



# 2026-27 Allied Course Descriptions

## Grade 7

### Horace Mann Middle School

# 2026-27 PROGRAMMING INFORMATION

## In 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:

- Students will have two periods of math and literacy, and one period of social studies and science.
- Students will have a Resource period every day, which may include band/orchestra lessons and math/literacy interventions.
- Students will have Physical Education and 6th Grade Music Exploration every other day for the school year.
- Students will have Business/Technology Education and Art every day for a quarter. Students will have Health Education every day for two quarters (either first and third, or second and fourth)

## In 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

- Students will have two periods of math and literacy, and one period of social studies and science.
- Students will have a Resource period every day, which may include band/orchestra lessons and math/literacy interventions.
- Students will have Physical Education every other day for the school year.
- Students will elect to have additional allied courses to complete their schedule (see last page).

## In 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

- Students will have two periods of math and literacy, and one period of social studies and science.
- Students will have three periods to be used for allied courses and Resource, which will include Physical Education every other day for the school year. All other elective choices will be chosen by students/families from the classes in this program.

***Requests to drop/add requests: In all cases, drop/add class requests should be completed prior to the school year or semester. In some circumstances, drop/add class requests are granted within the first two weeks of the school year or semester. After two weeks, drop/add class requests will not be granted. In all cases, drop/add requests must be given in writing/email to a Horace Mann administrator or school counselor.***

# ALLIED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Students will have the following courses during their 7<sup>th</sup> grade year:

### **Physical Education every other day for the school year**

*Throughout the school year, the Physical Education instructors will emphasize the following themes: invasion games, individual skill development, fitness and nutrition, outdoor pursuits and adventure education, and net games. Students will participate in a variety of activities ranging from one week to four weeks in length. Activities could include the following areas of emphasis, depending on the student's individual instructor; soccer, basketball, volleyball, team handball, ultimate, floor hockey, weight training, swim instruction, pool games, winter outdoor activities, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, inline skating, and bicycling to name a few.*

Students will elect to have the following courses during their 7<sup>th</sup> grade year:

### **Art every other day for a semester**

*The seventh grade art curriculum examines how images and forms help us understand cultures of the world. We will explore different materials and art techniques while creating two-dimensional and three-dimensional art pieces. Those materials may include, but are not limited to clay, paint, printmaking, mixed-media sculpture, a variety of drawing tools, and found objects. Our hands-on activities provide students an opportunity to practice creative and problem-solving strategies and develop the critical skills of describing, analyzing, interpreting and producing visual images.*

### **Band every other day for the school year and lessons**

Explore the power of music in seventh grade band! At this grade level, students have the chance to further develop their musical skills and knowledge through full rehearsal and one small group lesson weekly. The course of study in seventh grade band is focused on further advancing technical skills and tone production. Several concerts are held during the course of the school year; other topics covered may include music history, music theory, even marching! Students will not only have the chance to tap into their creativity through performing in band, but will also encounter exciting performance opportunities such as Jazz Band, District Solo & Ensemble Festival, and State Honors Ensembles.

***Prerequisite: If a student is planning on enrolling in 7th grade band, but has no previous experience, the student must complete the six lesson summer school course provided through the District prior to beginning the program or have instructor permission. The summer school lessons are free of charge, although an instrument will need to be rented or purchased.***

*\*A purchased or rented instrument is required for participation in band/orchestra. Families may choose to purchase or rent instruments from local music stores. A limited number of instruments are available for rent from the school at a reduced rate for families who qualify for financial assistance. Please contact the band or orchestra instructor for more information.*

**Choir** every other day for the school year

7th Grade Choir offers the opportunity to learn varied repertoire, two and three part singing, sight-singing, music reading skills, and the elements of good vocal technique as well as develop critical thinking skills through the analysis of musical elements, including form and text. Students are expected to perform in two concerts during the course of the school year. An opportunity to perform in Solo & Ensemble will be offered, but not required.

**Family and Consumer Science** every other day for a semester

The Sew What course is designed to give students a chance to learn basic hand and machine sewing techniques and practices. Students will learn to read patterns and symbols required for successful project completion. Students will practice use of varied types of sewing equipment for both hand and machine stitch work. The ability to follow and understand sewing construction directions and terminology will be emphasized within project construction. \$4 lab fee and project supplies purchased

**7th Grade Piano Exploration** every other day for a semester

PIANO Exploration offers a variety of individual musical experiences including intermediate piano keyboard instruction and composition. All work is done during class – no after school concerts are required. Students will actively analyze and learn about musical concepts such as melody, harmony, rhythm, and note reading. Students will learn about style, dynamics and musical expression.

**7th Grade Guitar Exploration** every other day for a semester

Like PIANO Exploration, this course will offer a variety of small group and individual musical experiences using the guitar. Students will be introduced to basic chords and accompany songs in class. Melodies will be introduced using tablature. Additional instruments such as ukuleles will be introduced and studied.

**Orchestra** every other day for the school year and lessons

Explore the power of music in seventh grade Orchestra! In this grade level, students have the chance to further develop their musical skills and knowledge playing violin, viola, cello or bass, in rehearsals and small group lessons. The course of study in seventh grade Orchestra is focused on further advancing technical skills and tone production. Several concerts are held during the course of the school year; other topics covered may include music history, music theory, even composing music on your instrument! Students will not only have the chance to tap into their creativity through performing in Orchestra, but will also encounter exciting performance opportunities such as Chamber Orchestra, Jazz Band, District Solo & Ensemble Festival, and State Honors Ensembles.

**Prerequisite: If a student is planning on enrolling in 7th grade orchestra, but has no previous experience, the student must complete the six lesson summer school course provided through the District prior to beginning the program or have instructor permission. The summer school lessons are free of charge, although an instrument will need to be rented or purchased.**

\*A purchased or rented instrument is required for participation in band/orchestra. Families may choose to purchase or rent instruments from local music stores. A limited number of instruments are available for rent from the school at a reduced rate for families who qualify for financial assistance. Please contact the band or orchestra instructor for more information.

**Technology and Engineering Education-- Engineering and Innovation every other day for a semester**

*In this course, students will explore how engineers, designers, and architects solve problems by creating things that are both useful and creative. They will start by learning how to use the engineering design process to build and test their own model bridge, discovering what makes structures strong. Next, they will jump into 3D design by using basic CAD software to create digital models and prepare them for 3D printing. Students will even get an opportunity to turn some of their designs into real objects. Finally, they will explore the world of architecture by designing rooms and building layouts that are functional and visually appealing. This course focuses on hands-on activities, creative thinking, and real design tools to bring their ideas to life.*

**World Cultures every other day for a semester**

*World Cultures is a semester-long course that meets every other day. In this course, learners explore five different world cultures: French, Spanish, German, Middle Eastern, and Southeast Asian through the lens of a variety of cultural universals - including, (but not limited to), language, traditions, holidays, dance, food, art, and recreation. Learners gain a better understanding of and an appreciation for the diversity that these cultures represent. This course also serves as an introduction to French, German, and Spanish - the three language courses offered as year-long electives in eighth grade.*