Program of Studies

2026-2027

Carlynton Jr./Sr. High School
Grades 7-8

Community :: Excellence :: Character

www.carlynton.net









Carlynton Junior High School
Program of Studies

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Carlynton School District
Our Mission, Vision, and Values

MISSION

The Mission of the Carlynton School District is to provide a challenging educational program for all students within a safe, nurturing environment which will enable them to function as productive, ethical and responsible global citizens.

VISION

The Carlynton School District will inspire a passion for learning, a commitment to excellence, and a respect for the diversity of individuals as we prepare our students for the demands of a changing global society.

VALUES

- **Students:** Students assume a vital role in the District's ability to attain the mission and the vision. Students must respect learning through active participation and a scholarly approach. Students must respect school property issued to support learning activities and facilities that enhance learning in both curricular and extracurricular activities. Students must respect themselves through healthy lifestyles and respect the needs and differences of others. Students must respect safety to ensure all students have access to all available services.

- **Staff:** All members of the staff must recognize that instruction must be engaging, challenging, purposeful and relevant and be able to employ best practices to nurture a culture conducive to student learning and continuous professional growth. Staff members must utilize a variety of assessment data to assist in driving instructional decisions. Through the recognition and belief that students can be successful learners, all staff must be diligent in creating appropriate and supportive environments. Staff must recognize that growth and achievement take place not only in the academic arena but also in social, physical and emotional contexts. Collectively the staff must contribute to creating a safe environment where all students can take intellectual risks.

- **Administrators:** School District administrators must embrace decision making models that are aligned to the Mission, Vision and Strategic Goals with Financial Stewardship. Administrators must contribute and use supervisory positions to ensure that learning and workplace environments are safe and conducive to learning and work flow. Administrators must communicate effectively to all stakeholders and manage conflict in a manner that is constructive and respectful while listening and effectively responding to concerns. School officials must maintain high expectations for students' growth and provide effective resources, facilities, and support for instruction and learning. School administrators must regularly examine and support a curriculum that is engaging, relevant, and accessible to all students.

- **Parents:** Parent involvement and active engagement in their child's education is inherently connected to the success of the District successfully attaining the mission and vision. Parents must encourage and support all students in their pursuit and participation in academics, arts, activities, and athletics. Parents must provide feedback to appropriate school personnel and share concerns to promote positive change and institutional growth. Parents must have opportunities to build productive partnerships through community engagement.

- **Community:** Community members must feel as welcomed partners while contributing to the successful attainment of the mission and vision of the school district. Community members must be provided with opportunities to work in unison with the school district to accomplish goals. Community members must support and encourage the general wellbeing of all students in their pursuit of academics, arts, activities, and athletics. Community members must provide feedback to appropriate school personnel and share concerns to promote positive change and institutional growth. Community members must have opportunities to build productive partnerships through community engagement.

CARLYNTON JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATORS, COUNSELORS, & SUPPORT STAFF

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Message from the Principal

Dear Carlynton Junior High Students,

Are You Ready?

Whether you are stepping into your first days as a junior high student or preparing for the transition to high school, this journey is filled with opportunities to grow, challenge yourself, and prepare for an incredible future. The contents of this document are designed to empower you.

Within these pages, you'll find pathways to help you explore your interests and skills, prepare for careers or college, and set the foundation for becoming a productive, educated, and compassionate global citizen. Whether your future leads to post-secondary education, industry certifications, or service in one of our nation's military branches, Carlynton Junior High is here to guide you in building the knowledge and resilience needed to succeed.

Making the Most of Your Opportunities
It's important to take an active role in planning your journey. Use this guide to share your goals and aspirations with your parents, teachers, counselors, and mentors. Their support will help you make thoughtful choices about your courses and activities. Our courses are aligned with Career Pathways designed to connect your interests to meaningful future opportunities. These pathways provide focus while allowing flexibility to explore a variety of subjects, offering a well-rounded experience.

Our Focus: Readiness for the Future
The administration and staff at Carlynton Junior High are dedicated to preparing you for success, whether it's in high school, college, the workforce, or beyond. To achieve this, we emphasize three key dimensions of readiness:

- **Academic Preparedness:** Build strong content knowledge and cognitive strategies by engaging in rigorous coursework. Strive for excellence in your studies to lay a solid foundation for future challenges.
- **Academic Tenacity:** Develop resilience and a growth mindset through consistent attendance, active participation, and embracing challenges. Aim for excellence, maintaining high attendance and giving your best effort.
- **Career and College Knowledge:** Explore career possibilities, learn essential skills, and take advantage of opportunities to grow through hands-on experiences and industry-based learning.

The Carlynton Junior High Attributes
As you work toward your goals, we encourage you to embody these key attributes:

- **Accountability:** Be responsible, motivated, and a lifelong learner who contributes positively to the school and community.
- **Critical Thinking:** Cultivate creativity, problem-solving skills, and adaptability while preparing for future challenges.
- **Resilience:** Build confidence, grit, and perseverance to overcome obstacles and reach your goals.
- **Respect for Others:** Show empathy, kindness, and integrity in your interactions with others, building a positive and inclusive community.

As you plan your 2026-2027 school year, remember that the Carlynton Junior High staff is here to support you every step of the way. Utilize the guidance of your teachers, counselors, coaches, and advisors, and take full advantage of the resources available to you. Together, we'll help you navigate this exciting journey and ensure you are truly ready for the future!

Warm regards,

Ms. Marsha Burleson

Carlynton Junior-Senior High School Principal

GRADING SCALE & QUALITY POINT VALUES

Letter grades will be issued in all courses at four (4) marking period intervals and at the end of the course (final grade) for all full year courses, and two (2) marking period intervals and the end of the course for all semester courses (final grade). For year-long courses, a student's final grade shall be determined by the percent average of the four (4) marking periods of the school year. For semester courses, a student's final grade shall be determined by the percent average of the two (2) marking periods of the semester. Teachers shall administer mid-term exams, final exams, or final projects in the 2nd and 4th marking periods. Student grades on mid-term exams, final exams, or final projects shall be calculated into the student's grade for that marking period and shall not be greater than 10% of the student's marking period grade.

Quality points, as indicated by the scales below, are awarded based on the grade earned and course weighting. These earned quality points are used to determine a student's individual quality point average (QPA). QPAs are calculated based on all final course grades.

HONOR ROLL

All students are eligible to be recognized as Honor Roll students provided they are enrolled full time atCarlynton Junior High School and have no incomplete or failing coursework. Honor roll distinctions are determined based on the scale below.

- Distinguished Honors –95% or higher
- High Honors – 90%-94%
- Honors – 85%-89%

SCHEDULE CHANGE REQUESTS

Upon receiving course assignments for an upcoming school year, students may request a schedule change through the counseling office. All requests must be submitted prior to the start of the upcoming semester, unless administratively approved. The following stipulations apply to all schedule change requests.

1. No schedule changes will be granted based on lunch preference, teacher preference, or time preference.
2. All schedule changes are subject to seat availability.
3. Once the semester has begun, only those requests deemed to be crucial and essential will be approved.
4. Students must maintain the required minimum number of credits per semester unless otherwise permitted by a principal through an approved academic plan.
5. Requests to drop an elective to add a study hall will be considered, but significant rationale and administrative approval may be required.
6. No schedule change is guaranteed.
7. Schedule change requests must be initiated through the counseling offices and approved by a principal.

WITHDRAWAL FROM A COURSE

Student requests to withdraw from a course are subject to administrative review and are not guaranteed. Students must exercise caution before dropping courses to ensure that graduation, future goals, desired prerequisites for subsequent courses, and NCAA requirements (when eligible) are being met.

Students who withdraw from a semester course on or before the 10th class day, or from a full-year course on or before the 25th class day, will receive no grade. All withdrawals beyond the 10/25 class day limits will appear as "WF" – Withdrawal Fail on the student's transcript except when the principal deems that the circumstances of the withdrawal were due to serious illness or other critical matters.

A below-average or failing grade, without significant mitigating circumstances, is not sufficient reason for withdrawal from a class.

GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION

In accordance with the PA State Board of Education, Public Law 94-142, Chapter 16, Carlynton Junior Senior High School provides for gifted and talented students through the Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) department. The GATE program provides such students with a variety of enriching activities in an academically and socially supportive environment. Participants are encouraged to take challenging Honors, CHS and AP classes. Students should consult with their counselors and GATE teachers to make the most of the valuable opportunities available to them.

SPECIAL EDUCATION & RELATED SERVICES

The PA Special Education law and regulations, Public Law 94-142, and the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997, requires school districts to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to all students with disabilities who are eligible for special education. FAPE means special education and related services are designed to meet the individual educational needs of students through an Individualized Education Program (IEP). The Carlynton Junior Senior High School Special Education Department provides direct and supportive services for children who are vision or hearing impaired, emotionally disturbed, learning disabled, speech and/or language impaired, or who have other health impairments. Our goal is to enable each student to participate as fully as possible in the regular instructional environment and to facilitate the transition from school to the world of work or post-secondary education.

ENGLISH & READING

All 7th and 8th grade students at Carlynton Junior High School participate in English Language Arts (ELA), where they learn the skills and expectations needed for academic success. The ELA curriculum focuses on reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking. Students study a variety of literary texts, practice creative and informative writing, and develop strong communication skills. Enrichment opportunities allow students to further explore language and storytelling while strengthening skills that prepare them for high school and beyond. This program is designed to support all learners and help every student succeed in English.

ENGLISH 7 — A100

Seventh-grade English is designed to develop students' communication skills. Grammar, vocabulary, spelling, and mechanics are covered to improve students' speaking and writing skills. An emphasis is given to the development of text-dependent analysis based on a variety of literary genres. Throughout the year, students will read fiction and nonfiction selections and will gain an understanding of literary elements, such as theme, conflict, and characterization.

Grade Level: *7*

READING 7 — A115

Reading 7 is a required course designed to enhance and improve all reading skills. This course will provide targeted, systematic instruction for comprehension strategies and skills for developing reading independence. Targeted literacy skills such as context clues, author's purpose, affixes, predictions, text structure, making inferences, character and point of view will be addressed through the use of technology, direct instruction and the use of both literature and informational text. Instruction will focus on the foundational skills for reading (phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding/encoding) in addition to comprehension, vocabulary and writing. A variety of challenging texts will provide the opportunity to apply these skills to critical analysis and response. A reading technology program (Accelerated Reader) is utilized to provide a wide choice of independent reading opportunities and measure individual student's academic growth.

Grade Level: *7*

ACADEMIC ENGLISH 8 — A105

Academic English 8 is a course that challenges the student to explore the areas of literature, and refine grammar, writing, speaking and listening skills. Through units devoted to the active reading of short stories, novels, and drama, the student will participate in activities and discussions in order to comprehend and analyze literature. Students will also practice the skills involved in utilizing textual evidence. Students are expected and encouraged to develop their skills each and every day with the emphasis upon mastery and success.

Grade Level: *8*

SCHOLARS ENGLISH 8 A110

Scholars English 8 is a course that involves the study and mastery of advanced concepts attendant to the language arts skills. Concentrated and accelerated areas of study will involve reading, writing, speaking, critical thinking, research, and listening skills. Students will also refine the skills involved in utilizing textual evidence. This course is for excellent readers who are independent, self-reliant, and highly motivated.

Prerequisites for course enrollment: Proficient or advanced on the ELA 7th Grade PSSAs, a yearly average of 90% in **BOTH** English 7 and Reading 7.

Grade Level: *8*

READING 8 A120

Reading 8 is a course designed to enhance and improve all reading skills. This course will provide targeted, systematic instruction for comprehension strategies and skills for developing reading independence. Targeted literacy skills such as context clues, author's purpose, affixes, predictions, text structure, making inferences, fact and opinion, sound devices, and paraphrasing will be addressed through the use of technology, direct instruction and the use of both literature and informational text. Instruction will focus on the foundational skills for reading (phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding/encoding) in addition to comprehension, vocabulary and writing. A variety of challenging texts will provide the opportunity to apply these skills to critical analysis and response. A reading technology program (Accelerated Reader) is utilized to provide a wide choice of independent reading opportunities and measure individual student's academic growth.

Prerequisites for course enrollment:

Scholars English 8	Students must have earned a proficient or advanced on the ELA PSSAs in Grade 7, AND have a year end average of a 90% in BOTH English 7 and Reading 7
Reading 8	Students who have passed the ELA PSSAs in Grade 7 AND have a year end average of an 85% in BOTH English 7 and Reading 7 may elect to take Spanish I or French I in place of Reading 8

Grade Level: *8*

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Department offers two levels of study to Carlynton students in the 7th and 8th grades. The **Academic** level of study is designed for all students. The curriculum is aligned to the PA state standards. The **Scholars** level of study is designed for the students who have demonstrated strength in mathematics. The curriculum for this level is based on the requirements of a student who is going to move through the Scholars level math classes throughout high school.

MATH 7 A200

This course prepares students for the seventh grade PSSA test. The five major topics covered include numbers and operations, measurement, geometry, algebraic concepts, and data analysis. An emphasis is placed on problem solving and test taking strategies.

Prerequisites: Placement based on math rubric as approved by the District.

Recommended placement for successive school year:

Algebra 1-S ***requires completion of Summer assignment**	85 – 100% and advanced or proficient 7th grade PSSA math score
Math 8	60 – 84%
Math 7/*If student is held in 7th grade*	0 - 59%

***Grade Level**: 7*

MATH 8 A215

This course is designed to prepare the student for success on the eighth grade PSSA and to provide the student with the mathematical competency to transition into high school math. Topics studied begin with real numbers. Solving, graphing, and analyzing singular and systems of linear equations is studied next. Representing, constructing, and comparing functions and data follows. Geometry topics culminate the year with the study of congruence, similarity, right triangles, area and volume. Each unit is aligned to grade 8 common core standards for mathematical content and standards for mathematical practice.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Math 7 with a grade of **60%** or higher.

Upon completion of Math 8, recommended placement for successive school year:

Algebra 1 60-100% and proficient/advanced on 8th grade PSSA
Repeat Math 8/*If student is held in 8th grade* 0 - 59%

***Grade Level:** 8*

PRE-ALGEBRA A205

This is an accelerated math course for the seventh grade students who have fulfilled the placement requirement. See prerequisites for Pre-Algebra requirements. The course will prepare students for entry into Algebra 1-S and for the seventh grade PSSA test. The topics covered include numbers and operations, measurement, geometry, algebraic concepts, and data analysis. There is also a focus on the development of algebra and reasoning skills.

Prerequisites: Placement for Pre-Algebra Scholars based on 6th grade PSSA exam scores. final grade of 85 to 100% in 6th grade math, and teacher evaluations. Students must score proficient or advanced on the 6th grade math PSSA exam.

Upon completion of Pre-Algebra, recommended placement for successive school year:

Algebra 1-S	80 - 100% and a proficient or advanced 7th grade PSSA Math score.
Math 8	60 - 79%
Math 7	0 - 59%

Grade Level: *7*

SCHOLARS ALGEBRA I A220

This is a highly-accelerated course for the eighth grade scholar student and is designed to prepare the student for success on two standardized tests, the eighth grade PSSA and on the Algebra 1 Keystone exam. Content begins with the study of real numbers. Solving, graphing, and analyzing singular and systems of linear equations is studied next. Representing, constructing, and comparing functions and data follows. Geometry topics, including the study of congruence, similarity, right triangles, area and volume are also studied. The year is concluded with the study of polynomials, exponents, and radicals. Each unit is aligned to grade 8 common core standards for mathematical content and standards for mathematical practice.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre-Algebra with a grade of **80%** or higher and a proficient or advanced 7th grade PSSA Math score.

Upon completion of Algebra 1, recommended placement for successive school year:

Geometry-S 80 - 100%
Geometry 60 - 79%
Math 8 ***/If student is held in 8th grade)*** 0 - 59%

Grade Level: *8*

SCIENCE

All 7th and 8th-grade students at Carlynton Junior High School, outlining the expectations and opportunities in Science. Students will explore a dynamic curriculum designed to foster curiosity and develop critical thinking through hands-on experiments, scientific inquiry, and real-world applications. Core science courses cover topics such as life science, physical science, earth science, and basic principles of chemistry and physics, building a strong foundation for high school studies. This guide ensures that all students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to understand and appreciate the natural world while preparing for future academic and career pursuits in science.

SCIENCE 7 — A300

This is a full year course that will be broken down into three parts. The first unit of study involves using the scientific method, problem solving, measuring, using SI units, graphics, and converting between units. The second unit of study involves the classification of matter, atomic structure, the periodic table, properties of elements and chemical bonding. The third unit of study involves change to "motion, forces, energy, energy transformations, thermal energy, magnetism, and waves.. This course may contain quizzes, tests, lab reports, various activities and projects that meet the academic standards and are used for evaluation purposes.

Grade Level: *7*

SCIENCE 8 — A305

This is a full year course that will focus on concepts to provide a strong foundation for students as they prepare for the 8th grade standardized science exam and building foundations. The course will focus on areas of study that will adhere to the assessment anchors and eligible content specified by Module A & Module B on the Keystone Exams. These include: Basic Biological Principles of Life, Cell Structure and Function,Levels of Organization, , Bioenergetics, Cell Growth and Reproduction, Genetics, DNA and Protein Synthesis, Evolution, Ecology, and Environment Science, Homework, class activities, quizzes, projects, tests and labs may be used in the grading process.

Grade Level: *8*

SOCIAL STUDIES

All 7th and 8th-grade students at Carlynton Junior High School, outlining the expectations and opportunities in Social Studies. Students will engage in a curriculum designed to develop critical thinking, historical analysis, and cultural understanding. Core courses focus on topics such as world history, U.S. history, geography, and civics, helping students make connections between the past and present. Through interactive activities, primary source analysis, and discussions, students will build skills in research, communication, and problem-solving. This guide ensures that every student is prepared to become informed, responsible citizens and succeed in future studies.

WORLD HISTORY I — A400

World History I is a required course for all seventh grade students. The course is a survey of the growth and development of civilization and society from Mesopotamia to the Middle Ages. A research project may be used to enhance the objectives of the course.

Grade Level: *7*

WORLD HISTORY II — A405

World History II is a required course for students in grade 8. The course focuses on human geography across the globe. Students will compare and contrast foreign cultures to American culture. A research project may be used to enhance the objectives of the course.

Grade Level: *8*

WORLD LANGUAGES

World Language courses develop students' ability to communicate effectively in languages other than English while deepening their understanding of global cultures and perspectives. Through listening, speaking, reading, and writing, students build language proficiency, cultural awareness, and critical thinking skills. World Languages prepare students for college, careers, and citizenship in an increasingly interconnected world by fostering communication skills, adaptability, and appreciation for cultural diversity.

INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH 7 A700

Introduction to Spanish 7 introduces students to the Spanish language and its practical use in communication. Students explore language acquisition, practice speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills, and examine how culture shapes language and communication. The course concludes with a Career Exploration Project connecting language skills and cultural understanding to future academic and career opportunities.

Grade Level: *7*

SPANISH I A710

Designed to introduce students to the fascinating world of learning Spanish. The ultimate goal of learning a language is to be able to communicate with different peoples and cultures foreign to our own and to function in an environment that speaks that language. Therefore, basic grammar and conversation is taught through accomplishing real world tasks in conjunction with learning about the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. The lessons and thematic units will revolve around the ACTFL National Foreign Language Standards. The focus of this course and the program is on proficiency in the language in all areas. Emphasis is placed on further building Spanish vocabulary, oral communication in real life situations, cultural understanding and awareness, listening comprehension, writing proficiency and the skills to succeed in a Spanish II course.

Prerequisites: This course is open to 8th grade students who have scored proficient or advanced on the 7th Grade PSSA, earned an 85% or higher in BOTH their English and Reading classes and have a teacher's recommendation may elect to take Spanish I.

Grade Level: *8*

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH 7 A705

Introduction to French 7 introduces students to the fundamentals of French language and communication. Students develop skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing while exploring how culture influences language use and understanding. The course also includes a Career Exploration Project, helping students connect French language skills and cultural knowledge to future academic and career opportunities.

Prerequisites: This course is open to 8th grade students who have scored proficient or advanced on the 7th Grade PSSA, earned an 80% or higher in BOTH their English and Reading classes and have a teacher's recommendation may elect to take French I.

Grade Level: 8

Wellness and Physical Education

The Carlynton High School Physical Education and Wellness program is designed to provide students with knowledge of overall health practices and lifestyle choices that promote personal health and wellbeing throughout life. All students are required to dress appropriately for physical education activities. Students will have access to the locker rooms to change into appropriate attire if need be. Lack of participation in physical education activities will result in loss of credit for the day.

HEALTHY DECISIONS 7 — A803

Through Healthy Decisions 7, students develop skills for personal well-being, positive decision-making, and responsible citizenship. The course emphasizes healthy relationships, communication, character education, and bullying prevention, as well as digital wellness and online safety. Students will also learn about the risks of vaping and alcohol use to support healthy choices. The course concludes with a Career Exploration Project connecting life skills and personal values to future goals.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 — A804

Physical Education 7 focuses on building lifelong health and fitness through regular physical activity. Students learn how consistent exercise supports physical and mental well-being, improve motor skills, and develop strength, endurance, and coordination. The course also emphasizes teamwork, cooperation, and positive group interaction through a variety of individual and team-based activities.

WELLNESS 7 — A800

Wellness 7 focuses on building knowledge and skills for a healthy, balanced lifestyle. Students explore fitness and nutrition to support physical well-being, along with mental health strategies that promote emotional wellness and stress management. The course also addresses substance abuse prevention and age-appropriate reproductive health education to encourage informed and responsible choices. Learning culminates in a Career Exploration Project that connects health education to future academic and career pathways.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 — A806

Physical Education 8 promotes lifelong physical activity by helping students develop the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to stay active and healthy. Students engage in a variety of physical activities that are developmentally and individually appropriate, supporting the achievement of personal fitness and activity goals. The course emphasizes understanding and analyzing factors that influence the relationship between regular participation in physical activity and the improvement of motor skills, encouraging students to make informed decisions about their physical well-being.

WELLNESS 8 A802

Wellness 8 focuses on developing the knowledge and skills students need to make informed, healthy choices during adolescence. Students analyze the relationship between health-related information and consumer choices, learning to evaluate influences on their decisions. The course explores key aspects of mental and emotional health, emphasizing self-awareness, coping strategies, and overall well-being. Students also study nutrition, metabolism, and major body systems to better understand how the body functions and how lifestyle choices impact physical health.

FINE ARTS: ART & MUSIC

Music courses provide students with opportunities to explore, create, and perform music while developing discipline, creativity, and collaboration skills. Through both individual and ensemble experiences, students build musical literacy, performance technique, and an appreciation for diverse musical styles and traditions. Music education fosters self-expression, confidence, and teamwork, while supporting academic growth and enriching the overall school experience.

ART 7 A500

Arts 7 introduces students to the elements and principles of art, exploring styles, genres, and themes across various art forms. Students learn safe practices in the studio, apply technologies in creating art, and develop skills in analyzing and interpreting artistic works. The course emphasizes critical thinking and aesthetic understanding, culminating in a Career Exploration Project that connects visual arts skills to future educational and career opportunities.

ART 8 A503

This course exposes students to the life and work of various artists from history and modern day. They will use this inspiration to express themselves in creating original artwork, using a variety of techniques and materials. Reading and writing strategies will be incorporated with hands-on projects, including drawing, painting, and collage.

AUDIO ENGINEERING 8 A780

Audio Engineering 8 introduces students to the creative and technical foundations of sound production. Students learn how to record, edit, and produce music while exploring the use of artificial intelligence in modern audio production. The course includes hands-on experience with podcasting and the use of contemporary technologies such as MIDI keyboards, computers, audio and sound equipment, and interactive digital tools. Students are encouraged to communicate a unifying theme or point of view through original audio works, integrating both artistic expression and technical skill. A Career Exploration Project allows students to investigate careers in audio engineering, music production, broadcasting, and related creative industries, connecting course skills to future opportunities.

MUSIC 8 A6175

Music 8 provides students with opportunities to create, perform, and analyze music using both traditional and contemporary technologies. Students incorporate a variety of tools and techniques into the design and production of musical works, enhancing their skills in performance and presentation. The course emphasizes artistic expression by guiding students to communicate a unifying theme or point of view through their music. Students also analyze musical works from historical and cultural perspectives to deepen their understanding of music's role in society. A Career Exploration Project allows students to explore careers in music and related creative industries, connecting artistic learning to future pathways.

TECHNOLOGY

The Technology program for students in grades 7 and 8 is designed to build essential digital literacy and problem-solving skills that support learning across all subject areas and prepare students for future academic and career pathways. Through hands-on, project-based learning experiences, students develop proficiency in keyboarding, document creation, spreadsheets, presentations, and basic data analysis.

DIGITAL LITERACY 7 A540

Students will have the chance to learn responsible digital citizenship, including how to recognize and avoid online misinformation and scams in Digital Literacy 7. The course emphasizes digital safety, password security, protecting personal data, and preventing cyberbullying. Learning culminates in a Career Exploration Project that connects digital skills to future academic and career opportunities.

Grade Level: 8

INVENTION AND INNOVATION 7 A603

Students will have the opportunity to explore how inventions and innovations are shaped by historical, social, and cultural contexts. In this course, students will examine the connections between technology, engineering, and creativity, including both intended and unintended impacts. Through hands-on Makerspace activities, students develop problem-solving and design-thinking skills while learning core concepts of 3D printing and real-world applications. The course concludes with a Career Exploration Project focused on technology-related careers and future pathways.

Grade Level: 8

STEAM 7 A545

Students will apply mathematical practices through STEAM-based learning, integrating algebraic thinking and computer coding to solve real-world problems. They will use algebraic and geometric concepts to create and interpret expressions, equations, and graphs through multiple representations. By analyzing patterns and algorithms, students will develop computational reasoning and mathematical generalization skills. The course concludes with a Career Exploration Project focused on mathematics- and STEAM-related career pathways.

Grade Level: 8

DIGITAL LITERACY 8 A600

Digital Literacy 8 introduces students to essential intermediate technology skills that support academic success and future career readiness. Students develop more advanced keyboarding techniques to improve accuracy and efficiency, while gaining practical experience with word processing applications for creating and formatting professional-quality documents. The course also builds proficiency in Google applications, including tools for collaboration, organization, and digital communication. Through a Career Exploration Project, students investigate a variety of career pathways, helping them connect digital skills to real-world applications and begin informed planning for their future educational and career goals.

DIGITAL SKILLS LAB 8 A604

Digital Skills Lab 8 builds students' proficiency with essential digital tools and computational thinking skills. Students develop intermediate-level skills in spreadsheets, including organizing, analyzing, and presenting data, as well as creating effective and engaging slide presentations. The course introduces event-driven computer programming, guiding students through the process of developing simple applications and understanding how user interactions drive program behavior. Through a Career Exploration Project, students examine careers that rely on digital skills and programming, helping them connect technical knowledge to real-world applications and future career pathways.

INVENTION AND INNOVATION 8 A608

Invention and Innovation 8 encourages students to think creatively and critically about how new ideas are developed and brought to life. Students analyze how inventions and innovations are shaped by the historical, social, and technological contexts in which they are created. Through hands-on learning, they apply a technology and engineering design thinking process to solve problems and develop original solutions. The course explores innovation and artificial intelligence applications in both life science and physical science, along with practical invention and makerspace concepts. A Career Exploration Project allows students to investigate careers in engineering, science, technology, and innovation-related fields, connecting classroom learning to real-world applications and future opportunities.

MULTIMEDIA COMMUNICATIONS 8 A198

Multimedia Communications 8 engages students in creative and practical communication skills through the use of digital media. Students learn to tell compelling stories using multimedia tools while developing confidence and clarity in public speaking. The course introduces video editing techniques and explores the role of artificial intelligence in modern communications, including how AI tools can enhance content creation and audience engagement. Students also gain experience in vodcasting by planning, producing, and presenting original digital content. A Career Exploration Project allows students to investigate careers in media, communications, and related fields, helping them connect classroom learning to real-world applications and future pathways.

STEAM EXPLORATION 8 A6190

STEAM 8 integrates science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics to develop strong problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. Students apply mathematical practices within STEAM-based projects, integrating algebraic thinking with computer coding to analyze and solve real-world problems. The course emphasizes modeling problem situations using symbolic, graphical, tabular, and contextual representations, helping students make connections across disciplines. Students also continue to refine their mathematical communication skills by using clear, precise language to explain their reasoning and collaborate effectively with others. A Career Exploration Project allows students to explore STEAM-related careers and understand how interdisciplinary skills apply to future educational and professional pathways.

WIN 7 AND WIN 8 A6190

This is a time for teachers to identify and work with students to assist them in reaching their highest potential within the rigorous academic environment. This period also provides an opportunity for teacher collaboration, student activity meetings, and assemblies without disrupting the traditional academic school day.

The WIN (**W**hat **I N**eed) is a time at the end of the day for students to develop the skills associated with reaching excellence in the academic and personal growth pursuits. The end goal of the period is for students to be able to identify their strengths and needs. They can use this time to bolster their academic performance. This is not a study hall nor is it a study skills class. Rather, the period is designed for students to develop ownership of their learning.



Family and Consumer Sciences courses prepare students with essential life skills that support personal well-being, academic success, and career readiness. Through hands-on, real-world learning experiences, students develop practical skills in areas such as nutrition and wellness, financial literacy, personal responsibility, and decision-making. FCS courses emphasize critical thinking, problem-solving, and independence, helping students make informed choices and successfully navigate everyday challenges at home, school, and beyond.

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE 7 A650

Family and Consumer Science 7 helps students build practical life skills for independence and responsible decision-making. Students gain hands-on experience with food safety, cooking, culinary math, household management, and basic interior design. The course also develops communication, teamwork, and leadership skills, explores childcare safety and babysitting basics, and introduces financial literacy concepts such as budgeting and saving. Learning concludes with a Career Exploration Project connecting life skills to future career pathways.