Welcome to 7th GRADE!

Twin Cities International Schools sets expectations, or standards, for what students need to know in all grade levels and content areas. This guide is designed to help you understand the 7th grade standards so you can support your student's learning during the school year. If you have questions about this information or your student needs help, please visit the teacher website links provided at the bottom of each content page or the student support teacher resources at the end of the newsletter.

When talking to your student about school, you can ask:

- Can you tell me about something you **read** today?
- How could you use the **math** you learned today?
- What **scientific ideas** did you talk about today?
- What did you learn about your **role in society** today?
- How did someone help you learn today?

If your student is also learning English, you can ask:

- How does your teacher help you understand and participate in class?
- What are some tools you can use to help you identify unknown words?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND LITERACY

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Read various texts including books, poems, letters, and news articles.
- Speak and listen in formal and informal ways by participating in presentations and daily conversations.
- Communicate opinions, information, and experiences in writing for various readers.
- Use knowledge of English grammar and vocabulary in both speech and writing.

MATHEMATICS

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Use math to represent and solve real-world problems.
- Engage in mathematical reasoning to determine if an answer is true or false.
- Utilize tools, like rulers and calculators, to show mathematical relationships.
- Identify patterns and number structures to solve problems.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Ask scientific questions about the natural world and technological advances.
- Learn through observations and hands-on experiments.
- Solve problems using the scientific method and incorporating various tools.
- Communicate findings to others to in both written and spoken form.

HISTORY AND SOCIAL STUDIES

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Learn about their local community, state, country, and world.
- Discover how people and events from the past relate to the present.
- Work to understand how people view the world and events differently.
- Locate various sources of information when researching a topic.

The next four pages focus more specifically on the Minnesota learning standards for **7th GRADE.**

TWIN CITIES INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

SEVENTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this class we will be focusing on skills such as making inferences, summarizing, finding main ideas, and different styles of writing. We are going to get busy reading some novels this year! So put on your reading glasses and let's make this strange year a good one.

By the end of 7th grade, students can:

- Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.
- Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact.
- Analyze how a drama's or poem's form or structure contributes to its meaning.
- Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal, including those in stories, poems, and historical novels of Minnesota American Indians, of a time, place, or character and a historical account of the same period as a means of understanding how authors of fiction use or alter history.
- Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters or narrators in a text, including those from diverse cultures.
- Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to the development of the ideas.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings.
- Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.
- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- Compare and contrast a text to an audio, video, or multimedia version of the text, analyzing each medium's portrayal of the subject.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR STUDENT:

- What do you think about _____? Why might someone disagree with you? What would you say to them?
- How do you know whether to believe what someone says? What kinds of evidence do you use to decide?

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHER:

- What topics your student is curious about and what types of things they enjoy reading at home.
- Ways to practice critical reading and viewing in everyday life (e.g. advertisements and commercials).

For more information or to connect with your student's ELA teacher, please visit:

Ms. Jenna's ELA Website

SEVENTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This year in math, students will be learning about circles and cylinders, ratios and proportional relationships, data analysis, and operating with rational numbers. 7th graders in the Accelerated Math class will be working on both 7th and 8th grade topics. It is important that students in the accelerated class continue to work hard and keep up with material since the 8th grade math topics will not be retaught in Accelerated 8th grade math. Being in the accelerated class should will allow students to be ahead when they enter 9th grade!

By the end of 7th grade, students can:

- Calculate the area, circumference, and sector of circles in various contexts.
- Calculate the volume and surface area of cylinders and justify the formulas used.
- Compare positive and negative rational numbers using symbols, locate them on a number line, or plot pairs of positive and negative rational numbers on a coordinate grid.
- Graph and describe translations and reflections on a coordinate grid and determine vertice of the figure after the transformation.
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide positive and negative rational numbers using real-world context and inverse relationships, and raise positive rational number to whole-number exponents.
- Use the properties of algebra to generate equivalent numerical and algebraic expressions and evaluate algebraic expressions containing rational numbers.
- Recognize and generate equivalent representations of positive and negative rational numbers.
- Use proportional reasoning to solve problems involving ratios and solve multi-step problems involving proportional relationships while assessing the reasonableness of my answer.
- Describe and compare the properties of similarity for geometric figures, determine and apply scale factors, and solve problems involving scale drawings and conversions.
- Represent a proportional relationship with tables, verbal descriptions, symbols, equations, and graphs and translate between them.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the properties of a graph of a proportional relationship, and describe what happens to a line when the unit rate is changed and use graphing technology to examine the effects.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR STUDENT:

- How can we find the area or circumference of a dinner plate?
- What's the probability of picking a 9 from a deck of cards?

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHER:

- Ways to practice using proportions at home.
- Resources your student can use to support their understanding of math concepts.

For more information or to connect with your student's Math teacher, please visit:

Ms. Elisha's Math Website

MATHEMATICS

SCIENCE

SEVENTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Welcome to 7th grade science! In this class we will be focusing on Scientific Skills, Molecules to Organisms, Heredity, Evolution and Ecosystems. Throughout the year, students will be assessed on eight different learning targets. These learning targets assess the student's ability to apply scientific practices to each of the above topics.

By the end of 7th grade, students can:

- Construct an explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms and/or populations.
- Evaluate competing design solutions for maintaining biodiversity or ecosystem services.
- Gather multiple sources of information and communicate how Minnesota American Indian Tribes and communities and other cultures use knowledge to predict or interpret patterns of interactions among organisms across multiple ecosystems.
- Ask questions about the processes and outcomes of various methods of communication between cells of multicellular organisms.
- Conduct an investigation to provide evidence that living things are made of cells; either one cell or many different numbers and types of cells.
- Develop and use a model to describe the function of a cell as a whole and describe the way cell parts contribute to the cell's function.
- Develop and use a model to describe how food is rearranged through chemical reactions forming new molecules that support growth and/or release energy as this matter moves through an organism.
- Construct an explanation based on evidence for the role of photosynthesis in the cycling of matter and flow of energy into and out of organisms.
- Support or refute an explanation by arguing from evidence and scientific reasoning for how animal behavior and plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction.
- Ask questions that arise from careful observations of phenomena or models to clarify and or seek additional information about how changes in genes can affect organisms.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR STUDENT:

- What happens to a population in an ecosystem when there are big changes (disruptions)?
- How does your body break down molecules in food to obtain and store energy?

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHER:

- Places in the community where your student can learn more about the science topics covered in class.
- Resources where students can learn more about course related content or take virtual field trips.

For more information or to connect with your student's Science teacher, please visit:

Ms. Jamie's Science Website

SEVENTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Our purpose this year to explore US History together as a class. Despite its relatively short existence as a nation, the United States of America has a fascinating history, made up of millions of smaller stories--each one both beautiful and terrible in nature. Specifically, we will be studying from the American Revolution through the present day, covering America's rise as a nation and the mistakes, triumphs, and hardships that brought it to where it is today.

By the end of 7th grade, students can:

- Exhibit civic skills including participating in civic discussion on issues in the contemporary United States, demonstrating respect for the opinions of people or groups who have different perspectives, and reaching consensus.
- Describe historical applications of the principle of checks and balances within the United States government.
- Analyze how changes in election processes over time contributed to freer and fairer elections.
- Describe diplomacy and other foreign policy tools; cite historical cases in which the United States government used these tools.
- Explain how the interaction of buyers (through demand) and sellers (through supply) determines the price in a market.
- Describe profit as an incentive for an individual to take the risks associated with creating and producing new goods or starting a business in an existing market; give examples of how the pursuit of profit can lead to undesirable, as well as desirable, effects.
- Apply reasoned decision-making techniques in making choices; explain why different households or groups faced with the same alternatives might make different choices.
- Create and use various kinds of maps, including overlaying thematic maps, of places in the United States; incorporate the “TODALSS” map basics, as well as points, lines, and colored areas to display spatial information.
- Identify new technologies and innovations that transformed the United States' economy and society; explain how they influenced political and regional development.
- Explain the impact of the United States Industrial Revolution on the production, consumption, and distribution of goods.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR STUDENT:

- How have voting practices and people's rights changed over time?
- Which technological advances have made the biggest impact? Why?

TOPICS YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH YOUR STUDENT’S TEACHER:

- People and places in the community related to historical events.
- Resources where students can learn more about course related content or take virtual field trips.

For more information or to connect with your student's Social Studies teacher, please visit:

Mr. Chatham's Social Studies Website

SOCIAL STUDIES

Electives at TCIS!

TCIS believes in the importance of offering electives for its students. All students in grades 5-8 will have the opportunity to participate in Arabic, Media/Technology, Art, and Physical Education during the school year. Please read over a sample of the coursework covered below and contact your student's teacher if you have any questions.

ARABIC

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Enrich their cultural heritage by learning how to read, write and speak Arabic both at school and at home.
- Learn "Anasheed" and participate in conversations in Arabic to learn vocabulary for different contexts that can be used in daily life situations.
- Participate in Arabic classes that are taught twice a week.

For more information or to connect with your student's Arabic teacher, please visit:

Ms. Suhair's Arabic Website

MEDIA/TECHNOLOGY

Students will build on their technology skills each year by being able to:

- Understand the importance of internet safety and the significance of creating a positive digital footprint.
- Define what coding is and create their own codes.
- Understand that there are steps and sequences in coding and relate that to their everyday life.
- Create their own robots and design them to move around, pull objects, and much more!

For more information or to connect with your student's Media/Technology teacher, please visit:

Ms. Korrie's Media/Technology Website

ART

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Integrate knowledge and personal experiences while responding to, creating, and presenting artistic work.
- Understand that artistic works influence and are influenced by personal, societal, cultural, and historical contexts, including the contributions of Minnesota American Indian tribes and communities.
- Create, develop, present, and evaluate original artistic ideas and artwork.

For more information or to connect with your student's Art teacher, please visit:

Ms. Sarah's Art Website

PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH

In every grade at TCIS, your student will:

- Demonstrate competency in a variety of motor skills and movement patterns (e.g. sit and reach, sit-ups, push-ups, shuttle run, mile run, and pacer test).
- Apply knowledge of concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics related to movement performance.
- Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness.

For more information or to connect with your student's P.E. and Health teacher, please visit:

Mr. Chris and Coach Jen's P.E. Website

Student Support Resources

TCIS has a variety of resources available to all learners to ensure that every student is able to reach their full academic potential. If your student is in need of support, please contact their content classroom teacher or one of the support teachers listed below.

Response to Intervention (RTI)

Response to Intervention (RTI) teachers are available in each grade level to support students in all content areas (English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Media Literacy). Please contact your student's grade level RTI teacher for more information or to set up a help session.

❖ 5th Grade RTI Teacher

Ms. Ali's RTI Website

❖ 6th Grade RTI Teacher

Ms. Nancy's RTI Website

❖ 7th Grade RTI Teacher

Ms. Katie's RTI Website

❖ 8th Grade RTI Teacher

Mr. Abdiqani's RTI Website

English Language Instruction

English Language (EL) teachers are also available in each grade level to support eligible students in achieving the English language proficiency needed to succeed academically and to realize personal, social, and career goals. EL teachers work in collaboration with both general education and specialist teachers to design a comprehensive instructional program for each student. To learn more, please contact the EL teacher assigned to your student's grade level.

❖ 5th and 6th Grade EL Teacher

Ms. Ifrah's EL Website

English Language LEARNERS

❖ 7th and 8th Grade EL Teacher

Mr. Jonathan's EL Website

Educational Assistants

Educational Assistants (EAs) are available in all grade levels to assist students with coursework, answer questions, and connect with families. Please contact the 5th grade EAs listed below via email.

❖ Mr. Abdullahi

❖ Email: abdullahia@iecmail.net

❖ Mr. Khalid

❖ Email: khalidm@iecmail.net