

Homewood Middle School

Curriculum Guide

2024-2025

Homewood City Schools

Dr. Justin Hefner, Superintendent

Dr. Danny Steele, Principal

Mr. John Dorough, Assistant Principal

*Mrs. Reba Hudson, Assistant Principal
for Instruction*

Ms. Christi Martin, Assistant Principal

**HOMEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL
395 MECCA AVENUE
HOMEWOOD, AL 35209**

<https://www.homewood.k12.al.us/hms>

PHONE: (205) 870-0878

FAX: (205) 877-4573

HMS Mission Statement

The mission of Homewood City Schools is to educate and empower all students to maximize their unique potential.

Homewood City Schools is a student-centered system enriched by tradition, vision, and compassionate spirit. Our mission is ensured by a dedicated, exemplary staff; a supportive, involved community; an appreciation for diversity; an effective use of resources; and an uncompromising commitment to excellence.

Counseling Department

Mrs. Jimicka Alexander: 6th Grade

Mrs. AnnaGrace Baldwin: 7th Grade

Mrs. Leigh Graham: 8th Grade

TABLE OF CONTENTS

School Information	1
Course Selection and Offerings	2
Report Cards and Grades	3
Bell Schedule	3
Course Descriptions	4-8
Registration Procedures	8
Student Athlete	8
Extracurricular Activities	9
8th Grade Academic Honor Societies & Awards	9-10
HCS Non-Discrimination Statements	10
HMS Estimated Student Costs	11

Open Enrollment

Homewood City Schools believes in open enrollment during the course selection process. With open enrollment, students and their parents are able to select any courses from the full range of options, including English 8 Hon/Adv and Accelerate Math Courses. Homewood City Schools will assist families in the course selection process by providing students and parents with relevant data to better inform their decisions.

Faculty and Staff

Homewood Middle School faculty is composed of highly qualified individuals who are dedicated to the profession and devoted to meeting the unique needs of young adolescents. An exemplary support staff is in place to complement the services provided by our faculty.

School Recognition

HMS is accredited by AdvancEd.

Course Selection Information

COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

Course selection begins with a grade level parent meeting that provides an overview of the course selection process and course options. Students are given informative course selection sheets, a list of deadlines, and access to the HMS Curriculum Guide. Students will complete their course selection requests online in the PowerSchool Student Portal. Students in each grade level will select their courses with a counselor during class following the Course Selection Parent meetings.

The following suggestions are designed to assist students and parents with the course selection process.

1. Study the HMS Curriculum Guide. Each student will have access to the online curriculum guide to review course descriptions and specific course requirements.
2. Talk with your child's teacher or counselor. Teachers and counselors are aware of specific skills and work habits of each student and can be a sound source of advice since they work with the students on a daily basis.
3. Consider the overall workload. Special attention should be paid to the overall time commitment necessary for classes and extracurricular activities. Students and parents should carefully consider student participation in advanced courses. Your student's grades, STAR scores, and standardized test scores can help you make an informed decision. Work habits and student interest in course material should be considered in your decision. Students are encouraged to balance academic work with their other commitments.
4. Choose additional courses carefully. Students are to select different alternate electives from their primary elective choice(s). An alternate elective will be used if one of the chosen electives is closed or not offered. In the event of a schedule conflict or if an alternate elective is needed, an elective will be chosen for the student who did not select the correct number or different alternate electives.

Course selections are full-year commitments. Any schedule change requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. All requests for changes must be submitted by a parent in writing and will be evaluated by the HMS schedule change request team for approval. Only cases of extreme circumstances will be honored after school begins. Schedule change request that may NOT be Honored:

- A preference request (class order, teacher request, or desire to be with another student).
- A course that was originally requested by the student (sudden desire to not take a course that was requested).
- A course request that was not granted (class is full or does not fit in the student's schedule).
- A case of unexpected rigor (class is harder than expected, overall load is more than expected).
- A course that was not originally requested by student (sudden desire to take a course that was not requested).

COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

Approved schedule changes will be made in PowerSchool. The student will be directed to view the updated schedule in the student's PowerSchool portal or will be given a printed copy of the updated schedule. The parent will be notified of the change and addition of any associated course costs.

Nonapproved schedule change requests will be communicated with the student and/or parent by a member of the HMS schedule change request team.

Required Academic Courses:

Language Arts/English

English Language Arts, Grade 6, 7 & 8

Math

Mathematics, Grade 6, 7, & 8

Science

Science, Grade 6
Life Science, Grade 7
Physical Science, Grade 8

Social Studies

Social Studies, Grade 6
Social Studies (Civics & Geography), Grade 7
World History to 1500, Grade 8

Physical Education

Physical Education, Grade 6, 7, & 8

Optional Advanced Academic Courses:

English

English Language Arts 8 - Hon/Adv

Math

Accelerated Math 7
Accelerated Math 8

Elective Courses

Grade 6:

Rotation (9Wks)

Character & Career 6
Computer Science Endeavors
Creative Writing 6
Family & Consumer Science 6/ FACS 6
Music 6
Visual Arts 6

Year Long (36 Wks)

Academic Enhancement 6
Band 6
Choir 6
Math Team 6
Study Hall 6

Grade 7:

Semester (18 Wks)

Character & Career 7
Computer Science Discoveries 7
Introduction to Theatre 7
Patriot Time Fitness 7
Speech & Debate 7
Teen Discoveries/ FACS 7
Visual Arts 7

Year Long (36 Wks)

Academic Enhancement 7
Band 7
Concert Choir 7
Math Team 7
Study Hall 7

Grade 8:

Semester (18 Wks)

Career Preparedness-A
Character & Career 8
Computer Science Discoveries 8
Patriot Time Fitness 8
Speech & Debate 8
Teen Connections/ FACS 8
Visual Arts 8

Year Long (36 Wks)

Academic Enhancement 8
Band 8
Band 8-Instrument Ensemble
Chamber Choir 8
Math Team 8
Study Hall 8

Report Cards & Grades

Interim Report and Report Cards

Report cards are distributed every nine weeks to notify parents of the student's progress. The interim grade dates and report card dates are published on the school calendar. Parents and students will be provided with a paper and/or electronic copy of their report card for each grading term. Electronic password protected report cards will be emailed to the custodial parent on record via BrightArrow Email Reports. The password is the student's 10-digit student number. Parents are urged to check with the grade level counselor if they are not receiving report cards.

PowerSchool Parent Portal

PowerSchool Parent Portal allows parents to access their child's attendance and grade data. Parents have constant access to the PowerSchool Parent Portal, and grades are updated in real time. The PowerSchool Parent Portal icon is located on the school website and there is also an app that parents and students may use. Please note that, due to privacy, login and password information can only be exchanged in person or mailed to the residential address on record.

Grade Point Averages (GPA)

The grading system at Homewood Middle School is based on a 4.0 grade point average. Students will retain any high school credits earned during their middle school year, but grades earned in middle school will not be used to calculate their high school grade point averages (GPA).

Curriculum grades will be calculated:

- A = 4 points
- B = 3 points
- C = 2 points
- D = 1 point
- F = 0 points

Grade Scale

The following grade scale is used at Homewood Middle School:

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 60-69
- F = 59 and below

Assessments

ACAP

The Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program is a computer-based, criterion-referenced assessment designed to measure students' progress toward mastery of the Alabama Course of Study Standards. The assessment is administered to student in Grades 2-8, once a year, in the spring, and includes the content areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science (Grades 4, 6, and 8 only).

Bell Schedules

Arrival and Dismissal

The building will be open to students at 7:00 am. There is no supervision for students prior to 7:00 am. When students arrive to the campus, they are to enter the building immediately and report directly to the assigned area for their grade level. Students must remain in the building once they enter. The assigned locations are as follows:

- 6th Grade – Cafetorium
- 7th Grade – Competition Gym
- 8th Grade – Practice Gym

Breakfast is served daily 7:15 am – 7:40 am.

- First Bell: 7:45 am
- Tardy Bell: 7:55 am

At the sound of the 3:00 pm bell, students are dismissed from school and should immediately leave campus, unless authorized by a school administrator, presently enrolled in an on-site school extended day program, or participating in an authorized extracurricular school activity. If your student is NOT picked up by 3:30 pm, they will be required to attend the "After the Bell" program, at a daily per student drop-in cost of \$15 for registered and \$20 for non-registered, due at the time of pick-up. Students participating in or attending after school activities (ex. Athletic events, practices, field trips, dances, school sponsored events, etc.) need to have transportation home pre-arranged and pick-up should be timely.

6th Grade: 7:55 am - 3:00 pm

Period	Class Time	Course
6.1	7:55 am - 9:20 am	Academic 1
6.2	9:25 am - 10:05 am	PE or Elective
6.3	10:10 am - 10:50 am	PE or Elective
6.4	10:55 am - 12:45 pm	Academic 2 + Lunch
6.5	12:50 pm - 2:10 pm	Academic 3
6.6	2:15 pm - 3:00 pm	Patriot Time

7th Grade: 7:55 am - 3:00 pm

Period	Class Time	Course
7.1	7:55 am - 8:55 am	Academic 1
7.2	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Academic 2
7.3	10:05 am - 11:35 am	Academic 3 + Lunch
7.4	11:40 am - 12:25 pm	Patriot Time
7.5	12:30 pm - 1:10 pm	PE or Elective
7.6	1:15 pm - 1:55 pm	PE or Elective
7.7	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Academic 4

8th Grade: 7:55 am - 3:00 pm

Period	Class Time	Course
8.1	7:55 am - 8:35 am	PE or Elective
8.2	8:40 am - 9:20 am	Patriot Time
8.3	9:25 am - 10:25 am	Academic 1
8.4	10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Academic 2 + Lunch
8.5	12:05 pm - 1:05 pm	Academic 3
8.6	1:10 pm - 2:10 pm	Academic 4
8.7	2:15 pm - 3:00 pm	PE or Elective

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English Language Arts - Grade 6

Sixth grade Language Arts encompasses all skills related to written and spoken language, including reading and responding to literature. The course incorporates grammar, vocabulary, and writing with an emphasis upon authentic opportunities for communication. Information retrieval and organization is also a part of the language arts curriculum.

English Language Arts - Grade 7

Seventh grade Language Arts focuses on the development of competency in reading, writing, and critical thinking. Students refine their skills through daily practice in authentic situations that include analysis of fictional and informational texts, interdisciplinary learning, and the application of knowledge through written expression. Seventh grade Language Arts builds on skills learned in previous grades and introduces new skills that will be honed in future grades.

English Language Arts - Grade 8

Eighth grade English encompasses instruction in vocabulary, literature, grammar and writing. Literature studies include the short story, the novel, poetry, and drama. Reading is emphasized throughout the year because of its pronounced effect on written language skills. Formal and informal writing, consisting of personal narratives and original fiction, along with formal essays and compositions, will be required to further refine students' communication skills.

English Language Arts - Grade 8, Hon/Adv

English 8 Hon/Adv is an accelerated academic course designed for students who plan to enroll in an Advanced Placement course in high school. The fast-paced curriculum requires an increased expectation of responsibility and independence. Students are expected to display a high level of proficiency in writing, reading, and critical thinking. Additionally, they should be willing to respond to an increased workload, exhibit a strong work ethic, demonstrate a serious attitude toward their studies, and participate consistently in class discussions. This is not a weighted GPA course.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics, Grade 6

The sixth-grade mathematics program requires proficiency in performing the basic operations with whole numbers and decimals. The curriculum includes various techniques of mental arithmetic, estimation skills, the use of calculators, and an introduction to pre-algebra. Emphasis is placed on application and understanding the relationships among fractions, decimals, and percentages, which includes opportunities to build understanding of percent and application to sales tax and discounts. Measurement and geometric concepts are extended and applied. The study of statistics and probability involves conducting surveys and selecting appropriate ways to organize, display and interpret data. The 6th-grade math curriculum includes and exceeds the standards set forth by the Alabama Course of Study.

Mathematics - Grade 7

Students will analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems; apply and extend previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers; use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions; solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations; draw, construct, and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationship between them; solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume; use random sampling to draw inferences about a population; draw informal comparative inferences about two populations; and investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models.

Accelerated Mathematics - Grade 7

Accelerated Math 7 is a course designed to provide students with a strong foundation in the concepts of algebra and geometry. Mathematical procedures are reinforced through expanded use of algebraic methods and complex problem-solving activities. Exploratory opportunities are provided in data analysis and probability. Students are encouraged to think critically about results and implications, consider alternative methods to approach problems, and generalize information properly. ACC Math 7 provides a comprehensive introduction to the properties and applications of the real number system. The Accelerated Math 7 curriculum includes and exceeds the Math 7 standards set forth by the Alabama Course of Study.

Mathematics - Grade 8

Students will know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers; work with radicals and integer exponents; understand the connections among proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations; analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations; define, evaluate, and compare functions; use functions to model relationships between quantities; understand congruence and similarity using physical models, transparencies, or geometry software; understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem; solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres; and investigate patterns of association in bivariate data.

Accelerated Mathematics - Grade 8

Accelerated Math 8 is a rigorous study of the fundamental structure of the real number system. Emphasis is placed on algebraic properties and operations needed to solve complex equations. Correlation between equations and their corresponding graphs are a primary focus. Real life application is emphasized throughout the course to develop problem-solving and higher-order thinking skills. Calculator use is encouraged when appropriate. The Accelerated Math 8 course can be considered an Algebra 1 equivalent. The Accelerate Math 8 curriculum includes and exceeds the Math 8 standards set forth by the Alabama Course of Study.

SCIENCE

Science - Grade 6

Sixth grade science curriculum focuses on earth and space science. Content standards challenge students to discover their Earth and its place in the universe. The study of Science is blended with the development of literacy in the content area, mathematical skills such as charting and graphing, and project-based learning.

Life Science - Grade 7

The seventh-grade science course serves as a bridge that allows students to connect the concepts and skills learned in the sixth-grade earth and space course to the principles of the universe studied in the eighth-grade physical science course. Students in the seventh grade are encouraged to develop an appreciation for the diversity of life on Earth while understanding the importance of their individual roles in the community of life.

Physical Science - Grade 8

Content standards in eighth grade science include chemistry and physics that are inquiry-based. Students engage in higher, more abstract thinking processes that combine reasoning skills with scientific knowledge through experimental, manipulative, and laboratory-oriented processes.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies - Grade 6

Sixth grade Social Studies focuses on America from the beginning of the twentieth century to present day. Units of study include immigration, westward expansion, World War I, Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, World War II, the Fifties, and the Civil Rights Movement. Research, map and globe skills, literacy, and writing are applied throughout the course.

Social Studies (Civics & Geography) - Grade 7

Seventh grade Social Studies is comprised of Civics and Geography. The Civics course serves as a bridge between the curriculum emphasis in the elementary and secondary grades by providing an understanding of representative democracy, law, personal economics, and civic responsibility. Geography places emphasis on the knowledge and skills that allow the student to develop a geographical perspective of Europe and the Eastern hemisphere. The six essential elements of geography form a framework within which major geographic concepts are introduced.

World History to 1500 - Grade 8

Eighth grade Social Studies is a course blending world history and geography from prehistoric man to the 1500's. Students are required to think critically about the various forces that combined to shape the world today. Emphasis is placed on geographic impact, development of civic knowledge/responsibilities, and emerging economic systems within a chronological context.

ELECTIVES

Elective Rotation - Grade 6

These courses are exploratory in nature and introduce students to a variety of activities. Students spend one quarter (9 weeks) in four of the following courses below. Elective choices may change based on personnel and student enrollment. Not all elective options are guaranteed course offerings.

Character & Career 6: Students will develop skills to build character and prepare for future careers. Topics of study in this class include, but are not limited to, life skills, digital citizenship, keyboarding practice, and career exploration.

Computer Science Endeavors: This course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as programming, physical computing, HTML/CSS, and data. Students are empowered to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun.

Creative Writing 6: Express yourself! Using a variety of writing styles, students will create their own pieces of work and will learn how to produce good, solid writing. Students will use their imaginations and broaden their thought process as they develop their voice. In Creative Writing, students will discover their creative thoughts and turn those ideas into masterpieces of writing.

Family and Consumer Sciences/ FACS 6: This is a project-based course that is exploratory in nature. The course will provide a general understanding of what to expect from Teen Discoveries in the 7th grade. Students will learn and apply 21st century skills to a variety of tasks.

Music 6: Music 6 is an extension of the general music that students began in their elementary music classes. This course includes studying composers, different styles of music, music technology, and singing.

Visual Arts 6: An introduction to basic drawing skills, color theory, and color design.

Semester Long Electives - Grade 7

These courses are exploratory in nature. Students spend one semester (18 weeks) in two or more of the following courses below. Elective choices may change based on personnel and student enrollment. Not all elective options are guaranteed course offerings.

Character & Career 7: This course provides a unique opportunity for students to grow in several different areas. Students engage in a variety of tasks and projects that provide challenges and teach valuable life skills. Lesson topics include Making Good Decisions, Social Skills, Advertising and Media Influences, and Stress Management. Students conduct interviews with people outside of class, gain confidence with oral presentations, learn to type correctly from the home row, and more.

Computer Science 7: This course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as programming, physical computing, HTML/CSS, and data. Students are empowered to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun.

ELECTIVES

Semester Long Electives - Grade 7

Introduction to Theatre 7: This course introduces the elements of the production process, including play writing, acting, directing, and design. Students will explore different periods, styles, and genres of theatre through play reading, discussion, films, and critiquing live theatre. This course is designed to develop teamwork, communication skills, and understanding of theatrical conventions.

Speech & Debate 7: Do you love to argue? Learn how to do it constructively and persuasively. Students will learn fundamental speaking skills such as organizing material, projecting one's voice, and persuading an audience. Students will be introduced to different types of public speaking and will engage in debates and panel discussions.

Teen Discoveries/ FACS 7: Emphasis is placed on understanding the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development of teenagers and how to use a variety of 21st century skills to become financially literate.

Visual Arts 7: Students study the principles of design to conduct an in-depth study of color theory, while using a variety of media.

Semester Long Electives – Grade 8

These courses are exploratory in nature. Students spend one semester (18 weeks) in two or more of the following courses below. Elective choices may change based on personnel and student enrollment. Not all elective options are guaranteed course offerings.

Character & Career 8: This course provides a unique opportunity for students to grow in several different areas. Students explore a variety of life skills and topics such as Resolving Conflict, Self-Image and Self-Improvement, Resisting Peer Pressure, and Leading a Healthy Lifestyle. Students will create resumes, work on keyboarding and computer skills, practice good etiquette, and hear from guest speakers.

Computer Science 8: This course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as programming, physical computing, HTML/CSS, and data. Students are empowered to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun.

Speech & Debate 8: Do you love to argue? Learn how to do it constructively and persuasively. Students will learn fundamental speaking skills such as organizing material, projecting one's voice, and persuading an audience. Students will be introduced to different types of public speaking and will engage in debates and panel discussions.

Teen Connections/ FACS 8: Course content provides opportunities for students to use a variety of 21st century skills to build a small business. General knowledge in food, clothing, and consumerism will be explored in order for students to develop entrepreneurial skills.

Visual Arts 8: This course builds upon artistic skills introduced in the rotations to create a foundation for future study in art. The elements and principles of art are fully introduced.

ELECTIVES

YEAR LONG ELECTIVES

These courses offer students the opportunity to expand their knowledge through in-depth study. Most of these courses have an associated cost. Elective choices may change based on personnel and student enrollment. Not all elective options are guaranteed course offerings.

Band 6: Beginner band is for any student who is interested in learning to play a musical instrument. Students are taught the basics of how to read music as well as how to play their instruments. No prior musical experience is necessary. Associated cost.

Band 7: Intermediate band allows students to develop the technical skills and tone production necessary for individual musical achievement. Instruction includes instrumental proficiency, improving listening skills, and music appreciation. Prior instrumental music experience is preferred. Associated cost.

Band 8: This course encompasses advanced music fundamentals and skills, which develop musicianship. Instruction includes instrumental mastery, performance, and evaluation. Prior instrumental instruction is required. Associated costs.

Concert Choir 7: This choir class will allow students to have the opportunity to develop sight reading skills, basic theory knowledge, music history fundamentals, as well as vocal technique through unison, two-, three-, and four-part singing. Choir classes will be combined for all performances. The ability to sing well is not required. Students only need the desire to learn how to sing well and contribute through hard work. Associated cost.

Chamber Choir 8: This choir class will allow students to have the opportunity to develop sight reading skills, basic theory knowledge, music history fundamentals, as well as vocal technique through unison, two-, three-, and four-part singing. Choir classes will be combined for all performances. The ability to sing well is not required. Students only need the desire to learn how to sing well and contribute through hard work. Associated costs.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education - Grades 6, 7, and 8

Physical Education is a vital part of the instructional program at Homewood Middle School. The course is designed to help each student develop and maintain a high degree of physical fitness in addition to the acquisition of new skills with lifetime carry-over values, a solid base of sports knowledge, and desirable health practices. This course includes a variety of team, dual, and individual activities including flag football, Frisbee football, wrestling, golf, Frisbee golf, track & field, basketball, weight training, horseshoes, volleyball, jump rope, bowling, softball, tennis, soccer, crab soccer, badminton, gymnastics, pillow polo, aerobics, gym hockey, and personal fitness. In addition, the Presidential Fitness test is administered twice per year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Health Curriculum - Grades 6, 7, and 8

Comprehensive health education is delivered through the physical education department. The range of instruction focuses on understanding health issues and personal responsibilities related to adolescent growth & development, promoting health-enhancing behaviors, and obtaining accurate information from a variety of sources. Content standards contain grade-appropriate, current, and health-related information. Health-literate students have opportunities to determine positive influences on health in the environment. They use decision-making and communication skills important for enhancing relationships, reducing conflicts, expressing needs, and evaluating behavioral consequences.

PATRIOT TIME

Patriot Time – Grade 6, 7, and 8

Patriot Time is a scheduled time each day for all grade levels designed for students to participate in either academic support or student choice courses. Some students will be automatically placed in a course based on their specific academic needs. Patriot Time choices may change based on personnel and student enrollment. Not all options are guaranteed course offerings.

Patriot Time - Semester Long

Career Preparedness-A, Grade 8: The Career Preparedness course focuses on three integrated areas of instruction – academic planning and career development, financial literacy, and technology. Mastery of the content standards provides a strong foundation for student acquisition of the skills, attitude, and knowledge that empowers students to achieve success academically, professionally, and personally. **As a part of this course, students must pass a computer literacy proficiency test.** Students are encouraged to fulfill this obligation as early as possible. This course is a requirement for graduation for all students entering ninth grade in 2013-2014 and later. It is taught in a blended online and face-to-face format. This course is a prerequisite to Career Preparedness-B, which students will be required to take in high school. This is a high school credit course. Students will retain the graduation credit but the grade will not be used in their high school GPA.

Patriot Time Fitness 7: This course is designed to aid students in creating a foundation of personal health. Students will engage in activities such as identifying practices of healthy lifestyles, weightlifting, cardiovascular exercises, physical therapy, and team sports to improve mind, body, and fitness.

Patriot Time Fitness 8: This course is designed to aid students in creating a foundation of personal health. Students will engage in activities such as identifying practices of healthy lifestyles, weightlifting, cardiovascular exercises, physical therapy, and team sports to improve mind, body, and fitness.

PATRIOT TIME

Patriot Time – Year Long

Academic Enhancement 6: This course is designed to enhance student learning experiences through academically and creatively-rich activities. Students will be provided opportunities to learn and discover new hobbies and interests in a structured environment that differs from the traditional classroom setting that will challenge them both mentally and physically.

Academic Enhancement 7: This course is designed to enhance student learning experiences through academically and creatively-rich activities. Students will be provided opportunities to learn and discover new hobbies and interests in a structured environment that differs from the traditional classroom setting that will challenge them both mentally and physically.

Academic Enhancement 8: This course is designed to enhance student learning experiences through academically and creatively-rich activities. Students will be provided opportunities to learn and discover new hobbies and interests in a structured environment that differs from the traditional classroom setting that will challenge them both mentally and physically.

Choir 6: This choir class will allow students to have the opportunity to develop sight reading skills, basic theory knowledge, music history fundamentals, as well as vocal technique through unison, two-, three-, and four-part singing. Choir classes will be combined for all performances. The ability to sing well is not required. Students only need the desire to learn how to sing well and contribute through hard work. Associated cost.

Math Team 6: The sixth-grade math team consists of students who are highly motivated and enjoy math. Students learn new, inventive, and challenging ways to solve math problems. The math team competes in tournaments against other schools in the state.

Math Team 7: Math Team - Grade 7 is a rigorous extracurricular activity designed for the mathematically oriented student who display a high level of proficiency in mathematics. These students must be enrolled in Grade 7, Accelerated Mathematics course. All of the Accelerated Math 7 course objectives are covered, as well as numerous and varied experiences with problem solving as a method of inquiry and application. These experiences include ciphering to help prepare students to compete in math tournaments throughout the year. Students should be willing to respond to an increased workload, exhibit a strong work ethic, and demonstrate a serious attitude toward their studies.

Attendance is required at math tournaments.

PATRIOT TIME

Patriot Time – Year Long

Math Team 8: Math Team - Grade 8 is a rigorous extracurricular activity designed for the mathematically oriented student who display a high level of proficiency in mathematics. These students must be enrolled in Grade 8, Accelerated Mathematics course. All of the Accelerated Math 8 course objectives are covered, as well as numerous and varied experiences with problem solving as a method of inquiry and application. These experiences include ciphering to help prepare students to compete in math tournaments throughout the year. Students should be willing to respond to an increased workload, exhibit a strong work ethic, and demonstrate a serious attitude toward their studies.

Attendance is required at math tournaments.

Study Hall 6: This course is designed to assist students with individual mainstream course assignments by incorporating executive functioning, organizational skills, and instructional guidance in a small group setting.

Study Hall 7: This course is designed to assist students with individual mainstream course assignments by incorporating executive functioning, organizational skills, and instructional guidance in a small group setting.

Study Hall 8: This course is designed to assist students with individual mainstream course assignments by incorporating executive functioning, organizational skills, and instructional guidance in a small group setting.

Registration Procedures

Step-by-step online registration instructions for all upcoming Homewood Middle School students will be mailed to parent(s) in the spring or early summer timeframe.

Registration Dates:

2024-2025 Registration dates will be announced and published on the HMS website, www.homewood.k12.al.us/hms

Registration Requirements:

1. **PowerSchool Online Data Verification**

2. **Homewood Residency Verification:**

All HMS students must provide proof of the following:

- A July AL Power or SPIRE utility bill
- A current tax notice or lease. All occupants must be listed on the current lease agreement.

3. **Updated Immunization Form:**

- A Tdap vaccine is needed for all 6th grader who will be 11 years of age or older by the first day of school. Please check with your pediatrician to verify whether or not your child has received this immunization.

4. **Required Cost Payments:**

Required costs to be paid by all students are:

- Book Locker
- HMS Student Planner
- Student Resource
- Team T-Shirt (6th & 7th grade only)
- Optional cost may apply to certain students based on their course selection.

Student - Athlete

Homewood Middle School provides for the development of boys and girls through a properly controlled, well-organized sports program designed to meet the students' needs for self-expression, mental alertness, and physical growth. A student who elects to participate is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline. Specific expectations and program philosophy may be communicated from the athletic department.

Homewood Middle School offers athletic participation for seventh and eighth grade students in the following sports:

Baseball	Boys & Girls Golf
Bowling	Softball
Boys & Girls Basketball	Boys & Girls Tennis
Cheerleading	Indoor Track
Cross Country	Track & Field
Dance Team	Volleyball
Football	Wrestling

THE STATE ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. No sixth graders are allowed to participate.
2. The maximum age limit for seventh and eighth grade competitions is 15 years of age on or after August 1 of the current year to be eligible.
3. A player must have a composite of 70 or better in 5 courses. A player eligible at the beginning of the year is eligible the whole year.
4. No pupil shall be eligible to participate in inter-scholastic athletics until his/her birth certificate issued by the State Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which he/she was born has been sent by the athletic director to the State Executive Director. The State will not accept hospital certificates or photocopier copies. Original birth certificates will be returned after processing. Student must show proof of insurance.
5. Any member of a school athletic team who participates in an athletic contest as a member of a similar team during the same season shall be ineligible to compete under these rules for the remainder of the season.
6. A pupil must be legally enrolled in Homewood City School System.
7. A student must have passed a current year physical examination. Record of such must be on file.

HMS Home School Athletics Policy:

Home School students who reside in Homewood may participate on athletic teams at Homewood Middle School, as outlined in procedures established by the Alabama High School Athletic Association. In order to play on a team, 7th and 8th grade students will be required to take Physical Education at Homewood Middle School during the school day. The students would remain full-time home school students and would not be enrolled in any other courses at Homewood Middle School. As such, the home school student would not be permitted to take any other courses nor would they be allowed to participate in any other activities or standardized testing at Homewood Middle School.

Extracurricular Opportunities

Backstage Crew

Students assist the HMS Show Choir with their performances by creating a backdrop that travels with the show. They design, build, and paint the props. On performance days, students load a moving truck, haul the equipment to the site, and erect it during the performance.

Jazz Band

The jazz band is an opportunity for instrumental music students to express themselves through a different means and enjoy the experience of participating in small group performance. It develops training in jazz, rock, and popular music. Prior instrumental instruction is required. Students are selected for jazz band through an audition process.

JUNA (Junior United Nations Assembly)

JUNA is made of a delegation of 5-7 students that represents a different nation of their choosing. Guided by their teacher sponsor, students research their nation, identify a problem or issue in that country or elsewhere in the world, and write a resolution that proposes a solution to the issue. Resolutions are presented first in committees and upon passage are presented in General Assembly. Here delegates discuss, question, and vote just as they would do in the real United Nations. At the same time, select delegates solve an international crisis in Security Council. Students wear the native dress of their country for recognition in the General Assembly. If you like to travel or learn about different cultures, grab your passport for a two-day trip to JUNA!

Patriot Singers (Show Choir)

Any seventh or eighth grade student is eligible to audition for Show Choir. The students will represent Homewood Middle School at civic performances, competitions, and festivals throughout the school year. Participation in performances is required.

Peer Helper Program

The Peer Helper Program is designed to enhance each student's middle school experience by providing peer helpers with the skills and resources necessary to assist and empower fellow students. HMS Peer Helpers lead, serve, and support. These students are selected each year through an application and interview process and are trained to provide service to both our school and community. Peer Helpers must attend meetings before school (as well as other scheduled events), provide a minimum of 30 hours of community service during the year (April 1 – March 31), serve as an ambassador for HMS, serve as a mentor for HCS elementary school students, and commit to an alcohol, other drug, and tobacco free lifestyle.

Extracurricular Opportunities

Student Government Association (S.G.A.)

The S.G.A. is an organization of students committed to maintain laws of good order; to maintain high standards of cooperation, loyalty and fair play; to set high standards of citizenship; and to encourage the support of all forms of student activities. Furthermore, the S.G.A. organizes, promotes, and supervises school elections; assists in honor roll and other special assemblies; sponsors and supervises drives and campaigns; and originates policies in the areas of student activities which make more wholesome school citizenship. S.G.A. officers are chosen by school-wide election. Officers must maintain upstanding grades and behavior. Anyone is eligible to be a representative if he/she is elected and meets the academic and behavioral criteria. S.G.A. sponsors may replace representatives who are not adequately functioning within the organization.

Trendsetters

Trendsetters is a character-building club geared towards community service. The club's mission statement is, "Preparing and developing young men and women to become leaders and to pursue success in all walks of life". Trendsetters provides an opportunity for all students to get plugged in and develop positive relationships with students from all grade levels. The club prides itself on commitment, integrity, honesty, loyalty, and hard work.

Honor Societies

National Junior Beta Club

NJBC Eligibility Requirements:

1. Eighth grade students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.3 in seventh grade. Cumulative GPA for 7th grade for Beta Club is calculated by including all grades earned during the seventh-grade year.
2. Members of Beta Club must exemplify good character, creditable achievement, and a commendable attitude.
3. Any transfer student with a 3.3 G.P.A. who is a member of Beta Club at the school from which they transfer may participate in the Homewood Middle School Beta Club.
4. The induction ceremony will be conducted in the fall of the eighth-grade school year.

Honor Societies

National Junior Honor Society

NJHS Eligibility Requirements:

1. Eighth grade students that have been enrolled for at least one semester at Homewood Middle School are considered for membership.
2. The student must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.7. Cumulative grade point average for National Junior Honor Society excludes sixth grade, but includes all grades earned in seventh and first semester of eighth grade.
3. The student must exemplify the qualities of service, leadership, character, and citizenship.
4. The induction ceremony will be conducted in the spring of the eighth-grade year.

National Junior Beta Club and the National Junior Honor Society are honors bestowed upon students at the secondary level. Accordingly, the requirements for induction into these distinguished organizations will emphasize the scholarly outcomes in seventh and eighth grades.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENTS

Equal Opportunity Employment (Board Policy GAAA) for adults.

It is the policy of the Board that no person in this district shall, on the basis of race, sex, religion, belief, national origin, age, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or any personal characteristic(s), or an affiliation with the Boy Scouts of America be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination in any education program or activity. This includes employment, retention, and promotion.

Equal Educational Opportunity (Board Policy JAA) for students.

No student shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination in a program or activity, on the basis of race, sex, religion, belief, national origin, age, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or any personal characteristic(s), or an affiliation with the Boy Scouts of America.

Student Cost List

2024-2025 HMS Grades 6 - 8 Cost List

This cost list is only informative. All costs are subject to change. No money is due at this time. [HMS 2024-2025 Returning Student Registration Information](#). All student cost will be paid using E-Funds for Schools. You can access E-Funds for Schools via the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) or the [E-Funds for Schools Direct Link](#).

[E-Funds for School Parent Guide](#) contains step-by-step instructions for HCS parents on paying their student's fees.

	6 th	7 th	8 th
School Required Costs - All Students			
Yearly Student Costs			
<i>Locker, Planner, & Resources</i>	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00
Chromebook Checkout	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Class T-Shirt	\$12.00	\$12.00	N/A
REQUIRED TOTAL:	\$82.00	\$82.00	\$70.00
Elective Course & Student Costs			
Band - NO Instrument Rental	\$95.00	\$95.00	\$95.00
Band & Instrument Rental	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00
Band - Drums/Percussion	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00
Choir	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00
Family & Consumer Science 6	\$15.00	N/A	N/A
Math Team (Shirt Included)	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Teen Connections/Discoveries	N/A	\$25.00	\$25.00
Student Athlete	N/A	\$40.00	\$40.00
Optional HCS & HMS Costs			
HCS Foundation Donation	<i>\$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, or Other</i>		
PTO Donation	<i>\$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, or Other</i>		
PTO Membership	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
Sports Association Donation	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Yearbook	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00