

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT FOR 8TH GRADE STUDENTS 2009-2010

Due to the 4x4 block at the high school level, the district has made some changes to the elective programs already in place in the Middle Schools. Starting in the 09-10 school year, Downing 8th grade students will have the opportunity to receive high school credit for some approved electives without any prerequisite classes. These classes will have a limited number of seats; first come, first serve. Once these seats are filled, a waiting list will be developed. If your child chose one of the following electives on the course selection sheet already, then they will have priority over the students who may sign up after receiving this information.

If you are interested, parents will need to contact the Downing Counselor in charge of master schedule, Natalie Melton (meltonnc@lisd.net or 972-350-1413) on or before April 8, 2009. We will document the date and time of your email or call and compile a list of interested students. Please remember that seats are limited, so time is of the essence.

The following courses will be offered for high school credit next year:

Spanish I (1 high school credit)

Unlike middle school Spanish class in the past, students will take one year of Spanish to receive 1 high school credit. As we phase this new program in for the 09-10 school year, students who are presently in Spanish as a 7th grader will continue to with the present Spanish program as 8th graders. Students who are new to the Spanish program will be in a separate class and will complete the Spanish I credit in one school year (meaning the pace will move along more quickly).

Art I 59110000 (1 high school credit)

This is the foundation for all other art courses. No prior drawing skills are necessary. The elements and the principles of design are emphasized through a variety of projects and problems in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional design, drawing, painting, and printmaking. The course includes a survey of historical and cultural developments in art. Students develop skills in observing, problem-solving, manipulating art media, and evaluating art works. Preparation of a portfolio is required.

Personal and Family Development 7975000 (1 high school credit)

Students will acquire knowledge and skills related to family living, child development, clothing, housing, consumer decisions and responsibilities, food and nutrition, family and personal health, and the relationship between the home and the work place. Some supply fees are required.

ONLINE COURSES:

Students may take the following online courses for high school credit. (OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL DAY)

BCIS (Business Computer Information Systems) 1 credit

Health .5 credit

Please follow these instructions to sign up for these courses:

Step 1: Pick up a Student Participation Contract from your child's counselor or print one from the eSchool website:

<http://www.lisd.net/eschool/>.

Step 2: Return the completed contract to your child's counselor.

Step 3: The counselor will then fax the student agreement to the eSchool office for registration.

Students will not receive communication from the eSchool office until the week prior to the term they are scheduled to begin their online course. It will be at that time we will send and post reminders about their online class.