Check your backpack or notebook each night before you go to bed. Make sure you have all your homework assignments and any supplies you might need for the next day.



Responsibility – Since you are in middle school now, you will need to accept more responsibility in all aspects of your education.

- If you are absent, it will be up to you to ask your teachers for information and assignments you missed while you were gone.
- If you need tutoring, it will be up to you to make arrangements with your teacher and parents.
- It will be up to you to make sure your assignments are turned in on time.

Student Activities



Middle school offers students the opportunity to participate in a variety of organizations, clubs, and activities. Through these different activities, you have the chance to find new interests, develop talents, and build strong friendships.

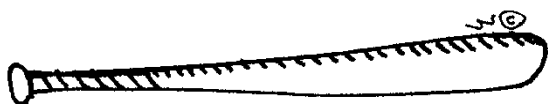
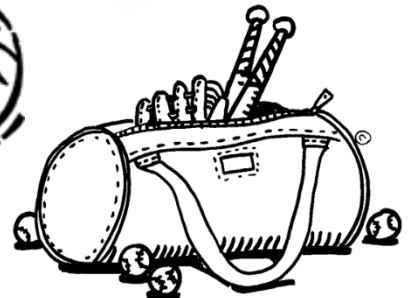
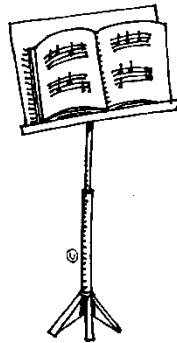
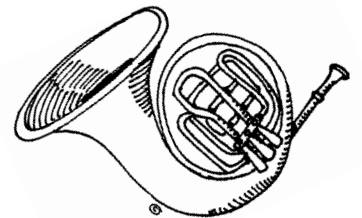
When you begin choosing activities, it is important to weigh all options and be selective about the choices you make. Achieving a balance between academic demands and extracurricular opportunities will make your middle school years rewarding.

Also, remember that participation in school clubs and organizations is a privilege, not a right. In order to participate, you must:

- Maintain a passing grade in all subjects
- Have a good attendance record
- Have no discipline problems

There are a variety of clubs and organizations in which you can participate. The opportunities will vary from grade to grade and from school to school, but some of them are:

- Student Council
- National Junior Honor Society
- Choir
- Band
- Orchestra
- Theatre
- Spirit Organizations
- Athletics
- Yearbook
- World Language Clubs
- Academic Clubs and Competitions



Attendance

Good attendance will not guarantee you good grades. You are, however, pretty much guaranteed to get poor grades if you have poor attendance. Students must be in attendance at least 90% of the days the class is offered in order to receive credit for class. This attendance policy complies with state law.



Leaving the Campus – Students who leave campus for any reason during the school day must report to the office to check out. A parent or guardian must sign the student out before he/she leaves the campus. Upon returning to the campus, students must check in through the office and provide an excused absence note from doctor, court, etc.

Tardy – Students are tardy when they arrive late to school or when they are late to classes during the school day. Each school will implement its own individual tardy policy. For your convenience, the Lubbock ISD calendar is posted on the LISD webpage (www.lubbockisd.org).

Grading

Homework – Each student may have an average of one and one-half hours of homework per night in regular classes and should anticipate additional time requirement in Advanced/Honors courses.

Progress Reports – Interim progress reports shall be issued for all students after the third and sixth week of each grading period. Please contact your student's campus for distribution process and date.

Report Cards – Report cards with each student's performance and absences in each class or subject are issued at least once every 9 weeks. Please contact your student's campus for distribution process and dates.

Gradebook Access – Parents have access to the LISD electronic gradebook via the district website. Email communication between parents and teachers is encouraged. See <https://www.lubbockisd.org/> for details on how to access the gradebook.

Grade Point Average (GPA) – GPA is calculated each semester by adding points for each earned grade and dividing by the number of grades. See chart below:

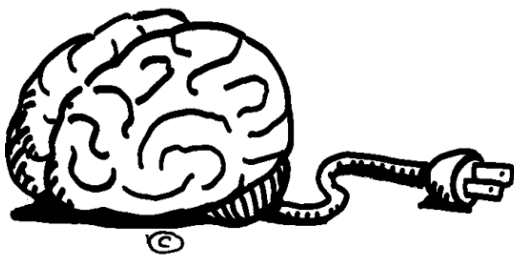
Numeric Grade	Achievement Level	Regular Point Value	Advanced Point Value
90-100	Outstanding	4.0	5.0
80-89	Good	3.0	4.0
70-79	Average	2.0	3.0
Below 70	Unsatisfactory	0.0	0.0

Honor Roll – An honor roll will be determined by achieving a minimum of a 3.5 grade point average. Grade point averages will not be “rounded up”.

Semester Course Averages – Teachers average each nine-week grade to determine the final semester grade. Some campuses use a combination of nine-week averages and semester test grade to determine the semester average. The semester average becomes the final semester grade.

Yearly Course Averages – Teachers average each nine-week grading period and the semester test to determine the final semester grade. The yearly average becomes the average of the two semesters, and therefore, the final yearly grade.

Courses Counting for High School Credit – Students will have the opportunity to gain high school credit in middle school. The courses offered on the middle school campus include Algebra I Honors and World Languages (formerly known as foreign language, taken in 8th grade).



In courses earning high school credit, a student will gain the credit based on 70 or above average of the semester grades. Lubbock ISD shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken at any grade level and regardless of how many times a student has taken a specific course. The calculation shall include failing grades. All grades earned in courses that count for high school credit will appear on a student’s high school transcript and will be used in computing the cumulative grade point average that determines class rank after entry to high school.

Promotion – To be promoted from one grade level to the next, a student must demonstrate mastery of course content by attaining an overall average of 70 or above on a scale of 100 based on course-level, grade-level standards for all courses taken. In addition, students shall attain an average of 70 or above in three of the following subjects: English language arts, and reading (ELAR), mathematics, social studies, and science. Students must also meet attendance requirements as well.



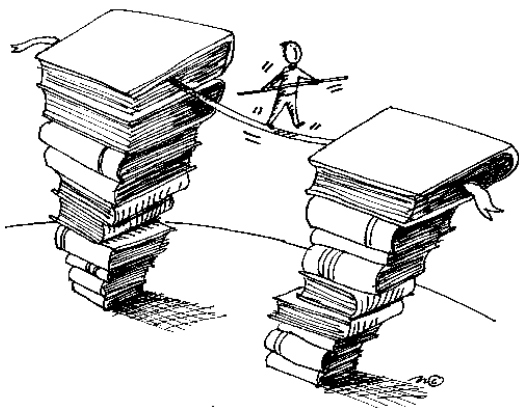
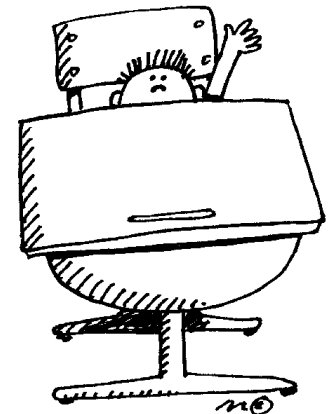
The possible consequences of failing required subjects include summer school, repeating the course(s), or retention.

Testing

Academic Assessment – Test preparation is vital to academic success. It is equally important to prepare for quizzes, unit tests, nine-week assessments, and semester exams. Students will maximize their potential for academic achievement by employing the following strategies:

- Take complete and thorough notes
- Plan adequate time for test review
- Utilize time and check answers
- Review notes periodically

STAAR – Success on the STAAR is directly related to regular attendance, classroom preparation, and mastery of effective study skills



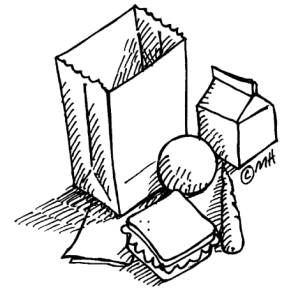
Focus on the Future

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) test includes 5 end-of-course assessments. A student must meet the end-of-course testing requirements, as well as pass their classes, in order to earn a high school diploma.

Student Services

Health Services – Each school has a qualified registered nurse to administer to students' health needs and to maintain health records. If a student becomes ill or injured during the school day, the teacher allows the student to report to the clinic. If the illness or injury is such that the student requires more professional attention, the nurse, in conjunction with the office, contacts the parent. Parents should file the necessary documentation with the school nurse before medication can be properly dispensed. All medication should be registered through the nurse's office.

Counselors – Counseling services are available for every student in the school. These services include assistance with personal and social concerns, academic concerns, and college and career planning and readiness.



Cafeteria – All students must eat in the cafeteria. Students may bring their lunch or purchase a tray lunch or a la carte items in the cafeteria.

★ Outside food may not be provided for student groups; however, parents may bring food for their student only.

Restrooms – Student restrooms are available before and after school, between class periods, and at the beginning or end of the lunch period.

Telephones – The district permits students to possess personal cell phones for safety purposes; however, these devices must remain turned off during the instructional day, including during all testing. In regard to cell phone usage, students should follow district and campus policy.



Books – Students are responsible for textbooks and library books they use. Fines are assessed for writing in books, broken backs, torn pages, etc., and therefore, students should take good care of their books. Book covers are provided by campus staff. A student should clearly write his/her name in each textbook when it is issued and should never loan a book to another student or borrow books which belong to another student.

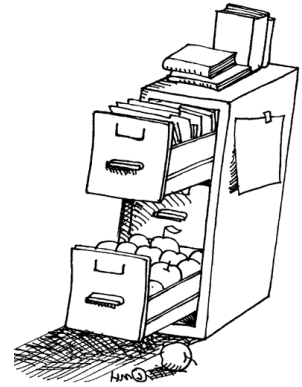
Library – Each middle school has its own library featuring books, magazines, research material, and computer technology available for student use.

Tutorials – Tutorial sessions are available for students who need to receive individual instruction, to make up tests or assignments, and to receive help with homework or classwork.

Campus Safety

School Rules – In order to have a safe, inviting place for students to come and learn, schools need to have rules. While rules vary from school to school, no school will allow weapons, drugs, violence, smoking, alcohol, bullying, etc.

★ **See Something Say Something:** All students need to take an active role in making their school a safe place where students want to come and learn. If you ever feel threatened, or if you become aware of a situation that may put you or someone else at risk, please tell a teacher, principal, counselor or STOPit system immediately.



Texas Open Records Act – Under the Texas Open Records Act, parental permission is required for directory information (child’s address, phone number, and home school) to be released by LISD for private and commercial use. Parents have the right to keep this information confidential. If parents do not want this information released, they are to check the appropriate box on the online enrollment form.

Dress Code – The district’s dress code is established in an effort to provide a school environment that is conducive to learning. It also addresses safety concerns for students as well as instilling real-world expectations for the student population. Students shall be dressed in a manner that is clean and neat and that is not a health or safety hazard to themselves or others. The district prohibits any clothing or grooming that, in the principal’s judgment, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operations.

Technology Resources and the Internet – Students are expected to use their electronic devices and the internet responsibly. The use of electronic devices (like Chromebooks), Internet or other electronic communication on or off school property should not threaten school safety or disruption to the educational environment. Students conduct should follow district and campus policy.

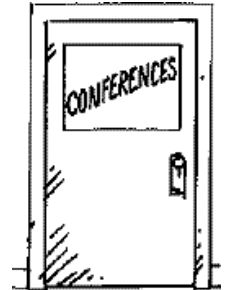
Closed Campus – Once students arrive at school, they are to remain on campus until school is dismissed for the day. They are not permitted to go off campus in the morning or during lunch.

Safety/COVID – Updates at <https://www.lubbockisd.org/>

Class Schedule

Sixth Grade Schedule – All students in the sixth grade will take regular or Advanced/Honors English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR), mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts, and electives.

Seventh Grade Schedule – All students in the seventh grade will take ELAR regular or Advanced/Honors, mathematics regular or Advanced/Honors, science regular or Advanced/Honors, social studies regular or Advanced/Honors, and electives.



Eighth Grade Schedule – All students in the eighth grade will take ELAR regular or Advanced/Honors, mathematics or Algebra I Advanced/Honors, science regular or Advanced/Honors, social studies regular or Advanced/Honors, and electives.

Electives – Students should refer to the middle school they will be attending to obtain a list of the electives that will be offered at that school. A course description of each class can be found in the **Middle School Course Offerings Booklet**.

Physical Education and Athletics – Physical education and athletics are considered electives. Students must have completed two years of physical education or athletics by the end of eighth grade. Students should refer to the **Middle School Course Offerings Booklet** for a description of the various athletic programs.

Advanced/Honors Courses – Students are encouraged to take Advanced/Honors courses in all three middle school grades. Advanced/Honors courses include increased rigor in their curriculum, have higher expectations for course work and class participation, and offer the best preparation for Pre-Advanced and Advanced Placement (AP) courses offered in high school. They are considered college-preparatory courses.

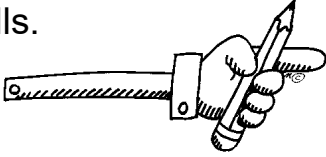


College & Career Planning

Middle school is the time to decide what you like to do and who you want to be. Planning ahead can help you decide what course options and programs are right for you in high school and how you can prepare for college and beyond.

★ Use the college and career checklist to plan yearly.

Exploring Careers - Every sixth and seventh grader will use career exploration tools to assist in career exploration and course planning. Interest profiles and other surveys will assist students in identifying careers that match their interests and skills.



What's Next?

The start of high school is an exciting time!

In the 9th – 12th grades, you will have many opportunities:

- You will have more courses from which to choose.
- You will have a chance to take part in a variety of extracurricular activities.
- You will have more independence and more responsibility.
- You will have the chance to specifically plan for college and/or a career.
- You will have the chance to meet new classmates and develop new friendships.

Graduation Plans

Diploma Options – Students must graduate with one of the following graduation plans:

- Foundation
- Foundation plus Endorsement

★ In order to receive the distinguished level, a student must complete the foundation plus endorsement plan along with completing Algebra II as one of the math requirements.



Other Credit Earning Opportunities

- Summer School
- LISD Online
- Credit by Exam
- TTU Outreach & Distance Education



Diploma Requirements for 2018 and Later Graduates

SUBJECT	FOUNDATION	FOUNDATION PLUS ENDORSEMENT
English	4 English 1, 2, 3, and Adv. English course	4 English 1, 2, 3, and Adv. English course
Math	3 Algebra I, Geometry, and a third adv. math course	4 Algebra I, Geometry, Financial Mathematics, or Algebra II and one additional state approved credit in math
Science	2 Biology, lab science, and one adv. science course	4 Biology, lab science, and two adv. science courses
Social Studies & Economics	3 World Geography or World History, U. S. History, and Government & Economics	3 World Geography or World History, U. S. History, and Government & Economics
World Languages	2 from same language	2 from same language
Physical Education	1 Can substitute CA, ROTC, Cheerleading, Pep Squad, Gymnastics, or Marching Band	1 Can substitute CA, ROTC, Cheerleading, Pep Squad, Gymnastics, or Marching Band
Fine Arts	1 Credit must be from a course in Art, Music, Theatre, Dance, Principles and Elements of Floral Design, or 3-D Graphic Modeling and Animation	1 Credit must be from a course in Art, Music, Theatre, Dance, Principles and Elements of Floral Design, or 3-D Graphic Modeling and Animation
Elective courses	7.0 (State approved elective credits)	6.0 (State approved elective credits)
Total Credits	22	26

- ★ All incoming 9th grade students are automatically placed on the Foundation plus Endorsement plus Distinguish graduation plan; not allowed to move to Foundation plan until after completion of sophomore year

Endorsement Options - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Business and Industry, Public Service, Arts and Humanities and Multi-Disciplinary Studies. For details visit <https://lmci.state.tx.us/shared/FHSEB/FHSEB.asp>.

Beyond High School

Me? Think about college? Now?

Yes, you! Yes, now! This does not mean that you need to know now what you want to do “when you grow up.” It is **Okay** not to know yet. In fact, you will want to keep your options wide open.

- Compared with those who do not continue their education beyond high school, people who go to college or other institutions of higher education:
 - Have a wider range of job possibilities and options.
 - Make better health choices.
 - Develop lifelong learning skills.
 - Earn about 66% more money.
 - Are in a better position to help their families and communities.

- Even if you are not sure what your future holds, you will need to prepare to attend a postsecondary institution of higher education. What you learn in school and the courses you take will help you get the very most from life and a promising career.

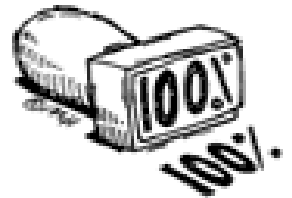
★ Postsecondary Institution Options

- Public and private four-year colleges and universities
- Two-year community colleges and junior colleges
- Business schools
- Career and Technical schools
- Military training
- Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID)



Tips for Parents

- Work together with your child to develop good study habits.
- Encourage a healthy lifestyle in your home.
- Stay involved in every aspect of your child's life.
- Support campus intervention plans for your child.
- Look for opportunities to praise good grades and extra effort.
- Allow your child to learn independence and gain confidence.
- Make school a top priority.
- Check the school calendar carefully to assure your child's attendance on testing dates.



This guide is a complement to and **not** a substitute for Lubbock ISD policy and expectations. For current policy, please review Student Code of Conduct, Student Handbook, and Course Offerings & Graduation Requirements booklets.

Resources

ASSIGNMENTS

TODAY'S DATE:		
SUBJECT	ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE
MATH		
ENGLISH		
SCIENCE		
HISTORY		
OTHER		
OTHER		
TESTS OR LONG-TERM PROJECTS		
REMINDERS		PARENT/TEACHER NOTES
TEACHER INITIAL:		PARENT SIGNATURE:

Middle School College and Career Preparatory Checklists

6th Grade

- Set goals for middle school.
- Take the most challenging English, math, science, and social studies classes you can handle.
- Add classes in art, computers, or world language, if you can.
- Do assignments for extra credit.
- Focus on learning as much as you can and mastering key concepts.
- Ask questions and participate in class.
- Improve or continue good study habits.
- Get involved in school and community activities, like spelling bees, science fairs, and clubs.
- Think about activities and subjects that interest you.
- Take an interest inventory like Map My Grad (<https://www.mapmygrad.org/>).
- Explore jobs and careers.
- Talk to family members, teachers, counselors, and friends about your dreams and plans.
- Attend tutorials as needed

7th Grade

- Set goals for middle school, or revise old goals.
- Take the most challenging English, math, science, and social studies classes you can handle.
- Add classes in art, computers, or world language, if you can.
- Do assignments for extra credit.
- Focus on learning as much as you can and mastering key concepts.
- Ask questions and participate in class.
- Improve or continue good study habits.
- Get involved in school and community activities.
- Identify activities and subjects that interest you.
- If you have not already, take an interest inventory.
- Explore jobs and careers.
- Keep talking to others about your dreams and plans.
- Revisit your interest inventory results and retake the test to see if your interests have changed (Map My Grad interest quiz <https://www.mapmygrad.org/>).
- Attend tutorials as needed

8th Grade

- Take the most challenging English, math, science, and social studies classes you can handle.
- Take classes in art, computers or world language, if you can.
- Do assignments for extra credit.
- Focus on learning as much as you can and mastering key concepts (colleges will see your grades for high school classes).
- Ask questions and participate in class.
- Improve or continue good study habits.
- Get involved in school and community activities.
- Start thinking about goals for high school.
- If you are able to choose your high school, start visiting local schools to compare your options
- Investigate CTE programs and endorsements options.
- Explore jobs and careers.
- Keep talking to others about your dreams and plans.
- Revisit/retake an interest inventory (your interests may change over time, and your results may be different than before).
- Attend tutorials as needed

Lubbock Independent School District Middle Schools

Atkins Middle School

STEM: Project Lead the Way
Dual Language Specialty School
AVID

Cavazos Middle School

Creating and Learning with Real World Technology and STEM
Fine Arts Specialty School: Mariachi, Piano and Orchestra, Band and Choir

Dunbar Middle School

College Preparatory Specialty School
AVID

Evans Middle School

STEM: Project Lead the Way

Hutchinson Middle School

International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme
Fine Arts Specialty School

Irons Middle School

STEM: Engineer Your World
AVID

Mackenzie Middle School

STEM: Engineer Your World
AVID

McCool Academy

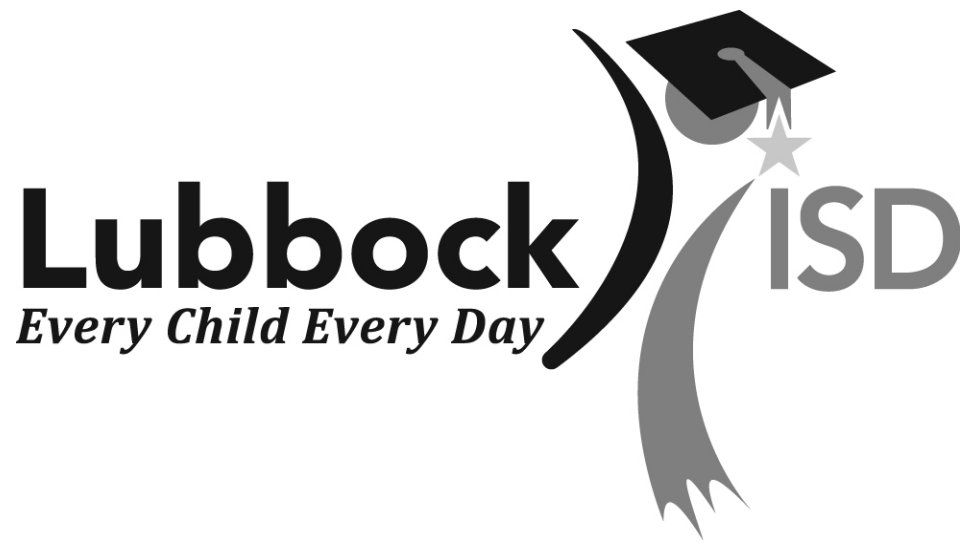
STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math
Project Based Learning (PBL)

O.L. Slaton Middle School

STEM: Project Lead the Way Pathway
AVID

Talkington School for Young Women Leaders

Single-Gender College Preparatory Specialty School



This booklet was produced by the
Department of Counseling & College/Career Readiness
Lubbock Independent School District
Charlotte Sessom, Director
Dr. Stacy Caviel-Watson, Specialist - College/Career Readiness