

Oak Park Preparatory Academy



Course Catalog

June 2019

Building Bridges to Success

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Mission

The mission of the Oak Park School District is to provide quality education in which we respect students' individual and cultural differences, educate all students to meet or exceed the District's academic standards, and ensure they possess college and career readiness skills necessary to become lifelong learners and productive citizens.

Oak Park School District Board of Education Members

Mr. Menachem Hojda, President
Mrs. Maxine Gutfreund, Treasurer
Mr. Albert Smith, III, Trustee
Mrs. Dawn Corporan, Trustee

Mrs. Mildred Warren, Vice President
Mrs. Claudette Lunkins, Secretary
Mrs. Crystal Bailey, Trustee

Message to Students and Parents/Guardians

This catalog is designed to give students and parents detailed information about the selection of classes and curricular aspects of the Oak Park Preparatory Academy instructional program. At Oak Park Preparatory Academy, we offer a variety of classes for developing well-rounded students who are prepared for the rigor of high school, including the potential for advanced coursework, career and technical education classes.

Administration

Dr. Daveda Colbert Superintendent
Karla Browning Director of Secondary Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Dannon Holley.....Principal, Oak Park Preparatory Academy
Marcia Bonds.....Assistant Principal, Oak Park Preparatory Academy
Dawn Izzi.....Behavior & Academic Administrator

Telephone Numbers

Administrative Office 248.336.7620
Oak Park Preparatory Academy Fax..... 248.336.7638

Policies and Resources

Attendance

We know that our students deserve every opportunity to succeed throughout their educational journey. That includes having safe transportation to school daily, nutritional breakfast and lunch options, at grade-level standards driven instruction by a certified instructional leader each day in every subject, meaningful interactions with all adults, and appropriate engagement with their peers. Regardless of how or where they enter the district, our students must exit the district with the tools necessary to succeed. Superintendent Dr. Daveda J. Colbert

To fulfill this promise, we ask for parents and guardians to support learning by ensuring students are in attendance at school on time every day. We recognize student attendance requires a partnership between home and school. Our goal is to provide systems of support for our students and families to build bridges to success. Please contact the counseling office to inquire about supports for student attendance.

Grading

Oak Park Schools' policy requires grades and marks to be a direct reflection of a student's understanding and achievement on aligned learning target(s) or standard(s). The district is committed to ensuring grades reflect four critical criteria. Grades must be:

Accurate	Based on achievement of prescribed learning targets and standards.
Supportive of Learning	Grades send the message to students and parents that success lies in the learning, not accumulating points. With limited exceptions, summative assessments determine grades and students have multiple opportunities to demonstrate learning.
Timely and Meaningful	Communicate useful information to students and stakeholders in time for improvements to be made.
Equitable	Based on fairness, inclusion, and opportunity despite personal or social circumstances, such as gender, ethnic origin, or family background.

The district publishes a Grading Policy Guidance Document designed to add clarity and promote consistency in grading practices across the district. Interested stakeholders may access the grading policy guidance document [here](#).

Academic Honor Roll

Students who achieve a 3.0 unweighted grade point average (GPA), or better, for the academic quarter are listed on the Honor Roll. Students who maintain a 3.0 unweighted GPA are encouraged to pursue membership in the National Honor Society. Inquire through your school counseling office.

Policy of Nondiscrimination

The Oak Park Board of Education complies with all federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements and regulations of the U.S. Department of Education. No person on the basis of sex (Title XI); race, color, religion national origin or ancestry, age, marital status (Title VI), or handicap (Section 504) shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation, denied the benefits or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity for which it is responsible or for which it receives financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education. Complaints should be addressed to:

Dr. Daveda J. Colbert, Superintendent
Administration Building 13900 Granzon
Oak Park, MI 48237

Academic Eligibility for Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities

Previous Semester Eligibility: During the previous semester, the student-athlete or club member must have maintained a 2.0 GPA. If a student-athlete or club member fails to do so, he/she will be ineligible to compete or participate for the entire next semester.

Current Marking Period Eligibility: During the current marking period, the student-athlete or club member must be passing all classes at the nine week eligibility check in order to be eligible to compete or participate for the remainder of that semester. Student-athletes and club members who are determined to be ineligible at one of the nine week reports will be ineligible a minimum of one week. After one week, an academic progress report must be circulated to the student-athletes or club member's teachers and submitted to Principal and the Athletic Director (for student-athletes), or the sponsor of the extra-curricular activity (for club members) for eligibility verification. This process will continue until the student-athletes or club member's progress report indicates that he/she is currently passing all classes.

Course Changes (Drop/Add)

Students are encouraged to select their courses carefully, as course changes at a later date are not guaranteed. Once school is actually in session, students may not enter a new class after the third full week of school unless approved by an administrator. Schedule changes will be rare and based only on extenuating circumstances.

Course Requirements

The education program at Oak Park Preparatory Academy provides students with the foundational skills needed for success as they matriculate through higher grades and advanced coursework. Requirements include:

Grade	Required Courses	Electives
6 th Grade	English Language Arts 6 or Honors English Language Arts 6 Math 6 or Honors Math 6 Math Essentials 6 (for selected students) Science 6 Social Studies 6 Physical Education 6	Exploratory Spanish 7 Exploratory French 8 Technology 6 – 7 Concert Choir 6 – 8 Drumline 6 - 8 Beginning Band Intermediate Band
7 th Grade	English Language Arts 7 or Honors English Language Arts 7 Math 6 or Honors Math 7 Math Essentials 7 (for selected students) Science 7 Social Studies 7 Physical Education 7	Advance Band Auxiliary Band/Dance 6 – 8 General Music Creative Writing 7- 8 Art 6 and 8
8 th Grade	English Language Arts 8 or Honors English Language Arts 8 Math 8 Math Essentials 8 (for selected students) Algebra I Science 8 Social Studies 8 Physical Education 8	

English

Course Name: English Language Arts 6

Description: Students will use a variety of learning strategies for gaining knowledge in reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will read short stories, novels, and informational text articles while also learning appropriate vocabulary terms and grammar usage in accordance with Common Core State Standards. Students will be required to evaluate facts and details, determine central idea and theme, analyze character traits and statements, summarize reading materials, predict outcomes, make inferences, and analyze text in order to determine elements of plot and its impact on story. Students are also expected to determine the underlying theory, purpose, and point of view intended by the author while supporting those theories with facts and details from the story. Course content is aligned to Common Core, 6th Grade.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Honors English Language Arts 6

Description: Students will use a variety of learning strategies for gaining knowledge in reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will read grade level aligned short stories, novels, and informational text articles while also learning appropriate vocabulary terms and grammar usage in accordance with Common Core State Standards. Analytical skills and strategies are developed as a foundation for students to explore a variety of fiction and nonfiction text sets as well as multimedia and visual texts. Argumentation skills are introduced to students as they study and develop claims, counterclaims, and evidence based arguments. Course content is aligned to Common Core, 6th grade.

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment criteria include attendance, NWEA MAP and M-Step scores.

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: English Language Arts 7

Description: Students will read a wide variety of short stories, novels, autobiographies, and informational texts that are aligned to the Common Core State Standards. As they read and analyze the literature, students will become skilled interpreters of various text types and the world in which they live. In addition to reading, students will write expository, narrative, and persuasive essays as well as stories and poems. In journals, student will have frequent opportunities to express themselves informally. Writing journals will serve as a record of student growth and development as both writers and thinkers during their seventh grade year. Students will also work to develop grammatical, language, and vocabulary skills in coordination with their assigned unit of study. Course content is aligned to Common Core, 7th grade.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Honors English Language Arts 7

Description: Students will use a variety of learning strategies applied to gaining knowledge in reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will read grade level aligned short stories, novels, and informational text articles while also learning appropriate vocabulary terms and grammar usage in accordance with Common Core State Standards. Analytical skills and strategies are further developed while students begin developing a foundation around writing argumentative essays. Argumentation skills are further developed by students as they study and develop claims, counterclaims, and evidence based arguments. Course content is aligned to Common Core, 7th grade.

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment criteria include attendance, NWEA MAP and M-Step scores.

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: English Language Arts 8

Description: Students will work to improve literacy through exposure to all skills within language arts—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will practice these skills using critical thinking, interpretation, analysis, and collaboration. A variety of literature and informational texts will serve as anthologies to improve reading and writing skills. Eighth graders are required to examine key ideas and details in the text, make inferences, and cite evidence in order to support claims. Students read literary novels of Historical Fiction and learn appropriate vocabulary terms and grammar usage as tested on the M-STEP Exam. This course provides instruction in areas identified by Common Core Standards. Course content is aligned to Common Core, 8th grade.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Honors English Language Arts 8

Description: As students prepare for the rigors of high school, they will use a variety of learning strategies applied to gaining knowledge in reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will read grade level aligned short stories, novels, and informational text articles while also learning appropriate vocabulary terms and grammar usage in accordance with Common Core State Standards. Analytical skills and strategies are developed as students explore a variety of fiction and nonfiction genres including historical fiction, multimedia, and visual texts. Course content is aligned to Common Core, 8th grade.

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment criteria include attendance, NWEA MAP and M-Step scores.

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Creative Writing 7/8 (Elective)

Description: The purpose of this course is to saturate students in writing. Students will write on a variety of topics guided by their own interests and choices. They will discover the habits of writing and apply those habits to their own creative process. This includes daily writing, timed prompts, and large writing projects that focus on the entirety of the writing process—brainstorm, draft, edit, revision, and final copy. Creative Writing is a one-semester course containing several units building on one another aligned to Common Core standards. Most of all, Creative Writing encourages students to become comfortable expressing themselves in writing and sharing their writing with others. Common Core aligned curriculum.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

English as a Second Language

Course Name: ESOL English Language Development 6-8

Description: The ESL Level 1 course is an introduction to the English language and American culture. It is intended for middle school students who have not yet studied English and for those students scoring 1-3 on the WIDA ACCESS PLACEMENT TEST (W-APT). The goal of this course is to develop academic language and empower language learners to become valued contributors within their learning communities. In this yearlong course, students begin to communicate in English by reading, writing, listening, and speaking about their school routines, healthy lifestyles, American cultural activities, and personal goals.

The focus of this course is to support the development and use of academic English in the content areas of English Language Arts (ELA), mathematics, science and social studies (Adapted from Oakland Schools Atlas Rubicon).

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Fine Arts

Course Name: Art 6

Description: Presents an introduction to the world of art through studies of various disciplines within the visual arts. Through lectures, readings, exhibitions, field studies and/or guest visits, and an emphasis on studio activities. Students will develop a general understanding of the role art plays in society. Students will develop a basic vocabulary for describing and critiquing art, a personal style of working, and a greater appreciation for the arts. This is a one semester course aligned to the State of Michigan Visual Arts Content Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

Course Name: Art 8

Description: Students will learn and apply various artistic methods and materials. Students will explore beginning stages of: pen and ink, colored pencils, weaving, pastels, watercolor, and other painting techniques. This semester course explores artists throughout history and encourages students to critique themselves and creatively problem solve. Students examine the elements of art and the principles of design. This course aligns with the Michigan Visual Arts Content Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

Music

Course Name: Concert Choir 6-8

Description: The main goal of this course is to develop choral technique, music reading and the joy of making music. Concert performances are required as the choir is a team and each member plays an intricate part. As the year progresses students will improve their vocal performance skills and further their musicianship by performing more difficult music. The course is aligned to the State of Michigan Content Standards for Music.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Drumline 6-8

Description: Drumline is for percussionists who are interested in further developing their ability in the percussive arts. Emphasis is placed on the fundamentals of comprehensive percussion performance (snare drum, timpani, keyboards, marching percussion, and drum set), including tonal concepts, technical skills, rehearsal skills, aural skills, and rudimentary music theory. In addition to several formal concerts, members are required to perform for various school/community

performances, and sectional rehearsals. Attendance at these functions when scheduled outside of school hours is a course requirement. Members of the Drumline combine with musicians of the Concert Band, and Marching Band to perform at large concerts. In addition, members of the Drumline have the opportunity to participate in a variety of co-curricular music ensembles and activities. The course is aligned to the State of Michigan Content Standards for Music.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Band 6-8

Description: Band is designed to give students an enriching and diverse instrumental music education. At OPPA, there are 3 levels of band: beginning, intermediate and advanced. Each class provides a number of performance opportunities in a variety of settings. Activities involving performance techniques, general musicianship and creative/critical thinking are emphasized during rehearsals. As a member of the band program, group effort and cooperation is necessary to a successful program. Participation in concert band is a skilled effort in which each student is expected to show technical and musical growth throughout this course. Each level of band is aligned to the State of Michigan Content Standards for Music.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: General Music

Description: General music is a course that seeks to give middle school students an overview of the elements, history and the role of music in today's society. This course will encourage students to appreciate all genres of music. In addition, a correlation between music, and the other arts and academic disciplines will be included. Our main focus will be music theory and basic keyboard knowledge. By the end of this course students will be able to play simple songs. The course is aligned to the State of Michigan Content Standards for Music.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

Course Name: Auxiliary Band 6-8

Description: This beginning class offers an introduction to basic dance movement and the basic elements of music and rhythm. This course includes rhythmic, isolated and expressive movement as well as elemental concepts of space, time and force. Choreography is provided and developed according to individual style, ability and personal interpretation. This course is for students with little or no previous dance training. The course is aligned to the State of Michigan Content Standards for Music and Dance.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

Mathematics

Course Name: Math 6

Description: This 6th Grade math course is taught using a problem solving approach with an emphasis on real-world application. The course is designed to build a deep understanding of mathematical concepts including fractions, decimals,

probability, positive and negative integers, rational numbers, and two-dimensional geometry and measurement. Students also investigate an introduction to algebra, including variables, symbols, tables and graphs. The course is aligned to Common Core Standards for Mathematics, with Big Ideas Modeling Real Life Grade 6 as the primary curriculum resource.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Math Essentials 6 (taken in conjunction with regular 6th Grade Mathematics)

Description: 6th Grade Mathematics Essentials is designed to help students be successful in their 6th grade math class. In this course students are provided with an opportunity to expand their foundational understanding of mathematical computations and mathematical representations. Students use manipulatives to model fractions, decimals and whole numbers in order to eventually compare multiple values. Math essentials is taught along with regular 6th grade math so students have an opportunity to be pre-taught concepts that will allow them to lead whole class discussions as well as an opportunity to re-learn material in order to master the content. The curriculum for essentials is aligned to the scope and sequence and skills needed for students to be successful in 6th grade. The NWEA learning continuum is used to assess individual student learning pathways to master 6th grade mathematics as well as any pre-requisite skills students may still need to master.

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment criteria include attendance, NWEA MAP and M-Step scores.

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Honors Math 6

Description: This 6th Grade Honors math course is designed to prepare students to become critical thinkers and problem solvers. Students are expected to identify and apply mathematics to everyday experiences, as well as other disciplines and topics within the school. In order to become critical thinkers and problem solvers students use a problem solving technique where they create a plan, carry out the plan, and then evaluate for reasonableness. Honors 6th Grade math moves at an accelerated pace in order to cover the necessary 6th grade material as well as the foundational 7th grade material. This course provides a deep understanding of mathematical concepts including fractions, decimals, probability, positive and negative integers and rational numbers, and two-dimensional geometry and measurement. Students also investigate an introduction to algebra, including variables, symbols, tables and graphs. The primary curriculum resource is Big Ideas Modeling Real Life Grade 6 Advanced.

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment criteria include attendance, NWEA MAP and M-Step scores.

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Math 7

Description: 7th grade math is designed to prepare students to become critical thinkers and problem solvers. Students are expected to identify and apply mathematics to everyday experiences in addition to activities inside and outside of the classroom. Students are introduced to a problem-solving model that incorporates understanding the problem, creating a plan, carrying out the plan, and evaluating the solution for reasonableness. Students begin the year by building on their understanding of rational numbers in 6th grade and now apply the four basic mathematical operations to rational numbers. Students then move into algebraic concepts which then allows them to apply this knowledge to ratios and portions. Students conclude the year with two final units of student, geometry and probability and statistics. The course is aligned to Common Core State Standards and the primary curriculum resource is Big Ideas Modeling Real Life Grade 7.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Math Essentials 7 (taken in conjunction with regular 7th Grade Mathematics)

Description: 7th Grade Math Essentials is designed to help students to be successful in their regular 7th grade math class. In this course students are provided with an opportunity to assess their current skill level for middle school math and work at their own pace to review and advance their understandings of middle school math concepts. The curriculum for essentials is aligned to the scope and sequence and skills needed for students to be successful in 7th grade. The NWEA learning continuum is used to assess individual student learning pathways to master 7th grade mathematics as well as any pre-requisite skills students may still need to master.

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment criteria include attendance, NWEA MAP and M-Step scores.

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Honors Math 7

Description: This 7th Grade Honors math course is designed to prepare students to become critical thinkers and problem solvers. Students will be expected to identify and apply mathematics to everyday experiences, as well as other disciplines and topics within the school. In order to become critical thinkers and problem solvers students use a problem-solving technique where students make a plan, carry out the plan, and then evaluate for reasonableness. Honors 7th Grade math moves at an accelerated pace in order to cover the necessary 7th grade material as well as the foundational 8th grade material, so students are prepared to take Algebra 1 in 8th grade. This course provides a deep understanding into the 7th grade topics then expands to linear algebra, three-dimensional geometry, and geometric relationships among lines and angles. The primary curriculum resource is Big Ideas Modeling Real Life Grade 7 Accelerated.

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment criteria include attendance, NWEA MAP and M-Step scores.

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Math 8

Description: In grade eight students begin the year formulating and reasoning with expressions and equations. Students learn how to simplify expressions including radical and expressions with exponents while learning why simplifying expressions is important. After learning to simplifying expressions students learn how to find solutions to linear equations as well as systems of linear equations. Students then learn how to apply mathematics to real world solutions by using functions to describe the relationships between quantities. Finally students jump into geometry where they analyze two and three dimensional space and figures using distance, angles, similarity, congruence, and the Pythagorean Theorem. The course is aligned to Common Core State Standards and the primary curriculum resource is Big Ideas Modeling Real Life Grade 8.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Math Essentials 8 (taken in conjunction with regular 8th Grade Mathematics)

Description: This course is designed for students needing periodic and/or long-term support in their core math course. Math Essentials 8 begins with developing a conceptual understanding of grade-level mathematics as well as building and deepening number sense particularly with visual representations (number lines, and area models). In addition to building procedural fluency and conceptual understating, students learn to strengthen their problem solving skills and foster a growth mindset when approaching mathematics. The sequence of this course aligns with the core 8th grade math class and supports are

responsive to individual student needs. The curriculum for Math Essentials 8 is aligned to the scope and sequence and skills needed for students to be successful in 8th grade.

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment criteria include attendance, NWEA MAP and M-Step scores.

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Algebra I A/B

Description: Students will explore the relationship between quantities and how they can be used to solve real world problems. This will be accomplished through the study of functions and representations. Key areas of study include linear, exponential and quadratic functions as means to model real-world. Students extend their study of linear functions through systems of equations and inequalities. Use of a graphing calculator is embedded in the course. This course meets the Algebra I requirements from the State of Michigan as well as the Common Core State Standards.

Course Prerequisites: Enrollment criteria include attendance, NWEA MAP and M-Step scores.

Course Length: Full Year

Physical Education

Course Name: Physical Education 6

Description: Students will explore a variety of skills and acquire the knowledge to live and maintain a healthy lifestyle. This class provides an overview of the four main health and wellness components (Physical, Mental, Emotional, and Social). Students will explore a variety of sports such as Soccer, Volleyball, and Football, but also activities such as Speed Stacking, Yoga, and Circuit Training (Workout Wednesdays). This course aligns with Michigan K-12 Physical Education Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

Course Name: Physical Education 7

Description: Students will expand upon the fundamental skills and knowledge they acquired in 6th grade physical education. The four main health and wellness components (Physical, Mental, Emotional, and Social) will be explored more in depth to prepare them for a more students centered learning approach in 8th grade. Students will explore a variety of sports such as Soccer, Volleyball, and Football, but also activities such as Speed Stacking, Yoga, and Circuit Training (Workout Wednesdays). This course aligns with Michigan K-12 Physical Education Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

Course Name: Physical Education 8

Description: Students will continue to expand on a variety of skills and acquire the knowledge become or remain living a healthy lifestyle. This class has an emphasis on the four main health and wellness components (Physical, Mental, Emotional, and Social) where students will explore setting goals and monitoring their daily health. Activities such as Speed Stacking, Yoga, Circuit Training (Workout Wednesdays), and more will be explored to help give students gain knowledge of different activities to remain physically active outside of school. This course aligns with Michigan K-12 Physical Education Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

Science

Course Name: Science 6

Description: Under the adopted Mi-STAR Science Curriculum, students will examine real world scenarios and build models to examine the matter at the molecular level, human body systems and the hydrological cycle. Students engage in scientific problem solving around community challenges such as flooding and everyday challenges such as protecting devices from physical forces. Students create and evaluate solutions to address identified problems. This course is aligned to the Michigan Science Standards performance expectations from the Next Generation Science Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Science 7

Description: The Mi-STAR Science Curriculum exposes 7th grade students to a variety of phenomena based units where they explore life, earth and physical science. Students examine energy in the form of electricity and heat then apply their knowledge to real world scenarios in their examination of sustainable building and plant growth. This course is aligned to the Michigan Science Standards performance expectations from the Next Generation Science Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Science 8

Description: Under the adopted Mi-STAR Science Curriculum, students will examine natural hazards including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornados and volcanoes, and explain how natural hazards affect different areas of the US. Students will explore climate and learn to interpret charts and graphs while writing critically about science related material in a claim, evidence, reasoning format. This course is aligned to the Michigan Science Standards performance expectations derived from the Next Generation Science Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Social Studies

Course Name: Social Studies 6

Description: Sixth-grade students will explore the tools and ways of thinking used by geographers as they study contemporary world geography, with the integration of civics/government and economics. Students will also use prior knowledge, research, and inquiry skills to investigate global issues. This course aligns with the State of Michigan's 6th grade Social Studies Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Social Studies 7

Description: The seventh grade social studies curriculum focuses on early 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. By unpacking historical and geographic thinking, students learn how these disciplines are distinct in how they ask questions and frame problems to organize and drive inquiry. Students learn that historians must have some evidence to support the claims they make in their accounts. They investigate how these social scientists select, analyze, and organize evidence, and then use that evidence to create accounts that answer questions or problems. By introducing students to the “invisible” tools that historians use to create historical accounts -- significance, social institutions, temporal frames (time), and spatial scales (space) – the course deepens students’ historical habits of mind and builds students’ social and content literacy. This course aligns with the State of Michigan’s 7th grade Social Studies Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Social Studies 8

Description: Eighth-grade students continue their study of United States history from the development of the Constitution through Reconstruction. Geographic, civics/government, and economics content is integrated within the historical context. Students will understand the relevancy and connections of this history to their lives. Students will use significant content knowledge, research, and inquiry to analyze issues. They develop reasoned arguments and write a persuasive civic essay addressing issues from the past within a historical context. This course aligns with the State of Michigan’s 8th grade Social Studies Standards.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Technology

Course Name: Technology 6

Description: Students complete online and classroom lessons within a hybrid classroom to learn basic technology skills using a variety of web tools. Many lessons include videos and activities that are tied to the International Society for Technology Education standards (ISTE) and an overview of how each tool has practical uses. Key modules for the semester will focus on keyboarding, how a computer works, acceptable use, copyright and plagiarism, Google Docs, Microsoft Office, Cyber safety and Digital Footprint. Course content aligns to Michigan’s Integrated Technology Competencies for Students.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

Course Name: Technology 7

Description: Students are introduced to a variety of technology through lecture, inquiry, discussion, individual work, group work, and class projects. Students will focus on the following topics: hardware & software, input/output, Internet, computer mathematics, netiquette, social media, and technology related current events. Students will gather, organize and present information using various media formats while applying knowledge using real life scenarios. Course content aligns to Michigan’s Integrated Technology Competencies for Students.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Semester

World Languages

Course Name: Spanish 7

Description: The 7th grade Spanish curriculum focuses on Communication and Culture, Strands 1 & 2 of the World Language Standards and Benchmarks published by the State of Michigan. Students will be immersed in beginning Spanish vocabulary (alphabet, number, seasons, days, months, family, etc.) while building cohesive conversational sentences and dialogue in Spanish. Student will practice speaking, fluency, and answering responses using only Spanish daily. Our culminating works are researching geographically Spanish-speaking countries and native landmarks of these countries.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year

Course Name: Exploratory French

Description: This introductory course provides students with the fundamentals of the French language, including an exploration of basic structure, vocabulary and conjugation. Students benefit from learning about French history and culture through the lens of language acquisition. Course content addresses introductory levels of the World Language Standards and Benchmarks published by the State of Michigan.

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Length: Full Year