

**North Davis Junior High School**  
**2018-2019**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Descriptions**

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**ASSISTANTS**

**Library Media Skills**  
**(2230) Semester**

Library Media Skills includes learning how to circulate library materials, serving library patrons, and other day-to-day operations of the library. The course includes reading a variety of materials for information and leisure, practicing research skills, and learning to interpret the messages in media. Students will also be completing errands and tasks for a variety of teachers.

**Peer Tutor**  
**(2252) Semester**

A peer tutor will assist the teacher by helping a student understand the concepts taught, answering their questions, and any other duties assigned by the teacher.

**COLLEGE & CAREER AWARENESS**

**FACS Exploration**  
**(8403) Semester**

This course provides students the opportunity to develop essential skills in the various career pathways related to Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS). Students will explore and cultivate skills in food and nutrition sciences, childcare, interior design, clothing and textile construction, fashion design and merchandising, consumerism, entrepreneurship, family relationships, personal responsibility, and career and job-related tasks.

**Business Digital Literacy**  
**(8517) Semester**

This course is an introduction to computer literacy. Students will have opportunities to use technology and develop skills that encourage creativity, critical thinking, productivity and collaboration in the classroom and day-to-day life. Skills will be demonstrated by creating a project for a different content area. Students will complete this course as a prerequisite to move into high school computer literacy courses.

**Exploring Technology 1 – 3D Modeling and Design**  
**(8601) Semester**

Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. Design projects may include playgrounds, toys, furniture and other products they encounter every day. Using Autodesk Inventor software and 3D printer, students create a virtual image of their design.

**Exploring Technology 2 - Robotics**  
**(8602) Semester**

This course incorporates math, science, and technology to solve everyday problems. Exploring Tech II is divided into two units – Design and Modeling. We will use 3-D modeling to introduce students to the design process. Students will understand how 3-D modeling has influenced their lives and will create models to solve problems. Students learn about the mechanics of motion, the conversion of energy, and the use of science to improve communication.

**Creative Coding**  
**(8674) Semester**

This class is primarily an introductory programming course with units that are grounded in an array of standards. The strands for this class include computational thinking, collaboration, computing practice, computer programming, and communication devices.

**ENGLISH**

**English 8**  
**(4080) Year**

This is a required course, which focuses on reading, writing (mostly argumentative and informational), the process of

research (inquiry), and speaking and listening (appropriate participation in class discussions) which are taught within themed units.

### **English 8 Honors (4083) Year**

Students in honors English will be required to show higher level thinking skills, demonstrate more critical writing skills, complete book assessments each term, and read outside class. Writing skills include: using extensive detail in writing; narrating in the student's own voice; participating in peer- and teacher- editing conferences; utilizing in-depth revision techniques and organizing essays in narrative, informational, and argumentative genres. It is vital that students read at or above grade level in order to effectively manage the required reading. It is vital that students read at or above grade level in order to effectively manage the required reading.

### **Creative Writing (4146) Semester**

Students will have the chance to flex their creative muscle as they write everything from short stories to poetry. Students will get to know the writing styles of various famous fiction authors, and then have the chance to work on developing their own personal writing style. Expect to write: poetry, character sketches, short stories, and more. There will be language skills instruction and opportunities to practice using those skills.

### **Journalism 1-School Newspaper (4185) Semester**

This course provides opportunities for students to engage in an examination of Journalism and the news writing process. Students are responsible for the planning, design, and publication of the school newspaper. This production process will involve feature writing, page/graphic design, and photography. Good writing skills and a working knowledge of grammar are required.

## **HEALTH**

### **Health Education 1 (7100) Semester**

This course is designed to develop skills needed to improve the quality of life by helping students to cope with and solve problems. Students study the stages of growth and development and maturation; positive health lifestyles; high-risk lifestyles, disease prevention; values respect, abstinence; emergency procedures and first aid care.

## **MATHEMATICS**

### **Secondary Mathematics I Honors (Honors Accelerated) (5131) Year**

**Only those who completed Math 7- Honors Accelerated are able to take the Accelerated 8th grade math course. This course is not a self-select course.** This class will cover all of the concepts in the Secondary Mathematics I course. Concepts will be explored in greater depth with increased use of contextual situations. In addition, it will include concepts dealing with vectors and quantities of vectors, and matrix operations and their applications. This course will include elements that will prepare students to take calculus in high school. This course will have increased rigor and advanced content that will challenge the minds of high ability students.

### **Math 8 (5120) Year**

The CCSS instruction will focus on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

### **Math 8 Honors (5121) Year**

The CCSS will cover the three critical areas listed in Grade 8 Mathematics Course and add extra topics and concepts that would interest an advanced middle school student. Concepts will be explored in greater depth with increased use of contextual situations. This course will have increased rigor and advanced content that will challenge the minds of high ability students. Taking Honors will keep the student on track for further Honors classes.

## MUSIC

### Music Exploration (1600) Semester

Students will participate in engaging and exciting learning activities associated with music; including creating, listening, reading and performing music. They will learn music history, including popular music of today. They will also learn about various instruments. Students will have the opportunity to learn the basics of singing learn to part sing in groups and participate in a concert at the end of the semester.

## PERFORMING ARTS

### Beginning Band (Level 1): Brass (1645) Year

Students will learn to read and perform music on the following instruments: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, French horn, Trumpet, Trombone, and Percussion. Students will also learn basic musicianship skills and theory concepts, such as major scales and basic note and rest values. Students will be put in the appropriate sections of beginning band after they decide which instrument they are playing when meeting with Mr. Crosby. Certain instruments such as French horns, and other instruments offered in Beginning Band can be rented from the school for a \$95 fee. Summer band is also offered towards the end of the summer to help students get started. **All students participate in the Christmas and Spring Concerts.**

### Beginning Band (Level 1): Woodwinds (1646) Year

Students will learn to read and perform music on the following instruments: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, French horn, Trumpet, Trombone, and Percussion. Students will also learn basic musicianship skills and theory concepts, such as major scales and basic note and rest values. Students will be put in the appropriate sections of beginning band after they decide which instrument they are playing when meeting with Mr. Crosby. Certain instruments such as French horns, and other instruments offered in Beginning Band can be rented from the school for a \$95 fee. Summer band is also offered towards the end of the summer to help students get started. **All students participate in the Christmas and Spring Concerts.**

### Beginning Band (Level 1): Percussion (1647) Year

Students will learn to perform music on percussion instruments. Emphasis is on note reading and rhythm reading. Practice snare pad and bells are emphasized. No set playing is taught. Students must have two or more years of successful piano lessons to be considered for the percussion section. Interested students should contact the Director of Band, Mr. Crosby, in the spring if interested in playing percussion.

### Band Level 2 (Intermediate) (1740) Year

Brass, Woodwind or Percussion instruments are combined in this class. Intermediate playing techniques will be stressed with emphasis on playing harmony and twelve basic scales. Students will perform for parents at the end of each term. Home practice is required. **All students participate in the Christmas and Spring Concerts.** Prerequisite: Beginning Band or teacher approval.

### Band Level 3 (Advanced) (1840) Year

Refinement of musical skills, higher levels of performance, aesthetic judgment and music appreciation are emphasized at this level. Ensemble performances, musical styles, historical period, band literature, chamber music, solo and ensembles, and creative development are a priority. **All students participate in the Christmas and Spring Concerts.** Prerequisite: Intermediate Band.

### Jazz Band (1848) Year

This course provides opportunities to foster and refine musical expression through instrumental performance, analytical/evaluative skills, and aesthetic judgment. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music with fluency, the polishing of performance skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to experience the spontaneity of improvisation and the creative process of composing. Students will hone listening skills and their ability to analyze and critique music and music performances. **All students participate in the Christmas and Spring Concerts.** Prerequisite: Intermediate Band and/or audition.

### Choir 2 (Intermediate Choir) (1720) Semester

This is a class for 8th and 9th grade girls and boys. Students will perform a variety of choral music in 2 and 3 part voicings. **Performing at concerts is required.** Focus will be on basic vocal skills, music literacy, sight singing and musicianship.

### Choir 2 (Advanced Girls' Choir) (1725) Year

This class is for 8th and 9th grade girls. Students will perform a variety of choral music in 2 and 3 part voicings. **Performing at concerts is required.** Focus will be on further development of vocal skills, music literacy, sight singing and musicianship. Teacher permission required.

**Choir 3 (Concert Choir)  
(1820) Year**

This class is for 8th and 9th grade girls and boys. Students will perform a variety of choral music in 3 and 4 (SATB) part voicing. This class is for experienced singers and will focus on the refinement of choral skills and aesthetic judgments. The emphasis is ensemble performing, sight singing, choral literature and creative development. Extra performances will be required. **Concert attire is required. Students must enroll for the full year.** Prerequisite: auditions are required.

**Bell Choir  
(1610) Semester**

This course is a truly unique "choir"...we do not sing, we RING! This small ensemble is open to students of all musical abilities. It's great for piano students who want an ensemble experience. In this class, we will learn basic music skills including rhythm, note-reading, listening skills and ensemble performance. We will learn a variety of music from pop to classical. Bell Choir performs at school concerts and events.

**Orchestra Level 2 (Intermediate)  
(1760) Year**

Students should have had previous experience with their instrument prior to enrolling (6<sup>th</sup> grade orchestra or private lessons). Students with no prior experience may enroll, but will need private lessons or extra practice in class to catch up. This course is designed to give students the skills to perform music levels 1-2.

**Orchestra Level 3 (Advanced)  
(1860) Year**

This class continues with skills and techniques learned in previous classes. Students are able to perform at school concerts and district competitions.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**Intermediate Fitness 8  
(7650) Semester**

This course is designed to develop more advanced lifetime attitudes regarding physical activity and healthy lifestyles.

**SCIENCE**

**Integrated Science 8  
(3300) Year**

This course investigates changes in matter and energy as observed in the various sciences. Concepts are integrated to demonstrate that the different branches of science and technology are interdependent.

**Integrated Science 8 Honors  
(3333) Year**

Students will study the core curriculum in greater depth, focusing on application of the curriculum. In addition to covering the core curriculum, students will complete a science project each term. The homework will consist of 10-15 min assignments several times a week. Participation in the Science Fair is mandatory for science 8 honors.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**U.S. History  
(6120) Year**

This course will focus on historic events from the Age of Exploration to Reconstruction and the Western Movement.

**U.S. History Honors  
(6123) Year**

Students will develop research and analytical skills used by historians as they explore the past from Ancient American history to the post-Civil War reconstruction era (1877). Students will read and analyze numerous primary documents, explore different secondary sources, and maintain a documents journal. Each term students will exhibit higher-level skills by completing a learning activity ranging from reading and reporting on historical novels to individual research papers, and

group presentations. Additionally, we will focus on developing abilities through oral presentations, note taking, computer skills and graphic presentations.

**Civics  
(6210) Semester**

Introductory class on the basic principles of government and leadership. Student will explore the different types of government, economies, and branches of the government, political systems and elections. Students will be prepared for future government and citizen classes. Class will be discussion and lecture based, with guest speakers and activities.

**Current Issues  
(6215) Semester**

In our current event class, students will learn how events in their community, state, nation, and from around the world relate to them and impact their lives. We will identify issues, compare viewpoints about each issue, and understand how each event influences the world in which we live.

**DRAMA**

**Theater Foundations 1  
(4230) Semester**

This course will introduce skills in performance and the study of drama. Students will also read, view, and analyze theatrical works. Each student MUST perform throughout the semester. Topics include movement, voice, script writing, script analysis, characterization, storytelling, and basic acting skills. This is an introductory acting course.

**Theater Foundations 2  
(4235) Semester**

This course is available to students who have successfully completed Theater Foundations 1. This course will continue to introduce skills in performance and the study of drama by expanding upon skills learned in Theater 1. Students will also read, view and analyze theatrical works. Topics include movement, script writing, dramatic structure and elements, theatre history, Shakespeare and classical acting, script analysis, one-act plays, and improvisation.

**Musical Theater  
(4275) Semester**

This is a semester class open to anyone who has successfully completed Theater 1. Students will be learning about the musical theater genre, reading plays, viewing theatrical works, performing scenes and music from musicals and presenting a musical revue at the end of the semester. This class will produce and perform outside of class time. Students will audition for parts as part of the class. Rehearsals will also be held outside of class and the student will be required to attend.

**VISUAL ARTS**

**Art Foundations I  
(1100) Semester**

This drawing course focuses on the art elements and design principles. Students will study and explore art criticism and art history. Students will also, use a variety of mediums as they design their own compositions. This class is the prerequisite for all other art classes.

**ADV Foundations 1C 3D Art  
(1105) Semester**

Successful completion of Art 1 is required to enroll in this course. This class introduces the skills and craftsmanship of creating three-dimensional works of art. A variety of media is introduced including optic art, the use of mixed media such as cardboard, wood, nylon, wire and paper mache sculptures, as well as other mixed media constructions. The primary focus of this class will be to encourage students to see the possibilities for crating works of art other than using paper and pencil.

**WORLD LANGUAGES**

**Foreign Language Survey  
(4470) Semester**

This course introduces student to world languages and cultures. During the course, students will learn about other cultures, countries, and languages. Students will be exposed to a brief history of the country, animals, greetings, farewells, numbers, colors, and days of the week. Some languages that may be covered include Spanish, Chinese, French, and German.

**Spanish 1  
(4620) Year**

This course helps students create a solid foundation of basic Spanish skills. Skills such as introductions, descriptions of people, likes/dislikes and describing family are modeled by the teacher and then students practice those skills in a variety of scenarios. In class, students interact with the language through reading, listening, writing and speaking the language to complete realistic scenarios. The class is taught mostly in Spanish.

**Spanish 2  
(4630) Year**

This course helps students build on their Spanish skills and encourages creativity in using the language. Student learning will focus on more specific topics like eating, describing your daily routine and entertainment. Students will address and interact with these topics through reading, and listening to authentic articles and commercials. Students will respond to these materials by writing and speaking the language to complete realistic scenarios. The class is taught in Spanish.

**Spanish 3  
(4640) Year**

This course polishes the skills learned in Spanish 2 and helps students elaborate in Spanish. Topics include: The arts, current events, and going to the doctor. Students will address and interact with these topics through reading, and listening to authentic articles and commercials. Students will respond to these materials by writing and speaking the language to complete realistic scenarios. The class is taught in Spanish.

**Latinos in Action  
(9200) Year**

The mission of the Latinos in Action class is to empower our Latino youth through culture, service, leadership and excellent education with the sole purpose of graduating from college. This class trains students as paraprofessionals who visit and tutor local elementary school children. LIA students also learn and improve their leadership skills through their roles within LIA. LIA students organize activities and initiate service projects together. In order to participate in the Latinos in Action class, students must maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

**ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES**

**Study Skills  
(2400) Semester**

The purpose of Study Skills is to teach specific concepts related to school success, correct study principles for home and school, independence, self-motivation, self-discipline, choices and consequences, and skills for lifelong learning.

**Pep Squad  
(7860) Semester**

This class designed to foster school spirit and allow more students the opportunity to participate in structured activities that support school spirit and pride. Together with the Cheerleaders and Student Government, students taking Pep Squad will learn cheers and participate by cheering at home games. Attendance at home games is mandatory. This is not a competition squad and is open to any student interested in participating. Uniform fee of \$10.00 for Pep Squad t-shirt.