

CHISAGO LAKES MIDDLE SCHOOL

7th Grade Course Descriptions

Required Courses:

English / Language Arts - These will be assigned based on teacher recommendation and data review.

- **English:** This course emphasizes reading, writing and literature with a secondary focus on speaking and viewing. Throughout the year, students actively engage with vocabulary strategies and grammar concepts. Students strive to improve in the areas of creativity, style, and mechanics. In addition, they will work together to respond to literature, generate ideas, and edit their writing.
- **Advanced English:** This course challenges students in reading, writing and literature with a secondary focus on speaking and viewing. Throughout the year, students actively engage with vocabulary strategies and grammar concepts. Students strive to excel in the areas of creativity, style, and mechanics. They will work together to analyze and interpret literature as well as generate ideas and evaluate their writing. Students will respond to each unit through extension and challenge activities.

Math - you will have one - These will be assigned based on teacher recommendation and data review.

- **Math 7:** This course is designed around proportionality - the underlying theme in seventh grade mathematics. Students will learn about operations with integers and rational numbers, ratios and proportional relationships, expressions, equations and inequalities, geometry with circles and cylinders, and data and probability along with how each of these topics is related to proportionality.
- **Advanced Math 7:** An in-depth look into proportionality - the underlying theme in seventh grade mathematics. Students will extend and deepen their thinking with operations with integers and rational numbers, ratios and proportional relationships, expressions, equations and inequalities, geometry with circles and cylinders, and data and probability along with how each of these topics is related to proportionality. The seventh grade math standards will be covered at a greater depth in this more rigorous, advanced course.

Life Science: Life Science explores relationships and the flow of energy in the natural world. Students will learn about the interrelationships between living things and the Earth. Gaining this knowledge will lead to a better understanding of our environment and the importance of its proper maintenance. Topics covered are problem-solving and engineering, ecology, cell processes, cell structures and functions, genetics, plants, evolution and biodiversity. The dissection of a frog is featured.

United States History (1800-present): This course addresses issues and events of significance to this nation's history from 1800 to the present. Students will examine the Constitution, and the roles and responsibilities of each branch of government. Students will study the main causes and effects of major events in US History, including the Civil War, the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, and the Civil Rights Movement. Students will draw connections between these events in history and how it relates and impacts our world today.

PE / Music Rotation:

Physical Education: The goal of middle school Physical Education is to provide opportunities for students to acquire the knowledge of skills necessary to become a physically healthy, active, and educated person. Students will learn to appreciate and understand the value of physical activity and its relationship to a healthy active lifestyle. Students will participate in a variety of physical fitness activities in order to obtain their optimal level of physical fitness. Students will also develop the skills and knowledge necessary to participate successfully in a variety of lifetime activities and team and individual sports. PE class will emphasize improving individual fitness levels, safety, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Units include: football, soccer, tennis, pickleball, basketball, volleyball, floor hockey, badminton, fitness activities, outdoor activities, and introduction to weight training.

Each Student Will Select One

- **Band:** Seventh grade band meets every other day all year as a full band. Students must have successfully completed 6th grade band, or show appropriate proficiency on an instrument through private study. There are two concerts where attendance is required: one in December and one in May. Students gain skills in problem solving, teamwork, discipline, and critical thinking, as well as growing in instrumental ability.
- **Choir:** Seventh grade choir is a performance-based class for students who are interested in learning music through singing. This class meets every other day for the entire year. There are two concerts where attendance is required: one in December and one in May. In choir, students gain skill in vocal technique, ensemble skills, performance technique, music foundations, and music history through the study and performance of a wide variety of choral music.
- **General Music:** General Music is a non-performance based class that meets every other day for the entire school year. There are no required concerts for this class. In this class students explore the world of music through listening, analyzing, creating, responding, and connecting.

Allied Arts - one quarter of each.

- **Computer Skills:** Students will review and practice the alphabetic keyboard and proper keyboarding techniques. They will also study basic computer operations and technology as they complete-various multimedia projects. These projects include: multimedia design, graphic design, coding, sound editing, animation, computer hardware, Google Suite, photography, video editing, webpage building, etc, and a travel project. The travel project will help students gain additional research, presentation, and budgeting skills.
- **Health:** Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of physical, mental/emotional, and social well-being. Students will explore many topics and factors that will influence their health and wellness, so that we can make health-literate decisions to lead a healthy lifestyle. Topics include: Body Image and Self-Esteem, Alcohol, Tobacco, E-Cigs, and First Aid and Safety.
- **I.T. - Design and Modeling:** Industrial Technology curriculum is designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. Students will envision, design, and test their ideas with the same advanced modeling software as Lockheed Martin, Intel

and Sprint. Students use the design process to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on their own lives.

- **Art 7:** Integrating personal experiences and knowledge, students will develop original artistic ideas to complete art work using a variety of materials. Time will be given in this project based class for students to explore different techniques and learn from mistakes and successes.

Support / Interventions / Intervention Course

- **Reading Decoding:** In this class, students practice decoding strategies, word attack skills, vocabulary strategies, and fluency (reading automatically and with good expression) within the context of decodable text. Students work on improving reading comprehension through the use of different comprehension strategies, and vocabulary strategies. Students learn how to answer different types of test questions, and work to improve sentence writing. Progress is monitored weekly. The goal of this class is to give students the practice they need to make progress and eventually read at grade level.
- **Language Arts Interventions:** These are tailored interventions that will be designed and delivered based on the needs of the learners. Progress is monitored and when targets are met the interventions can be adjusted.
- **Math Interventions:** These are tailored interventions that will be designed and delivered based on the needs of the learners. Progress is monitored and when targets are met the interventions can be adjusted.