

2022-2023 CATALOG

Jenkins Middle School



Grades
6-8

Course Descriptions



Jenkins Middle School Course Description



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ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

Length/Credit 1 year

Sixth Grade Language Arts is an introduction to Narrative, Informational, Argument, and Research writing. Students will develop proofreading and revising skills. Through reading a variety of fiction and poetry, students will use literary terms and figurative language. Students will also be analyzing and evaluating informational texts in order to develop critical thinking skills. Speaking and listening skills will be introduced. Novel Samples: Maniac Magee, The Incredible Journey, Far North, The Call of the Wild.

6TH GRADE ADVANCED LANGUAGE ARTS

Length/Credit 1 year

Sixth Grade Advanced Language Arts is an introduction to Narrative, Informational, Argument, and Research writing. Students will develop proofreading and revising skills. Through reading a variety of fiction and poetry, students will use literary terms and figurative language. Students will also be analyzing and evaluating informational texts in order to develop critical thinking skills. Speaking and listening skills will be introduced. Novel Samples: Tom Sawyer, The Call of the Wild, The Wizard of Oz

7TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

Length/Credit 1 year

Seventh Grade Language Arts is a continuation of the enhancement of students' basic skills in Narrative, Informational, Argument, and Research writing, integrating proofreading and revising skills. Through reading a variety of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, students will identify and employ literary devices, figurative language, and complex vocabulary. Students will also analyze and evaluate informational texts in order to develop critical thinking skills. Finally, students will practice and develop speaking and listening skills.

7TH GRADE ADVANCED LANGUAGE ARTS

Length/Credit 1 year

Seventh Grade Advanced Language Arts is continuation of the enhancement of students' basic skills in Narrative, Informational, Argument, and Research writing, integrating proofreading and revising skills. Through reading a variety of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, students will identify and employ literary devices, figurative language, and complex vocabulary. Students will also analyze and evaluate informational texts in order to develop critical thinking skills. Finally, students will practice and develop speaking and listening skills. Students in Advanced language arts will experience choice through units of independent study and a higher level of rigor and depth of knowledge.

8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

Length/Credit 1 year

Eighth Grade Language Arts is a deeper exploration of the processes of reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students will be exposed to a rich and varied literature including expository texts; writing in the genres of narrative, persuasive, expository, and response to literature using literary terms and figurative language, and direct instruction in language arts skills and strategies, will be provided, including vocabulary development, spelling, and grammar. Students will also be analyzing and evaluating informational texts in order to develop critical thinking skills. Speaking and listening skills will be reinforced.

8TH GRADE PRE-AP ENGLISH

Length/Credit 1 year

Pre-AP English 1 focuses on the close reading, analytical writing, and language skills that have immediate relevance for students that will be essential for their future coursework.

Texts take center state in the Pre-AP English 1 classroom, where students engage in close, critical reading of a wide range of literary and nonfiction works. The course trains the reader to observe the small details within a text to arrive at a deeper understanding of the whole. It also trains the writer to focus on the crafting complex sentences as the foundation for writing to facilitate complex thinking and to communicate ideas clearly.

****Students can earn high school credit for this course.**



MATH MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH GRADE MATH

Length/Credit 1 year

Unit 1: Numerical expressions, fractions, decimals, and order-of-operations.

Unit 2: Algebraic expressions, area, number properties.

Unit 3: Ratio and proportional relationships, rates, percent, converting between percent and fractions, converting measures.

Unit 4: Rational numbers, integers, inequalities, absolute value, and coordinate plane.

Unit 5: Write equations, solve 1-step equations, write and graph inequalities, find area using equations, surface area (prisms and pyramids), and volume (prisms).

Unit 6: Statistics, measures of center, measures of variation, absolute deviation, histograms, and data displays.

6TH GRADE ADVANCED MATH

Length/Credit 1 year

Unit 1: The Number System

Unit 2: Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities

Unit 3: Ratios and Proportional Relationships

Unit 4: Percents and Proportional Relationships

Unit 5: Probability and Statistics

Unit 6: Geometry

6TH GRADE DOUBLE ADVANCED MATH

Length/Credit 1 year
Unit 1: Numerical expressions, fractions, decimals, and order-of-operations.

Unit 2: Algebraic expressions, area, number properties.

Unit 3: Ratio and proportional relationships, rates, percent, converting between percent and fractions, converting measures.

Unit 4: Rational numbers, integers, inequalities, absolute value, and coordinate plane.

Unit 5: Write equations, solve 1-step equations, write and graph inequalities, find area using equations, surface area (prisms and pyramids), and volume (prisms).

Unit 6: Statistics, measures of center, measures of variation, absolute deviation, histograms, and data displays.

7TH GRADE MATH

Length/Credit 1 year

Unit 1: The Number System

Unit 2: Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities

Unit 3: Ratios and Proportional Relationships

Unit 4: Percent and Proportional Relationships

Unit 5: Probability and Statistics

Unit 6: Geometry

7TH GRADE ADVANCED MATH

Length/Credit 1 year

Unit 1: Equation, Exponents, and Scientific Notation

Unit 2: Transformations

Unit 3: Function analysis

Unit 4: Real Numbers, Pythagorean Theorem, and Volume

Unit 5: Patterns of Association

7TH GRADE PRE-AP ALGEBRA

Length/Credit 1 year

The Pre-AP Algebra 1 course focuses deeply on the mastery of linear relationships. Linear functions and linear equations are the basic building blocks of many advanced topics in mathematics. Therefore, Pre-AP Algebra 1 is streamlined to give students the time and space to thoroughly develop both procedural fluency and deep conceptual understanding of these concepts and skills. This instructional focus fuels students' growth and confidence in mathematics

**Students can earn high school credit for this course.

8TH GRADE MATH

Length/Credit 1 year

Unit 1: Equation, Exponents, and Scientific Notation

Unit 2: Transformations

Unit 3: Function analysis

Unit 4: Real Numbers, Pythagorean Theorem, and Volume

Unit 5: Patterns of Association



MATH MIDDLE SCHOOL

8TH GRADE PRE-AP ALGEBRA

Length/Credit 1 year

The Pre-AP Algebra 1 course focuses deeply on the mastery of linear relationships. Linear functions and linear equations are the basic building blocks of many advanced topics in mathematics. Therefore, Pre-AP Algebra 1 is streamlined to give students the time and space to thoroughly develop both procedural fluency and deep conceptual understanding of these concepts and skills. This instructional focus fuels students' growth and confidence in mathematics

**Students can earn high school credit for this course.

8TH GRADE PRE-AP GEOMETRY

Length/Credit 1 year

Pre-AP Geometry with Statistics has a central focus on measurement that provides students with a holistic and comprehensive view of geometry as the study of shape and space. This course leverages transformations to deepen students' knowledge of similarity and congruence. Since transformations are functions, they afford students a rich opportunity to connect algebra and geometry meaningfully, leading to a more sophisticated understanding of functions specifically and mathematics more broadly. To address concerns of disjointed conceptual development and lack of sophisticated knowledge of statistics and probability, this course includes a unit that provides time for a sustained and focused examination of topics that are essential for quantitative literacy.

**Student can earn high school credit for this course.



SCIENCE MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH GRADE SCIENCE

Length/Credit 1 year

Following the Colorado Academic Standards, students will learn lab safety, the scientific process, properties of matter, atomic structure and the periodic table of elements, water and natural resources, Earth's process, ecosystems and biodiversity and the reproduction system. Students will also realize that science is connected to everything and scientific thinking is used in daily activities.

7TH GRADE SCIENCE

Length/Credit 1 year

Following the Colorado Academic Standards, students will learn about the scientific process, mixtures, plate tectonics (volcanoes, earthquakes, Earth's layers, & sea-floor spreading), geologic time (continental drift, fossils, & geologic history), adaptations, genetics, cells, and human body systems. The goal of this curriculum is to build students' analytical and scientific skills as well as help them understand the natural world around them.

7TH GRADE ADVANCED SCIENCE

Length/Credit 1 year

The advanced curriculum will cover the same content as General Science, but will be structured to include a greater amount of depth for each unit and more project-based studies. Because students will be expected to learn more complicated concepts and work at a naturally faster pace, the extra time will be spent on extension and enrichment activities for each unit. This will include, but is not limited to, researching related technological advancements, experimental critiques, previewing future content, or independent research projects.

8TH GRADE SCIENCE

Length/Credit 1 year

Grade 8 Science includes the study of genetics, energy, waves and their properties, force and motion, chemical changes, astronomy, weather, and health. Appropriate technology and hands-on activities, including labs, will be used regularly for instruction and assessment.

8TH GRADE PRE-AP BIOLOGY

Length/Credit 1 year

Pre-AP Biology sparks student motivation and critical thinking about our living world as they engage in real-world data analysis and problem solving. Through the Areas of Focus, students engage deeply with science practices to construct and refine their biological knowledge and strengthen their cross-disciplinary reading, writing, and mathematical skills as they analyze data. Pre-AP Biology fosters student growth as they make meaningful connections among the structures, processes, and interactions that exist within and across living systems-from cells to ecological communities. Pre-AP Biology motivates students to be active participants in analyzing real-world phenomena and to collaborate productively with their peers in dialogue, investigations and problem solving.

**Student can earn high school credit for this course.



SOCIAL STUDIES MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH GRADE WORLD STUDIES: WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Length/Credit 1 year

Students will analyze and interpret historical sources, use geographical tools to solve problems, and analyze different economic systems as they relate to the forms of government in the Western Hemisphere.

7TH GRADE WORLD STUDIES: EASTERN HEMISPHERE

Length/Credit 1 year

Students will study the history of ancient civilizations and their impact on the Modern World. Specifically, we will be focusing on Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Greece, Rome, Africa, and Middle Age Europe. In addition, Social Studies skills (maps, charts, graphs, types of sources, citing sources, timelines, archaeology, personal finance literacy) will be the area of emphasis during the first unit of instruction. The curriculum used for this class is in accordance with Colorado State Social Studies Standards, the Common Core Literacy Standards, and the District 11 Standards for 7th grade Social Studies students. Studies Standards, the Common Core Literacy Standards, and the District 11 Standards for 7th grade Social Studies students.

7TH GRADE ADVANCED WORLD STUDIES EASTERN HEMISPHERE

Length/Credit 1 year

Students will study the history of ancient civilizations and their impact on the Modern World. Specifically, we will be focusing on Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indian, China, Greece, Rome, Africa, and Middle Age Europe. In addition, Social Studies skills (maps, charts, graphs, types of sources, citing sources, timelines, archaeology, personal finance literacy) will be the area of emphasis during the first unit of instruction. Overall, the course will require self-motivation, high interest, and responsibility to meet the demand of higher expectation. Students will be asked to use critical thinking, analysis, creativity, and synthesis to complete projects and assignments in this class. The curriculum used for this class is in accordance with Colorado State Social Studies Standards, the Common Core Literacy Standards, and the District 11 Standards for 7th Grade Social Studies students.

8TH GRADE AMERICAN STUDIES

Length/Credit 1 year

Students will study European colonization of North America and the emergence of the United States along with the development of the central government's political structures and citizens' rights. They will learn how westward territorial expansion redefined the nation's identity and brought the differences between the North and South to the forefront, dividing the nation and resulting in the emergence of the modern United States.

8TH GRADE PRE-AP WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

Length/Credit 1 year

Pre-AP World History and Geography focuses deeply on building the skills, knowledge and confidence that will propel students through high school coursework, college, careers, and civic life. Three enduring ideas this social studies course is built around make it engaging and relevant:

1. History is an interrelated story of the world.

The course explores the invisible structures and forces that shape and reflect the regions, communities, governments, economies, and cultures of humanity. These big ideas help students develop an organized and meaningful understanding of time and space.

2. History and geography are inherently dynamic.

As historians and geographers uncover new evidence, current assumptions are challenged and previous arguments and narratives gain complexity, nuance, and context. This course teaches students how to examine sources and data, establish inferences, and ultimately build and critique arguments.

3. Historians and geographers are investigators.

Learning in Pre-AP World History and Geography is designed to be a disciplinary apprenticeship where students participate in the process of discovery. Students will play the role of historian and geographer by practicing the detective skills and using the tools of each field of study.

****Students can earn high school credit for this course**



Gateway To Technology MIDDLE SCHOOL

Intro To Engineering

Length/Credit 1 quarter

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 6th, 7th and 8th

What is engineering? What do engineers do? What is the design process? These are some of the questions that students explore in the Intro to Engineering class as they innovate and invent.

Computer-Aided Design

Length/Credit 1 quarter

Prerequisite: Intro To Engineering

Grade Level: 7th and 8th

Students get a taste for Computer-Aided Design (or CAD). Students use Autodesk Inventor, which is a professional 3D modeling program. Students model objects such as kid's toys, brackets, and even a complete playground. Students at Jenkins also have access to a 3D printer, which they can use to print 3D models of their designs. .

Automation and Robotics

Length/Credit 1 quarter

Prerequisites: Intro To Engineering & Computer-Aided Design

Grade Level: 8th

Students get a chance to design and construct machines that solve everyday problems using VEX robotics. Students also get an introduction to programming using the ROBOTC programming language.



PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

6th Grade Choir

Length/Credit 1 quarter

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 6th

Students will learn the fundamentals of good singing, basic theory elements, and an appreciation for what makes the art of good singing in both rehearsal and performance. There is a concert placed toward the end of each academic quarter to demonstrate skills learned, which is considered the final exam for the class.

7th Grade Preparatory Choir

Length/Credit 4 quarters

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 7th

Students will learn/reinforce the fundamentals of good choral singing, as well as elements of theory, ear training, sight-reading, and musical terminology. Students will develop an appreciation for the art of excellence in vocal production, both in rehearsal and performance settings. There is a concert held towards the end of each academic quarter to demonstrate skills learned. There are several additional performance opportunities available, including auditioning for the District 11 Middle School Honor Choir, and participating in the Pikes Peak Area Solo Festival. The 7th Grade Choir competes in the Pikes Peak Area Large Group Choir Festival each year, in April.

8th Grade Chamber Choir

Length/Credit 4 quarters

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 8th

This group has a reputation of excellence, and represents Jenkins Middle School throughout the community. Fundamentals of good choral singing are taken to a more advanced level in this class, working to prepare students for area high school choral programs. A concert is held towards the end of each academic quarter. Additional performance opportunities include auditioning for the District 11 Middle School Honor Choir, auditioning for the Colorado Middle School All State Choir, and participating in the Pikes Peak Area Solo Festival. The 8th Grade Choir competes in the Pikes Peak Area Large Group Choir Festival each year, in April. Most years, the 8th Grade Choir takes part in a music competition at Elitch Gardens in mid-late May.

Band

Length/Credit 4 quarters

Grade Level: 6th, 7th and 8th

Classes meet every day by grade level. Musical instruments students play includes flute, clarinet, saxophone, french horn, trumpet, baritone, trombone, tuba, and concert percussion – drums & xylophone. Students perform at least once per quarter. CHSSA sponsored Large Group and Solo & Ensemble performances highlight demonstrating what they have learned while in band.

6th Grade Preparatory Orchestra

Length/Credit 4 quarters

Prerequisite: See Description Below

Grade Level: 6th

Generally students have 1-2 years of experience playing a string instrument with some understanding of reading music. In this course students will extend their reading ability and musical vocabulary. They will gain the mechanics and basic understanding of tuning their own instrument. They will learn when and how to shift out of first position. **Beginning students are welcome but highly encouraged to take private lessons and seek as much support from the teacher as possible.*

7th Grade Symphonic Orchestra

Length/Credit 4 quarters

Prerequisite: See Description Below

Grade Level: 7th

Student should have 2-4 years of experience playing a string instrument. Should be able to read music confidently and understand the mechanics of tuning their own instrument. In this course students will extend their reading ability and musical vocabulary. They will play musical selections which will require them to shift and play in multiple keys while performing more challenging rhythmic patterns.

**Highly self motivated beginning students are welcome but highly encouraged to take private lessons and seek as much support from the teacher as possible as they will need to spend a great deal of time with the instrument to catch up.*



PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

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8th Grade Chamber Orchestra

Length/Credit 4 quarters

Prerequisite: See Description Below

Grade Level: 8th

This is an advanced orchestra for student with 3-5 years of experience playing a string instrument. Students should be able to confidently read music and tune their own instrument with minimal assistance. They should be able to confidently shift to one other position and play in many different keys. In this course they will learn advanced techniques such as vibrato, and shifting to higher positions. They will extend their reading ability and musical vocabulary and demonstrate this through sight reading.

**Students with less experience are welcome but must be highly motivated to learn at a fast pace on their own and are highly encouraged to take private lessons and seek as much support from the teacher as possible.*

Introduction To The Visual Arts

Length/Credit 1 quarter

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 6th

In this class students learn about the Elements of Art (line, shape, color, value, texture, form and space), develop art vocabulary, focus on the art history of Mexico, Central, and South America (social studies integration) and learn drawing techniques that encourage confidence. Students will create a 2D and 3D project each quarter. The medium we use changes each year, but can include, drawing, painting, printmaking, clay, or papier mache'.

Forensics: Speech and Debate

Length/Credit 1 quarter (6th) 1 semester (7th-8th)

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 6th, 7th, 8th

This course is designed for students who love to speak, argue, and perform. Forensics provides opportunities to develop and hone those skills. This class is also for students who find it difficult to stand in front of people and talk. This class will help students overcome their fears and be successful. Forensics includes a variety of types of speeches and performances, both individually and with a partner, encompassing everything from debates to monologues. 7th and 8th grade classes will also include units on video, including broadcast journalism and advertising.

Foundations In Design & Encounter The Visual Arts

Length/Credit 1 semester

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 7th

Students in both classes will learn the Elements of Art and Principles of Design as they explore various art materials, techniques and processes, creating one 2D and 3D art project each quarter. The art media changes every year and may include drawing, painting, printmaking, fiber art, clay, glass, or papier mache' sculpture. Drawing Skills are developed as students complete warm-up exercises that encourage confidence in recognizing line and space relationship, light and shadow. The art history of Greece, Italy, Asia, Africa, Australia (social studies integration) are highlighted in seventh grade visual arts.

Intermediate Design, Expanding The Visual Arts

Length/Credit 1 quarter

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 8th

The three classes are different in content and each year the art media changes. Students in each class will create two art projects. The art media for these projects may include drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, clay, fiber arts or glass. The students will discuss art appreciation and may explore the art history of Europe and North America, including Contemporary Art. Students will continue to build their drawing ability through lessons that will give confidence and help equip them with the tools necessary to participate in the creation of successful visual arts projects. Students in eighth grade will learn more sophisticated techniques, methods and processes in art, but all classes are success oriented and will encourage individual confidence and will hopefully spark an interest in and passion for the visual arts.

Drama Workshop

Length/Credit 1 semester

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 7th and 8th

This one semester class introduces the fundamental skills of beginning acting & stagecraft. Units will include stage movement, voice improvement, pantomime, characterization, improvisation, & basic technical work. Course objective is to emphasize the development of the techniques of acting through memorized performances, & the creation of sets & costumes for those performances.



**P.E., FOREIGN LANGUAGE, LEAD WORTHY,
GIFTED & TALENTED, MUSIC HISTORY**

Physical Education

Length/Credit 1 quarter (6th) 1 semester (7th-8th)

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 6th, 7th and 8th

Students will participate regularly in physical activity and achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness while demonstrating proficiency in motor skills needed to perform a variety of physical activity. Students will exhibit responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others in the physical education settings and apply safety knowledge and skills to prevent injury. Depending on the quarter, students will learn and practice specific sports related skills and participate in sports and games that will contribute to their physical as well as their social well-being. These sports and games include but are not limited to; Ultimate Frisbee, Flag Football, Disc Golf, Basketball, Volleyball, Net Sports (such as Badminton, Pickle Ball and Table Tennis), Floor Hockey, Lacrosse, Archery, Softball, and Tennis as well as other indoor and outdoor games.

World Languages and Cultures

Length/Credit 1 quarter

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 6th

In this class students will be introduced to Spanish and French as well as the countries where these languages are spoken throughout the world. The class is designed to practice conversational language as learned through a variety of vocabulary units. These units include greetings and introductions, school/classroom vocabulary, expressing likes and dislikes, foods, activities, family members, the calendar and more. We will also explore various cultural elements found around the world including music, food, traditions and other topics.

Introduction To Spanish

Length/Credit 1 semester

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 7th

This class is designed to be intensive in conversational Spanish while we learn the language through a variety of vocabulary units. These units include greetings and introductions, school/classroom vocabulary, expressing likes and dislikes, foods, activities, weather, the calendar and more. We will also explore various cultural elements found in the Spanish speaking world including music, food, traditions and practices as well as other topics in the Latin world.

Spanish I-II

Length/Credit 4 quarters

Prerequisites: Intro To Spanish

Grade Level: 8th

In Introduction to Spanish we studied topics which included greetings & introductions, school / classroom vocabulary, expressing likes and dislikes, foods, activities, weather, the calendar and more. This class continues to be intensive in conversational Spanish while we will continue to build from your current knowledge base of Spanish and explore new units of vocabulary as well as dive deep into the fascinating world of grammar. We will also explore more of the cultural elements found in the Spanish speaking world including music, food, traditions and practices as well as other topics in the Latin world. This class is designed to be a *high school level class*. Students will be expected to work at a high level, participate and complete 2-3 homework assignments each week as well as chapter quizzes and unit tests.

Lead Worthy

Length/Credit 1 quarter (6th) 1 semester (7th-8th)

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 6th, 7th, 8th

In this class students develop leadership, professional, and business skills. They learn to foster a healthy self-concept, healthy relationships, and learn to understand the concept of personal responsibility including social media's impact on image. Students will develop an understanding of Emotional Intelligence and the skills it measures, which include self-awareness, self-control, self-motivation, and social skills. Students will also develop an understanding of the need for vision in goal-setting, both personally and professionally.

Gifted and Talented

Length/Credit 1 semester

Prerequisite: Identified GT

Grade Level: 6th,

Students will learn what it means to be a gifted learner and how giftedness impacts both their learning as well as intrapersonal relationships. In addition to social emotional education, 6th graders will be given the opportunity to work in groups to design a society that will be tested by natural and societal challenges. Communication, teamwork, and problem solving are taught explicitly throughout the society creation process as well as through teambuilding exercises.



**P.E., FOREIGN LANGUAGE, LEAD WORTHY,
GIFTED & TALENTED, MUSIC HISTORY**

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Gifted and Talented 7th Grade Exploratory

Length/Credit 1 semester

Prerequisite: Identified GT

Grade Level: 7th

Seventh graders' social emotional education consists of skill-specific challenges that many of our gifted youth struggle with. Examples include: Time management, organization, study skills, self-advocacy, and perfectionism management. Creatively, seventh graders spend one quarter learning and working with the engineering design process to complete design challenges. In the second quarter, they learn the art of debate, gain valuable research and analytical skills, and engage in a mock trial session. Teamwork, communication, and problem-solving continue to be stressed through teambuilding exercises.

Gifted and Talented 8th Grade Exploratory

Length/Credit 1 semester

Prerequisite: Identified GT

Grade Level: 8th

Eighth graders complete a culminating Personal Service Project, through which, they are tasked with fueling a movement. They identify a societal need, connect with an organization or form their own grassroots movement in order to raise awareness and bring about positive change. Social emotional education centers upon leadership identification and development. Teamwork, communication, and problem-solving continue to be stressed through teambuilding exercises.

GT 7th Period Socratic Seminar

Length/Credit 1 quarter

Prerequisite: Identified GT

Grade Level: 6th, 7th, 8th

This is a mixed-grade level course where students learn the art of discourse and dialogue through open-ended questions and inquiry. They are taught the value of seeking to understand prior to being understood. Seminar participants learn to construct meaning through analysis, interpretation, listening, and active participation.

Personal Finance

Length/Credit 1 quarter (6th) 1 semester (7th-8th)

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 6th, 7th, 8th

Have you ever wondered how to make money as an entrepreneur, save up for a car, or even pay for college? Personal finance is the class for you! Although the topics are similar, you will have a completely different experience in personal finance in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Sixth-grade topics include career and education research and creating your own theme park. Seventh-grade topics include budgeting, entrepreneurship, investing, and designing/marketing your own product or service. Eighth-grade topics include the stock market, debit vs. credit, saving for college, career research, interviews with industry experts, and a real-life finance simulation.

Music Exploration: The History of Rock and Roll

Length/Credit 1 semester

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 8th

This course is designed to give an overview of pop culture and/or music history of the 20th and early 21st centuries. We will examine the roots of rock and roll, from the cotton fields of the south, to early blues and jazz music. These traditions formed the foundation for early rock and roll, which has led us to the music we enjoy today. Attention will be paid to the history of various decades, as world events and trends heavily influence the music of the time. We will explore pertinent historical personalities/groups who greatly transformed the music of various decades. Students will acquire knowledge of how the music we listen to today evolved, and examine the paths which pop culture took to become what it is today. .