

Wallenpaupack Area Middle School

Course Selection Guide

2025-2026



139 Atlantic Avenue
Hawley, PA 18428

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WALLENPAUPACK AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE SELECTION GUIDE

Middle School Profile

Wallenpaupack Area Middle School is located in the Pocono Mountains of Northeastern Pennsylvania. The school district is located in a predominately rural setting, drawing its students from a 325 square mile area of Wayne and Pike counties. The Wallenpaupack Area School District was formed in July 1961. At that time the K-12 enrollment was 1,250 students; the district has experienced rapid growth over the last decade. District enrollment is currently approximately 3,600 students.

Formerly a region of small manufacturing, canal transports, lumbering, and farming, the present focal point of the area's economic life is Lake Wallenpaupack with its related resort and vacation enterprises. Lake Wallenpaupack, the second largest lake in Pennsylvania, was man-made by Pennsylvania Power & Light. Construction was completed in 1926. Before that, only a stream flowed through the beautiful valley. The local Lenni Lenape Indian tribe called the stream "Wallenpaupack" which means "the stream of swift and slow water."

The Wallenpaupack Area Middle School serves a student population of approximately 700 students in grades 6, 7, and 8 and employs 106 faculty/staff.

Special education programs meet the needs of classified students.

Co-curricular activities at the Middle School include various clubs the following:

Interscholastic Sports:

- Basketball
- Baseball
- Cheerleading
- Cross Country
- Field Hockey
- Football
- Golf
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tennis
- Track
- Wrestling

Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) and Keystone Exam

Subject	Type of Exam	Grade Level	Date
ELA	PSSA	Grades 6, 7, 8	April 20-24, 2026
Mathematics	PSSA	Grades 6, 7, 8	April 27-May 1, 2026
Science	PSSA	Grade 8	April 27-May 1, 2026
Algebra	Keystone	Students taking Grade 8 Algebra I	May 11-22, 2026

Course Schedule Information

The middle school day is divided into four (4) blocks of seventy (70) minutes each, with a 60-minute tutorial block at the end of the school day.

Report Cards

The school year is divided into 2 semesters of eighteen (18) weeks duration and report cards are issued at the end of each nine weeks. Students and parents are urged to contact the teacher if further information would be helpful.

Incomplete Grades

Students are required to make-up any incomplete work, including exams, within ten (10) school days after the closing date of a marking period. Unfinished work will automatically result in the incomplete grade becoming a failure ("F").

Promotion and Retention Policy/Tutorial Remediation

A student will be promoted or retained only after all of the following applicable criteria have been considered:

- Chronological age
- Social development
- Physical development
- Standardized test scores
- Parent/guardian conferences
- Psychological test results
- Excessive absences

Please note, tutoring and remediation are incorporated into our daily schedule.

Summer School

If a student has failed a course and an approved summer school course is available, the student is allowed to take the course for credit if he/she has a year-end grade of at least 55% or administrative approval. All students who fail Math, ELA, or Science must attend summer school.

Honor Roll

Students in grades 7 & 8 who maintain an average of 90% - 95.99% will be named to the honor roll. Students who maintain an average of 96% or higher will be named to the high honor roll. A weighted scale is used to determine grade point average. Academic courses have a higher weight than special areas and band/chorus. *Making the honor roll/high honor roll does not guarantee membership in the National Junior Honor Society.*

National Junior Honor Society

Membership in the National Junior Honor Society is based on Scholarship, Service, Leadership, Citizenship, and Character. Membership in the National Junior Honor Society is a privilege and not a right. Students in grades seven and eight may be considered for membership if they satisfy the following requirements:

- Maintain a cumulative, weighted average of 95 or above, beginning with the first marking period of seventh grade.
- Document on a "Student Activities Information Form" active involvement in school and/or community activities, demonstrating the qualities of leadership, service and citizenship. These forms will be distributed to qualifying students following the mid-point of the school year.
- Show positive attitude toward the school and its regulations. Any student who has one or more disciplinary infraction(s) on file in the middle school office from the current school year may be ineligible for membership consideration.

A five-panel faculty council appointed by the principal will review the information on all qualifying students. Those students who meet the above requirements will be inducted into the National Junior Honor Society in the spring of the current school year.

Golden Torch awards will be given to 8th graders who have been on High Honor Roll for *EVERY* quarter since their first quarter in 7th grade.

Any member who falls below the eligibility requirements will be placed on probation for two consecutive marking periods. If the deficiency is not improved, the student may face dismissal. Any drug or alcohol violation will result in removal from the National Junior Honor Society.

Core Courses

The following courses are required each year:

- English Language Arts
- Science
- Social Studies
- Mathematics
- Wellness

Specials: Grade 6

Wellness 6

The Pennsylvania School Code requires all students to attend courses of instruction in Physical Education. A student who is unable to participate in the assigned program due to a specific physiological condition could take part in a modified program to meet their needs. In order to enable the student and school to fulfill the Pennsylvania School Code mandate, please see your physical education teacher for more appropriate documentation. The 6th grade health curriculum gives students the opportunity to be exposed to life-long learning topics that will enhance personal wellness.

MS0906/08052

Library 6 (Students last names beginning with L-Z)

The intent of the course is to introduce sixth grade students to search and research skills, including determining information needs, resource evaluation and attribution, and search strategies.

MS0836

Art 6

The 6th grade Fine Art curriculum teaches creativity. Working individually and in groups, students will learn appropriate processes for working with different types of materials, while emphasizing correct material handling, skill building and individual creativity.

MS0706/59912

Technology Education 6 (Students last names beginning with A-K)

This course introduces robotics to students with no programming background using VexIQ kits. Students will learn to pre-engineer, control and program these robots through cooperative, investigative and explorative activities.

MS0806/13003

Computer Technology 6

Students will be exposed to basic computer science, Internet safety, and other practical computer applications. Students will learn the skills necessary to use technology to safely enhance understanding of academic subjects and the outside world.

MS0616/10001

Family and Consumer Science 6 (Students last names beginning with L-Z)

The Family and Consumer Science course introduces students to areas in managing a healthy household. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of child development, child health, and childcare skills along with lifelong lessons in nutrition and reading food labels.

MS0816/22201

Music 6

The 6th grade Music course expands students' knowledge of music reading and performance through playing classroom instruments and singing. Only for students that are not taking band or chorus.

MS0516/51161

Specials: Grade 7

Library 7 (Students last names beginning with A-K)

The intent of the course is to develop seventh grade students' search and research skills, including exploring and selecting information about a complex topic from different perspectives, evaluating and acknowledging resources, and substantiating resource selection. MS0837

Wellness 7

The Pennsylvania School Code requires all students to attend courses of instruction in Physical Education. A student who is unable to participate in the assigned program due to a specific physiological condition could take part in a modified program to meet their needs. In order to enable the student and school to fulfill the Pennsylvania School Code mandate, please see your physical education teacher for more appropriate documentation. The 7th grade health curriculum gives students the opportunity to be exposed to life-long learning topics that will enhance personal wellness.

MS0907/8052

Art 7

The 7th grade fine arts curriculum teaches creativity working individually and in groups. Students will learn appropriate processes for working with different types of materials, while emphasizing correct material handling, skill building and individual creativity.

MS0707/5154

Technology Education 7 (Students last names beginning with L-Z)

This course introduces robotics to students with no programming background using VexIQ kits. Students will learn to pre-engineer, control and program these robots through cooperative, investigative and explorative activities.

MS0807/13003

Family and Consumer Science 7 (Students last names beginning with A-K)

The Family and Consumer Science course introduces students to areas in managing a healthy household. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of child development, child health, and childcare skills along with lifelong lessons in nutrition and reading food labels.

MS0817/22201

Music 7

This course provides students with a history of American music from 1920 through today. Students will explore technology changes and advances in the recording and marketing of sound recordings. Students will also learn to recognize styles of popular music from the 20th Century and understand music's relationship with and contribution to today's culture. Only for students not taking band or chorus.

MS0517/5116

Computer Technology 7

Students will be exposed to basic computer science, Internet safety, and other practical computer applications. Students will learn the skills necessary to use technology to safely enhance understanding of academic subjects and the outside world.

MS0617/10001

Specials: Grade 8

Wellness 8

The Pennsylvania School Code requires all students to attend courses of instruction in Physical Education. A student who is unable to participate in the assigned program due to a specific physiological condition could take part in a modified program to meet their needs. In order to enable the student and school to fulfill the Pennsylvania School Code mandate, please see your physical education teacher for more appropriate documentation. The 8th grade health curriculum gives students the opportunity to be exposed to life-long learning topics that will enhance personal wellness.

MS0908/8052

High School 101 (online module)

This 8th grade elective will enable students to identify career opportunities and aptitudes. Career planning, acquisition, and retention skills will be emphasized. An introduction to the structure of High School readiness skills will be included.
MS0638/22151

Students may choose four (4) of the following or three (3) of the following if they are in band or chorus:

Art 8

The 8th grade Fine Arts curriculum teaches creativity and expression through various art media. Working individually and in groups, students will learn appropriate processes for working with different types of materials, while emphasizing correct material handling, skill building and individual creativity.
MS0708/5154

Intro to Visual Art I

Intro to Visual Art I is designed as a preparatory course for the study of both fine and graphic arts. It provides a strong background in the basics of two-dimensional design, drawing, and printmaking units. This course is a suggested requirement for the student who wishes to continue in Visual Art Pathway in the high school.

22.5 day rotation + 60 min. tutorial per week x 2 will provide the 410 min. per week equivalent to the high school .5 credit time frame. Student who complete this course will be able to take Intro to Visual Arts II as a starting freshman.

Computer Technology 8

This project-based course introduces basic computer science, coding, circuits, graphic design, and other practical computer applications. Students taking this course will become problem solvers and critical thinkers.
MS0618/10001

Multimedia Design 8

This is an introductory multimedia design class. We will be exploring different forms of digital media which leads to students having the opportunity to explore their creative side in a computer-based setting. Students will use various forms of multimedia which includes, but is not limited to, graphic design, video creation, and web design with programs such as Microsoft 365 and Canva.

Business and Entrepreneurship 8

This middle school course Business and Entrepreneurship provides an introduction to foundational concepts in business, finance, and entrepreneurship. Students will learn about these basic principles through interactive activities, and real-world projects. Students will also have the opportunity to develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills necessary for success in the business world. By the end of the course, students will have a solid understanding of key business concepts and the confidence to explore future opportunities in the field of business and entrepreneurship.

STEM 8

The middle school STEM course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through engaging hands-on projects and experiments. Students will develop critical thinking skills, problem-solving abilities, and teamwork through activities that emphasize real-world applications of STEM principles. This course aims to inspire curiosity, creativity, and a lifelong passion for STEM fields.

Family and Consumer Science 8

The 8th Grade Family & Consumer Science course develops students' knowledge in food and kitchen safety and the physical science of cooking.
MS0818/22201

Outdoor Power Equipment 8

This course provides students with the fundamental knowledge and hands-on skills needed to diagnose, maintain, and repair small gasoline engines. Topics covered include engine components, fuel and ignition systems, troubleshooting techniques, and routine maintenance procedures. Students will gain practical experience working with 4 stroke lawnmower engine equipment. Safety procedures and proper tool usage will be emphasized throughout the course. This class is ideal for beginners looking to develop mechanical skills or for those interested in small engine repair.

Musical Theater

The 8th grade Musical Theater elective advances students' musical theater skills through singing, dancing, and developing character roles.
MS0568/05053

Jam Band

Jam Band is a practical study of modern band instruments. Students will learn basic guitar, keyboard, and drum set skills. Then, with the assistance of the application "JamZone," students will perform their favorite music as a final demonstration using all these instruments.
MS0589

Music Electives

6, 7, 8 Band

Musicians who have committed themselves to preparation and performance of concerts participate in this course. A limited number of students on any given instrument receive individualized instruction for increased clarity and precision of performance.

MS0526/5102

MS0577/5102

MS0578/5102

6, 7, 8 Chorus

Vocalists who have committed themselves to preparation and performance of concerts participate in this course.

MS0506/5110

MS0527/5110

MS0508/5110

7, 8 Bell Choir

Bell Ringers who have committed themselves to preparation and performance of concerts participate in this course.

MS0579/5106

Core Courses: Grade 6

ELA 6

The 6th grade ELA course develops the communication skills of writing, reading, speaking, and listening. This course focuses on the following: 1) Building knowledge through context-rich notification and literature; 2) Reading, writing, and speaking, grounded in evidence from text, both literacy and informational; 3) Regular practice with complex text and its academic language/ The goal of the reading program is to provide students with experiences which will prepare them to interact with a variety of text to

create meaning. Students must be able to use prior knowledge and/or background experiences, reading strategies and adapt to a variety of reading situations.

Mathematics 6

The goal of the mathematics program is to provide an appropriate curriculum for every student to value mathematics; to become confident in one's mathematical ability; to become a mathematical problem-solver; and to learn to communicate and reason mathematically. Students will be provided with a solid foundation in fundamental middle grade topics such as decimals and fractions with an introduction to key algebraic topics. Geometry readiness topics are covered, providing a solid preparation for future math study. Problem-solving strategies involving different techniques on how to approach a problem will be presented.

MS0396/S52036

MS0356/52036

MS0366/52036

MS0346/S52036

Science 6

The major goal of the sixth grade science program is to provide basic knowledge of: outer space, weather, sound and light, forces, motion and energy, and matter. Students will learn to discover and interpret scientific knowledge by completing projects, demonstrations and lab activities.

MS0406/39994

Social Studies 6

This course is designed to provide a survey of ancient civilizations. Students will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to analyze historic and geographic data and materials. Students will be given opportunities to utilize problem solving skills by exercising higher order thinking skills and creativity through the development of topic related projects. This course will aid students in developing skills to determine cause/effect relationships through an analysis of historic and geographic perspectives as well as develop personal values and cultural understandings in relation to history.

MS0206/43051

Core Courses: Grade 7

Pre-Algebra

All students will be investigating algebraic expressions and integers, solving one-step equations and inequalities, decimals and equations, factors, fractions and exponents, operations with fractions, ratios, proportions and percents. Additionally, students will solve multi-step equations and inequalities and compute area and volume. The advanced level will also do linear functions and graphing. All classes will also be spending time preparing all classes for the PSSA tests which coincides with the PA math standards.

MS0307/02051

MS0317/02051

Mathematics 7

All students will be investigating algebraic expressions and integers, solving one-step equations and inequalities, decimals and equations, factors, fractions and exponents, operations with fractions, ratios, proportions and percents. Additionally, students will solve multi-step equations and inequalities and compute area and volume. All classes will also be spending time preparing all classes for the PSSA tests which coincides with the PA math standards.

MS0397/S52037

MS0357/52037

MS0347/S52037

ELA 7

The 7th grade ELA course develops the communication skills of writing, reading, speaking and listening. This course focuses on correct grammar and conventions, as well as basic writing skills with an emphasis on effective sentence writing, paragraph construction and multi-paragraph essay development. Another goal of the seventh-grade program is to provide students with experiences and/or opportunities which will prepare them to interact with a variety of text to create meaning. While creating meaning, students must be able to use prior knowledge and/or background experiences, reading strategies and adapt to a variety of reading situations.

MS0107/S51035

MS0167/51035

Science 7

The seventh-grade curriculum deals specifically with life science. The major goal of the seventh grade life science curriculum is to see the similarities and differences between living things. The course includes units on scientific methods and the characteristics of living things as well as a survey of the six major kingdoms of organisms. Students will actively be involved with projects, reports and lab activities that deal with the concept of life science.

MS0407/53237

Social Studies 7

Geography provides a framework for studying the world. The course of study uses an inter-disciplinary approach applying the five themes of geography to meet the National Standards in Geography. The seventh grade social studies curriculum provides students with an understanding of the physical, economic, political and cultural geography of various regions of the world.

MS0207/4305

Core Courses: Grade 8

ELA 8

The 8th grade ELA course develops the communication skills of writing, reading, speaking and listening. Use of correct grammar and conventions is emphasized through student writing, reflection and self-editing of projects. Literature selections are used to expand student's understanding and appreciation for literature while providing exemplary models to support the student's learning. The goal of the eighth grade reading program is to provide students with opportunities to interact with texts, with the ultimate goal of meaning construction. To construct meaning, students must be able to engage prior knowledge, utilize reading strategies, and adapt to a variety of literacy situations. The overall intent of the course is to provide students with positive experiences with text, both narrative and expository, that will enable them to become informed, productive citizens and lifelong learners.

MS0108/S51048

MS0128/S51048

Algebra I

All students will be investigating field properties, properties of equality, using these properties as justifications for solving equations, algebraic expressions and integers, solving one-step equations and inequalities, decimals and equations, factors, fractions, and exponents, operations with fractions, ratios, proportions and percents. This course will provide complete coverage of polynomial operations and all factoring techniques to prepare students for work with rational expressions and quadratic equations later in the course. Additionally, students will work with rational and radical expressions. They will also do linear functions and graphing. All classes will also be spending time preparing for the Keystone Exam which coincides with the PA math standards.

MS0398/S52038

MS0358/ K02052

Math 8

All students will be investigating algebraic expressions and integers, solving one-step equations and inequalities, decimals and equations, factors, fractions and exponents, operations with fractions, ratios, proportions and percents. Additionally, the middle and high levels will solve multi-step equations and inequalities and compute area and volume. The advanced level will also do linear functions and graphing. All classes will also be spending time preparing all classes for the PSSA tests which coincides with the PA math standards.

MS0328/02051

MS0338/02051

MS0358/S52038

Science 8

The major goal of the eighth grade physical science program is to provide basic knowledge of chemistry and physics as it relates to everyday experiences. Students will learn to discover and interpret scientific knowledge by completing projects, reports, demonstrations and lab activities. An additional goal of the course is to apply basic math principles to science concepts. The eighth grade physical science curriculum encompasses three major topics focusing on the chemical and physical nature of matter. These topics are scientific method, physical and chemical nature of matter, and heat, light and sound.

MS0408/53238

Social Studies 8

Eighth grade social studies is an opportunity for students to review geography skills, ancient and medieval history and to begin the study of the Renaissance, Reformation, Age of Discovery, Age of Absolutism, American Colonization, Thirteen English colonies, Fight for Independence and the Growth of America as a new nation, including the United States Constitution.

MS0208/4305