

Wadsworth Middle School Curriculum Guide



Grades 7th and 8th

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Middle School Academic Program Schematic

	7 th	8 th
English/Language Arts	ELA 7 Enriched ELA 7*	ELA 8 Enriched ELA 8*
Mathematics	Math 7 Pre-Algebra 7 Enriched Pre-Algebra 7* Honors Enriched Algebra 1 (HS Credit)*	Math 8 Honors Algebra 1 (HS Credit)* Honors Geometry @ HS (HS Credit)*
Science	Science 7 Enriched Science 7*	Science 8 Honors Physical Science @ HS (HS Credit)*
Social Studies	Social Studies 7	Social Studies 8
Art	Art 7	Art 8
Band	Band 7	Band 8
Choir	Choir Music Show Choir 7	Choir Music Show Choir 8
Family Consumer Science	FCS	Healthy Foods
Health		Health 8 Health (HS Credit)
Physical Education	P.E. 7/8	P.E. 7/8
Technology	Technology 7	Pre-Engineering Computer Science & Technology Info Technology
World Languages	Exploratory French Exploratory Spanish	Exploratory French Exploratory Spanish

*Qualifications for any gifted courses are determined by the Office of Instruction and Professional Development

NOTE: (HS credit) course descriptions will be on the High School's Curriculum Guide

Core Courses of Study

English/Language Arts Course Descriptions

English/Language Arts (ELA)	7 th Grade	Year	Required
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The 7th grade English Language Arts meets for two class periods covering rigorous instruction of the Ohio English Language Arts Standards including reading, writing, speaking and listening. A distinct focus is placed on key ideas and details, author's craft and structure, and ways to integrate knowledge and ideas in both fiction and nonfiction texts. Writing structured, well-informed essays which include a thesis or claim, key ideas, logical, relevant, and sufficient evidence will be integrated throughout the school year. Students will also participate in the development of grade level vocabulary, command of the English language and oral presentations.

Enriched English/Language Arts (ELA)	7 th Grade	Year	Required
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This class follows the same course of study as described in the Seventh Grade ELA Course Description. Students are expected to exhibit critical thinking processes through higher level questions, discussions, and texts. In addition, a higher expectation will be placed on students to more thoroughly understand, commit to memory, and apply the rules of the English language as well as demonstrate an independent work ethic to complete the assigned work. This course is designed to work at an accelerated pace and is designed to match the gifted learner's needs.

Enrollment is limited and based on specific academic criteria established by the district as it pertains to gifted identification and services. Any questions on enrollment can be directed to the Director of Instruction and Professional Development.

English/Language Arts (ELA)	8 th Grade	Year	Required
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The 8th grade English Language Arts meets for two class periods covering rigorous instruction of the Ohio English Language Arts Standards including reading, writing, speaking and listening. A distinct focus is placed on key ideas and details, author's craft and structure, and ways to integrate knowledge and ideas in both fiction and nonfiction texts. Writing structured, informative and argumentative essays which include a thesis or claim, key ideas, logical, relevant, and sufficient evidence will be integrated throughout the school year. All students will read S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders* as a class novel. In addition, students will also participate in the development of grade level vocabulary, command of the English language and oral presentations.

Enriched English/Language Arts (ELA)	8 th Grade	Year	Required
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This class follows the same course of study as described in the Eighth Grade ELA Course Description. Students are expected to exhibit critical thinking processes through higher level questions, discussions, and texts. In addition, a higher expectation will be placed on students to more thoroughly understand, commit to memory, and apply the

rules of the English language as well as demonstrate an independent work ethic to complete the assigned work. This course is designed to work at an accelerated pace and is designed to match the gifted learner's needs.

Enrollment is limited and based on specific academic criteria established by the district as it pertains to gifted identification and services. Any questions on enrollment can be directed to the Director of Instruction and Professional Development.



Math Course Descriptions

Math 7	7 th Grade	Year	Required
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Math 7 (taken by the majority of 7th graders) will focus on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples. This course is designed to continue adding skill to students use of calculator, number sense, and operations. Students will use data, and statistics to complete charts, graphs, and tables. They learn financial terminology as it relates to percent, interest, taxes, etc. They will begin work with algebraic equations and functions, geometric fundamentals and formulas, measurement, probability and problem solving. Students will increase confidence in calculation and math reasoning for problem solving.

Pre-Algebra 7	7 th Grade	Year	Required
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Pre-Algebra is an option for 7th graders with strong math abilities and a sound work ethic. This is a compacted math course that offers all the content listed above in the Math 7 course PLUS part of the Math 8 content. Students taking this course would continue into Honors Algebra 8 which will cover the remainder of the Math 8 curriculum PLUS the entire year of high school Algebra 1. Enrollment in Honors Algebra 8 will result in one high school credit issued. Student placement in this course is determined by analyzing student data from standardized tests, placement tests, class performance and reading abilities.

***** THIS IS AN INTENSIVE TRACK REQUIRING A HIGH DEGREE OF STUDENT MOTIVATION. THE PACE WILL BE VERY ACCELERATED.

Enriched Pre-Algebra	7 th Grade	Year	Required
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Enriched Pre-Algebra is the same curriculum as Pre-Algebra, but is a homogeneous grouping of identified gifted students only.

Enriched Honors Algebra 1	7 th Grade	Year	Required
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Enriched Honors Algebra 1 is an option for 7th graders with strong math abilities and a sound work ethic. This is a compacted course that offers the remainder of the Math 8 curriculum PLUS the entire year of high school Algebra 1. This course requires focuses on five critical areas: (1) quantities and rates, including simple expressions and equations; (2) function notation and language describing characteristics of functions; (3) regression

techniques to describe relationships between quantities; (4) create and solve equations, inequalities and systems of equations involving quadratic expressions; and (5) explore distinctions between rational and irrational numbers. The workload increases and prepares students to accelerate through advanced level classes offered at the high school. Enrollment in Honors Algebra 8 will result in one high school credit issued.

***** THIS IS AN INTENSIVE TRACK REQUIRING A HIGH DEGREE OF STUDENT MOTIVATION. THE PACE WILL BE VERY ACCELERATED.

Math 8	8 th Grade	Year	Required
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Math 8 (taken by the majority of 8th graders) focuses on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. Math 8 serves as the traditional 8th grade level math course proceeding at a pace that allows students to gain a deeper understanding and real world application of mathematical symbols, first order of operations and inequalities with fractions, products and factors, powers and roots, polynomials, and financial terminology with fixed and variable rates. Students will be prepared for Algebra in high school.

Honors Algebra 1	8 th Grade	Year	Required
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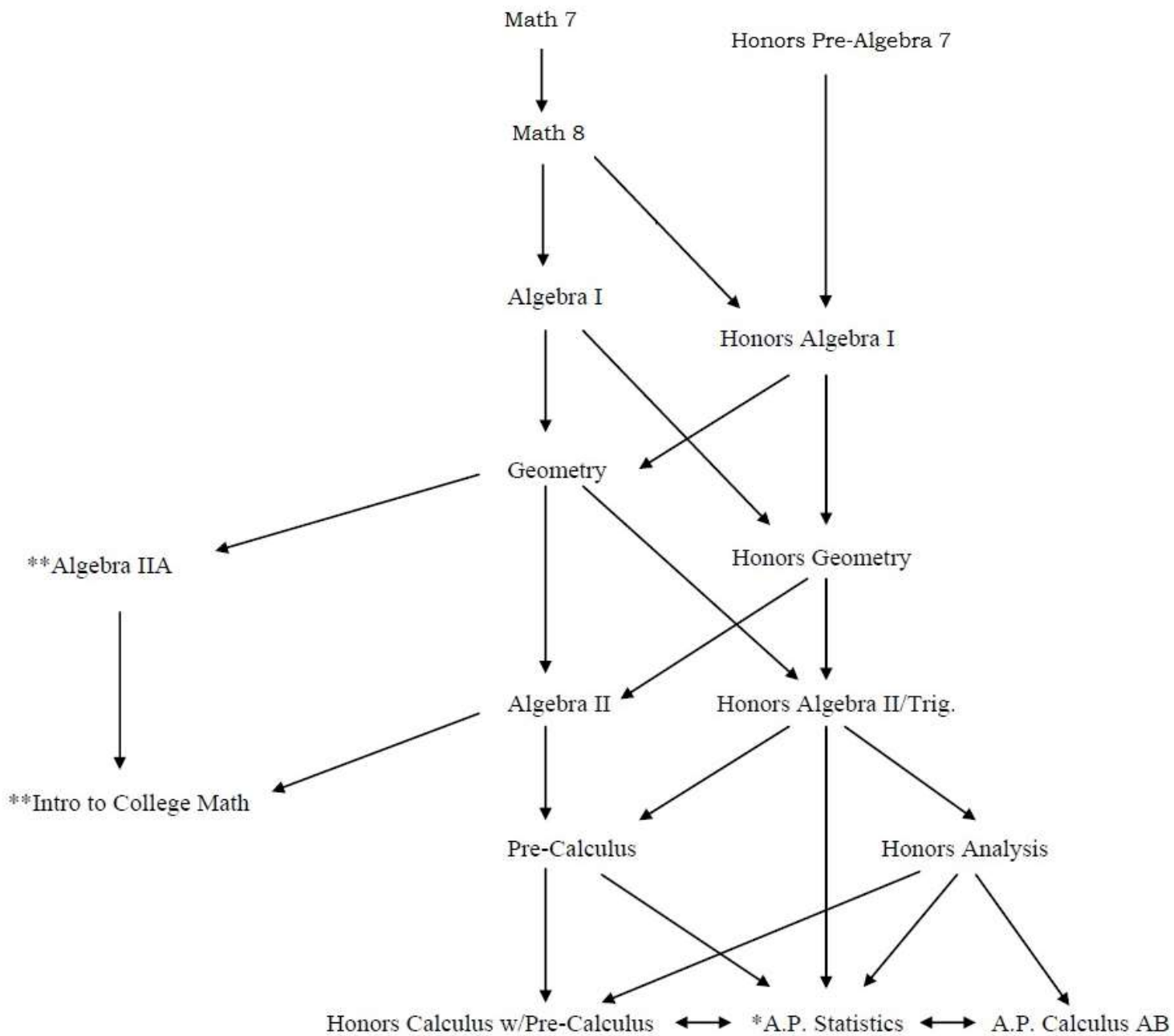
Honors Algebra 1 is an option for 8th graders with strong math abilities and a sound work ethic. These students should have completed Honors Pre-Algebra 7 in 7th grade. This is a compacted course that offers the remainder of the Math 8 curriculum PLUS the entire year of high school Algebra 1. This course requires focuses on five critical areas: (1) quantities and rates, including simple expressions and equations; (2) function notation and language describing characteristics of functions; (3) regression techniques to describe relationships between quantities; (4) create and solve equations, inequalities and systems of equations involving quadratic expressions; and (5) explore distinctions between rational and irrational numbers. The workload increases and prepares students to accelerate through advanced level classes offered at the high school. Enrollment in Honors Algebra 8 will result in one high school credit issued. There is one class that will be a homogeneous grouping of gifted identified students only. The same grade weight and credit is given.

***** THIS IS AN INTENSIVE TRACK REQUIRING A HIGH DEGREE OF STUDENT MOTIVATION. THE PACE WILL BE VERY ACCELERATED.

Honors Geometry @ HS	8 th Grade	Year	Required
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Course descriptions will be on the High School's Curriculum Guide.

Math Sequence Chart





Science Course Descriptions

Science 7	7 th Grade	Year	Required
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Integrated science that includes the following State of Ohio Content Standards: Earth science (Atmosphere, climate, Earth-Moon-Sun system) Environmental (ecosystems, biomes) and Physical Science (principles of chemistry and energy transformations). The focus of this course is the flow of energy and matter through the biogeochemical cycles.

Enriched Science 7	7 th Grade	Year	Required
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Accelerated course compacting both 7th and 8th grade Ohio Content Standards for Earth, Space, Life, and Environmental Sciences. We cover the atmosphere, global climate, ecosystems, Earth-Sun-Moon system, Plate Tectonics, and Genetics. These gifted students will take the 9th grade Honors Physical Science course their 8th grade year.

*Enrollment is limited and based on specific academic criteria established by the district as it pertains to gifted identification and services. Any questions on enrollment can be directed to the Director of Instruction and Professional Development.

Science 8	8 th Grade	Year	Required
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Integrated Science course that includes the following State of Ohio Content Standards: Earth (Constructive and Destructive forces that shape Earth), Physical Science (Forces and Motion), and Life Science (Genetics). Instruction and assessments are in preparation for the 8th grade Science AIR test.

Honors Physical Science @ HS	8 th Grade	Year	Required
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Course descriptions will be on the High School's Curriculum Guide.



Social Studies Course Descriptions

Social Studies 7	7 th Grade	Year	Required
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Seventh grade Social Studies focuses on the world historical events from the ancient civilizations through the first Global Age (1000 BC to 1600 AD).

The students will learn that each culture is shaped by its geography, economic conditions, leadership, and interaction through trade. Each unit will summarize each culture's enduring impact of achievements and advancements into the modern age.

Social Studies 8	8 th Grade	Year	Required
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The eighth grade Social Studies class provides a rigorous and differentiated investigation of American History from 1585 to 1877: Exploration through Reconstruction. Students will evaluate primary source documents, analyze and provide evidence to support points of view, learn personal finance, understand how geography shapes historic events, and know the principles upon which the American Constitution is founded. Throughout the year, current events will be discussed and students will be encouraged to discover how past and present events are interconnected.



Encore Courses of Study

We support the Middle School philosophy of exploration and exposure to a variety of contents and student interests

Art 7	7 th Grade	9 Weeks
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Nine week course exploring the elements and principles of art, art history, and studio habits. Students will create works of art in drawing, painting, collage and more.

Art 8	8 th Grade	Semester
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Semester course exploring the elements and principles of art, art history and studio habits. Students will create works of art in drawing, painting, collage, ceramics, and more. An emphasis will be placed on beginner skills in drawing from observation and creative expression.

Band 7	7 th Grade	Year
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Year-round course that is open to all students who previously took band in 5th and 6th grade at CIS. 7th grade band is the first time students meet daily and get to operate as a full ensemble, despite being split into two classes. This class continues to develop proper playing technique, improve music reading, and implement large ensemble procedures while performing grade 1-2.5 literature. Students completing this course will be prepared for the 8th grade band.

Band 8	8 th Grade	Year
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Year-round course that is open to all students who previously took band in 7th grade. 8th grade band is the first time students meet daily as one full ensemble. This class continues to develop proper playing technique, improve music reading, and refine large ensemble procedures while performing grade 2-3.5 literature. The primary goal of the 8th grade band is to adequately prepare and inspire students to be strong members of the high school band program.

Choir 7/8	7 th /8 th Grade	Semester
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Performance choir is a mixed choir (boys/girls) of beginning vocalists. Students who participate in Performance choir will learn the basics of choral technique, sight singing & music theory as aligned with the Ohio Department of Education Fine Arts Standards. Students participate in vocal work as a whole group and in sectionals. Performance Choir is a great course for students who already love to sing and/or want to break out of their shell by learning new vocal techniques! Performance Choir is a semester course with one large performance requirement.

Computer Science & Technology	8 th Grade	9 Weeks
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Students will use code.org's Computer Science Discoveries program to build on their coding experience. They will program animations, interactive art, and games. They will start with simple shapes and build up to more sophisticated sprite-based games, using

the same programming concepts and the design process computer scientists use daily. The students will finish the course by developing a personalized, interactive program.

Exploratory French	7 th /8 th Grade	9 Weeks
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Exploratory French is offered as a quarter long class in 8th grade and gives students an introduction to the French language and culture. Students will learn about the importance of the French language, basic vocabulary and phrases in French, and correct pronunciation. Cultural topics will also be addressed throughout the quarter.

Exploratory Spanish	7 th /8 th Grade	9 Weeks
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Exploratory Spanish is designed to introduce students to the Spanish language. Students will learn basic vocabulary such as greetings, numbers, colors, alphabet, etc. Students will also learn basic grammar and will be introduced to the culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Students will work on their abilities in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Spanish. This course is designed to help students decide if they would like to study Spanish in depth at the high school level.

Family Consumer Science	7 th Grade	9 Weeks
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A 9 week course that focuses on financial literacy, Nutrition and Wellness, Personal Development and Sewing. Financial Literacy focuses on needs and wants, credit and identity protection, taxes, saving and investing. The Nutrition and Wellness unit covers basic food preparation and hands on activities using healthy recipes while maintaining a clean and safe kitchen. During the Personal Development unit students focus on developing knowledge related to problem solving, communication, conflict resolution, goals, and relationships. The Sewing unit covers basic hand and machine sewing equipment and skills and includes sewing projects.

Health 8	8 th Grade	9 Weeks
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The Health Education Course is designed to enhance the awareness and knowledge of healthy lifestyle choices. The major adolescent risk behaviors will be addressed while advocating for the students to make healthy choices for their overall health. Over the quarter long course, students will learn the general knowledge about topics such as Emotional and Mental Health, Decision Making, Goal Setting, Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD), Diseases, CPR and First Aid, and Relationships.

Health HS	8 th Grade	Semester (HS credit)
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The Health Education Course is designed to enhance the awareness and knowledge of healthy lifestyle choices. The major adolescent risk behaviors will be addressed while advocating for the students to make healthy choices for their overall health. Over the semester long course student will go more in depth with topics such as Emotional and Mental Health, Decision Making, Goal Setting, Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD), The Body Systems, Diseases, CPR and First Aid, and Relationships.

Healthy Foods and Living	8 th Grade	9 Weeks
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Nutrition and wellness, evaluating good food choices, planning for maintaining a healthy weight, kitchen essentials, and food safety.

Information Technology	8 th Grade	9 Weeks
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Students will be introduced to the basic components of visual storytelling. Students will learn to use cameras and software for photography, graphic design, and video editing.

Physical Education	7 th /8 th Grade	9 Weeks
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Physical Education provides students the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, lead up games, team sports, individual sports, and physical fitness activities. Students receive instruction in rules, skills and strategies associated with different sports and activities as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities and lifelong fitness. The program promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play and friendly competition.

Pre-Engineering	8 th Grade	9 Weeks
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Explore STEM careers, designing and testing ideas using modeling, automation, robotics, mechanical and computer control systems along with team based problem/project learning.

Show Choir 7	7 th Grade	Year
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7th Grade Encore, is an auditioned Show Choir for 7th grade students. In this fast-paced course, students combine choreography, singing, and music theory in order to learn the basics of choral & performance techniques. Students sing a variety of styles (pop, jazz, multicultural, acapella, and more!) in 3-part music, and perform 3 concerts per year. Students work with a wide range of professional choreographers and also perform at school events. Show choir is a yearlong course.

Show Choir 8	8 th Grade	Year
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8th Grade (mixed) show choir consists of only 8th students. This mixed ensemble is an accelerated and auditioned show choir singing 4-part music. Students sing a variety of styles (pop, jazz, multicultural, acapella, and more!) and perform 3 concerts per year. Students work with a wide range of professional choreographers and perform at local community events, as well as Music in the Parks Competition. Show choir is a yearlong course.

Technology 7	7 th Grade	Semester
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A semester course in technology where students will cover the basics on how a computer works and how it helps us solve problems, introductory web design with HTML and CSS, 3D design and the design process, keyboarding skills, and independent study projects in our Origins Lab.