

# GRADE 8

## ART

Art lessons of Two- and Three-Dimensional art projects include:

- Impressionism Painting
- Pastel Animal Drawing
- Famous Artist Project
- Mobile Construction
- Artist-in-Residence Program

## ENGLISH

- Compositions, reports, essays
- Narrative, persuasive, informative and descriptive writing
- Review phrases and clauses, simple, compound, complex, compound-complex, agreement, verbals, sentence errors
- Research papers: MLA format: note cards, outline, bibliography, internet search, power library
- Notebooks, portfolios
- PSSA Preparation
- Thematic Units: Author Insight Paper, Figurative Language, Hometown Hero, Term Paper, Cultural Diversity
- Individual and group presentations
- Class discussions

## FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

- Clothing Construction – patterns, buttonholes, casings, hems, seam finishes
- Multicultural Cuisine – Preparation of foods from different countries/regions

## GIFTED PROGRAM

The middle school gifted program centers around helping students take more control of their own individual learning. Students are encouraged to become self-directed with reflection and inquiry on longer term, problem based learning. Their choices should foster creativity, research skills, critical thinking, public speaking, and a deeper understanding and appreciation for information. Numerous competitions are offered and students may take advantage of these programs or develop their own research projects.

- National History Day
- Science Olympiad
- Stock Market Game
- Scholastic Bowls
- Geography
- Earth Day Presentations
- Spelling Bees

## HEALTH

- Disease prevention and control
- Substance use and abuse (ATOD)
- Personal health and wellness

## LIBRARY

The learner will:

- discriminate in selection of appropriate materials
- refine all search strategies
- begin using specialized reference sources
- refine research strategies

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## MATHEMATICS

### PRE-ALGEBRA

- Equations and Inequalities – solve and graph
- Rational numbers
- Ratios, proportions and percents
- Statistics and probability
- Measurement and Geometry – plane and solid figures, metric/standard units
- Polynomials
- Written responses to word problems

### ALGEBRA I

- Graphing relations and functions
- Solving linear equations and inequalities
- Proportional reasoning
- Polynomials and factoring
- Statistics

## MUSIC

- Instrumental lessons are available for brass, woodwinds, percussion and stringed instruments
- Participation in band, string ensemble, jazz band and/or chorus and select chorus is encouraged for all students
- Guitar class and ensemble, recorder class and ensemble, as well as use of classroom instruments
- Singing in two and three parts
- Music as part of the arts and in relation to all academic subjects
- Participation in many various concerts both at school and in the community
- Musical theater
- Basics of marching, community parades

## SCIENCE

### PHYSICAL SCIENCE

- Chemistry
- Physics
- Wetlands
- Cells
- Genetics
- Classification
- Survey of the Kingdoms of Living Things

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Eighth grade Social Studies entails the study of American History from the arrival of the first Americans up to 1877

Strands covered:

- Citizenship
- Communications
- Civics
- Constitution
- Current Events
- Multicultural
- Geography
- Vocabulary
- Critical Thinking

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

The special education program follows the curriculum of the regular education classes with some adaptations, modifications, and timeline alterations. These accommodations will aid in the implementation of the IEP and accommodate each student's individual needs.

## TECHNOLOGY

- Keyboarding
- Microsoft Word – Word Processing
- Microsoft Excel – Spreadsheets
- Hyperstudio – Multimedia Presentation
- Internet
- Inspiration – Visual Organization
- Microsoft PowerPoint – Multimedia Presentation

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## **TECHNOLOGY LAB**

Each student is introduced to a wide variety of technology systems in an integrated experience-based instructional program designed to prepare them to become knowledgeable about technology – its evolution, systems, techniques, utilization and social and cultural significance.

This process is embodied through the application of math and science concepts in specific, in-depth technology systems. Students discover, create, solve problems and construct by using a variety of resources, machines, materials, processes, and computer systems. This approach is designed to enable students to achieve broader learner outcomes.

The learning program presented in the middle school incorporates the following as common themes in each area (module):

- Multiple Solutions
- Context Based Problem Solving
- Environmental Impacts
- Social Impacts
- Economic Impacts
- Technological Systems Approach using System Simulation
- Understanding and using the universal systems model
- Historical Timeline
- Career Foundations
- Interdisciplinary Correlations