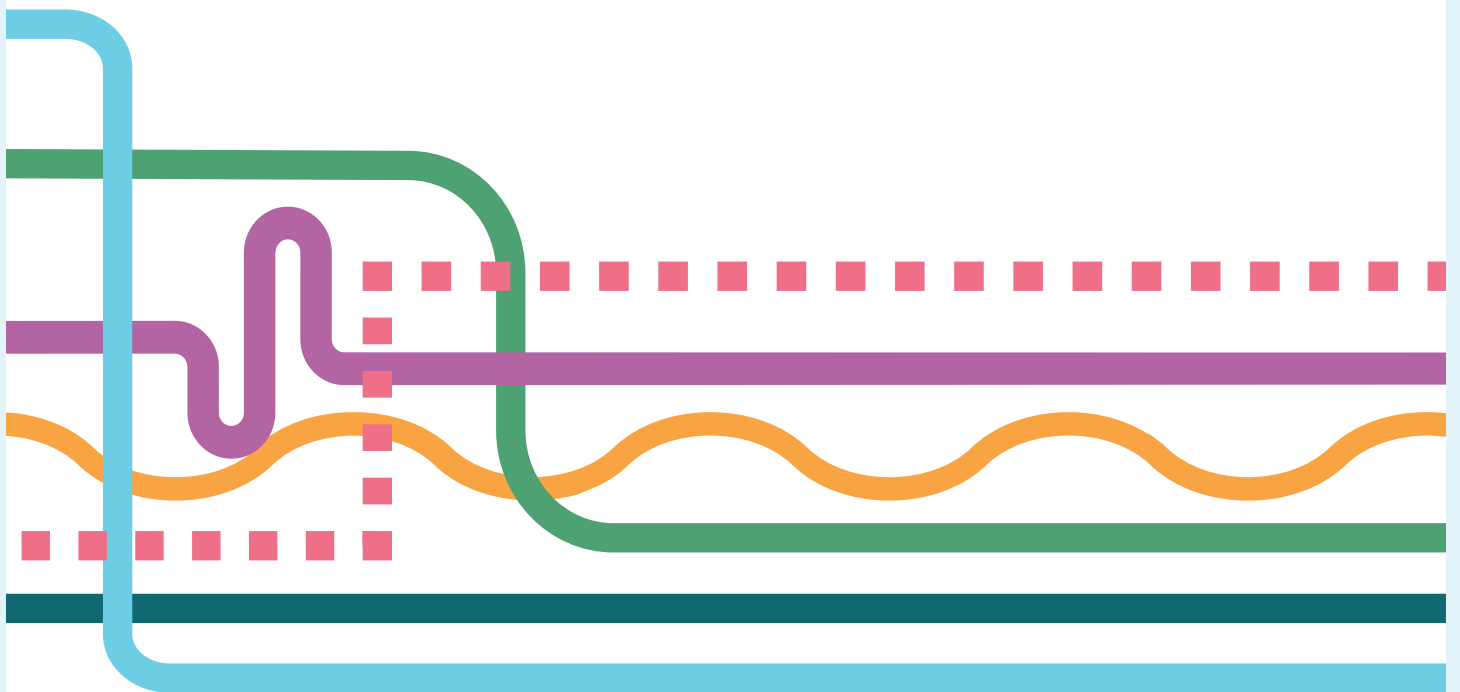


# MIDDLE SCHOOL

CURRICULUM GUIDE

2019-2020



WOODWARD ACADEMY

## Woodward Academy Middle School 2019-2020 Schedule

REGULAR SCHEDULE (Mon. & Wed.)			ROTATING SCHEDULE (Tues. & Thurs.)			FRIDAY SCHEDULE		
Period	Period	Time	Period	Period	Time	Period	Time	
HOMEROOM	HOMEROOM	8:20 - 8:40	HOMEROOM	HOMEROOM	8:20 - 8:40	HOMEROOM	8:20 - 8:40	
1 <sup>st</sup> period	7 <sup>th</sup> period	8:45 - 9:28	7 <sup>th</sup> period	7 <sup>th</sup> period	8:45 - 9:28	1 <sup>st</sup> period	8:45 - 9:28	
2 <sup>nd</sup> period	6 <sup>th</sup> period	9:33 - 10:16	6 <sup>th</sup> period	6 <sup>th</sup> period	9:33 - 10:16	2 <sup>nd</sup> period	9:33 - 10:16	
3 <sup>rd</sup> period	3 <sup>rd</sup> period	10:21 - 11:04	3 <sup>rd</sup> period	3 <sup>rd</sup> period	10:21 - 11:04	3 <sup>rd</sup> period	10:21 - 11:04	
4 <sup>th</sup> period (8 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	4 <sup>th</sup> period (8 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	11:09 - 11:52	4 <sup>th</sup> period (8 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	4 <sup>th</sup> period (8 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	11:09 - 11:52	4 <sup>th</sup> period (8 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	11:09 - 11:52	
7 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	7 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	11:09 - 11:34	7 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	7 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	11:09 - 11:34	7 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	11:09 - 11:34	
4 <sup>th</sup> period (7 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	4 <sup>th</sup> period (7 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	11:39 - 12:22	4 <sup>th</sup> period (7 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	4 <sup>th</sup> period (7 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	11:39 - 12:22	4 <sup>th</sup> period (7 <sup>th</sup> gr.)	11:39 - 12:22	
8 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	8 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	11:57 - 12:22	8 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	8 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	11:57 - 12:22	8 <sup>th</sup> grade LUNCH	11:57 - 12:22	
5 <sup>th</sup> period	5 <sup>th</sup> period	12:27 - 1:10	5 <sup>th</sup> period	5 <sup>th</sup> period	12:27 - 1:10	5 <sup>th</sup> period	12:27 - 1:10	
6 <sup>th</sup> period	2 <sup>nd</sup> period	1:15 - 1:58	2 <sup>nd</sup> period	2 <sup>nd</sup> period	1:15 - 1:58	6 <sup>th</sup> period	1:15 - 1:58	
7 <sup>th</sup> period	1 <sup>st</sup> period	2:03 - 2:46	1 <sup>st</sup> period	1 <sup>st</sup> period	2:03 - 2:46	7 <sup>th</sup> period	2:03 - 2:46	
HR STUDY HALL	HR STUDY HALL	2:52 - 3:10	HR STUDY HALL	HR STUDY HALL	2:52 - 3:10	TUTORIAL	2:52 - 3:25	
TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL	3:10 - 3:40	TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL	3:10 - 3:40	Buses Depart	3:30	
Buses Depart	Buses Depart	3:45	Buses Depart	Buses Depart	3:45			

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Test Days

	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter
<b>Monday</b>	Social Studies	Lit, World Lang	English	Science
<b>Tuesday</b>	Math	Social Studies	Lit, World Lang	English
<b>Wednesday</b>	Science	Math	Social Studies	Lit, World Lang
<b>Thursday</b>	English	Science	Math	Social Studies
<b>Friday</b>	Lit, World Lang	English	Science	Math

7<sup>th</sup> grade alternate test day is the two days after the test day. For example, if the test day is Monday, then the alternate day is Wednesday. Test prep tutorial is held the day before the test day.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Test Days

	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter
<b>Monday</b>	English Math	Science Social Studies	Math Lit, World Lang	Social Studies English
<b>Tuesday</b>	Lit, World Lang. Science	English Math	Science Social Studies	Math Lit, World Lang
<b>Wednesday</b>	Social Studies English	Lit, World Lang. Science	English Math	Science Social Studies
<b>Thursday</b>	Math Lit, World Lang	Social Studies English	Lit, World Lang. Science	English Math
<b>Friday</b>	Science Social Studies	Math Lit, World Lang	Social Studies English	Lit, World Lang. Science

## Class Levels

### **College Prep (CP)**

College Prep courses are the standard college preparatory work offered to Woodward Academy students. Teachers provide structure and guidance in a small setting, emphasize mastery of skills, and differentiate instruction to meet the needs of a variety of learners. This is the placement for students who may be new to Woodward Academy and/or who need mastery of skills built in a particular content.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> grade

English  
Math  
Social Studies  
Science

#### 8<sup>th</sup> grade

English  
Math  
Social Studies  
Science  
Literature

### **Enriched College Prep (EP)**

The Enriched Preparatory courses encompass all of the elements of the CP course, adding concepts and materials above the mastery level and moving towards more independent and critical thinking. The curriculum and instruction is designed to meet the needs of the majority of the Middle School students. This is a challenging, college preparatory program in all content areas.

### **Honors College Prep (HP)**

Honors courses differ primarily in emphasis and depth and are intended for advanced, ambitious students who are willing and able to do more assignments independently, in greater depth, and with more analysis and critical thinking. Honors students read efficiently, write fluently, and can absorb new information at a fast pace. Few students take all honors classes. Students may enter Honors level classes in Upper School as well as Middle School. Placement criteria are explained further in this packet.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> grade

English  
Math (Pre-Alg. and Algebra)  
Social Studies  
Science  
World Language (Spanish and French)

#### 8<sup>th</sup> grade

English  
Math  
Civics & Economics  
Science  
World Language (Spanish and French)  
Literature

### **Transition College Prep (TP)**

This is a special program for students with diagnosed learning disabilities. Beginning in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, students may be mainstreamed in some courses and have special instruction in others. The goal of the program is to provide remedial attention and individualized support necessary so that students of average to above average intelligence who have clinically diagnosed disabilities will be adequately prepared for college.

## Student's Individualized Schedule

Each day students move through a schedule of seven classes.

1. English
2. Math
3. Science
4. Social Studies
5. Literature or World Language (Spanish or French)
6. Performing Arts (Band, Chorus, Orchestra or Drama), Visual Arts, Robotics, or other electives.
7. PE or Dance class (STEAM for one semester in 7<sup>th</sup> grade)

### Sample 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Schedule

SUBJECT	LEVEL	SEM	TIME	ROOM	TEACHER
Advanced Orchestra	EP	S1	A	R162	G. Callaway
Social Studies 7	HP	S1	B	M223	P. Crawford
Science 7	EP	S1	C	M204	N. Moody
7 Boys General Fitness		S1	D	GYM	R. Davis
Literature 7	EP	S1	E	M108	R. Furlough
English 7	HP	S1	F	M123	W. Williams
Pre-Algebra 7	EP	S1	G	M309	L. Toomey

### Sample 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Schedule

SUBJECT	LEVEL	SEM	TIME	ROOM	TEACHER
Men's Chorus	EP	S1	A	R164	S. Rotz
Civics/Econ 8	HP	S1	B	M223	C. Hardin
Science 8	EP	S1	C	M204	M. Bulleit
8 Grade Boys PCS		S1	D	GYM	P. Fritts
Literature 8	EP	S1	E	M108	G. Westlund
English 8	HP	S1	F	M123	T. Anderson
Algebra 8	EP	S1	G	M309	D. Jefferson

## The Middle School Curriculum Guide

### English

#### English (7<sup>th</sup> grade) (CP, EP, HP, TP)

Students refine verbal skills through the integrated study of vocabulary, grammar, composition, and literature. Vocabulary instruction focuses on vocabulary in context with some study of the Greek and Latin roots of the English language, preparing students to discern the meaning of unfamiliar words. Grammar lessons emphasize a knowledge of grammatical structures as a means of improving writing proficiency. The composition component of the curriculum guides students through the construction of well-developed, unified, coherent paragraphs of various types. Students write compositions based upon experience and literary examples honed from a study of different literature genres. This writing begins with the students' experience with required summer reading books. The study of literature continues during the year and includes such genres as realistic fiction, historical fiction, biography, and fantasy. These genres are studied in the form of short stories, poetry, fables, novels, and drama.

#### English (8<sup>th</sup> grade) (CP, EP, HP, TP)

English in grade eight is a correlated study of language, literature, vocabulary, and composition. Students increase their vocabulary through reading and the study of literature. The course stresses the continued study of grammar as a tool for effective speaking and writing. Building on the seventh grade foundation, students should be able to write well-developed, unified, coherent paragraphs and recognize and use basic types of figurative language. Eighth grade students apply their knowledge of the paragraph by moving to the multi-paragraph essay as they write about the literature studied and life experiences. The course emphasizes the importance of selecting different sentence types and patterns in the effective development of a clear, varied, and creative expression of ideas through a process of editing and revising. Emphasis in literature focuses on various genres, which include realistic fiction, mystery, fantasy, comedy, and tragedy. Summer reading selections are also integrated into the curriculum through writing instruction.

### Math

#### Pre-Algebra (7<sup>th</sup> grade) (CP, EP, HP, TP)

This course integrates applied arithmetic, pre-algebra, and pre-geometry by building upon the essential skills of arithmetic to develop and apply algebraic and problem solving strategies to real world situations. Algebra is introduced by examining real numbers, factoring, proportional relationships, linear equations and inequalities, unit conversions, graphing on the number line and coordinate plane as well as geometric relationships and measurement. **Students are mostly 7<sup>th</sup> graders, with the exception of new 8<sup>th</sup> graders who have not completed a full year of algebra.**

#### Algebra (8<sup>th</sup> grade) (CP, EP, HP, TP)

The scope of this course allows students to extend their pre-algebra skills to develop fluency in writing, solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities, systems of linear equations and inequalities, exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations, radical expressions and equations, proportional reasoning, and probability. **Students are mostly 8<sup>th</sup> graders. A few 7<sup>th</sup> graders individually selected by 6<sup>th</sup> grade WA math teachers and new students who have successfully completed a year of pre-algebra are included.**

#### Geometry (8<sup>th</sup> grade) (HP)

The content of this course includes the study of postulates and theorems related to points, lines, planes, angles, circles, polygons, and triangles, logic, transformations, perimeter/area/volume, coordinate geometry, and elementary trigonometry. A significant emphasis is placed on geometric constructions and proofs. **Students are those who have successfully completed a full year of algebra.**

## Science

### **Life Science (7th grade) (CP, EP, HP, TP)**

In seventh grade science, students will develop a broad understanding of living organisms. The course begins with a Scientific Processes unit to develop fundamental inquiry-based skills, including hypothesizing, making qualitative and quantitative observations, inferences, data analysis, and creating conclusions. Students will manipulate both compound light microscopes and stereoscopes during their in-depth studies of different types of cells, organelles, tissues and organs. The life science progression begins with microbiology and classification of species and will extend through comparative anatomy of species in the major phyla of the Animal Kingdom. The main focus of the second semester is a deep dive into human anatomy and physiology, investigating all 11 body organ systems. With each body system, aspects of healthy habits will be addressed. The course will conclude with the reproductive system and sexuality as an age-appropriate curriculum collaboratively and intentionally designed with the counseling department.

### **Physical Science (8th grade) (CP, EP, HP, TP)**

The eighth grade physical science curriculum is a combination of introductory chemistry and physics. Through daily involvement in laboratory activities and additional student-driven inquiry-based investigations, the 8th grade student will continue in the development of basic process skills introduced in the 7th grade. During the first semester, students will study the basics of chemistry. This includes properties of matter, states of matter, atoms and bonding, chemical reactions, acid-base chemistry, and carbon chemistry. In addition, the course utilizes a comprehensive approach in learning the unique features of the Periodic Table of Elements. During the second semester, students will explore introductory physics. The concept of motion, which includes acceleration, Newton's Laws of Motion, and momentum, will provide the foundation for a more in depth study in physics in the Upper School. Through studying energy, which includes work, power, simple machines, thermal energy, electrical energy, magnetism, light, sound and electricity, students will come away with the basic knowledge of how science impacts the environment and will have a better understanding of our past, present, and future of the world. In developing efficient problem solving skills using grit and determination, students will become better scientists and lifelong learners. Students will receive Upper School science credit at all levels of this course with successful completion of both semesters.

## Social Studies

### **Medieval History (7<sup>th</sup> grade) (CP, EP, HP, TP)**

This course covers the time period known as the Middle Ages between the fall of the Western Roman Empire in the 5th Century and the beginning of the Renaissance in approximately the 15th Century. This class will broadly explore events and developments over centuries of political, social, and economic history. This class will take a world view, and examine what occurred in different regions during this time period including the rise of specific empires, the growth of economies, lives of individuals, and other factors throughout the Middle Ages. This class will also examine the impact these cultures had on one another, and the impact they have had on modern life. The content is presented within the framework of reinforcing basic communication skills in reading, writing, speaking, and acquiring information. The honors level course includes the objective to develop the ability to express in both oral and written fashion more detailed knowledge of issues and events and the significant relationships between them.

### **American History (8<sup>th</sup> grade) (CP, EP, TP)**

This course covers events that range from the arrival of Native Americans in prehistoric times to the Reconstruction period following the Civil War. This course is designed around thematic units intended to introduce students to the early development of the United States, as well as trends in political, social, and economic growth. The course is set up within a framework of skill development including values, attitudes and

ethics. It provides reinforcement and extension of the general communication skills at the core of the seventh grade program.

### **Government and Economics (8<sup>th</sup> grade) (HP)**

The goal of the American Government and Economics program is to help each student become an independent thinker and responsible citizen. The first half of the course examines the American political system in such areas as the philosophy of government, the decision-making process, and the role of the individual citizen in the political process. The second half of the course focuses on developing a basic understanding of the forces at work in the economic marketplace. Issues such as supply and demand, the flow of money, and government involvement are studied. With a basic understanding of economic issues and the American political environment, students will be able to become effective decision-makers within a democratic society.

## **Literature— A two year program**

### **Literature (7<sup>th</sup> grade) (EP, TP)**

Seventh grade literature is a year-long reading workshop course designed to increase the student's capabilities to translate, integrate, analyze, synthesize, extrapolate, apply, and evaluate encoded information. The reading workshop approach stresses a variety of literacy skills and concepts, such as the development of vocabulary decoding skills, literary analysis, comprehension, and reading fluency. Through teacher-led mini-lessons, students learn specific strategies to improve their understanding of literary terminology and then they practice these strategies in book clubs to increase their overall comprehension. This course enables students to read and self-select books from a diverse collection of literature from various genres, recognize the fundamental elements of a story, study character and theme development, identify author's style, and connect literature to their own lives. The literature course also allows students to expand their ability to read expository selections that focus on the following: identifying main ideas and supporting details, recognizing authors' purposes, forming educated inferences, summarizing and paraphrasing select passages, and varying reading speed.

### **Literature (8<sup>th</sup> grade) (CP, EP, TP)**

The eighth grade literature class is a year-long program designed to further develop the students' literacy skills. The program will continue to develop students' working vocabulary knowledge through context and a multi-modal program. During the course of the year, students will benefit from whole class lessons over selected novels, short stories, and skill books that are used to review and strengthen reading skills acquired in the seventh grade. Students will also have the opportunity to select novels of their choice in the independent reading course during the second semester. This independent reading course challenges students to read a variety of genres, creates the opportunity for student-led assessments, and encourages an enjoyment of leisure reading beyond the academic requirements of the classroom.

### **Literature (8<sup>th</sup> grade) (HP)**

Eighth grade honors literature is an elective, year-long course for selected students and designed to develop their maximum reading potential. Teacher recommendation, superior grades, standardized test scores, and the ability to complete assignments with minimum supervision, indicate students with the necessary background of academic skills for the accelerated pace of the curriculum. The objectives of the course are the same as the eighth grade reading class; however, the skill level of the student permits a greater variety of materials as well as a much faster pace for instruction. An essential component of the program is an emphasis on the development of the students' written responses as they analyze various literary selections.

## World Languages – A two year high school level program

### **Spanish or French (7<sup>th</sup> grade) (EP)**

The two-year sequence in either French or Spanish is designed for Middle School students who begin their study of language in the seventh grade. While using the same approach and materials as the first-year course in the Upper School, the course moves at a slower pace, spreading the coverage of material over a two-year period for a greater comprehension level. The course introduces the students to French or Spanish languages with emphasis on four basic skills: speaking, reading, listening, and writing. These skills are developed through the study of pronunciation, basic vocabulary, and grammatical structures. Elementary reading selections are also used to promote self-expression and written practice of translation from English into the content language. Students are also expected to write basic essays in the content language about culture and other topics. Speaking skills are developed through structured conversation and oral communication exams.

### **Spanish or French (8<sup>th</sup> grade) (EP)**

Students in the eighth grade classes are taking the second half of high school level one. Completion of the first half of a French or Spanish level one class is mandatory to enter the eighth grade program. Upon completing this class, students will enter the Upper School at level two. The Upper School at Woodward Academy requires two years of the same language, so students who being world language instruction in the Middle School will have a minimum of three years of a language.

### **Spanish or French (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade) (HP)**

Honors level French 1 or Spanish 1 begins in the seventh grade. Honors level French or Spanish is an advanced and more in depth approach to learning the language. An honors student can synthesize concepts. The honors student has taken his or her knowledge of a foreign language to another level. Honors level classes deliver information at a faster pace and require the student to be proficient in reading, writing, and speaking skills. In addition to the requirements of the college-preparatory level, honors level French or Spanish requires the student to learn additional concepts and incorporate them into written and oral assignments. Honors level students may have extra reading and project assignments to practice their skills. Honors level students are required to participate in the national exam in their world language. Some Honors level students may choose to participate in the Delf or Dele diploma certification process in eighth grade.

## Exploratory Electives

### **Applied Computer Science (8<sup>th</sup> grade/ semester course)**

This semester- long course is an intermediate approach to coding and computer science. Students will survey the most common languages in computer programming and use coding and algorithms to address real-world problems.

### **Game and App Design (8<sup>th</sup> grade/ semester course)**

In this semester-long course, students will learn the foundations of computer science and programming required to build video games. This course is a highly visual, dynamic, and interactive making it engaging for new game developers. Students will combine many concepts of computer science to learn how to build several of their own games from scratch using UNREAL Engine 4 and Unity 3D software.

### **General Music (7<sup>th</sup> grade/ quarter course)**

General music students will learn how to read and write music using basic music notation criteria. This includes studying time signatures, note values, and rest values. Students will also recognize the major characteristics of musical forms, including melodies, harmonies and a variety of rhythm styles. They will learn about the orchestra, concert band, chorus, and other performing ensembles as well as about American Musicals and famous composers. This class will also encourage students to listen critically to a variety of music styles.

### **Intro to Film and Video Production (8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year long course)**

In this year-long eighth grade course, students will develop a bi-weekly, LIVE broadcast, as well as produce short film segments. Students will learn how to write, shoot, and edit videos. Class members will also learn how to edit their films on iMovie using Mac computers. This course serves as an intro to Film and Video Production courses in the Upper School.

**Navigating Our World: (8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year long course)**

This elective is a largely student-led class designed to offer 8th graders a space to explore decision-making, ethics, emotions, systems and relationships. This course will borrow material from core middle school classes, particularly English, literature, and history to debate and uncover themes addressed during the lessons. Students will also learn the science of the brain and nervous system to help guide them in composing informed, compassionate responses to life's obstacles. It builds a foundation for the upper school elective, Ethical Dilemmas and Decision Making and prepares them for service learning opportunities at the upper school. During the semester, reflection on the material is encouraged but formal homework is not assigned. *For students interested in learning more about life's questions and how they can make a difference in the world.*

**Robotics (7<sup>th</sup> grade/ year long course)**

The Intro to VEX Robotics course is designed to help our students explore the fundamentals of robotics and the engineering design process while learning to use industry-leading CAD software, and VEX Classroom & Competition Robotics Kits. Throughout this class, students will walk through designing and building a robot for a competitive sport like competition, while also learning key STEAM principles, and robotics concepts.

**Robotics and Engineering (8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year long course)**

This course is tailored to students who have a strong interest in robotics design, construction, programming and driving. The Intro to VEX Robotics course is designed to help our students explore the fundamentals of robotics and the engineering design process while learning to use industry-leading CAD software, and VEX Classroom & Competition Robotics Kits. Throughout this class students will walk through designing and building a robot for a competitive sport like game, while also learning key STEM principles, and robotics concepts.

**STEAM (7<sup>th</sup> grade) - All 7<sup>th</sup> graders take this one quarter during PE/Dance period**

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) class is primarily designed around problem solving. Throughout the course students will work in teams to explore, meet, and overcome real-world challenges. The course is project-based and challenges students to develop their communication and innovation while honing skills of exploration, planning, investigation and evaluation. The course seeks not directly to instruct students in broad concepts of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math, but to facilitate the learning of applicable concepts for solving real-world problems based on challenges we face in modern-day life.

**Technology Applications (7<sup>th</sup> grade/ quarter course)**

This course rotates with Art, Drama, and Music short courses. The Technology Applications Course is a 9 week course that utilizes a blended classroom approach adopting Apples Everyone Can Create curriculum. The content in this class is a mix of app - based and physical activities. Students will use multiple applications to create videos, podcast, digital presentations, coding programs and engage in collaborative exercises with their classmates. By the end of this course, students will have a better understanding of design based thinking, when to use it, and how to use it to carry out ideas in an innovative way.

**Tools (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade quarter or semester course)**

Traditionally referred to as Study Strategies, this course is designed to help students improve their learning effectiveness, attitudes, and motivation. Time management, concentration, note taking skills, textbook study methods, test taking strategies, and critical thinking skills are all included in the course. The teacher will reinforce concepts and review assignments presented in other academic courses. Students will be offered independent study time and administered mock quizzes and exams, when appropriate. Specific goals and objectives identified in the student's IEP will be integrated into the class, where applicable.

## Performing Arts

### Band

#### **Advanced Band (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year-long course)**--Prerequisite: *Audition/Director Recommendation*

This ensemble is year-long class offered to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students who have demonstrated a high level of musical competency on their instrument. To maintain membership in the band, students are required to play their instrument within the performance expectations set for the class and attend all performances and rehearsals.

#### **Cadet Band (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year-long course)**--Prerequisite: *Audition/Director Recommendation*

This ensemble is a year-long class offered to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have demonstrated a moderate level of musical competency on their instrument. To maintain membership in this band, students are required to play their instrument within the performance expectations set for the class and attend all performances and rehearsals.

#### **Beginning Band (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year-long course)**--Prerequisite: *None*

This ensemble is a year-long class offered to any student who has an interest in learning to play a band instrument. To maintain membership in this band, students are required to play their instrument within the performance expectations set for the class and attend all performances and rehearsals.

### Orchestra

#### **Concert Orchestra (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year-long course)**--Prerequisite: *Director Recommendation*

This ensemble is a year-long class for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have had experience playing a stringed instrument (violin, viola, cello or string bass). At least one year of playing experience is required. These students are developing basic individual and orchestra skills.

#### **Advanced Orchestra (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year-long course)**--Prerequisite: *Audition/Director Recommendation*

This ensemble is a year-long class for those 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade string students who play at a very advanced level (violin, viola, cello or string bass). Audition is required. Students will learn advanced bowings, positions and advanced literature.

### Choral Music

#### **Treble Choir (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year-long course)**--Prerequisite: *Audition/Director Recommendation*

This choir is a year-long class. Sight-reading and musicianship training are important elements of daily rehearsals. The choir performs a winter and spring concert. In addition, the Choir will be adjudicated at GMEA district Large Group Performance Evaluation. Alternating years, the choir travels to participate in a national music festival. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances.

#### **Men's Choir (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade/ year-long course)**--Prerequisite: *Audition/Director Recommendation*

This choir is a year-long course. Sight-reading and musicianship training are important elements of daily rehearsals. The choir performs a Winter and Spring Concert. In addition, the Choir will be adjudicated at GMEA district Large Group Performance Evaluation. Alternating years, the choir travels to participate in a national music festival. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances.

#### **Vocal Ensemble**--Prerequisite: *Audition/Director Recommendation*

Group meets 2 days a week during Middle School afternoon study hall. Members must be enrolled in the Middle School Treble or Men's Choir to be eligible. The Middle School Ensemble learns a variety of four part choral music. This group performs a winter and spring concert and alternating years participates in a national music festival.

## Dance

### **7 Dance (7<sup>th</sup> grade/ year-long course)**

This dance class is designed to train students in the beginner levels of Modern, Ballet, Jazz, Improv and Choreography techniques. Throughout these genres, students will explore dance elements, history and culture, choreography, performance, and learn how to express themselves through dance. This class will help students enhance their critical thinking skills and confidence, develop discipline and coordination, improve strength and flexibility, as well as promote a healthy lifestyle while having fun in the process. This class performs in the annual Spring Dance Concert.

### **8 Dance (8<sup>th</sup> grade/year-long course)**

This dance class is designed to train students in the beginner/intermediate levels of Modern, Ballet, Jazz, Improv, Dance Film and Choreography techniques. Throughout these genres students will explore dance elements, history and culture, choreography, performance, and learn how to express themselves through dance. This class will help students enhance their critical thinking skills and confidence, develop discipline and coordination, improve strength and flexibility, as well as incorporate technology such as video application into the classroom to create a dance films. This class performs in annual Spring Dance Concert.

### **8 Advanced Dance - (8<sup>th</sup> grade/year-long course) (Prerequisite: Director Recommendation)**

This dance class is designed to train students in the intermediate/advanced levels of Modern, Ballet, Jazz, Improv, Dance Film and Choreography techniques. Throughout these genres students will explore dance elements, history and culture, choreography, performance, and learn how to express themselves through dance. This class will help students enhance their critical thinking skills and confidence, develop discipline and coordination, improve strength and flexibility, as well as incorporate technology such as video application into the classroom to create a dance films. This class performs in annual Spring Dance Concert.

### **Middle School Dance Ensemble Jr.-(Prerequisite: Director Recommendation)**

The Dance Ensemble offers male and female students the opportunity to enhance their dance skills and take their passion for dance a step further and thoroughly explore their love, excitement, and creativity of dance. This ensemble will have extra performance opportunities outside of school throughout the year, make a difference in the community, and work with renowned choreographers. This group meets once a week on Thursday afternoons for two hours and participates in the annual Spring Concert. Members must be enrolled into one of the three dance classes to be eligible for the Ensemble and must be recommended by the director.

## Theater

### **Drama 7: (7<sup>th</sup> grade/ year-long course)**

This is a year-long course focused on the student actor in both musicals and non-musicals. Students will be evaluated at the mid-year for recommendation of continuing in the course. This course will offer the student the opportunity to develop acting skills, training and experience necessary for live theatrical performance with an emphasis on acting. Exercises and games; monologue and scene work; character choices and development will be explored. In addition, the Year-Long Drama 7 student will be encouraged to join Junior Thespians and to participate in the Middle School production. This is a full year commitment.

### **Drama: (7<sup>th</sup> grade/ quarter course)**

This course will introduce the student to the national standards for drama education with an emphasis on acting, directing and dramatic literature for the middle school stage. Through an exploration of creative games, dramatic reading and vocal skill exercises, we will develop a deeper understanding of character education and theater appreciation

**Drama 8: (8<sup>th</sup> grade/year-long course)**

This is a year-long course focused on the student actor in both musicals and non-musicals. Students will be evaluated at the mid-year for recommendation of continuing in the course. This course will offer the student the opportunity to continue developing skills, training and experience necessary for live theatrical performance with an emphasis on acting. Challenging exercises and games; devised monologue and scene work; character choices and development will continue to be explored. Year-Long Drama 8 student will be encouraged to join Junior Thespians and to participate in the Middle School production. This is a full year commitment.

## PE

**General Fitness (7th grade, Boys and Girls)**

This course will provide students with the fundamental skills and knowledge to maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. Students will participate in a balanced curriculum of individual and team sports and fitness development. This course will incorporate basic cardiovascular training, strength training, fitness testing, and agility activities. Students will also participate in field sports, net/target sports, invasion sports, aquatics, and gymnastics/tumbling (girls only). *Performance levels and work ethic in this course will determine teacher recommendation for taking Physical Conditioning for Sports in the 8th grade.*

**Physical Conditioning for Sports (8<sup>th</sup> grade, Boys and Girls)** *(Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation)*

This course is designed to help student athletes develop strength, power, and speed for team and individual sports while focusing on preventing injuries and building stamina. Students will participate in weight-training and running to develop athleticism. This course gives Middle School students an alternative to the traditional team sports P.E. class. *Teacher recommendation is a requirement for taking this course.*

**Physical Conditioning for Life (8<sup>th</sup> grade, Boys and Girls)**

This course is designed to develop the skills necessary for a healthy, active lifestyle and a basic knowledge of rules for many individual and team sports. Students will participate in aerobic and anaerobic fitness activities, including field sports, net/target sports, invasion sports, fitness testing and development, aquatics, CPR training and gymnastics/tumbling (girls only).

## Visual Arts

### **Advanced Art (8th grade/ year-long course)**

Advanced Art encompasses an in-depth experience in a vast array of the visual arts. Among these are drawing, 3D printing, photography, ceramics, and sculpture. Students are introduced not only to the hands-on production but the philosophy and business of art. With all projects, an understanding of conceptual development and product development processes are stressed. All class work is reviewed through formal class critiques. Entry into Advanced Art is based on approval by the Visual Arts Department of a student's art portfolio; submissions are reviewed and conducted during spring of 7th grade. *Required: Digital Camera*

### **Ceramics (8th grade / semester course)**

Ceramics provides a format for working with clay through hand-building techniques. Students learn and experience the use of various commercial glazes, glazing methods, and firing techniques. The course stresses an understanding of ceramic vocabulary, history, and styles.

### **Combination Art (8th grade/ year-long course)**

Combination Art introduces the basics of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. Two-dimensional focuses on the fundamentals of hand drawing and digital photography. Three-dimensional focuses on sculpture, ceramics, and 3D printing. Integrated into the course agenda is a review of the creation and production of art in the business world. All class work is reviewed through formal class critiques. Entry into Combination Art is based on approval by the Visual Arts Department of a student's art portfolio; submissions are reviewed and conducted during spring of 7th grade. *Required: Digital Camera*

### **Drawing/Painting (8th grade / semester course)**

Drawing/Painting provides the student exposure to an array of flat and relief forms of expression. Among these are charcoal/pastel drawing, acrylic painting, collage assemblage, and relief production. While perspective is a principle focus, the course also addresses abstract, still-life, and figurative composition.

### **Introductory Art (7th grade / quarter course)**

Art Introduction is designed to address digital photography, ceramics, and drawing. Presentation of each of these medias is from a beginning level and a prelude to more advanced studies. In addition, classes illuminate the "elements and principles of design" for the students. *Required: Digital Camera*

### **Jewelry (8th grade / semester course)**

Jewelry incorporates transitional concepts of adornment using wire, metal, and found objects. In addition, 3-dimensional software and printing are introduced as avenues of design. As a beginning course, students will explore creating including rings, bracelets, brooches, necklaces, and earrings.

### **Sculpture (8th grade / semester course)**

Sculpture offers the opportunity to explore the multiple-dimensions of art. Students develop and construct environmental and object sculpture with attention to the generation of concepts and interpretation of space and scale. The course addresses both abstract composition and figurative composition.

### **Year-Long Art (7th grade / year-long course)**

Year-Long Art lays the foundation for a variety of visual media. These include: drawing, computer art, photography, ceramics, and sculpture. Special emphasis is placed on rendering with pencil, charcoal, pastel, and pen. Students learn to apply the "elements and principles of design" to create interesting and original artworks. Entry into Year-Long Art is based on approval by the Visual Arts Department of a student's art portfolio. Submissions are reviewed and conducted during spring of 6th grade. *Required: Digital Camera*

## Classroom Portal

(Powered by PowerSchool Learning)

Woodward Academy uses PowerSchool Learning (PSL), an online Learning Management System for teachers, students, and parents. PSL is a cloud-based tool that integrates with Google Apps and is iPad friendly. Students can access PowerSchool Learning by signing in with their student email address on a computer or the intuitive mobile app on their school-issued iPads. PSL's parent portal will give parents access to important information such as assignments, important dates, and supplemental classroom materials. Existing Woodward parents can continue to sign in with their credentials while New-to-Woodward parents will be given an invitation and access code in August.

**Homework:** On Fridays, teachers will post homework on PSL for the upcoming week. Students will always be aware of assignments and tests by using the PSL iPad app. Students will also be able to check missed classwork and homework assignments when absent from school.

**Supplemental Materials:** Teachers also supply additional classroom materials, such as videos, presentations, and other engaging online content on PowerSchool Learning for your child to access. Your child should check the calendar and teacher pages **daily**. PowerSchool Learning's resources should help strengthen your child's independence as a learner.

## Parent Portal

(Powered by Rediker PlusPortals)

**Live Grading / Progress Reports:**

Middle School families have access to live student progress through woodward.edu's Parent Portal. Students (and their parents) will have instant access to recent grades posted by their teachers. Our goal is to provide our students and parents with the ability to monitor progress closely and use this information to help students be accountable, develop executive functioning skills, and ultimately reach their fullest potential throughout the course of the year.

## 1-to-1 iPad Program

Woodward Academy will issue new 9.7" iPads, Logitech Rugged keyboard cases and Logitech Crayon styluses to all seventh grade students at no charge. Students will use the iPads to support 21st century learning through enhanced productivity and collaboration, develop executive functioning and self-management skills, access their school Google accounts, and access to the wide assortment of digital learning resources that have been developed to support education.

The students will use these iPads through eighth grade and then will be given the option to purchase their iPads at the end of their eighth grade year or return them to the school. These iPads, which are completely controlled and managed by Woodward, will be configured with specialized apps and profiles. Consequently, the use of personal iPads as a substitute will not be allowed.

## Middle School Clubs and Teams

- Academic Team--- You compete with other schools using your brain power.
- Anime Club--- A student-led club offering time to share knowledge, play games, practice writing, etc.
- Birthday Club-- Our club's goal is to recognize birthdays of all students and teachers during the year.
- Book Club--- Do you love to read? Chat with friends? Then the Book Club is for you.
- Conversation Club—The purpose is to provide an open forum on healthy and popular MS topics where the students can come together to share and eat together.
- Debate--- You explore the debate process and compete against other Middle Schools.
- Drama Club/Junior Thespians-- We are a division of the International Thespian Honors Society. We meet as a service club throughout the school year.
- Eagle Club--- This is our MS Service Club which participates in a variety of service activities each year.
- Environmental Club---- Do you care about our earth? Join our club and help recycle and keep our community clean.
- French Club—Visit France through art, music, games, food and fun! Special celebrations & competitions!
- Gamers Guild-- The purpose is to provide a forum of healthy sportsmanship where student can come together to talk about and play their favorite video, trading card, role-playing and tabletop games.
- Interfaith Club-- This club will help students learn about other traditions, develop initiatives at Woodward, and engage in interfaith dialogue.
- Jewelry Making— Make jewelry for yourself or someone else using beads, leather, metal, etc.
- Jewish-Themed Book Club—Read a few chapters of the book for each meeting and come to discuss them together.
- Magic Club--- This club is for those of you interested in learning more about performing magic.
- Math Team--- You take on those numbers and attend competitions to represent the Middle School.
- Middle Five Points Club--- The Middle Five Points Club is focused on embracing diversity as an important part of being a caring community.
- Mindfulness Club—A space for students to relax and relieve stress, improved mental focus and build resilience through activities, discussions, games, and movement.
- Owls Club-- Outstanding Writers Literary Society--This club focuses on reading interesting stories, learning about authors, poetry writing, the art of tea and conversation and middle school life.
- Robotics Team-- You will work together as a team to build a robot and solve a given problem.
- Social Studies Club--- You will play games, watch videos, practice geography skills, and visit the Renaissance Festival.
- Spanish Club-- Visit Spain through art, music, games, food and fun! Special celebrations & competitions!
- Student Food Advisory Club—Learn and talk about the food selections offered at Woodward.
- Tech Ninjas—Learn, master, hack, and promote the technology available to MS students and teachers.

## Middle School Sports

### Fall

**Football** - This is a no cut sport. Once school begins, teams will practice after school 4 to 5 days a week, from 3:45-5:45 pm (for 2 weeks) up until the first scrimmage on **August 17th**. After that, they will practice 4 days a week for the remainder of the season which ends **October 12th**. The specific days will be communicated to the players by their coaching staff. Games are played on Saturdays, except when there is a 3 day school holiday weekend and some Wednesday afternoons. When possible, that week's game will be rescheduled to an afternoon weekday game (usually Wednesday), to allow families to vacation over the extended weekend. The practice and game calendar will be available on our athletic web site prior to registration

**Cross Country**- Members run a two-mile distance at meets which are usually held on weekdays, with an occasional Saturday meet. This is a no cut sport for girls and boys. The emphasis is on individual improvement, so there will be a strict attendance policy to encourage as much practice time as possible during our short season.

**Softball**- Softball is a girl's sport and requires tryouts for limited positions. Practice is Monday through Thursday from 4:00 - 5:30. Rising 7th and 8th grade softball players are highly encouraged to attend the Woodward Softball Camp. This opportunity allows me to work with your daughter on an individual basis to further develop her fundamental skills for the upcoming season. It also gives me an entire week to get to know your daughter and establish a relationship between us. If your daughter attends the softball camp she then will be allowed to attend summer workouts with the JV and Varsity program.

**Volleyball**- This girl's sport has a season that runs from August through October, with practices Monday to Friday (with some Fridays off). Matches are played on weeknights and some Saturdays. In 2019 there will be two middle school teams.

**Cheerleading**- Cheerleading is a competitive sport open to boys and girls that requires tryouts for a maximum 20-spot roster. The season runs from April-October and requires summer practice. Tryouts for Middle School Competition/Football Cheerleading were held in March.

### Winter

**Wrestling**- Practice begins in late October. Matches begin after Thanksgiving with several dual and tri-matches on weekdays. Tournaments are held on Saturdays. All boys are encouraged to be a part of this no cut sport. The season ends with the Junior Chattahoochee Tournament held the last week of January. Practice is Monday through Friday from 4:00- 5:30.

**Basketball**- Tryouts for the four teams begin in October. Everyone is encouraged to tryout, but there are a limited number of positions on the teams for girls and boys in each grade. The games are played during the week and on Saturdays beginning the first week in December. The season ends the last week of January with tournaments held in early February. Practice is Monday through Friday from 4:00- 5:45.

**Swimming and Diving-** Practice begins in mid-October. This team is open to both girls and boys but may limit places so that everyone on the team may participate in all the meets. Meets begin after Thanksgiving and are held after school during the week. The season ends the first week in February with the city championships on a Saturday. Practice is Monday through Friday from 4:00- 5:45.

### **Spring**

**Soccer-** Tryouts for the girls and boys begins in early February with a mixture of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders on both teams. The season ends at the end of April. Practice is Monday through Friday from 4:00- 5:45.

**Baseball-** Tryouts begin in late February. The team includes boys in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Baseball concludes its season in mid-April. Practice is Monday through Friday from 4:00- 5:45.

**Track-** All students are encouraged to join this no cut team for boys and girls. Practice begins in mid-February and ends in April with the city championship. Meets start after spring break. Meets are during the week and occasionally on Saturdays. Everyone is given an opportunity to compete in a track or field event. Practice is Monday through Friday from 4:00- 5:45.

**Golf-** MS golf has a boys and girls team. The team travels to practice sites. Tryouts begin in February, and the season goes through April. Practice is Monday through Friday from 4:00- 5:45.

**Tennis-** 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades boys and girls may try out for the MS team. Try outs begin in mid-February, and the season ends in May. Matches are held during the week and on Saturdays. Practice is Monday through Friday from 4:00- 5:45.

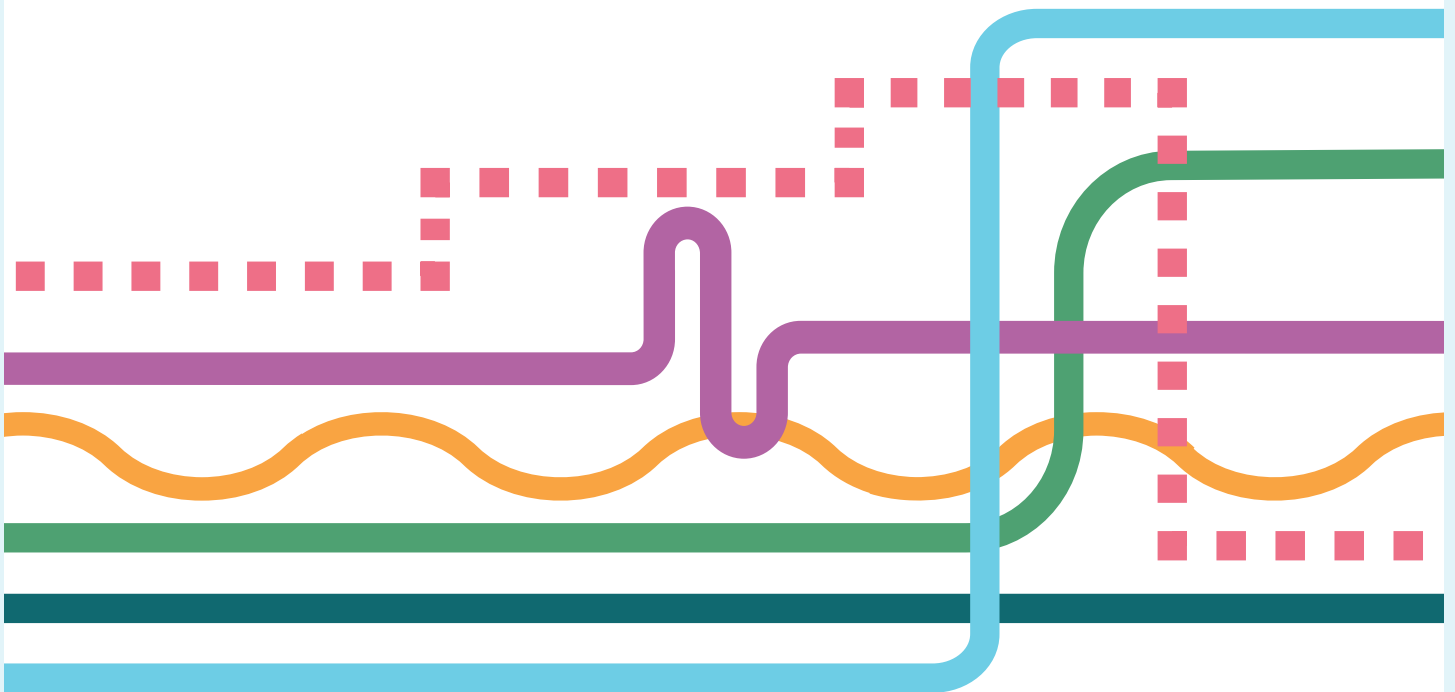
**Lacrosse-** MS Lacrosse has a boys and girls team. Tryouts begin in late January/early February. Practice is Monday through Friday from 4:00- 5:45.

## MISSION

Woodward Academy combines the proud traditions of Atlanta's oldest college preparatory school with an innovative, challenging, and well-rounded educational experience. In a broadly diverse and caring community, Woodward embraces the uniqueness of each individual. Guided by our core values of **Excellence, Character, and Opportunity**, we champion student success.

## VISION

Woodward Academy will be a **national model** in college-preparatory education, developing critical thinkers and ethical problem solvers, in an inclusive community, rich in opportunities for student success.



CREATE YOUR PATH

WOODWARD ACADEMY