

East Grand Rapids Middle School

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E. Grand Rapids, MI 49506

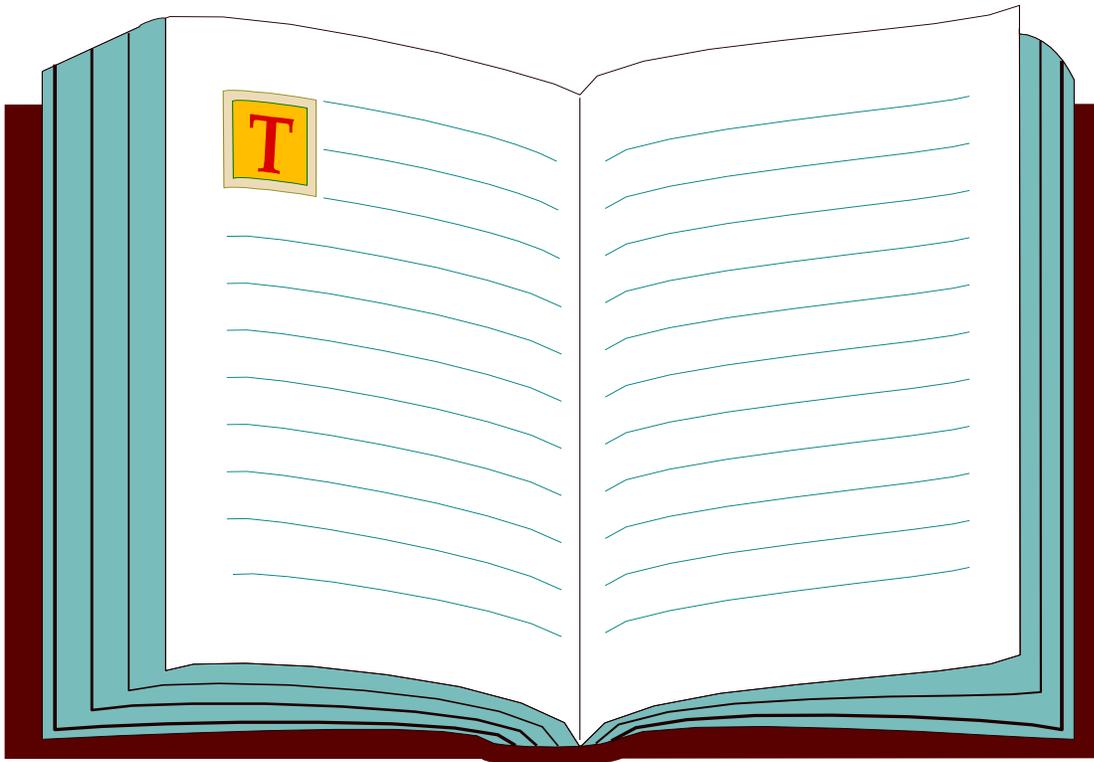
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Course Descriptions

The master schedule is created based on student course choices made on the registration sheet. It has been, and will continue to be, communicated to the students that it is critical that they make informed decisions, considering their choices carefully when selecting elective classes. In addition, it is important that students follow through on the decisions they have made. Every attempt will be made to schedule students in their first choice class.

6th grade Core Academics

6 English Language Arts

Students will understand basic grammar functions such as sentence and paragraph writing and the basic parts of speech. Vocabulary skills are developed through focused practice on Greek and Latin roots. The four core elements of English Language Arts are reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Both classic and contemporary short stories and novels will be covered, as well as non-fiction selections.

6 Honors English Language Arts

This core class is designed for those students who show a specific aptitude for language arts. The class covers 6th grade English curriculum at a greater breadth and depth than the regular English classes, and therefore students should be proficient at writing a cohesive paragraph, have an understanding of the eight parts of speech, and be a fluent reader. Skills covered include a focus on analyzing literature, written expression, creative presentations, and collaborative discussions within the classroom and through the use of technology. Students are placed in this class based on the following criteria:

- Placement test during Orientation
- NWEA MAP test scores
- Parent permission
- An application and writing sample that will be completed in the spring of the fifth grade year

6 Math 6

This course engages student interest through extensive use of real world problem solving, entertaining video tutorials, and plenty of clearly written examples. It gradually introduces algebra concepts such as solving equations and reinforces these concepts in every chapter. Topics include whole numbers and patterns, decimals, fractions, data analysis, measurement, geometry, integers, and probability.

6 Math Math 7

This course engages student interest through extensive use of real world problem solving, entertaining video tutorials, and plenty of clearly written examples. It continues to develop fundamental algebra concepts such as solving equations and reinforces these concepts in every chapter. Topics include algebraic reasoning, integers, rational numbers, percents, data analysis, geometry, probability, and inequalities.

Students will be placed into the appropriate class based upon performance on:

- Fifth grade NWEA MAP Scores
- M-STEP Math Scores
- Fifth grade Placement test scores

6 Science

Sixth grade science introduces the middle school concepts in physical, earth and biological sciences. Students learn about the scientific method and related measurements, the human body and its systems, how to use a microscope, classification and cells and astronomy. Students are also introduced to basic chemistry, energy and structures of atoms. The course is enriched by the use of videos, demonstrations and laboratory experiences.

6 Social Studies

Sixth grade social studies is a foundational course which has students learning about world wide ancient civilizations c. 10,000 BCE – 500 CE. These studies will integrate the fundamental concepts of a variety of the social sciences with an emphasis on history and geography. To support their work in this academic area, students will utilize the content area skills of reading, writing, researching, and critical thinking. In addition to the study of ancient civilizations, students will be expected to acquire basic geographic knowledge of the world's modern nations, capitols, and physical features. This work will directly support the geographic content to follow in the 7th grade.

6th grade required Exploratory classes

6 Physical Education

Students are encouraged to engage in a vigorous program that promotes fitness and progressive mastery of skills from year to year. Emphasis is placed on meeting or exceeding goals set by the Michigan Department of Education. Special attention is given to fundamental motor skills, fitness, socialization, and sports as lifetime activities. Some of the activities include: touch football, soccer, field hockey, lacrosse, basketball, volleyball, badminton, softball, recreational games, strength/endurance/flexibility activities, physical fitness testing, and walking/running activities.

This class meets every other day all year.

6 Spanish

Students will create new sentences in conversations. Students will also learn about the people, cultures, and food of Spain and Costa Rica. Students will have homework once or twice a week. In 7th and 8th grade one may choose to continue the study of Spanish or begin studying French.

This class meets every other day all year.

6 Art

Students will use a variety of art materials to learn how to express their own ideas and interests. There will be a focus on relating their work to the global community by viewing artists from different time periods and cultures. A sketchbook will be used as a way of showing progress and practicing drawing skills.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

6 Reading

In this course, the students will learn and apply reading strategies to improve their reading proficiency and comprehension. They will read selections from various genres of fiction and non-fiction in coordination with the academic classes in order to practice the strategies they learn.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

6th grade Exploratory

6 Choir

This class is for those who wish to develop singing skills, skills in reading music, and work as part of an ensemble. Students perform in two to four concerts during the year.

This class meets every other day all year.

6 Band

This class is for those who wish to learn to play a band instrument. Students perform as a full band in two to four concerts during the year. Students also participate in the Solo Festival in March to help increase their skills. Home practice is a requirement.

This class meets every other day all year.

6 Orchestra

This class is for those who wish to learn to play a string instrument. Students perform as a full string orchestra in two to four concerts during the year. Students also participate in the Solo Festival in March to help increase their skills. Home practice is a requirement.

This class meets every other day all year.

6th grade Support Classes

6 Math Lab (Administrator recommendation only)

Have you ever been in a math class that you wish would slow down or do a few more examples?

This class is designed to help students who need a little extra help in dealing with the 6th grade objectives. This class will help students understand their homework (providing extra examples and help), work on basic facts (become quicker at mental math), and provide opportunities for practice of 6th grade objectives. The addition of Math Lab to a class schedule is dependent on students meeting specific qualifications. Parents or guardians will be notified if their child is eligible.

This class meets every other day for one semester or all year on as need basis.

6 Study Skills (Administrator recommendation only)

Study Skills is a class that is tailored to students that can benefit from extra support with organization, re-teaching of content from all core classes, study strategies, test taking strategies, and a time for students to regroup and prioritize during the school day. It is not a class that would resemble a traditional study hall where students have unstructured time to complete tasks. It is teacher driven and directed with the intent of helping students with their individual needs. The class is a combination of small group, individual and large group instruction which depends on the topics being covered in other core classes and the needs of the students. Success strategies are often taught through class content, re-teaching, and review. Staff will also work with students on tests, quizzes, homework assignments, and projects in within the study skills class. A common thread throughout the year will be advocating for individual student needs. Learning the skill of advocating for oneself is crucial in sixth grade and beyond. The addition of study skills to a class schedule is dependent on students meeting specific qualifications. Parents or guardians will be notified if their child is eligible

This class meets every other day for one semester or all year on as need basis.

**If a student is placed in one of the above support classes, one of the required 6th grade Exploratory Classes will be excluded. **

7th Required Core Academics

7 English Language Arts

Students will understand basic grammar functions such as sentence and paragraph writing and the basic parts of speech. Vocabulary skills are developed through focused practice on Greek and Latin roots. The four core elements of English Language Arts are reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Both classic and contemporary short stories, dramas, and novels will be covered, as well as non-fiction selections.

7 Honors English Language Arts

The Honors 7th grade English Language Arts class is an academically rigorous course that develops skills of close textual analysis, written expression, grammar, and vocabulary with a strong emphasis on higher order thinking skills. Students will study the genres of the short story, the novel, drama, and non-fiction. Major texts in the 7th grade currently include *12 Angry Men*, *The Miracle Worker*, an approved contemporary novel of choice, and an approved classic novel of choice, as well as works by O. Henry, Ray Bradbury, Shirley Jackson, Charles Dickens, Langston Hughes, Annie Dillard, and others.

Candidates should be responsible, self-initiated, motivated, and have a strong desire to challenge themselves. They should be proficient in writing a well developed, insightful paragraph, a basic four paragraph essay, and have mastered the eight parts of speech. Summer Reading is required as is maintaining a reading log throughout the school year. Acceptance into the class is by application only. Students are placed in this class based on the following criteria:

- Current year's grades in English Language Arts
- NWEA MAP test scores
- Parent permission
- An application and writing sample that will be completed in the spring

7 Social Studies

Seventh grade social studies has students learning and applying basic geography skills in the study of places and regions, physical and human systems, and our environment and society. Students will also use geography to interpret the past and present and plan for the future. Students will study historical and modern geographical issues in Canada and the United States, Latin America, Europe and Russia, Africa, Southwest and Central Asia, Monsoon Asia, Oceania and Antarctica. Additionally, an emphasis will be placed on the development of the content area skills of reading, writing, researching and critical thinking.

7 Science

Seventh grade science covers selected topics in earth, life, and physical sciences. Students will review the scientific method; learn about ecology, plants, biological diversity and classification of animals along with forces and motion. A variety of approaches are used, ranging from note taking, reading appropriate material, problem solving, and "hands-on" activities that allow one to learn and apply scientific concepts, method and measurement.

7th Grade Foundational Math

This criteria based class is designed to provide a stronger foundation of the concepts for identified students in preparation for 8th grade Pre-algebra. The middle school math department designed this course to provide a more suitable pace for mastering the necessary foundational skills while offering support to achieve success and gain confidence in the middle school math progression. These students will work from the same textbook that is used by those currently in Math 7, yet the lessons will be spread out over the course of the entire year. In addition, Foundational Math will be taught with an additional member of our staff to provide math strategies for the entire class.

7 Math 7

This course engages student interest through extensive use of real world problem solving, entertaining video tutorials, and plenty of clearly written examples. It continues to develop fundamental Algebra concepts such as solving equations and reinforces these concepts in every chapter. Topics include algebraic reasoning, integers, rational numbers, percents, data analysis, geometry, probability, and inequalities.

7 Algebra

This course engages student interest through extensive use of real world problem solving, entertaining video tutorials, and plenty of clearly written examples. It develops student comprehension through multiple representations by relating concepts through words, numbers, and algebra. Topics include principles of algebra, equations, inequalities, functions, exponents, polynomials, and data analysis.

In order to stay in an Advanced Math class or be recommended for continuation, the following criteria must be met:

- Students must maintain a B average in their Math Class
- Students will be checked 8 times each year – four (4) progress reports and four (4) report card markings.
- Students who are below the B average two times during a school year (out of the 8 checks) will either be moved into the regular math class, if during 1st semester, or recommended to repeat the math class the following year, if during 2nd semester.

7th grade Support Classes

7 Math Lab (Administrator recommendation only)

Have you ever been in a math class that you wish would slow down or do a few more examples? This class is designed to help students who need a little extra help in dealing with the 7th grade objectives. This class will help students understand their homework (providing extra examples and help), work on basic facts (become quicker at mental math), and provide opportunities for practice of 7th grade objectives. The addition of Math Lab to a class schedule is dependent on students meeting specific qualifications. Parents or guardians will be notified if their child is eligible.

This class meets every other day for one semester or all year on as need basis.

7 Study Skills (Administrator recommendation only)

Study Skills is a class that is tailored to students that can benefit from extra support with organization, re-teaching of content from all core classes, study strategies, test taking strategies, and a time for students to regroup and prioritize during the school day. It is not a class that would resemble a traditional study hall where students have unstructured time to complete tasks. It is teacher driven and directed with the intent of helping students with their individual needs. The class is a combination of small group, individual and large group instruction which depends on the topics being covered in other core classes and the needs of the students. Success strategies are often taught through class content, re-teaching, and review. Staff will also work with students on tests, quizzes, homework assignments, and projects in within the study skills class. A common thread throughout the year will be advocating for individual student needs. Learning the skill of advocating for oneself is crucial in sixth grade and beyond. The addition of study skills to a class schedule is dependent on students meeting specific qualifications. Parents or guardians will be notified if their child is eligible

This class meets every other day for one semester or all year on as need basis.

7th grade Required Exploratory

7 Physical Education

Students participate in a wide variety of sports and activities, with an emphasis on building skills. Students engage in a vigorous program, which promotes fitness, and lifetime activities that meet or exceed the goals set by the Michigan Department of Education. Special attention is given to fundamental motor skills, socialization, sportsmanship and cooperation. Activities include: touch football, soccer, speedball, field hockey, basketball, volleyball, badminton, softball, recreational games, floor hockey, lacrosse, strength/endurance/flexibility activities, physical fitness testing and walking/running activities.

This class meets every other day all year.

7th grade Exploratory

7 Band

This class is a continuation of 6th grade band. Solo-ensemble, field trip opportunities and concert performances make this class unique. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Students will perform in three to four concerts per school year. Home practicing is a requirement of this class. Students will like this class if they enjoy playing their instrument and would like to develop their talents to a more advanced degree as well as being part of a full band.

This class meets every other day all year.

7 Choir

This class is for those who wish to develop singing skills, skills in reading music, and work as part of an ensemble. Students perform in three to five concerts during the year. Due to the nature of a performing ensemble and the importance of each individual, attendance at all concerts and festivals is required. Students will like this class if they enjoy cooperative group performance, singing, learning music and performing in public as part of a group.

This class meets every other day all year.

7 Orchestra

This class is a continuation of 6th grade strings. Solo-Ensemble, field trip opportunities and concert performances make this class unique. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Students will perform in three to four concerts per school year. Home practicing is a requirement of this class. Students will like this class if they enjoy playing their instrument and would like to develop their talents to a more advanced degree as well as being part of a full orchestra.

This class meets every other day all year.

7 Spanish Prerequisite – Successful completion of 6th grade Spanish.

Spanish 7 is a continuation of sixth grade Spanish. Students develop their ability to communicate in Spanish as they learn about the country of Ecuador, its people, culture, and food. Students work in partners and in small groups to create short presentations and conversations. Regularly assigned homework and quizzes reinforce student learning.

This class meets every other day all year.

7 Art

Students will learn how to apply the elements of art and principles of design to communicate to a wider audience. They will explore a variety of art materials and themes. We will develop an awareness of Art History and how it parallels events in the world.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

7 Drama

Acting skills will be developed through individual and group exercises, games and activities. Monologues, scenes, skits, one-act play productions and improvisations will provide further opportunity for exploration. Stage movement, gesture, story telling, and scene development are all a part of the drama curriculum.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

7 Journalism

Students learn to write in the style of composition used in publishing newspapers. Students take part in creative and journalistic writing, editing, photography, and graphic design. Students will work as a team to produce a variety of publications.

This class meets every other for one semester.

7 Links Connect

Students learn, through participation in the curriculum, to act as an advocate and mentor for a student with a disability as they master content standards. The interactive nature of instruction enables the connect student to consistently broaden the range of opportunities for the student who has a disability. Connect students are engaged with students who have disabilities in a special education classroom or environments outside of the classroom. Application and training is required to be involved in this class. Training will be from 1:00-2:00 on specified orientation day. Applications may be picked up outside of Mrs. J. Fouch's Room 106).

This class meets every other day for one semester.

7 Media Presentation

Ever wonder how to sell your ideas? This class will show students how to create and design presentations using digital photography, presentation and animation software. Find out the best way to research a topic and the best method of presenting your story to an audience. Plus, learn how to never lose a file on your computer again and take your presentations "on the road!" Students will create, write, and produce a variety of presentations using the latest popular technologies. *This class meets every other day for one semester.*

7 History of Graphic Design

A video game design class would be an introduction to the theory and practice of video game design and object orientated programming. The process of game design combines mathematics and logic, storytelling and aesthetics, writing and communications, systems and analytical thinking, computer graphics, simulation and technology skills.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

7 Painting/Print Making

This course will introduce students to a variety of printmaking and painting techniques. Printmaking techniques will include linoleum, collographs, monoprints, and styrofoam printing. They will become aware of the history of printmaking and how it has evolved into a contemporary art form.

Painting with acrylics, watercolors and oil sticks will excite and challenge the 7th graders. Different applications of paint will be taught along with student led projects for our school community. Projects will include painting on various surfaces such as canvas, paper, outdoor sculptures and or murals. A study of famous painters will add context to the student work.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

7 Reading/Writing Workshop

Have a great idea for the sequel to *Holes* but can't dig up the time to write it? Dying to finish *Mockingjay* but between soccer, piano lessons, and homework, finishing it is against all odds? If you love to read and write (as long as *you* can decide what you're reading and writing), then this is the class for you. You'll be given short and succinct mini-lessons (that YOU choose) to improve your skills as a reader and writer. You'll have almost the entire class period to read your favorite authors and write the short story you've always dreamed of writing. Surrounded by other kids and a teacher who love to read and write, it's a bibliophile's (that's someone who loves books) dream. Did I mention no tests? Come to class prepared, use your class time as it was intended, and you're guaranteed success! See you there and bring Percy with you. *This class meets every other day for one semester.*

8th grade Core Academics

8 English Language Arts

Students will understand basic grammar functions such as sentence and paragraph writing and the basic parts of speech. Vocabulary skills are developed through focused practice on Greek and Latin roots. The four core elements of English Language Arts are reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Both classic and contemporary short stories, dramas, and novels will be covered, as well as non-fiction selections.

8 Honors English Language Arts

The 8th grade Honors English Language Arts is rigorous, and it is designed for those students who show both a specific aptitude for and an interest in language arts. Students interested in applying for this class should expect to work diligently to develop the breadth and depth of their knowledge, skills, and understanding of literature and language. The course places a heavy emphasis on writing, particularly poetry, literary analysis, and persuasion, and students will write several multiple-page essays as well as shorter, more informal pieces. Throughout the year, honors students will read many novels, short stories, and informational texts. Major pieces currently include: *The Hunger Games*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and poems by both classic and contemporary authors.

Candidates should be responsible and motivated to challenge themselves. They should be proficient in writing narrative texts, and a well developed and supported informational and analytical paragraph as well as a short essay. They should have mastered the eight parts of speech; infinitive, appositive, and prepositional phrases; and simple, compound, and complex sentences. Summer reading is required as is maintaining a reading log throughout the school year. Acceptance into the class is by application only. Students are placed in this class based on the following criteria:

- Current year's grades in Language Arts
- NWEA MAP test scores
- Parent permission
- An application and writing sample that will be completed in the spring

8 Social Studies

Eighth grade Social Studies focuses on the history, geography, and civics of the United States. Students begin their studies by examining the causes of the American Revolution and the struggle for independence. Students then analyze both the development of the United States Constitution and how that constitution applies today. Students then judge the leadership of presidents Washington through Grant as the nation deals with growth, change, slavery, and civil war. Throughout the course, an emphasis will be placed on the application of skills learned during the 6th and 7th grade years as well as reinforcement of content area reading, writing and data analysis.

8 Science

This year completes the middle school experience. Correct use of the scientific method, graph creation and interpretation, and science writing skills is emphasized and reviewed. Each student will demonstrate their understanding of these skills with a Scientific Investigation Project. The Major units of study are heredity/genetics, weather and geology. Investigations, activities and projects may include individual and/or group work. Formal lab reports are assigned throughout the year.

8 Pre-Algebra

This criteria based class is designed to provide a stronger foundation of the concepts for identified students in preparation for high school Algebra 1. The middle school math department, in conjunction with the high school math department, designed this course to provide a more suitable pace for mastering the necessary foundational skills while offering support to achieve success and gain confidence in the high school math progression. These students will work from the same textbook that is used by those currently in eighth grade algebra, yet the lessons will be spread out over the course of the entire year. In addition,

Pre-Algebra will be taught with an additional member of our staff to provide math strategies for the entire class.

8 Algebra

This course engages student interest through extensive use of real world problem solving, entertaining video tutorials, and plenty of clearly written examples. It develops student comprehension through multiple representations by relating concepts through words, numbers, and algebra. Topics include principles of algebra, equations, inequalities, functions, exponents, polynomials, and data analysis.

8 Geometry

This course engages student interest through extensive use of real world problem solving, entertaining video tutorials, and plenty of clearly written examples. It develops student comprehension through multiple representations by relating concepts through words, numbers, and graphs. Topics include geometric reasoning, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, polygons, quadrilaterals, similarity, circles, and transformations.

Parents please note:

In order to stay in an advanced math class or be recommended for continuation, the following criteria must be met:

- Students must maintain a B average in their Math Class
- Students will be checked 8 times each year – four (4) progress reports and four (4) report card markings.
- Students who are below the B average two times during a school year (out of the 8 checks) will either be moved into the regular math class, if during 1st semester, or recommended to repeat the math class the following year, if during 2nd semester.

8th grade Support Classes

8 Math Lab (Administration recommendation only)

Have you ever been in a math class that you wish would slow down or do a few more examples? This class is designed to help students who need a little extra help in dealing with the 8th grade objectives. This class will help students understand their homework (providing extra examples and help), work on basic facts (become quicker at mental math), and provide opportunities for practice of 8th grade objectives. The addition of Math Lab to a class schedule is dependent on students meeting specific qualifications. Parents or guardians will be notified if their child is eligible.

This class meets every other day for one semester or all year on as need basis.

8 Study Skills (Administration recommendation only)

Study Skills is a class that is tailored to students that can benefit from extra support with organization, re-teaching of content from all core classes, study strategies, test taking strategies, and a time for students to regroup and prioritize during the school day. It is not a class that would resemble a traditional study hall where students have unstructured time to complete tasks. It is teacher driven and directed with the intent of helping students with their individual needs. The class is a combination of small group, individual and large group instruction which depends on

the topics being covered in other core classes and the needs of the students. Success strategies are often taught through class content, re-teaching, and review. Staff will also work with students on tests, quizzes, homework assignments, and projects in within the study skills class. A common thread throughout the year will be advocating for individual student needs. Learning the skill of advocating for oneself is crucial in sixth grade and beyond. The addition of study skills to a class schedule is dependent on students meeting specific qualifications. Parents or guardians will be notified if their child is eligible

This class meets every other day for one semester or all year on as need basis.

8th grade Required Exploratory

8 Physical Education

Students engage in a vigorous program which meets or exceeds the goals set by the Michigan Department of Education. Special attention is given to fundamental motor skills, socialization, sportsmanship and cooperation. Activities include: touch football, soccer, speedball, field hockey, basketball, volleyball, bowling, badminton, softball, recreational games, floor hockey, lacrosse, strength/endurance/flexibility activities, and physical fitness testing. During the course of the year, students will receive lessons in Reproductive Health Education.

This class meets every other day all year

8th grade Exploratory

8 Band

In 8th grade band, students advance to a very high level of playing while continuing to prepare for high school. Students perform in three to five concerts during the year. Due to the nature of a performing ensemble and the importance of each individual, attendance at all concerts and festivals is required. Students will like this class if they enjoy cooperative group performance, playing an instrument, learning music and performing in public as part of a group. Home practice is an expectation of this class.

This class meets every day all year.

8 Choir

This class is for those who wish to develop singing skills, skills in reading music, and work as part of an ensemble. The level of music continues to advance in preparation for high school. Students perform in three to five concerts during the year. Due to the nature of a performing ensemble and the importance of each individual, attendance at all concerts and festivals is required. Students will like this class if they enjoy cooperative group performance, singing, learning music and performing in public as part of a group.

This class meets every other day all year.

8 Orchestra

In 8th grade orchestra, students advance to a very high level of playing while continuing to prepare for high school. Students perform in three to five concerts during the year. Due to the nature of a performing ensemble and the importance of each individual, attendance at all concerts and festivals is required. Students will like this class if they enjoy cooperative group performance, playing an instrument, learning music and performing in public as part of a group. Home practice is an expectation of this class.

This class meets every day all year.

8 French Prerequisite – Successful completion of French 7

This class is a continuation of seventh grade French. Students learn about France, its people, culture, and food. Students work with partners and in small groups to create conversations and presentation. Regularly assigned homework and quizzes reinforce what is learned in class. Successful completion of the 8th grade course prepares students to enroll in the second year of high school French.

This class meets every other day all year.

8 Spanish Prerequisite – Successful completion of Spanish 7

This class is a continuation of 7th grade Spanish. Students continue to develop their ability to communicate in Spanish as they learn about the country of Puerto Rico, its people, culture, and food. Students work in partners and in small groups to create conversations and presentations. Regularly assigned homework and quizzes reinforce what is learned in class. Successful completion of the 8th grade course prepares students to enroll in the second year of high school Spanish.

This class meets every other day all year.

8 Art

In this course we will use painting, drawing and sculpture mediums to explore the way in which artists communicate. Students will identify their favorite mediums and have the time to focus a bit more on those. They will build an awareness of contemporary art and how it connects to our lives.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

8 Broadcasting

Students learn to write in the style of composition used in television and radio broadcasts. Students deliver the morning announcements and broadcast a televised daily news update covering East Middle School to the entire school. Students will write, perform, videotape and edit a variety of public service and news features. Students will also learn studio cues, countdowns and production vocabulary.

Students assume the roles of producer, reporter, announcer, editor and camera crew.

This class meets every other day for one semester

8 Chess

In this course the game of chess will be taught starting with how the pieces move. In step-by-step progression chess strategies and tactics will be introduced. An emphasis on fostering higher thinking skills will take place through out the course. This will be a “hands on Learning” activity.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

8 Innovation Lab

Students will begin to explore the “maker movement” and will learn how to design, create, and tinker with various projects and applications. Using the Innovation Lab students will learn how to code, use a 3D printer, build robots, create apps, learn how to program using raspberry pi and Arduino, and build various devices from scratch.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

8 Links Connect

Students learn, through participation in the curriculum, to act as an advocate and mentor for a student with a disability as they master content standards. The interactive nature of instruction enables the connect student to consistently broaden the range of opportunities for the student who has a disability. Connect students are engaged with students who have disabilities in a special education classroom or environments outside of the classroom. Application and training is required to be involved in this class. Training will be from 1:00-2:00 on specified orientation day. Applications may be picked up outside of Mrs. J. Fouch's Room (106).

This class meets every other day for one semester.

8 Advanced Links Connect

This is the next class if you had the opportunity to be part of Links Connect in 7th grade. This class will further your understanding of people with disabilities, as well as give you the chance to use your already learned skills outside of my classroom. If you are selected for Advanced Connect you will have the opportunity to accompany a student from my classroom out to another classroom, such as computers, art, PE, etc. You will help this student engage, access and take part in the classroom environment. You will also help your peers gain a better understanding of how to interact, learn with and use strategies to help everyone be successful.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

8 Pottery & Sculpture

Want to see your creative ideas take form but need the space and materials to make it happen? In this class you will have an opportunity to use the potters wheel, make clay sculptures and glaze finished pieces. In addition to clay, we will be using wire, paper-mache, plaster, metal, cardboard and wood to create three-dimensional works of art. As part of this class, large group sculptures may be completed for our outdoor display on the school campus.

This class meets every other day for one semester.

8 Yearbook

In this year-long elective course, students work as a team to capture life at East Middle School by producing and publishing the yearbook. Students gain experience with writing, editing, photography, and layout design. This class requires students to meet deadlines and photograph events outside of the class period, and students must regularly turn in original, high quality photos as part of their grade. Students will also produce various computer-generated and manipulated videos. **This class requires students to work with all different types of people, so open minds and kind hearts are a must! Deadlines are also a key component to work in this class, so candidates must be organized, responsible, and self-motivated.**

Those students who are interested in taking yearbook are required to fill out an application with parent signature. All applications must be turned in on time to receive full consideration. Applications may be picked up outside of Mrs. D. Smith's Room (001).

This class meets every other day all year.