Dear Future Sixth Graders,

Greetings from Montgomery Junior High School! We look forward to having you on our campus next year. One of your first responsibilities as a junior high student is to choose which courses you will take next year. Complete the Course Selection Options below and return this form to your homeroom teacher at your elementary campus by Thursday, February 13, 2020.

Please read over all course descriptions on the back of this form with your parents first, and then carefully rank the elective classes you would like to take by writing 1-8 below. We do our best to match students with their top choices, but at times we must place them in an alternate elective. Then, select your PE preference. Students who do not pass the 5th grade STAAR test, or who need additional interventions, will be placed in a math and/or reading elective class.

We build our master schedule around the courses selected. Any request for a change in course requests after spring pre-registration (Thursday, February 13, 2020) must be made in writing to the counselor no later than Thursday, April 30, 2020. Students that do not return a form will be given an elective that works best for our master scheduling process.

The faculty, staff, and administration have worked hard to create a campus that is “just right” for sixth grade students. You are going to love it at the junior high next year! We are proud of what we have to offer, and we hope next year will be the best year ever for each and every one of our students!

Sincerely,
Angie Chapman, MJH Principal

PLEASE READ COURSE DESCRIPTIONS ON BACK

ELECTIVE SELECTION: WRITE 1-8 in order of your preference in front of the elective choices below. You will have 1 FULL YEAR or 2 SEMESTER ELECTIVES, outside of PE, next year. (Number 1 is your first choice, 2 is your second choice, 3 is your third choice, etc.)

☐ BEGINNER BAND 6 (Full Year)  ☐ MEN or WOMEN CHOIR 6 (Full Year)
☐ ART 6 (1 Semester)  ☐ COMMUNICATION EXPLORATION 6 (1 Semester)
☐ SKILLS FOR LIVING 6 (1 Semester)  ☐ STEM LAB 6: Science, Tech, Engineering, & Math (1 Semester)
☐ TECHNOLOGY 6 (1 Semester)  ☐ THEATRE ARTS 6 (1 Semester)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION SELECTION: Place a check to indicate your one PE selection.

☐ 6th Grade REGULAR PE
☐ 6th Grade DRILL/DANCE (If course is full, student will be placed in 6th grade Regular PE)

PRE-AP COURSE SELECTION: Pre-AP Courses will be built into your schedule based on grade reports and scores.

☐ By placing a check in this box, I am requesting that my child NOT be placed in ANY Pre-AP courses.

Parent/Guardian Name Printed ____________________________  Parent/Guardian Signature ____________________________  Date ____________________________
6TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1. **CORE CLASSES:** Technology Application TEKS are integrated into all core subjects.
   A. **ELA (English Language Arts):** Independent reading, reading comprehension, analyzing text, & writing in multiple modes; integrated with researching, listening, & speaking
   B. **MATH:** Rational numbers, operations, algebraic expressions/equations, ratios, percent, data & statistics, & financial literacy
   C. **SCIENCE:** Basic chemistry, physical science, earth & space science, life science, & scientific investigation through academic & lab activities.
   D. **SOCIAL STUDIES:** Map skills, world history and geography, cultural studies, and current events

2. **PRE-AP (Advanced) Classes:** Pre-AP classes are recommended for students who excel academically or for the student who might not necessarily excel, but is willing to put in the time and give the effort to maintain a passing grade in a Pre-AP class. It is important to understand that your child’s participation in these classes will involve increased pacing, depth, rigor, and academic challenges. **Pre-AP Courses will be built into your schedule automatically based on grade reports and scores. Students who fail to maintain a 70 average for any of the six week grading periods will be removed from the Pre-AP course and placed in the level course for the designated subject.**

   **PRE-AP COURSE PLACEMENT CRITERIA/INFORMATION:**
   - Identified as a Gifted/Talented Student and/or
   - 90 course average or higher in 5th grade course for that subject, and
   - Masters Performance on STAAR recommended: Math, Science, & Reading (for Language Arts and/or Social Studies)
   - *6th Pre-AP Math: The Advanced Curriculum for 6th grade math consists of completing the entire 6th and 7th grade curriculum in one year. Students must know all operational skills fluently, have strong reading comprehension, problem solving skills, and be able to handle a fast paced, more challenging curriculum, and various enrichment and higher level thinking projects. *Masters Level on STAAR Math and Reading recommended

3. **ELECTIVE CLASSES:** Students will have 1 Full Year or 2 Semester elective choices, outside of PE, next year.
   A. **BAND 6:** (Full Year Elective) Students will learn to play an instrument, read music, and make beautiful sounds. The highlight of the year is a winter and spring concert. **Note: Instrument rental/purchase costs involved. Student MUST attend Band Instrument Testing Night for selecting band instrument.**
   B. **MEN & WOMEN’S CHOIR 6:** (Full Year Elective) Students will learn the fundamentals of healthy singing technique with an introduction to solfege and sight-reading. Choir members will perform in concerts, have the opportunity to compete in a solo competition and attend field trips. **Note: There is a Choir Fee.**
   C. **ART 6:** (Semester Elective) Students will create artwork based on direct observation, memory, imagination, and life experiences. Emphasis on art production, the elements and principles of design in drawing, painting, sculpture, and fibers.
   D. **COMMUNICATION EXPLORATION 6:** (Semester Elective) This course builds on social skills that can help students succeed in school and in life. Topics covered are social etiquette, social media, and a variety of communication studies.
   E. **SKILLS FOR LIVING 6:** (Semester Elective) Students will engage in lessons and activities that involve self-care, self-esteem, friendships, peer pressure, career investigation, nutrition, clothing care, child care, managing resources, and conservation.
   F. **STEM LAB 6:** (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) (Semester Elective) This course is designed as a hands-on application of STEM concepts. Students go beyond the study of individual core subjects as they work together to design and create products that solve a variety of challenges from rocket building to programming in virtual worlds.
   G. **TECHNOLOGY 6:** (Semester Elective) Students will explore the ways technology is used to create and innovate in today’s world. Students will learn Microsoft Office, computer coding, keyboarding, and digital citizenship. Students will also explore emerging technologies such as virtual reality, photo & video creation, and web page development.
   H. **THEATRE ARTS 6:** (Semester Elective) Theatre students will learn how to warm up vocally and physically, explore improvisation games and techniques, write and perform their own monologue, engage in team building exercises, and perform mime scenes. A very hands-on class!

4. **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6:** All students will take **Regular PE** (or) **6th Grade Drill/Dance**
   - **Regular PE:** Students focus on cardiovascular and muscular endurance, muscular strength, flexibility, individual and team sports, and innovative games.
   - **Dance:** Students will learn various styles of dance and will cover technique, injury prevention, terminology, stretching, counting music, showmanship, and choreography. **Students will be required to purchase and wear a black leotard, leggings, and dance shoes, which will be offered at a discounted price the first week of school.**