

*FISHERS JUNIOR HIGH*



**Fishers Junior High  
13257 Cumberland Road  
Fishers, IN 46038**

**Web Address: <https://fjh.hseschools.org>**

**Office: 317-594-4150 Fax: 317-594-4159**

## *Fishers Junior High School*

### *Mission Statement*

Fishers Junior High School, in partnership with the community, is committed to academic excellence and talent development in a safe, supportive environment. It is our mission that every student will possess the academic and social skills necessary to be a responsible citizen and a life-long learner in a rapidly changing, diverse world.

### *FJHS Administration and Support Staff*

Principal – Dr. Crystal Thorpe

Guidance Director – Kitti Gal

Athletic Director – Scott Timmons

Treasurer – Tabitha Lowry

School Nurse – Carley Touhey

ISR Secretary – Lori Case

Assistant Principal – Tige Butts

School Counselor – Basel Maarouf

Office Manager – Leslie Francis

Guidance Secretary – Kim Broughton

Main Office Secretary – Debbie Smith

Cafeteria Supervisor – Angela King

## ACADEMICS

### Curriculum Focus

The students of Fishers Junior High participate in the state mandated middle school curriculum. We believe that regardless of their post-secondary goals, students who leave FJH should be prepared for the rigor and challenge of high school course work and beyond. With this as our benchmark, we believe we are preparing our students for success.

### Teaming

English, science and social studies teachers are teamed in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade for the purpose of curriculum coordination and student individualization. Each team of three teachers has a common group of students.

### Scheduling and Schedule Changes

Schedule changes may be made through **June 1**. After this date, changes will be made only due to special circumstances and if class size and master schedule will allow. Schedules are not changed after school starts. **Students and parents should carefully consider all course requests prior to June 1.** Requests for specific teachers or teams will not be honored.

### Grading

Fishers Junior High is on a nine-week grading system with midterm grades issued at 4 ½ weeks and report cards issued at the end of each 9 weeks. Parents and students may access midterms and report cards on Skyward. Students who achieve all A's on their report card will receive High Honor Roll status. Students who achieve all A's and B's on their report card will receive Honor Roll status. The grading scale used at FJH is the corporation-wide grading scale.

99.50 – 100	A+
92.50 – 99.49	A
89.50 – 92.49	A-
86.50 – 89.49	B+

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82.50 – 86.49	B
79.50 – 82.49	B-
76.50 – 79.49	C+
72.50 – 76.49	C
69.50 – 72.49	C-
66.50 – 69.49	D+
62.50 – 66.49	D
59.50 – 62.49	D-
59.49 – and below	F

**Advanced Courses**

Courses at the Advanced/Honors level are offered in the disciplines of Mathematics, Science, and English. These courses are advanced in course material, pace and rigor. Students must meet the criteria for enrollment in advanced courses as well as receive teacher recommendations for enrollment in the courses.

***ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR***

**Extracurricular/Athletic Opportunities**

Participation in the athletic and extracurricular programs at FJHS is encouraged. These programs provide our students the opportunity to provide leisure time activities, to promote personal physical development, to gain leadership experience, to receive intensified educational experiences, and to have fun with fellow students and teachers. Students wishing to participate in athletics must have a physical examination and have an IHSA physical form completed and on file with the Athletic Director prior to their first practice.

**Athletic/Extracurricular Eligibility Policy**

A student who receives 2 F's for the nine-week grading period is ineligible for the current season and for the next grading period. Students will also become ineligible immediately with 2 F's on their mid-term report during the season until that mid-term grade is at a passing level.

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**Athletic Offerings:**

**Fall**

7th grade football  
7th grade volleyball  
Boys' cross-country  
Cheerleading  
Girls' golf

8th grade football  
8th grade volleyball  
Girls' cross-country  
Boys' and girls' tennis

**Winter**

7th grade boys' basketball  
7th grade girls' basketball  
Wrestling

8th grade boys' basketball  
8th grade girls' basketball  
Cheerleading

**Spring**

Boys' and girls' track

Boys' golf

**Music/Drama Opportunities:**

Jazz Band  
Fall Play/Spring Musical  
Pit Orchestra

Pep Band  
Winter Guard  
Strolling Strings

**Clubs/Extracurriculars:**

Student Council	Writing Club	Paper Crafting Club
MATHCOUNTS	Fitness Council	Photography Club
Academic Team	Charger TV	Campus Life
GSA	Scrap booking	Elite Gaming Club
Robotics Club	Speech Team	K-pop Club
National Junior Honor Society		

***COURSE DESCRIPTIONS***

***BUSINESS DEPARTMENT***

**Business Information Technology**

In this nine-week course, students will improve their computer applications skills, using the touch-type method while utilizing Office 365 applications such as Word, Excel, Power Point, and Publisher. In addition, students will explore Computer Science and Coding, as well as basic concepts of Personal Finance. Projects will include activities which integrate these concepts and allow students to apply their newly acquired skills to real-world situations. *This course is required for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.*



theme, figurative language,) and certain AP skills such as how to mark a text and an introduction to dialectical journals. A wide range of texts, including many that are above grade level, will be used to teach these concepts, but in Advanced English 7 a greater emphasis will be placed on critical thinking skills, higher level questions and literary analysis. The rigor of the course will be in the relevancy of the tests and the differentiation of instruction implemented by the teacher. *It is the expectation of HSE schools that students in Advanced English classes in junior high will continue to the honors level and AP courses in high school. Placement is by teacher recommendation.*

## **English 8**

The major areas studied are literature, writing, and oral communication. Grammar, mechanics, and vocabulary are integrated throughout the course in all areas. The teachers will use the Magic Lens approach to grammar. Students will delve into the world of poetry, novels, short stories, and drama. Students will participate in debates, drama, historical fiction studies, oral presentations, essays, creative writing, reader response, research papers and long-term projects.

## **Advanced English 8**

The Pre-AP handbook will be used extensively at the high school level and some content is expected to be mastered in junior high. This includes, but not limited to numerous literary devices (irony, tone, mood, allegory, figurative language, theme, point of view) and certain AP skills. A wide range of texts will be used to teach these concepts. In Advanced English 8, a greater emphasis will be placed on critical thinking skills, higher level questions and literary analysis. Writing standards will be stressed more heavily in the Advanced English class. The rigor of the course will be in the relevancy of the tests and the differentiation of instruction implemented by the teacher. *It is the expectation of HSE schools that students in Advanced English classes in junior high will continue to the honors level and AP courses in high school. Placement is by teacher recommendation.*

## **Journalism**

Through this course students will gain an understanding of the principles and practice of journalism. Students will learn how to recognize good stories, gather facts through interviewing and research, develop sources, craft engaging leads and satisfying endings and create news and feature articles that inform and entertain readers. During the second half of the course, students will put skills learned to use to create a classroom newspaper with each student responsible for different kinds of articles. *Journalism is a semester course for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.*

## **Film Theory**

Students will analyze and write about film. Students will use movies as a lens to look at fiction and nonfiction literature in a new way. By learning specific techniques, students will see how film is not just a spectacle, but also a craft, just





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team. Students must be able to work before and after-school. Students should also have strong writing skills. *Digital Design is a year-long course for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.*

### Art Survey

Students will have the opportunity to create both two and three-dimensional art projects. Drawing, painting and papier-mâché are some of the media explored. Students will learn about art created by others in class activities and discussions. *Art Survey is a nine-week course for 7<sup>th</sup> graders and a semester course for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.*

### Band

**Symphonic Band:** For advanced seventh and eighth grade band students who display leadership qualities through practice habits, playing skill, and daily class work ethic. Performances include Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts as well as band contest and solo and ensemble contest. Students from this band may audition for extra-curricular groups such as Pep Band and Jazz Band. *The intermediate and junior high school directors select membership. Band is a year-long class and requires the rental of an instrument.*

**Concert Band & Varsity Band:** These intermediate level groups are for seventh and eighth grade students who want to continue an instrumental musical experience in junior high school. Performances include Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts as well as band contest and solo and ensemble contest. Students from this band may audition for extra-curricular groups such as Pep Band and Jazz Band. This group provides leadership opportunities for players at an intermediate level. *The intermediate and junior high school directors select membership. Band is a year-long class and requires the rental of an instrument.*

**Beginning Band:** This course is offered to seventh graders who want to learn how to play a band instrument. The first two to three weeks will be instrument try-outs and selection of instruments. Students will learn the fundamentals of wind and percussion instrument playing and will perform at the Winter and Spring Concerts. Students should consider taking this course in the eighth grade only if they have a strong desire to learn to play an instrument. *Band is a year-long class and requires the rental of an instrument.*

### Choir

**Honors Choir – Charger Sound:** Students who display leadership qualities in sight-reading, part singing, and vocal technique are selected for this group by audition. Performances include three evening school concerts, ISSMA large group contest, ISSMA solo and ensemble contest, and opportunities to sing the National Anthem at athletic events. *Choir is a year-long class.*



## **Math 7**

The curriculum includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Applications of each set of numbers
- Using problem solving strategies
- Number theory
- Algebraic expressions and equations
- Geometric definitions and concepts
- Uses of measurements of plane and solid geometric figures
- Percentages and their applications
- Statistics, graphs and probability
- Operations of whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and integers

## **Advanced Math 7**

Seventh grade advanced math class prepares the students to take high school Algebra I in eighth grade. The curriculum includes, but is not limited to:

- Algebraic concepts
- Solving equations with whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and integers
- Graphing algebraic equations
- Percentages and their applications
- Geometric definitions and concepts
- Uses of measurements of plane and solid geometric figures
- Square roots, Pythagorean Theorem and its applications, Trigonometric ratios *Placement is by teacher recommendation.*

## **Math 8**

The eighth-grade math class prepares students to take Algebra I in their freshman year. The curriculum includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Operations of whole numbers, integers, fractions, and decimals
- Number theory and real numbers (rational and irrational)
- Algebraic concepts
- Solving equations and inequalities
- Coordinate graphing
- Percentages and their applications
- Problem solving strategies
- Probability and statistics
- Patterns and measurements in Geometry

## **Honors Algebra I**

This is a high school Algebra I class. Students will go directly into Honors Geometry should plan on taking math all four years of high school. The curriculum consists of the topics listed below.

- Real numbers

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- Variable expressions
- Linear equations
- Polynomials and factoring polynomials
- Algebraic fractions and fractional equations
- Functions
- Systems of linear equations
- Probability and statistics

This is a very rigorous class, recommended only for students who have been very successful in Advanced Math 7. *Students will receive **high school credit** upon completion of Honors Algebra I. Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

### **Honors Geometry – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

This course covers primarily plane geometry with some solid geometry topics. It includes deductive and inductive reasoning; the ideas of proof and logic are stressed. Properties and relationships of geometric figures including the study of angles, lines, planes, triangles, parallel lines, circles, coordinate geometry, trigonometric ratios, polygons, and special drawings are all included. *Students will receive **high school credit** upon completion of Honors Geometry in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

## **PRACTICAL ARTS DEPARTMENT**

### **Family and Consumer Science - FACS**

Topics in this course include but are not limited to clothing care (how to sew on a button and to do the laundry). Students will construct a gym bag using the sewing machine. Students will also learn about kitchen safety and sanitation, food preparation skills (cooking and eating), nutrition, and the food guide pyramid. This class also covers topics associated with child-care. *FACS is a semester class.*

### **Engineering and Technology Education**

The Engineering and Technology Education course is a hands-on, project-based class introducing the engineering design process. Students will design and build a variety of mock-ups and scaled models as they solve various design challenges presented to them by “clients”. Students use a variety of tools, equipment and laptop computers to explore transportation, manufacturing, construction and communications systems. *Engineering and Technology is a nine-week course for 7<sup>th</sup> graders and a semester course for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.*

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**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

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**Science 7**

Topics covered include cells, the scientific method, what is a Scientist? and environmental science. An in-depth study of plants and animals is also covered as well as how these fit into different biomes. Students will be studying the different concepts in a lab setting which will help to develop their scientific thought. A special opportunity is offered in attending a three-day, two-night camp near Lafayette, Indiana. Under the direction of teachers and camp counselors, students complete a wide assortment of environmental and ecological activities.

**Advanced Science 7**

Topics covered include cells, the scientific method, what is a Scientist? and environmental science. An in-depth study of plants and animals is also covered as well as how these fit into different biomes. This class will require students to be independent thinkers, handle a faster pace and utilize higher thinking skills. *Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

**Science 8**

Students will gain a better understanding of the concepts involving chemistry and physics. Hands on projects include the egg-drop project, Rube Goldberg project, an element database, and a formula spreadsheet project.

**Advanced Science 8**

Students will study chemistry and physics. Students will gain understanding of the different concepts involving chemistry and physics through a hands-on approach. Major projects include the egg-drop project and the Rube Goldberg project. Students in this course should have a strong interest in science and be a critical thinker in the science world, be able to apply concepts and skills being taught and utilize higher level thinking skills while acquiring knowledge. *Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

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**SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

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a more in-depth study of vocabulary. Successful completion of high school world language classes in 8<sup>th</sup> grade qualifies the student for the next level of their chosen language in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. *Students will receive **non-weighted high school credit** for both regular and honors and the grade will become a part of the **high school GPA**.*

## Display your *Charger PRIDE* . . .

### Personal responsibility. . .

- Organized, prepared, and punctual
- Accountable for own actions

### Respectful . . .

- Towards yourself
- Towards others

### Integrity . . .

- Honest
- Trustworthy

### Discipline and self-control . . .

- Meet expectations
- Make good choices

### Engaged . . .

- In your learning
- In making FJH a better place

Take *CHARGE* of your success!!



## SAMPLE 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE SCHEDULES

### Scheduling Options – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Sample

*(Courses will not be in this order.)*

<u>Family Consumer Science Option</u>	<u>Fine Arts Option</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. English</li><li>2. Math</li><li>3. Science</li><li>4. Social Studies</li><li>5. Wellness (Year)</li><li>6. Composition (Sem) and Family Consumer Science (Sem)</li><li>7. Business (9 wks) General Music (9 wks) Art Survey (9 wks) Tech Ed (9 wks)</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. English</li><li>2. Math</li><li>3. Science</li><li>4. Social Studies</li><li>5. Wellness (Year)</li><li>6. Fine Arts Electives: (Choose One) Band/Choir/Orchestra/Art (Year)</li><li>7. Composition (Sem) and Business (9 wks) General Music (9 wks) or Art Survey (9 wks) (depending on fine arts choice)</li></ol>

# SAMPLE 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE SCHEDULES

## Scheduling Options – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sample

*(Courses will not be in this order.)*

### Without High School World Language

#### No Fine Arts

1. English
2. Math
3. Science
4. Social Studies
5. Wellness (Year)
6. Composition (Sem) and
- 7.

#### Choose – 3 Electives

- Engineering and Technology (Sem)
- Art Survey (Sem)
- Gen Music (Sem)
- Film Theory (Sem)
- Journalism (Sem)
- Computer Science (Sem)
- Bus Entrepreneurship (Sem)
- FACS (Sem)

#### Fine Arts

1. English
2. Math
3. Science
4. Social Studies
5. Wellness (Full Year)
6. Fine Arts Elective: (Choose One)  
Band/Choir/Orchestra/Art/Digital Design (Year)
- 7.

#### Choose – 2 Electives

- Engineering and Technology (Sem)
- Art Survey (Sem)
- Gen Music (Sem)
- Film Theory (Sem)
- Journalism (Sem)
- Computer Science (Sem)
- Bus Entrepreneurship (Sem)
- FACS (Sem)

**With High School World Language**

**No Fine Arts**

1. English
2. Math
3. Science
4. Social Studies
5. High School World Language
6. Wellness (Sem) and
- 7.

**Choose – 3 Electives**

- Engineering and Technology (Sem)
- Art Survey (Sem)
- Gen Music (Sem)
- Film Theory (Sem)
- Journalism (Sem)
- Computer Science (Sem)
- Bus Entrepreneurship (Sem)
- FACS (Sem)

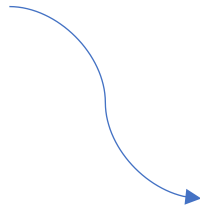
**Fine Arts**

1. English
2. Math
3. Science
4. Social Studies
5. High School World Language
6. Fine Arts Elective: (Choose One)  
Band/Choir/Orchestra/Art/Digital Design (Year)
7. Wellness (Sem) and

**Choose – 1 Elective**

- Engineering and Technology (Sem)
- Art Survey (Sem)
- Gen Music (Sem)
- Film Theory (Sem)
- Journalism (Sem)
- Computer Science (Sem)
- Bus Entrepreneurship (Sem)
- FACS (Sem)

# ***MAKE IT HAPPEN!***



## **Junior High Checklist**

- **Students should focus on classes and stay on top of homework assignments. Grades in Junior High can affect which courses students can take in high school.**
- **Review the Core 40 High School diploma options.**
- **Students should get involved in clubs, sports, or the arts. It's a great way to expand interests and prepare for the future.**
- **Parents and students need to start thinking about college and post-secondary goals NOW.**
- **Begin gathering information about colleges and careers through informal college visits and career inventories.**
- **Visit [www.learnmoreindiana.org](http://www.learnmoreindiana.org) for tips on doing well in school now and how to reach postsecondary goals later.**
- **Read *Learn More Indiana* mini magazines from cover to cover. (Provided to students at school and available at [www.learnmoreindiana.org](http://www.learnmoreindiana.org)).**
- **Visit [www.hseschools.org](http://www.hseschools.org) for links to valuable information about colleges, careers and postsecondary options.**

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At FJHS

We Practice ...

Character Skills  
for Success!

Honesty • Caring • Respect • Responsibility • Self-Control • Trustworthiness • Determination • Forgiveness • Fairness



# Why FJH is a great place to be!

## Heroes team:

57 years of teaching experience  
7 different schools  
Teacher of the Year  
29 Summa Cum Laude Most influential teacher of the year  
Students nominated National Youth Leadership Forum  
Lilly Creative Teacher Fellow  
Academic Team 1<sup>st</sup> in Nation at Thinking Cap Competition  
Academic Team 6<sup>th</sup> in Nation at 321 Academic Competition

## Globetrotters:

67 years of teaching experience  
4 different Schools  
2 District Teacher of the Year  
2 Indiana University Armstrong Fellowships  
49 Summa Cum Laude Most influential teacher of the year  
5 time We The People National Champions

## Stars team:

70 years of teaching experience  
6 different schools  
4 Summa Cum Laude Most influential teacher of the year  
We The People Logistics Coordinator  
32 Years of coaching experience  
CDC Science Ambassador  
DNR Forestry Ambassador  
Project Lead the Way Certification  
Donated 1000 refurbished computers through Net Literacy  
Planting 120 American Chestnut Trees and Hybrids with over 90% survival rate

NJHS Faculty Council Member

## Champions team:

37 years of teaching experience  
9 different schools  
Taught all levels  
1 Teacher of the Year  
IA of the Year  
Who-is-Who of American Teachers

## ACES team:

88 years of teaching experience  
7 different schools  
Taught junior high and school levels  
1 Teacher of the Year  
1 Teacher Leadership Academy Award  
1 VFW Award.

## Explorers team:

57 years of teaching experience  
10 different schools  
Taught junior high, high school and college levels  
Summa Cum Laude Influential teacher of the year  
Grant Winners by National Programs  
Educator's Institute of Human rights International Program Coordinator  
2020 JCRC Hoosier Upstander of Indiana  
Writer of Indiana Voices of the Holocaust: Teens Talk to Survivors and Liberators with former students  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Regional Educator  
3 Marathon finishes

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Two 50K finishes

**Math Department:**

129 years of teaching experience  
19 different schools  
4 Teachers of the Year  
1 District Teacher of the Year  
1 State Champion Coach

**Composition and Library**

94 years of teaching experience  
10 different schools  
Speech Team finished top 2 in every speech meet in 2022

**Art Department:**

16 years of teaching experience  
7 different schools  
Taught Pre-K through 12  
Yearbook: Gold Award  
Published Photographer  
Teacher of the Month Award

**Wellness Department:**

77 years of teaching experience  
14 different schools  
Taught elementary through college

**Exceptional Learners**

112 years of teaching experience  
28 different schools  
Taught at all levels, all subjects  
Honors of Excellence Awards  
HSE Grants

**Practical Arts:**

79 years of teaching experience  
22 different schools  
Taught Pre-K to Adult  
5 Marine Corp. Marathon finishes

**Counseling Department:**

12 years of counseling experience  
8 different schools

Counseled K-Adult

1 Licensed social worker  
2 National Certified school counselors  
1 certificate in clinical mental health counseling

**Performing Arts:**

70 years of teaching experience  
28 different schools  
Taught Pre-K through college  
Fishers High School Band State Champions  
National Drumline Award  
Summa Cum Laude influential teacher award  
Semi Finalist IDOE Teacher of the Year  
3 Teacher of the Year Awards  
Golden Apple Award  
2-time Lilly Endowment Awards  
3-time Olin W. Davis Award winner  
Richard Saucedo Outstanding Alumni Award  
Rangline Pioneer Award

**World Language Department:**

**43 years of teaching experience**

**9 different schools**

**Taught elementary through high school**

**5 publications**

**American Association of Teachers of French IN Chapter President**

**American Association fo Teachers of French IN Chapter Teacher of the Year**

**Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association Tom Alsop Publication/**

**Research Award**

**2 times HSE Foundation Innovation in Education Grant Recipient**

