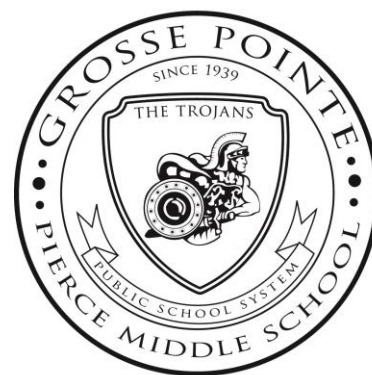
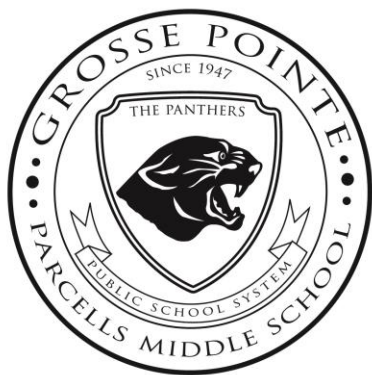
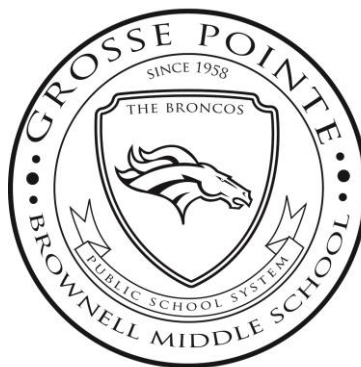


PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2019-2020

GRADES 6 - 7 - 8



THE GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

MIDDLE SCHOOL

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2019-2020

Department of Instruction
Maureen Bur, Director of Secondary Instruction
The Grosse Pointe Public School System
Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230

VISION STATEMENT

One GP – where everyone learns, every day

MISSION STATEMENT

Promote Innovation -> Maximize Potential -> Embrace Community

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES

This program of studies has been prepared to help middle school students and parents plan the student’s program according to his or her particular educational needs and interests. Continuing the strong emphasis on improving basic skills begun in the elementary schools, the middle school program of studies is organized developmentally from grades 6 through 8. The intent of the program is to provide a gradual transition into the high school program of studies and the high school enrollment process.

A hallmark of the middle school experience is program flexibility. In order to accommodate the unique needs of students, differentiation of instruction is emphasized. The middle school principal, after consultation with the student's parents and appropriate staff, has the authority to approve modifications to the middle school program of studies for an individual student. Some electives in grades 7 and 8 may be taken more than once with the permission of the instructor.

21st Century Literacy Skills are embedded within middle school courses. Students refine and develop skillsets to successfully present, collaborate, create, think critically and solve problems using modern technologies as they prepare to be college and career ready.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Vision Statement and Mission Statement.....	2
Non-Discrimination Policy.....	4
High School Credit Earned in Middle School.....	4
Dual Enrollment.....	4
Board of Education and Administration.....	5
Library Media/Research Skills.....	6
Summer School.....	7
Program of Studies – Grade 6.....	9
Program of Studies – Grade 7.....	10
Program of Studies – Grade 8.....	11

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Academic Support.....	13
Art.....	14
Computer Education.....	14
English.....	15
Family and Consumers Science	19
Industrial Technology Education	21
Mathematics.....	22
Performing Arts	25
Physical Education	27
Science.....	28
Social Studies.....	30
World Languages.....	32
Special Education Services.....	35

Non-Discrimination Policy

The Grosse Pointe Public Schools System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Director of Student Services
20090 Morningside
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
Phone: 313-432-3851
Email: hayess@gpschools.org

If the individual filing the grievance alleges that the Section 504/ADA coordinator has engaged in discrimination, then the individual filing the grievance must provide the documentation to the Deputy Superintendent for Educational Services at:

Deputy Superintendent for Educational Services
389 St. Clair
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
(313) 432-3016

Determination of High School Credit Earned by Middle School Students

Grosse Pointe-approved high school courses successfully completed by a middle school student will appear on the student's high school transcript. Those middle school students taking high school courses have the option to have their grade reflected on their high school transcript and computed in their cumulative high school GPA or to have the credit reflected on their high school transcript with no grade reflected. Such election may be made at any time before entry into high school. If parents do not indicate a preference to have the grade reflected on the high school transcript, only credit without the grade will be reflected. High school courses taken during middle school will be reflected in the student's middle school report card.

Dual Enrollment

Although middle school students are not eligible for formal dual enrollment, it may be useful for students and parents to know about this provision in planning a student's high school career. Legislation amending the Michigan School Code directs school districts, under certain circumstances, to assist students in paying a portion of the tuition and fees for a credit course at a public or independent non-profit post-secondary institution when the course is taken by a student who is still in high school. If the conditions are met, the school district is required to pay a specific, limited amount toward a student's tuition. Students who wish to take part in dual enrollment must have already taken required exams such as the ACT and received a qualifying score (please see www.michigan.gov/mde for more information). Information that outlines GPPSS dual enrollment guidelines is available from high school counselors.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Brian Summerfield	President
Margaret Weertz	Vice President
Judy Gafa	Treasurer
Cindy Pangborn	Secretary
Dr. Christopher Lee	Trustee
Kathleen Abke	Trustee
Chris Profeta	Trustee

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Gary Niehaus	Superintendent	432-3010
Ms. Lisa Abbey	Deputy Superintendent – Business Operations	432-3080
Dr. M. Jon Dean	Deputy Superintendent – Educational Services and Labor Relations	432-3020
Mr. Keith Howell	Director of Elementary Instruction	432-3044
Ms. Maureen Bur	Director of Secondary Instruction	432-3042
Ms. Stefanie Hayes	Director – Student Services	432-3851

MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

BROWNELL MIDDLE SCHOOL	PARCELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL	PIERCE MIDDLE SCHOOL
260 Chalfonte Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 Phone: 432-3900	20600 Mack Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236 Phone: 432-4600	15430 Kercheval Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230 Phone: 432-4700
Mr. Rodger Hunwick, Principal Ms. Holli McNally, Asst. Principal	Mr. Daniel Hartley, Principal Ms. Debbie Redlin, Asst. Principal	Ms. Sara Dirkse, Principal Ms. Judy Gaffrey, Asst. Principal

MIDDLE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

ART	Mike Lamb Tom Szmrecsanyi	North End South End	
COUNSELING	Angie Niforos	North End/South End	
ENGLISH	Tamera Duffield	Brownell	
	Nan Sabella	Parcells	
	Susan Quinn	Pierce	
LIBRARY	Amanda Pata	North End/South End	
FAMILY AND CONSUMERS SCIENCE	Andrea Gruenwald	North End	
	Patti O'Hare	South End	
MATHEMATICS	Margaret Bubeck	Brownell	
	Doris Krier	Parcells	
	Jennifer Schaupeter	Pierce	
PERFORMING ARTS	Carolyn Gross	North End	
	James Gross	South End	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Gina Francis	North End/South End	
SCIENCE	Mark Sonnenberg	Brownell	
	Christine Geerer	Parcells	
	Bill Thompson	Pierce	
SOCIAL STUDIES	Peter Dettlinger	Brownell	
	Alexis Lecznar	Parcells	
	Jeannie Brousseau	Pierce	
BUSINESS/INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY	Sean McCarroll	North End/South End	
WORLD LANGUAGES	Michael Spears	North End	
	Cindy Morefield-Pinder/Scott Peltier	South End	
COUNSELORS:	BROWNELL	PARCELLS	PIERCE
	Ms. Corinne Kadjan 432-3914	Ms. Carla Palffy 432-4620	Ms. Andrea Bolton 432-4716
	Dr. Angie Niforos 432-3915	Ms. Kimberly Radant 432-4618	Ms. Corinne Kadjan 432-3914

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT VISION IMPAIRED HEARING IMPAIRED	Kelly Morawski	K-12
BARNES EARLY CHILDHOOD SPEECH AND LANGUAGE IMPAIRED OT	Donna VanJaarsveld	K-12
LEARNING RESOURCE PROGRAM – ELEMENTARY	Lynne Roby	K-5
LEARNING RESOURCE PROGRAM – SECONDARY	Rebecca Murawski Amy Johnson	North End (9-12) South End (9-12)
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS SOCIAL WORKERS	Lisa Khoury	K-12

LIBRARY MEDIA/RESEARCH SKILLS

Middle school library media curriculum is integrated primarily into sixth grade Informational and Honors Informational ELA, but enhanced in later grades during content-area research projects and lessons. Students will build skills in K-12 departmental target areas: love of reading, information literacy, digital citizenship, and media technology. In these efforts, they will individually and collaboratively learn how to use digital technologies and learning management systems to improve their acquisition, evaluation, and integration of information into research (both in writing and digital presentations). Students will exit middle school with skills in literature selection and evaluation, genres, information access, research planning, search strategies, source evaluation, copyright/fair use, online etiquette, collaborative tools, and creative tools.

Although the majority of courses offered in the Middle School Program of Studies will take place exactly as described, parents and students should be aware that modifications may have to be made due to circumstances of enrollment, teacher availability, changes in state or local graduation requirements or modifications in scheduling. In addition, from time to time, changes are made in policies and requirements after approval of the Program of Studies. Key changes are publicized to students and parents via newsletters, the district website, news releases, and direct mail.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Numerous summer learning opportunities are offered to middle school students for academic study, arts enrichment, extra skills coaching, and technology. Among the courses usually offered in the district during the summer are: “stepping up” classes in Mathematics, English, and Study Skills as well as Art, Writing, Drama, Music, Computer Application, and TV Production.

A summer school brochure is provided on the district web site (www.gpschools.org.) Brochures are also available in school offices and counseling centers. Registration opens in late spring.

Grade 8 students entering high school have the opportunity to take selected high school classes for credit during the summer before 9th grade.

SUMMER SCHOOL DATES

Summer Learning Program will take place tentatively from:

July 8, 2019 – August 2, 2019

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

**GRADES
6 - 7 - 8**

GRADE SIX

REQUIRED COURSES

Students must enroll in 6 units including these courses:

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>UNITS*</u>
English Language Arts: Narrative 6 or Honors Narrative 6	1
English Language Arts: Informational 6 or Honors Informational 6	1/2 (every other day)
Mathematics 6 or Honors Math 6	1
Social Studies 6	1
Science 6	1

Flexible grouping patterns and/or accelerated/honors sections and multiple learning options provide enrichment, challenge, and acceleration.

Required for students who have not yet attained grade level expectations:

Reading Essentials or	Every day 2-hour block
Reading Foundations	1/2 (every other day)
Math Foundations	1/2 (every other day)

ELECTIVE COURSES

Students enroll in a total of 1 1/2 elective units – unless a Foundation or Essentials course is required.

<u>Full Year Courses</u> (every other day)	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>Full Year Courses</u> (every day)	<u>UNITS</u>
Choir – Grade 6	1/2	6th Grade AVID	1
French Introduction - Grade 6	1/2		
Orchestra 6	1/2		
		<u>Semester Courses</u> (every other day)	<u>UNITS</u>
Percussion – Grade 6	1/2	Academic Assistance	1/4
Band – Grade 6	1/2	6 th Grade Art	1/4
Spanish Introduction - Grade 6	1/2	6 th Grade Industrial Technology	1/4
		6 th Grade Lifeskills	1/4
		6 th Grade Physical Education	1/4
		6 th Grade Explorations in Drama	1/4
		6 th Grade Innovation and Design	1/4

*** A Unit is an everyday, full year course**

GRADE SEVEN

REQUIRED COURSES

Students must enroll in 6 units including these courses:

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>UNITS *</u>
English 7 or Honors English 7	1
Mathematics 7 or Honors Math 7	1
Science 7 or Honors Science 7	1
Social Studies 7 or Honors Social Studies 7	1

Flexible grouping patterns and/or accelerated/honors sections and multiple learning options, provide enrichment, challenge, and acceleration.

Required for students who have not yet attained grade level expectations:

Reading Foundations	1
Math Foundations	1

ELECTIVE COURSES

Students enroll in a total of 2 elective units.

<u>Full Year Courses</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>Semester Courses</u>	<u>UNITS</u>
7 th Grade AVID	1	Academic Assistance Program	1/2
Cadet Band – Grade 7**	1	Advanced Foods & Nutrition**	1/2
French I**	1	Advanced Lifeskills**	1/2
Orchestra 7/8**	1	Exploring Art I	1/2
Spanish I**	1	Exploring Art II**	1/2
		Coding I	1/2
		Coding II**	1/2
		Creative Drama I	1/2
		Creative Drama II**	1/2
		Foods And Nutrition	1/2
		French Enrichment**	1/2
		French Introduction	1/2
<u>Full Year or Semester Courses</u>		Graphic Design with STEAM I	1/2
Broadcast Journalism	1/2 or 1	Graphic Design with STEAM II**	1/2
Choir – Grade 7	1/2 or 1	Innovation & Design I	1/2
Journalism	1/2 or 1	Innovation & Design II**	1/2
Physical Education – Grade 7	1/2 or 1	Introduction to CAD	1/2
		Introduction to Wood/Metal Tech	1/2
		Lifeskills	1/2
		Metal Technology**	1/2
		Spanish Enrichment**	1/2
		Spanish Introduction	1/2
		Wood Technology**	1/2

***1 Unit = 1 year course**

**** Prerequisites apply**

GRADE EIGHT

REQUIRED COURSES

Students must enroll in 6 units including these courses:

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>UNITS *</u>
English 8 or Honors English 8	1
Mathematics 8 or Honors Algebra I Mathematics 8	1
Science 8 or Honors Science 8	1
Social Studies 8 or Honors Social Studies 8	1

Flexible grouping patterns and/or accelerated/honors sections and multiple learning options, provide enrichment, challenge, and acceleration.

Required for students who have not yet attained grade level expectations:

Reading Foundations	1
Math Foundations	1

ELECTIVE COURSES

Students enroll in a total of 2 elective units.

<u>Full Year Courses</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>Semester Courses</u>	<u>UNITS</u>
8 th Grade AVID	1	Academic Assistance Program	1/2
Choir – Grade 8	1	Advanced Foods & Nutrition**	1/2
Concert Band**	1	Advanced Lifeskills**	1/2
French I**	1	Exploring Art I	1/2
French II**	1	Exploring Art II, III, IV**	1/2
Orchestra 7/8**	1	Coding I	1/2
Spanish I**	1	Coding II, III, IV**	1/2
Spanish II**	1	Creative Drama I	1/2
		Creative Drama II**	1/2
		Foods And Nutrition	1/2
		French Enrichment**	1/2
		French Introduction	1/2
<u>Full Year or Semester Courses</u>		Graphic Design with STEAM I	1/2
Broadcast Journalism	1/2 or 1	Graphic Design with STEAM II, III, IV**	1/2
Physical Education – Grade 8	1/2 or 1	Innovation & Design I	1/2
		Innovation & Design II, III, IV**	1/2
		Introduction to CAD	1/2
		Introduction to Wood/Metal Tech	1/2
Journalism	1/2 or 1	Lifeskills	1/2
		Metal Technology**	1/2
		Spanish Enrichment**	1/2
		Spanish Introduction	1/2
		Wood Technology**	1/2

***1 Unit = 1 year course**

**** Prerequisites apply**

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 6-7-8

1/2 UNIT

Assigned semester elective by counselor

Academic Assistance is an assigned semester course for struggling learners. It is recommended for students experiencing difficulties with organizational skills, academic challenges, and study skills. Students may be recommended for this program by counselors, reading specialists, teachers, parents, or administrators. This course may be taken more than once.

6th grade AVID

1 UNIT

Approved by counselor

This course is designed for 6th grade students who aim to succeed in a college prep/honors/AP curriculum in high school. The sixth grade AVID Elective course is an introduction to the AVID philosophy. Students will develop awareness of the values accompanying academic goals and success. The course will focus on building self-confidence and communication skills in working with peers and adults. Students will be exposed to reading strategies that will assist in vocabulary building and understanding a variety of texts, and will also focus on prewriting techniques, summary writing and structural components of note-taking. The students will increase college and career awareness through guest speaker presentations, field trip opportunities and research. Reading and materials will be drawn from *AVID Weekly*, *AVID College* and *Careers and AVID Elective Essentials for middle school*.

7th grade AVID

1 UNIT

Approved by counselor

This course is designed for 7th grade students who aim to succeed in a college prep/honors/AP curriculum in high school. The seventh grade AVID Elective course builds upon the components of the AVID philosophy. Students will refine short- and long-term goals, and as a result, begin to understand the value in taking charge of their actions. Students will start working on intrapersonal and interpersonal skills, as well as formal and informal speech. Students will complete self-evaluations and peer evaluations, related to reading, writing, organization, and speaking. In broadening their writing practice, students will begin considering audience, purpose and form in their writing. Students will take an active role in their learning, understanding the roles of all members in assignments and collaborative lessons. They will expand their knowledge bases of note-taking, in relation to studying and test preparation. Students will be exposed to different field trips, guest speakers and research, to increase their knowledge of college and career options. Reading and materials will be drawn from *AVID Weekly*, *Implementing and Managing the AVID Program for Middle Level Middle Level*, and *Writing with Integrated Reading and Oral Language*

8th grade AVID

1 UNIT

Approved by counselor

This course is designed for 8th grade students who aim to succeed in a college prep/honors/AP curriculum in high school. The eighth grade AVID Elective course is the year of preparation for high school. The students will regularly exhibit and utilize the skills and strategies learned in the sixth and seventh grade AVID courses. Students will refine previous goals, focusing on their transition to high school as part of a college preparatory path. Their writing will focus on completing all steps of the writing process and varying style, word choice, vocabulary, structure and voice. Major writing assignments include persuasive, expository, descriptive and timed writing. Students will transition from active learners to leaders. Other areas of focus include increasing the use of technology and building upon their test preparation and test-taking knowledge. They will broaden their experiences with analyzing text and utilizing appropriate reading strategies in various settings. Students will become more involved in the presentations of guest speakers and field trips, particularly as they relate to preparation and prior knowledge. Students will also participate in college preparatory testing and build connections with the high school they will attend. Reading and materials will be drawn from *AVID Weekly*, *AVID Test Prep* and *AVID College and Careers*.

ART

6th GRADE ART

1/4 UNIT - Semester elective

Sixth grade students will utilize skills and concepts they experienced at the elementary level and apply them to middle school level art problems. The elements of design, basic art principles, problem solving, different media (drawing, painting, printmaking, clay, and sculpture) and a variety of techniques will be emphasized through a wide range of assignments. The art curriculum is designed to enhance self-esteem, provide the opportunity for students to discover their potential in new areas, and provide emotional and creative outlets. Students will also experience art history and culture as well as gain awareness of how art is integrated into the world around us. Students will perform, present, respond, connect, create, and analyze in context adhering to current state and national standards.

EXPLORING ART (LEVELS I, II, III, IV)

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and/or grade 8

Seventh and eighth grade students will explore 2D and 3D media (drawing, painting, printmaking, fibers, clay, sculpture, mixed media and metals) for their assignments as they further develop their artistic skills. Students will relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding, refine and complete an artistic work. Students will also create a portfolio or website with their artwork for presentation. Students will perform, present, respond, connect, create, and analyze in context adhering to current state and national standards. This course can be taken multiple times, with new lessons each advancing semester.

EXPLORING ART II

Prerequisite: EXPLORING ART I

EXPLORING ART III

Prerequisite: EXPLORING ART II

EXPLORING ART IV

Prerequisite: EXPLORING ART III

GRAPHIC DESIGN WITH STEAM (LEVELS I, II, III, IV) (Science Technology Engineering Art and Math)

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and/or grade 8

This course is designed for seventh and eighth grade students interested in science, technology, engineering, art and math. Students will utilize the Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign), cameras, printers and a 3D printer for assignments. Each project will reflect a professional observation of STEAM based careers. Students will also create a portfolio or website with their artwork for presentation. Students will perform, present, respond, connect, create, and analyze in context adhering to current state and national standards. This course can be taken multiple times, with new lessons each advancing semester.

GRAPHIC DESIGN WITH STEAM II

Prerequisite: GRAPHIC DESIGN WITH STEAM I

GRAPHIC DESIGN WITH STEAM III

Prerequisite: GRAPHIC DESIGN WITH STEAM II

GRAPHIC DESIGN WITH STEAM IV

Prerequisite: GRAPHIC DESIGN WITH STEAM III

COMPUTER EDUCATION

6TH GRADE INNOVATION & DESIGN

1/4 UNIT

This course is open to any 6th grader interested in seeing their creative ideas come to life. This course teaches 6th grade students the basics of innovation using end user design and 21st Century technologies. Students in this course will work in teams to study end users, identify opportunities to solve problems, and create prototypes using technology that help address those problems. They will create prototypes, collect field research from their target end users and then improve their product. Once they have solidified their idea, they will work with a variety of technologies to pitch and market their ideas, sell their products, and track their overall success. This program will follow the newly issued MITECS (Michigan Integrated Technology Competencies for Students). The program will also incorporate the Middle School Engineering Standards from the NGSS.

COMPUTER EDUCATION (continued)

INNOVATION & DESIGN (LEVELS I, II, III, IV)

1/2 UNIT

GRADE 7/8

These courses teach students in the 7th and 8th grades how to innovate and solve real-world problems using technology. Students in this course will work in teams to study end users, identify opportunities to solve problems, and create prototypes using technology that help address those problems. Students will work with 3D printers, graphic and video editing software, spreadsheets, presentation software, and more to develop, test, refine, and pitch their prototypes to end users. The focus of their project will broaden as they progress through the levels, and will eventually focus on community and/or global challenges. This program will follow the newly issued MITECS (Michigan Integrated Technology Competencies for Students). The program will also incorporate the Middle School Engineering Standards from the NGSS.

INNOVATION & DESIGN II

Prerequisite: INNOVATION & DESIGN I

INNOVATION & DESIGN III

Prerequisite: INNOVATION & DESIGN II

INNOVATION & DESIGN IV

Prerequisite: INNOVATION & DESIGN III

CODING (LEVELS I, II, III, IV)

1/2 UNIT

GRADE 7/8

This course teaches students to use the basic building blocks programming languages, e.g. Python, HTML5 and JavaScript. It gives students a solid foundation in programming techniques that they can use to develop programs and problem solve coding issues. Students apply their knowledge by creating simulations, games, and building/programming robotic devices. This course can be repeated for more in-depth experiences reflecting the students' interests and increasing skill levels.

CODING II

Prerequisite: CODING I

CODING III

Prerequisite: CODING II

CODING IV

Prerequisite: CODING III

ENGLISH

READING FOUNDATIONS 6,7, 8

offering differs by building

1/2 UNIT

Reading Foundations is designed to provide additional class time support of students who need extra help meeting the curriculum goals of their grade-level English course and may be taken in addition to or in replacement of English Foundations course content is a combination of basic skills instruction and support for the student's ELA: Reading, ELA: Writing or English class requirements, as recommended by the administrator. Taught in a small group setting, English Foundations individualizes instruction to meet student needs. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in middle school, high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade.

READING ESSENTIALS – GRADE 6

offering differs by building

1/2 to 1 1/2 UNITS

Reading Essentials is a course designed for the struggling readers, that is, one whose reading skills and strategies are well below grade level. This course takes the place of Grade 6 English Language Arts: Reading (ELA: Reading) and/or Grade 6 English Language Arts: Writing (ELA: Writing) and can be taken for a semester or a whole year depending on the needs of the student. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in middle school, high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade. The course is taught by a member of the English Department or the building reading specialist. Consideration for placement is based on the following:

- Grade 5 or 6 teacher/language arts specialist recommendation
- Grade 5 standardized test scores
- Holistic data collection conducted by reading specialist

ENGLISH (continued)

NARRATIVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS – GRADE 6

1 UNIT – Requirement

This course is designed for sixth grade students in grade level English. The sixth grade Narrative course encompasses four thematic units focused on the grade level theme, Me and Myself. Students will experience a variety of text determined by their interest, ability, and personal goals, such as Peak, The Twenty-One Balloons and Legends of King Arthur, as well as one core experience, A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. Reading instruction will focus on an initial understanding of literary concepts and progress toward application of knowledge. In this course, students will also write narrative pieces to complement the instruction of narrative techniques. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are integrated throughout the course. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in middle school, high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade. The textbook used is HOLT: Elements of Literature, Introductory Course.

INFORMATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS – GRADE 6

1/2 UNIT – Requirement

This course is designed for sixth grade students in grade level English. The sixth grade Informational every-other-day course encompasses three units of study focused on informational, explanatory, and argumentative writing as well as research techniques. Reading of informational texts supplement each unit and focus on core skills, such as informational text structures. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are integrated throughout the course. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in middle school, high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade. The textbook used is HOLT: Elements of Literature, Introductory Course.

ENGLISH-GRADE 7

1 UNIT – Requirement

This course is designed for seventh grade students in grade level English. The seventh grade course encompasses five thematic units focused on the grade level theme, My Family and My Community. Students will experience a variety of texts determined by their interest, ability, and personal goals, such as Hoot, Homecoming, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry Nothing but the Truth, Warriors Don't Cry, The Outsiders, as well as one core experience, The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi. Reading instruction will focus on application of literary concepts and progress toward a synthesis of knowledge. In this course, students will also write narrative, explanatory or informational, or argumentative pieces. Students will engage in the study of research techniques and apply their learning toward research or multimedia projects. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are integrated throughout the course. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in middle school, high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade. The textbook used is HOLT: Elements of Literature, First Course

ENGLISH GRADE 8

1 UNIT – Requirement

This course is designed for eighth grade students in grade level English. The eighth grade course encompasses five thematic units focused on the grade level theme, Myself and My World. Students will experience a variety of texts determined by their interest, ability, and personal goals, such as Chains, Flowers for Algernon, The Pigman, Tuesdays with Morrie, Johnny Tremain, Night, as well as one core experience, Holocaust Literature. Reading instruction will focus on synthesis of literary concepts as well as critical thinking and reasoning. In this course, students will also write narrative, explanatory or informational, or argumentative pieces. Students will engage in the study of research techniques and apply their learning toward research or multimedia projects. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are integrated throughout the course. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade. The textbook used is HOLT: Elements of Literature, Second Course.

ENGLISH (continued)

Middle School Recommendations for Enrollment in English Language Arts Honors Courses

***Data needs to be revisited after each year to collect longitudinal data and adjust guidelines if needed.**

6th Grade

Honors English Language Arts

- Ability to work at (or capable of working at) approximately one grade level ahead
- Level 4 on Reading MSTEP*
- A 4th and 5th grade composite score of 10 or higher on the Grosse Pointe Writing Test
- NWEA scores of 220 or higher in Reading

7th Grade

Honors English Language Arts (For students not enrolled in honors ELA in the prior school year)

- Ability to work at (or capable of working at) approximately one grade level ahead
- Level 4 on Reading MSTEP*
- A 5th and 6th grade composite score of 11 or higher on the Grosse Pointe Writing Test
- NWEA Score of 228 or higher in reading
- Teacher Recommendation

8th Grade

Honors English Language Arts (For students not enrolled in honors ELA in the prior school year)

- Ability to work at (or capable of working at) approximately one grade level ahead
- Level 4 Reading MSTEP* - NWEA RIT score of 231 or higher in Reading
- A 6th and 7th grade composite score of 11 or higher on the Grosse Pointe Writing Test
- Teacher recommendation

- Please Note – Students who are placed in honors courses are expected to maintain at least a B- or are subject to review for continued and future placements.

*= previously MEAP; until there is longitudinal data, this alone will not disqualify placement

MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS ENGLISH COURSES

These courses are designed for the talented and serious academic student who is willing to rise to the challenge of intense, independent and in-depth work. Students will be expected to achieve and maintain a B- or higher.

HONORS NARRATIVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS – GRADE 6 1 UNIT

This course is designed for students in sixth grade working above grade level in English. The sixth grade Honors Narrative course encompasses four thematic units focused on the grade level theme, Me and Myself. Students will experience a variety of text determined by their interest, ability, and personal goals, such as Peak, The Twenty-One Balloons and Legends of King Arthur, as well as one core experience, A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. Reading instruction will focus on an initial understanding of literary concepts and progress toward application of knowledge. In this course, students will also write narrative pieces to complement the instruction of narrative techniques. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are integrated throughout the course. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in middle school, high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade. The textbook used is HOLT: Elements of Literature, Introductory Course.

ENGLISH (continued)

HONORS INFORMATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS– GRADE 6 1/2 UNIT

This course is designed for students in sixth grade working above grade level in English. The sixth grade Honors Informational every-other-day course encompasses three units of study focused on informational, explanatory, and argumentative writing as well as research techniques. Reading of informational texts supplement each unit and focus on core skills, such as informational text structures. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are integrated throughout the course. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in middle school, high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade. The textbook used is HOLT: Elements of Literature, Introductory Course.

HONORS ENGLISH – GRADE 7

1 UNIT

This course is designed for students in seventh grade working above grade level in English. The seventh grade course encompasses five thematic units focused on the grade level theme, My Family and My Community. Students will experience a variety of texts determined by their interest, ability, and personal goals, such as Hoot, Homecoming, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry Nothing but the Truth, Warriors Don't Cry, The Outsiders, as well as one core experience, The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi. Reading instruction will focus on application of literary concepts and progress toward a synthesis of knowledge. In this course, students will also write narrative, explanatory or informational, or argumentative pieces. Students will engage in the study of research techniques and apply their learning toward research or multimedia projects. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are integrated throughout the course. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in middle school, high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade. The textbook used is HOLT: Elements of Literature, First Course.

HONORS ENGLISH – GRADE 8

1 UNIT

This course is designed for students in eighth grade working above grade level in English. The eighth grade course encompasses five thematic units focused on the grade level theme, Myself and My World. Students will experience a variety of texts determined by their interest, ability, and personal goals, such as Chains, Flowers for Algernon, The Pigman, Tuesdays with Morrie, Johnny Tremain, Night, as well as one core experience, Holocaust Literature. Reading instruction will focus on synthesis of literary concepts as well as critical thinking and reasoning. In this course, students will also write narrative, explanatory or informational, or argumentative pieces. Students will engage in the study of research techniques and apply their learning toward research or multimedia projects. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are integrated throughout the course. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, which are designed to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond, by the time they graduate from 8th grade. The textbook used is HOLT: Elements of Literature, Second Course.

ENGLISH (continued)

JOURNALISM

JOURNALISM

1/2 UNIT or 1 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and/or 8

May be taken more than once with teacher approval

Journalism is for students who want to improve their communication skills, both written and oral. Students will also conduct research from a variety of sources and use computer applications in their assignments.

BROADCAST JOURNALISM

1/2 UNIT or 1 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and grade 8

May be taken more than once with teacher approval

Broadcast Journalism is designed for the middle school student who may or may not be interested in continuing to study TV Production in high school and beyond. Students will participate in engaging 21st Century lessons as they work in multi age collaborative teams to create student led projects in Broadcast Journalism for a variety of presentations: live/pre-taped daily announcements, monthly TV shows for the school audience, interview segments and intros to supplement the daily broadcast. Students will work together to create a concept for the project, storyboard, script and be in charge of the pre-production logistics, as well as film the segments, act on camera and edit their work.

Students will also critically view and critique their own work, peers work and work of professionals. The critiques are shared orally and in written journal format. In addition to journal writing, students are given other close reading assignments and asked to respond in the 11 sentence paragraph format. There is an element of public speaking in the class in all forms of video by speaking/acting on camera as well as presenting their ideas to their peers in small and large group settings. There are deadlines which must be met for projects to be aired during video productions. The METS-S standards are followed and lessons are designed to prepare all students for success in college, career and life.

Instructional support resources include a variety of related trade books, articles, teacher-created Smart Board activities, and video editing software applications.

FAMILY AND CONSUMERS SCIENCE

6th GRADE LIFESKILLS

1/4 UNIT – Semester elective

Exploratory Lifeskills is designed as an introductory course for any sixth grader who has an interest in gaining independence and learning about the various aspects of self sufficiency. Students will gain experiences in self care, hand and machine sewing, and babysitting. Students will have an opportunity to prepare a variety of foods using various cooking methods. Students will learn to read recipes, use measuring equipment, and kitchen appliances. The revised curriculum places emphasis on the National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS) for FCS Education, The Michigan Standards and Benchmarks for FCS Education, the National CTE Standards, and the Michigan Career Readiness Standards, and includes 21st Century learning for grades 6-12.

FAMILY AND CONSUMERS SCIENCE (continued)

LIFESKILLS

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and/or grade 8

Life Skills for 7th and 8th grade is designed for any student who has an interest in becoming an independent, productive citizen. Multiple areas of study are incorporated including personal growth, relationships, textile design, interior design, personal finance and money management, career exploration, and consumerism. The students will engage with the community and be of service to them. An emphasis is placed on creativity, collaboration, and problem solving. Skills learned will allow students to lead a healthy, empowered, and successful adult life. The revised curriculum places emphasis on the National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS) for FCS Education, The Michigan Standards and Benchmarks for FCS Education, the National CTE Standards, and the Michigan Career Readiness Standards, and includes 21st Century learning for grades 6-12.

FOODS AND NUTRITION

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and/or grade 8

This course is intended for students who are interested in the study of nutrition and food preparation. Students will learn to select and prepare a variety of foods, as recommended by the USDA's Choose My Plate. Students will demonstrate consumer skills and discover the effect of making healthy choices. Other focus areas include multicultural cuisines and the use of technology. Guest speakers are often brought in to expose students in careers in culinary arts. The revised curriculum places emphasis on the National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS) for FCS Education, The Michigan Standards and Benchmarks for FCS Education, the National CTE Standards, and the Michigan Career Readiness Standards, and includes 21st Century learning for grades 6-12.

ADVANCED LIFE SKILLS

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and/or grade 8

Prerequisite: Lifeskills

This course is designed for students who would like to take Life Skills - Grade 7/8 a second time. In this advanced level course, the students will explore personal growth, relationships, textile design, interior design, personal finance, money management, consumerism, career exploration. Students will self-select areas of interest and engage at a deeper level. The students will engage with the community and its members and be of service to them. An emphasis is placed on leadership and teamwork skills in this course. The revised curriculum places emphasis on the National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS) for FCS Education, The Michigan Standards and Benchmarks for FCS Education, the National CTE Standards, and the Michigan Career Readiness Standards, and includes 21st Century learning for grades 6-12.

ADVANCED FOODS AND NUTRITION

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and/or grade 8

Prerequisite: Foods and Nutrition

This course is designed for students who would like to take Foods and Nutrition - Grade 7/8 a second time. An emphasis is placed on nutrition and wellness. Students will self-select areas of interest related to nutrition, wellness, health, cooking fundamentals, food preparation and culinary skills and engage at a deeper level. Students will explore various foods and prepare them as guided by the USDA'S Choose My Plate program. The students will engage with the community and its members and be of service to them. An emphasis is placed on leadership and teamwork skills in this course. The revised curriculum places emphasis on the National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS) for FCS Education, The Michigan Standards and Benchmarks for FCS Education, the National CTE Standards, and the Michigan Career Readiness Standards, and includes 21st Century learning for grades 6-12.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

6th GRADE INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

1/4 UNIT – Semester elective

Industrial Technology helps beginning students understand the meaning of technology and its role in the field of engineering and industrial design. Students will learn communication skills through the introduction of computer drafting, measurement, sketching, and will use CADKEY - computer-aided design software. Transportation technology will be taught through building and testing of various vehicles. Depending on the individual buildings' availability to lab space, manufacturing (through the use of hand and power tools) of a wood product may be taught. Students will also use computers in interactive problem solving experiences with software such as West Point Bridge Designer to design and test a truss bridge, and to collect data and graph results from other projects. Problem-solving activities may include building towers from simple materials to get a taste of construction and its economics, producing flying air-powered crafts to study the design process and develop a prototype. Students also research a technology of their choosing looking at it both past and present and create a presentation to predict the future of that technology.

INTRODUCTION TO WOODS AND METAL TECHNOLOGY

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and/or grade 8

Prerequisite for Wood Technology or Teacher recommendation

Prerequisite for Metal Technology or Teacher recommendation

This course is for students who are interested in experiencing manufacturing technology in an active, hands-on lab setting. Safe working habits, a basic knowledge of machine operations, and the use of sequential processes are emphasized. Problem solving and teamwork are stressed as students design and construct useful products to meet the goals of the course. Technology learning activities are employed in the manufacturing and construction areas.

WOOD TECHNOLOGY

1/2 UNIT – Elective in Grade 7 and/or grade 8

Prerequisite: Introduction to Woods & Metal Technology

or Teacher recommendation

May be taken more than once

Students continue to develop technical skills in design, planning, and production of products. The practical application of technical information coupled with advanced hands-on skills results in a wide range of laboratory experiences with soft materials.

METAL TECHNOLOGY

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and/or grade 8

Prerequisite: Introduction to Woods & Metal Technology

or Teacher recommendation

May be taken more than once

Students enrolling in this course will continue to develop problem-solving techniques as related to the metal processing industry. Welding, hammer-forming, brazing, designing, and shaping skills will be developed through the technology activities designed for the course.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 or grade 8

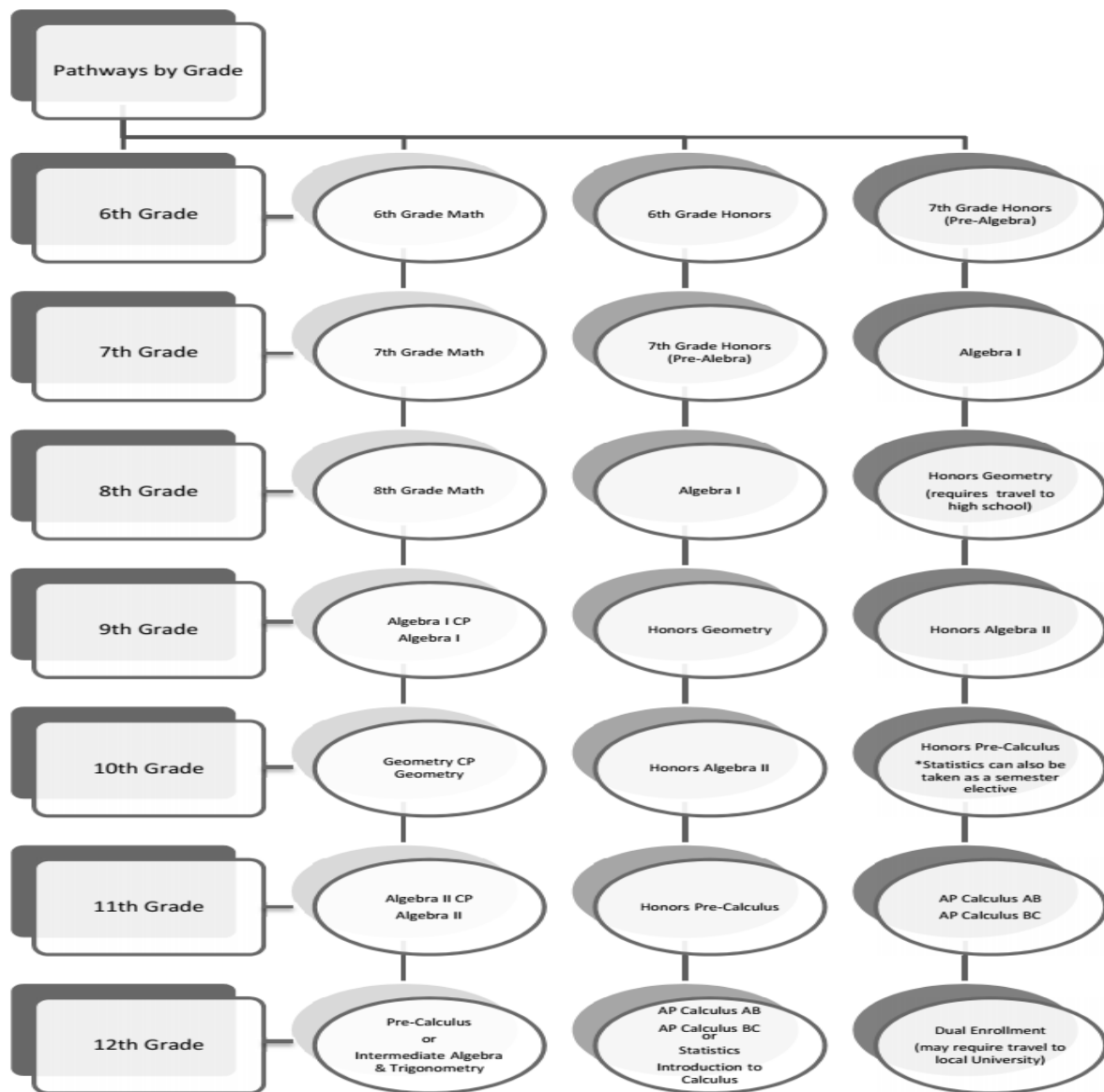
Computer-aided drafting (CAD), is a semester course that builds on the short introduction to CADKEY students received in grade six. Students will learn basic drafting/drawing techniques and principals using CADKEY 3D modeling software. This is the same software used at the high school level. The course will also include architectural drawing using 3D Home Architect, model house building, and CAD related career exploration. Students completing this course will have a major advantage when they enter the high school level CAD Engineering classes.

MATHEMATICS

The three-year Middle School mathematics curriculum includes the objectives of the Michigan Department of Education and the standards of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. The program emphasizes mastery of skills basic to these areas of study: computation, measurement, mathematical reasoning, problem solving, number system, estimation, geometry, algebra, statistics, and probability.



Secondary Math Pathways



Occasionally horizontal movement may be recommended for individual students. The above identified pathway is intended to be the typical and expected sequence for students. At the high school if students wish to take math courses concurrently or out of sequence, they may do so with the support and permission of the Math Department Chair(s) and their counselor.

MATHEMATICS (Continued)

MATH FOUNDATIONS

1/2 UNIT – 6th Grade
1 UNIT – 7th and 8th Grade

Math Foundations is a support class taken in addition to a student's regular math class. The purpose of the class is to provide additional support for students as they work to meet the grade-level curriculum goals. Course content includes additional instruction on the concepts being taught in class, previews of upcoming lessons, homework assistance, and preparation for quizzes and tests. Taught in a small group setting, Math Foundations individualizes instruction to meet student needs.

6TH GRADE MATH

1 UNIT – Requirement

This course is designed for sixth grade students in grade level math. Sixth grade math emphasizes the number system, ratios and proportions, an introduction to algebra, and geometry. Students will apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers, computing with fractions and decimals. Students will develop ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems. Within the algebra strand, students will use variables, write simple expressions and solve one-variable equations and inequalities. In geometry, students will solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area and volume. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, which are designed to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond, by the end of 8th grade. Current materials used include the textbook Mathematics: Course 1 © 2007 by Holt, as well as various online and print support materials.

7TH GRADE MATH

1 UNIT – Requirement

This course is designed for 7th grade students in grade level math. Seventh grade math emphasizes developing an understanding of applying the number system, expressions and equations, ratios and proportional relationships, geometry and statistics and probability. Students will build on their previous knowledge of fractions, decimals, percents and integers. Students will learn to write and solve single variable equations. Students will develop an understanding of ratios, rates, proportions and direct variation. In geometry, students will solve problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions. Students will work with 2D and 3D shapes to solve problems involving areas, surface area, and volume. Statistics and probability teaches students to draw inferences about populations based on samples. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, which are designed to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond, by the end of 8th grade. Current materials used include the textbook Mathematics: Course 2 © 2007 by Holt, as well as various online and print support materials.

8TH GRADE MATH

1 UNIT – Requirement

This course is designed for 8th grade students in grade level math. The main areas of emphasis for eighth grade math are formulating and reasoning about functions and geometry. In expressions and equations, students formulate and reason with a concentration on linear functions and systems of equations. Functions are studied through various representations: symbolic, graphical, tabular, and verbal. In geometry, students will consolidate their knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes and their properties, and apply that knowledge to solve problems involving perimeter, area, and volume. Students apply transformations to shapes on a coordinate plane to explore similarity and congruence. Figures in 2D space are analyzed using the distance formula, properties of parallel lines, and the Pythagorean Theorem. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, which are designed to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond, by the end of 8th grade. Current materials used include the textbook Pre-Algebra © 2008 by Glencoe, as well as various online and print support materials.

MATHEMATICS (Continued)

Middle School Recommendations for Enrollment in Math Honors Courses

***Data needs to be revisited after each year to collect longitudinal data and adjust guidelines if needed.**

6th Grade

Honors Math

- Ability to work at (or capable of working at) approximately one grade level ahead
- NWEA – minimum of 80th percentile
- Placement test – 60% overall with a minimum of 15 on the constructed response section

7th Grade

Honors Math (For students not enrolled in honors Math in the prior school year)

- Ability to work at (or capable of working at) approximately one grade level ahead
- NWEA- minimum of 80th percentile
- Teacher recommendation
- Placement test- 60% or higher overall

8th Grade

Honors Math (For students not enrolled in honors Math in the prior school year)

- Ability to work at (or capable of working at) approximately one grade level ahead
- NWEA- minimum of 80th percentile
- Teacher recommendation
- Placement test- 60% or higher overall

*Please Note – Students who are placed in honors courses are expected to maintain at least a B- or are subject to review for continued and future placements.

MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS MATH

6TH GRADE HONORS MATH

1 UNIT

This course is designed for students in sixth grade working above grade level in math. Sixth grade honors math is a challenging curriculum that explores ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, algebra, geometry, and statistics and probability. Students will analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve problems. Work on the number system will expand to include rational numbers. Algebra focuses on using properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions and solving multi-step problems with rational numbers. In geometry, students will construct and describe geometric figures, and solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume. Statistics and probability introduces use of random sampling to draw inferences, and investigates chance using probability models. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, which are designed to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond, by the end of 8th grade. Current materials used include the textbook Mathematics: Course 2 © 2007 by Holt, as well as various online and print support materials.

7TH GRADE HONORS MATH

1 UNIT

This course is designed for students in seventh grade working above grade level in math. Seventh grade honors math emphasizes formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, functions, and geometry. Students will model and solve equations, which also extend to systems of linear equations. Students will explore linear functions in various representations: symbolic, graphical, tabular, and verbal. In geometry, students consolidate their knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes and their properties, and apply that knowledge to solve problems involving perimeter, area, and volume. Throughout this course, students will use their understanding of number and measurement to solve more complex problems. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, which are designed to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond, by the end of 8th grade. Current materials used include the textbook Pre-Algebra © 2008 by Glencoe, as well as various online and print support materials.

MATHEMATICS (Continued)

8TH GRADE HONORS MATH – ALGEBRA 1

1 UNIT

This course is designed for students in eighth grade working above grade level in math. Students earn high school credit for this class. The main area of emphasis for Algebra 1 is functions and their representations. Students will learn to simplify and factor expressions, solve linear equations, quadratic equations, and systems of equations. Students will study families of functions and their graphs including linear, quadratic, polynomial, power, and exponential. Using these functions, students will model real-world situations with data and solve related problems. A graphing calculator will be used to supplement topics. Units and lessons are aligned to The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, which are designed to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond, by the end of 8th grade. Current materials used include the textbook Algebra 1 © 2008 by McDougal-Littell, as well as various online and print support materials.

PERFORMING ARTS

CREATIVE DRAMA

6th GRADE EXPLORATIONS IN DRAMA

1/4 UNIT – Elective in grade 6

This course is intended for students who wish to learn more about themselves by exploring the arena of stage and theater. Teaching strategies and activities will encourage student self-discovery and self-confidence. Students will develop communication skills, problem solving skills, and an understanding of theater. A school production is not an intended outcome of this class.

CREATIVE DRAMA I

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and 8

This course is intended for students who wish to explore the discipline of theater. Students will develop communication skills, problem solving skills, and an understanding of theater. Elements of script writing, acting, design, directing, and understanding context will be included. Students will explore the themes of pantomime and puppetry through improvisation, collaborative teams, and teacher directed classroom activities. Students will discuss focus, projection, and stage terminology as well as analyzing, critiquing, and revising scripts. A school production is not the intended outcome of this class.

CREATIVE DRAMA II

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 and 8

Prerequisite: Creative Drama I

This course is intended for students who seek a more in-depth experience in Theater Arts. Students will explore relationships, conflict, and character through scripted work and improvisational exercises. Acting and directing objectives include topics such as blocking, sub-text, and audition techniques. Through study of radio shows students will learn to write and perform their own scripts. A school production is not the intended outcome of this class.

VOCAL MUSIC

CHOIR – GRADE 6

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 6

This course is designed for students who are interested in developing excellence in vocal performance in a variety of musical styles. The objectives focus on vocal technique, music literacy, musical performance, and movement. Students will sing choral literature from a variety of styles, time periods, and cultures. Numerous performance opportunities will be available. Participation in scheduled concert rehearsals and performances is required as part of this course. A limited number of before or after school rehearsals may be required.

PERFORMING ARTS (continued)

CHOIR – GRADE 7

1/2 UNIT – Elective in Grade 7

Normally elected for full year

Choir is planned for students who have a sincere interest in vocal music, who wish to participate in special performances, and who wish to improve their ability to sing. Participation in concert rehearsals and performances is required as part of the course. A limited number of before or after school rehearsals may be required.

CHOIR – GRADE 8

1 UNIT – Elective in grade 8

Choir includes advanced training in vocal music instruction. Students will refine their skills in vocal technique, sight-reading, and ear training. The choir performs often during the year and students develop strong teamwork skills and confidence on stage. Participation in concert rehearsals and performances is required as part of the course. A limited number of before or after school rehearsals may be required.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

6th GRADE BAND

1/2 UNIT – Elective

Prerequisite for CADET BAND

This course is designed for students who participated in instrumental music in grade five and wish to continue their study of flute, clarinet, cornet, trumpet, trombone, or baritone. Students will learn the skills necessary for success in the large group rehearsal setting, while differentiated instruction will encourage each student to progress according to their own ability level. Participation in scheduled concert rehearsals and performances is required as part of this course.

6TH GRADE ORCHESTRA

1/2 UNIT – Elective

Prerequisite for CONCERT ORCHESTRA - GRADE

7/8

This course is designed for students who participated in instrumental music in grade five, and wish to continue their study of violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Students will learn the skills necessary for success in the large group rehearsal setting, while differentiated instruction will encourage each student to progress according to their own ability level. Participation in scheduled concert rehearsals and performances is required as part of this course.

PERCUSSION – GRADE 6

1/2 UNIT – Elective

Prerequisite for CADET BAND

This course is designed to assist students with instrumental music study on percussion with no prior experience or with prior experience on a different instrument. Students will learn the skills necessary for success in an ensemble setting, while differentiated instruction will encourage each student to progress according to their own ability level. Participation in scheduled concert rehearsals and performances is required as part of this course.

PERFORMING ARTS (continued)

CADET BAND – GRADE 7

1 UNIT – Elective in grade 7

Prerequisite: 6TH GRADE BAND OR PERCUSSION - GRADE 6
or Teacher recommendation

In Cadet Band students will experience regular playing in a large ensemble. Instruction includes tone, production, rhythm and counting, the technical skills associated with fingering and articulation, scales, the fundamentals of music theory, and sight-reading. Participation in concert rehearsals and performances is required as part of the course. Participation in festivals involving the entire band or individual ensembles is optional, and is determined by student interest and the teacher.

CONCERT BAND – GRADE 8

1 UNIT – Elective in grade 8

Prerequisite: CADET BAND or Teacher recommendation

Concert Band instruction includes advanced training in the same fundamentals listed in Cadet Band. Participation in concert rehearsals and performances is required as part of the course. Participation in festivals involving the entire band or individual ensembles is optional, and is determined by student interest and the teacher. Seventh grade students who demonstrate advanced instrumental skills in grade six may enroll with teacher recommendation.

CONCERT ORCHESTRA - GRADE 7/8

1 UNIT – Elective in grades 7 and 8

Prerequisite: 6TH GRADE ORCHESTRA or Teacher recommendation

The Orchestra class provides instruction in playing stringed instruments and is planned for students with some previous skills associated with bowing, fingering, tone production, rhythm, and expression. It also includes scales, the fundamentals of theory, and sight-reading. At teacher discretion, orchestra students meet periodically with selected wind students before the regular school day to form a full orchestra. Participation in concert rehearsals and performances is required as part of the course. Participation in festivals involving the entire orchestra or individual ensembles is optional, and is determined by student interest and the teacher.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

6th GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1/4 UNIT – Elective

This course is for all students to explore various games and activities in an energetic and enthusiastic atmosphere. Cooperation, teamwork, and healthy competition will be the base of the unit. Fitness through fun activities and exercise through play will be our themes based on Shape America Standards. Some of the units covered include, but are not limited to: badminton, soccer, volleyball, basketball, swimming, and aquatic games. Students may have opportunities to earn fitness awards. Units and lessons are aligned with the National Standards from Shape America for Physical Education which are designed to prepare all students for personal fitness, life long activity and success.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Continued)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 7

1/2 UNIT – Elective

This course is designed to promote exposure to a full array of games and lifelong activities for all students. Through these activities students will benefit from the development of skills like strategizing, troubleshooting, and communicating, as well as cooperation and teamwork. This co-ed class offers a great energy release in their structure packed days. Sample activities include, but are not limited to: badminton, basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, soccer, swimming, and aquatic games. There are many cooperative games that students will be exposed to as well. Fitness is blended into the program in a non-threatening way with students having opportunities to earn fitness awards. Students may also have an opportunity to earn their boating safety certificate. Units and lessons are aligned with the National Standards from Shape America for Physical Education which are designed to prepare all students for personal fitness, life long activity and success.

1 UNIT – Elective

This course is designed to allow students to get daily exercise. It is a continuation of the half year program with additional games and experiences. Speedball, flag football, ultimate Frisbee, and team handball are some of the examples of new activities that students may experience in the all year class. Units and lessons are aligned with the National Standards from Shape America for Physical Education which are designed to prepare all students for personal fitness, life long activity and success.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 8

1/2 UNIT – Elective

This course is designed to promote exposure to a full array of games and lifelong activities. Through these activities students will benefit from the development of skill like strategizing, troubleshooting, as well as cooperation and teamwork. This co-ed class offers a fun active environment to release some energy and get a workout. Sample activities include badminton, pickleball, basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, swimming, and aquatic games. Fitness is blended into the activities and in the warm up. Students may have opportunities to earn fitness awards. Units and lessons are aligned with the National Standards from Shape America for Physical Education which are designed to prepare all students for personal fitness, life long activity and success.

1 UNIT – Elective

This course is planned to provide daily exercise. It is a continuation of the half year program with additional games and experiences. Team handball, lacrosse, flag football, and ultimate Frisbee are some examples of new activities that students may experience in the all year class. Units and lessons are aligned with the National Standards from Shape America for Physical Education which are designed to prepare all students for personal fitness, life long activity and success.

SCIENCE

*Currently in the process of revising the curriculum to reflect the 2015 Michigan Science Standards

SCIENCE – GRADE 6

1 UNIT – Requirement

Come explore the role of science in the management of the planet! The daily decisions made by each person will impact how humans live on this planet in the future. This course provides the basis for learning earth science principles and skills. Students will develop and apply basic science literacy when studying interrelationships of humans with the geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere. The year's study also includes an astronomy unit. Students will study the interactions between the earth, the moon, and the sun, and will learn all the latest information about the solar system.

SCIENCE (continued)

SCIENCE – GRADE 7

1 UNIT – Requirement

Examine living things! Function like real scientists as you explore why one person can roll her tongue and another cannot, why many living things are made up of specialized cells, how the environment affects populations of organisms, and why diversity is important to the survival of a species. Students will learn the basics of chemistry this year as well. Atomic structure, the periodic table, and chemical changes will be part of a unit on Matter. This course provides the basis for learning biological principles and skills in the areas of cells, heredity and adaptation, and ecosystems, as well as principles of chemistry.

SCIENCE – GRADE 8

1 UNIT – Requirement

Survey the exciting world of science! Learn the basic scientific laws and models by which the physical universe is understood. Physics concepts are encountered daily—motion and forces, waves and vibrations, electricity and magnetism, the relationship of matter and energy. This course serves as a foundation for understanding physics through interactive, hands-on, conceptual physics experiences.

Middle School Recommendations for Enrollment in Science Honors Courses

*Data needs to be revisited after each year to collect longitudinal data and adjust guidelines if needed.

7th Grade

Honors Science – Enrollment in advanced math

- Level 4 on the most recent MSTEP* Science test
- Level 4 on the most recent MSTEP* Reading test
- Minimum average grade of A- in the prior school year Science class

8th Grade

Honors Science – Enrollment in advanced math

- Level 4 on the most recent MSTEP* Science test
- Level 4 on the most recent MSTEP* Reading test
- Minimum average grade of A- in the prior school year Science class
- Please Note – Students who are placed in honors courses are expected to maintain at least a B- or are subject to review for continued and future placements.

*= previously MEAP; until there is longitudinal data, this alone will not disqualify placement

MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS SCIENCE

The following courses are designed for the serious academic student who is willing to rise to the challenge of intense, independent and in-depth work. Due to the rigor of this program, students must have parental approval and fulfill the eligibility requirements including concurrent enrollment in Honors Math. Summer independent study activities in preparation for this course may be assigned prior to the beginning of the school year. Students will be expected to achieve and maintain a B- or higher grade.

SCIENCE (continued)

HONORS SCIENCE – GRADE 7

1 UNIT

The course is designed to parallel the Grade 7 Science curriculum which provides the basis for learning biological principles and skills in the areas of cells, heredity and adaptation, ecosystems, properties of matter, and principles of chemistry. Qualified accelerated students in this course will study these topics in greater depth which would include having experiences in reading high school level scientific texts, increased opportunities in scientific writing, advanced lab skills, experience in note-taking and increased expectations to use mathematics to analyze relationships and trends in scientific data. Although this course is not required for enrollment in Honors Science courses in high school, it provides excellent preparation.

HONORS SCIENCE – GRADE 8

1 UNIT

This course is designed to parallel the Grade 8 Science curriculum which provides the basis for understanding the physical universe. The key content areas which include motion and forces, waves and vibrations, electricity and magnetism, and relationship of matter and energy, will be taught at a more rigorous level for qualified accelerated students. The Honors course will provide for increased opportunities in scientific writing, advanced lab skills, experience in note-taking, and more integration of higher order thinking skills as well as use advanced mathematics skills to see relationships and trends in data. Although this course is not required for enrollment in Honors Science courses in high school, it provides excellent preparation.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies has been locally designed within the solid, meaningful conceptual framework endorsed by the State of Michigan and the National Council for the Social Studies. Factual content is studied as it illuminates the following key social studies concepts:

- Global Interdependence
- Conflict
- Technological Development: Industrialization and Urbanization
- Human Dignity and Human Rights
- Culture
- Societal Change
- Power Relationships and Governments
- Morality and Choice
- World Economic Systems Principles
- The Interaction of People and Geographic Environment

The units, topics, and concepts are an outgrowth of the elementary school social studies curriculum, and student mastery of this material should provide a sound background for the social studies courses of the high school. Lessons utilizing computer skills are incorporated into the Social Studies curriculum at each grade level.

SOCIAL STUDIES – GRADE 6

1 UNIT – Requirement

The sixth grade course will provide understanding about the Western World so that students can analyze relationships between Canada, Middle America (Mexico and Central America), the Caribbean Basin, South America, and Europe. Units expand the students' knowledge of the Western World geographically by examining regions, place, location, movement, and human/environment interactions. Students will examine important historical civilizations and past cultures and experience key understandings of how historical events leave a legacy influencing present and future situations. Students will discover the role of the United States in a global society, and understand the significant stages in the development of money and international commerce. Students will apply American democratic values and examine them in relation to world issues and western political systems. Lessons utilizing the online resources and various cloud applications are incorporated into the sixth grade Social Studies curriculum.

SOCIAL STUDIES (continued)

SOCIAL STUDIES – GRADE 7

1 UNIT – Requirement

The seventh grade course centers on the study of the Eastern World. The following areas will be included: Asia, Africa and Oceania. Units expand the students' knowledge of the Eastern World geographically by examining regions, place, location, movement, and human/environment interactions. Students will examine important historical civilizations and past cultures and experience key understandings of how historical events leave a legacy influencing present and future situations. Students will analyze the role of the United States in the global society and understand different types of economic systems and how they interact. Students will examine a variety of governmental structures and analyze their relationships to American democratic values and constitutional principles. Students will examine significant people and events that have affected life in the Eastern Hemisphere. Lessons utilizing the online resources and various cloud applications are incorporated into the seventh grade Social Studies curriculum.

SOCIAL STUDIES – GRADE 8

1 UNIT – Requirement

The eighth grade course emphasizes selected studies in United States History and includes highlights in the development of American democratic ideals through industrialization. Students examine interdependent relationships between communication, innovations, and transportation as meaningful events both in America and beyond national boundaries. The influence of values and issues upon the Constitution and evolution of the federal republic are analyzed in depth. The American market economy is studied in relationship to the role of government with regards to taxation, public services, regulation, and productivity. Students learn to examine events and people from multiple perspectives and viewpoints, discovering that history is tentative and subject to change as new data comes to light. Lessons utilizing the online resources and various cloud applications are incorporated into the eighth grade Social Studies curriculum.

Middle School Recommendations for Enrollment in Social Studies Honors Courses

***Data needs to be revisited after each year to collect longitudinal data and adjust guidelines if needed.**

7th Grade

Honors Social Studies

- Level 4 on the most recent MSTEP* Social Studies test
- Level 4 on the most recent MSTEP* Reading test
- Level 5 or higher on the GP Writing test
- Minimum average grade of A- in the prior school year Social Studies class
- Teacher Recommendation

8th Grade

Honors Social Studies

- Level 4 on the most recent MSTEP* Social Studies test
- Level 4 on the most recent MSTEP* Reading test
- Level 5 or higher on the GP Writing test
- Minimum average grade of A- in the prior school year Social Studies class
- Teacher Recommendation
- Please Note – Students who are placed in honors courses are expected to maintain at least a B- or are subject to review for continued and future placements.

*= previously MEAP; until there is longitudinal data, this alone will not disqualify placement

MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS SOCIAL STUDIES

The following courses are designed for the serious academic student who is willing to rise to the challenge of in-depth work. Due to the rigor of this program, students must have parental approval and fulfill the eligibility requirements. Students will be expected to achieve and maintain a B- or higher grade.

SOCIAL STUDIES (continued)

HONORS SOCIAL STUDIES – GRADE 7

1 UNIT

This course is designed to parallel the Grade 7 Social Studies curriculum which focuses on the Eastern World. Qualified honors students will experience an enriched curriculum of greater depth involving high school level reading and writing experiences, including note-taking, individual inquiry investigations as well as team research at times. Higher order thinking activities requiring analysis and synthesis of information from a variety of sources and an ability to assemble data into meaningful original presentations will be expected. Although this course is not required for enrollment in Honors Social Studies courses in high school, it provides excellent preparation.

HONORS SOCIAL STUDIES – GRADE 8

1 UNIT

This course is designed to parallel the Grade 8 Social Studies curriculum which focuses on U. S. History. Qualified honors students will experience an enriched curriculum of greater depth involving high school level reading and writing experiences, as well as note-taking, individual inquiry investigations as well as team research at times. Higher order thinking activities requiring analysis and synthesis of information from a variety of sources and an ability to assemble data into meaningful original presentations will be expected. When possible, original source documents and biographical readings will be used. Although this course is not required for enrollment in Honors Social Studies courses in high school, it provides excellent preparation.

WORLD LANGUAGES

FRENCH INTRODUCTION – GRADE 6

1/2 UNIT – 1 year Every Other Day – Elective in grade 6

Prerequisite for French Enrichment or French I

This seventh/eighth grade course is available in sixth grade for students who want the option of an accelerated language-learning experience. It mirrors the content of the French Introduction class within the context of the sixth grade schedule via instruction appropriate for those learners. This course is planned for students who wish to begin the formal study of French prior to entering high school. It will cover approximately one-third of the basic high school French I course. Middle school students, who successfully complete French Introduction, have the option of continuing their accelerated pace to complete both French I and French II while in middle school. Students also have the option to continue their study via the Enrichment and/or French I course. Students further their language skills through interactions with videos, audio materials, Internet sites in French, language-learning software, and other technology-infused projects.

SPANISH INTRODUCTION - GRADE 6

1/2 UNIT – 1 year Every Other Day – Elective in grade 6

Prerequisite for Spanish Enrichment or Spanish I

This seventh/eighth grade course is available in sixth grade for students who want the option of an accelerated language-learning experience. It mirrors the content of the Spanish Introduction class within the context of the sixth grade schedule via instruction appropriate for those learners. This course is planned for students who wish to begin the formal study of Spanish prior to entering high school. It will cover approximately one-third of the basic high school Spanish I course. Middle school students, who successfully complete Spanish Introduction, have the option of continuing their accelerated pace to complete both Spanish I and Spanish II while in middle school. Students also have the option to continue their study via the Enrichment and/or Spanish I course. Students further their language skills through interactions with videos, audio materials, Internet sites in Spanish, language-learning software, and other technology-infused projects.

WORLD LANGUAGES (continued)

FRENCH INTRODUCTION

1/2 UNIT – 1 semester – Elective in grade 7 or 8

Prerequisite for French Enrichment or French I

This course is planned for students who wish to begin the formal study of French prior to entering high school. It will cover approximately one-third of the basic high school French I course. Middle school students, who successfully complete both French Introduction and French I, may enroll directly in French II in high school. Students also have the option of expanding their study via the Enrichment class. Students further their language skills through interactions with videos, audio materials, Internet sites in French, language-learning software, and other technology-infused projects.

SPANISH INTRODUCTION

1/2 UNIT – 1 semester – Elective in grade 7 or 8

Prerequisite for Spanish Enrichment or Spanish I

This course is planned for students who wish to begin the formal study of Spanish prior to entering high school. It will cover approximately one-third of the basic high school Spanish I course. Middle school students, who successfully complete both Spanish Introduction and Spanish I, may enroll directly in Spanish II in high school. Students also have the option of expanding their study via the Enrichment class. Student further their language skills through interactions with videos, audio materials, Internet sites in Spanish, language-learning software, and other technology-infused projects.

FRENCH ENRICHMENT

1/2 UNIT – 1 semester – Elective in grade 7 or 8

Prerequisite: French Introduction

This course is planned for students who wish to expand their study of French. Students will explore additional topics via thematic units inspired by interdisciplinary study and cultural connections. Grammar from French Introduction will be reinforced. This is an opportunity for further language study and is an optional addition to either traditional or accelerated language study at the middle school. (French I would be the next course in which students would enroll.) Students further their language skills through interactions with videos, audio materials, Internet sites in French, language-learning software, and other technology-infused projects.

SPANISH ENRICHMENT

1/2 UNIT – 1 semester – Elective in grade 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Spanish Introduction

This course is planned for students who wish to expand their study of Spanish. Students will explore additional topics via thematic units inspired by interdisciplinary study and cultural connections. Grammar from Spanish Introduction will be reinforced. This is an opportunity for further language study and is an optional addition to either traditional or accelerated language study at the middle school. (Spanish I would be the next course in which students would enroll.) Students further their language skills through interactions with videos, audio materials, Internet sites in Spanish, language-learning software, and other technology-infused projects.

FRENCH I

1 UNIT – 1 Year Elective in grade 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Introductory French or teacher recommendation

This course is planned for students who wish to earn one year of high school credit in French prior to entering high school. Students who successfully complete French I in middle school may enroll in French II at the high school. The course is designed to help students develop basic skills in each of the four areas of language: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Pronunciation and grammatical pattern and structures are emphasized in developing these skills. In addition, students explore the cultures of French speaking peoples. Students further their language skills through interactions with videos, audio materials, Internet sites in French, language-learning software, and other technology-infused projects.

WORLD LANGUAGES (Continued)

FRENCH II

1 UNIT – 1 Year Elective in grade 8

Prerequisite: French I or Teacher recommendation

This course continues to provide students with a wide range of activities for developing and expanding vocabulary, conversation skills, and reading and writing abilities. Multi-media presentations that enhance listening comprehension are an integral part of the class. French II continues to open up to the student the varied cultures and customs of the French world.

SPANISH I

1 UNIT – 1 Year Elective in grade 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Introductory Spanish or Teacher recommendation

This course is planned for students who wish to earn one year of high school credit in Spanish prior to entering high school. Students who successfully complete Spanish I in middle school may enroll in Spanish II at the high school. This course is designed to help students develop basic skills in each of the four areas of language: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Pronunciation and grammatical patterns and structures are emphasized in developing these skills. In addition, students explore the cultures of Spanish speaking peoples. Students further their language skills through interactions with videos, audio materials, Internet sites in Spanish, language-learning software, and other technology-infused projects.

SPANISH II

1 UNIT – 1 Year Elective in grade 8

Prerequisite: Spanish I or Teacher recommendation

This course continues to provide students with a wide range of activities for developing and expanding vocabulary, conversation skills, and reading and writing abilities. Multi-media presentations that enhance listening comprehension are an integral part of the class. Spanish II continues to open up to the student the wide and varied cultures and customs of the Hispanic world.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

The following programs and services are available to eligible students with disabilities from birth to age 26:

Areas of Eligibility

Cognitive Impairment
Emotional Impairment
Hearing Impairment
Visual Impairment
Physical Impairment
Other Health Impairment
Early Childhood Developmental Delay
Specific Learning Disability
Severe Multiple Impairment
Autism Spectrum Disorder
Traumatic Brain Injury

Least Restrictive Continuum

General Education
General Education with Support Services
Teacher Consultant Services
Resource Program
Categorical Program

Services May Include

Teacher Consultant
Speech & Language
Audiology
Occupational Therapy
Orientation and Mobility Services
Parent Training
Physical Therapy
Psychological Services
School Social Work Services

For more information on Wayne County Services contact WRESA @ www.resa.net

For more information on the Grosse Pointe Public School System Student Services contact the Student Services
Department at 313-432-3856