



Mentor Middle Schools

Program of Studies Grades 6 - 8

2015 – 2016

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Mrs. Margaret Watson, *Assistant Superintendent of Student Services*

Mrs. Barb Bonnes, *Director of Curriculum*

As a middle school educational program, we strive to meet the needs of our adolescent learners. Based on the developmental needs of our students, we have created courses and programs that will help students in the following ways:

- *To develop into lifelong learners*
- *To become self-advocates for their education and well-being*
- *To instill a curiosity about the world around them*
- *To mature into ethical citizens*

Through the variety of courses offered, our tiered approach to academic intervention, and opportunities to interact effectively with the school community, our goal is to create an exemplary middle school for our students.

6th Grade Program

Course Selections

Required

- English/Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education*/Health*

Electives

(Students must choose two**):

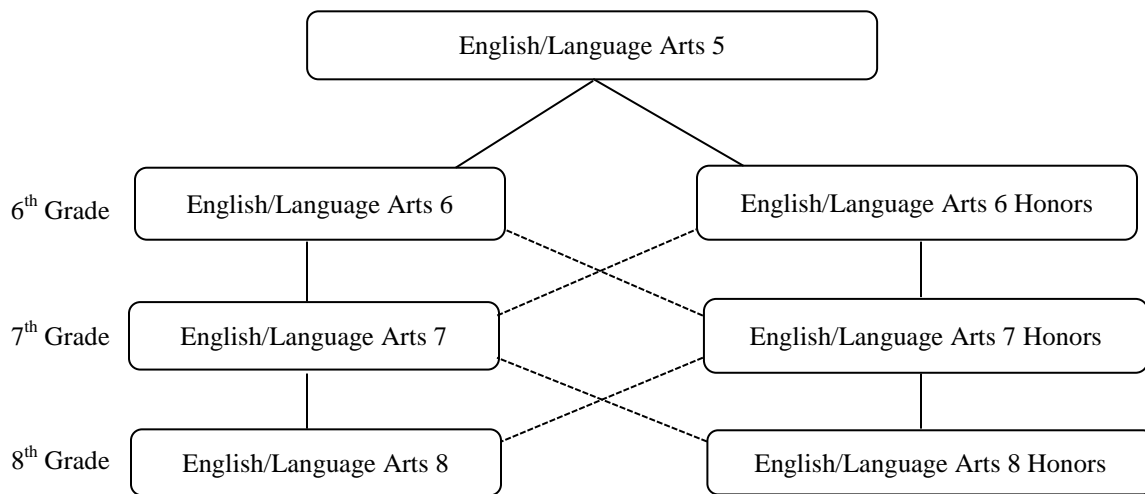
- Cadet Band
- Cadet Orchestra
- Chorus
- Exploratory Music*/Exploratory Art*
- Art Foundations
- Robotics and Design

*Indicates a one-semester (half-year) course

**Students assigned to an intervention period will receive only one elective of choice.

Please note: Classes with fewer than 15 students enrolled will be cancelled.

English/Language Arts Course Sequence



604 English/Language Arts 6

Pre-requisite: None

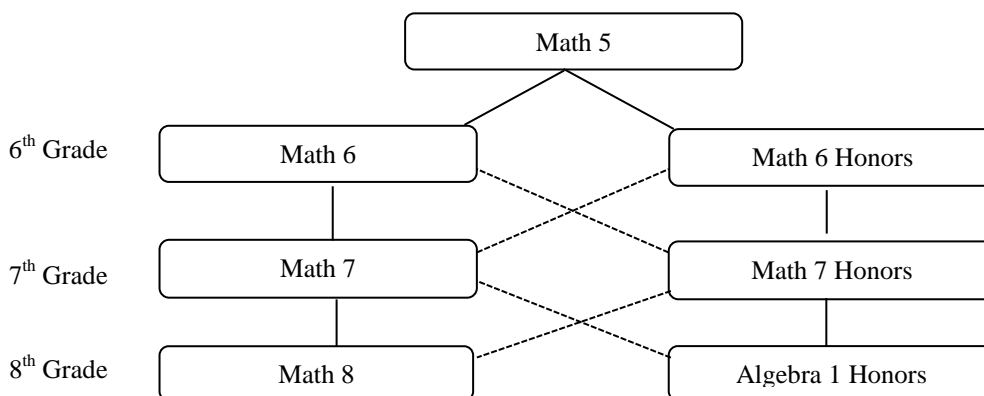
Students will focus on reading, writing, language, and speaking and listening skills. The curriculum is aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Students will learn how to proficiently read grade-appropriate complex literature and informational text while further developing the ability to cite textual evidence to support analyses. Students focus on examining how authors use reasons to make their points and support arguments with evidence, separating unsupported assertions from those backed by evidence. Students also share their findings in class discussions, practicing how logically to sequence ideas and highlight the themes and key details they find most persuasive. Students' vocabularies expand as they become more attuned to using context, knowledge of Greek and Latin roots and affixes, and word analysis to determine the meaning of academic words. The Writing Standards specify that students will learn how writers try to influence readers while discovering how they can do the same in their own prose. They discover how to answer questions through writing and can use rewriting opportunities to refine their understanding of a text or topic. Students will engage in both short and extended research projects to provide written analysis and present findings.

605 English/Language Arts 6 Honors

Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation

In addition to the content described above for English/Language Arts 6, students will be presented with more complex reading, writing, speaking and listening, and research tasks that exceed the level of rigor demanded by the Common Core State Standards. Honors English Language Arts at the sixth grade level is designed to prepare students with skills and strategies that will allow them to be successful in honors and/or advanced placement classes. This course focuses on active engagement with the text including a firm understanding of the author's purpose. Students are required to analyze, identify, define, explain, and critique fictional and nonfictional texts and primary source documents and to support their assertions in well-organized written and oral presentations.

Math Course Sequence



622 Math 6

Pre-requisite: None

In grade six, students will focus on four areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division, and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing their understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking.

623 Math 6 Honors

Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation

This course differs from the non-accelerated sixth grade course in that it contains content from seventh grade. While coherence is retained, in that it logically builds from the sixth grade, the additional content when compared to the non-accelerated course demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. The honors curriculum includes focal points from both sixth and seventh grades. The primary focal points at Grade 6 are using ratios to describe direct proportional relationship involving numbers, geometry, measurement, probability and the addition and subtractions of decimals and fractions. The foci from Grade 7 that will be taught include using direct proportional relationships in numbers, geometry, measurement, and probability; applying addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of decimals, fractions and integers; and using statistical measures to describe data.

634 Science 6—Fee required

Pre-requisite: None

Students in grade six science will focus on the major science areas of Earth Science, Physical Science, and Life Science. Earth Science topics focus on the study of rocks, minerals, and soil which make up the lithosphere. Physical Science topics focus on the study of the particulate nature of matter (foundational concepts), kinetic, and potential energy. Life Science topics focus on the study of the basics of Modern Cell Theory which states that all organisms are composed of cells, the fundamental unit of life, and that all cells come from pre-existing cells. During the years of grades five through eight, all students will use scientific processes to construct their knowledge of science concepts. This course is aligned to the state standards.

614 Social Studies 6

Pre-requisite: None

The sixth grade year focuses on the study of the Eastern Hemisphere (Africa, Asia, Australia and Europe), its geographic features, early history, cultural development, and economic change. Students learn about the development of river civilizations in Africa and Asia, including their governments, cultures, and economic systems. The geographic focus includes the study of contemporary regional characteristics; the movement of people, products, and ideas; and cultural diversity. Students develop their understanding of the role of consumers and the interaction of markets, resources, and competition. This course is aligned to the state standards.

690 Physical Education 6 (Coeducational)—Purchase uniform*Pre-requisite: None*

This course is divided into several organizing centers: physical fitness, recreational activity, basic movement, sport and affective learning. Students will participate in a fitness screening and learn skill techniques for the various sports. Students must wear the district-approved uniform, which is sold yearly.

691 Health 6 (Coeducational)*Pre-requisite: None*

The content in this course includes: patterns of a wellness lifestyle, practice of a positive personal regimen, fundamental concepts of mental health, building and maintaining healthy relationships, consequences of chemical use, phases of human growth and development, and relationship between nutrition and fitness.

670 Art Foundations—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

Art Foundations is an expanded course designed for students to explore and experience creative expression, critical evaluation, greater self-awareness and appreciation for visual art on a daily basis. Students will be introduced to art foundations (including the Elements and Principals of Design). This course develops students' drawing and designing skills, as well as an introduction to sculpture. Lessons in art history are incorporated into the curriculum. Students who take this course cannot take Exploratory Art/Exploratory Music. This course is a pre-requisite for 7th Grade Fine Art.

671 Exploratory Art—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

Students will explore and experience creative expression, critical evaluation, greater self-awareness and appreciation for visual art. Students will be introduced to basic secondary art foundations (including the Elements and Principles of Design) through experimentation in drawing and designing skills, as well as an introduction to sculpture. Lessons in art history are incorporated into the curriculum. Students who take this course cannot take Art Foundations.

672 Exploratory Music*Pre-requisite: None*

This class is designed to enhance students' lifelong ability to interact with music. Music theory and music history will be the basis of this class, expanding to cover World Music, composition, and careers in music.

677 Chorus—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

This is an entry-level experience for student singers. Singers will sing in unison, two and three-part harmony. Students will be introduced to the techniques for producing good choral tone, based on proper vocal skills. Attention will be given to the emerging changing voice. Students will learn to read musical notes and begin ear training exercises. Participation in required performances is mandatory and part of the quarterly evaluation.

682 Cadet Band—Instrument and Method Book required*Pre-requisite: None*

In this performance group, students will continue their study of basic instrumental techniques. Emphasis will be placed on music reading skills. Participation in required performances is mandatory and part of the quarterly evaluation.

686 Cadet Orchestra—Instrument and Method Book required*Pre-requisite: None*

String students in the sixth grade will continue to learn the fundamentals of beginning string instruction as well as string orchestra and part music in this daily class. Students will develop left hand and bow hand technique and basic musical concepts. An emphasis on rhythm and note reading will prepare the student for seventh grade Orchestra. Attendance is required at all evening and other scheduled performances such as concerts, festivals and evening rehearsals.

665 Robotics and Design*Pre-requisite: None*

This hands-on, project-based course embeds two units from the PLTW (Project Lead The Way) Gateway program that enables students to build a strong foundation for further STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) learning in high school and beyond. Using the same advanced software and tools as those used by the world's leading companies, students learn how to apply math, science, technology, and engineering to their everyday lives. The Design & Modeling unit allows students to apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a playground and furniture, capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Autodesk® design software, students will also create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions. The Automation & Robotics unit enables students to trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

601 Intervention Reading 6*Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation required*

This course was designed for students with significant achievement gaps in reading. Students in this course will improve reading proficiency with explicit, small-group differentiated instruction in fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Strategies for phonemic awareness and phonics will be available as needed. The course will focus on evidence-based reading intervention with a Response to Intervention (RTI) framework. Students enrolled in this course will receive only one elective of choice.

602 Intervention Math 6

Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation required

This course was designed for students with significant achievement gaps in math. Students will receive small-group, differentiated instruction based on individual needs. The course will focus on evidence-based math intervention with a Response to Intervention (RTI) framework. Students enrolled in this course will receive only one elective of choice.

7th Grade Program

Course Selections

Required

- English/Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- World Studies I
- Physical Education*/Health*

Electives

(Students must choose two**):

- Concert Band
- Orchestra
- Chorus
- General Art*/General Music*
- Fine Art
- Family Consumer Science*/ Flight and Space*

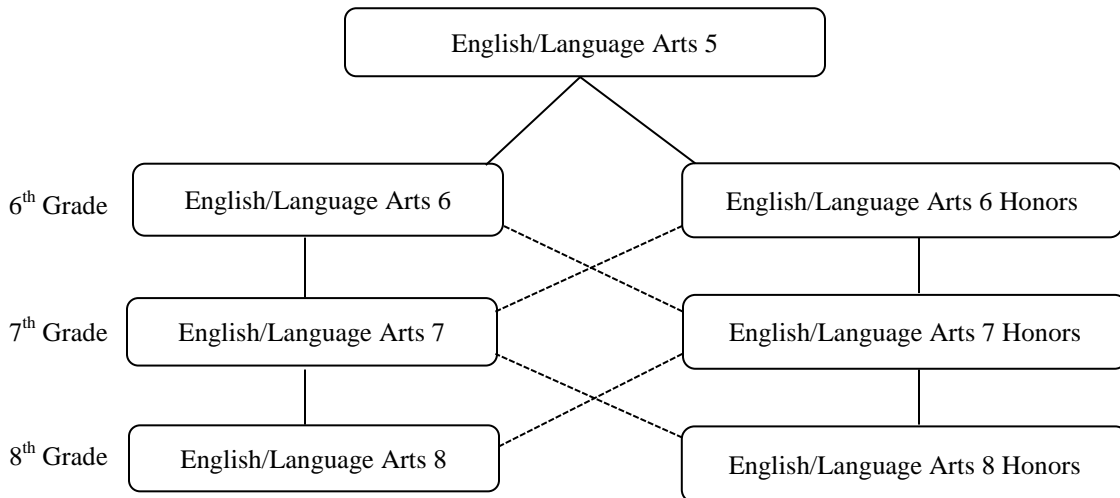
Students are required to take two semesters of art or music in 7th or 8th grade.

**Indicates a one-semester (half-year) course*

*** Students assigned to an intervention period will receive only one elective of choice*

Please note: Classes with fewer than 15 students enrolled will be cancelled.

English/Language Arts Course Sequence



704 English/Language Arts 7

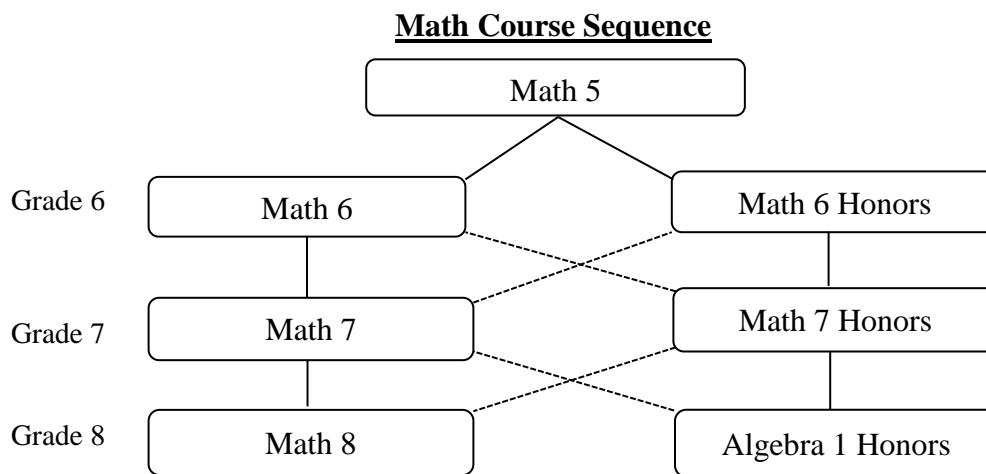
Pre-requisite: None

Students will demonstrate an emerging sophistication in their ability to analytically read increasingly complex texts. By the end of grade seven, students should be able to recognize the interplay between setting, plot, and characters and provide an objective summary of a text apart from their own reaction to it. They become adept at stepping back to compare and contrast different interpretations of a topic, identifying how authors shape their presentation of key information, and choose to highlight certain facts over others. In the Speaking and Listening Standards, in discussions and in writing, students make their reasoning clear to their listeners and readers, constructively evaluating others' use of evidence while offering several sources to back up their own claims. Their vocabulary has developed to the point where they can distinguish between denotative and connotative meaning and can analyze the effect of specific word choice on tone. The Writing Standards specify that students are able to cite several sources of specific, relevant evidence when supporting their own point of view about texts and topics. Their writing is more structured, with clear introductions and conclusions as well as useful transitions to create cohesion and clarify relationships among ideas. In their writing, they acknowledge the other side of a debate or an alternative perspective while avoiding any trace of plagiarism. Students will engage in both short and extended research projects to provide written analysis and present findings.

705 English/Language Arts 7 Honors

Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation

In addition to the content described above for English/Language Arts 7, students will be presented with more complex reading, writing, speaking and listening, and research tasks that exceed the level of rigor demanded by the Common Core State Standards.



722 Math 7

Pre-requisite: None

In grade seven, students will focus on four areas: (1) developing an understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions and working with 2-D and 3-D shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples. This course is aligned to the state standards.

723 Math 7 Honors

Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation

This course differs from the non-accelerated seventh grade course in that it contains content from eighth grade. While coherence is retained, in that it logically builds from the sixth grade, the additional content when compared to the non-accelerated course demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. Four critical units include: (1) an understanding of number, recognizing fractions, decimals (that have a finite or a repeating decimal representation), and percents as different representations of rational numbers; (2) using linear equations and systems of linear equations to represent, analyze, and solve a variety of problems; (3) building on their previous work with single data distributions, they will compare two data distributions and address questions about differences between populations. They begin informal work with random sampling to generate data sets and learn about the importance of representative samples for drawing inferences; and (4) continuing their work with area from sixth grade, solving problems involving the area and circumference of a circle and surface area of three-dimensional objects. This course is aligned to the state standards.

734 Science 7—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

Students in grade seven science will focus on the major areas of Earth/Space Science, Physical Science, and Life Science. Earth/Space Science topics focus on Earth's hydrologic cycle, the relationship between thermal energy and currents, and the relative position and movement of the Earth, sun and moon. Physical Science topics focus on the empirical evidence for the arrangement of atoms on the Periodic Table of Elements, conservation of mass and energy, and transformation and transfer of energy. Life Science topics focus on the impact of matter and energy transfer within the biotic component of ecosystems. During the years of grades 5-8, all students will use scientific processes to construct their knowledge of science concepts. This course is aligned to the state standards.

714 World Studies I*Pre-requisite: None*

The seventh grade year is an integrated study of world history, beginning with ancient Greece and continuing through global exploration. All four strands of social studies are used to illustrate how historic events are shaped by geographic, cultural, economic and political factors. Students develop their understanding of how ideas and events from the past have shaped the world today. World Studies I covers 750 B.C. to 1600 A.D.: Ancient Greece to the First Global Age. This course is aligned to the state standards.

790 Physical Education 7 (Coeducational)—Purchase uniform*Pre-requisite: None*

This course is divided into several organizing centers: physical fitness, recreational activity, basic movement, sport and affective learning. Students must wear the district approved uniform, which is sold yearly.

791 Health 7 (Coeducational)*Pre-requisite: None*

The content in this course includes: patterns of a wellness lifestyle, practice of a positive personal regimen, fundamental concepts of mental health, building and maintaining healthy relationships, consequences of chemical use, phases of human growth and development, and relationship between nutrition and fitness.

761 Exploratory Family & Consumer Science (FCS)—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

In this introductory course, students will learn and practice basic food preparation and financial management skills. Topics include: nutrition, kitchen safety, use of kitchen equipment and appliances, food science principles, financial decision making, basics of budgeting and saving, characteristics of responsible consumers, and an introduction to career exploration. Students will engage in hands-on cooking labs and other activities that can carry into independent and family life, as well as work and community settings. Course curriculum is based on state Family and Consumer Science Standards.

765 Flight and Space —Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. This hands-on, project-based course is based on a module of the PLTW (Project Lead The Way) Gateway program that enables students to build a strong foundation for further STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) learning in high school and beyond. The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. Students explore the science and technology behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil. Custom-built simulation software allows students to experience space travel. In addition, students may extend their experience by designing, constructing and testing rockets, gliders, and/or other types of test vehicles to deepen their understanding of aerodynamics, motion, and design principles.

770 Fine Art 7—Fee required*Pre-requisite: 6th grade Art Foundations and teacher recommendation*

This course focuses on the elements of art, and students produce a portfolio of projects. Students use creative expression, technical development, critical evaluation, and build upon drawing, painting, and designing skills. Students are invited to explore art history and look more deeply into the work and lives of famous artists. Each student has the opportunity for work to be exhibited within the school and in local art shows.

771 General Art—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

Students will continue to explore the Elements and Principles of Design by creating artwork that ranges from graphic arts to the fine arts of drawing, painting and sculpture. General Art is designed to introduce students to a variety of art materials and methods. During this semester course, students will participate in discussion, examination and creation of art. Students will focus on developing creative problem-solving skills, critical thinking, visual literacy and personal expression. Hands-on activities provide students with an opportunity to apply these skills. This course is offered to both 7th and 8th grade students but cannot be taken in both 7th AND 8th grades.

772 General Music*Pre-requisite: None*

This class is a continuation of basic skills taught in elementary general music. Musical skills and concepts are taught by using a variety of classroom activities. This course is offered to both 7th and 8th grade students *but cannot be taken in both 7th AND 8th grades.*

777 Seventh and Eighth Grade Chorus—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

Seventh and Eighth Grade Chorus is a group of vocal musicians who rehearse daily. Music for study will be voiced for three-part mixed chorus, with special care and attention given to the changing voice. Rehearsal emphasis will be on the study of efficient vocal production, independence in part-singing, the development of music reading and ear training skills, music theory, and familiarity with various types of music from all time periods and in all styles. Participation in required performances is mandatory and part of the quarterly evaluation.

782 Concert Band*Pre-requisite: None*

Students in this class will continue the study of instrumental performance techniques. Concert Band members will learn rhythmic concepts and tone production in a large-group ensemble. Basic music theory skills will be incorporated into daily rehearsals. Participation in required performances is mandatory and part of the quarterly evaluation. *Student not previously enrolled in instrumental music should meet with director for placement.*

786 Orchestra*Pre-requisite: None*

This group of seventh and eighth grade string students will learn music from the OMEA Junior High Class A & B literature and other selected works. Emphasis is placed on advanced pedagogical techniques of string playing as well as theory, expression and performance. Performance experiences include OMEA Solo and Ensemble contest, large group contests and competitions, concerts and festivals. Attendance is required at all evening and other scheduled performances such as concerts, festivals, contest, and evening rehearsals. *Student not previously enrolled in instrumental music should meet with director for placement.*

701 Intervention Reading 7*Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation required*

This course was designed for students with significant achievement gaps in reading. Students in this course will improve reading proficiency with explicit, small-group differentiated instruction in fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Strategies for phonemic awareness and phonics will be available as needed. The course will focus on evidence-based reading intervention with a Response to Intervention (RTI) framework. Students enrolled in this course will receive only one elective of choice.

702 Intervention Math 7*Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation required*

This course was designed for students with significant achievement gaps in math. Students will receive small-group, differentiated instruction based on individual needs. The course will focus on evidence-based math intervention with a Response to Intervention (RTI) framework. Students enrolled in this course will receive only one elective of choice.

8th Grade Program

Course Selections

Required

- English/Language Arts
- Math (Algebra 1 Honors[†])
- Science
- American Studies
- Physical Education*/Health*

Electives

(Students must choose two**):

- Fine Art
 - Chorus
 - Symphonic Band
 - Orchestra
 - General Art*/General Music*
 - Integrated Family & Consumer Science*/Green Architecture*
- (Students may choose):
- French 1[†]
 - German 1[†]
 - Spanish 1[†]

Students are required to take two semesters of art or music in 7th or 8th grade.

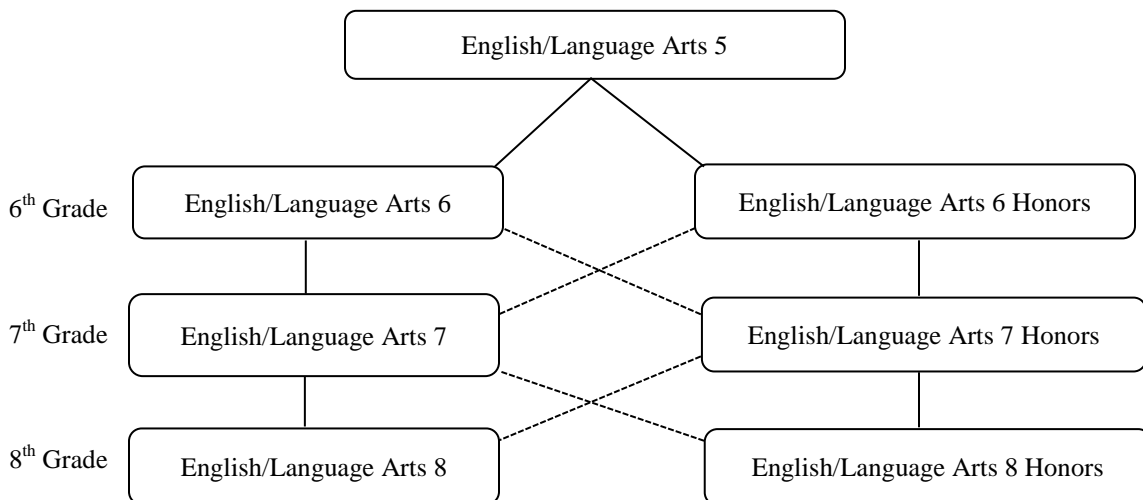
**Indicates a one-semester (half-year) course*

*** Students assigned to an intervention period will receive only one elective of choice.*

†High school level course taken for high school credit

Please note: Classes with fewer than 15 students enrolled will be cancelled.

English/Language Arts Course Sequence



804 English/Language Arts 8

Pre-requisite: None

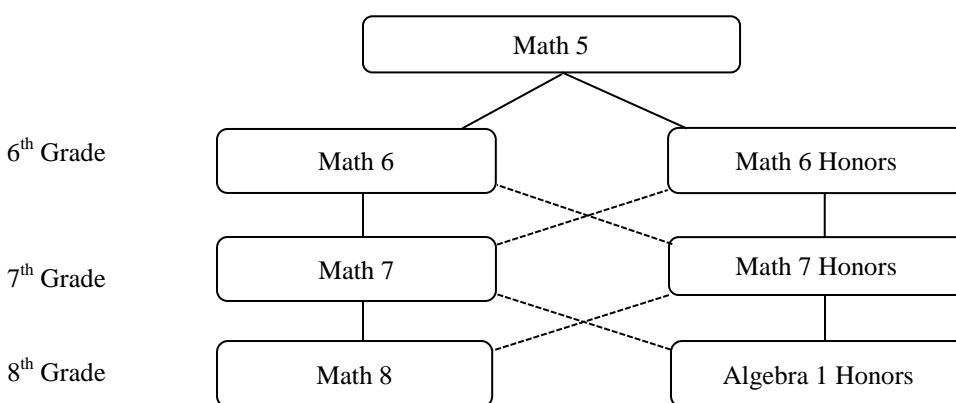
Students will interact with high-quality, increasingly complex nonfiction texts and great works of literature. Starting in grade eight, the focus of informational texts begins to shift from narrative to exposition. Students who leave grade eight know how to cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis or critique. Students will engage in both short and extended research projects to provide written analysis and present findings. The Speaking and Listening Standards detail how students are to draw evidence from what they have read, come to discussions prepared, and be able to justify their views based on evidence presented both in text and discussions. By grade eight, students have developed a rich vocabulary of academic words, which they use to speak and write with more precision. The Writing Standards specify that students should be able to distinguish their claims from alternate or opposing claims and use words and phrases to clarify the relationships and transitions among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.

805 English/Language Arts 8 Honors

Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation

In addition to the content described above for English/Language Arts 8, students will be presented with more complex reading; writing; speaking and listening; and research tasks that exceed the level of rigor demanded by the Common Core State Standards.

Math Course Sequence



1352 Algebra 1 Honors

Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation

This advanced course will focus on understanding the patterns of algebraic thinking and the application of that thinking to solve real-world problems. Students will learn operations with rational, irrational, and real numbers, simplifying expressions, and interpreting linear models. In addition, this course includes descriptive statistics, solving, and graphing equations as well as inequalities. Systems of equations and inequalities, linear, exponential, quadratic, and absolute value functions as well as descriptive statistics are also explored. (This is a high school level course taken for high school credit.)

822 Math 8

Pre-requisite: None

In grade eight, students will focus on three areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with linear equations, solving linear equations, and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and (3) analyzing 2-D and 3-D space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. This course is aligned to the state standards.

834 Science 8—Fee required

Pre-requisite: None

Students in grade eight science will focus on the major areas of Earth Science, Physical Science, and Life Science. Earth Science topics focus on the physical features of Earth and how they are formed. Physical Science topics focus on forces and motion within, on and around the Earth and within the universe. Life science topics focus on the diversity of species and on the continuation of species. During the years five through eight, all students will use scientific processes to construct their knowledge of science concepts. This course is aligned to the state standards.

814 American Studies (1492 to 1877)*Pre-requisite: None*

The eighth grade year continues the historical focus of European exploration and the early years of the United States. This course incorporates all four social studies strands of history, geography, government, and economics into a chronologic view of the development of the United States. Students examine how historic events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, and economic and political factors. American Studies covers 1492 to 1877: Exploration through Reconstruction. This course is aligned to the state standards.

1111 French 1*Pre-requisite: Average of C- or higher in English/Language Arts and Math*

Students learn the language through listening, speaking, reading and writing. Dialogues and conversations are used to familiarize the students with the language. While listening and speaking are emphasized, a formal approach to grammar is also presented. In addition, students will explore the culture. Workbooks must be purchased. (This is a high school level course taken for high school credit.)

1121 German 1*Pre-requisite: Average of C- or higher in English/Language Arts and Math*

Students learn the language through listening, speaking, reading and writing. Dialogues and conversations are used to familiarize the students with the language. While listening and speaking are emphasized, a formal approach to grammar is also presented. In addition, students will explore the culture. Workbooks must be purchased. (This is a high school level course taken for high school credit.)

1131 Spanish 1*Pre-requisite: Average of C- or higher in English/Language Arts and Math*

Listening and speaking skills are emphasized with stress on the importance of proper pronunciation. Students will have the opportunity to talk about themselves, their interests, their feelings, and their activities. Reading and writing are also stressed for a balanced approach. Students discuss the Hispanic way of life, attitudes and customs in dialogues, readings, drawing, photographs, and songs. Workbooks must be purchased. (This is a high school level course taken for high school credit.)

890 Physical Education 8 (Coeducational)—Purchase uniform*Pre-requisite: None*

This course is divided into several organizing centers: physical fitness, recreational activity, basic movement, sport and affective learning. Students must wear the district approved uniform, which is sold yearly.

891 Health 8 (Coeducational)

The content in this course includes: patterns of a wellness lifestyle, practice of a positive personal regimen, fundamental concepts of mental health, building and maintaining healthy relationships, consequences of chemical use, phases of human growth and development, and relationship between nutrition and fitness.

861 Integrated Family & Consumer Science (FCS)—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

Students will engage in hands-on learning activities that focus on foods, nutrition, careers, financial management, making informed consumer decisions, and building healthy relationships. Course topics are based on state Family and Consumer Science Standards. They include: identifying foods for healthful living, using dietary resources such as www.choosemyplate.gov, preparing a variety of recipes including cultural foods, identifying sustainable and cost-effective kitchen practices, budgeting money, exploring the role of advertising and other factors on consumer choices, identifying career skills, and characteristics of healthy peer and family relationships.

865 Green Architecture—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

Today's students have grown up in an age of "green" choices. In this unit, students learn how to apply this concept to the fields of architecture and construction by exploring dimensioning, measuring, and architectural sustainability as they design affordable housing units using Autodesk's® 3D architectural design software.

870 Fine Art 8—Fee required*Pre-requisite: 7th grade Fine Art and teacher recommendation*

Fine Art 8 is a continuation of Fine Art 7 and takes a closer look at the elements of art, building on skills and concepts, and exploration of different mediums and art techniques to produce a portfolio of projects. Students continue their creative expression, technical development, critical evaluation, and build upon and refine drawing, painting, and designing skills. Each student has an opportunity for work to be exhibited within the school and in local art shows.

871 General Art—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

Students will continue to explore the Elements and Principles of Design by creating artwork that ranges from graphic arts to the fine arts of drawing, painting and sculpture. General Art is designed to introduce students to a variety of art materials and methods. During this semester course, students will participate in discussion, examination and creation of art. Students will focus on developing creative problem-solving skills, critical thinking, visual literacy and personal expression. Hands-on activities provide students with an opportunity to apply these skills. This course is offered to both 7th and 8th grade students but cannot be taken in both 7th AND 8th grades.

872 General Music*Pre-requisite: None*

This class is a continuation of basic skills taught in elementary general music. Musical skills and concepts are taught by using a variety of classroom activities. This course is offered to both 7th and 8th grade students but cannot be taken in both 7th AND 8th grades.

877 Seventh and Eighth Grade Chorus—Fee required*Pre-requisite: None*

Seventh and Eighth Grade Chorus is a group of vocal musicians who rehearse daily. Music for study will be voiced for three-part mixed chorus, with special care and attention given to the changing voice. Rehearsal emphasis will be on the study of efficient vocal production, independence in part-singing, the development of music reading and ear training skills, music theory, and familiarity with various types of music from all time periods and in all styles. Participation in required performances is mandatory and part of the quarterly evaluation.

882 Symphonic Band*Pre-requisite: Concert Band or meeting with director for placement*

Students in this class will experience ensemble playing at an advanced level. Further development of music theory and instrumental music techniques will be incorporated into daily rehearsals. In addition to concerts and festivals, performance experiences may include OMEA adjudicated events. Participation in required performances is mandatory and part of the quarterly evaluation.

886 Orchestra*Pre-requisite: 7th Grade Orchestra or meeting with director for placement*

This group of seventh and eighth grade string students will learn music from the OMEA Junior High Class A & B literature and other selected works. Emphasis is placed on advanced pedagogical techniques of string playing as well as theory, expression and performance. Performance experiences include OMEA Solo and Ensemble contest, large group contests and competitions, concerts and festivals. Attendance is required at all evening and other scheduled performances such as concerts, festivals, contest, and evening rehearsals.

801 Intervention Reading 8*Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation required*

This course was designed for students with significant achievement gaps in reading. Students in this course will improve reading proficiency with explicit, small-group differentiated instruction in fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Strategies for phonemic awareness and phonics will be available as needed. The course will focus on evidence-based reading intervention with a Response to Intervention (RTI) framework. Students enrolled in this course will receive only one elective of choice.

802 Intervention Math 8*Pre-requisite: Teacher/counselor/principal recommendation required*

This course was designed for students with significant achievement gaps in math. Students will receive small-group, differentiated instruction based on individual needs. The course will focus on evidence-based math intervention with a Response to Intervention (RTI) framework. Students enrolled in this course will receive only one elective of choice.