

Timberline Middle School

8th Grade Course Catalog



Sample Schedule:

Period	Semester 1	Semester 2
1	Language Arts (English 8)	Language Arts (English 8)
2	Social Studies (US History 2)	Social Studies (US History 2)
3	Math	Math
4	Science	Science
5	PE	Elective Choice
6	Elective Choice	Elective Choice

Sample Schedule: Music Elective

Period	Semester 1	Semester 2
1	Language Arts (English 8)	Language Arts (English 8)
2	Social Studies (US History 2)	Social Studies (US History 2)
3	Math	Math
4	Science	Science
5	PE	Elective Choice
6	Music Elective (Band, Orchestra, or Choir)	Music Elective (Band, Orchestra, or Choir)

At Timberline, we believe that student engagement is directly correlated with interest. We support student choice and do our best to place students in electives that they have requested. However, this is not always feasible based on the schedule layout, so we appreciate your consideration and understanding if you do not end up in the electives that you have requested. We will always do our best to try to make this happen, and there will be time in the first couple of weeks to allow for students to request to change their electives, but there are no guarantees.

When student schedules are created, the following factors are carefully considered:

- Core requirements (and what class periods they are available)
- Classroom size/ balancing classroom size across the building
- Available courses
- Registration course requests
- Specific student needs (examples: Special Education, Safety Net, Multilingual Learners)

8TH GRADE REQUIRED COURSES:

English 8 - Required

FULL YEAR

English 8 and Social Studies 8, also known as Language Arts & Social Studies (LA/SS), is a year-long, two-period block class which integrates writing, reading, speaking, listening, presenting, and technology skills with the study of US history.

English 8: Middle school language arts courses are developed with the foundation of core curriculum materials from Amplify ELA. Amplify ELA is an on-line platform constructed to allow students to work independently, with small groups, and as a whole class to read, analyze, discuss and write. Students will read and understand complex texts, read text passages closely, interpret what they find, discuss their thinking with peers, and develop their ideas in writing. Over the course of each year, students will be exposed to full texts and multiple fiction and non-fiction text excerpts on a variety of topics. Within the study of these texts, students will also develop their skills in the areas of narrative, argument, and informative writing. Students will experience learning in all standard areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Throughout the course, students will receive feedback and support that develops their skills and supports their development of critical thinking skills

Social Studies 8 (US History 2) - Required

FULL YEAR

8th Grade Social Studies focuses on the study of Indigenous Peoples and the development of Washington State, in the context of the late 19th Century into the 20th Century of United States History. The course is aligned with the Washington State Social Studies Standards and utilizes adopted core LWSD resources with Since Time Immemorial (Indigenous Peoples of the Salish Sea) as stated in Senate Bill 5433. Through this course students will advance their social studies content knowledge, as well as develop their social studies skills through activities such as inquiry, research, writing, and civil discourse. Though the course is based in historical knowledge, current events will also be incorporated. Multiple perspectives are a core component of this course and students are expected to be critical thinkers who engage honestly, but respectfully with their peers, in accordance with LWSD student expectations.

***Note: A passing grade in either semester fulfills the WA State History Graduation Requirement.**

8th Grade Mathematics - Required

FULL YEAR

In 8th Grade Math, students will:

- (1) formulate and reason about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation and solve linear equations and systems of equations;
- (2) explore the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships;
- (3) analyze two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.

District-adopted curriculum: Glencoe Math Course

NOTE: Depending on individual level and need, students who qualify may receive special education services in a general education math class (this will be determined by special education team).

Algebra 1- *High School Level Course

FULL YEAR

Prerequisite: Meet or exceed the district algebra placement requirements.

Students taking Algebra 1 will:

Write equations and functions (linear, exponential, quadratic);

2) Solve linear equations, inequalities, systems, and quadratic equations;

3) Graph, including transformations of, linear, quadratic, exponential functions and linear systems;

4) Translate between various forms of expressions using properties (linear, quadratic, exponential, polynomial);

5) Apply problem solving strategies to analyze, model, and interpret data and solutions to real world scenarios.

The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course. District-adopted curriculum: Big Ideas Math

***Letter grades earned will automatically go on the student's high school transcript.**

Geometry- *High School Level Course

FULL YEAR

Prerequisite: Must have completed two semesters of Algebra 1

Students taking Geometry will:

(1) Use construction and congruence to discover theorems, develop formal proofs and solve problems about segments, angles and polygons;

(2) Explore similarity and trigonometry using dilations, Pythagorean Theorem, and proportional reasoning;

(3) Work with the geometry of two and three-dimensional shapes including cross-sections and rotations;

(4) Explore properties of special right triangles and quadrilaterals, slopes of parallel and perpendicular lines, and distance;

(5) Find and prove equations and basic theorems about circles;

(6) Use geometric probability models to compute and interpret theoretical and experimental probabilities of compound, independent and dependent events.

The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course. Students experience math as a coherent, logical subject that makes use of their ability to problem-solve.

District adopted curriculum: Big Ideas Math

***Letter grades earned will automatically go on the student's high school transcript.**

8th Grade Science - Required

FULL YEAR

Students in 8th grade science develop understanding of key concepts to help them make sense of life, earth and physical science. The ideas build upon students' science understanding from earlier grades and from the disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts. 8th grade continues the story of matter and energy flow within and between larger isolated systems and the processes that occur within those systems over time.

The science strands/modules include: Natural Selection and Adaptations, Evidence for Evolution, Newton's Laws and Kinetic Energy, Wave Properties and Their Application in Technology, Seasons, Moon Phases, and Eclipses, and Gravitational Forces and Scale in the Universe.

Fitness 7/8 - *Meets PE Requirement**SEMESTER**

Students will develop into physically literate individuals who have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to enjoy a lifetime of healthful physical activity. In this one semester course, students will have opportunities to learn, improve and analyze their health-related and skill-related fitness, social and personal responsibility, and the value of physical activity. Students will build their skills in evaluating their physical fitness and activity, creating goals, building a plan for improvement, analyzing game situations, and demonstrating effective communication and collaboration. Each learning opportunity will be through a variety of activities: invasion games, net and wall games, target games, fielding and striking games, individual, partner and group games, recreational activities, and aerobic, strength and endurance, and flexibility training. As a result, physically literate students will apply tactics and strategies to modified game play; demonstrate fundamental movement skills in a variety of contexts; design and implement a health-enhancing fitness program; participate in self-selected physical activity; cooperate with and encourage classmates; accept individual differences and demonstrate inclusive behaviors; and engage in physical activity for enjoyment and self-expression. T-shirt: \$9

8TH GRADE ELECTIVES:**Spanish 1 (8th Grade) *High School Level Course****FULL YEAR**

Designed for beginning learners with limited or no prior experience with the language. This course is taught using a communicative approach and emphasizes oral communication about everyday topics. Students begin to develop Novice proficiency, using words and phrases to express themselves. Students begin to develop their intercultural and communication skills in Spanish through interpersonal speaking and writing, presentational speaking and writing, and interpretive reading and listening. This class is conducted in Spanish as much as possible and an emphasis is placed on becoming a competent communicator. Students expand their understanding of Spanish-speaking cultures in our community and other countries. Topics include interests, daily routine, and family and friends. Spanish 1 is not recommended for Heritage or Native speakers of Spanish. If you speak Spanish at home, please register for Spanish for Heritage Learners (available at EHS, JHS, LWHS, and RHS starting in 9th grade)

***Letter grades earned will automatically go on the student's high school transcript.**

Yearbook - Publication Production (7th and 8th Grade)**1 or 2 SEMESTERS**

Publication Production courses provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to produce the school newspaper, yearbook, literary magazine, or other printed publication. Students may gain experience in several components (writing, editing, layout, production, and so on) or may focus on a single aspect while producing the publication.

Peer Tutor in the Transition Program (7th and 8th Grade)**SEMESTER**

Student Aides support student learning in the Transition Program. Designed for patient and caring students who wish to gain skills in serving as positive role models and peer mentors. Limited aide positions are available, if there are more students than the class can accommodate a lottery will be used to determine placement.

Leadership 1 (7th and 8th Grade)**SEMESTER**

Leadership 1 is a one semester class for responsible and innovative seventh and eighth graders who wish to make a difference at Timberline Middle School. Students are responsible for organizing and helping with student recognition. The class is based on the book titled, *The World's Most Powerful Leadership Principle*. Students will gain important communication skills, the qualities of strong teams, and strategies to build their character. In addition, students will learn important key ideas to gain influence and have fun serving your school. Students do not need to turn in an application to be in Leadership.

Leadership 2 (8th Grade)

SEMESTER

Leadership 2 is a one semester class for responsible and innovative 8th graders. The class is based on the book titled, *The World's Most Powerful Leadership Principle*. Students will gain important communication skills, identify the qualities of strong teams, and practice strategies to build their character. In this class, students will plan assemblies, dances, charity drives, student recognition events, and lunchtime activities. Be prepared to make a positive, lasting difference in our school as a result of your hard work. Students must be cleared by administration and have all C's or above in their spring semester of 7th grade year. If there are more students than the class can accommodate a lottery will be used to determine placement.

Engineering, Design, and Modeling (7th and 8th Grade)

SEMESTER

Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. Using 3D design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions. Demonstrate and expand your skills in leadership, critical thinking and problem solving. Students learn about engineering, manufacturing, basic woodworking and workplace readiness skills while incorporating academic concepts and the process of design and developments. Instruction includes sketching, measurement, safety. This course is part of the STEM program pathway in high school. Fee \$15

Medical Detectives and Forensic Science (7th and 8th Grade)

SEMESTER

Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, dissect a sheep brain, investigate disease outbreaks, and explore how a breakdown within the human body can lead to dysfunction. This course is part of the Health Science program pathway in high school. Fee \$25

Robotics (7th and 8th Grade)

SEMESTER

Students learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, assembly line components and more. Participate in a variety of robotic projects as you experience the jobs of a Mechanical, Electrical and Computer Engineer. Apply the design process as you use industry-leading technology, learn sketch techniques, measuring and dimensioning, and computer modeling fundamentals necessary to solve an engineering problem. Design mechanical and automated systems that meet desired needs within realistic constraints. Fee \$15

Flight and Space (7th and 8th Grade)

SEMESTER

The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil. This course prepares individuals to apply basic engineering principles and technical skills in support of engineers and other professionals engaged in developing, manufacturing, and testing aircraft, spacecraft, and their systems. Includes instruction in aircraft/spacecraft systems technology; design and development testing; inspection and maintenance procedures, instrument calibration, test equipment operation; maintenance and report preparation. This course is part of the STEM program pathway in high school. Fee \$15

Computer Science for Makers (7th and 8th Grade)

SEMESTER

Students learn about "making" for the physical world by blending hardware and software development. After a basic introduction to electronics and programming, students code microcomputers to respond to and control various input and output devices. Example projects include interactive art, candy dispensers, bike safety devices, and remote-control robot cars. This course is part of the Informational Technology program pathway in high school. Fee \$25

Drama (7th and 8th Grade)**SEMESTER**

Theatre is a general acting class which introduces students to the foundations of theatre arts and acting techniques. Training the body, voice, and mind every day, the class will focus on characterization, mime, staging, improvisation, voice & speech skills, memorization techniques, script analysis, and theatre history & theory. Activities will include improv games, pantomime exercises, Laban movement analysis, scene study, monologue practice, in-class performances, and many opportunities to give and receive feedback. Appreciation of theatre will be enhanced through watching recorded theatre performances, possible guest artists, and many opportunities to practice the Audience Feedback Method.

Drawing and Painting (7th and 8th Grade)**SEMESTER**

Discover and develop the artist in you! Modeling (shading with respect to a light source) and color theory are emphasized in drawing and painting projects. Linear and atmospheric perspective techniques are also taught to create an illusion of depth in any subject matter. Proportion of facial features and rotation of the human head is explored and applied to portraits. Learn how to draw what you see and what you can imagine. Fee \$25

Ceramics: (7th and 8th Grade)**SEMESTER**

This introductory ceramic course is intended for those of you who have some experience drawing but want to expand your artistic abilities with 3-dimensional design. This class will focus on studio work leading to the completion of five projects. You will learn basic ceramic hand-building methods, ceramic glazing procedures, different decorating techniques and ceramic technology and terms. Fee \$30.00

Food Science & Sustainability (7th and 8th Grade)**SEMESTER**

This cooking class focuses on the science and sustainability behind culinary arts, as well as the relationship between food consumption, human development, health and the effects of food growth on the environment and our planet. Topics of study could include organic farming and GMO's, agriculture and food policy, climate change in relation to food production, use of technology in food growth and cooking sustainably, risk management procedures, nutritional therapy, technology in food production, proper cooking techniques, and diet and nutritional analysis and planning. Students will grow vegetables and herbs with the purpose of cooking well-balanced meals. This course is part of the Human Services program pathway in high school. Fee \$25.00

Food of the World (7th and 8th Grade)**SEMESTER**

If you would like to travel the world together—tasting the different kinds of foods from many cultures, this is the class for you! This semester course is designed for the student who wishes to prepare a variety of foods originating from all over the world. Students will have the opportunity to research and explore various regions of the world studying patterns of family meals, regional customs and food origins, and cooking techniques and equipment unique to various countries. Various preparation techniques reflecting a variety of regional ethnic cooking styles will also be demonstrated as an essential part of the class. Sign up for this class if you enjoy tasting foods! This course is part of the Human Services program pathway in high school.

Fitness 7/8**SEMESTER**

Students will develop into physically literate individuals who have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to enjoy a lifetime of healthful physical activity. In this one semester course, students will have opportunities to learn, improve and analyze their health-related and skill-related fitness, social and personal responsibility, and the value of physical activity. Students will build their skills in evaluating their physical fitness and activity, creating goals, building a plan for improvement, analyzing game situations, and demonstrating effective communication and collaboration. Each learning opportunity will be through a variety of activities: invasion games, net and wall games, target games, fielding and striking games, individual, partner and group games, recreational activities, and aerobic, strength and endurance, and flexibility training. As a result, physically literate students will apply tactics and strategies to modified game play; demonstrate fundamental movement skills in a variety of contexts; design and implement a health-enhancing fitness program; participate in self-selected physical activity; cooperate with and encourage classmates; accept individual differences and demonstrate inclusive behaviors; and engage in physical activity for enjoyment and self-expression. T-shirt: \$9

Concert Choir (6th, 7th and 8th grade)**FULL YEAR**

If you can talk, you can sing! Signing up for this course will help you use your voice to develop a love for singing as well as your self-confidence as a singer. Join this group of students who come together to sing, laugh, and learn, creating an unforgettable musical experience daily. If you were in choir last year, come join another fun-filled year in Chorus! Your experience is SO valuable in making this group great and taking it to the next level. (Students have performing opportunities in large group concert, solo, and small ensemble music.) Beyond music, this class helps prepare you to perform/communicate in front of others and gain confidence in being on stage.

Requirements:

- Evening concert attendance is required
- All music students are required to purchase an ASB card.
- Daily at home practice
- Participation in fundraisers may be necessary to help fund field trips

Orchestra (6th, 7th, and 8th Grade)**FULL YEAR**

Students in String Orchestra will learn more advanced techniques on their instrument in a class setting. Emphasis will be on ensemble playing as well as building on the student's individual skill level. Regular concerts and regular individual practice will be part of the curriculum. It is highly recommended that any student who chooses to begin orchestra at the middle school level take private lessons.

Requirements:

- Evening concert attendance is required
- All music students are required to purchase an ASB card.
- Daily at home practice
- Participation in fundraisers may be necessary to help fund field trips
- Essential Elements for Strings Book 2

Concert Band (6th, 7th, and 8th Grade)**FULL YEAR**

Open to students who have been in band in elementary school or anyone who would like to start a band instrument. Music reading and instrumental rehearsal and performance skills are improved by focusing on several method books and appropriate literature in various musical styles. We will work out of Essential Elements for Band Books 1 and 2. Students also evaluate recorded performances of themselves and others through written concert reviews, developing writing skills. We have several performances in the school and community, as well as festival appearances. Marching band experience is offered.

Requirements:

- Regular practice
- Provide own instrument or rent from music shop or school (depending upon instrument).
- Participation in evening concerts is required.
- All music students are required to purchase an ASB card

Symphonic Band (7th and 8th Grade)**FULL YEAR**

This class provides continued focus on developing reading strategies and performance skills through increasingly advanced literature, solo and chamber music, and numerous performance opportunities. We will work out of Essential Elements for Band Book 2, and Standards of Excellence Book 3, and will have completed the common scales. Performance evaluations through written reviews and rubric-scored tests help students develop self-evaluation and strategize for improvement. Marching Band and small group experience is offered.

Requirements:

- Provide own instrument or rent from music shop or the school (depending upon instrument).
- Participation in evening concerts and festivals is required.
- All music students are required to purchase an ASB card.