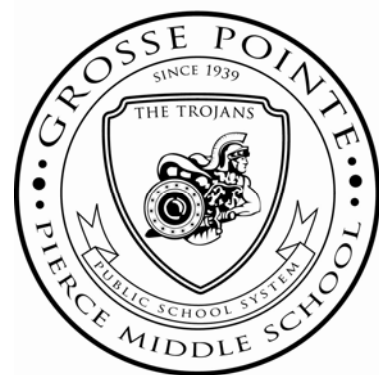
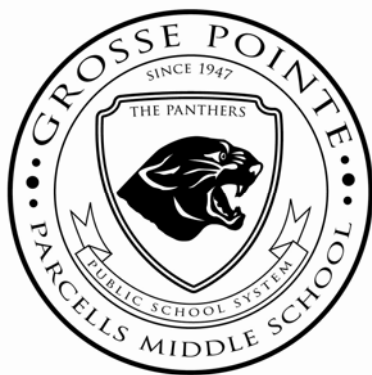
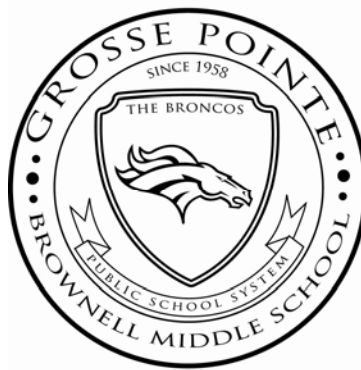


PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2014 - 2015

GRADES 6 - 7 - 8



THE GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

MIDDLE SCHOOL

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2014-2015

Department of Instruction
Maureen Bur, Director (Pre-K – Elementary)
The Grosse Pointe Public School System
Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230

Vision Statement

The vision of the Grosse Pointe Public School System is to help all students be successful learners and leaders, today and tomorrow.

Mission Statement

The Grosse Pointe Public School System mission – in partnership with students, staff, parents, and community members – is to challenge all students to realize their full potential by providing them with the highest quality educational program and instruction.

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.

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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: Stefanie.hayes@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: Explore, PLAN, or 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

Joan Dindoffer	President
Dan Roeske	Vice President
Brian Summerfield	Treasurer
Judy Gafa	Secretary
Thomas Jakubiec	Trustee
Cindy Pangborn	Trustee
Lois Valente	Trustee

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Thomas Harwood	Superintendent	432-3010
Ms. Maureen Bur	Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (Pre K – Elementary)	432-3042
Mr. Aaron Johnson	Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (Secondary)	432-3044
Mr. Christian J. Fenton	Assistant Superintendent, Business Affairs and Support Services	432-3080
Dr. M. Jon Dean	Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Labor Relations	432-3020
Ms. Stefanie Hayes	Director, Student Services	432-3851

MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

BROWNELL MIDDLE SCHOOL	PARCELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL	PIERCE MIDDLE SCHOOL
260 Chalfonte	20600 Mack	15430 Kercheval
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236	Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236	Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
Phone: 432-3900	Phone: 432-4600	Phone: 432-4700
Dr. Michael Dib, Principal	Dr. Cathryn Armstrong, Principal	Mr. Chris Clark, Principal
Mr. Rodger Hunwick, Asst. Principal	Mr. Steven Wolf, Asst. Principal	Ms. Judy Gaffrey, Asst. Principal

MIDDLE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

ART	Kit Aro Tom Szmrecsanyi	Brownell/Pierce South
COUNSELING ENGLISH	Angie Niforos Susan Dempsey Pat Liverance/Nan Sabella Susan Quinn	Brownell/Parcells/Pierce Brownell Parcells Pierce
LIBRARY LIFESKILLS	Karen Villegas Andrea Sobotka Marianne Modlin	North (all schools K-12) Parcells (all north end schools 6-12) South (all south end schools 6-12)
MATHEMATICS	Sandra LeMoine Linda McKinney Edward Brock	Brownell Parcells Pierce
PERFORMING ARTS	John Donnellon Carolyn Gross	North (all north end schools 6-12) South (all south end schools 6-12)
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Ann Starinsky Gina Francis	North (all north end schools 6-12) Brownell (all south end schools 6-12)
SCIENCE	Mark Sonnenberg Laura Mikesell Bill Thompson	Brownell Parcells Pierce
SOCIAL STUDIES	Peter Dettlinger Linda Fogel Jeannie Brousseau	Brownell Parcells Pierce
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION World Languages	Michelle Davis Mike Spears Bettina Amato	North (all schools 6-12) North (all schools 6-12) South (all schools 6-12)

COUNSELORS:	BROWNELL	PARCELLS	PIERCE
	Ms. Marie Fachini-Kurily 432-3914	Ms. Carla Palffy 432-4620	Ms. Christine Cramer 432-4717
	Ms. Angie Niforos 432-3915	Ms. Jennifer Sherman 432-4618	Ms. Andrea Bolton 432-4716

RESEARCH SKILLS

Middle school library curriculum is integrated primarily into sixth grade Informational and Honors Informational ELA, but enhanced in later grades during content-area research projects. Students will reinforce basics learned during elementary library skills as well as improve their acquisition, evaluation, and integration of information into research. Topics include library organization, using the electronic card catalog's advanced functions, text and web reference acquisition (atlases, encyclopedias, etc.), and data base a web research (including copyright law and evaluations).

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.

2014 SUMMER SCHOOL DATES

The 2014 Summer Learning Program will take place tentatively from:

Monday, July 7 – Thursday, August1, 2014

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
Computer skills	1/4 (every other day/1 semester)

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 1/4 elective units – unless a Foundation or Essentials course is required.

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

* A Unit is an every day, 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>
Cadet Band	1	Academic Assistance Program	1/2
French I**	1	Advanced Middle School Computer	1/2
Orchestra	1	Art 2D	1/2
Spanish I**	1	Art 3D	1/2
		Digital Presentations	1/2
		Explorations in Art	1/2
		Exploration in Technology	1/2
		Foods	1/2
		French Enrichment	1/2
		Graphic Design	1/2
<u>Full Year or Semester Courses</u>		Health	1/2
Broadcast Journalism	1/2 or 1	Introduction to CAD	1/2
Choir	1/2 or 1	Introduction to Wood/Metal Tech	1/2
French Introduction	1/2 or 1	Life Management	1/2
Journalism	1/2 or 1	Lifeskills	1/2
Physical Education	1/2 or 1	Metal Technology **	1/2
Spanish Introduction	1/2 or 1	Middle School Computer Skills	1/2
		Problems in Technology **	1/2
		Programming	1/2
		Spanish Enrichment	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>
Choir	1	Academic Assistance Program	1/2
Concert Band	1	Advanced Middle School Computer	1/2
French I**	1	Art 2D	1/2
Orchestra	1	Art 3D	1/2
Spanish I**	1	Creative Drama I	1/2
Spanish II**	1	Creative Drama II	1/2
		Digital Presentations	1/2
		Exploration in Technology	1/2
		Explorations in Art	1/2
		Foods	1/2
<u>Full Year or Semester Courses</u>		French Enrichment	1/2
Broadcast Journalism	1/2 or 1	French Introduction	1/2
Physical Education	1/2 or 1	Graphic Design	1/2
Journalism	1/2 or 1	Health	1/2
		Introduction to CAD	1/2
		Introduction to Wood/Metal Tech	1/2
		Life Management	1/2
		Lifeskills	1/2
		Metal Technology **	1/2
		Middle School Computer Skills	1/2
		Problems in Technology **	1/2
		Programming	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.

ART

6th GRADE ART

1/4 UNIT - Semester elective

Sixth grade students will enjoy working in different media in 6th Grade Art such as drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and crafts while incorporating the Elements and Principles of Design. Students will focus on improved craftsmanship and final product while learning about art history, criticism, and aesthetics.

EXPLORATIONS IN ART

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

This course is for students that want to explore both 2D or 3D art. Students selecting Explorations in Art will work in several different art areas. They will explore art through experiences in drawing, painting, printmaking, clay techniques, sculpting, fibers, and art metals. The course combines art production with extended experiences in art history, criticism, and aesthetics. (Note: Students have the option of taking Explorations in Art for a second time and can expect a similar, but more challenging experience.

ART 2D (2 dimensional)

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

This course is for students who seek experiences in drawing, painting, and printmaking. Students will also study the lives and works of selected two-dimensional artists. The course combines art production with extended experiences in art history, criticism, and aesthetics. Note: Students have the option of taking Art 2D for a second time and can expect a similar, but more challenging experience.

ART 3D (3 dimensional)

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

Students in this course will seek experiences in both additive and subtractive sculpture by using a variety of materials such as clay, fibers, plaster, wood, wire, and art metals. The study of selected artists noted for their 3 dimensional works will be included. The course combines art production with extended experiences in art history, criticism, and aesthetics. Note: Students have the option of taking Art 3D for a second time and can expect a similar, but more challenging experience.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

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

Students who want to improve their visual communication to keep up with our increasingly visual culture will enjoy and benefit from this course. Graphic Design is designed as an art experience using traditional methods of design in a studio setting such as drawing with pencils, colored pencils, and markers, as well as photography, digital cameras, scanners, printers, and design software. Students will learn about product design, media design, communication design, advertising, photography, and computer applications in the area of art using hands on materials and computers.

COMPUTER EDUCATION

6TH GRADE COMPUTER SKILLS

Required semester for 6th grade students

This course helps students develop skills that boost productivity and support lifelong learning using technology. The Middle School Computer Curriculum provides the objectives and benchmarks for the course. Students will learn introductory computer skills in the following subject areas: technology awareness, technology systems, databases, desktop publishing, graphics, multimedia, spreadsheets, word processing, and information access as well as a review of keyboarding skills. This course is required for all sixth grade students.

MIDDLE SCHOOL COMPUTER SKILLS 1/2 UNIT

This course is required for any student who does not meet the minimum expectations of the Sixth Grade Computer Skills Course or who is new to the district and needs to acquire the necessary computer skills. The Middle School Computer Curriculum provides the objectives and benchmarks for the course. Students will learn introductory computer skills in the following subject areas: technology awareness, technology systems, databases, desktop publishing, graphics, multimedia, spreadsheets, word processing, and information access. Keyboarding skills will be reinforced as well. Students will use the skills they learn to produce a final project. The final project will incorporate skills that might be expected of someone working in the world of business. This course is required for any student who does not meet the minimum expectations of the Sixth Grade Computer Skills Course.

DIGITAL PRESENTATIONS: COMBINING MULTIMEDIA AND THE INTERNET

1/2 UNIT

This course teaches students how to harness the information available on the Internet and creative design principals to develop thoughtful and creative research based products. These products will be created using publishing, animation, video editing, sound editing, and photo editing software. Students will learn the basics of digital photography and editing. They will create a variety of presentations such as stop-motion movies and video stories using photo editing, character animation, and video editing software. The section on web page design will allow students to design a site where their work will be displayed. Students can elect the course a second time with permission of their counselor and will do advanced projects. Completed projects will reflect the students' interests and emerging skills.

PROGRAMMING 1/2 UNIT

This course teaches students to use programming languages that emphasize higher order thinking and problem solving skills. Students will learn the basic building blocks of several programming languages. Students will develop analytical skills necessary to create a successful program. This course will give students a solid foundation in programming techniques that they can use to develop programs in any language. Students will apply their knowledge by creating projects in QBASIC, simulation games using MicroWorlds, build and program Lego robotic devices and create Flash-style games using GameMaker. Students can elect the course a second time with permission from their counselor. Completed projects will reflect the students' interests and emerging skills.

ADVANCED MIDDLE SCHOOL COMPUTER SKILLS

1/2 UNIT

Prerequisite: Pass Sixth Grade Computer Skills

This course helps students develop and boost productivity and support lifelong learning using technology. The Middle School Computer Curriculum provides the objective and benchmarks for the course. Students will learn advanced computer skills in the following subject areas: Keyboarding, technology awareness, technology systems, databases, desktop publishing, graphics, multimedia, spreadsheets, word processing, and information access. Students will use the skills they learn to produce a variety of integrated projects. These projects will incorporate the skills necessary to create a technology project in the "Real World." This course is available to any seventh or eighth grade student who has passed the sixth grade computer skills curriculum.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH FOUNDATIONS

1/2 UNIT

English Foundations is additional class time for support of students who need extra help meeting the curriculum goals of their grade-level English course and is taken in addition to the grade-level course. 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. Taught in a small group setting, English Foundations individualizes instruction to meet student needs.

READING ESSENTIALS – GRADE 6

1/2 to 1 1/2 UNITS

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. It is a course designed for the struggling readers, that is, one whose reading skills and strategies are well below grade level. 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

NARRATIVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS – GRADE 6

1 UNIT – Requirement

In this everyday course, students will experience the following genre: folk tale, fantasy, and action/adventure. Students will read *Peak* and two from the following list: *Twenty-One Balloons*, *the Tales of King Arthur*, *Wrinkle in Time*, *Christmas Carol* (adaptation), and *Phantom Tollbooth*. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling is integrated throughout the course.

INFORMATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS – GRADE 6

1/2 UNIT – Requirement

In this every-other-day class, students will experience nonfiction reading and writing including comparative essays, personal essays, how-to book, and persuasive essays. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling is integrated throughout the course.

ENGLISH GRADE 7

1 UNIT – Requirement

Students will read a variety of genre including mystery, poetry, memoir, drama, myth, legend, persuasion, essay, research report, brochure, personal correspondence, autobiography, and biography. Among the titles they will read are, *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* and two of the following: *Hoot*, *Dragonwings*, *Roll of Thunder*, *Hear My Cry*, *My Brother, My Sister and I*, *Wolf Rider*, and *The Outsiders*. Students will write in the following modes: memoir, drama, legend, mystery, poetry, myth, research report, personal letter, and essay. Grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling studies are integrated throughout the course.

ENGLISH GRADE 8

1 UNIT – Requirement

Students will read a variety of genre including historical fiction, science fiction, realistic fiction, comparative essays, newspaper writing, technical writing, and persuasive essay. Among the major works, they will read, *Chains* and *Flowers for Algernon* and two of the following: *The Diary of Ann Frank* (the play version), *Light in the Forest*, *Pigman*, *No Promises in the Wind*, *The Giver*, *Night to Remember*, and *Tuesdays with Morrie*. Students will write in the following modes: historical fiction, science fiction, realistic fiction, historical expository piece (journal, biography, situated simulated memoir) and research project. Grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling studies are integrated throughout the course.

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

In this everyday course, students will experience the following genre: folk tale, fantasy, and action/adventure. Students will read *Peak*, plus two from the following list: *Twenty-One Balloons*, *the Hobbit*, and *A Christmas Carol* (the original). The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling is integrated throughout the course.

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

In this every other day course, students will experience nonfiction reading and writing including comparative essays, personal essays, how-to book, and persuasive essays.. The study of grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling is integrated throughout the course.

HONORS ENGLISH – GRADE 7 1 UNIT

Students will read from a wide variety of genre including the following: mystery, poetry, memoir, drama, myth, legend, persuasion, essay, research report, brochure, personal correspondence, autobiography, and biography. Among the titles they will read are *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*, a selection of works by Edgar Allen Poe, plus two from the following list: *Adventures of Ulysses*, *Nothing but the Truth*, *Homecoming*, and *Summer of My German Soldier*. Students will write memoir, drama, legend, mystery, poetry, myth, research report, personal letter, and essay.

HONORS ENGLISH – GRADE 8 1 UNIT

Students will read from a wide variety of genre including the following: historical fiction, science fiction, realistic fiction, memoir, newspaper writing, technical writing, comparative essay, and persuasive essay. Among the titles they will read are, *Chains*, *Flowers for Algernon*, and *Midsummer Night's* plus two of the following: *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Johnny Tremain*, *Night*, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, *Old Man and the Sea*, *Bless the Beasts*, and *Tale of Two Cities*. Students will write a variety of essay forms including the following: historical fiction, science fiction, realistic fiction, historical expository piece (journal, biography, simulated memoir), and research project.

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 students join the staff of their schools' television station. Students explore both television production and journalism fundamentals through video editing, production, news writing, and reporting. Students will use various technological tools to gain skills such as project planning, leadership, organization, and responsibility.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

6th GRADE TECHNOLOGY

1/4 UNIT – Semester elective

Introduction to Technology helps beginning students understand the meaning of technology. 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 consent

Prerequisite for Metal Technology or Teacher consent

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 consent

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 consent

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.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (continued)

EXPLORATIONS IN TECHNOLOGY

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

Explorations in Technology examines the major units of technology through a selection of problem solving activities. Computer-aided drafting, electricity, bridge building, engineering, land transportation, and air transportation are a few examples of the units that are covered in this semester course. From operating solo to up to groups of five, students work to complete challenging tasks and hands-on problems presented by instructors. 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.

PROBLEMS IN TECHNOLOGY

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

Prerequisite: Explorations in Technology or Teacher permission
May be taken more than once

Magnetic Levitation, Air/Water Powered Rockets, Marble Coasters, Eggs-Cargo, Toy Dissection, Electric Cars are a few of the Technology Learning Activities with which this hands-on problem solving oriented course will challenge students. Using the tools and machinery found in each building's Technology or Manufacturing labs, teams of students will engineer and construct prototypes of their solutions and test them in a variety of situations. 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.

LIFESKILLS

6th GRADE LIFESKILLS

1/4 UNIT – Semester elective

Exploratory Lifeskills is designed to provide students with introductory experiences in personal care, etiquette and table manners, snack foods, and simple hand and machine sewing. Students will have an opportunity to prepare foods from each of the food groups. Students will learn to read recipes, use measuring equipment, and kitchen appliances. Additionally, students will participate in activities relating to personal grooming and basic babysitting skills.

LIFESKILLS

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

This course is planned to provide students with hands on experiences in these basic areas of study and activity: character development, friends and family relationships, childcare (including the Egg Baby Project), food preparation, nutrition, hand and machine sewing skills, plus clothing care. This class not only holds the students interest, but provides relevant connections to the core academics.

LIFE MANAGEMENT

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

Life Management provides students with an opportunity to explore career paths, consumer skills, housing – including Interior Decorating and design, and money management – including banking and the stock market. Students will integrate problem solving skills in simulated life situations. Students will also use their consumer skills to create a meal for a family of five with a limited budget. Guest speakers from financial institutions are often brought in to further educate students in money management skills. Content also covers manners and etiquette focusing on proper introductions, formal place setting, and social “do’s and don’ts”.

FOODS AND NUTRITION

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

May be taken more than once with teacher approval

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 Program. 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 to careers in culinary arts.

LIFESKILLS (Continued)

HEALTH

1/2 UNIT – Elective in grade 7 or 8

The Health course focuses on essential health education including emotional and mental health, growth and development, personal health, family health, consumer health, safety and first aid, nutrition, substance use and abuse, disease prevention and control, and environmental and community health.

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.

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.

MATH – GRADE 6

1 UNIT – Requirement

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 decimals and fractions. 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.

MATH – GRADE 7

1 UNIT – Requirement

Seventh grade math emphasizes developing an understanding of and applying proportional relationships, and developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers. In Algebra, students will build on their previous knowledge of expressions and be introduced to linear equations. In geometry, students will solve problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions. Students will work with two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving areas, surface area, and volume. In statistics and probability, students will learn to draw inferences about populations based on samples.

MATH – GRADE 8

1 UNIT – Requirement

The main areas of emphasis for eighth grade is formulating and reasoning about expressions, functions, and geometry. In expressions and equations, students explore functions with a concentration on linear functions. Functions are studied through various representations: symbolic, graphical, tabular, and verbal. In Geometry, students consolidate their knowledge of two and three dimensional shapes and their properties, and apply this knowledge to perimeter, area, volume, and visualization problems. In Data and Probability, students make decisions and perform basic analyses of data sets. Throughout this study, students use their understanding of number and measurement developed prior to eighth grade to solve more complex problems.

MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS MATH

MATH – GRADE 6 HONORS

1 UNIT

Grade 6 honors math is a challenging curriculum that explores ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, algebra, geometry, and statistics and probability. While working with ratios and proportions, students will analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve problems. Work with the number system will focus on applying previous understandings to rational numbers. Algebra focuses on using properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions and solving multi-step problems with positive and negative rational numbers. In geometry, students will construct and describe geometrical figures, identifying relationships between them and solve problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume. Statistics and probability introduces use of random sampling to draw inferences, and investigates chance – developing and using probability models. Students will be expected to achieve and maintain a B- or higher grade.

MATHEMATICS (Continued)

MATH – GRADE 7 HONORS

1 UNIT

Grade seven honors math is a challenging curriculum that emphasizes formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, functions, and geometry. In expressions and equations, students will model and solve equations which also extend to systems of linear equations. In functions, students explore functions with a concentration on linear functions. Functions are studied through various representations: symbolic, graphical, tabular, and verbal. In geometry, students consolidate their knowledge of two and three dimensional shapes and their properties, and apply this knowledge to perimeter, area, volume, and visualization problems. Throughout this study, students use their understanding of number and measurement, developed prior to eighth grade, to solve more complex problems. Student will be expected to achieve and maintain a B- or higher grade.

GRADE 8 – HONORS ALGEBRA I

1 UNIT

This course is for qualified accelerated students. It is a rigorous high school level Algebra I course for which the student earns high school credit. Algebra I builds on the study of functions and representations begun in the middle school grades. The main area of emphasis for Algebra I 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 scientific and/or graphing calculator will be used to supplement topics. The next course in this sequence is Honors Accelerated Geometry, which is typically offered at the high schools. Students will be expected to achieve and maintain a B- or higher grade.

PERFORMING ARTS

CREATIVE DRAMA

EXPLORATIONS IN DRAMA

1/2 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.

PERFORMING ARTS (Continued)

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.

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

BAND – GRADE 6

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.

PERFORMING ARTS (Continued)

ORCHESTRA – GRADE 6

1/2 UNIT – Elective

Prerequisite for ORCHESTRA 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.

SAXOPHONE – GRADE 6

1/2 Unit – Elective

Prerequisite for CADET BAND

This course is designed to assist students with instrumental music study on saxophone with prior experience on clarinet. 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.

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.

CADET BAND – GRADE 7

1 UNIT – Elective in grade 7

Prerequisite for CONCERT BAND

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

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.

ORCHESTRA – GRADE 7 and GRADE 8

1 UNIT – Elective in grades 7 and 8

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 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. Some of the units covered include, but are not limited to: Badminton, soccer, volleyball, basketball, swimming, and aquatic games.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 7

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 skills like strategizing, trouble shooting, 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 badminton, basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, 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.

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.

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, trouble shooting, as well as cooperation and team work. This co-ed class offers a fun active environment to release some energy and get a workout. Sample activities include badminton, pickle ball, 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.

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.

SCIENCE

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 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.

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.

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.

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 computer skills of desktop publishing (Publisher) are incorporated into the eighth grade Social Studies curriculum.

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.

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. Higher order thinking activities requiring analysis and synthesis of information 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. Higher order thinking activities requiring analysis and synthesis of information 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 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 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 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 – Elective in grade 7 or grade 8
Prerequisite for 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 permission of the teacher

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)

SPANISH I

1 UNIT – 1 Year Elective in grade 7 or 8

Prerequisite: Introductory Spanish or permission of the teacher

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 permission of the teacher.

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.

NOTES