



Grand Haven Area Public Schools

Lakeshore Middle School REQUIRED 7TH GRADE COURSES

LANGUAGE ARTS (*All year*)

Language Arts: Students will study thematic literary units incorporating reading skills, process writing, grammar, and usage. Speaking and listening techniques will also be incorporated. The Reader's & Writer's Workshop format is used to engage students in various units of study: narrative writing, argument paragraph, literary essay, informational essay, and proposal essay.

MATHEMATICS (*All year*)

Math: (About 90% of seventh graders) The seventh grade math curriculum will encourage students to learn mathematics by using and connecting mathematical ideas to the world beyond the classroom, and by actively engaging students in the understanding of math. Seventh grade math will continue to focus on the four major content strands: *numbers, geometry, algebra, and statistics/probability*, with an increasing emphasis on algebra. The algebra component will explore linear equations and the connections between algebra and geometry

Algebra: (This course is worth 1 high school credit and students must be recommended by a teacher)

First Semester: Algebra builds upon knowledge to recognize and solve mathematical and real-world problems involving linear relationships and to make sense of and move fluently between the graphic, numeric, symbolic, and verbal representations of these patterns. Algebra builds on the approach to the study of functions and representations begun in the middle grades. This is done by broadening the study of linear relationships to include piecewise functions, absolute value equations, systems of equations with two and three unknowns, formalized function notation, and linear regression and correlation.

Second Semester: The second half of the year will build upon knowledge of linear patterns of change and familiarity with nonlinear patterns such as exponential and quadratic. The knowledge of exponential and quadratic function families is extended and deepened by including topics such as rules of exponentiation, operations and factoring polynomials, and standard and vertex forms for quadratic equations. Students will also develop their knowledge of power functions and the applications they model. Finally, Algebra expands the number domain from real to complex numbers. Algebra is a requirement for graduation and preparation for their high school math proficiency test. A scientific calculator or a graphing calculator is required.

SCIENCE (*All year*)

Science: Seventh graders will continue to build their knowledge of Life, Physical, and Earth Science. Students will explore elements and compounds, chemical properties and chemical changes. Cell growth, reproduction, and development will round out the study of Life Science. The focus of Earth Science will be the atmosphere, weather, climate and the consequences of human actions on the environment.

SOCIAL STUDIES (*All year*)

The seventh grade social studies curriculum focuses on ancient world history and geography with a deliberate focus on the content literacy. Students begin their exploration into world history with a focus on historical thinking. Students investigate human history from the beginning until around 1500. They explore major and significant changes in each era through a chronological organization. Students learn about the earliest humans and explore early migration and settlement patterns. Students examine how the emergence of pastoral and agrarian societies set the stage for the development of powerful empires, trade networks, and the diffusion of people, resources, and ideas. Extending students study of world history through Era 4 (300 CE - 1500 CE) places world religions and development of empires in the Americas (Aztecs, Incas, Mayans) in their historical context. The rise and fall of empires, as well as the nomadic groups in Afro-Eurasia, generated new zones of cultural and commercial exchange that linked regions across the world and enabled ideas to spread. The course concludes with the study of comparative world religions.

Art

Art: This class gives students a broad introduction to the visual arts. Projects during the eighteen-week course may include experiences with drawing, painting, ceramics, crafts, mixed media, and art appreciation. The course will integrate art with curriculum objectives in Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and/or Math.

Technology

Technology: This 18 week 7th grade course is designed to help students improve their technology proficiency as they prepare for success in the real world. Topics covered will include: computer hardware, Microsoft Word/Google Docs, Excel/Google Sheets, Access, Keyboarding and Digital Citizenship. This class meets the METS requirements for students.

7TH GRADE ELECTIVE CHOICES

Music (All year)

A middle school music student is expected to demonstrate maturity, self-discipline, and the ability to work independently and cooperatively in large group settings. Students who select a music program are expected to complete the full year of music.

Band is for students with previous band training. Beginners **must** arrange private lessons prior to the start of school. Band includes several performances throughout the year, including Band Festival, and seasonal concerts. Students are expected to practice at home. Students have the opportunity to participate in Solo and Ensemble, and play many types of music. Music theory, more advanced performance techniques, and high-level musicianship continues to be developed.

CHOIR is open to any 7th grade student. Students will explore music of various cultures and genres including folk, jazz, classical, sacred, and pop. Concepts of musicianship are explored further and music reading and composition skills are introduced. Participation in all daytime and evening performances is an expectation of the course. Seventh grade choir students will have the opportunity to work with clinicians from around the state and participate in District Choral Festival.

ORCHESTRA meets daily for the entire academic year. The primary focus is on the development and expansion of basic skills learned in 6th grade orchestra. In addition to large group ensemble performances, individual growth and achievement are encouraged through participation in adjudicated solo and ensemble festival, along with large group performance at District Festival and potential State Festival. Various music styles will be introduced and developed such as fiddle, jazz playing, along with classical repertoires.

OR

7th Physical Education

Physical Education: This course stresses the value of lifelong fitness. Students will be exposed to a wide range of sports, physical activities, and fitness principles in order to be equipped for a lifetime of activity and fitness.

Special Education

Special Education teachers and their assistants support students on the general education teams. Appropriate accommodations and delivery of services are done through the content of the general education courses in keeping with the students' IEP's.

Categorical ASD Classroom: A classroom designed to provide support for and instruction in the areas of academic, functional, and social/behavioral skills to students with Autism Spectrum Disorder with the outcome of enhancing their educational and functional outcomes.

CATEGORICAL EI CLASSROOM: A structured and safe environment for students with behavioral and emotional impairments. This program focuses on academics while using clear routines, individualized reinforcers, and consequences. Direct social skill lessons are also taught to teach appropriate ways to handle difficult situations and/or feelings. The goal of this program is to provide enough social/emotional support to allow students to take part and feel success in general education classrooms.

Categorical CI Classroom: A self-contained program addressing the needs of special education students including academics, self-help and functional skills, as well as prevocational skills.

Directed Study: Directed Study is a daily class period that is designed to prepare students to develop essential study skills and become responsible for academic work. A variety of skills are taught and incorporated into the student's core subjects. Skills include organization, test taking, time management, writing, vocabulary and homework strategies. This class is offered and recommended for 7th and 8th graders.

January 2018