

PARENT/GUARDIAN ACADEMIC RESOURCE GUIDE



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**Akron Public
Schools™**

MISSION

To ensure all APS Scholars are college, career, and life ready by providing innovative educational experiences.

VISION

All APS scholars will graduate as architects of their future, prepared to thrive in an ever changing world.

MOTTO

**“Empowering Minds,
Enriching Futures”**

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To Our Valued Parents and Families,

We are thrilled to share this family academic resource guide with you. Our goal is to provide an overview of the key content and skills your child will be learning throughout the year. As parents and families, you are your child's first and most important teacher. Your support and engagement play a crucial role in your child's educational journey. This guide is designed to help you understand what to expect and how to best support your child's learning at home. Together, we can ensure a successful and enriching year for all our scholars.

Yours in Education,

Wanda Lash , Ph.D.

Assistant Superintendent



Empowering Minds, Enriching Futures: A Family Guide to Supporting K-12 Learning at Home

General Tips (All Ages)

- Establish a consistent daily routine for schoolwork and studying
- Create a dedicated, distraction-free learning space
- Maintain regular communication with teachers
- Encourage a growth mindset and praise effort over results
- Limit screen time for non-educational activities
- Ensure adequate sleep and a healthy diet

Elementary School (K-5)

- Read together daily and discuss books
- Use everyday activities to practice math and literacy skills
- Incorporate hands-on and play-based learning activities
- Provide age-appropriate chores to develop responsibility

Middle School (6-8)

- Help develop organizational and time management skills
- Teach effective note-taking and study techniques
- Encourage participation in extracurricular activities
- Discuss responsible social media and internet use

High School (9-12)

- Support development of long-term project planning skills
- Encourage self-advocacy with teachers and school staff
- Discuss post-graduation plans and career exploration
- Teach financial literacy and budgeting skills

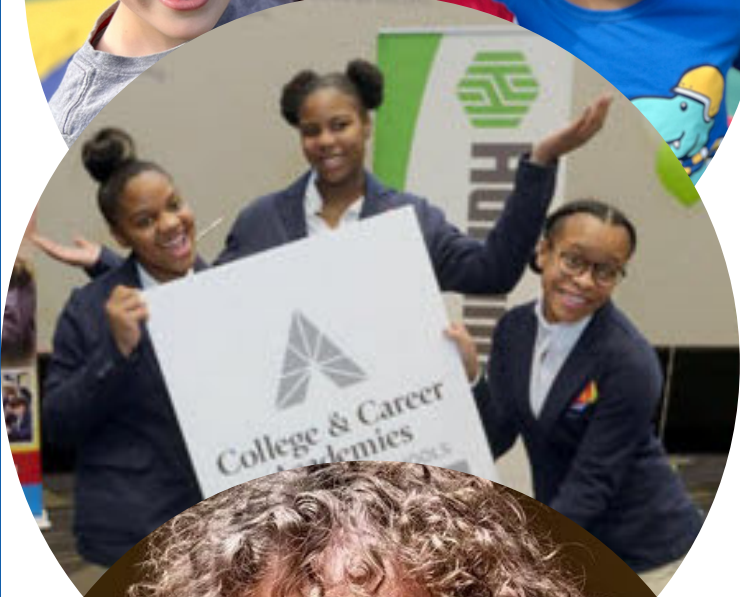




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KINDERGARTEN Marking Period 1

1

Reading & Literacy

- **Phonemic Awareness and Phonics:** Practicing rhymes, sentence segmentation, and syllable blending. Recognizing uppercase and lowercase letters.
- **High-Frequency Words:** Learning common words like “the” and “out”.
- **Print Concepts:** Understanding print features like reading direction and word spacing.
- **Story Comprehension:** Asking and retelling story details.
- **Writing:** Composing simple stories through drawing and writing.

Social Studies

- **Community Responsibilities:** Sharing and taking on roles to support their community, classroom, and family.
- **Authority Figures:** Identifying figures such as parents, principals, teachers, and policemen.
- **National Symbols:** Learning about symbols like the US flag and the bald eagle.
- **Sense of Place:** Getting a sense of distance and direction.

Mathematics

- **Number Recognition:** Recognizing and writing numbers 0 to 10.
- **Counting:** Counting objects up to 20.
- **Comparing Numbers:** Comparing quantities as more, less, or equal.
- **Shapes:** Identifying circles, squares, triangles, and rectangles.
- **Patterns:** Creating simple patterns with objects and colors.
- **Measurement:** Measuring length, weight, and size with everyday items.



Reading & Literacy

- **Phonemic Awareness and Phonics:** Identifying the beginning, middle, and ending sounds in words. Blending sounds to form words and breaking words into individual sounds.
- **High-Frequency Words:** Learning common words like “see” and “like”.
- **Reading Fluency:** Reading simple texts accurately and with expression.
- **Story Elements:** Identifying characters, settings, and major events.
- **Writing:** Writing simple sentences with basic punctuation.



Mathematics

- **Addition and Subtraction:** Adding and taking away with objects and simple numbers.
- **Counting Beyond 10:** Counting and recognizing numbers up to 20 and beyond.
- **Comparing Numbers:** Comparing quantities to see which is more, less, or the same.
- **Shapes:** Recognizing and describing shapes like hexagons, cones, and spheres.
- **Patterns:** Creating and identifying simple patterns.
- **Measuring:** Measuring length, weight, and size with everyday items.

Science

- **Matter:** Describing and sorting materials by their properties.
- **Sound:** Understanding how sound is made and changes.
- **Living Things:** Identifying what makes something living and plant parts.
- **Animal Adaptations:** Learning how animals use body parts to survive.
- **Plant Life Cycles:** Exploring how plants grow and reproduce.
- **Animal Families:** Comparing young animals to their parents.

Reading & Literacy

- **Phonemic Awareness and Phonics:** Blend sounds and segment syllables, add and delete phonemes to make new words.
- **High-Frequency Words:** Read high-frequency words like "said," "have," "with," and "come."
- **Compare and Contrast Stories:** Improve comprehension by comparing and contrasting different stories.
- **Writing:** Work on writing more detailed sentences.

Social Studies

- **Understanding Time:** Learning about the past, present, and future.
- **Family Connections:** Connecting to their family's past and present.
- **Cultural Awareness:** Beginning to learn about different cultures.
- **Wants and Needs:** Identifying and discussing the difference between wants and needs.
- **Environmental Connections:** Identifying how people connect with the environment.

Mathematics

- **Addition & Subtraction:** Improve addition and subtraction skills within 10.
- **Place Value:** Understand place value for numbers 11-19; Recognize numbers 11-19 as groups of tens and ones.
- **Measurement:** Describe, compare, and classify objects by: length, weight, height.
- **Data Collection:** Start to collect and understand simple data.
- **Geometry:** Identify and differentiate between basic shapes: circles, squares, triangles, ovals and hexagons.



Reading & Literacy

- **Phonics:** Review initial and final consonants and short and long vowels.
- **High-Frequency Words:** Read more high-frequency words such as "for," "have," and "me."
- **Explore Genres:** Recognize and read different types of texts, like stories and informational books.
- **Ask and Answer Questions:** Improve comprehension by asking and answering questions about what they read.
- **Writing:** Practice writing more detailed sentences.



Mathematics

- **Shape Recognition:** By the end of kindergarten, scholars should confidently recognize and name basic shapes.
- **Spatial Reasoning:** Develop an awareness of how shapes fit into the world around them and how they relate to one another.
- **Problem Solving:** Encourage problem-solving skills through shape manipulation and exploration activities.
- **Creative Expression:** Use shapes to express creativity in art projects and design tasks.

Science

- **Weather:** Understanding how to measure and describe different weather conditions.
- **Seasons:** Observing weather patterns and changes through the seasons.
- **Severe Weather:** Learning about weather forecasts and staying safe during severe weather.
- **Day and Night:** Exploring what causes day and night.
- **Sun and Stars:** Describing the sun, stars, and their patterns in the sky.
- **Moon Phases:** Understanding why the moon's shape appears to change.

Reading & Literacy

- **Phonemic Awareness and Phonics:** Recognize and play with sounds in words. Identify and blend sounds to form words.
- **High-Frequency Words:** Learn to recognize sight words like “does”, and “make” quickly.
- **Vocabulary & Comprehension:** Learn new words and their meanings. Retell stories and describe characters and events.
- **Writing:** Write opinion pieces that introduce the topic, state an opinion, provide a reason, and include a closing statement.

Social Studies

- **Group Cooperation:** Working together in groups and respecting the rights and feelings of group members.
- **Rules and Fairness:** Describing how different places have different rules and the idea of “fairness”.
- **Map Skills:** Using a map to find physical characteristics (like a landform or a body of water).
- **Cultural Diversity:** Providing examples of how groups from different cultures meet their needs in different ways.
- **Family Changes:** Identifying differences in families from long ago and now.

Mathematics

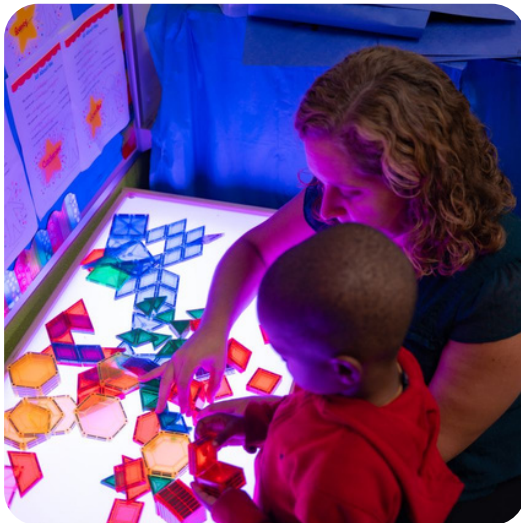
- **Addition & Subtraction:** Understand basic addition and subtraction; Solve simple math problems using: objects, drawings and equations
- **Counting Skills:** Practice counting numbers up to 120; Recognize and count numbers sequentially
- **Place Value Understanding:** Recognize the value of each digit in a number; Begin understanding numbers in terms of tens and ones
- **Addition and Subtraction Within 20:** Add and subtract numbers within 20, Use strategies such as: counting on, making ten, using a number line or fingers for assistance



GRADE 1

Reading & Literacy

- **Phonemic Awareness and Phonics:** Identify and produce rhyme. Blend, segment, and substitute phonemes to make new words.
- **High-Frequency Words:** Learn to recognize sight words like “day”, and “around” quickly.
- **Vocabulary & Comprehension:** Expand vocabulary through contexts. Answer questions about texts, retell stories, describe characters and events, understand the sequence of stories.
- **Writing:** Write informative pieces about a topic by giving facts and details which includes a closing sentence.



Marking Period 2

6

Mathematics

- **Addition & Subtraction:** Continue developing addition and subtraction skills within 20; Solve word problems using addition and subtraction; Use strategies such as: counting on and making ten.
- **Place Value Concepts:** Deepen understanding of place value; Recognize that: the first digit in a two-digit number represents tens and the second digit represents ones.
- **Comparing Numbers:** Compare two-digit numbers; Use symbols to compare numbers: greater than ($>$), less than ($<$), equal to ($=$).
- **Adding and Subtracting Multiples of 10:** Practice adding and subtracting multiples of 10 (10, 20, 30); Understand how adding or subtracting 10 affects a number.

Science

- **Sun and Earth:** Learn how sunlight warms land, air, and water.
- **Properties of Matter:** Describe solids, liquids, and gases.
- **States of Matter:** Explore differences between solids, liquids, and gases.
- **Changes in Matter:** See how heating and cooling change materials.
- **Earth's Surface:** Identify landforms like hills, mountains, and valleys.
- **Oceans and Fresh Water:** Locate oceans and fresh water and understand their properties.

Reading & Literacy

- **Phonemic Awareness and Phonics:** Recognize and play with sounds in words such as rhymes and syllables. Identify, blend, and write different letter sounds focusing on long vowels and digraphs.
- **High-Frequency Words:** Learn to recognize sight words like “because”, and “caught” quickly.
- **Vocabulary & Comprehension:** Learn new words and their meanings in various contexts. Compare and contrast stories and understand their sequences.
- **Writing:** Write narrative stories and learn to tell about events in order, use details to describe what happened, and finish with a closing sentence.

Social Studies

- **Telling Time:** Learn to tell time on digital and analog clocks.
- **Primary Sources:** Understand what primary sources are and how they help us learn about the past.
- **Scarcity and Choices:** Discover the concept of scarcity and how it influences the choices of producers and consumers.
- **Money and Trade:** Explore how money is used to buy, sell, and trade goods and services.
- **Citizenship Responsibilities:** Learn how citizens are accountable for their actions and their role in the community.

Mathematics

- **Place Value and Addition/Subtraction:**
 - Understand place value to add and subtract two-digit numbers.
 - Add numbers within 100
 - Two-digit numbers with one-digit numbers.
 - Multiples of 10.
 - Subtract multiples of 10.
- **Measurement**
 - Compare lengths of different objects.
 - Measure objects using standard units like inches and centimeters.



GRADE 1

Reading & Literacy

- **Phonemic Awareness and Phonics:** Recognize and play with sounds in words such as rhymes and syllables. Identify, blend, and write different letter sounds focusing on r-controlled and diphthongs.
- **High-Frequency Words:** Learn to recognize sight words like “question”, and “tomorrow” quickly.
- **Vocabulary & Comprehension:** Learn new words and their meanings in various contexts. Make connections between stories and understand their sequences and main ideas.
- **Writing:** Write to explain a topic, provide facts and details, and include a concluding sentence.



Marking Period 4

8

Mathematics

- **Advanced Addition and Subtraction:**
 - Solve complex addition and subtraction problems within 100.
 - Use place value strategies to add and subtract numbers.
- **Basic Geometry**
 - Recognize and draw different shapes.
 - Understand the attributes of shapes, such as sides and corners.
- **Measurement and Data**
 - Tell time to the hour and half-hour on analog clocks.
 - Interpret simple graphs to understand data.

Science

- **Habitats:** Learn what habitats are and how they support living things.
- **Forests and Grasslands:** Explore what plants and animals live in forests and grasslands.
- **Water Habitats:** Discover which creatures live in water habitats like ponds and oceans.
- **Hot and Cold Deserts:** Find out how plants and animals survive in hot and cold deserts.
- **Plants and Animal Needs:** Understand what plants and animals need to live and grow.
- **Interactions in Environments:** Learn how living things interact with their environment to meet their needs .

Reading & Literacy

- **Phonics:** Recognize and spell words with consonant digraphs, silent letters, vowel diphthongs, inflectional endings, and compound words.
- **Vocabulary & Comprehension:** Learn new words and their meanings in various contexts including synonyms and antonyms, homophones, homographs, and base words and endings. Identify the problem, solution, main idea, and details and summarize a text.
- **Writing:** Write narrative, opinion, and informative pieces with supporting details.

Social Studies

- **Personal Accountability:** Learn to be responsible for your actions.
- **Rules and Laws:** Understand the difference between rules and laws.
- **Human Impact:** Explore how activities affect the environment positively and negatively.
- **Cultural Development:** Compare how different cultures develop uniquely.
- **Using Maps:** Use maps to describe places and create one with a title, key, and compass rose.

Mathematics

- **Addition and Subtraction:**
 - Practice addition and subtraction within 20.
- **Place Value:**
 - Learn about place value and how it helps us understand numbers.
- **Word Problems:**
 - Solve simple word problems using addition and subtraction.
- **Geometry: Shapes**
 - Identify and compare shapes like triangles, quadrilaterals, and pentagons.
 - Focus on the number of sides and vertices (corners) for each shape.



Reading & Literacy

- **Phonics:** Recognize and spell words with consonant digraphs, silent letters, vowel diphthongs, inflectional endings, and compound words.
- **Vocabulary & Comprehension:** Learn new words and their meanings in various contexts including synonyms and antonyms, homophones, homographs, and base words and endings. Identify the problem, solution, main idea, and details and summarize a text.
- **Writing:** Write narrative, opinion, and informative pieces with supporting details.



Mathematics

- **Word Problems:**
 - Solve "result unknown" word problems; Solve "change unknown" word problems; Solve "start unknown" word problems; Solve two-step word problems.
- **Subtraction Strategies:**
 - Subtract two-digit numbers using:
 - Physical tools, Hundred charts, Drawings, Number lines
 - Decompose subtrahends and count back to subtract.
 - Use strategies like counting back or up by decomposing subtrahends.
 - Adjust numbers for subtraction to simplify calculations.
 - Estimate sums and differences for two-digit numbers.
- **Understanding Strategies:**
 - Explain why addition and subtraction strategies work.

Science

- **Weather Patterns:** Types of weather and seasonal changes.
- **Day and Night Cycle:** Earth's rotation causing day and night.
- **Living and Nonliving Things:** Traits of living and nonliving things.
- **Plant Growth:** What plants need to grow and their changes.
- **Animal Habitats:** Where animals live and how habitats help them.
- **Earth's Resources:** Natural resources like water, soil, and rocks.

Reading & Literacy

- **Phonics:** Recognize and spell words with more complex vowel teams, irregular verbs, decode multisyllabic words.
- **Vocabulary & Comprehension:** Use context clues, and understand idioms, prefixes and suffixes, and word relationships. Summarize a text, identify the main idea, and analyze characters.
- **Writing:** Write narrative, opinion, and informative pieces.

Social Studies

- **Time Analysis:** Learn to analyze time using a calendar or timeline.
- **Historical Evidence:** Identify how artifacts, maps, and images show changes over time.
- **Biographies:** Identify and study a famous person's biography.
- **Resources and Work:** Describe resources, their uses, and how people work to make goods or provide services.

Mathematics

- **Addition and Subtraction:**
 - Solve two-step word problems using addition and subtraction within 100.
 - Practice adding and subtracting three-digit numbers using place value strategies.
- **Measurement:**
 - Measure lengths using standard units such as inches and centimeters.
 - Compare the lengths of different objects.
- **Geometry: Shapes:**
 - Recognize and identify various shapes like triangles, quadrilaterals, and hexagons.



Reading & Literacy

- **Phonics:** Review of phonics patterns, advanced decoding and fluency practice.
- **Vocabulary & Comprehension:** Analyze story elements, summarize, draw conclusions, identify themes, and compare texts. Determine meaning using contextual evidence, use figurative language, idioms and expressions.
- **Writing:** Write narrative, opinion, and informative pieces.



Mathematics

- **Addition and Subtraction:**
 - Master addition and subtraction within 1,000.
 - Use strategies based on place value and properties of operations.
- **Measurement:**
 - Understand and use measurements of length, time, and money.
 - Solve problems involving time to the nearest five minutes.
 - Calculate the values of coins and bills.
- **Data Interpretation:**
 - Interpret and create data representations like bar graphs and picture graphs.
- **Geometry:**
 - Recognize and partition shapes into equal parts.
 - Explore geometry concepts with a focus on fractions.

Science

- **Habitats and Ecosystems:** Different habitats and how animals and plants interact within them.
- **Life Cycles:** Stages of life for plants and animals.
- **Forces and Motion:** Basic concepts of pushing and pulling.
- **Earth's Surface:** Landforms and how they change over time.
- **Simple Machines:** Understanding how tools like levers and pulleys help us do work.
- **Recycling and Conservation:** Importance of recycling and conserving resources to protect our environment.

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Work on figuring out the meanings of words and phrases in the story's context, distinguishing between literal and non-literal language.
- **Comprehension:** Ask and answer questions, describe characters, and discuss different points of view in stories.
- **Writing:** scholars learn to write stories about their own experiences. They focus on creating a clear sequence of events, using descriptive details, and including their thoughts and feelings. scholars work on writing informative essays. They learn to introduce a topic, group related information together, and provide facts and details to explain the topic clearly.

Social Studies

- **Rights and Responsibilities:** Understand the rights and responsibilities of community members.
- **Community Improvement:** Learn how individuals can contribute to making their community a better place.
- **Problem Solving:** Discover ways to solve community problems that benefit all members.
- **Local History:** Place significant local historical events on a timeline, organizing them by years, decades, and centuries.

Mathematics

- **Multiplication and Division:**
 - Solve real-world problems by using multiplication and division.
 - Represent problems using objects and drawings.
 - Beginning to multiply numbers with more than one digit (e.g., multiplying 9×80).

Science

- **What is Science?:** Learning about science and how scientists work.
- **Scientific Inquiry:** Conducting safe experiments and using tools to gather data.
- **Critical Thinking:** Developing descriptions, models, and predictions.
- **Communication:** Sharing scientific procedures and findings.
- **Real-World Applications:** Using science to solve everyday problems.
- **Technology's Impact:** Exploring how technology affects our lives and designing tech solutions.

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Expand vocabulary through learning prefixes and suffixes and using synonyms and antonyms.
- **Comprehension:** Continue developing the ability to ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of texts. Focus on the main idea of informational text and supporting it with key details.
- **Writing:** Write detailed descriptive essays, focusing on using descriptive language to convey a clear picture. Begin writing persuasive essays, learning to state opinions and support them with reasons and evidence.

Social Studies

- **Map Skills:** Explain and describe the features of physical and political maps.
- **Reading Maps:** Use the title, key, alphanumeric grid, and cardinal directions to find locations on a map.
- **Community Influences:** Identify how agriculture, industry, and natural resources shape daily life in various communities.
- **Historical Evidence:** Use photographs and artifacts to describe daily life in different times and places.

Mathematics

- **Multiplication and Division**
- **Fractions:**
 - Understanding fractions and relating them to the familiar system of whole numbers (e.g., recognizing that $\frac{3}{1}$ and 3 are the same number).

Science

- **Plant Growth:** How plants grow and change.
- **Inherited Traits:** Traits passed from parents to offspring.
- **Learned Traits:** Traits learned from the environment.
- **Survival Features:** Features that help plants and animals survive.
- **Life Cycles:** Stages of life for plants and animals.
- **Adaptations:** How organisms adapt to their environments.

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Expand vocabulary by learning prefixes and suffixes and using context clues to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.
- **Comprehension:** Learn to read between the lines and make educated guesses based on the text and their own experiences. Recognize different perspectives in the text, whether it's first-person or third-person narration.
- **Writing:** Write essays that state their opinions and support them with reasons and evidence. This includes drafting, revising, and editing their essays. Write research reports. Practice gathering information, organizing it, and presenting it clearly.

Social Studies

- **Community Change:** Analyze, organize, and present information to illustrate how the local community has changed over time.
- **Comparative Analysis:** Compare different products and practices from various groups within a community.
- **Movement and Communication:** Describe how people, products, and ideas move from one place to another through transportation and communication.

Mathematics

- **Multiplication and Division**
- **Fractions**
- **Measurement:**
 - Measuring and estimating weights and liquid volumes, and solving word problems involving these quantities.

Science

- **Earth's Resources:** Learning about soil, rocks, and nonliving resources.
- **Renewable vs. Nonrenewable:** Understanding renewable and nonrenewable energy sources.
- **Properties of Matter:** Exploring how matter takes up space and has mass.
- **States of Matter:** Identifying solids, liquids, and gases.
- **Energy Forms:** Discovering different forms of energy like heat, light, and sound.
- **Matter Changes:** Learning how matter changes states through heating and cooling .

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Expand vocabulary through understanding and using suffixes and prefixes, and using context clues to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.
- **Comprehension:** Identify cause and effect relationships in texts, helping them understand how events are connected. Create mental images based on descriptive language in the text to enhance comprehension.
- **Writing:** Write opinion essays, where they state their opinions clearly and support them with reasons and evidence. Write expository essays, which involve explaining a topic using facts, definitions, and details. This includes organizing information logically and using transition words.

Social Studies

- **Resource Choices:** Explain how people make choices about spending their limited resources (time and money) and describe the costs or trade-offs of those decisions.
- **Budgeting:** Create a simple budget.
- **Government Authority:** Understand that governments have the power to make and enforce laws.
- **Local Government:** Describe the structure and functions of the local government.

Mathematics

- **Multiplication and Division**
- **Fractions**
- **Measurement**
- **Geometry:**
 - Reasoning about shapes (e.g., all squares are rectangles but not all rectangles are squares).
 - Finding areas of shapes, and relating area to multiplication (e.g., why is the number of square feet for a 9-foot by 7-foot room given by the product 9×7 ?).

Science

- **Physical Features:** How the features of plants and animals help them survive in different environments.
- **Life Cycles:** Exploring the growth, reproduction, and decay of organisms.
- **Energy Forms:** Learning about different forms of energy, such as heat, light, and sound.
- **Energy Changes:** Understanding how energy can cause motion or create change.
- **Environmental Traits:** Discovering how inherited and learned traits affect survival.
- **Adaptations:** Studying how organisms adapt to their surroundings for better survival .

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Explore synonyms and antonyms, learn new words and use them in a sentence. Figure out meanings of unknown words by looking at the words and sentences around them. Recognize and use common prefixes and suffixes to understand and form new words.
- **Comprehension:** Understand the main point of what is read, practice finding details that support the main idea. Make inferences and retell important parts of a story.
- **Writing:** Write personal narratives about their own experiences, focusing on the sequence of events and using descriptive details.

Social Studies

- **Significant Events:** Describe significant events in Ohio and U.S. history.
- **Historical Timelines:** Organize a timeline to understand historical sequences and cause-and-effect relationships.
- **Historical Evidence:** Explore primary and secondary sources to create historical narratives, gaining skills in analyzing different types of historical records.
- **Colonial Life and Revolution:** Describe and explain colonial life, the causes of the American Revolution, and the impact of the Northwest Ordinance.

Mathematics

- **Word Problems:**
 - Using whole-number arithmetic to solve word problems, including problems with remainders and problems with measurements.
- **Addition and Subtraction:**
 - Adding and subtracting whole numbers quickly and accurately up to 1 million.

Science

- **What is Science?:** Learning what questions scientists ask and how they find answers.
- **Using Tools:** Understanding how to use scientific tools safely.
- **Scientific Method:** Exploring steps like observing and forming hypotheses.
- **Drawing Conclusions:** Analyzing data to make conclusions.
- **Earth's Resources:** Learning about landforms and how they change.
- **Weathering and Erosion:** Understanding how water, wind, and ice shape the Earth.

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Continue practice with synonyms and antonyms, Understand words can have more than one meaning. Learn about homophones and their meanings.
- **Comprehension:** Compare and contrast characters, settings, and events in a story. Recognize the sequence of events. Describe characters' traits, motivations and feelings. Identify the reasons something happens (cause and effect).
- **Writing:** Write own opinions about a topic and support with reasons and examples. Write informative pieces that include facts, definitions, and details about a specific topic.

Social Studies

- **Government Framework:** Describe how the U.S. Constitution established a government to meet the needs of the new nation while also having limited powers.
- **Citizens' Rights:** Describe how the U.S. Constitution established protections for citizens' rights.
- **Rights and Responsibilities:** Explain how citizens have rights owed to them and responsibilities that they must perform.
- **Civic Participation:** Identify the ways citizens participate in the Ohio and U.S. governments.

Mathematics

- **Multiplication and Division:**
 - Multiplying and dividing multi-digit numbers in simple cases (e.g., multiplying $1,638 \times 7$ or 24×17 , and dividing 6,996 by 6).
- **Fractions:**
 - Understanding and applying equivalent fractions (e.g., recognizing that $\frac{1}{4}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$ because $\frac{2}{8}$ is less than $\frac{3}{8}$).
 - Adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions in simple cases (such as $2 \frac{3}{4} - 1 \frac{3}{4}$ or $3 \times \frac{5}{8}$), and solving related word problems.

Science

- **Energy Forms:** Understanding different forms of energy like heat, light, and sound.
- **Energy Transfer:** Learning how energy moves from one place to another.
- **Electric Circuits:** Exploring how electric circuits work to transfer energy.
- **Heat Transfer:** Discovering how heat flows from hot objects to cold ones.
- **Renewable vs. Nonrenewable Resources:** Identifying types of energy resources and their uses.
- **Matter Changes:** Understanding how matter changes state through heating and cooling.

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Explore figurative language (similes & metaphors). Learn common idioms and proverbs. Continue practice with prefixes and suffixes.
- **Comprehension:** Identify the narrator's or characters point of view and the theme or message of a story. Explore nonfiction text features and summarize nonfiction.
- **Writing:** Conduct a research project, gather information from various sources and organize to write a report. Continue development of narrative writing skills. Explore poetry, using rhyme, rhythm, and descriptive language.

Social Studies

- **Western Frontier:** Describe Ohio during the time when it was the "western frontier."
- **War of 1812:** Describe the causes and effects of the War of 1812.
- **Sectional Issues:** Explain the sectional issues that arose after the War of 1812.
- **Regionalism:** Describe regionalism in the North, South, and West.
- **Underground Railroad:** Explain Ohio's role in the Underground Railroad.

Mathematics

- **Decimals:**
 - Understanding simple decimals in terms of fractions (e.g., rewriting 0.62 as 62/100).
- **Measurement:**
 - Measuring angles and finding unknown angles in a diagram.

Science

- **Energy Forms:** Learning about different forms of energy like heat, light, and sound.
- **Energy Transfer:** Understanding how energy moves from one place to another.
- **Electric Circuits:** Exploring how electric circuits work and transfer energy.
- **Heat Transfer:** Discovering how heat flows from hot objects to cold ones.
- **Renewable vs. Nonrenewable Resources:** Identifying types of energy resources and their uses.
- **Matter Changes:** Learning how matter changes state through heating and cooling .

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Explore common greek and latin roots to help decode and understand meanings of unfamiliar words. Review and apply previously learned strategies independently to determine meanings of words.
- **Comprehension:** Identify and analyze different text structures. Evaluate the arguments and specific claims in a text.
- **Writing:** Practice writing persuasive essays that include clear reasons and evidence to support their arguments. Focus on developing a unique writing voice that reflects personality and enhances writing style.

Social Studies

- **Environmental Modification:** Provide examples of how humans modify the environment.
- **Human Impact:** Describe the positive and negative effects of modifying the environment.
- **Population Changes:** Describe Ohio's changing population, including our diverse cultures.
- **Transportation Changes:** Provide examples of changes in transportation in Ohio.

Mathematics

- **Decimals:**
 - Learning to read, write, and compare decimals.
- **Measurement and Angles:**
 - Identifying and classifying angles (acute, right, obtuse).
 - Solving problems that involve finding unknown angles.
- **Symmetry:**
 - Identifying lines of symmetry in two-dimensional shapes.
 - Understanding and creating symmetrical figures.

Science

- **Forms of Energy:** Learning about different types of energy like kinetic and potential.
- **Energy Transfer:** Understanding how energy moves from one object to another.
- **Heat:** Discovering how heat flows from hot to cold objects.
- **Electric Circuits:** Exploring how electric circuits work and transform energy.
- **Light and Sound:** Understanding how light and sound are forms of energy that travel in waves.
- **Energy and Matter:** Learning how energy can change the state of matter through heating and cooling .

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Explore word roots which help them to understand how words are formed and their meanings. Practice using context clues to figure out meanings of unfamiliar words.
- **Comprehension:** Make and confirm predictions, identify the main point of a text. Explore author's craft and purpose. Learn about how different texts are organized and how various features help convey information.
- **Writing:** Write an expository essay and research report using the 5 step writing process.

Social Studies

- **Geographic Tools:** Use globes and other tools to gather, process, and report information about people, places, and environments.
- **Map Creation:** Explain how cartographers decide which information to include in maps.
- **Latitude and Longitude:** Utilize latitude and longitude to observe locations and make generalizations about climate.
- **Productive Resources:** Describe how the availability of productive resources and the division of labor can impact productive capacity positively or negatively.

Mathematics

- **Addition and Subtraction:**
 - Adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators (e.g., $2 \frac{1}{4} - 1 \frac{1}{3}$), and solving word problems of this kind.

Science

- **Matter:** Explore what matter is, its forms, and properties.
- **Ecosystems:** Learn about ecosystems and energy flow.
- **Earth's Surface:** Study how natural forces shape the Earth.
- **Solar Systems:** Investigate the solar system and Earth-moon-sun relationships.
- **Engineering Design:** Solve problems using the engineering design process.
- **Human Impact:** Understand how humans affect the environment and ways to reduce harm.

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Focus on prefixes and latin roots which help scholars understand the structure and meaning of new words.
- **Comprehension:** Practice identifying the main idea, make and confirm predictions and explore author's craft and purpose. Learn about how texts are organized and the importance of text features.
- **Writing:** Write a research report, gathering information from multiple sources, organizing into an informational text following the writing process.

Social Studies

- **Civilization Comparison:** Compare the Maya, Inca, Aztec, and Mississippian civilizations before European arrival.
- **Key Aspects:** Describe their unique governments, social structures, religions, technologies, and agricultural practices.

Mathematics

- **Fractions and Multiplication:**
 - Multiplying fractions; dividing fractions in simple cases; and solving related word problems (e.g., finding the area of a rectangle with fractional side lengths; determining how many $\frac{1}{3}$ cup servings are in 2 cups of raisins; determining the size of a share if 9 people share a 50-pound sack of rice equally or if 3 people share $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of chocolate equally).
 - Generalizing the place-value system to include decimals, and calculating with decimals, and calculating with decimals to the hundredths place (two places after the decimal).

Science

- **Forces and Motion:** How pushes and pulls affect movement.
- **Speed and Velocity:** Understanding and measuring speed.
- **Acceleration:** How objects speed up or slow down.
- **Balanced and Unbalanced Forces:** Forces that keep objects still or moving.
- **Gravity:** The force that pulls objects together.
- **Friction:** The force that slows down moving objects.

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Focus on prefixes and latin roots which help scholars understand the structure and meaning of new words. Practice using context clues to determine meanings of unfamiliar words.
- **Comprehension:** Practice identifying the main idea, make and confirm predictions and explore author's craft and purpose. Learn about how texts are organized and the importance of text features.
- **Writing:** Write a research report, gathering information from multiple sources, and organizing into an informational text following the writing process

Social Studies

- **Modern Central and South America:** Describe what Central and South America look like today.
- **North American Tribes:** Explain the diverse customs, traditions, and histories of North American tribes, both past and present.
- **Economic Interdependence:** Explain how regions and countries become interdependent through specialization and trade, increasing the variety of goods and services available.

Mathematics

- **Multiplication and Division:**
 - Multiplying whole numbers quickly and accurately, for example $1,638 \times 753$, and dividing whole numbers in simple cases, such as dividing 6,971 by 63.

Science

- **Light Energy:** Understand how light travels and interacts with objects.
- **Sound Energy:** Learn how sound is produced and how it travels.
- **Reflection and Refraction:** Explore how light bends and bounces off surfaces.
- **Properties of Light:** Study colors in light and how they are seen.
- **Energy Conversion:** Discover how energy changes from one form to another.
- **Earth's Materials:** Investigate rocks, minerals, and soil types.

Reading & Literacy

- **Vocabulary:** Focus on prefixes and Latin roots which help scholars understand the structure and meaning of new words. Practice using context clues to determine meanings of unfamiliar words.
- **Comprehension:** Practice identifying the main idea, make and confirm predictions and explore author's craft and purpose. Learn about how texts are organized and the importance of text features.
- **Writing:** Write a research report, gathering information from multiple sources, and organizing into an informational text following the writing process

Social Studies

- **Impact of European Exploration:** Describe how European exploration and colonization during the 1400s-1600s had lasting effects on the Western Hemisphere.
- **Regions of the U.S. and Canada:** Identify and describe the regions of the United States and Canada today.

Mathematics

- Measurement and Geometry:
 - Understanding the concept of volume, and solving word problems that involve volume.
 - Graphing points in the coordinate plane (two dimensions) to solve problems.
 - Analyzing mathematical patterns and relationships.

Science

At this point in the year, scholars will have completed their first State of Ohio Test in Science. The remainder of the year will focus in interactive activities focusing on:

- Scientific Inquiry
- Leadership Skills



In Language Arts 6, scholars' instruction will center around 8 standards. These include:

1. Use quotes from the text to show what it says directly and to support predictions about what it means.
2. Study how a text is written. Find the main idea of the text and see how it is shown through specific details.
3. Learn what makes up a story's plot (beginning, build-up, peak, winding down, and ending). Explain how the plot grows through important events and what happens to the characters.
4. Figure out what words and phrases mean when used in a text.
5. Explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.
6. Follow and check the argument and claims in a text. See which claims have evidence to support them.
7. Write arguments to support ideas with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
8. Write informative essays that explain a topic by selecting, organizing, and studying key details.

Semester 1

- Learn how to read and understand text.
- Identify the main idea or theme of a text.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as used in the text.
- Follow and review arguments and claims within texts.
- Assess which arguments are supported by evidence
- Practice writing clear arguments.
- Provide reasons and evidence to support ideas.

Semester 2

- Understand the writer's perspective, reason, and point of view.
- Study how writers argue their points.
- Identify and evaluate the reliability and relevance of the evidence used.
- Explore the writer's perspective, reasoning, and point of view.
- Trace how the plot develops through key events and character changes.
- Utilize textual evidence to identify the main idea or theme.
- Understand the author's purpose in writing the text.
- Practice writing texts that examine topics.

In Mathematics 6, scholars instruction focuses around five big ideas. These include:

1. Scholars linking ratios and rates to simple multiplication and division problems.
2. Complete understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers (which includes negative numbers).
3. Writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations.
4. Developing understanding of statistical problem solving.
5. Solving problems involving area, surface area, and volume.

Semester 1

Big Idea 1: Understanding Fractions and the Number System

- Learn the connection between fractions, multiplication, and division.
- Understand how to divide fractions.
- Expand knowledge to include all numbers, including negative numbers.
- Learn about the order and absolute value of rational numbers.
- Identify points in all four quadrants of the coordinate plane.

Big Idea 2: Solving Problems with Ratios and Rates

- Use multiplication and division to solve problems with ratios and rates.
- Analyze patterns in tables and drawings to see relationships between amounts.
- Connect multiplication, division, ratios, and fractions.
- Work on various problems involving ratios and rates to deepen understanding.

Semester 2

Algebra: Variables and Equations

- Learn about variables and their uses in math.
- Write and solve simple one-step equations.
- Recognize and work with equivalent expressions.
- Analyze tables of equivalent ratios.
- Use equations to describe relationships between quantities.

Statistics: Understanding Data

- Develop statistical thinking.
- Understand data distribution.
- Learn about measures of center, including mean and median.
- Explore measures of variability, like range and interquartile range.

Geometry: Exploring Shapes

- Find the areas of triangles and quadrilaterals.
- Develop and apply formulas for area calculation.
- Determine surface areas and volumes of various shapes.
- Draw polygons on a coordinate plane.
- Goal:
- Strengthen math foundation for future learning in 7th grade.

THEME: UNDERSTANDING LIVING AND NONLIVING SYSTEMS

scholars explore the natural world by studying living things, matter, energy, and Earth's systems. They investigate cells as the building blocks of life and learn about the properties and behaviors of matter. The curriculum covers energy transfer, electricity, and waves, helping scholars understand how energy moves and changes form.

Additionally, scholars examine Earth's systems, including minerals, rocks, and soil, and how these materials are used in everyday life. The program also highlights the importance of scientific inquiry, safety, and the impact of human activities on the environment. Through these topics, scholars gain a comprehensive understanding of the interconnectedness of natural systems and the significance of science in their daily lives.

Semester 1

The main focus is understanding the structure and function of living things, the properties and interactions of matter, energy transfer and conservation, electricity and waves, scientific inquiry and safety, and environmental interactions and ecosystems.

- Scientific Inquiry and Safety
- The Structure and Function of Living Things
- Environmental Interactions and Ecosystems
- The Properties of Matter, Atomic and Molecular Structures
- How Matter Interacts and Changes States
- Energy Transfer and Conversation
- Electricity and Waves

Semester 2

The main focus is on understanding Earth's systems, including the properties and formation of minerals, rocks, and soil, as well as their practical uses .

- Minerals and Their Properties
- Rock Formation and Classification
- Soil Composition and Formation
- Uses of Rocks, Minerals, Soila
- Energy Transfer in Earth's Systems
- Human Impact on Earth's Systems

WORLD REGIONS 6

THEME: REGIONS AND PEOPLE OF THE EASTERN HEMISPHERE. scholars study the Eastern Hemisphere (Africa, Asia, Australia and Europe), its geographic features, early history, cultural development and economic change. scholars learn about the development of river civilizations in Africa and Asia, including their governments, cultures and economic systems. The geographic focus includes the study of contemporary regional characteristics, the movement of people, products and ideas, and cultural diversity. scholars develop their understanding of the role of consumers and the interaction of markets, resources and competition.

Semester 1

Scholars will develop understandings around:

- Physical geography.
- Using geographic information.
- Latitude and longitude.
- Looking at the world through regions.
- Classifications such as landforms, climate, population, and cultural or economic criteria.
- How humans shape and interact with the environment.
- Political, environmental, social, and economic factors that cause people, products, and ideas to move from place to place in the Eastern Hemisphere in the past and today.
- The choices made by individuals and governments have both present and future consequences. The evaluation of choices is relative and may differ across individuals and societies.

Semester 2

Semester 2 is the application of physical and human geography around regions of the Eastern Hemisphere. Scholars will look at the early civilizations found in these regions and how these regions look today. Regions include the following:

- North Africa and Ancient Egypt.
- The Middle East.
- Ancient India/South Asia.
- Southeast Asia and China.
- Introduction to European geography.
- The impact on culture of the major world religions in each region.
- The diffusion of agricultural practices and products, technology, cultural practices, and major world religions.

In Language Arts 7, scholars' instruction will center around 9 focus standards. These include:

1. Use quotes to support ideas about what the author directly states and what a scholar can figure out from reading between the lines.
2. Learn how different pieces of a text fit together. Analyze the interaction between individuals, events, and ideas.
3. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text and analyze the impact of a word choice.
4. Study how an author arranges a text, including how each part adds to the whole text and develops the main ideas.
5. Figure out why an author wrote something and see how they show their viewpoint is different from what other people think.
6. See how two or more authors writing about the same topic use different facts or ideas to explain their points.
7. Write arguments to support ideas with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
8. Write informative essays that explain a topic by selecting, organizing, and studying key details.
9. Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

Semester 1

- Scholars will focus on what the author directly says and what can be inferred.
- Use quotes to support direct statements and inferences about the author's meaning.
- Examine how different parts of a story or text fit together.
- Analyze interactions among characters, events, and ideas.
- Determine the meaning of words in context.
- Analyze how word choice affects the overall meaning.
- Craft arguments with clear reasons and supporting evidence.

Semester 2

- Scholars will understand how different parts of a story or information texts fit together and how characters, events, and ideas interact.
- Examine interactions among characters, events, and ideas.
- Analyze how authors organize their writing to develop the main ideas.
- Compare how different authors present facts and ideas on the same topic.
- Choose and organize important details.
- Study and incorporate key information effectively.

In Mathematics 7, your scholar's learning will focus around 5 big ideas. These big ideas include:

1. Developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships.
2. Developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations.
3. Solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, angles, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area and volume.
4. Drawing inferences about populations based on samples.
5. Investigating chance.

Semester 1

- **Big Ideas 1 and 2**
- **Rational Numbers:**
 - Understand fractions, decimals, and percents
 - Extend arithmetic (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) to all rational numbers, including negatives
 - Create and solve one-variable equations
- **Later in the Semester:**
 - Ratios and Proportionality
 - Solve problems involving percentages, discounts, and taxes
 - Work with scale drawings
 - Graph proportional relationships and understand slope

Semester 2

- **Big Ideas 3, 4, 5**
- **Geometry and Shapes:**
 - Solve problems with circles and 3D shapes
 - Understand angles
 - Work with triangles, quadrilaterals, and cubes
- **Probability and Statistics:**
 - Emphasize statistical problem-solving
 - Explore probability concepts, sampling, and representative data
 - Use diagrams and simulations for compound events
 - Compare experimental results to predictions

INTEGRATED SCIENCE 7

THEME: EXPLORING SYSTEMS IN EARTH, LIFE, AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE

In grade seven, scholars build on their knowledge of natural systems by diving deeper into Earth science, life science, and physical science. They study the water cycle, focusing on how water changes state as it moves through different spheres (lithosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere). This helps them understand weather patterns, climate, and the formation of currents that affect global climates.

Semester 1

- In the first semester, all 7th-grade scholars will engage in a research project that follows the scientific inquiry process. They will choose between Scientific Inquiry, Engineering Design, or Meta-Analysis. This project involves setting up a digital logbook, conducting research, and preparing a research plan. Once approved, scholars will conduct their experiments, document their findings, and prepare a presentation. scholars have the option to enter their projects in the science fair held in January.
- Introduction to Space Systems Exploration

Semester 2

- Weather and Climate Systems
- Space Systems Exploration
- Ecosystems and Interactions
- Energy and Matter Cycles
- Natural Selection and Biodiversity



THEME: WORLD STUDIES FROM 750 B.C. TO 1600 A.D.: ANCIENT GREECE TO THE FIRST GLOBAL AGE. The seventh grade year is an integrated study of world history, beginning with ancient Greece and continuing through global exploration. All four social studies strands are used to illustrate how historic events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic and political factors. scholars develop their understanding of how ideas and events from the past have shaped the world today.

Semester 1

7th Grade social studies is the first true “history” class for APS scholars. The first semester starts with the foundations of Western civilization. scholars study the following:

- The rise and zenith of Greek civilization, including cultural, philosophical, scientific, political, and economic foundations that will become the basis of Western civilization.
- Ancient Rome, including the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire.
- The rise of Christianity and the impact Christianity had on the fall of the Roman Empire and the rise of Western Christian kingdoms and the Byzantine Empire.
- The Middle Ages, including feudalism.
- The rise of the Islamic Empire.

Semester 2

The second semester mostly focuses on the Eastern Empire during and after the Middle Ages in Europe. It includes the following:

- China in the Middle Ages.
- Korea and feudal Japan in the Middle Ages.
- African civilizations of West and Central Africa.
- The Renaissance.
- The Reformation.
- The Age of Exploration and Colonization.

In Language Arts 8, scholars' instruction will center around 7 focus standards. These include:

1. Use quotes from the text to support an analysis of what the text clearly states and the conclusions that can be drawn from it.
2. Identify the main idea of a story, see how it develops with the characters, setting, and plot, and summarize the story objectively.
3. Compare how two or more texts are organized and explain how their different structures affect their meaning and style.
4. Find out the author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how they deal with different opinions or evidence.
5. Outline and judge the argument and claims in a text. Check if the reasoning makes sense and if the evidence is relevant and enough. Notice when irrelevant evidence is used.
6. Write arguments to support ideas with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
7. Write a research report that explains a topic by selecting, organizing, and studying key details.

Semester 1

- Learn how to understand and analyze informational and literary texts.
- Determine if evidence within an argument is reliable and relevant.
- Recognize and analyze the basic elements of fiction, including setting, characters, plot, conflict, and theme.
- Present information in the correct order.
- Focus on big-picture concepts and ideas in a text.
- Adhere closely to the text.
- Craft arguments with clear reasons and supporting evidence.

Semester 2

- Explore different structures of a text.
- Continue to identify the stages of a plot.
- Analyze the text's theme or central idea.
- Examine how characters are developed both directly and indirectly.
- Discover the author's point of view or purpose in a text.
- Explain how the author handles different opinions or evidence.
- Compare the organization of two or more texts.
- Explain how different structures affect the meaning and style of the texts.
- Write a research report on a topic.

In Pre-Algebra 8, your scholars' instruction will focus instruction around these 4 big ideas.

1. Formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with linear equations, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations.
2. Grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships.
3. Analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean theorem.
4. Working with irrational numbers, integer exponents, and scientific notation.

Semester 1

Focus on Big Ideas 1 and 4:

- **Irrational Numbers:**
 - Learn and estimate irrational numbers
 - Work with exponents, square roots, and cube roots
 - Use scientific notation for very large and very small numbers
- **Linear Equations and Proportions:**
 - Solve problems using linear equations
 - Understand proportions and the slope of a line
 - Model data and assess fit, including slope and y-intercept
 - Solve simple linear equations and systems of two linear equations by graphing or checking

Semester 2

Focus on Big Ideas 2 and 3

- **Functions:**
 - Understand functions as rules giving one output per input
 - Practice converting between tables and graphs
 - See how different representations show parts of the function
- **Geometry:**
 - Study distance and angles in 2D figures
 - Understand changes in shapes (move, turn, flip, resize)
 - Show that triangle angles add up to a straight line
 - Explore similar triangles and angles formed by lines crossing parallel lines
 - Learn and apply the Pythagorean Theorem
 - Use the theorem for distances on a coordinate plane and to measure lengths
 - Solve problems involving the volume of cones, cylinders, and spheres

Grade 8 focuses on helping scholars use scientific inquiry to discover patterns, trends, structures and relationships that may be inferred from simple principles. These principles are related to the properties or interactions within and between systems. 8th grade covers the formation of the physical earth, topics on forces and motion and continuation of species.

Semester 1

- **Earth's Dynamic Systems:** Understanding geologic processes, tectonic plate movements, and their impact on Earth's surface.
- **Earthquakes:** Investigating causes, effects, measurement, and structural impacts.
- **Plate Tectonics:** Exploring plate movements and their effects on the lithosphere.
- **Volcanoes:** Studying formation, eruptions, and distribution.
- **Fossils and Earth's History:** Analyzing fossils to understand Earth's past and geological changes.
- **Resource Distribution and Geologic Time:** Examining Earth's resources and historical timeline.

Semester 2

- **Genes and Molecular Machines:** Exploring reproductive benefits for species survival.
- **Adaptation and Change Over Time:** Understanding species adaptation through inherited traits and genetics.
- **Human Influence on Biodiversity:** Examining human impacts on biodiversity through inheritance.
- **Forces, Velocity, and Acceleration:** Investigating how forces affect object motion.
- **Magnetic Forces:** Studying how magnets influence motion and magnetic fields.
- **Newton's Laws of Motion:** Applying Newton's Laws to understand changes in object motion .

THEME: U.S. STUDIES FROM 1492 TO 1877: EXPLORATION THROUGH RECONSTRUCTION. The historical focus continues in the eighth grade with the study of European exploration and the early years of the United States. This study incorporates all four social studies strands into a chronologic view of the development of the United States. scholars examine how historic events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic and political factors.

Semester 1

The first semester is dedicated to the formation of the United States of America. It includes (but is not limited to) the following:

- Pre-colonial North America.
- Colonization of North America.
- Colonial America among the French, Spanish, and English.
- Regions of the 13 Colonies.
- The causes of the American Revolution.
- The impact of the American Revolution.
- The challenges of a new government.
- The US Constitution and the Early Republic.

Semester 2

The second semester continues the American narrative starting in the early 1800s. It includes (but is not limited to) the following:

- Westward expansion through adding territories, treaties, and purchases.
- The differences between the Northern, Southern, and Western regions of the United States.
- The treatment of slavery and its direct cause of the US Civil War.
- The US Civil War.
- Reconstruction through 1877.

In Language Arts 9, scholars' instruction will center around 7 focus standards. These include:

1. Use clear evidence from the text to directly explain what it says and make smart guesses about deeper meanings.
2. Determine a text's main theme or central idea and explain how it develops with details from the text, then give a clear summary that includes the theme and important parts of the story.
3. Look at how complex characters change throughout a literary text, how they interact with others, and how they help move the plot forward or develop the theme.
4. Understand the meanings of words and phrases in the text, including figurative and technical meanings, and analyze how specific word choices affect the overall meaning and tone.
5. Look closely at how an author's ideas or claims are built and improved by specific sentences, paragraphs, or text sections.
6. Write arguments to support claims about important topics/texts, using good reasoning and enough relevant evidence.
7. Write informative texts to explain complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly by choosing, organizing, and analyzing the content effectively.

Semester 1

- Learn how to understand and analyze informational and literary texts.
- Use clear evidence to explain direct statements
- Make informed inferences about deeper meanings
- Summarize the theme/central idea and important parts of the text
- Learn the meanings of words and phrases, including figurative and technical meanings
- Analyze how word choices affect meaning and tone
- Write arguments with clear reasons and supporting evidence

Semester 2

- Continue to analyze literary and argumentative texts.
- Analyze how complex characters change and interact with others.
- Examine how characters contribute to the plot and theme development.
- Observe how an author builds and refines ideas and claims through specific sentences and sections.
- Assess how writers argue and use proof to support their ideas
- Evaluate the reliability and relevance of the evidence provided
- Explore the connections made between points.
- Write a research report on a topic.

In Algebra 1, mathematics instruction focuses around these 5 Big Ideas:

1. Relationships between Quantities and Reasoning with Equations
2. Linear and Exponential Relationships
3. Descriptive Statistics
4. Expressions and Equations
5. Quadratic Functions and Modeling

Scholars who are scheduled in Block A and B for Algebra 1 complete this course with the support of additional time for development of conceptual understanding through the use of performance tasks, manipulatives, graphing tools and center activities.

Semester 1

Big Ideas 1 and 2

- **Equations and Inequalities:**
 - Master solving equations
 - Understand linear equations and inequalities
- **Functions:**
 - Learn function notation and concepts (domain, range)
 - View functions as entities, not just processes
 - Compare linear and exponential functions
 - Explore arithmetic and geometric sequences
 - Study basic exponential equations in real-world contexts

Semester 2

Big Ideas 3, 4, and 5

- **Properties of Numbers:**
 - Study exponents and polynomials
 - **Learn to rewrite expressions for clarity**
- **Equations and Inequalities:**
 - Solve equations, inequalities, and systems involving exponential and quadratic expressions
- **Statistical Analysis:**
 - Apply techniques from the GAISE Model to real-world problems
 - Evaluate model accuracy and use regression to describe data relationships
 - Assess linear models using graphs and context
 - Prepare for advanced concepts in Algebra 2 or Mathematics 3, such as analyzing residuals

This is a college preparatory, lab-based science course for all scholars. Physical science introduces scholars to key concepts and theories that provide a foundation for further study in other sciences and advanced science disciplines. Physical science comprises the systematic study of the physical world as it relates to fundamental concepts about matter, energy and motion. A unified understanding of phenomena in physical, living, Earth and space systems is the culmination of all previously learned concepts related to chemistry, physics, and earth and space science, along with historical perspective and mathematical reasoning. Lab fee required.

Semester 1

- **Safety:** Understanding and implementing laboratory safety protocols to ensure a secure learning environment.
- **Matter:** Exploring the classification, properties, and states of matter, along with their changes and interactions.
- **Compounds & Reactions:** Investigating chemical bonding, compound formation, and various types of chemical reactions.
- **Earth Science:** Studying the Earth's structure, including minerals, rocks, and the processes shaping the planet's surface.
- **Force and Motion:** Analyzing the types of forces, their effects on objects, and how they influence motion and stability.
- **Energy:** Understanding different forms of energy, their transfer, transformation, and conservation in physical systems.

Semester 2

- **Force and Motion:** Displacement, velocity, acceleration, types of forces, and their impact on motion.
- **Dynamics:** Behavior of objects at rest, constant velocity, and acceleration.
- **Energy Transfer and Transformation:** Work, kinetic energy, potential energy.
- **Thermal Energy:** Heat transfer, specific heat, and effects on matter.
- **Waves:** Properties of waves, including refraction, reflection, diffraction, and the electromagnetic spectrum.
- **Electricity:** Electron movement, current, voltage, resistors, and energy transfer.

This course examines world events from 1600 to the present. It explores the impact of the democratic and industrial revolutions, the forces that led to world domination by European powers, the wars that changed empires, the ideas that led to independence movements and the effects of global interdependence. The concepts of historical thinking introduced in earlier grades continue to build with scholars locating and analyzing primary and secondary sources from multiple perspectives to draw conclusions.

In both semesters, scholars will learn and practice analyzing primary sources, develop skills related to determining if sources are reliable and credible, and forming their own conclusions around world events from the 19th and 20th century and their impact today.

Semester 1

- The Enlightenment Era and its impact on the political, economic, and social ideas during the 1700s.
- The impact the Enlightenment Era had on the revolutions of the United States, France, and Latin America.
- The causes and impact of European and American imperialism around the world.
- The causes and impact of World War I, including changes in technology, how countries wage war, and the global impact of 20th-century warfare.

Semester 2

- The impact of World War II, including significant changes in technology and the massive impact of the war.
- The causes and impact of the Holocaust.
- The causes and impact of the Cold War.
- The fall of the Soviet Union.
- International revolutions and modern international issues.

In Language Arts 10, scholars' instruction will center around 7 focus standards. These include:

1. Use clear evidence from the text to directly explain what it says and make smart guesses about deeper meanings.
2. Determine a text's main theme or central idea and explain how it develops using details from the text. Then, give a clear summary that includes the theme and important parts of the story.
3. Figure out the author's perspective or purpose in a text and analyze how the author uses language and persuasive techniques to support that point of view or purpose.
4. Understand the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words/phrases in a text, use various strategies like examining the context of the sentence or paragraph, as well as considering the word's position and function within the sentence.
5. Examine how an author organizes a story, arranges events (like having multiple storylines), and controls time (like speeding up or looking back) to create effects such as mystery, tension, or surprise.
6. Write arguments to support claims about important topics/texts, using good reasoning and enough relevant evidence.
7. Write informative texts to explain complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly by choosing, organizing, and analyzing the content effectively.

Semester 1

- Use clear evidence to explain the direct meaning of texts.
- Uncover and interpret deeper meanings of texts.
- Determine the main theme or central idea of a text.
- Explore why authors write and what they aim to convey.
- Analyze how authors use language and persuasive techniques to support their viewpoints.
- Write arguments to support claims about important topics or texts.
- Employ high-quality reasoning and relevant evidence within their argument.

Semester 2

- Examine how the author's perspective or purpose clarifies their viewpoint.
- Scrutinize the author's use of language and persuasive techniques to support their arguments.
- Develop proficiency in understanding unfamiliar words and phrases.
- Apply skills to enhance reading comprehension and critical thinking abilities.
- Write a research report that clarifies a topic.

In Geometry, the mathematics instruction is focused around these 6 Big Ideas:

1. Applications of Probability
2. Congruence, Proof and Constructions
3. Similarity, Proof, and Trigonometry
4. Connecting Algebra and Geometry through Coordinates
5. Circles with and without Coordinates
6. Extending to three Dimensions

Semester 1

Big Ideas 1 and 2

- **Probability:**
 - Build on grade 7 skills using set theory
 - Calculate probabilities for independent and conditional events
 - Apply probability concepts to real-world situations
- **Geometric Shapes and Proofs:**
 - Draw triangles based on given measurements
 - Explore translations, reflections, and rotations to understand congruence and symmetry
 - Learn criteria for triangle congruence and develop proofs for solving polygon problems
- **Preparation for Advanced Math:**
 - Lay the groundwork for more complex math concepts in future grades

Semester 2

Big Ideas 3, 4, 5, and 6

- **Similarity and Proof:**
 - Build on dilations and proportional reasoning
 - Understand triangle similarity criteria and use for proofs
 - Solve problems in right triangle trigonometry (special triangles, one side/angle given, Pythagorean Theorem)
- **Coordinate Geometry:**
 - Connect algebra and geometry through coordinates
 - Explore properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, and lines
- **Circles:**
 - Prove circle theorems (e.g., tangent lines, inscribed angle theorem)
 - Use distance formula for circle equations, quadratic equations, and intersections
- **Three-Dimensional Geometry:**
 - Learn about circumference, area, and volume formulas
 - Understand how changing dimensions affects shapes

This is a college preparatory and lab-based course for all scholars. This course investigates the composition, diversity, complexity and interconnectedness of life on Earth. Fundamental concepts of heredity and evolution provide a framework through inquiry-based instruction to explore the living world, the physical environment and the interactions within and between them. scholars engage in investigations to understand and explain the behavior of living things in a variety of scenarios that incorporate scientific reasoning, analysis, communication skills and real-world applications. Lab fee required.

Semester 1

- **Cells:** Structure and function of cell parts, cell types, and processes like photosynthesis and respiration.
- **Genetics:** DNA structure, gene function, inheritance patterns, and mutations.
- **Change Over Time:** Natural selection, genetic drift, speciation, and evidence for evolution.
- **Biodiversity:** Genetic diversity, species diversity, and ecosystem diversity.
- **Interdependence:** Food webs, energy flow, ecological relationships, and carrying capacity.
- **Human Impact:** Climate change, pollution, habitat destruction, and conservation efforts.

Semester 2

- **Genetic Mechanisms and Inheritance:** Classical and modern genetics, including sex-linked traits, incomplete dominance, dihybrid crosses, and chromosome maps.
- **Mutations:** Types of mutations (gene and chromosomal) and their effects on proteins and phenotypes.
- **Modern Genetics:** Genetic engineering, DNA manipulation, cloning, CRISPR, and bioinformatics.
- **Change Over Time:** Natural selection, mutation, genetic drift, gene flow, and sexual selection.
- **Speciation:** Biological classification using molecular evidence, population genetics, and gene frequency variation.
- **Ecology and Ecosystems:** Equilibrium and disequilibrium, carrying capacity, and human impact on ecosystems .

This course examines the history of the United States of America from 1877 to the present. The federal republic has withstood challenges to its national security and expanded the rights and roles of its citizens. The episodes of its past have shaped the nature of the country today and prepared it to attend to the challenges of tomorrow. Understanding how these events came to pass and their meaning for today's citizens is the purpose of this course. The concepts of historical thinking introduced in earlier grades continue to build with scholars locating and analyzing primary and secondary sources from multiple perspectives to draw conclusions.

In both semesters, American history will be viewed from multiple perspectives that demonstrate the challenges and successes of civil rights for all Americans. Scholars will also learn and practice analyzing primary sources, develop skills related to determining if sources are reliable and credible, and form their own conclusions around world events from the 19th and 20th centuries and their impact today.

Semester 1

- The industrialization era of the United States.
- The Great Migration as well as the impact of immigration on the social, economic, and political evolution of the United States in the 20th century.
- Domestic and foreign policy surrounding the US role in World War I and World War II.
- Changes in American politics, social trends, and economics of the 1920s.
- The Great Depression.

Semester 2

- The impact of World War II and the development of the Cold War.
- The Civil Rights Movement.
- American Foreign policy post Cold War.
- 9/11.

In Language Arts 11, scholars' instruction will center around 6 focus standards. These include:

1. Use clear and strong evidence from the text to support what it says and what the scholar thinks it means. This includes figuring out parts of the text that are not clear.
2. Look at a complicated set of ideas or events and explain how different people, ideas, or events connect and grow in the text, and also see how the author's choices about the setting, order of actions, and character development affect the text.
3. Determine the author's perspective or purpose in a text with especially effective writing, analyzing how the style and content add to the text's power, persuasiveness, or beauty.
4. Look at and judge how well the author organizes his explanation or argument. See if the structure makes the points clear, convincing, and interesting.
5. Write arguments to support claims about important topics/texts, using good reasoning and enough relevant evidence.
6. Write informative texts to explain complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly by choosing, organizing, and analyzing the content effectively.

Semester 1

- Learn how to use strong and clear evidence to support direct statements and inferences from the text, even when unclear.
- Examine how informational and literary texts are created and evolve.
- Explore complex ideas or events in texts.
- Explain how different people, ideas, or events connect and develop.
- Utilize strong and clear evidence to support direct statements and inferences from the text.
- Analyze how the author's choices about the setting, action order, and character development affect the story or play.
- Write a research report that clarifies a topic.

Semester 2

- Analyze how style and content contribute to the text's power, persuasiveness, or beauty.
- Determine the author's point of view or purpose in a text.
- Examine how effectively authors organize their explanations or arguments.
- Assess if the structure clarifies, convinces, and engages the reader.
- Continue to use strong and clear evidence to support direct statements and inferences, even when the text is unclear.
- Write arguments to support claims about important topics or texts.

In Algebra 2, scholar learning is focused around these 5 Big Ideas:

1. Communication Analysis
2. Modeling with Functions
3. Extending Algebraic Reasoning
4. Polynomial and Rational Relationships
5. Trigonometry of General Triangles

Semester 1

Semester 2

Big Ideas 1 and 2

- Quantitative Reasoning and Critical Thinking:
 - Analyze data to draw conclusions and evaluate assumptions
 - Use math and statistics to present findings clearly in speaking and writing
- **Real-World Applications:**
 - Form and investigate math ideas
 - Develop and defend arguments, while considering different viewpoints
 - Refine thinking through discussions and make connections across perspectives
- **Function Families:**
 - Explore polynomial, rational, radical, logarithmic, and absolute value functions
 - Learn how transformations affect function graphs
 - Choose appropriate functions, adjust parameters, and assess model fit for real-world data

Big Ideas 3, 4, and 5

- **Polynomials:**
 - Study general polynomials, extending beyond linear and quadratic equations
 - Learn about polynomial systems, including properties like distribution
 - Find polynomial zeros and solve equations using the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra
- **Exponents and Complex Numbers:**
 - Explore exponentials with rational domains and complex numbers
 - Deepen understanding of rational exponents, irrational numbers, and radicals
 - Focus on arithmetic of rational expressions and apply it to polynomials
- **Trigonometry:**
 - Advance trigonometry skills beyond right triangles
 - Solve angles using the Laws of Sines and Cosines for various triangles

This college preparatory, lab-based chemistry course is designed for scholars interested in science and math careers. It introduces foundational concepts and theories essential for advanced science studies. scholars will explore the classification, structure, and interactions of matter, and engage in investigations to understand and explain these phenomena. The course emphasizes scientific reasoning, analysis, communication skills, and real-world applications, preparing scholars with higher-order cognitive skills in evaluation, prediction, and application. Lab fee required.

Semester 1

- **Introduction to Chemistry and Engineering:** Safety rules, scientific method, and basic chemical and physical changes.
- **Atoms and Elements:** Structure of atoms, history of atomic models, and how elements are organized in the periodic table.
- **Compounds and Mixtures:** How atoms bond to form compounds, different types of compounds, and mixtures.
- **Chemical Reactions:** Different types of chemical reactions and how energy changes during reactions.
- **Reaction Rates and Equilibrium:** What affects the speed of reactions and understanding balance in chemical reactions.
- **Quantifying Matter:** Measuring substances accurately, using scientific notation, and understanding the concept of the mole to count atoms.

Semester 2

- **Chemical Reactions:** Types of chemical reactions, balancing equations, and understanding energy changes.
- **Stoichiometry:** Calculating reactants and products, using the mole concept, and understanding limiting reactants.
- **States of Matter and Gas Laws:** Properties of solids, liquids, and gases, and understanding how gases behave under different conditions.
- **Solutions and Solubility:** How substances dissolve, factors affecting solubility, and concentration calculations.
- **Acids and Bases:** Properties of acids and bases, pH scale, and neutralization reactions.
- **Thermochemistry:** Energy changes in chemical reactions, heat transfer, and understanding endothermic and exothermic processes.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Scholars examine the Founding Documents which form the basis for the United States of America and how the American people govern themselves at national, state and local levels of government is the basis for this course. scholars may also engage in civic participation and apply civic participation through service learning and projects.

Semester 1

- The **founding documents** that speak to the role of government, including the Federalist Papers, the Declaration of Independence, and the US Constitution.
- **The United States Congress** (Legislative Branch).
- **The President** (Executive Branch).
- **The US Supreme Court** (Judicial Branch).
- **Civil liberties.**

Semester 2

- Political parties, interest groups, and media's relationship with civic involvement.
- **Elections.**
- Government's role in the economy.
- **State and local** government.
- Comparative political systems.

In both semesters, American Government will be viewed from multiple perspectives that demonstrate the challenges and successes of civil rights for all Americans. Scholars will learn and practice analyzing primary sources, develop skills related to determining if sources are reliable and credible, and form their own conclusions around world events from the 19th and 20th centuries and their impact today.

The high school course prepares scholars to understand financial literacy concepts and helps them to become savvy consumers who can avoid scams, prepares scholars to make sound financial decisions, provides an overview of different types of insurance and how they protect individuals, explains how to create budgets and plan for unexpected expenses and provides an introduction to investing.

Financial Literacy is a semester course that is required for graduation. While technically housed in the Social Studies Department, this requirements fulfills one semester of the five (5) elective credits.

Semester Course

Scholars will learn:

- How to use bank accounts, why we save, and how to save
- The stock market along with investment strategies & retirement
- Credit, credit cards, and loans and how to manage your credit, credit score and debts
- Scholarships, grants, student loans and repaying after college
- How to search and apply for jobs, create a cover letter and resume, interview effectively, and succeed in a new job.
- What insurance is and take a deeper dive into different types of insurance
- About the US tax system and filing a tax return
- How to build budgets for all of the different parts of your life
- How to be a savvy consumer, avoid scams & fraud, and avoid identity theft

In Language Arts 12, scholars' instruction will center around 6 focus standards. These include:

1. Use clear and strong evidence from the text to support what it says and what the scholar thinks it means. This includes figuring out parts of the text that are not clear.
2. Understand what words and phrases mean literally, emotionally, and creatively in a literary text, and see how the author's word choice, including words with multiple meanings, affects how the text feels and sounds.
3. Figure out what words and phrases mean in an informational text, including their literal, emotional, and technical meanings, and see how the author changes the meaning of important words as the text goes on.
4. Determine the author's perspective or purpose in a text with especially effective writing, analyzing how the style and content add to the text's power, persuasiveness, or beauty.
5. Write arguments to support claims about important topics/texts, using good reasoning and enough relevant evidence.
6. Write informative texts to explain complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly by choosing, organizing, and analyzing the content effectively.

Semester 1

- Learn how to use strong evidence from the text to back up what it says. In addition, scholars will understand the literal, emotional, and creative meanings of words and phrases in a text.
- Clarify unclear parts of the text with evidence.
- Analyze literal, emotional, and creative meanings of words and phrases in stories.
- Observe how word choices, including those with multiple meanings, influence tone and style.
- Determine the meanings of words and phrases within informational texts.
- Write a literary analysis that explains a topic.

Semester 2

- Learn how writers create different kinds of texts, like stories and informative articles.
- Analyze what the author aims to communicate or the purpose behind the text, particularly in strong writing.
- Study how the author's writing style and included information enhance the text's power, persuasiveness, or beauty.
- Continue to use strong and clear evidence to support both direct statements and inferred meanings, even when the text is unclear.

In Statistics and probability, mathematics instruction focuses around these 6 Big Ideas:

1. Communication and Analysis
2. Exploring One-Variable Data
3. Exploring Two-Variable Data
4. Collecting Data: Sampling Techniques and Experimental Design
5. Probability, Randomness and Distribution
6. Inference for One-sample Categorical and Quantitative data

Semester 1

Real-World Problem Solving and Critical Thinking

- **Data Analysis and Communication:**
 - Draw conclusions from data and evaluate assumptions
 - Present thoughts clearly with mathematical and statistical evidence
- **Mathematical Reasoning:**
 - Explore and develop mathematical ideas
 - Defend and question ideas, explaining and justifying reasoning
- **Statistical Problem-Solving:**
 - Advance in statistical analysis using technology
 - Explore regression techniques to describe data relationships
- **Modeling and Evaluation:**
 - Use math to model real-world situations
 - Refine models and evaluate their accuracy, integrating skills across subjects

Semester 2

Advanced Statistical Concepts

- **Survey and Experiment Design:**
 - Design effective surveys, experiments, and observational studies
 - Understand the importance of random selection and random assignment
- **Sample Size and Bias:**
 - Learn how sample size affects accuracy
 - Recognize bias and confounding variables in observational studies
- **Probability and Simulations:**
 - Explore compound probabilities and their role in statistical reasoning
 - Use technology for simulations and calculations (expected values, standard deviations)
- **Conditional Probability and Inference:**
 - Explain conditional probability and independence in everyday language
 - Develop statistical inference skills (margins of error, treatment comparisons through simulations)
- **Skills for Data Analysis:**
 - Analyze data and make informed decisions based on statistical methods

ADVANCED QUANTITATIVE REASONING

In Advance Qualitative Reasoning (AQR), scholar learning will focus around these 5 Big Ideas:

1. Communication and Analysis
2. Modeling with Number and Quantity
3. Modeling with Algebra and Functions
4. Modeling with Statistics and Probability
5. Modeling with Geometry

Semester 1

- **Communication and Analysis:**
 - Draw conclusions from numbers and evaluate assumptions
 - Organize and present ideas using math and statistics
 - Communicate clearly in oral and written forms
- **Numerical Modeling and Functions:**
 - Apply modeling to real-world situations
 - Explore and defend math ideas, build logical arguments
 - Use math for daily life (ratios, rates, financial skills)
- **GAIMME Framework:**
 - Use math to understand and make decisions
 - Choose, adjust, and test functions and models

Semester 2

Statistics and Geometry

- **Statistics:**
 - Evaluate models using graphs and context
 - Learn about regression and data collection
 - Differentiate between statistical relationships and cause-and-effect
 - Interpret data variability and results
- **Geometry:**
 - Apply concepts (congruence, similarity, Pythagorean Theorem, circles, trigonometry) to real-world problems
 - Use visual models and tools (graphing calculators, geometry software)
 - Study 2D and 3D shapes (area, volume) and how changing dimensions affects them
- **Goal:**
 - Prepare for future academic challenges and real-world applications

Tips for Parents/Caregivers of English Language Learners 53

Akron Public Schools is committed to improving relationships by engaging all families in a meaningful way through caring and responsive experiences. APS strives to eliminate language barriers and empower our families and scholars to communicate with school staff. To bridge the language barriers and ensure all families and scholars feel welcomed and informed, we implement a multifaceted approach that includes utilizing various tools and resources including, but not limited to, the following:

- **Interpreter requests at the building level** - for buildings that have an interpreter scheduled in their building, these buildings leverage their interpreters for phone calls, translations, meetings, and classroom support.
- **Interpreter requests at the district level** - for buildings with no interpreters in their building or without the necessary language in their building, an interpreter request is submitted to request the support of an interpreter.
- **Multilingual video content** - we create video content for scholars and families and overdub them into multiple languages with the help of our interpreters.
- **Multilingual website for letters to APS families** - We leverage technology to enable our parents to have access to communications from the school buildings and the school district in their native language.
- **ESL accommodations** - Multilingual Learners are given extended time for assessments, word-to-word dictionaries, small group testing, etc.

Tips for Parents/Caregivers of English Language Learners 54

We recognize that Multilingual Learners are working hard to learn the language of instruction and academic content simultaneously, while also trying to balance their primary culture and the new one they find themselves living in.

Parents/caregivers can help their scholars make the transition into an English speaking school environment by helping scholars develop English and academic literacy at home. Try using the strategies below to help your EL child become academically successful in not one language, but multiple languages.

- **Don't be afraid to use your native language.** This tip may be the most important since it is the bridge between your child's learning situations — that is, the connection between his or her primary language and culture and the new language and culture. You can explain unfamiliar words and concepts in the language familiar to your child and continue to build his or her literacy skills in the primary language, while practicing and developing English and academic literacies. Consistent, meaningful practice of the new language and understanding the new culture are important.
- **Have a Homework Routine:** Create a study schedule at home to help your child learn better. Set up a quiet area without distractions and make sure they have all needed supplies like pencils and paper. Answer their questions or help them find resources. Even if you don't speak English, you can still check if their homework is done.
- **Study in Different Ways:** Use familiar stories or folktales to help your child learn. They might not understand all the words at first, but they'll learn new vocabulary and grammar over time. Watching movies or playing language games like Scrabble can also help.
- **Use Creative Activities:** Practice language through fun activities like making a scrapbook about your new home or having your child draw and tell a story about their picture. Be creative to make learning enjoyable.
- **Join Extracurricular Activities:** Encourage your child to join school activities like the newspaper or yearbook committee. These activities help them use language skills in different settings and improve their learning and achievement.
- **Stay Connected with Teachers:** Keep in touch with your child's teachers to stay updated on their progress by attending Open House, Interim pick-up nights, and other school events. This helps you understand how to support your child at home and ensures they succeed in their new learning environment.
- **Become familiar with the APS Portal:** The APS portal provides our scholars with free and safe websites and access to district adopted curriculum.
- **Become familiar with the Home Access Center (HAC):** HAC is our dashboard center that provides parents with information about their child's grades, attendance, etc. .

Tips for Parents/Caregivers of Scholars on an IEP

Family support is crucial for scholars on an IEP. When families are involved and supportive, it greatly enhances their child's learning experience and helps them succeed. Your encouragement and understanding make a big difference in their progress and confidence.

- **Communicate with Teachers:** Keep in touch with your child's teachers to understand what they are learning and how you can help at home. Talk about their IEP goals and learning strategies to support their progress.
- **Create a Supportive Home Environment:** Create a supportive home learning space for your child. Set up a dedicated study area, keep a regular routine, and use assistive tools if needed. This can improve their focus and learning.
- **Utilize Technology and Accessibility Tools:** Use technology to support learning by utilizing accessibility features and educational tools. These can help make subjects like math and reading more engaging and easier to understand.
- **Incorporate Movement and Breaks:** Add physical activity to your child's daily routine to help them manage their energy and focus better. You can include movement in their learning with fun games or exercises.
- **Focus on Strengths and Celebrate Achievements:** Focus on your child's strengths and celebrate their successes to boost their confidence and motivation. Talk often about what they enjoy learning and recognize their progress.
- **Provide Emotional Support:** Spend quality time with your child to support their emotional well-being. Do activities together that reduce stress and create a loving environment.
- **Access External Resources and Support:** Explore extra resources like online guides, webinars, and community support groups for strategies and help for scholars on an IEP.

