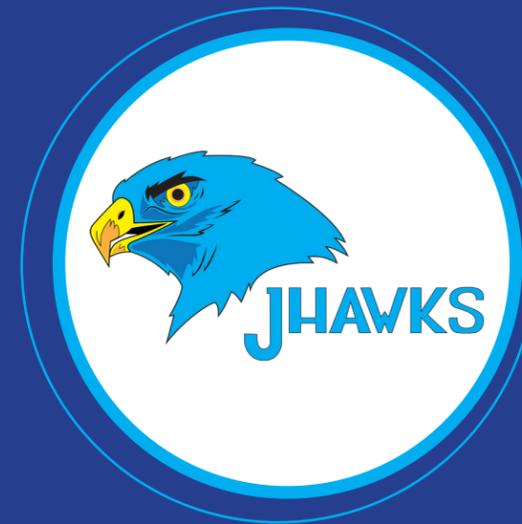


MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG

2023-2024



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LEADERSHIP

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

JEFF CRAIG, EdD	<i>Superintendent</i>	
BRENT RABY, EdD	<i>Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning</i>	
ANGIE SMITH, EdD	<i>Assistant Superintendent of Operations</i>	
MICHAEL SMITH EdD	<i>Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources</i>	
MARTI NEHRING	<i>Executive Director of Student & Family Services</i>	630-301-5029
ELIZABETH WENDEL	<i>Executive Director of Secondary Education</i>	630-301-5035
JENNIFER HERMAN	<i>Director of Special Education</i>	630-301-5082
MICHELLE JONES	<i>Director of Instructional Technology</i>	630-301-5085
VALERIE MCCALL, EdD	<i>Director of Educational Equity</i>	630-301-5108
MARGARITA VAZQUEZ	<i>Director of English Learners</i>	630-301-5077
ZAK FITZENREIDER	<i>Assistant Director of Secondary Education</i>	630-301-5081
RACHEL NALEWAY	<i>Assistant Director of Special Education</i>	630-301-5108
DAVID RUSSEL	<i>Assistant Director of Assessment</i>	630-301-5075

MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

CINDY LARRY	<i>Principal of Herget</i>	630-301-5225
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PHIL ZELMAN	<i>Assistant Principal of Operations at Herget</i>	630-301-5232
LINDSEY MCGEE	<i>Dean of Herget</i>	630-301-5227
JEFF BRYANT	<i>Principal of Jefferson</i>	630-301-5304
SHELLEY RAMOS	<i>Assistant Principal of T&L at Jefferson</i>	630-301-5306
ELROY PHILLIPS	<i>Assistant Principal of Operations at Jefferson</i>	630-301-5307
JACKIE WALDVOGEL	<i>Dean of Jefferson</i>	630-301-5308
MICHAEL SMITH	<i>Principal of Jewel</i>	630-301-5330
AMY TOWNES	<i>Assistant Principal of T&L at Jewel</i>	630-301-5331
TIM McKENNA	<i>Assistant Principal of Operations at Jewel</i>	630-801-6313
LAREN RYMARZ	<i>Dean of Jewel</i>	630-301-5333
TOM DAVIDSON	<i>Principal of Washington</i>	630-301-5477
JOLENE SMITH	<i>Assistant Principal of T&L at Washington</i>	630-301-5478
REGINA COYLE	<i>Assistant Principal of Operations at Washington</i>	630-301-5481
MARCHEL ROGERS	<i>Dean of Washington</i>	630-301-5482

CURRICULUM COORDINATORS

DAVID ALLEN	<i>Science</i>	630-801-6894
CHRISTINE ANDERSON, EdD	<i>English Learners</i>	630-301-6564
ELAINE DIVELEY	<i>World Languages</i>	630-301-6559
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OUR MISSION & VISION

We embrace the curiosity, complexity & joy of learning!

INTRODUCTION

The entire District 129 staff welcomes our students and their families to a new school year. The beginning of a new school year offers many opportunities and challenges for students and their teachers to find success and happiness. The worth of any school depends on the school spirit and interest of the students, staff, parents and community. In the past, we have all shown a desire to cooperate in making District 129 schools the kind of schools in which our community can be proud. We are sure this tradition will continue in the future. The faculty and staff will remain available throughout the school year to assist in making this school year the most successful yet for students.

CURRICULUM REGISTRATION

All middle schools within West Aurora conduct pre-registration in the winter following the completion of the first semester. During this time students select courses for the next year with input from teachers, administrators, and parents. In early April, each middle school will mail a listing of the courses selected by each student to their parents. Parents review the course selections and contact their student's assistant principal if there are any errors. Building staff will make all corrections and updates prior to the start of the scheduling process. **Final schedules will not be available until early August.**

DEFINITION OF TERMS

CTE: Career & Technical Education
ET: Enriched and Talented
EL: English Learners

PLTW: Project Lead the Way
PRE-REQUISITE: A condition a student must meet in order to enroll in a series of courses

GRADING SCALE

The grading system used on the report card is designed to give parents/guardians an evaluation of students' achievement and an assessment of their students' work.

A – Excellent
B – Above Average
C – Average
D – Low Average
F – Failure
INC – Incomplete

Quarterly, all parents will be issued a mid-term progress report. These reports are generated in an effort to provide the necessary motivation and assistance to the students prior to issuing final quarterly grades. At the end of each grading period, report cards will be issued. Incomplete grades (INC) are to be made up within two weeks after a student's absence. Failure to complete work within this time limit will result in the lowering of the grade or in some cases, failure of the course.

ELECTIVES & THE MIDDLE SCHOOL DAY

The middle school day is designed to allow students the opportunity to take a combination of core classes and experience electives. Each year, middle school students are required to take 1 double period Language Arts class, 1 single or double period Math class, 1 Science class, 1 Social Studies class, 1 PE/Health Education class and a Lunch/Study Hall. To complete their schedule, students will also receive 1 or 2 elective classes. Typically students in 6th grade will have room in their schedule to take one elective. 7th and 8th grade students may have the opportunity to take a second elective depending on their other course placements. Example schedules are listed below.

6th Grade Sample Schedule		7th Grade Sample Schedule		8th Grade Sample Schedule	
Period 1	Math	Period 1	Math	Period 1	Math
Period 2	Math	Period 2	Math	Period 2	Language Arts
Period 3	Language Arts	Period 3	Language Arts	Period 3	Language Arts
Period 4	Language Arts	Period 4	Language Arts	Period 4	Lunch/Study Hall
Period 5	Lunch/Study Hall	Period 5	Lunch/Study Hall	Period 5	Science
Period 6	Science	Period 6	Science	Period 6	Social Studies
Period 7	Social Studies	Period 7	Social Studies	Period 7	PE/Health
Period 8	PE/Health	Period 8	PE/Health	Period 8	Elective
Period 9	Elective	Period 9	Elective	Period 9	Elective

ENGLISH LEARNERS

English Learner services are designed to support students' language acquisition while experiencing general education curriculum and outcomes. Enrollment in EL coursework is subject to placement testing and parental/guardian consent. EL services through English Language Arts are available at each middle school and are aligned to grade level specific outcomes. Pending placement testing, students who qualify for EL services at Washington Middle School may receive support in math, science, and social studies. Please contact the EL Department with additional questions.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Middle school students are expected to maintain an atmosphere that actively fosters academic honesty. This should be a cooperative effort between parents, students, and staff. It is, therefore, the responsibility of each individual to promote academic honesty. Students may face both academic and disciplinary consequences for academic dishonesty. Examples of academic dishonesty are:

1. *Plagiarism - Submitting another person's writing as one's own.*
2. *Giving or receiving test questions or answers to a student in a later class.*
3. *Copying from another student's test or knowingly permitting another student to copy during a test.*
4. *Using materials that are not permitted.*
5. *Copying or permitting someone other than the student to prepare the student's homework, paper, project, laboratory report, or take-home tests for which credit is given.*
6. *Any other action intended to obtain credit for work not one's own.*

HONOR ROLL

The middle schools will recognize a quarterly Honor Roll. The following Honor Roll standards will be observed each quarter:

High Honor Roll: *A student must have all A's in all subject areas to qualify.*

Honor Roll: *A student must not have any grade below a B in any subject area to qualify.*



CTE EXPLORATION: EL57812

Open to: 7, 8 *Length: 1 year*

In this year-long class students will experience units in Foods and Nutrition, Woodshop Tools and Technology, Sewing Design and College and Career Exploration. During the Foods unit, students will make several recipes and learn in a traditional kitchen setting to help prepare them for real-world experiences. In the sewing unit students create several machine sewn projects that focus on various types of stitching and basic repair techniques. In the Woodshop Tools and Technology unit students will learn shop safety, proper use of hand tools, and proper use of machine tools to craft and create several projects. CTE Exploration will provide students experiences that will increase understanding of life skills and career development. This class will not limit students from taking additional CTE Exploration courses.

PLTW: COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR MAKERS/APP CREATORS: PLTW57802

Open to: 7, 8 *Length: 1 year*

In the Fall students will learn how coding is part of everyday objects such as your car radio and soft drink vending machines. In this class, you will design and build inventions/solutions to everyday problems and learn to write code to make them run automatically. In the Spring, students will learn how apps such as SnapChat came to be. Students in App Creators learn the basics of how to design, code, test and debug apps. Make their very own apps for use on tablets and phones. No coding experience is needed to join this class!

PLTW: DESIGN AND MODELING/AUTOMATION AND ROBOTICS: PLTW57812

Open to: 7, 8 *Length: 1 year*

In this year-long course, students will learn the basic techniques for design drafting, beginning with simple orthographic projections hand drawn on paper and moving up to fully dimensioned and animated assembly drawings using Autodesk Inventor software. Students have the opportunity to be creative using the design process. In the second semester students will be using VEX robotic kits including basic gears, chain drives, sprockets, rack and pinions, and worm and wheel gears. This course allows for creativity and group collaboration opportunities.

ELECTIVE ROTATION: EL5602

Open to: 6 *Length: 1 year*

Students will explore each of the four different elective areas offered in middle school - Art, Technology, Stem, and Music - for one quarter. In Art, students will explore various media to create their own original 2D and 3D artworks. In Technology, students will explore the elements of the engineering design process and learn how to use online video editing software. Students in Stem will preview Project Lead the Way hands-on projects that may include energy and the environment, robotics, and coding. In Music, students will learn to play the ukulele as they enhance their understanding of melody, rhythm, and chords. Students who are in 6th Grade Band are not placed into Elective Rotation.

ART & DESIGN AND STUDIO ART: ARTD78

Open to: 7, 8 *Length: 1 year*

In the fall, students will employ the design process as they consider how and why art is used in everyday life (i.e. graphic design, fashion, commercial art, theatrical art, etc). In the spring, our focus will shift to exploring a variety of media, as students work to find and refine their own artistic voice.

2D & 3D ART: ART78

Open to: 7, 8 *Length: 1 year*

In the fall, students will create a broad range of 2D art (drawing, painting, printmaking, digital media, etc) that focuses on the elements and principles of art. In the spring, students will work with clay and a range of other materials to create advanced and meaningful 3D art.

ELECTIVE ROTATION: EL5602

Open to: 6 *Length: 1 year*

Students will explore each of the four different elective areas offered in middle school - Art, Technology, Stem, and Music - for one quarter. In Art, students will explore various media to create their own original 2D and 3D artworks. In Technology, students will explore the elements of the engineering design process and learn how to use online video editing software. Students in Stem will preview Project Lead the Way hands-on projects that may include energy and the environment, robotics, and coding. In Music, students will learn to play the ukulele as they enhance their understanding of melody, rhythm, and chords. Students who are in 6th Grade Band are not placed into Elective Rotation.

BEGINNING BAND: EL6602

Open to: 6 *Length: 1 year*

Beginning Band is an entry-level full-year elective that is open to any 6th grader who wishes to learn to play a band instrument. No prior experience or knowledge of music is necessary to join Beginning Band. 5th-grade students who wish to be in Beginning Band must meet with a band director to select an instrument and understand the expectations of the program. This course requires performances and rehearsals that take place outside of regular school hours.

7TH GRADE BAND: EL6702

Open to: 7 *Length: 1 year*
PREREQUISITE: 6th grade band

In 7th Grade Band, students will build upon the skills learned in Beginning Band and have more opportunities to perform publicly (i.e. Fine Arts Festival, Solo & Ensemble Festival, etc). 7th Grade Band is split up into two sections, Woodwind and Brass (Percussion will be grouped with one of these, depending on schedules). This course requires performances and rehearsals that take place outside of regular school hours.

8TH GRADE BAND: EL6802

Open to: 8 *Length: 1 year*
PREREQUISITE: 7th grade band

Students in 8th Grade Band will work on advanced middle school band concepts as they prepare for the opportunities that await them in high school. 8th Grade Band meets as a full ensemble every day and will have additional performances throughout the year. This course requires rehearsals and performances that take place outside of regular school hours.

7TH & 8TH GRADE CHOIR: EL57842

Open to: 7, 8 *Length: 1 year*

Choir is a performance class open to any 7th or 8th-grade student who likes to sing. This class offers basic practice and support of fundamental singing techniques. Other skills to be learned include music theory, music reading, and both ensemble and solo singing. This course requires performances that take place outside of regular school hours.

UKULELE 2 AND SONGWRITING & RECORDING: MU78

Open to: 7, 8 *Length: 1 year*

In the fall, students will build on the 6th-grade ukulele skills, learning additional chords (beyond C, G, F, and Am), fingerpicking, and strumming patterns to read, learn, and play modern music. In the spring, students will learn what makes a "good song" and apply these characteristics to write and record their own songs.



HEALTH EDUCATION

Open to: 6, 7, 8 *Length: 1 quarter each school year*

This course is taken by all middle school students one quarter each school year. Content focuses on the skills students need to make healthy decisions to help them lead a healthier lifestyle. Students begin developing skills around decision making and communication, conflict resolution and basic refusal skills. Content will also cover communicable/non-communicable diseases, reproduction and sexual education, and Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs. Outside presentations from Stand for the Silent (Anti-Bullying), Breaking Free (Too Good For Drugs), and Mutual Ground (Sexual Harassment in 6th Grade and Sexual Assault in 8th Grade) will take place throughout the course.

6TH GRADE: PE7612

- Unit 1:** Decision Making
- Unit 2:** Body Systems
- Unit 3:** Growth and Development
- Unit 4:** First Aid and Safety

7TH GRADE: PE7712

- Unit 1:** Nutrition
- Unit 2:** Alcohol/Tobacco/Drugs
- Unit 3:** Depression/Suicide Awareness/Bullying
- Unit 4:** Disability Awareness

8TH GRADE: PE7812

- Unit 1:** Reproduction and Sexual Education
- Unit 2:** Communicable Diseases Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Unit 3:** Non-Communicable Diseases

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: PE7602, PE7702, PE7802

Open to: 6, 7, 8 *Length: 3 quarters each school year*

This course focuses on the FITT Principle and 5 Components of Physical Fitness through a variety of individual/team sports and regular physical activity, utilization of technology with heart rate monitors, and fitness-based activity in the fitness room/gym environments. Students will begin tracking their fitness data and build on their skills and knowledge in our physical education classes. All students will be fitness tested using the FitnessGram model as mandated by the State of Illinois.



6TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS: LA62B

Open to: 6 *Length: 1 year*

This is a year-long course that is divided into multiple units of study that focus on the 6th grade English standards of reading (literature and informational), writing, language (grammar and mechanics), and speaking and listening. During this course, students will read for understanding and analysis, identify evidence from the text, write to answer various prompts (narrative, informative, argumentative), share their ideas through discussion, and learn how to present their ideas/answers through written or spoken mediums.

- Topics:**
- Plot
 - Author's Purpose
 - CER Format
 - Vocabulary Practice and Acquisition
 - Narrative Writing
 - Argumentative Writing
 - Novel/Short Story and Nonfiction Analysis
 - Language Mechanics and Usage

6TH GRADE ET LANGUAGE ARTS: LA63B

Open to: 6 *Length: 1 year*

This is a year-long course that is divided into multiple units of study that focus on the 6th grade English standards of reading (literature and informational) and a rigorous study of writing, language (grammar and mechanics), and speaking and listening. During this course, students will read for understanding and analysis, identify evidence from the text, write to answer various prompts (narrative, informative, argumentative), share their ideas through analytical discussion, and present their ideas/answers or synthesis of understanding through written or spoken mediums.

- Topics:**
- Plot
 - Author's Purpose
 - CER Format
 - Vocabulary Practice and Acquisition
 - Shared Inquiry
 - Narrative Writing
 - Argumentative Writing
 - Novel/Short Story and Nonfiction Analysis
 - Language Mechanics and Usage

7TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS: LA72B

Open to: 7 *Length: 1 year*

This is a year-long course that is divided into multiple units of study that focus on the 7th grade English standards of reading (literature and informational), writing, language (grammar and mechanics), and speaking and listening. During this course, students will read for understanding and analysis, identify and use evidence from the text, write to answer various prompts (creative, informative, argumentative), share their ideas through discussion, and learn how to present their ideas/answers through written or spoken mediums.

- Topics:**
- Plot
 - Argumentative Writing
 - Elements of Research
 - Novel/Short Story and Nonfiction Analysis
 - Vocabulary Practice and Acquisition
 - Thematic Understanding and Synthesis
 - Informative Writing CER Format
 - Poetry Analysis (Literary Device/Elements)
 - Language Mechanics and Usage

7TH GRADE ET LANGUAGE ARTS: LA73B

Open to: 7 *Length: 1 year*

This is a year-long course that is divided into multiple units of study that focus on the 7th grade English standards of reading (literature and informational) and a rigorous study of writing, language (grammar and mechanics), and speaking and listening. During this course, students will read for understanding and analysis, identify evidence from the text, write to answer various prompts (narrative, informative, argumentative), share their ideas through analytical discussion, and present their ideas/answers or synthesis of understanding through formal written or spoken mediums.

- Topics:**
- Plot
 - Argumentative Writing
 - Elements of Research
 - Novel/Short Story and Nonfiction Analysis
 - Vocabulary Practice and Acquisition
 - Shared Inquiry
 - Thematic Understanding and Synthesis
 - Informative Writing CER Format
 - Poetry Analysis (Literary Device/Elements)
 - Language Mechanics and Usage

8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS: LA82B

Open to: 8 Length: 1 year

This is a year-long course that is divided into multiple units of study that focus on the 8th grade English standards of reading (literature and informational), writing, language (grammar and mechanics), and speaking and listening. During this course, students will read for understanding and analysis, identify, use, and cite evidence from the text to support their ideas and answers, write to answer various prompts (informative and argumentative), share their ideas through discussion, and learn how to present their ideas/answers through written or spoken mediums.

Topics:

- Plot
- Character Development
- Informative Writing
- CER Format
- Poetry Analysis
- Vocabulary Practice and Acquisition
- Thematic Understanding and Synthesis
- Argumentative Writing
- Elements of Research
- Novel/Short Story and Nonfiction Analysis
- Literary Device/Elements
- Language Mechanics and Usage



8TH GRADE ET LANGUAGE ARTS: LA83B

Open to: 8 Length: 1 year

This is a year-long course that is divided into multiple units of study that focus on the 8th grade English standards of reading (literature and informational) and a rigorous study of writing, language (grammar and mechanics), and speaking and listening. During this course, students will read for understanding and analysis, identify evidence from the text, write to answer various prompts (narrative, informative, argumentative), share their ideas through analytical discussion, and present their ideas/answers or synthesis of understanding through formal written or spoken mediums.

Topics:

- Plot
- Character Development
- Informative Writing
- CER Format
- Poetry Analysis
- Vocabulary Practice and Acquisition
- Shared Inquiry
- Thematic Understanding and Synthesis
- Argumentative Writing
- Elements of Research
- Novel/Short Story and Nonfiction Analysis
- Literary Device/Elements
- Language Mechanics and Usage



6TH GRADE MATH (1-1): MA11B

Open to: 6 Length: 1 year Period(s): 2

In the 6th-grade math course, students deepen their understanding of multiplication and division of fractions to apply their knowledge to divide fractions by fractions, with an additional focus on increasing efficiency and fluency. Students gain a foundation in the concepts of ratio and rate as an extension of their work with whole number multiplication and division, and in preparation for work with proportional relationships in Grade 7. Students also make connections among area, volume, and surface area, and continue to lay the groundwork for deep algebraic understanding by interpreting and using expressions and equations.

6TH GRADE ACCELERATED MATH (1-2): MA12B

Open to: 6 Length: 1 year Period(s): 2

This course is for 6th-grade students but covers 6th grade standards as well as a portion of the 7th grade standards. Students will cover the same material found in the 6th-grade course but they will extend to more complex applications of the rational number system, linear equations, and inequalities.

7TH GRADE MATH (2-2): MA22B

Open to: 7 Length: 1 year Period(s): 2

In the 7th-grade math course, students focus on real-world scenarios and mathematical problems involving algebraic expressions and linear equations and begin to apply their understanding of rational numbers with increased complexity. The course lays the foundation for exploring concepts of angle, similarity and congruence and construct and analyze relationships among geometric figures. Students also develop and apply understandings of proportional relationships.

7TH GRADE ACCELERATED MATH (2-3): MA23B

Open to: 6,7 Length: 1 year Period(s): 2

In this course which covers both 7th and 8th grade standards, students will develop and apply understandings of proportional relationships and explore the foundations of similarity and congruence. Students will also work with radical and integer exponents and extend their understanding of linear equations to systems of equations and linear functions. Students who take this course in 6th grade will complete some preliminary course work to bridge the understanding needed to be successful in this course.

PRE ALGEBRA (3): MA3

Open to: 7, 8 Length: 1 year Period(s): 1 or 2

The Pre Algebra course prepares students for more advanced study in algebra as students solve linear equations and systems of equations, work with radical and integer exponents, gain a conceptual understanding of functions, and use functions to model quantitative relationships. To prepare students for more advanced study in geometry, the course emphasizes the Pythagorean theorem and deepening exploration of similarity and congruence.

ALGEBRA 1: MA4

Open to: 7, 8 Length: 1 year Period(s): 1

This is a course for 7th or 8th-grade students who have successfully completed a pathway of study through middle school math standards. This is a full-year Algebra course that will lay the foundation for every subsequent math course that they will take. Students will work with multiple representations of equations, inequalities, and other functions and apply this understanding to problem-solving situations.

GEOMETRY: MA5

Open to: 8 Length: 1 year Period(s): 1

This is for 8th-grade students who have successfully completed Algebra 1. This course is designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of common geometric figures in two and three dimensions. It includes the study of transformations and right triangle trigonometry. Inductive and deductive thinking skills are used in problem-solving situations, and applications to the real world are stressed. It also emphasizes writing proofs to solve (prove) properties of geometric figures.

6TH GRADE SCIENCE: SC3602

Open to: 6 Length: 1 year

This course focuses on key science concepts and practices that are outlined by the Next Generation Science Standards. Major topics include:

- Structure and Properties of Matter
- Chemical Reactions
- Structure and Functions of Organisms
- History of Planet Earth
- Weather and Climate
- Earth and the Solar System and the Universe and Its Stars

6TH GRADE ET SCIENCE: SC3603

Open to: 6 Length: 1 year

This course covers the same topics as 6th Grade Science with a greater emphasis on students utilizing knowledge of the scientific concepts to solve problems and develop their own investigations.

7TH GRADE SCIENCE: SC3702

Open to: 7 Length: 1 year

This course focuses on key science concepts and practices that are outlined by the Next Generation Science Standards. Major topics include:

- Energy
- Force and Motion
- Wave Properties
- Electromagnetic Radiation
- Energy in Chemical Processes
- Cycles of Matter and Energy in Ecosystems



7TH GRADE ET SCIENCE: SC3703

Open to: 7 Length: 1 year

This course covers the same topics as 7th Grade Science with a greater emphasis on students utilizing knowledge of the scientific concepts to solve problems and develop their own investigations.

8TH GRADE SCIENCE: SC3802

Open to: 8 Length: 1 year

This course focuses on key science concepts and practices that are outlined by the Next Generation Science Standards. Major topics include:

- Ecosystems
- Inheritance and Variation of Traits
- Evidence of Common Ancestry and Natural Selection
- Adaptation
- Earth's Systems and Human Impacts

8TH GRADE ET SCIENCE: SC3803

Open to: 8 Length: 1 year

This course covers the same topics as 8th Grade Science with a greater emphasis on students utilizing knowledge of the scientific concepts to solve problems and develop their own investigations.

6TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES: SS4602

Open to: 6 Length: 1 year

Sixth Grade is a year-long course that develops a foundational understanding of the social sciences. Students will engage in inquiry as a means to explore how to think like a social scientist and how the five themes of geography and the seven elements of culture impact people, the relationship that occurs between them, and how civilizations develop. Throughout this course, students will explore the physical geography, governments, cultures, and legacies of a variety of ancient civilizations. This course will foster curiosity and collaboration, as students take an active role in the events that made history through reading, writing, and investigating.

Topics:

- Thinking Like a Social Scientist
- Media Literacy
- Geography
- The Five Themes of Geography
- The Seven Elements of Culture
- Ancient Civilizations

7TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES: SS4702

Open to: 7 Length: 1 year

Global Studies is an immersive bridge from Ancient Civilizations to the Modern World. This course fosters a global perspective of modern history and the impact of major world events on today. Students will examine a variety of topics including globalization, culture, human rights, human progress, the impact of technology, and population among other things. Students will collaborate using technology, simulations, and research as they formulate arguments regarding debatable world issues.

Topics:

- Canada & the US
- Latin America
- Europe & Russia
- Africa
- Southwest & Central Asia
- East & Southeast Asia

8TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES: SS4802

Open to: 8 Length: 1 year

This year-long course, through inquiry, interpretation, analysis, evaluation and investigation will study American History and Civics. Students will engage with historical topics through the use of primary and secondary sources, while investigating enduring historical questions. Throughout this course of study, students will also explore government institutions, engage in discussion of current and controversial issues, and actively participate in service learning and simulations. They will employ reading strategies such as sourcing, contextualizing, corroborating, and close reading. In addition, students will actively participate in a variety of discussions. These skills will lay the foundation for student success in high school and beyond.

Topics:

- US and IL Constitutions
- Democratic Principles
- American Revolution
- Early America
- Civil War
- World War I and World War II
- Civil Rights
- The Cold War
- Modern Era



FRENCH A: WL7F

Open to: 7

Length: 1 year

This course is an introduction to the French language and culture in which students will learn how to read, write, speak, and understand at a basic level. Themes of study include self, leisure activities, family, and celebrations. Students will continue into French B in 8th grade. Successful completion of 7th grade French A and 8th grade French B will result in placement in French 2 or French 2 Honors in high school.

FRENCH B: WL8F

Open to: 8

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: French A

This course is a continuation of the French A curriculum in which students will learn how to read, write, speak, and understand at a novice level. Topics of study include schooling, personal care, clothing, and shopping. Successful completion of 7th grade French A and 8th grade French B will result in placement in French 2 or French 2 Honors in high school.

HERITAGE SPANISH A: WL7H

Open to: 7

Length: 1 year

This course is designed for heritage Spanish speakers to develop their reading and writing skills while exploring Hispanic cultures. Students will enhance their communication skills through the study of identity, youth, pastimes, and food. The course is conducted entirely in Spanish. Students will continue into Spanish for Heritage speakers B in 8th grade. Successful completion of 7th grade Heritage Spanish A and 8th grade Heritage Spanish B will result in placement in Spanish for Heritage Speakers 3 or 3 Honors in high school.

HERITAGE SPANISH B: WL8H

Open to: 8

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: Heritage Spanish A

This course is designed for heritage Spanish speakers to develop their reading and writing skills while exploring Hispanic cultures. Students will enhance their communication skills through the study of environmental issues, family, immigration, and technology. Successful completion of 7th grade Heritage Spanish A and 8th grade Heritage Spanish B will result in placement in Spanish for Heritage Speakers 3 or 3 Honors in high school.

SPANISH A: WL7S

Open to: 7

Length: 1 year

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language and culture in which students will learn how to read, write, speak, and understand at a basic level. Topics of study include self, leisure activities, family, and celebrations. Students will continue into Spanish B in 8th grade. Successful completion of 7th grade Spanish A and 8th grade Spanish B will result in placement in Spanish 2 or Spanish 2 Honors in high school.

SPANISH B: WL8S

Open to: 8

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: Spanish A

This course is a continuation of the Spanish A curriculum in which students will learn how to read, write, speak, and understand at a novice level. Topics of study include schooling, personal care, clothing, and shopping. Successful completion of 7th grade Spanish A and 8th grade Spanish B will result in placement in Spanish 2 or Spanish 2 Honors in high school.

