



## Middle School for Girls

**Art Grades 5-8**

**Rebecca Poth**

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### Course Description

The art curriculum for Grades 5-8 is planned to encourage creative growth in an open yet structured environment with an emphasis on 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. Critical thinking, collaboration and communication are key factors in the art program. Students are encouraged to use their imagination and reasoning powers to investigate, experiment and problem solve.

Areas of focus include: art history, ceramics, digital media, drawing, fibers, mixed media, painting and sculpture. Specific projects for each media vary from grade to grade. We will discover and analyze the Elements and Principles of Art and apply them throughout the year. Fifth and sixth grade projects are typically shorter in duration, while seventh and eighth grade projects allow for more in depth study.

### Text & Resources

Grades 5 and 6 students are required to bring a pencil and their computer to class every day.

Grs. 7 and 8 students are required to bring a sketchbook, pencil and their computer every day. *(Gr. 8 is required to purchase their own sketchbooks. Gr. 7 is requested to bring their own sketchbook, or one will be provided.)*

Students may bring their own supplies if they choose to not use the classroom supplies. These supplies include but not limited to markers, sharpies, colored pencils, pastels and watercolors.

### Class Expectations

For Grades 5 and 6

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

Conduct – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

Effort – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

For Grades 7 and 8:

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

Conduct – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

Effort – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.

- Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
- In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
- Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

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#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Emphasis is on the art process rather than a finished product. Effort is of primary importance.

Student involvement in the art process is evaluated in the following areas:

- Application of Concepts
- Following Directions
- Originality and Creativity
- Time management
- Craftsmanship
- Participation in oral and written critiques

Students in Grades 5 and 6 are assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Students in Grades 7 and 8 receive a letter grade. Grades 7 & 8 art students are expected to use their sketchbook daily and turn in sketchbook assignments as assigned.



## Middle School for Girls

French 5/6

M<sup>me</sup> Rana Ghaith

[rghaith@ashmi.org](mailto:rghaith@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

This trimester students will have French 3 days each 6-day cycle for 47 minutes. They will:

- Build French vocabulary.
- Work on French phonetics and pronunciation.
- Use basic listening and reading skills while building vocabulary.
- Learn about the French speaking countries and their cultures.

### Text & Resources

Teacher's main reference for this class is *T'es Branché! 1A* (EMC Publishing). There will not be a French textbook given to students. Teacher handouts and study guides will be given in class as needed.

### Class Expectations

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

Conduct – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

Effort – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.

- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Homework will be given regularly and must be completed before the next class. Points are deducted for tardiness, incomplete or not corrected homework. Students will have quizzes and tests to demonstrate their mastery of concepts.



## Middle School for Girls

### French 7

M<sup>me</sup> Rana Ghaith

[rghaith@ashmi.org](mailto:rghaith@ashmi.org)

#### Course Description

Students will have French 3 days each 6-day cycle for 42 minutes. They will:

- Build more French vocabulary.
- Learn French grammar rules.
- Learn French conjugation.
- Learn about the French sentence structure to enhance their writing and reading skills.
- Practice French phonetics and oral fluency.
- Develop their listening and reading skills.

#### Text & Resources

The textbook and workbook for this class is *T'es Branché! 1A* (EMC Publishing). Students each have an interactive online component that will enhance listening skills at home. Technology is integrated in the French curriculum.

#### Class Expectations

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.

- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Homework will be given almost daily and must be completed before the next class. Points are deducted for tardiness, incomplete or not corrected homework. Grade percentage will not be rounded. Grades are calculated as follows:

- 70% class-work/homework
- 30% Tests



## Middle School for Girls

### French 8

M<sup>me</sup> Rana Ghaith

[rghaith@ashmi.org](mailto:rghaith@ashmi.org)

#### Course Description

Students will have French 3 days each 6-day cycle for 42 minutes. They will:

- Build more French vocabulary.
- Learn French grammar rules.
- Learn French conjugation.
- Learn about the French sentence structure to enhance their writing and reading skills.
- Practice French phonetics and oral fluency.
- Develop their listening and reading skills.
- Bake *Bûche de Noël* in December.

#### Text & Resources

The textbook and workbook for this class is *T'es Branché! 1A* (EMC Publishing). Students each have an interactive online component that will enhance listening skills at home. Technology is integrated in the French curriculum.

#### Class Expectations

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

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**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.



- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
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#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

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#### **Evaluation**

Homework will be given almost daily and must be completed before the next class. Points are deducted for tardiness, incomplete or not corrected homework. Grade percentage will not be rounded. Grades are calculated as follows:

- 70% class-work/homework
- 30% tests



## Middle School for Girls

Health 5/6

Michele Allison

[mallison@ashmi.org](mailto:mallison@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

The middle school health curriculum follows the *Michigan Model for Health*, a comprehensive and sequential K-12 health education curriculum. The *Michigan Model for Health* facilitates learning through a variety of interactive teaching and learning techniques. Skill development through demonstration and guided practice is emphasized resulting in the development of positive lifestyle behaviors for students. The lessons are integrated across disciplines such as advisory, science, physical education, plus language arts and social studies as appropriate. Content is incorporated in both years of the two-year cycle. Some topics will be addressed in either Year 1 or Year 2 as it best fits the curriculum of that year.

### Text & Resources

A variety of print and web based applications will be integrated into the curriculum throughout the year.

### Content

#### Social & Emotional Well Being

- Knowledge of stress and stress management skills to personal life
- Decision making and problem solving
- Character traits, personal values

#### Intentional & Unintentional Injuries, Including Violence Prevention

- Healthy and harmful relationships
- Bullying, cyberbullying and relational aggression
- Causes of conflict; how conflicts can escalate
- Influences that promote and discourage violence
- Resolve conflicts: listening, expressing emotions and thoughts, showing empathy, managing anger, responding to anger, problem solving/negotiation

#### Dietary Behaviors & Physical Activity

- Health benefits of healthy eating, hydration, and being physically active
- Federal guidelines for diet and physical activity
- Factors in weight control
- Identify moderate-intensity physical activities
- Healthy body image, body type and healthy body weight

- Nutrition information on food labels, health claims, and advertisements

#### Body Systems

- Body organization and homeostasis
- Food and digestion
- Circulatory, respiration, excretory, nervous and endocrine systems
- Fighting disease

#### Alcohol & Other Drug Use

- Influences that promote drug use in young people
- Rules and laws related to drugs
- Health, social, and legal consequences of drug use
- Resources for drug-related information and help

#### Sexual Health

- Puberty, menstruation, pregnancy
- Health risk of various behaviors
- Benefits of staying within behavioral limits and remaining abstinent

### **Class Expectations**

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

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Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

**Evaluation**

Health class will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.



## Middle School for Girls

Health 7/8

Michele Allison

[mallison@ashmi.org](mailto:mallison@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

The middle school health curriculum follows the *Michigan Model for Health*, a comprehensive and sequential K-12 health education curriculum. The *Michigan Model for Health* facilitates learning through a variety of interactive teaching and learning techniques. Skill development through demonstration and guided practice is emphasized resulting in the development of positive lifestyle behaviors for students. The lessons are integrated across disciplines such as advisory, science, physical education, plus language arts and social studies as appropriate. Content is incorporated in both years of the two-year cycle. Some topics will be addressed in either Year 1 or Year 2 as it best fits the curriculum of that year.

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### Content

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- Knowledge of stress and stress management skills to personal life
- Decision making and problem solving
- Character traits, personal values

#### Intentional & Unintentional Injuries, Including Violence Prevention

- Healthy and harmful relationships
- Bullying, cyberbullying and relational aggression
- Causes of conflict; how conflicts can escalate
- Influences that promote and discourage violence
- Characteristics and laws related to sexual harassment and abusive relationships
- Resources to stop assault and prevent violence
- Resolve conflicts: listening, expressing emotions and thoughts, showing empathy, managing anger, responding to anger, problem solving/negotiation

#### Dietary Behaviors & Physical Activity

- Health benefits of healthy eating, hydration, and being physically active
- Federal guidelines for diet and physical activity
- Factors in weight control

- Identify moderate-intensity physical activities
- Healthy body image, body type and healthy body weight
- Nutrition information on food labels, health claims, and advertisements

#### Body Systems

- Body organization and homeostasis
- Food and digestion
- Circulatory, respiration, excretory, nervous and endocrine systems
- Fighting disease

#### Alcohol & Other Drug Use

- Influences that promote drug use in young people
- Rules and laws related to drugs
- Health, social, and legal consequences of drug use
- Resources for drug-related information and help

#### Sexual Health

- Puberty, menstruation, pregnancy
- How HIV and other STDs are and are not transmitted
- Consequences of infection with HIV and other STDs
- Health risk of various behaviors
- Negative consequences of having sexual intercourse and ways to reduce risks (abstinence)
- Benefits of staying within behavioral limits and remaining abstinent

#### **Class Expectations**

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

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#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Health class will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.



## Middle School for Girls

Language Arts 5/6

Lynette Nixon

[lnixon@ashmi.org](mailto:lnixon@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

The Language Arts 5/6 curriculum integrates reading and writing within the Reading and Writing Workshop approach. Students will explore a variety of genres including narrative, short story, and poetry this year. In addition, there is a word study component which provides students the opportunity to learn, practice and reinforce the skills taught in class.

Independent reading is tracked by book cards which students fill out as they read. Students are expected to read at least one book a month and complete a short activity when they finish the book. Group reading involves both Read Aloud and Book Club. Read Aloud is a time when the teacher reads a novel to the class. It provides students with modeling of how a good reader sounds, offers demonstration of reading strategies and is a time for group discussion of literature. Book Club is an opportunity for the students to collaborate in small groups and reflect on a common novel. By doing so they are reinforcing literacy skills, improving independent thinking and practicing teamwork.

Using a Writer's Workshop approach students are actively engaged in all aspects of the writing process from brainstorming, to proofreading, to sharing their published pieces. The process is as important as the finished product and enables all students to work to their full potential. Writer's Workshop also allows time for teaching and practicing skills such as knowledge of words and rules for language usage. The Writer's Notebook will be used to practice skills introduced in class, as well as writing independently. Students will be expected to write in their notebooks a minimum of three times per week on any topic they choose.

Vocabulary, word usage and spelling are taught, developed and reinforced throughout the year through mini-lessons, *Some Words* booklets, vocabulary/spelling quizzes and individual conferencing with students. Students will also be responsible for identifying vocabulary words as a part of their book club reading

### Text & Resources

*Lessons That Change Writers* by Nancie Atwell

*Naming the World: A Year of Poems and Lessons* by Nancie Atwell

Rebecca Sitton's Vocabulary Mini-Courses: *Some Words are Homophones*



## **Class Expectations**

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In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

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**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

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## Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

## **Evaluation**

Each assignment is worth a set number of points. Assignments and report card grades are calculated by dividing the points the student earned by the total possible points. Report cards will show the corresponding letter grade for that percentage as outlined in the handbook.

Most homework will receive a five to ten-point grade for completion and effort. Weekly Writer's Notebook independent entries are worth 15 points total. Homework and tests that are a review of material previously learned will be worth more, depending on the assignment. Larger projects are assessed with a rubric which is shared with students before the project is due. Late work will receive

a 10% deduction in the grade for the assignment. Work is considered late if it is not ready or available to be turned in at the start of class on the day it is due.

Academic integrity is of the utmost importance. Any case involving copying the work of another person, either a student or published material, will result in a decrease in the grade for the assignment. Typically, the grade will be decreased at least 10%.



## Middle School for Girls

Language Arts 7/8

Rebecca Farquhar

[rfarquhar@ashmi.org](mailto:rfarquhar@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

Language Arts 7/8 is a two-year loop focusing on the development of reading, writing and thinking skills that will help students become life-long learners.

Language Arts 7/8 is characterized by the following:

- A focus on strong classroom activity
- Teaching into students' lives both academically and personally
- Designing lessons based on students' needs
- Mini-lessons which involve direct teaching on specific skills or strategies, particularly usage and sentence structure
- Independent work time in which students work at an individual pace using strategies taught
- Conferencing between teacher/student, student/student and teacher/group
- Student sharing of their work, tips and areas of need

### Text & Resources

- A variety of novels to be determined throughout the year based on the students' needs and interest
- Various short stories and poems, fiction and non-fiction
- A variety of web-based tools and resources

### Class Expectations

**WRITING** - The goal of the writing component of Language Arts 7/8 is to guide students toward the ability to *explain why they think what they think*. To reach this goal, students will learn to analyze literature, develop their own opinions about it and support their opinions with evidence from readings. In this process, they will engage in:

1 – Brainstorming  
4 – Revision

2 – Developing ideas  
5 – Editing

3 – Drafting  
6 – Publishing

During class, students will spend time working constructively on each stage of the writing process. Spending class time working both independently and collaboratively on writing skills will provide opportunities for guidance, instruction and input from the class community of writers. All students

will participate in peer conferences and student-teacher conferences. Students will also explore the connections to other academic areas (e.g. science, social studies, art, etc.).

In addition to writing about literature, students will write nonfiction, including memoirs and nonfiction narratives.

### Journals

Students will regularly write responses to a prompt that is related to class discussions, readings, or writing projects. Each assignment will dictate whether students will write these entries in their notebooks they bring to class. Journal entries provide opportunities for students to practice their handwriting and think through a question independently, while explaining their thoughts on paper. Thorough, complete responses will help students build on their writing and analytical skills.

### *READING*

#### Independent Reading

Independent Reading is a key element of the reading program, when students are reading books of choice, practicing a strategy learned in the read-aloud, conferring with teachers, talking with others about books and writing about what they are reading. All students should have an independent reading book at all times.

#### Read-Aloud

In addition to independent reading, students will be studying various novels as a class, reading the majority of each text aloud in the classroom. Mini-lessons presented in these read-aloud sessions stem from the needs of the readers and those strategies which help enhance their lives, making meaning from text and the social aspect of reading. Collaborative discussions will provide opportunities for students to work together as they develop reading abilities, such as analysis and critical thinking.

### *VOCABULARY & SPELLING*

In connection to reading and writing units, students will study vocabulary words. They will learn how to spell the words, definitions, parts of speech, and most importantly, usage of the words, in order to incorporate them into their daily vocabulary. Quizzes will assess students' knowledge and ability to use the vocabulary words. Vocabulary words from across the curriculum may appear on these assessments.

### Homework

Reading and writing independently outside of class provides students with the opportunity to further explore the craft of writing and to develop deeper thinking skills. This practice is critical to their growth. Students are expected to read and write for class assignments regularly.

Preparation for vocabulary quizzes will require regular review at home. Students will also have small homework assignments to develop writing skills and competency.

### Conduct and Effort

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student’s commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Grading is organized around a cumulative point system. The sum of points earned on assignments will be determined and a percentage based on the total number of points possible will be computed. This percentage determines the letter grade in accordance with the scale stated in the handbook. It should be noted that, in general, major projects, tests, and quizzes are worth more points than note-taking or homework assignments. However, keeping up with assignments and note-taking are essential to good preparation for assessment events.

Grading is organized around a cumulative point system. The total possible points for any given assignment will be determined based on the expectations for that assignment. Grading rubrics will be given to students at the onset of each assignment. The sum of points earned on assignments will be found and a percentage based on the total number of points possible will be computed. This percentage determines the letter grade in accordance with the scale stated in the handbook. Grades will be posted on the PCR Gradebook. Students will be informed about when the gradebook is open for them to review their scores. In addition, students will receive a grade for effort and conduct.

**Late Work:**

Late work will be reflected in a student's grade. Late work will receive a 10% deduction in the grade for every day an assignment is late. Assignments will only be accepted up to 3 school days after the due date. Work is considered late if it is not ready or available to be turned in at the start of class on the day it is due.



## Middle School for Girls

**Math (Digby)**

**Mr. Phil Dawson**

[pdawson@ashmi.org](mailto:pdawson@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

- **Class meets daily from 9:05 – 9:52**
- Daily homework will be assigned.
- Students will have “Bellwork”: a challenging non-graded problem-solving activity that is meant to develop risk-taking and computational confidence.

The acquisition of fraction and decimal concepts and skills is emphasized in this class. Other areas of math include geometry, measurement, integers, ratio, percent, probability, statistics, and mental math. Students will develop increasing levels of proficiency and confidence in both computation and mathematical explorations. Making sense of problems and persevering in solving them form an important part of the fifth grade experience.

Students will participate in five Math Olympiad Competitions (November through March) and the Michigan Math League Contest (Grade 6 in February and Grade 5 in May)

### Text & Resources

- € Text: Math Connects: Concepts, Skills, and Problem Solving, Course 1, Glencoe McGraw-Hill
- € Students will be issued two copies of the textbook: one for home and one for school.
- € A variety of math manipulatives, measuring tools, and drawing supplies are available for classroom use.
- € Manga High: <http://www.mangahigh.com>

### Class Expectations

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student’s commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one’s self is also part of a student’s responsibility.
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

- All assignments, quizzes, tests and exams are assigned a numerical point value. The grade is determined by the total number of points earned divided by the total number of points possible. Percentage of points earned translates to a letter grade in accordance to scale stated in the handbook.
- Daily assignments are graded for quality and completeness.
- Preparedness, participation and general academic responsibility contribute to a student’s effort grade.
- Positive classroom behavior that demonstrates a student’s respect for herself, her classmates, her teacher, and the learning process contribute to the conduct grade.





## Middle School for Girls

**Math (Hardy)**

**Ms. Joyce Lee**

[jlee@ashmi.org](mailto:jlee@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

- Curriculum topics include: Decimals, Algebra and Functions, Integers, Linear Equations and Functions, Fractions, Decimals, Percent, Applying Fractions, Ratios & Proportions, Probability, Problem-Solving
- **Class meets daily from 9:05 – 9:52**
- Students will have daily assignments, quizzes, chapter tests and a mock final at the end of the year.
- Students will have “Bellwork”: a challenging non-graded problem-solving activity or brainteaser that is meant to develop risk-taking and computational confidence.
- Students will utilize technology throughout the course with their Chromebooks.
- Students will participate in five Math Olympiad Competitions (November through March) and the Michigan Math League Contest (Grade 6 in February and Grade 5 in May)

### Text & Resources

- *Math Connects Course 2*, Glencoe McGraw-Hill, © 2009
- Students will provide and use TI-34 MultiView calculators
- Teacher Website: [jleeash.weebly.com](http://jleeash.weebly.com)
- Manga High: <http://www.mangahigh.com>

### Class Expectations

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student’s commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning,

for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

- Assignments are given in each class session and are generally due the next session for grading.
- Assignments are graded for quality and completeness.
- Quizzes that cover 3-5 lessons are given throughout each chapter.
- Skill quizzes are given periodically during the school year.
- Tests are given at the conclusion of each chapter of study; each student's current grade average is communicated to the student and her parents with the test score.
- Tests will be sent home with the student for a parent signature and then returned to the teacher.
- All assignments, quizzes, tests and exams are assigned a numerical point value. Grade is determined by the total number of points earned divided by the total number of points possible. Percentage of points earned translates to a letter grade in accordance to scale stated in the handbook.
- Assignments are considered late if they are not completed at the beginning of class.
- Percent scores are rounded to the nearest whole number percent.
- Preparedness, participation and general academic responsibility contribute to a student's effort grade.
- Positive classroom behavior that demonstrates a student's respect for herself, her classmates, her teacher, and the learning process within the classroom contribute to the conduct grade.



## Middle School for Girls

### Pre-Algebra (Math 7 Blue)

Mr. Phil Dawson

[pdawson@ashmi.org](mailto:pdawson@ashmi.org)

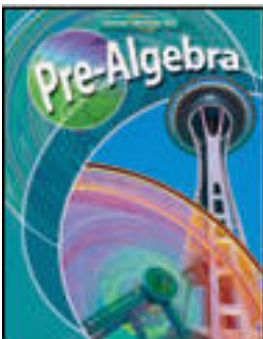
#### Course Description

The acquisition of algebra skills and concepts (“algebraic thinking”) is further developed in seventh grade. Students work with variables, solve equations and inequalities and graph solutions. Other areas of study include geometry, proportions and percent, rational numbers, real numbers, probability, statistics and mental math. Making sense of problems and persevering in solving them form an important part of the seventh-grade mathematical experience.

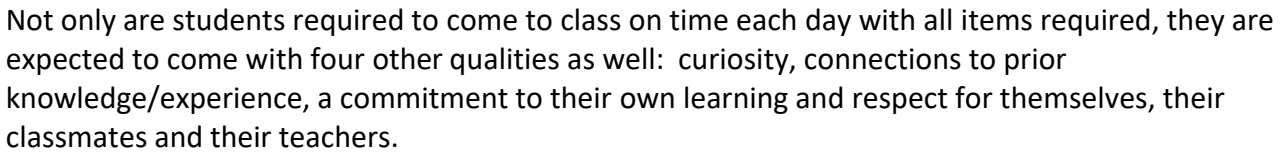
- **Class meets daily from 10:30-11:17 (B, D, F Days) and 11:20-12:07 (A, C, E Days).**
- Students begin each class with a problem-solving activity.
- Students will have daily assignments, quizzes, chapter tests, a semester exam (January 14 & 15) and a final exam (May 30 & 31).
- Students will participate in five Math Olympiad Contests (November - March) and the Michigan Mathematics League Annual Contest (February).

Students who successfully complete this course will transition to Algebra 1 in Grade 8.

#### Text & Resources



- € Text: Pre-Algebra Glencoe McGraw Hill
- € Student OneNote online notebooks contain textbook links and sections for inking assignments, taking notes and evaluating class problem-solving challenges.
- € Students will provide and use TI-34 MultiView calculators.
- € Students will occasionally have online assignments on teacher-selected sites.
- € Manga High: <http://www.mangahigh.com>



Conduct – Conduct is a reflection of a student’s commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

Exceeds Expectations (EE)  
Meets Expectations (ME)  
Approaches Expectations (AE)  
Below Expectations (BE)

## **Evaluation**

- Assignments are graded for quality and completeness.
- All assignments, quizzes, tests and exams are assigned a numerical point value. The grade is determined by the total points earned divided by the total point possible. Percentage of points earned translates to a letter grade in accordance to the scale in the handbook.
- Percent scores are rounded to the nearest whole number percent.
- Positive classroom behavior that demonstrates a student's respect for herself, her classmates, her teacher, and the learning process within the classroom contribute to the conduct grade.

Note: This class section moves at a quick pace and students are expected to check with the teacher when help is needed. It is assumed that students in this section work without the regular assistance of an outside tutor.



## Middle School for Girls

### Pre-Algebra (Math 7 Gold)

Ms. Joyce Lee

[jlee@ashmi.org](mailto:jlee@ashmi.org)

#### Course Description

- Curriculum topics include: Variable use, Combining Like Terms, Algebraic Properties, Equations, Algebraic Thinking Skills, Inequalities, Graphing, Linear equations, Proportions and percent, Rational numbers, Real Numbers, Probability, Slope and Correlation
- **Class meets daily from 10:30-11:17 (B, D, F Days) and 11:20-12:07 (A, C, E Days).**
- Students will have daily assignments, quizzes, chapter tests, a semester exam (January 14 & 15) and a final exam (May 30 & 31).
- Students will learn skills required to keep a digital binder. Programs such as One Note, Google Drive, Classroom presenter, and Gmail will be used to turn in assignments and communicate with the teacher.
- Emphasis on relationships and patterns, daily practice, real world connections, and the belief that one is capable of learning are all necessary components in order to achieve mathematical proficiency.
- In the pursuit of personal growth, importance will be placed on individual responsibility through the practice of self-discipline, organization, and time management skills.
- Opportunities will be given for students to discuss thought processes and solutions in a supportive learning community.
- Students will participate in five Math Olympiad Contests (November - March) and the Michigan Mathematics League Annual Contest (February).

#### Text & Resources

- *Pre-Algebra*, Glencoe McGraw Hill
- Students will provide and use TI-34 MultiView calculators
- Teacher Website: [jleeash.weebly.com](http://jleeash.weebly.com)
- Manga High: <http://www.mangahigh.com>

#### Class Expectations

- Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

- Students are expected to communicate with the teacher when issues arise. Mornings (appointment preferred), TCB (9:55 – 10:30), and study (3:05-3:45) are times that students can receive additional help if necessary.
- Technology will be a main tool used in this class. Computers should be brought to class and should be fully charged from the night before.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student’s commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

## Evaluation

- Assignments are given in each class session and are generally due the next session for grading.
- Assignments are graded for quality and completeness.
- Quizzes that cover 3-5 lessons are given throughout each chapter.
- Skill quizzes are given periodically during the school year.
- Tests are given at the end of each chapter of study; each student's current grade average is communicated to the student and her parents at the top of each test and is also reflected in the online gradebook.
- Tests will be sent home with the student for a parent signature and then returned to the teacher.
- All assignments, quizzes, tests and exams are assigned a numerical point value. Grade is determined by the total number of points earned divided by the total number of points possible. Percentage of points earned translates to a letter grade in accordance to scale stated in the handbook.
- Assignments are considered late if they are not completed at the beginning of class.
- Percent scores are rounded to the nearest whole number percent.
- Preparedness, participation and general academic responsibility contribute to a student's effort grade.
- Positive classroom behavior that demonstrates a student's respect for herself, her classmates, her teacher, and the learning process within the classroom contribute to the conduct grade.





## Middle School for Girls

### Grade 8 (Blue) Mathematics

Ms. Joyce Lee

[jlee@ashmi.org](mailto:jlee@ashmi.org)

#### Course Description

- Curriculum topics include: Use of Variables, Algebraic Operations, Linear Sentences and Equations, Slopes & Lines, Exponents & Powers, Quadratic Equations, Square Roots, Polynomials, Linear Systems, Factoring, Rational Functions.
- **Class meets daily from 10:30-11:17 (A, C, E Days) and 11:20-12:07 (B, D, F Days).**
- Students will have daily assignments, quizzes, chapter tests, semester exam (January 14 & 15), and final exam (May 30 & 31).
- Daily homework will be assigned.
- Students will learn skills required to keep a digital binder. Programs such as One Note, Google Drive, and Gmail will be used to turn in assignments and communicate with the teacher.
- Assessments will focus on problem analysis, computational accuracy, and mathematical fluency.
- Students will participate in five Math Olympiad Contests (November – March) and the Michigan Math League Contest (February).

#### Text & Resources

- *Algebra 1* – Glencoe © 2012
  - <http://connected.mcgraw-hill.com>
- Teacher Website: [jleeash.weebly.com](http://jleeash.weebly.com)
- Manga High: <http://www.mangahigh.com>
- TI-84 Plus Silver Calculator

#### Class Expectations

- Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.
- Students are expected to communicate with the teacher when issues arise. Mornings (appointment preferred), TCB (9:50 – 10:30), and study are times that students can receive additional help if necessary.
- Technology will be a main tool used in this class. Computers should be brought to class and should be fully charged from the night before.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student’s commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

- Assignments are given in each class session and are generally due the next session for grading.
- Assignments are graded for quality and completeness.
- Tests are given at the end of each chapter of study; each student’s current grade average is communicated to the student and her parents at the top of each test and is also reflected in the online gradebook.

- Tests will be sent home with the student for a parent signature and then returned to the teacher.
- All assignments, quizzes, tests and exams are assigned a numerical point value. Grade is determined by the total number of points earned divided by the total number of points possible. Percentage of points earned translates to a letter grade in accordance to scale stated in the handbook.
- Assignments are considered late if they are not completed at the beginning of class.
- Percent scores are rounded to the nearest whole number percent.
- Preparedness, participation and general academic responsibility contribute to a student's effort grade.
- Positive classroom behavior that demonstrates a student's respect for herself, her classmates, her teacher, and the learning process within the classroom contribute to the conduct grade.



## Middle School for Girls

**Math 8 (Gold)**

**Mr. Phil Dawson**

[pdawson@ashmi.org](mailto:pdawson@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

- Curriculum topics include: Use of Variables, Order of Operations, Algebraic Thinking Skills, Ratios, Rates, Proportions, Formulas, Equations, Inequalities, Absolute Value, Functions, Slopes & Lines, Systems of Equations
- **Class meets daily from 10:30-11:17 (A, C, E Days) and 11:20-12:07 (B, D, F Days).**
- Students will have daily assignments, quizzes, chapter tests, semester exam (January 14 & 15), and final exam (May 30 & 31).
- Daily homework will be assigned.
- Students will learn skills required to keep a digital binder. Programs such as One Note, Google Drive, and Email will be used to turn in assignments and communicate with the teacher.
- Assessments will focus on problem analysis, computational accuracy and mathematical fluency.
- Students will participate in five Math Olympiad Contests (November – March) and the Michigan Math League Contest (February).

### Text & Resources

- *Algebra 1 – Michigan Edition* Prentice Hall © 2011
  - <http://pearsonsuccessnet.com>  
**Username: studentash**  
**Password: algebra1!**
- Manga High: <http://www.mangahigh.com>
- TI-84 Plus Silver Calculator

### Class Expectations

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student’s commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

- Students are expected to communicate with the teacher when issues arise. Mornings (appointment preferred) and TCB time (9:55 – 10:30) are times that students can receive additional help if necessary.
- Technology will be a main tool used in this class. Computers should be brought to class and should be fully charged from the night before.

#### **Evaluation**

- All assignments, quizzes, tests and exams are assigned a numerical point value. Grade is determined by the total number of points earned divided by the total number of points

possible. Percentage of points earned translates to a letter grade in accordance to scale stated in the handbook.

- Assignments are considered late if they are not completed at the beginning of class.



## **Middle School for Girls**

### **Physical Education Grs. 5-8**

Maggie Martin

[mmartin@ashmi.org](mailto:mmartin@ashmi.org)

#### **Course Description**

The physical education program provides the student with the opportunity to develop their body, mind and spirit in a safe and compassionate environment. It is the physical education department's vision to create an atmosphere of wellness in the classroom that extends into the community by teaching students many ways to be physically active. The foundation of the program lies in physical fitness, character education, skill development and the acquisition of sport knowledge.

Students will use their knowledge of basic human movements to complete fitness routines and activities. They will explore what it means to be healthy and will have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of physical activities. Students will also have the opportunity to refine their athletic skills through their participation in units on a variety of different sports throughout the year. Students will be encouraged to try new sports, especially those offered as interscholastic sports at ASH.

#### **Class Expectations**

For Grades 5 and 6

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.

- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

For Grades 7 and 8:

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.



Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Dress Code Requirements**

- A complete change of athletic clothing must be worn during each class period including the required Middle School for Girls PE uniform (grey t-shirt, navy blue shorts), white socks and non-marring gym shoes. No school clothes should be worn over or under the physical education uniform. If the student is out of uniform, they will lose points for the day.
- Students will be given five minutes at the beginning of class and five minutes at the end of class to change clothes. Students must be in their assigned place in the gym five minutes after class starts, or they will be marked late.
- Classes may be held outdoors in the fall and spring. The physical education teacher will notify the students when the class will be participating outside and whether additional clothing is needed (example: sweatshirt or sweatpants).

#### **Locker room Use**

- Students will not be assigned permanent lockers.
- Each student will be required to change for class in the girl's locker room located in the Field House. It is recommended that each student secure her belongings in a locker with a combination or keyed padlock during each class period.

#### **Evaluation**

- Students will earn 5 participation points each day, for meeting the guidelines set forth in the course procedures.
- Students will earn letter grades consistent with the Middle School for Girls grading scale



## Middle School for Girls

### Performance Plus!

Mrs. Elaine Buck

[ebuck@ashmi.org](mailto:ebuck@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

Performance Plus is a collaborative class where students create and perform. As a class, students write the script and find music that reflects emotion and movement. Self-expression as well as physical activity are encouraged. Students will develop characterization and learn staging, using props and create costume accessories. A performance for the Middle School for Girls students and faculty is the culminating activity. Each student will have this experience for one quarter.

### Text & Resources

No text, resources will be provided by the teacher. Students will be required to bring computers to class.

### Class Expectations

*Dress code:* Students may choose to wear the shorts under their skirts or PE uniform shorts. Students may also choose to wear appropriate gym shoes or go barefoot.

For Grades 5 and 6

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.

- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

For Grades 7 and 8:

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Students will be assessed on a pass/fail basis. A rubric will be provided to students for performance expectations and group collaboration.



## **Middle School for Girls**

**Advanced Band – Grades 7-8 (B, D and F Days)**

**Advanced Choir – Grades 7-8 (A, C and E Days)**

**Beginning Band – Grades 5-6 (B and D Days)**

**Beginning Choir - Grades 5-6 (F Day)**

**Ms. Kimberly Unrau**

[kunrau@ashmi.org](mailto:kunrau@ashmi.org)

### **Course Description**

Participation in Band and/or Choir affords students opportunities to

- Continue to build upon the knowledge already acquired about the elements of music.
- Develop an appreciation of all aspects of choral and instrumental music.
- Lead worship during prayer services and liturgies (Advanced Choir).
- Lead music and cheers during the pep rallies (Advanced Band).
- Fulfill the middle school music requirement.

Furthermore, students will learn to

- Play/sing an unknown piece of music by using the techniques of sight-reading.
- Play/sing their part while there are other parts occurring at the same time.
- Play/sing as an individual while remaining sensitive to the overall sound, blend and balance of the ensemble.

### **Text & Resources**

- Band music and *Essential Elements 2000*
- Unison and two-part choral music, *Gather Comprehensive Hymnal*, *Unity Mass*

### **Class Expectations**

- Arrive on time and ready to rehearse (no bathroom/water breaks).
- Bring all necessary materials (i.e. folder, music, pencil, computer [as needed])
- Follow directions the first time given.
- NO food, beverage or gum to class. (Water bottles with tops are allowed.)
- Participate in the Christmas and Spring Concerts, as well as any required musical performances during the school year. **(See calendar on Ms. Unrau's Website for additional details.)**

For Grades 5 and 6

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed.

Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

For Grades 7 and 8:

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

Effort – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Each semester grades are made up of the following parts:

Daily Participation (includes behavior, effort & materials) 33 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>%

Performances (correct uniform and on time) 33 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> %

Assessments (homework, tests and quizzes) 33 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> %

- Students earn 10 points per class period. Two points will be deducted for the following reasons: tardiness, gum/food, failure to have materials, bathroom breaks and behavior/effort.
- After-school performances are valued at 100 points and school day performances at 50 points. Students will receive 0 points for an unexcused absence from a mandatory performance. Excused absences require written notification from a parent two weeks prior to the event and merit 85 points. In most cases there will be a written assignment for an excused absence. Emergency situations will be discussed on a case by case basis.
- Inappropriate dress at a performance merits 90 points.
- Misconduct during a performance merits 60 points.
- Students are given one week to make up class work or a test. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade.

- Extra credit can be earned by assisting Ms. Unrau in the music library, creating flyers for performances, performing outside of class for school (Semester Assembly, Morning Assembly, prayer services, liturgies, and/or Prize Day).

#### Homework

- Fifteen minutes of daily practice on scales and music for band class. (Formal practice records may be required if a student is not keeping up in class.)
- Memorization of choir music for concerts.
- Additional homework may be given according to class work.

#### Additional Materials Needed

- **Choir students** are expected to have the following: pencil (pens are not acceptable), two-pocket folder (yellow-Advanced Choir; red-Beginning Choir) and music.
- **Band students** are expected to have: pencil (pens are not acceptable), advanced band folder and music (which is provided by school), *Essential Elements 2000* band method book and instrument. Clarinet and alto saxophone students also will need extra reeds. All students are also expected to bring their computer to class when instructed to do so by Ms. Unrau.

**All students** are required to have a concert uniform consisting of a **solid-black** knee-length or longer skirt or dress pants (no jeans, dance/yoga pants, or corduroy material), **white** buttoned down, school oxford blouse (long-sleeved), **black** nylons or tights, and **black** dress shoes.

#### MSG Musical Events

|                       |                                                 |           |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Thursday, October 11  | Fall Pep Rally<br>(Advanced Band)               | 2:30 p.m. |
| Monday, October 22    | Liturgy—Feast of Mater<br>(Advanced Choir)      | 9:30 a.m. |
| Thursday, December 13 | Christmas Concert (with US)<br>(All)            | 7:00 p.m. |
| Friday, January 11    | Liturgy—Baptism of the Lord<br>(Advanced Choir) | 9:30 a.m. |
| Monday, February 11   | Winter Pep Rally<br>(Advanced Band)             | 2:30 p.m. |
| Friday, April 26      | Liturgy—Easter<br>(Advanced Choir)              | 9:30 a.m. |
| Wednesday, May 15     | Spring Pep Rally<br>(Advanced Band)             | 2:30 p.m. |
| Thursday, May 23      | Spring Musical<br>(All)                         | 7:00 p.m. |





## **Middle School for Girls**

### **Public Speaking 5/6**

**Lynette Nixon**

[lnixon@ashmi.org](mailto:lnixon@ashmi.org)

#### **Course Description**

Students will study and practice the skills necessary for effective public speaking. Note taking, vocabulary and current events will all be utilized to model and teach skills such as body posture, voice projection, enunciation, and eye contact. Writing skills will be enhanced through writing speeches with a focus on the different parts of a speech. Students will present several timed and untimed speeches throughout the year in genres such as how-to, persuasive, and global issues.

#### **Text & Resources**

Variety of text and web-based resources

#### **Class Expectations**

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.

- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Each assignment is worth a set number of points. Assignments and report card grades are calculated by dividing the points the student earned by the total possible points. Report cards will show the corresponding letter grade for that percentage as outlined in the handbook.

Most homework will receive a five or ten-point completion grade. Larger projects are assessed with a rubric which is shared with students before the project is due. Late work will receive a 10% deduction in the grade for the assignment. Work is considered late if it is not ready or available to be turned in at the start of class on the day it is due.



## **Middle School for Girls**

**Public Speaking 7/8**

**Rebecca Farquhar**

[rfarquhar@ashmi.org](mailto:rfarquhar@ashmi.org)

### **Course Description**

Public speaking essentials enable students to become more effective communicators by using verbal and non-verbal communication in a variety of situations. Students will have numerous opportunities to perform and speak in front of a supportive audience. Through these class exercises, students improve their eye contact, physical movement/gestures, posture, confidence and vocal characteristics. Fundamental to a child's education is the ability to write and speak clearly and with proper usage.

Confidence in communicating with a group of listeners, and developing listening abilities as an "audience" are essential skills that the students will utilize throughout life. Opportunities to learn and practice the art of public speaking include performing in class plays, conducting monologues, and writing and delivering speeches in a variety of formats. Students are expected to integrate credible sources into their research for presentations, as well as properly cite resources in informal and formal speaking situations. Students need to critically listen to and evaluate oral communication in a variety of settings.

### **Text & Resources**

No text required

### **Class Expectations**

- Demonstrate effective nonverbal communication techniques such as eye contact, voice, gestures, movement and facial expression.
- Validate knowledge of the communication process by recognizing and reacting appropriately to audience feedback.
- Utilize listening skills by analyzing speeches of others and self.
- Create speeches that fall within specific time limits.

Dates selected for speeches will be held to strongly. If the student will be away for her assigned speech day, it is her responsibility to make arrangements to deliver the speech before leaving on the pre-arranged absence. If absence on a speech day is due to illness, the student must be prepared to deliver her speech on the first class day on her return. Being unprepared to deliver will result in a reduced grade.

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

**Evaluation**

Public Speaking 7/8 will be a graded course, not pass/fail. Assignments will include various formal speeches, variety of informal speeches, and other class work and activities. Grading is organized around a cumulative point system. The sum of points earned on assignments will be determined and a percentage based on the total number of points possible will be computed. Grading rubrics will be given to students at the onset of each assignment. The sum of points earned on assignments will be found and a percentage based on the total number of points possible will be computed. This percentage determines the letter grade in accordance with the scale stated in the handbook. Grades will be posted on the PCR Gradebook. Students will be informed about when the gradebook is open for them to review their scores.



## Middle School for Girls

Religion 5/6

Ms. Jodi Birkemeier

[jbirkemeier@ashmi.org](mailto:jbirkemeier@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to Sacred Scripture, with a focus primarily on the New Testament. Students will learn to pray with Scripture and will learn about who God is through His Word, reading sections of the Gospels and Epistles. Students will come to know about the life of Jesus, and what it means to have a personal relationship with Christ.

### Text & Resources

*Bible - All students will receive a Bible to use throughout their middle school years. This Bible is theirs to keep when they advance to High School.*

*Spirit of Truth: Sacred Scripture, Sophia Institute for Teachers.*

### Class Expectations

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

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**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.

- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

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#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Semester grades will be determined by the following:

- 15 % Journal Reflections (in-class, unless assigned)
- 25 % Participation in class activities and discussions
- 25 % Homework / Reading assignments (in-class, unless assigned)
- 35 % Quizzes and Tests

Students who are ill or have a family emergency may contact the teacher for extensions on assignments.



## Middle School for Girls

### Religion 7

Ms. Jodi Birkemeier

[jbirkemeier@ashmi.org](mailto:jbirkemeier@ashmi.org)

#### Course Description

This course focuses on the life of Christ Jesus and what it means to live as His disciples. Students will learn about the Early Church and the Church today and will have opportunities to reflect on and discuss what it means to be a follower of Christ. Students will also learn about the Sacraments and their roots in both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, and how God's grace enables us to be witnesses of the Gospel in the world today.

#### Text & Resources

*Bible - New students will receive a Bible to use throughout their middle school years. This Bible is theirs to keep when they advance to High School.*

*Spirit of Truth: Living as a Disciple of Christ, Sophia Institute for Teachers.*

#### Class Expectations

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.



- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Semester grades will be determined by the following:

- 15 % Journal Reflections (in-class, unless assigned)
- 25 % Participation in class activities and discussions
- 25 % Homework / Reading assignments
- 35 % Quizzes and Tests

Students who are ill or have a family emergency may contact the teacher for extensions on assignments.



## Middle School for Girls

### Religion 8

Ms. Jodi Birkemeier

[jbirkemeier@ashmi.org](mailto:jbirkemeier@ashmi.org)

#### Course Description

This course will center on the lives of the Saints from the time of Christ to today, and our own call from God to become saints. Looking at Church history through the lens of the Saints and learning from their example, students will have the opportunity to reflect on their own lives, discovering more about their own vocation and path to holiness from God. Students will also learn about St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body, growing in their understanding of why God created man male and female, and how He enables us to live out this truth today.

#### Text & Resources

*Bible - New students will receive a Bible to use throughout the year. This Bible is theirs to keep when they advance to High School.*

*Spirit of Truth: The Communion of the Faithful, Sophia Institute for Teachers.*

#### Class Expectations

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.

- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/ due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Semester grades will be determined by the following:

- 15 % Journal Reflections (in-class, unless assigned)
- 25 % Participation in class activities and discussions
- 25 % Homework / Reading assignments
- 35 % Quizzes and Tests

Students who are ill or have a family emergency may contact the teacher for extensions on assignments.



## **Middle School for Girls**

### **Science 5/6**

**Michele Allison**

**Email:** [mallison@ashmi.org](mailto:mallison@ashmi.org)

#### **Course Description**

Science 5/6 will follow a 2-year cycle. The focus this year is earth science. Throughout the year, students will continue to develop their abilities to meaningfully participate in the processes of scientific investigation. These abilities include sharing and exploring student questions, observation, measurement, experimental design, logical reasoning based on evidence and communication of results. Students will engage in laboratory explorations, small group work, projects, videos, demonstrations, lectures and whole group discussions.

#### **Curriculum topics:**

- History of Planet Earth
- Interior of Earth and plate tectonics
- Earth's systems
- Human impacts
- Weather and climate
- Space science

#### **Text & Resources**

A variety of print and web based applications will be integrated into the curriculum throughout the year.

#### **Class Expectations**

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning,

for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

All work will be graded and assigned a percentage.

Tests:

- Used to assess students' comprehensive understanding
- Tests will be given at the conclusion of most units
- Students can expect a study guide before a test to aid in preparation and provide guidance toward areas of focus

Quizzes:

- Used to assess student progress and determine areas of strengths and weaknesses
- Can be announced or unannounced

Labs and projects:

- Used to expand on and explore areas of study in more depth
- Give students hands-on experiences so that they can foster deeper understanding of content

Homework:

- Provides additional practice and aids in development of understandings
- Usually corrected in class on the day it is due. Students are expected to use a colored checking pen to make any necessary corrections or additions to their homework.
- Gives students immediate feedback regarding their comprehension and offers opportunity to clarify misunderstandings

Evaluation weighting:

Assignments are weighted as follows, unless specified otherwise

| <b>Assignment</b> | <b>Weight</b>                       |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tests             | x4                                  |
| Quizzes           | x3 (announced);<br>x1 (unannounced) |
| Labs              | x2                                  |
| Classwork         | x1                                  |
| Homework          | x1                                  |

At times, work will receive a “completion grade.” Completion grades are given based on effort, appropriate use of the assignment and completion of the final product. Assignments that are given a completion grade will not be accepted late and will receive a zero if not brought to class on the due date.

Late Work:

Late work will be reflected in a student’s grade. Grades will be deducted by 10% every day an assignment is late. Assignments will only be accepted up to 3 school days after the due date.



## **Middle School for Girls**

### **Science 7/8**

**Michele Allison**

**Email:** [mallison@ashmi.org](mailto:mallison@ashmi.org)

#### **Course Description**

Science 7/8 will follow a 2-year cycle. The focus this year is chemistry. Throughout the year, students will continue to develop their abilities to meaningfully participate in the processes of scientific investigation. These abilities include sharing and exploring student questions, observation, measurement, experimental design, logical reasoning based on evidence and communication of results. Students will engage in laboratory explorations, small group work, projects, videos, demonstrations, lectures and whole group discussions.

#### **Curriculum topics:**

- Matter
- Changes of state
- Elements, atoms, molecules and compounds
- The Periodic Table of the Elements
- Chemical changes

#### **Text & Resources**

A variety of print and web based applications will be integrated into the curriculum throughout the year.

#### **Class Expectations**

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or

others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- Preparedness: Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- Participation: Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- Responsibility: Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- Willingness to stretch: Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

All work will be graded and assigned a percentage.

Tests:

- Used to assess students' comprehensive understanding
- Tests will be given at the conclusion of most units
- Students can expect a study guide before a test to aid in preparation and provide guidance toward areas of focus

Quizzes:

- Used to assess student progress and determine areas of strengths and weaknesses
- Can be announced or unannounced

Labs and projects:

- Used to expand on and explore areas of study in more depth
- Give students hands-on experiences so that they can foster deeper understanding of content



#### Homework:

- Provides additional practice and aids in development of understandings
- Usually corrected in class on the day it is due. Students are expected to use a colored checking pen to make any necessary corrections or additions to their homework.
- Gives students immediate feedback regarding their comprehension and offers opportunity to clarify misunderstandings

#### Evaluation weighting:

Assignments are weighted as follows, unless specified otherwise

| <b>Assignment</b> | <b>Weight</b>                       |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tests             | x4                                  |
| Quizzes           | x3 (announced);<br>x1 (unannounced) |
| Labs              | x2                                  |
| Classwork         | x1                                  |
| Homework          | x1                                  |

At times, work will receive a “completion grade.” Completion grades are given based on effort, appropriate use of the assignment and completion of the final product. Assignments that are given a completion grade will not be accepted late and will receive a zero if not brought to class on the due date.

#### Late Work:

Late work will be reflected in a student’s grade. Grades will be deducted by 10% every day an assignment is late. Assignments will only be accepted up to 3 school days after the due date.



## Middle School for Girls

### Spanish 5/6

Sra. Amina Saavedra

[asaavedra@ashmi.org](mailto:asaavedra@ashmi.org)

#### Course Description

This is a 45-minute class (meets 3 days/6 day cycle) in which students will learn basic phrases and vocabulary in an enjoyable and relevant way. The goal is to have the students know basic phrases for brief conversations.

- Culture of Spain
- expressions of courtesy
- learning strategies
- days of the week and months
- numbers (0-1,000,000)
- asking questions
- weather and seasons
- telling time and school schedule
- things in the classroom and useful classroom expressions
- clothing and colors
- family tree
- rooms in the house
- story-telling (*La Buena Hija*)
- in/definite articles
- parts of the body
- the five senses and adjectives

#### Text & Resources

*Exploring Spanish*, ©2008, EMC Publishing

all resources for the class are found on my Weebly site:

<http://srasaavedra.weebly.com>

[www.senorwooly.com](http://www.senorwooly.com)

[www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com)

#### Class Expectations

Students are responsible for asking for and making up missed assignments.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN CLASS AND A SINCERE EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND SPANISH ARE REQUIRED.

Students must keep all their notes, quizzes and handouts in a binder.

Students will to come to class on time with the material needed for class:

- completed homework, corrections made after class discussion/check
- binder folder with pockets (for handouts), loaded with lined paper
- pen, pencil and highlighter

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student’s commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one’s self is also part of a student’s responsibility.
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Homework will be given almost daily and must be completed before class begins.

Points are deducted for tardiness, incomplete or not corrected homework.

Grades are calculated as follows:

\*From ACTFL Rubrics (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language)

- 30% Reading – How well student understands written Spanish
- 30% Listening – How well understands spoken Spanish
- 20% Writing – How fluently and accurately can the student write in Spanish
- 15% Speaking – How fluently and accurately can the student speak in Spanish

- 5% How much effort does student put forth in class  
Daily Engagement Agreement:  
Paying attention by looking, listening, and asking about the language  
Being prepared for class by having the materials/assignments for class



## Middle School for Girls

### Spanish 7

Sra. Amina Saavedra

[asaavedra@ashmi.org](mailto:asaavedra@ashmi.org)

#### Course Description

This is a 45-minute class in which students will learn basic phrases and vocabulary in an enjoyable and engaging way. The goal is to have the students fluent enough for basic conversation and travel.

- Hail Mary prayer in Spanish
- Culture of Spain and Ecuador
- Conjugation of –ar, -er, -ir verbs (present tense)
- Vocabulary to describe people
- Possessive adjectives
- Professions and occupations
- The verb *ser* (to be)
- Articles, agreement with nouns
- Vocabulary to describe leisure activities
- Uses of the verb *estar* (to be)
- Expressing location
- Expressing obligation (*tener/hay que*)
- Adverbs of frequency
- Expressions with *tener* (to have)
- *Venir* (to come)
- Expressing possession: possessive adjectives or the preposition *de*

#### Text & Resources

*Descubre*, Level 1©2014, by Vista Higher Learning. Website: [www.vhlcentral.com](http://www.vhlcentral.com)  
(Visit daily or weekly for practice, games and self-assessment), also my website:  
[srasaavedra.weebly.com](http://srasaavedra.weebly.com).

#### Class Expectations

Students are responsible for asking for and making up missed assignments.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN CLASS AND A SINCERE EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND SPANISH ARE REQUIRED.

Students must keep all their notes, quizzes and handouts in a binder.

Students will to come to class on time with the material needed for class:

- completed homework, corrections made after class discussion/check
- binder folder with pockets (for handouts), loaded with lined paper
- pen, pencil and highlighter

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Homework will be given almost daily and must be completed before class begins.

Points are deducted for tardiness, incomplete or not corrected homework.

Grades are calculated as follows:

\*From ACTFL Rubrics (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language)

- 30% Reading – How well student understands written Spanish

- 30% Listening – How well understands spoken Spanish
- 20% Writing – How fluently and accurately can the student write in Spanish
- 15% Speaking – How fluently and accurately can the student speak in Spanish
- 5% How much effort does student put forth in class

Daily Engagement Agreement:

Paying attention by looking, listening, and asking about the language

Being prepared for class by having the materials/assignments for class



## Middle School for Girls

### Spanish 8

Sra. Amina Saavedra

[asaavedra@ashmi.org](mailto:asaavedra@ashmi.org)

#### Course Description

This is a 45-minute class in which students will learn basic phrases and vocabulary in an enjoyable and engaging setting. The goal is to have the students fluent enough for basic conversation and Spanish II in the Upper School. Units of study for this year:

- Our Father prayer
- Pastimes, Sports
- Culture of Mexico and Puerto Rico
- Travel and Places in the City
- Stem-changing verbs (e>ie, o>ue, e>i)
- The verb *ir* (verb “to go”)
- Irregular *Yo* forms
- Ser vs. Estar (verbs “to be”)
- Adjectives – Emotions and more
- Present progressive
- Direct object pronouns
- Storytelling/skits

#### Text & Resources

*Descubre*, Level 1©2014, by Vista Higher Learning. Website: [www.vhlcentral.com](http://www.vhlcentral.com), [senorwooly.com](http://senorwooly.com) (Visit daily or weekly for practice, games and self-assessment), also my website: [srasaavedra.weebly.com](http://srasaavedra.weebly.com).

#### Class Expectations

Students are responsible for asking for and making up missed assignments.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AND A SINCERE EFFORT TO LISTEN WITH THE INTENT TO UNDERSTAND SPANISH ARE REQUIRED.

Grades are earned, not given.

Students must keep all their notes, quizzes and handouts in a binder.

Students will to come to class on time with the material needed for class:

- completed homework, corrections made during and after class discussion/check
- computer charged and on task (See “Appropriate Use Policy”)
- binder folder with pockets (for handouts), loaded with lined paper
- flashcards (digital or note cards), pen, pencil and highlighter

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior



knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Homework will be given almost daily and must be completed before class begins.

Points are deducted for tardiness, incomplete or not corrected homework

Grades are calculated as follows:

\*From ACTFL Novice Rubrics (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language)

Advanced, Proficient, Developing, Beginning, Emerging, No Attempt

- 30% Reading – How well student understands written Spanish
- 30% Listening – How well understands spoken Spanish
- 20% Writing – How fluently and accurately can the student write in Spanish
- 15% Speaking – How fluently and accurately can the student speak in Spanish
- 5% How much effort does student put forth in class

Daily engagement agreement starts with 100 percent quarter.

Paying attention by looking, listening, and asking about the language

Being prepared for class by having the materials/assignments for class

-5 points per violation. Points may be regained by meeting with Sra. for 5 minutes at TCB



## **Middle School for Girls**

### **Social Studies 5/6**

**Lynette Nixon**

[lnixon@ashmi.org](mailto:lnixon@ashmi.org)

#### **Course Description**

The Social Studies 5/6 curriculum incorporates critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity while studying the Ancient World and the Middle Age civilizations of the Eastern Hemisphere. The history of the civilizations will be explored as several stories or themes including movement and trade or religion and culture. The focus this year will be: early people, which includes the stone age; Greece and Rome, the Byzantine Empire, China, and Japan. Using a combination of reading, note taking, class discussions, simulations, projects and tests, students will explore and compare the history and culture of these civilizations. A timeline will be created and maintained throughout the year. Important events will be added as they are learned and will be used to illustrate and connect the stories and themes.

Students will also develop geography and map reading skills connected to the units of study, deepening their understanding of the development and growth of these civilizations while strengthening their reading and text book skills. Research and writing skills will be reinforced through the process of creating outlines, drafts, and essays. Lastly, students will improve their summarization and speaking skills using current events, while also making connections between the history and present-day locations of the various civilizations to be studied.

#### **Text & Resources**

*Geography Tools and Concepts*, Prentice Hall, 2001

*World History: Ancient Civilizations through the Renaissance*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2012

A variety of text and web-based materials

#### **Class Expectations**

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

Conduct – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom.

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Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by communicating with teachers and classmates if they are absent. Seeking help and advocating for one's self is also part of a student's responsibility.
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

#### Marks for Effort & Conduct

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

#### **Evaluation**

Each assignment is worth a set number of points. Assignments and report card grades are calculated by dividing the points the student earned by the total possible points. Report cards will show the corresponding letter grade for that percentage as outlined in the handbook.

Most homework will receive a five to ten-point grade for completion and effort. Homework that is a review of material previously learned will be worth more, depending on the assignment. Current events assignments are worth 30 points each. Larger projects are assessed with a rubric which is shared with students before the project is due. Late work will receive a 10% deduction in the grade for the assignment. Work is considered late if it is not ready or available to be turned in at the start of class on the day it is due.

Academic integrity is of the utmost importance. Any case involving copying the work of another person, either a student or published material, will result in a decrease in the grade for the assignment. Typically, the grade will be decreased at least 10%.



## Middle School for Girls

**Social Studies 7/8**

**Rebecca Farquhar**

[rfarquhar@ashmi.org](mailto:rfarquhar@ashmi.org)

### Course Description

Social Studies 7/8 will be a two-year loop focusing on the study of European and American history as several stories with a beginning, middle and end. The 7/ 8 loop picks up with the post-Ancient world.

Initially, students will begin the year by discussing the concept of historical thinking. Historical thinking is a complex, multi-faceted way of thinking with five components: utilizing multiple accounts and perspectives, analyzing primary sources, sourcing (considering a document's origin to help us make sense of it), considering context and recognizing the claim-evidence connection (the knowledge that historical arguments and stories rest on evidence). This way of critically thinking about history will be used as the lens through which each story will be studied, examined, and written about throughout the year. As these stories are studied and learned, geography and map skills will be taught in the context of each story.

*This year* the focus will be on:

- Historical Thinking
- The Story of Slavery
- The Industrial Revolution
- The Story of the Civil War

Throughout the year students will be expected to follow the news to understand the current social, political and economic issues. By studying and discussing current events students will be able to make connections between current events and history, be able to articulate arguments using appropriate evidence, enhance their understanding of world events, and encourage students will become informed and engaged citizens.

### Text & Resources

*United States History*, Holt Publishing, 2007

*America's Past and Promise*, McDougal Littell, 1999

Utilization of <http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/> and <http://teachinghistory.org/>

Primary Source documents

Interact simulations

## **Class Expectations**

Not only are students required to come to class on time each day with all items required, they are expected to come with four other qualities as well: curiosity, connections to prior knowledge/experience, a commitment to their own learning and respect for themselves, their classmates and their teachers.

In addition, students will receive a mark for effort and conduct. Included in this are certain class expectations:

**Conduct** – Conduct is a reflection of a student's commitment to positive behavior in the classroom. Students respect themselves, their classmates and their teachers. Positive attitude and behavior is required; students are expected to be open to learning and to not disrupt learning, for themselves or others. Respectful behavior also includes listening attentively and respectfully to classmates and teachers.

**Effort** – Effort includes preparedness, participation, responsibility, and willingness to stretch.

- **Preparedness:** Students arrive on time to class with necessary materials, including all work that is due.
- **Participation:** Students will actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. The comments or questions will be valuable and positive. Following directions is also part of being an active learner.
- **Responsibility:** Students assume responsibility in the classroom by being proactive and engaged in their education.
  - Students are expected to be advocates for themselves and seek help when needed.
  - Students will use their planner to record and keep track of homework/due dates/assessment dates and complete their work on time.
  - In the event of an absence, students will communicate with classmates and the teacher to acquire missing work. Students will follow through and complete/turn in all work that was missed.
  - Students will monitor their progress by frequently reviewing their grades via the online gradebook (PCR).
- **Willingness to stretch:** Students stretch their abilities, even at the risk of setbacks or failures.

Students are expected to bring their computers to every class session, unless otherwise directed. Lessons will require varying degrees of computer usage, and students should follow directions regarding when to have their computers on, when to be connected to wireless, and even placement of computers during class. Students are expected to follow the established guidelines for taking care of their computers at all times. Please refer to the Appropriate Use Policy for more details.

## **Marks for Effort & Conduct**

Exceeds Expectations (EE)

Meets Expectations (ME)

Approaches Expectations (AE)

Below Expectations (BE)

**Evaluation**

Grading is organized around a cumulative point system. The sum of points earned on assignments will be determined and a percentage based on the total number of points possible will be computed. This percentage determines the letter grade in accordance with the scale stated in the handbook. It should be noted that, in general, tests, quizzes and projects are worth more points than note-taking or homework assignments. However, keeping up with assignments and note-taking are essential to good preparation for assessment events.

In addition to tests, quizzes, and projects, students may be assigned a variety of homework tasks. Some of those tasks will be to preview a topic in readiness for an activity or discussion, to read a portion of text and record questions and thoughts, or to complete an assignment to show level of mastery with the material. *Please note that studying is frequently assigned as homework. This is to build study habits, strategies, discipline, and technique. Pop quizzes, both graded and ungraded, give students and teacher a way to gauge how independent studying and learning is progressing and give time for "course correction" as needed.* In order to encourage risk-taking and develop the confidence to try different strategies for learning, some assignments will receive a completion grade while others will receive an accuracy grade. Students will also receive a grade for effort and conduct.

**Late Work:**

Late work will be reflected in a student's grade. Late work will receive a 10% deduction in the grade for every day an assignment is late. Assignments will only be accepted up to 3 school days after the due date. Work is considered late if it is not ready or available to be turned in at the start of class on the day it is due.