

JOHN SEDGWICK GRADE 8 COURSE GUIDE 2018-2019

ENCORE ELECTIVES – SEMESTER CLASSES

CTH332 Automation & Robotics (PLTW) 1 Semester Grade 8
Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

ART502 Drama 1 Semester Grades 7, 8
This course is an expansion of Intro to Drama, however prior enrollment in Intro to Drama is not required. This class is designed to challenge students by exploring areas such as monologue, character interpretation/development, and improvisation. Set design and stage presence may also be explored.

CTH342 Intro to Computer Science (PLTW) 1 Semester Grade 8
Collaborate to create mobile apps that make a difference in people's lives. Solve real people's needs and wants with your creativity. With a gentle introduction to programming, you will learn how to make computers work together to put your designs into practice. Students will develop these skills in App Inventor and the Python programming language.

ELE202 Leadership 1 Semester Grades 7, 8
This course examines the principals of citizenship, leadership, and student government within the school and community. Students in this class will be involved with planning student activities and assemblies, and assume leadership roles within the school.

ELE403 Office Assistant 1 Semester Grades 7, 8
Office approval and GPA of 2.5 or better required for 8th graders. In this class, students will have the opportunity to learn skills that will assist them in the future job market. Course responsibilities may include answering telephones, assisting students and staff, filing, delivering passes, greeting visitors, and more. Students are expected to be responsible self-starters in this class, and must be able to voluntarily fill any downtime with schoolwork. Students' attitude and work must be high quality, as they will be representing John Sedgwick behavior to students and visitors alike. Interested students must fill out an application from the counseling office to be considered.

ART212 Sculpture/Ceramics 1 Semester \$15 lab fee Grade 8
Students will be introduced to the elements and principles of design as they create works of 3-dimensional art utilizing the processes associated with paper, wire, paper mache, clay, etc. With clay, we will focus on hand built construction of pottery by covering the pinch method, coil method, and slab method as well as learn about different types of glazing techniques, and how the firing process works.

Speech & Debate 1 Semester Grade 8
Speech & Debate: Students will proficiently demonstrate public speaking skills necessary for a variety of audiences in preparation for high school and for post-secondary opportunities. Will include impromptu, informative, persuasive, and interpretation speeches as well as debate. This course is currently pending district board approval.

ELE401 Teacher Assistant 1 Semester Grades 7, 8
Teacher approval and initials required. GPA of 2.5 or better required. The opportunity exists for qualified students to assist with clerical tasks and errands in a number of areas in the school, including teachers' classrooms and the library. Interested students must fill out an application from the counseling office to be considered.

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PED142 Weights/Conditioning 1 Semester Grades 7, 8
Teacher signature required. This is an advanced physical education elective that is designed to facilitate overall body strength and condition. Proper lifting and safety techniques will be a focus as students strive for a high level of physical fitness. Students will be expected to set and pursue goals for self-improvement.

CTH111 Wood Technology 1 Semester \$35 lab fee Grades 7, 8
The class provides general skills instruction for hands-on operation of wood working machinery including band saw, belt sander, biscuit jointer, drill press, edge jointer, jig saw, lathe, miter saw, radial arm saw, surface planer, and various hand tools. Instruction will include both text readings and review with extensive instruction and demonstrations provided by the teacher. Projects include a variety of household items that can include lather turnings as barbecue handles, baseball bats, bowls or candlesticks. Other projects like benches, birdhouses, clocks, chairs, chopping boards, coat racks, planters, shelves, table units, and wooden toys may be offered or chosen by students. Activities will include students designing each project, making a multi-view plan, developing a materials listing and pricing sheet, wood selection, mark-up, cutting, gluing, assembly and finishing procedures. Class focus is on safe working procedures with quality and craftsmanship encourages on all projects.

Advanced Wood Technology 1 Semester \$35 lab fee Grade 8
Prerequisite: C or better in Wood Technology. This class will cover advanced woodworking processes. Students will utilize all woodshop machinery including the table saw and panel saw. Projects will include: furniture production and design; CO² car competitions. Instruction will focus on fine woodworking techniques, problem solving and quality craftsmanship. Students may sign up for both Wood Technology and Advanced Wood Technology, as a progression. Their admittance into Advanced Wood Technology 2nd semester will be dependent upon their grade in Wood Technology 1st semester.

ENCORE ELECTIVES – YEARLONG CLASSES

ELE801/802 8th Grade AVID **2 Semesters** **Grade 8**
Teacher signature required. AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) students are selected to enroll in the elective after an application process. AVID is designed for students in the academic middle who have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. Students learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and asking probing questions, get academic help from peers and college tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college attainable. The AVID program at JSMS provides enrichment in a progression from 6th through 8th grade for students who wish to remain two or three years, but no prior enrollment is required. Students may enroll in AVID at any point during their stay at JSMS.

MUS221/222 8th Grade Band **2 Semesters** **Grade 8**
Students, who have some experience playing an instrument but are not ready for virtuoso concert performance, should consider this yearlong elective. Students are required to participate in concerts as part of the course grade, and will be expected to provide and maintain their own instruments. The school will provide sheet music.

MUS421/422 8th Grade Choir **2 Semesters** **Grade 8**
More advanced vocal music students may continue with 8th Grade Choir. Students work on three and four-part music, leading toward refinement of vocal music techniques. Different types of music are learned and performed as part of a group, and members are required to participate in concerts.

MUS321/322 8th Grade String Orchestra **2 Semesters** **Grade 8**
This year-long course is designed to provide students who play a violin, viola, cello or string bass an opportunity to refine prior playing skills and learn new skills in a performance ensemble. Students may need to purchase a music book for this class, and they will learn to perform as part of a group. Group performances may be required outside of school hours.

INTERVENTION CLASSES

Language Arts Intervention **1 Semester** **Grades 6, 7, 8**
It is the goal at John Sedgwick Middle School that all students be effective readers who read at grade level. Students will be identified using STAR and SBA testing data, district reading assessments, and teacher/parent recommendations. Students will practice reading strategies to become more fluent, confident readers.

Math Intervention **1 Semester** **Grades 6, 7, 8**
It is the goal at John Sedgwick Middle School that all students be proficient in math. Students will be identified using SBA testing data, math baseline tests, and teacher/parent recommendations. Students will learn strategies to improve math skills along with becoming more effective math problem solvers. Instruction will support student progress in the regular math class and will involve pre-teaching regular math course concepts as well as target additional practice to each student's identified needs.