

Our Mission: RSU 63 is a community of learners dedicated to providing a safe, supportive and challenging academic environment. Our students are respectful citizens and responsible stewards of our world. They are well prepared for high school with skills and a work ethic that enables them to succeed.

*** NOTE: This brochure is an overview of the different areas of study in each grade. It in no way represents EVERYTHING students are learning in each area throughout the school year. ***

Grade Level Expectations



“Welcome to the ‘hood, where life is good!” is the greeting that echoes throughout the 7th grade wing. Join us for dazzling dissections, magnificent Maine tales, Einstein-stumping equations, sensational spelling, and more A.R. book reading than should be legal!

- Core Values**
- Respect
- Compassion
- Honesty
- Courage
- Responsibility
- Kindness

Homework & Support From Home

- * Expect homework Monday -Thursday
- * A.R. (Accelerated Reading) is on-going. Parents, please encourage your student to keep up with A.R. reading.
- * Parents can access grades as well as missing assignments logging on to FamilyLink, a tool we use for all our middle school students.
- * Help students create a homework schedule. They can budget time for other activities as well (dinner, TV time, free time, etc.).

Scheduling Tips:

- * Budget 5 extra minutes per assignment to assure enough time to complete them.
- * Schedule more difficult assignments at a time when adult support can be provided.
- * Schedule longer assignments before shorter assignments.

Language Arts



“Grade 7 students will be learning reading and writing using ‘Into Literature’. The goal of all reading instruction is to help students become competent readers of a wide variety of texts in diverse forms so that they can achieve independence, find meaning and use literacy for lifelong learning, empowerment, and enjoyment. Grade 7 students are taught to gather relevant and reliable information to enhance their writing. Through rigorous lessons, collaborative efforts, and the use of technology, students will create clear and appropriate writing including narrative, informational, and opinion pieces.”

Students in Grade 7 will:

- Receive exposure to an increasingly-complex range of books, articles, and texts to strengthen their comprehension and reading stamina. (7.R.5-11)
- Be expected to independently read benchmark assessments, scaffolding as they ready themselves for high school and beyond. (7.R.5a,b 7.R.6, 7.R.12.a,b)
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases from informational text and then analyze the impact of specific word choice on meaning and tone. (7.R.5-11)
- Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters or narrators to shape the content and style
- Plan, develop, revise, and edit written pieces; incorporating correct punctuation and spelling. (7.L.2.a-e 7.L.3.a-d, 7.W.2.a-c))
- Research credible and accurate sources to gather information, citing the sources correctly and neatly. (7.L.4.c, 7.W.1.a-d)
- Annotate and create organized notes that purposefully add to their writing. (7.W.1.a-d)
- Develop and strengthen writing through collaboration with peers, accepting and providing feedback. (7.SL.1.a-e, 7SL.2.a-c)

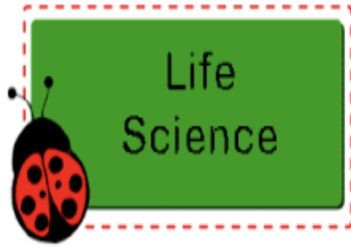
Math

“Grade 7 students will be learning pre-algebra math concepts using ‘iReady’ as the main resource. Some students that have shown independence in pre-algebra, will be taking Algebra 1 using ‘Big Ideas’ as the main resource. All lessons engage and reinforce students’ mathematical thinking with a variety of rich practice opportunities that reflect the rigor of the standards. The practice in both programs solidifies students’ conceptual understanding, allows them to develop fluency and provides opportunities to apply their learning to novel situations.”

Students in Grade 7 will...

- Use proportions, unit rates, and scale factors to solve problems. (7.RP.A.1)
- Compute calculations of decimals, fractions and integers using order of operations.(7.NS.A.2, 7.EE.A.1)
- Be able to convert fractions, decimals and percents.(7.NS.A.2)
- Combine and factor terms.(7.NS.A.2)
- Write and solve single variable equations and inequalities.(7.NS.A.2, 7.EE.A.1)
- Find area, volume and surface area of composite figures.(7.G.B.6)
- Draw geometric figures in order to solve equations based on the rules of angles, parallel, and perpendicular lines.(7.G.A.1,2,3)
- Use probability and experimental data collection to draw inferences about a population.(7.SP.A.1,2)

Science



“Students at the grade 7 level will be using SEPUP from the UMO Rise Center. This is an engaging curriculum rooted in real-world issues, has a built in assessment system, and has systemic growth in students' work and writing performance. The research-based curricula is built on rigorous research in content, cognitive development, and educational best-practice. These programs require ongoing evaluation for efficacy in student understanding and are linked to highly regarded institutions that also have a stake in maintaining their reputation of excellence.”

Students in Grade 7 will...

- Study the environmental impacts of introduced species. - Ecology (LS2-1, LS2-2, LS2-3, LS2-4, LS2-5, LS1-6, LS1-7).
- Study how science, technology and engineering can be used to design solutions to improve the health and wellness of others. -Biometric Engineering (ETS1-1, ETS1-2, ETS1-3, ETS1-4).
- Study the use of genetic information to make medical and health related decisions. -Reproduction (LS1-4, LS1-5, LS3-1, LS3-2).
- Study public health, preventing the spread and treatment of infectious diseases. -Cells to Organisms (LS1-1, LS1-2, LS1-6, LS1-7).
- Study how interactions between body systems can be affected by disease, medication and other factors.- Body Systems- (LS1-3, LS1-8).
- Study how people can affect and be affected by evolution.- Evolution (LS3-1, LS4-1, LS4-2, LS4-3, LS4-4, LS4-5, LS4-6).

Social Studies



“Students in grade 7 will focus on Canada, World History and Maine Studies. Students learn about the provinces and territories of Canada during the modern time period. Our world history program explores the world from the Renaissance to early U.S. labor unions of the 1800's. We also examine the emergence of the United States as a world power from World War I through the Cold War. While studying Maine, students investigate our area's involvement in the American Revolution and Civil Wars and have Native American studies. They learn about statehood and the Current Maine Government system”

Students in Grade 7 will ...

- Describe the structures and functions of democracy, the importance of input at the various levels of government and how people influence government through engaging in civil disobedience- Civics & Government (7.SS.CG)
- Explain the pros and cons of agreements (such as the North American Free Trade Agreement) and how regions, states and nations work together to promote economic unity & interdependence- Economics
- Use maps of Maine and Canada to gather geographic information and explain how geographic features have impacted unity and diversity in Maine- Geography (7.SS.G)
- Be able to provide evidence and supporting details when discussing the American Revolution from both the British and American perspectives. Students will describe European exploration of Maine from both Wabanaki and European viewpoints- History (7.SS.H.1)
- Explain the culture and conflict brought about through the concept of land ownership from both the Native American and European perspectives- Maine Native Americans.(7.SS.H.2)

Art



“We live in a world filled with visual images, which affect and are affected by our presence. Understanding the role these images have on our lives (individually, collectively, and interactively) is needed to better comprehend the potential of all aspects of the world. Through the study of criticism, aesthetics, studio production and history, art education provides the various skills and knowledge necessary for critically interpreting and appreciating the role visual images have in life. The goal of the Art Program is to have students explore a wide range of artistic avenues and to develop life-long learners that can recognize and appreciate the importance and significance of designed products in our world. Art can be a communication tool and a form of stress relief and enjoyment.”

Students in grade 7 will ...

- Describe how various tools, techniques and processes are used to create specific effects in works of art (D.A1.7.a,b)
- Use appropriate art media and techniques to create visual and tactile textures in works of art(D.A2.7.a-c)
- Use one-point perspective to create an illusion of depth in a two-dimensional drawing (D.A3.7)
- Use problem-solving skills to create works of art that communicate ideas and emotions (D.B1.7)

Physical Education

SPORTSMANSHIP
A person who displays good sportsmanship always plays fair and by the rules. They make an effort to treat opponents, coaches, teammates, and referees with respect. Sportsmanship is the golden rule of sports: You should always treat others how you wish to be treated.



“ Our physical education program provides students opportunities to develop their motor, cognitive and social skills through recreational activities, games and sports. Students develop self-confidence through skill acquisition, leadership opportunities, cooperation and good sportsmanship. They learn the importance of an active and healthy lifestyle while becoming life-long learners.”

Students in Grade 7 will ...

- Identify health-related and skill-related fitness components (7.PE.5)
- Demonstrate self-confidence by teaching an activity and peer coaching various sports techniques and skills (7.PE.5)
- Recall and review safety rules for various sports and activities (7.PE.4)
- Utilize problem-solving techniques during various sports and activities (7.PE.1)

Music



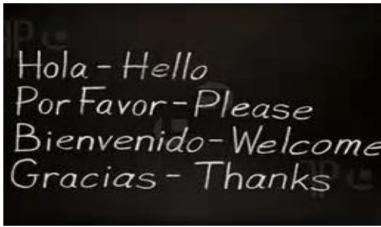
“ Students in Grade 7 have the opportunity to participate in Band. ‘Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything’- Plato

Students in Grade 7 will...

- Have a basic understanding of prominent composers and performers of American Popular Music or American Jazz, along with the cultural and historic effects they have had in our lives
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of Garageband in music technology.
- Be able to successfully identify characters, plot lines, song selections from a chosen movie or
- Become knowledgeable and aware of proper audience etiquette

(B.D2.7.b, B.C1.7, B.A1.7.a, B.C2.7)

Spanish



“The goal of the Spanish Program is to allow students to learn to use Spanish to communicate and interact effectively, to learn about Spanish culture, acquire effective language learning strategies and to become lifelong learners as world citizens.”

Students in Grade 7 will ...

- Identify, understand and use subject pronouns in Spanish (I, You, They, etc.)
- Conjugate the verbs ser and estar (to be) in the present tense
- Understand and use adjective agreement and position, for example, el niño pequeño, la niña bonita
- Describe family members and others in Spanish
- Use negation as in, “He is not tall.”

Please note: As we transition to instruction in Spanish, students may take longer to reach these learning goals.

Health



“ Each year, students receive education in health skills and content. Students will use skills such as decision-making and goal setting to enhance their health, learn how to access valid health information, products and services. They will understand influences that affect the health of themselves and others and advocate for personal, family and community health.”

Students in Grade 7 will ...

- Apply effective verbal and nonverbal communication skills to enhance health and be able to demonstrate refusal and negotiation skills. Attention will be paid to conflict management and resolution strategies. Students will demonstrate how to ask for help in order to enhance their own health and the health of others. These skills will be primarily focused on the content of the cycle of life.
- Identify how family, culture, peers, and media influence personal health practices and how schools and communities can support positive health behaviors. They will analyze ways technology can influence personal and family health and how public health policies can support health promotion and disease prevention. Students will describe how some health risk behaviors can influence the likelihood of engaging in unhealthy behaviors. These skills will be primarily focused on the content of body systems.
- Demonstrate healthy practices and behaviors that will maintain or improve health for both themselves and others. They will show behaviors that avoid or reduce health risks and explain the importance of responsibility for their own personal health choices. These skills will be primarily focused on the content of safety, injury, and violence prevention.

(7-HE-1.1-4, 7-HE-2.1&2, 7-HE-3.1&2, 7-HE-4.1&2, 7-HE-5.1&2)

School Counseling Program



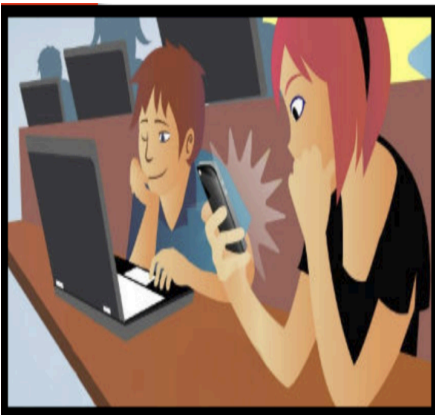
“Students in Grade 7 will receive developmentally appropriate education in stress & coping skills, personal safety, bullying & harassment, conflict resolution, substance abuse and transitioning to the next grade. Classroom guidance enhances student success across their lifespan by providing instruction related to the following three areas:

- 1. Academic Success- Maximizing a student’s ability to learn by exploring skills, examining attitudes and nurturing a positive self-concept.*
- 2. Career Development- Building a successful future by exploring careers, setting goals and relating education to success in the world of work*
- 3. Personal and Social Development- Creating a strong foundation for personal and social growth across the lifespan by exploring friendships, conflict, stress and more.*

Students in Grade 7 will...

- Develop an annual plan-of-study and assess progress to become self-directed and independent learners
- Develop an awareness of their own personal skills, abilities, motivations and personality.
- Develop effective decision-making and problem-solving skills to make safe and healthy life choices.

Technology



“RSU 63 Technology Vision: RSU 63 uses technology to enhance high quality academic programs, instruction, and learning in a safe and supportive environment so students succeed in school and reach their fullest potential in life. The students’ use of technology will be safe, legal, and ethical. Students will be empowered by giving them choices and the ability to work at their own pace which will be done by meeting learners where they are and providing a rigorous learning path for all. Providing choices will help our students be connected learners who know that learning does not only happen in the classroom. Students will learn to communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats, and digital media appropriate to their goals. Students will actively explore real world problems, developing ideas and employing strategies for solving problems in ways that leverage technology.”

Students in Grade 7 will...

- Use Digital citizenship by reviewing and reinforcing the understanding of digital actions and their permanent consequences.
- Be Creative Communicators by creating, publishing and presenting projects related to content areas using a variety of tools such as charts and/or graphics representing data.
- Be Empowered Learners by setting, managing, reflecting upon and revising personal learning goals, using age appropriate technology and celebrating progress towards those goals.
- Construct Knowledge by researching and evaluating sources effectively; cite sources using propeller MLA bibliography format