

# **FHSD**

## **Middle School**

### **Enrollment Guide**

#### **7th Grade**

**Francis Howell  
School District**



**LEARNING TOGETHER**

## **2025 – 2026**

**Francis Howell School District 801 Corporate Centre Dr.  
O'Fallon, MO 63368  
636-851-4000**

**<https://www.fhdschools.org>**

# **FRANCIS HOWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

801 Corporate Centre Dr.  
O'Fallon, MO 63368  
Phone: (636) 851-4000  
Dr. Kenneth Roumpos, Superintendent

## **Barnwell Middle School**

1035 Jungs Station Road St. Charles, MO 63303  
Phone: (636) 851-4100  
Dr. Erin Thurston, Principal

## **Bryan Middle School**

605 Independence Road St. Charles, MO 63304  
Phone: (636) 851-5800  
Jeffrey Gruener, Principal

## **Francis Howell Middle School**

825 O'Fallon Road St. Charles, MO 63304  
Phone: (636) 851-4800  
Dr. Kirsteen James, Principal

## **Hollenbeck Middle School**

4555 Central School Road St. Charles, MO 63304  
Phone: (636) 851-5400  
Dr. Dan Harmon, Principal

## **Saeger Middle School**

5201 Highway N Cottleville, MO 63304  
Phone: (636) 851-5600  
Dr. Amie Bemke, Principal

# Mission Statement

Empowering students to be lifelong learners prepared for the future.

## Vision Statements

Empowering students today so they are prepared for the future requires the District to:

- Maintain high expectations so students continuously grow and experience success as they prepare themselves for college and career.
- Equip students with necessary life skills including collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity, citizenship, and character.
- Provide authentic and engaging real-world learning experiences in a technology rich, flexible, and inclusive environment.
- Prepare students to take responsibility for their learning.
- Develop collaborative, resourceful partnerships where families and our community unite to be responsible for sustaining high quality schools.

## District Policy Against Discrimination

It is the policy of the Francis Howell School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex or disability status in its educational activities or employment practices.

Inquiries related to race or sex discrimination should be referred to the District's designee for Title VI and Title IX compliance. Inquiries related to disability status should be referred to the Director of Alternative Learning. Their offices are in the Francis Howell Administration Building, 801 Corporate Centre Dr. O'Fallon, MO 63368 (636) 851-4000.

## Alternative Learning

The Francis Howell School District offers a broad range of services to accommodate the educational needs of students in the community that are identified with an educational identification.

Prior to a student receiving special education services, an individual comprehensive evaluation in the areas of intelligence, behavior and related areas must be completed. Eligibility must first be determined through the evaluation process, an individual education program must be developed, and then parent permission secured before placement is final.

# SEVENTH GRADE COURSE SELECTIONS

The middle school day consists of **seven** courses. Five of the courses are required. The following **five**

full-year courses are required of all seventh-grade students:

1. English Language Arts 7 or Honors English Language Arts 7
2. Math 7, Pre-Algebra, or Algebra I (for a very small number of students)
3. Life Science 7
4. Ancient World Civilizations 7 (Social Studies 7)
5. Physical Education and Health 7

\*Core classes will be automatically uploaded.

This leaves **two** periods in a normal day to complete the student's schedule. This can be accomplished by selecting option **A**, **B**, or **C**:

**Option A:** Select Exploratory Wheel A *and* Select Exploratory Wheel B (each class is one quarter)

- Exploratory Wheel A, Semester 1 must be selected along with Exploratory Wheel Semester 2
- Exploratory Wheel B, Semester 1 must be selected along with Exploratory Wheel B, Semester 2

**Option B:** Select one of the Exploratory Wheels *and* a year-long course

**Option C:** Select two year-long courses

## EXPLORATORY WHEELS FOR SEVENTH GRADE

*Students must register for both semesters*

If registering for only one of the exploratory wheels (Option B) you must choose both semesters of the same wheel.

**NOTE: The courses within each wheel may need to be altered due to staffing and enrollment variables.**

### EXPLORATORY WHEEL 7A

Semester 1 #0771390

Semester 2 #0771391

PLTW Medical Detectives

Family and Consumer Sciences 7

Music Production & Technology 7

Speech and Drama 7

### EXPLORATORY WHEEL 7B

Semester 1 #0771395

Semester 2 #0771396

Art 7

Industrial Technology 7

Innovative Technology Design 7

World Language Discovery 7

## YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES COURSES

*Students must register for both semesters*

Beginning Band	Semester 1: 7871331	Semester 2: 7871332
Band 7	Semester 1: 0771101	Semester 2: 0771102
Choir 7	Semester 1: 0771201	Semester 2: 0771202
Spectra 7 (Must Qualify)	Semester 1: 0773001	Semester 2: 0773002

**NOTE:** In order for a student to achieve their greatest potential academically and socially, a student maybe placed in a reading or math intervention. This course will take the place of option A, B, or C. Parents will be notified by letter before the end of the year if their student has been placed in one of these courses.

## HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS EARNED WHILE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Students who successfully complete a high school course while in middle school will have the course recorded on their high school transcript for G.P.A. and credit notation. At the 7<sup>th</sup> grade level, a very small number of students will take Algebra I. ***Only a very small number of students will take Algebra I in 7<sup>th</sup> grade after having completed Pre-Algebra in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Students cannot jump from Math 6 to Algebra I, and appeals to do so will not be granted. Doing so would mean skipping all of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, which would lead to significant and lasting gaps in learning in subsequent math classes.***

# 7TH GRADE REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7

This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to explore enduring understandings that characterize the literature they read. Fiction categories will include short stories, novels, poetry, and drama. Non-fiction categories will include biography, essays/ speeches, newspapers/magazines, print/electronic resources and poetry. Students will also demonstrate their comprehension of these understandings by writing formally and informally – including argumentative, narrative, and informational - with an emphasis on the development of various formats in writing. Students will become confident speakers and active listeners in both small group and whole group settings. Students will use and analyze media in oral and visual presentations. They will also continue to develop informational as well as digital literacy and research skills to ensure college and career readiness.

## HONORS ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7

This course is designed for students who are advanced in the areas of reading and written expression. This course will have a quicker release of responsibility from teacher to student to independent practice than a regular communication arts course to ensure college and career readiness. Students will explore - through specific genres of fiction, non-fiction, and media - enduring understandings that characterize the literature they read with increased focus on analysis and evaluation. Students will demonstrate the ability to write formally and informally - including reflective/creative, argumentative, and analytical writing, with an emphasis on the development of various formats of writing. Students will use and analyze media in oral and visual presentations. They will also continue to develop research skills and the citing of sources in MLA format. This course is not a prerequisite for high school Honors or AP courses, nor does it automatically qualify a student for those courses.

## MATH 7

This course is the second of a three-year sequence of courses designed to prepare students for a rigorous college preparatory high school mathematics course. Students in *Math 7* use problem-solving strategies, questioning, investigating, analyzing critically, gathering and constructing evidence, and communicating rigorous arguments justifying their thinking. Under teacher guidance, students learn in collaboration with others while sharing information, expertise, and ideas. The course helps students develop multiple strategies to solve problems and recognize connections between concepts.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to: Use integers and complete operations with integers and rational numbers, including using the order of operations, use diagrams and equal ratios to represent part-whole relationships, use percents and scale factors to determine percent increase or decrease, discounts, and markups, use variable expressions to represent quantities in contextual problems, simplify inequalities, compare experimental and theoretical probabilities, distinguish between dependent and independent events and calculate the probability of compound independent events, represent probabilities of multiple events using systemic lists, area models, or tree diagrams, design, conduct, and analyze surveys, collect and compare data and describe the distribution of sets of data, solve distance, rate, and time problems, compare ratios and calculate unit rates, recognize and solve problems involving proportional relationships, recognize and use the properties of similar figures and scale factors to solve problems, describe angles, angle pairs, and their measures, compute area and perimeter of standard and compound shapes, and compute the volume of a variety of solids.

## PRE-ALGEBRA

Pre-Algebra is a compressed accelerated pathway designed to prepare students for Algebra in 8th grade. This course includes all of the Math 7 content and most of the Math 8 content. On a daily basis, students in Pre-Algebra will use problem-solving strategies, questioning, investigating, analyzing critically, gathering and constructing evidence, and communicating rigorous arguments to justify their thinking. Learning objectives include mastery of solving inequalities and equations, proportions and percents, statistics and angle relationships, circle and volume, and most of the Math 8 learning objectives. This class prepares students for Algebra I in 8th grade.

## ALGEBRA I\*

***\*Algebra is not an open-enrollment course. It cannot be selected during the enrollment process. Only a very small number of students will take Algebra I in 7<sup>th</sup> grade after having completed Pre-Algebra in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Students cannot jump from Math 6 to Algebra I, and appeals to do so will not be granted. Doing so would mean skipping all of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, which would lead to significant and lasting gaps in learning in subsequent math classes.***

Algebra I is the first course in a four-year sequence of college preparatory mathematics. This course aims to deepen and extend student understanding built in previous courses by focusing on developing fluency with solving linear equations, inequalities, and systems. These skills are extended to solving quadratic equations, exploring linear, quadratic, and exponential functions graphically, numerically, symbolically, and as sequences, and by using regression techniques to analyze the fit of models to distributions of data. Algebra I students will use problem-solving strategies, questioning, investigating, analyzing critically, gathering and constructing evidence, and communicating rigorous arguments justifying their thinking.

Under teacher guidance, students learn in collaboration with others while sharing information, expertise, and ideas. This course is well balanced among procedural fluency (algorithms and basic skills), deep conceptual understanding, strategic competence (problem solving), and adaptive reasoning (extension and application).

*Students who meet the criteria will be notified.* This course will count towards the student's high school G.P.A. and credit will be awarded on their high school transcript. Students must successfully complete Pre-Algebra as a prerequisite for this course.

## **LIFE SCIENCE 7**

This course is designed to focus on three main topics: the basic principles of matter and energy in living organisms, the characteristics and interactions of living organisms, and how all organisms interact with one another and their environment to survive. Scientific inquiry is embedded into each unit by encouraging students to ask and explore questions with hands-on activities. Technology is used as a tool to support learning and to give evidence of learning.

## **ANCIENT WORLD CIVILIZATION 7**

This course is designed to explore the development of civilizations over time and studies the relationships between past events and present day. Students will study history from the beginnings of ancient civilizations through the medieval ages. Attention is given to the civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Greece and Rome, Middle Ages, Feudal Japan, Africa and Pre- Columbian America. This introductory course provides an overview of major ideals, attitudes, values, beliefs, and expectations that characterize areas and eras of the world.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH 7**

The physical education portion of this course is designed to encourage the refinement of motor skill combinations used in complex game environments. An introduction to the rules and strategies of individual/team sports is emphasized. Health-enhancing physical fitness is established through assessment and goal setting using FitnessGram fitness testing. Through participation, students will develop respect for others and an awareness of opportunities for lifelong fitness.

The health portion of the curriculum is designed to increase student understanding of body systems, personal well-being, and social well-being throughout the year. Students will focus on decision making and goal setting necessary to maintain overall health and wellness.



# **EXPLORATORY WHEEL A**

*Students must register for both semesters*

## **PLTW MEDICAL DETECTIVES 7**

In the Medical Detectives unit, 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.

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES 7**

This course is designed to familiarize students with the Family and Consumer Sciences program. Students will gain experience in food preparation, nutrition, and will cook and taste a variety of recipes. Students will learn the functions of the sewing machine and how to follow a pattern to complete sewing projects. This course will encourage students to become responsible citizens and leaders within their family, community, and school settings.

## **MUSIC PRODUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY 7**

This course is designed as a hands-on course that allows students to continue an exploration of music production and audio engineering, while introducing basic video production skills, with an emphasis on technology. Students will learn the essentials of music and video production with programs such as GarageBand and iMovie.

## **SPEECH & DRAMA 7**

This course is designed as an exploratory class that will improve the students' self-confidence and skills when presenting themselves in front of an audience. Students will learn to explore, express, and connect with others and the world around them. This class includes various types of live or recorded materials applicable to individual and group projects. Examples of these include presentations, improvisation, theatre games, communication, media, and technical theatre. The students' training will develop critical and creative thinking ability. Techniques taught in Theatre Arts are beneficial in many core classes.

# **EXPLORATORY WHEEL B**

*Students must register for both semesters*

## **ART 7**

This course is designed to introduce and explore an openness to the creative process. Students will create, present, connect, and respond to their ideas through the freedom of artistic expression. Using reflection and artist statements, students will be engaged and transformed through personal art experiences. Media may include graphite, pastels, paint, or clay. Growth will be measured through active participation, studio work and portfolio production.

## **INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY 7**

This course introduces students to fundamental knowledge and skills used in the construction and manufacturing industries. Students will learn how to apply introductory concepts in hand tools, power tools, design, measuring, and problem solving to safely and accurately complete woodworking projects.

## **INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY DESIGN 7**

This course is designed to build on technology skills while using software which includes games and core subjects digital skills. Students will relate to the use of technology in daily life learning about 3D modeling and design, utilizing collaborative digital tools, designing with microcomputers, brainstorming and problem solving various aspects of the use of technology to become 21<sup>st</sup> century technology users.

## **WORLD LANGUAGE DISCOVERY 7**

This course is designed to introduce students to the French, German, and Spanish languages and cultures through vocabulary, games, songs, and related activities. Topics to be covered may include colors, numbers, greetings, food, transportation, clothing, family, and telling time. This class is not a prerequisite for Level I World Language study.

# **YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES**

*Students must register for both semesters*

## **BEGINNING BAND**

7871331 Semester 1

7871332 Semester 2

This course is designed for any middle school student without previous band experience. Students will work with others to learn how to play an instrument and perform in at least two concerts during the school year. Through the exploration of a new instrument, students will learn how to read and perform music, and will develop lifelong skills such as responsibility, personal goal-setting, and teamwork. Contact the school's band director if you have questions about instrument selection and how to sign up.

## **BAND 7 (Previous band and/or private lessons and teacher approval required)**

0771101 Semester 1

0771102 Semester 2

This course is designed as a performance course comprised of students who have had at least one year of instruction and have attained an average or above level of proficiency on their instrument. Course work will include reviewing, reinforcing, and expanding knowledge of music fundamentals and techniques through concert literature and instrumental method books. All bands will perform at least two concerts during the school year.

## **CHOIR 7**

0771201 Semester 1

0771202 Semester 2

This course is designed as a performance course where techniques of tone production, posture, diction, breathing, and intonation will be emphasized and the ability to match pitch is recommended. In addition, reading of pitches, rhythms, and score markings will be a significant portion of the course. Part singing, musicianship, qualities of interpretation, style, dynamics, phrasing, balance, and group consciousness will be introduced. Some attention will be given to developing the solo voice. Music will include unison, two, and three part harmony. Students will be evaluated on singing, active class participation, written work, tests, and participation in concerts. Students are expected to perform in at least two concerts during the school year. Special concert attire may be required by the instructor.

## **SPECTRA (for students enrolled in gifted program)**

0773001 Semester 1

0773002 Semester 2

This course is designed as a daily elective course for middle school students in the gifted program. Students further develop and refine communication, collaboration, creative thinking, and critical thinking. Students learn how to share their ideas by creating TED Talks or student-selected projects, planning for careers/life after high school, and problem-solving through a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) unit as well as other hands-on challenges. This course also supports social-emotional needs that are common in gifted adolescents. Students are encouraged to advocate and become leaders in their education.

# **ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL) PROGRAM**

The ESOL program at the middle school level supports English Learners (ELs) acquiring skills to communicate effectively in English in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and presenting. Students study curriculum-based content while focusing on English language learning. Students who qualify for ESOL services may receive ESOL instruction and support based on their needs. Students attend regular content area classes with their age-appropriate peers.

## **ESOL Support**

This class is designed to help English Learners to improve their academic language skills. Students will receive direct instruction in the structures of writing, reading strategies, and vocabulary building, as well as their listening and speaking skills. The ESOL teacher collaborates with regular classroom teachers to also provide academic support and homework help for the English Language Learner to be successful while gaining proficiency in English.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER SCHOOL**

### **READING AND MATH ASSISTANCE**

Parents of students entering grades 6 - 8 needing assistance in Reading and Math will be contacted about participation in the middle school summer school program. These students will have the opportunity to enroll. For additional information about the Middle School Summer School, please contact [FHSDsummerschool@fhsdschools.org](mailto:FHSDsummerschool@fhsdschools.org) or call (636) 851-4012.

# MISSOURI COURSE ACCESS PROGRAM (MOCAP)

The Francis Howell School District participates in the Missouri Course Access Program (MOCAP). Virtual instruction can be an effective option for some students. There may be courses available either through a district-provided virtual option or through the Missouri Course Access Program (MOCAP). More information about virtual courses can be found on our website at: <https://goo.gl/TmFoSu>.

The District will accept all MOCAP course credit earned in grades 9-12. In awarding credit and assigning grades, the District will apply the same standards for awarding credit and grade assignments that are applied to courses completed in the District's traditional curriculum. Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) should meet with their school counselor if interested in MOCAP courses.

Once a semester has begun, it is very difficult to facilitate a change in format between in-person and virtual instruction or vice versa. For this reason, students and families may request a change in format within the first ten (10) days of the semester.

## Full-Time Virtual Students

With the passage of Missouri House Bill 1552, state law now mandates that under certain conditions, full-time virtual students must withdraw from Francis Howell and enroll in the district that hosts their virtual program. This only applies to a handful of "hosted" virtual programs. These "hosted" programs are listed below. Current FHSD students must complete the enrollment process for the district that hosts the virtual program and will then be withdrawn from the Francis Howell School District. This only applies to full-time virtual students.

## Hosted Virtual Programs

Full time virtual enrollment requires withdrawing from FHSD and enrolling in the host district.

- **At Home Virtual Program** (Mehlville School District)
- **Greenways Academy** (Boonville R-I School District)
- **LAUNCH** (Springfield Public Schools) – *Through the FHSD partnership with LAUNCH, students may remain in FHSD if they take a full-time course load. They may also choose to withdraw from FHSD and enroll directly with Springfield Public Schools.*
- **Missouri Connections Academy - (Louisiana R-II School District)**
- **Missouri Connections Academy – "MOCA"** (Sturgeon R-V School District)
- **Missouri Digital Academy – "MODA"** (Laquey R5 School District)
- **Missouri Virtual Academy – "MOVA"** (Grandview R-II School District)
- **Mizzou Academy** (University of Missouri)
- **R7 Online Academy** (Lee's Summit R-7 School District)
- **Virtual Prep Academy of Missouri** - (Atlanta C-3 School District)

The above list of DESE-approved host programs is routinely updated and can be found at <https://mocap.mo.gov/>. Current FHSD students who are interested in being a full-time virtual student in one of the hosted programs listed above (with the exception of LAUNCH) must withdraw from FHSD and enroll as a student in the identified district. New students who reside in FHSD and who wish to attend one of the above-listed programs as a full-time virtual student must first enroll as a student in FHSD to become established as a student in the State of Missouri. Thereafter, they must withdraw from Francis Howell and enroll in the Missouri district that hosts that virtual program.

Full-time virtual students who wish to maintain enrollment in the FHSD must choose courses from other vendors with whom FHSD has virtual partnerships, including EdOptions Academy, Edgenuity, LAUNCH (due to the District partnership), Imagine Learning, Florida Virtual School, or Michigan Virtual. Alternatively, if a full-time virtual student takes courses from multiple virtual vendors, then the updated law mandates that they remain students in FHSD. Students interested in this option should contact their school counselor.

## Part-Time Virtual Students

Lastly, students who wish to take some, but not all of their courses in a virtual environment will remain enrolled in FHSD. They can take courses from any of the above-listed vendors or any DESE-approved and accredited vendor. Students interested in taking virtual courses should contact their school counselor.