

Grade Five Academic Courses

5 English Language Arts

This course teaches students to read and view critically and communicate effectively in writing and speaking. Students study specific narrative genre and aspects of literature, use of information texts, reading, vocabulary, writing, grammar, spelling, punctuation, word study, and English usage, as well as speaking together, presenting information, active listening, research, using and evaluating technology resources and viewing media.

5 Math

This course uses a variety of resources to teach grade level math expectations. Students learn the understanding and applications of concepts and problem solving skills in the areas of number and operations, Algebra, Geometry, measurement, and data and probability. In the fifth grade, emphasis within the number area shifts to understanding of the addition and subtraction of fractions, with continued consolidation of multiplication and division concepts and skills with whole numbers. The idea of remainders in whole number division is addressed. Students learn the meaning of a fraction and work with decimals and percentages.

5 Science

This course introduces students to concepts in the area of physical and life sciences. Students develop inquiry learning skills and focus on topics about scientific inquiry and reasoning with units on classification, adaptations, classifications, heredity, earth and solar system, force and motion.

5 Social Studies

This course introduces students to the Western hemisphere and the themes of geography, history and economics. Units are integrated with inquiry, writing, technology skills and research skills. Students study various countries and areas of the hemisphere countries and the U.S. in a project-based setting.

5 Bible

The focus of this year's study is Jesus' life and ministry as well as on various types of Old Testament books. Students are engaged with activities that make connections to their lives, learn through memory work, and see these truths through the framework of a reformed Christian perspective.

Grade Five Co-Curricular Courses

6 Art

This program incorporates six goals for design and media that include perception, conceptualization, visual organization, creative expression, applications skills, and aesthetic appreciation for the visual arts. Students study and apply design elements, various media processes, knowledge of art styles and themes in this year-long course.

5 General Music

This program integrates knowledge of choral reading, understanding, performance skills, and aesthetic appreciation of choral music. Choral focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles. In addition, students will study musical theatre, music history and important musical pieces.

5 Physical Education

This program engages students in health and fitness activities, develops skills and proficiency in various team sports, track and field events, and gymnastics, offers various movement experiences, develops understandings in these areas, and provides decision making opportunities. Girls and boys classes are separated and offer focused experiences.

5 World Language - Spanish

All students are engaged in world language learning through a communicative approach to language with emphasis on speaking and listening. Students will learn to converse with teachers and friends, talk about themselves, exchange information, as well as identifying Spanish-speaking countries, learning about their cultures, and developing cross cultural competencies.

Grade Six Academic Courses

6 English Language Arts

This course teaches students to read and view critically and communicate effectively in writing and speaking. Students study many aspects of literature, reading, vocabulary, writing, grammar, punctuation, English usage, speaking together, presenting information, listening, research, evaluating technology resources and viewing media.

6 Math

This course teaches grade level content expectations with emphasis on understanding and applying math skills, concepts and problem solving skills in areas of pre-Algebra, measurement, probability and statistics, Geometry, fractions, decimals and percents. Units include Prime Time, Shapes and Design,

Data Around Us, Covering and Surrounding, How Likely It Is, and Bits and Pieces II.

6 Science

This course introduces students to concepts in the area of earth and space, physical and life sciences. Students develop inquiry skills and focus on topics about the scientific method, science in the city, adaptations and diversity, mixes and solutions, simple machines and energy, classifications and patterns of living things.

6 Social Studies

This course introduces students to the Eastern hemisphere. Themes of geography, economics, history and research, writing and technology skills are integrated into content. Students study some early civilizations in Europe, Asia, Africa and Oceania regions.

6 Bible

This course teaches the Old Testament stories, covenants, and lessons from creation through the reign of David. Students are engaged with activities that make connections to their lives, learn through memory work, and see these truths through the framework of a reformed Christian perspective.

Grade Six Co Curricular Courses

6 Art

This program incorporates six goals for design and media that include perception, conceptualization, visual organization, creative expression, applications skills, and aesthetic appreciation for the visual arts. Students study and apply design elements, various media processes, knowledge of art styles and themes in this year-long course.

6 General Music

This program integrates knowledge of choral reading, understanding, performance skills, and aesthetic appreciation of choral music. Choral focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles. In addition, students will study musical theatre, music history and important music pieces.

6 Physical Education

This program engages students in health and fitness activities, develops skills and proficiency in various team sports, track and field events, and gymnastics, offers various movement experiences, develops

understandings in these areas, and provides decision making opportunities. Girls and boys classes are separated and offer focused experiences.

6 World Language -Spanish

All students are engaged in world language learning through a communicative approach to language with emphasis on speaking and listening. Students will learn to converse with teachers and friends, talk about themselves, exchange information, as well as identifying Spanish-speaking countries, learning about their cultures, and developing cross-cultural competencies.

Grade Six Elective Performance Courses

6 Instrumental Music

Instrumental classes will be held three days a week. A student may choose to participate in one instrumental group. Choosing to be a member of band or orchestra should be carefully considered. Being a member of any performing group can be a tremendously positive experience. It also means a commitment to both the director and the group. Barring extenuating circumstances, students choosing to join band or orchestra must commit to a full school year of rehearsals and performances.

6 String Orchestra

The strings program integrates knowledge of reading, understanding, performing and valuing music through an orchestra experience. Focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles.

6 Band

The band program integrates knowledge of reading, understanding, performing and valuing music through a performance experience. Focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles.

Grade Seven Academic Courses

7 English Language Arts

This course teaches students to read and view critically and communicate effectively in writing and speaking. Students study specific genre and many aspects of literature, reading, vocabulary, writing, grammar, punctuation, English usage, speaking together, presenting information, listening, research,

evaluating technology resources and viewing media.

7 Math

This course teaches math content expectations with emphasis on understanding and applying skills, concepts and problem solving skills in areas of pre-Algebra, measurement, probability and statistics, Geometry, fractions, decimals and percents. Specific units include Comparing and Scaling, Stretching and Shrinking, Accentuating the Negative, Filling and Wrapping, Moving Straight Ahead, Variables and Patterns.

7 Algebra

This course is for students who qualify through the Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test and teacher recommendations in grade 6 and who have completed a Pre-Algebra bridge program. The course meets grade 8 Algebra standards and includes Algebra topics.

7 Science

This course introduces students to concepts in the area of physical and life sciences. Students develop inquiry skills that include research skills and focus on topics about the scientific method, interactions and biomes, force and motions, astronomy, human body systems and health.

7 Social Studies

This course integrates the Michigan core curriculum standards to teach students United States history from the pre-colonial era through the U.S. Constitution. Literacy skills are integrated into this course.

7 Bible

This course teaches the Old Testament stories, covenants, and lessons from the reign of Solomon through the inter-testament era with emphasis on the prophets. Students are engaged with activities that make connections to their lives, learn Bible passages, and see truths through the framework of reformed Christianity.

Grade Seven Co-Curricular Courses

7 Art

This program incorporates six goals for design and media that include perception, conceptualization, visual organization, creative expression, applications skills, and aesthetic appreciation for the visual arts. Students study and apply design elements, various media processes, knowledge of art styles and themes

in this year-long course.

7 World Language - Spanish

Students develop their competencies in speaking and listening and begin to develop skills in reading and writing the language in this course. They learn more about grammar and language use and continue to use a variety of formats for their learning and to develop cross-cultural competencies, as well as cultural appreciation. Classes are conducted mostly in the target language.

7 Physical Education

This program engages students in health and fitness activities, develops skills and proficiency in various team sports, and individual performance, such as track and field events, dance, gymnastics, and offers various movement experiences, develops understandings in these areas, and provides decision making opportunities. Girls and boys classes are separated and offer focused experiences.

Grade Six Elective Performance Courses

7 Instrumental Music

Instrumental classes will be held three days a week. A student may choose to participate in one instrumental group. Choosing to be a member of band or orchestra should be carefully considered. Being a member of any performing group can be a tremendously positive experience. It also means a commitment to both the director and the group. Barring extenuating circumstances, students choosing to join band or orchestra must commit to a school year of rehearsals and performances.

7 Choral Music

The choral program integrates knowledge of music reading skill, understanding of musicality, performance skills, and aesthetic appreciation of choral music. Focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles.

7 String Orchestra

The strings program integrates knowledge of reading, understanding, performing and valuing music through an orchestra experience. Focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles.

7 Band

The band program integrates knowledge of reading, understanding, performing and valuing music through a performance experience. Focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles.

Grade Eight Academic Courses

8 Algebra

This is the core course for grade 8. The course meets the Michigan standards and the grade level expectations for middle school Algebra and prepares students for high school math requirements.

8 Pre-Algebra

This is a course for students who qualify through placement by their grade 7 teachers. This course prepares students for high school Algebra. Students' learning needs are met through pacing, working with supported instruction and working with their academic peers.

8 Geometry

This course is for students who qualify through successful completion of the Algebra program in grade 7. The course meets high school Geometry standards and includes standard geometry topics and pacing.

8 Science

This course meets the requirements of the Michigan Core Curriculum for secondary students. Students are introduced to concepts and vocabulary of Earth Science. Major topics include fluid earth, earth in time, and solid earth. In addition, they develop inquiry learning skills and focus on topics about the scientific method.

8 Social Studies

This course integrates the Michigan core curriculum standards to teach students United States history from the US Constitution through the 19th century. Literacy skills are integrated into this course.

8 Bible

This course of study uses the New Testament to teach lessons of our faith. We teach and experience through worship and other community activities, through New Testament stories, lessons and Bible study. Students are engaged with activities that make connections to their lives, learn through memory work, and see these truths through the framework of a reformed Christian perspective.

Grade Eight Co-Curricular Courses

8 Art

This program incorporates six goals for design and media that include perception, conceptualization, visual organization, creative expression, applications skills, and aesthetic appreciation for the visual arts. Students study and apply design elements, various media processes, knowledge of art styles and themes in this year-long course.

8 Physical Education

This program engages students in health and fitness activities, develops skills and proficiency in various team and individual sports and fitness options such as dance, track and field events, gymnastics, and offers various movement experiences, develops understandings in these areas, and provides decision making opportunities. Girls and boys classes are separated and offer focused experiences.

Grade Eight Elective Performance Courses

8 Music

All music programs are elective, but students must choose to take one music program. A student may choose to only participate in band. A student may choose to only participate in orchestra. A student may choose to only participate in choir. A student may choose to participate in both band and choir. A student may choose to participate in both orchestra and choir.

8 Choral Music

The choral program integrates knowledge of reading, understanding, performance skills, and aesthetic appreciation of choral music. Focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles.

8 Instrumental

Music, Band and Orchestra classes will be held three days a week. A student may choose to participate in one instrumental group. Choosing to be a member of band or orchestra should be carefully considered. Being a member of a performing group can be a tremendously positive experience. It also means a commitment to both the director and the group. Barring extenuating circumstances, students choosing to join band or orchestra must commit to a school year of rehearsals and performances.

8 String Orchestra

The strings program integrates knowledge of reading, understanding, performing and valuing music through an orchestra experience. Focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles.

8 Band

The band program integrates knowledge of reading, understanding, performing and valuing music through a performance experience. Focus areas include rhythm, melody, harmony, musical form, tone color, expression, approach to vocal music and awareness of various forms and styles.