

Haldane Central School District

Middle School Course Catalog 2026/2027

5th Grade Courses:

Core Coursework:

1150- English 5

In English 5, students engage in the analysis of texts for literary elements, including plot, character development, and theme. Additionally, students work on improving their writing abilities through composing essays and narratives with an emphasis on organization, clarity, and evidence-based arguments. Integrated language skills such as grammar, vocabulary, and speaking/listening activities are also incorporated to enhance communication.

1350- Math 5

Mod 1- Place Value Concepts for Multiplication and Division with Whole Numbers

Mod 2- Addition and Subtraction with Fractions

Mod 3- Multiplication and Division with Fractions

Mod 4- Place Value Concepts for Decimal Operations

Mod 5- Addition and Multiplication with Area and Volume

Mod 6- Foundations to Geometry in the Coordinate Plane

1450- Science 5

Fifth grade science is a collaborative exploration of the natural world. The framework is primarily project and inquiry based with a focus on critical thinking, rather than memorization of information. Students will engage in mini lessons and explorations, before moving onto a bigger class project to showcase our learning and dive deeper. Fifth graders will learn how to set attainable goals, create and stick to deadlines, as well as work both independently and collaboratively. Assessments are holistic and reflective, and students always have the opportunity to go back and fix and redo work.

0250- Social Studies 5

Fifth grade social studies is a collaborative exploration of history, geography, and culture. The framework is primarily project and inquiry based with a focus on critical thinking, rather than memorization of information. Students will engage in mini lessons and explorations, before moving onto a bigger class project to showcase our learning and dive deeper. Fifth graders will learn how to set attainable goals, create and stick to deadlines, as well as work both independently and collaboratively. Assessments are holistic and reflective, and students always have the opportunity to go back and fix and redo work.

6786- Writers Workshop

This course is designed to engage students in the art of writing. Each meeting will begin with a skill building lesson followed by independent practice and sharing.

A variety of genres will be covered:

- Personal Narrative

- Informational (Research Reports)
- Memoir
- Researched-based Argumentative/opinion Essay
- Poetry
- Graphic Novels

1551- Homeroom

This course is designed to support students through the transition into middle school. Students will engage in discussions and activities introducing and reinforcing concepts of TRUE Blue curriculum. In addition, policies and procedures including 10th period, homework/grading, and online platforms for communication (email, Google Classroom, Powerschool) will be reviewed.

Special Coursework:

1650- Physical Education 5

The Haldane Middle Physical Education Program will emphasize personal fitness and wellness, team sports, and individual activities. Each unit will vary in length and focus on the following: skill development, knowledge of rules, application of skills/knowledge, lead up games and tournament play. The goal of the middle school physical education program is to provide a diverse set of units and opportunities where each year there is a different curriculum for each grade level to experience.

1105- Library and Media 5

Library & Media focuses on helping students become safe, responsible and ethical users of information, with lessons on media balance, safety and security in the digital world, building a positive digital footprint, and using AI responsibly.

1805- Art 5

In 5th grade art students may choose to work in a choice-based or in a project-based manner. Each week we will learn about different artists, techniques or ideas, and students may decide to use these concepts in their work or forge their own path. We will expand our skills in painting, drawing, sculpting, digital art and fiber art. Sixth grade is also when students are introduced to photography. Each student will make one artwork for display at the end of year art show.

1350- Music 5

5th-grade music focuses on foundational music theory, instrumental or vocal performance, and critical analysis. Students will create and perform utilizing their voices as well as through exploring instruments.

0612- Exploring World Languages 5

Students will explore culture and languages from around the world.

1905- Home and Careers 5

Home & Careers is a program of instruction designed to prepare students to meet their present and future responsibilities as well as understand their opportunities as parents or other members of families, consumers, home managers and wage earners. The emphasis of this course is to use

a hands-on, experimental approach to learning. Diverse learning experiences will come in the form of both individual and group activities to best meet the needs of the learner.

125- Fifth Grade Library

Students will spend time exploring library resources and engaging in reading activities.

Elective Coursework:

1760- Chorus

Chorus is a traditional choral singing ensemble aimed at the continued growth of the young developing voice. Each meeting, students will participate in a physical and vocal warmup and rehearse various types of music in several different languages. Songs from Broadway, Disney, and the choral repertoire genre, students will learn foundations of singing; strengthening this crucial developmental stage of the voice in middle school. They will continue strengthening their vocal technique, music literacy, language skills, and singing ability. The 5th Grade Chorus performs in two concerts a year. One in the winter, and one in the spring. Optional experiences while enrolled in 6th Grade Chorus include, Putnam County's Elementary All County Festival, and annual NYSSMA Solo Festival.

1761- Concert Band

Concert Band is a continuation of 4th Grade Band and consists primarily of 5th grade students. Throughout the school year, the Concert Band focuses on increasing pitch vocabulary through scales, widening rhythmic knowledge (dotted rhythms, eighth rests, sixteenth notes), and encouraging overall musicianship both individually and as an ensemble.

6th Grade Courses:

Core Coursework:

1160-English 6

In English 6, students engage in a comprehensive study of literature, focusing on various genres such as fiction, poetry, and drama. They analyze texts for literary elements, including plot, character development, and theme. Additionally, students work on improving their writing abilities through composing essays, narratives, and analytical responses, with an emphasis on organization, clarity, and evidence-based arguments. Integrated language skills such as grammar, vocabulary, and speaking/listening activities are also incorporated to enhance communication.

0260- Social Studies 6

6th grade Social Studies is a year-long course centered on the history of the Eastern Hemisphere, dating from the Neolithic period to the Renaissance. The students will embark on a year-long project where they will be asked to restart civilization using the models of civilizations and kingdoms of the period, focusing on the foundational themes that comprise civilization. Through this student-centered, PBL approach, students will gather and interpret evidence, use chronological reasoning and causation, compare and contrast cultures, use geographic reasoning

to determine reasons for a civilization's success and decline, study economic systems to establish foundational success and promote civic participation through the study of government systems.

1360- Math 6

6th Grade Math will focus on Ratio and Proportional Reasoning, The Number System, Expressions and Equations (Inequalities), Statistics and Probability, and Geometry. The course is taught using The Big Ideas Math curriculum and some supplemental resources. During 6th grade, students will learn how to study using math maps and have some real-life math projects (financial literacy).

1166- Reading 6

Reading 6 includes four project-based units of study – Poetry, Nonfiction, Social Issues Book Clubs, and The Hero's Journey. Students choose reading materials based on their preferences and developmental levels.

1460- Science 6

Topics include:
Earth as a system
Earth/Sun relationship
Moon study and the phases of the Moon
The solar system, orbits, space exploration

1660- Physical Education 6

The Haldane Middle Physical Education Program will emphasize personal fitness and wellness, team sports, and individual activities. Each unit will vary in length and focus on the following: skill development, knowledge of rules, application of skills/knowledge, lead up games and tournament play. The goal of the middle school physical education program is to provide a diverse set of units and opportunities where each year there is a different curriculum for each grade level to experience.

1661- Homeroom 6th

This course is designed to support students through the transition into middle school. Students will engage in discussions and activities introducing and reinforcing concepts of TRUE Blue curriculum. In addition, policies and procedures including 10th period, homework/grading, and online platforms for communication (email, Google Classroom, Powerschool) will be reviewed.

Special Coursework:

1626- ECO 6

This course focuses on environmental and ecological topics such as biodiversity, invasive species, climate change, environmental stewardship, and conservation. Primarily held outdoors, this course assists students in developing and maintaining an appreciation for nature, and fosters their ability to recognize what it means to have a "sense of place" while interacting with natural spaces.

1806- Art 6

In 6th grade art students may choose to work in a choice-based or in a project-based manner. Each week we will learn about different artists, techniques or ideas, and students may decide to use these concepts in their work or forge their own path. We will expand our skills in painting, drawing, sculpting, digital art and fiber art. Sixth grade is also when students are introduced to photography. Each student will make one artwork for display at the end of year art show. We will end the course with tie dye!

1909- Home & Careers 6

Home & Careers is a program of instruction designed to prepare students to meet their present and future responsibilities as well as understand their opportunities as parents or other members of families, consumers, home managers and wage earners. The emphasis of this course is to use a hands-on, experimental approach to learning. Diverse learning experiences will come in the form of both individual and group activities to best meet the needs of the learner. Students will

- * Practice basic kitchen safety and sanitation to prepare recipes
- * Analyze the different ways that individuals can earn money in the 21st century
- * Create a sampler sewing project, demonstrating fundamentals
- * Understand human growth and development and recognize the relationship between behaviors and healthy development

1763- Music 6

Sixth Grade music centered around exploring the functions of musicians in a modern band format. With a primary focus on guitar, students work collaboratively toward in class performances. Students will also research modern music history and have opportunities to compose.

0622- Exploring French

Exploring French gives students a basic introduction to the French language and francophone culture. Students will explore a wide variety of French-speaking locations around the world and their unique cultural products and practices. Students will practice high-frequency French vocabulary with a strong emphasis on spoken interpersonal communication. Topics include: greetings and politeness, time-telling, the calendar, weather, and colors. By taking this course, students will begin to set personal goals for their future language learning and decide on a path for middle and high school.

1014- Exploring Spanish

Exploring Spanish gives students a basic introduction to the Spanish language and hispanic culture. Students will explore the Spanish speaking countries of Europe and Latin America and their unique cultural products and practices. Students will practice high-frequency Spanish vocabulary with a strong emphasis on spoken interpersonal communication. Topics include: greetings and politeness, time-telling, the calendar, weather, and colors. By taking this course, students will begin to set personal goals for their future language learning and decide on a path for middle and high school.

1100- Library & Media 6

Library & Media focuses on helping students become safe, responsible and ethical users of information, with lessons on media balance, safety and security in the digital world, building a positive digital footprint, and using AI responsibly. Students learn how to think critically about what they see and hear online, and how to evaluate websites and the news media for credibility. Using

these skills, students complete several mini research projects, while practicing note taking, paraphrasing and properly citing sources. Students also have the opportunity to practice their touch typing skills with engaging keyboarding lessons and games.

1104- STEAM

This course includes a hands-on exploration of the intersection of science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics.

Elective Coursework:

1760- Concert Band

Prerequisite: Demonstration of performance ability on one of the traditional band instruments and successful completion of the instructional sequence of elementary band.

Concert Band is a continuation of 5th Grade Band and consists primarily of 6th grade students. Throughout the school year, the Concert Band focuses on increasing pitch vocabulary through scales, widening rhythmic knowledge (dotted rhythms, eighth rests, sixteenth notes), and encouraging overall musicianship both individually and as an ensemble. There are additional opportunities for students to participate in PCMEA All County and NYSSMA Solo Festival. Concert Band prepares students for Symphonic Band.

1636- Programming with Scratch

Scratch is a user-friendly visual programming language designed to empower students to create interactive stories, games, and animations. Through designing projects on Scratch, students cultivate creative thinking, systematic reasoning, and collaborative skills. This platform provides a hands-on learning experience where students can experiment, problem-solve, and express their ideas in a supportive environment.

1761- Chorus 6

The 6th Grade Chorus is a traditional choral singing ensemble aimed at the continued growth of the young developing voice. Each meeting, students will participate in a physical and vocal warmup and rehearse various types of music in several different languages. Songs from Broadway, Disney, and the choral repertoire genre, students will learn foundations of singing; strengthening this crucial developmental stage of the voice in middle school. They will continue strengthening their vocal technique, music literacy, language skills, and singing ability. The 6th Grade Chorus performs in two concerts a year. One in the winter, and one in the spring. Optional experiences while enrolled in 6th Grade Chorus include, Putnam County's Elementary All County Festival, and annual NYSSMA Solo Festival.

7th Grade Courses:

Core:

1170- English 7

Throughout the 7th grade year in ELA, students will be reading, analyzing, and choosing literature to learn, enjoy, and gain the skills to become life-long readers. Students will be looking at reading for enjoyment, three key texts, nonfiction, science fiction, and narrative writing. Chromebooks and our Haldane library will be utilized to explore and expand our horizons in literature. This will allow the students to access a variety of resources, read diverse texts, and engage in exciting activities that enhance our understanding and appreciation of literature. Get ready to dive into new stories, learning strategies, and ideas!

1470- Science 7

Living Environment is a Next Generation Science Standards course that covers a wide variety of specific topics in science including Chemical Interactions, Waves, Gravity and Kinetic Energy, and Human Systems Interactions. Students will explore topics using combinations of working in groups, presenting ideas and research, and investigating current events in order to form a better understanding of curricular concepts. The daily use of laboratory exercises and hands-on activities are the driving force of the course in order to develop students' critical thinking and problem solving skills within the world of science.

1370- Math 7

Aligned with the Next Generation Standards, this course emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, and real-world application of mathematical principles. Students will engage in hands-on activities, problem-solving tasks, and real-world applications to deepen their understanding of mathematical concepts. Collaborative learning opportunities and the use of technology tools will enhance students' reasoning and communication skills. Students will explore various mathematical domains including:

Adding and Subtracting Rational Numbers
Multiplying and Dividing Rational Numbers
Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities
Ratios, Proportions, and Percents
Probability and Statistics
Geometric Shapes and Angles
Surface Area and Volume

Assessment: NWEA, New York State Test, Final Exam

0270- Social Studies 7

The 7th-grade social studies curriculum in New York State aims to provide students with a deep understanding of key historical events, concepts, and themes that have shaped the United States and the world. Throughout the year, students will engage in a variety of activities designed to develop critical thinking skills, historical empathy, and an appreciation for the complexities of human societies. The curriculum is aligned with New York State standards and emphasizes inquiry-based learning, primary source analysis, and the development of historical thinking skills. Our units of study are:

- Native American Civilizations
- Age of Exploration and Colonization
- The American Revolution
- Creating the Constitution
- The Civil War

Throughout these units, students engage in a variety of activities such as readings, discussions, primary source analysis, and personal research to deepen their understanding of historical events and develop critical thinking skills. They also learn to analyze multiple perspectives and evaluate the significance of past events in shaping the course of American history.

Through rigorous academic inquiry, critical thinking, and historical empathy, students will develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to become informed and responsible citizens in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

***World Language Sequence**

Haldane encourages students to explore study in world languages. Prior to beginning their 7th grade year, students will elect to complete a two year sequence of study in either Spanish or French. Upon successful completion of two years (grades 7 & 8) and with a passing score on the World Languages Checkpoint A Assessment, students will earn 1 high school credit and meet the NY State minimum graduation requirement in World Languages. Haldane highly recommends and encourages our students to continue to immerse themselves in the study of their chosen world language throughout high school.

1572- French 7

This course is the first half of French I and serves as an introduction to French and francophone language and culture. Students will begin to use the language for interpersonal communication. Throughout the year, students will investigate various cultural perspectives and products in the francophone world by interpreting authentic resources. Topics include: personal identity, home and family, school life, fashion, weather, and the physical environment. Students will receive 1 high school credit after successfully completing both French 7 and 8 plus the Checkpoint A Exam.

1571- Spanish 7

This class is the first half of Spanish I. Spanish 7 is an introduction to Spanish language and culture. Students in this course will develop speaking, writing, and reading proficiency on topics dealing with the everyday life of a student. Students will be guided in recognizing the interrelationships between cultures and will be able to identify cultural perspectives and practices of the Spanish-speaking world. This course is conducted in Spanish for a significant amount of time. Students will receive high school credit and high school grade points after successfully completing both Spanish 7 and 8.

1564- Physical Education 7/8

The Haldane Middle Physical Education Program will emphasize personal fitness and wellness, team sports, and individual activities. Each unit will vary in length and focus on the following: skill development, knowledge of rules, application of skills/knowledge, lead up games and tournament play. The goal of the middle school physical education program is to provide a diverse set of units and opportunities where each year there is a different curriculum for each grade level to experience.

Special Coursework:

1807- Art 7

In 7th grade art students may choose to work in a choice-based or project-based manner. Each week we will learn about different artists, techniques or ideas, and students may decide to use these concepts in their work or forge their own path. We will expand our skills in painting, drawing, sculpting, printmaking, photography, digital art and fiber art. 7th grade also focuses on dissecting several examples of abstract and contemporary art. Each student will make one artwork for display at the end of year art show and Foodtown. We will finish the course with hydro-dipping!

1607- Health 7

The course emphasizes making proper, mature and healthy decisions based on knowledge and truths, not myths. Each student is responsible for class work, projects, journaling and proper participation in class.

Areas of Study:

- Personal Health and Wellness
- Mental Health
- DBT (Dialectical Behavior Therapy)
- Alcohol, Smoking, and other Drugs
- Basic Nutrition

0961- Discover Create Innovate 7

The class is designed to give students an opportunity to work together to take on different authentic issues and problems. Students will have to be able to call upon skills learned, and knowledge gained from other classes, as well as their own personal experiences and apply it to real world applications. Agency, collaboration, interpersonal communication, presentation of material, and personal reflective written responses will be practiced throughout the semester.

1907- Home & Careers 7

Home & Careers is a program of instruction designed to prepare students to meet their present and future responsibilities as well as understand their opportunities as parents or other members of families, consumers, home managers and wage earners. The emphasis of this course is to use a hands-on, experimental approach to learning. Diverse learning experiences will come in the form of both individual and group activities to best meet the needs of the learner.

Students will

- * Implement kitchen safety and sanitation in the development of basic recipes
- * Assess how interest, credit, debt, and other financial terms affect personal finance
- * Create a small stuffed animal using sewing skills
- * Analyze the multiple influences which affect health decisions and behaviors.

8149- Reading 7

At the heart of our reading curriculum is the promotion of literacy skills through engaging and meaningful activities. Here's a brief overview of what your child can expect in our reading class:

Independent Reading: Independent reading plays a crucial role in fostering a love for reading and improving literacy skills. Students will have dedicated time during each class session to read independently. I encourage students to explore various genres and topics to expand their interests and develop their reading comprehension skills.

Book Clubs: Book clubs provide an excellent opportunity for students to engage in collaborative discussions about literature while honing their critical thinking and communication skills. Throughout the semester, students will participate in book club discussions where they will analyze themes, characters, and plot elements, as well as share their insights and interpretations with their peers. These discussions not only deepen their understanding of the text but also promote a sense of community within the classroom.

Writing: Writing is an integral part of our reading curriculum as it allows students to express their thoughts, ideas, and reflections about the texts they read. Students will engage in various writing activities, including response journals, book reviews, literary analysis essays, and creative writing assignments. These writing tasks not only reinforce reading comprehension but also help students develop their writing skills and articulate their thoughts effectively.

9292- MS Learner Profile

In Learner Profile, students dive into the fascinating world of student brains and how they learn. We'll explore the incredible complexities of the brain, from neurons firing to memory retention. Through interactive activities and discussions, we'll uncover the strategies and techniques that can help us learn more effectively. Get ready to unlock the secrets of your own mind!

Elective Coursework:

143- MS Creative Writing

Students will begin the semester with a study of literary elements and techniques. After a brief review of these writing moves, we will branch into various genres of writing. Students can expect to examine and write in various styles which *may* include: mysteries, poems, screenplays, reviews, sci-fi, thrillers. We will also have moments to focus on character development and other important concepts in narrative writing. These elements will change based upon the needs and interests of the class! The course ends with a celebration of stories and students leaving with their very own story portfolio!

72999- Careers in Science

Careers in Science is a semester long course that follows a student-lead project based learning pedagogy. Students will be tasked with in-class projects that will highlight the scope of all of the different possible careers that are both solely based on science or directly involved with scientific topics, theories, foundations. Throughout the class, students will be engaging with hands-on activities, developing essential researching skills required at the middle school level, and participating in group work which will be presented in front of their peers. They will learn about the many famous science professionals and scientists who are role models in order to facilitate interest in careers. The goal is to have students become exposed to all the different possibilities of future science careers and known professionals in all fields so that they may find the beginning spark that captivates thought of their own futures.

2865- Environmental Science

Environmental science provides students with an introduction to the interactions between living things and Earth as well as how choices made by humans affect the environment.

2866- Financial Literacy

Students will acquire essential money management skills, including basic budgeting, the difference between needs and wants, saving, and responsible credit use.

7064- Digital Music

In this class students will be creating music through the medium of technology. Students will cover the basics of recording, piano skills, introduction to music theory and harmony, and audio manipulation and sampling. This project-based course will take students through the many components and skills needed to create and record original music, regardless of previous experience.

7788 - Model UN

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Use a multitude of sources to develop multi-point arguments on an issue
- Collaborate with others effectively to enrich and enhance a team's perspective on an issue
- Draft argumentative writing pieces and formal arguments that are substantive and stylistic
- Acknowledge other people's viewpoints and arguments, accept other perspectives, and at times modify their viewpoints
- Delineate a person's specific arguments to develop counterclaims or to further their viewpoint of an issue
- Present oral arguments with poise, articulation, and emphasis
- Work collaboratively to develop a compromise or consensus on an issue

1771- Chorus 7/8

The 7th and 8th Grade Chorus is a singing ensemble at the intermediate level. Each meeting, students will participate in a physical and vocal warmup and rehearse various types of music in several different languages. Songs from Broadway, Disney, and the choral repertoire genre, students will learn foundations of singing; strengthening this crucial developmental stage of the voice in middle school. Unlike the younger singing ensembles, this ensemble music sings in 3-part harmony, as some students' voices lower to the baritone range. They will continue strengthening their vocal technique, music literacy, language skills, and singing ability. They perform in two concerts a year. One in the winter, and one in the spring. Traditionally, this ensemble participates in the Music In The Parks festival at the Lake Compounce amusement park in June. Optional experiences while enrolled in 6th Grade Chorus include, Putnam County's Junior All County Festival, and the annual NYSSMA Solo Festival.

1780- Symphonic Band

Symphonic Band is a continuation of Concert Band and consists primarily of students in 7th and 8th grade. Throughout the year, Symphonic Band works on more advanced musical concepts including minor scales, chromatic scales, advanced percussion rudiments, eighth/sixteenth note combinations, syncopation etc. Students in Symphonic Band demonstrate advanced musicianship both individually and as an ensemble. The Symphonic Band participates in several performances a year including the winter concert, spring concert, and Memorial Day Parade. There are additional opportunities for students to participate in PCMEA All County and NYSSMA Solo Festival. Symphonic Band prepares students for Wind Ensemble (high school level band).

8th Grade Courses:

Core:

1180- English 8

In ELA 8, students will examine a range of informational and literary texts. They will work together to learn, practice, and become proficient at close reading and analysis. During our journey to become fluent and efficient writers, we will look at “mentor texts,” and practice various writing techniques. Students will have multiple opportunities to create, practice, hone, share, and present their work. Students can expect to work on personal narratives, argument/debate pieces, and inquiry papers. Along with writing, students will also read several whole-class novels together, which may vary from year to year.

0280- Social Studies 8

Students will study political, geographical, economic, and social issues in this course. In addition, we will examine America’s interaction with the global community. Topics for class focus on the following areas: Reconstruction Wild Westward Expansion Industrial Society Progressive Era America becomes a World Power World War I Boom and Bust! World War II Cold War and the Modern American Dream Civil Rights Movement Tensions at Home and Abroad Contemporary America. 8th Grade Social Studies is the communication of a 2-year study of 7th and 8th grade. Students will also have the opportunity to gain 1 point towards the New York State of Civic Readiness by participating in the Middle School Capstone project.

1380- Math 8

This course presents an organized development of next-generation mathematical skills and concepts. Students will continue to enhance their problem-solving skills and will apply these skills in areas of algebra and geometry. They will also apply said skills to a variety of real-life problems across an array of topics.

Topics include:

- Transformations
- Angles and Triangles
- Graphing and Writing Linear Functions
- Exponents
- Multi-step Equations
- Systems of Equations
- Functions
- Exponents and Scientific Notation
- Volume and Similian Figures
- Data Analysis and Displays

8811- Algebra 8

This is the first math course in high school. The course is designed to give students a foundation of all future math courses. The fundamentals of algebraic problem-solving are explained. Students will explore: foundations of Algebra, solving equations, solving inequalities, an introduction to functions, linear functions, systems of equations and inequalities, exponents and

exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic functions and equations, radical expressions and equations, and data analysis and probability. Algebra provides tools and ways of thinking that are necessary for solving problems in a wide variety of disciplines, such as science, business, social sciences, fine arts, and technology. This course will assist students in developing skills and processes to be applied using a variety of techniques to successfully solve problems in a variety of settings. Problem situations may result in all types of linear equations in one variable, quadratic functions with integral coefficients and roots as well as absolute value and exponential functions. Problem situations resulting in systems of equations will also be presented. Alternative solution methods should be given equal value with the strategies used for problem solving. Measurement within a problem solving context will include calculating rates using appropriate units and converting within measurement systems. Data analysis including measures of central tendency and visual representations of data will be studied. An understanding of correlation and causation will be developed and reasonable lines of best fit will be used to make predictions. Assessment: Regents exam in June

1481- Science 8

This course incorporates the Next Generation Science Standard into the fundamental concepts of engineering, populations, ecosystems, heredity, adaptation, and diversity of life. Emphasis is placed upon explaining phenomena using a science notebook, and the practical hands-on experience of basic application in each unit of study.

0428- Biology MS R

[Biology Regents](#)

1 HS credit

Areas of Study:

- Biochemistry of the cell
- Structure
- Function
- Reproduction
- Development
- Genetics
- Evolution
- Ecology of both plants and animals

Assessment: NYS Regents in Living Environment.

Note: The course is a combination of lectures and laboratory work. It includes dissection.

**Haldane offers Grade 8 Math and Science coursework in addition to providing students with the opportunity to take Regents level, high school credit bearing course work. Students may be recommended to consider Biology MS R or Algebra 8. Upon successful completion of these courses and passing the NY State Living Environment and/or Algebra 1 Regents examinations, students will earn 1 high school credit (respectively), and work towards completion of Regents Assessment Requirements.*

1582- French 8

This course is the second half of French I, and gives students the opportunity to develop their communication skills through interpersonal speaking and presentational speaking and writing. Throughout the year, students will investigate various cultural perspectives and products in the francophone world by interpreting authentic resources. Topics include: leisure, daily routine, town

and city, cuisine, health, and travel. Students will receive 1 high school credit after successfully completing both French 7 and 8 plus the Checkpoint A Exam.

Assessment: New York State Proficiency Checkpoint A Assessment

1581- Spanish 8

This class is the second half of Spanish I, and continues the introduction to the Spanish language and culture. Students in this course will develop speaking, writing, and reading proficiency on topics dealing with the everyday life of a student. Students will be guided in recognizing the interrelationships between cultures and will be able to identify cultural perspectives and practices of the Spanish-speaking world. This course is conducted in Spanish for a significant amount of time. Students will receive high school credit and high school grade points after successfully completing both Spanish 7 and 8.

Assessment: New York State Proficiency Checkpoint A Assessment

1564- Physical Education $\frac{7}{8}$

The Haldane Middle Physical Education Program will emphasize personal fitness and wellness, team sports, and individual activities. Each unit will vary in length and focus on the following: skill development, knowledge of rules, application of skills/knowledge, lead up games and tournament play. The goal of the middle school physical education program is to provide a diverse set of units and opportunities where each year there is a different curriculum for each grade level to experience.

Special Coursework:

1808- Art 8

8th Grade Art will expose students to a range of media while encouraging development of concepts and skills in visual art appreciation, starting with elements of art and principles of design. Students will develop basic skills in drawing, painting, and sculpture through the exploration of tools and media introduced while taking creative risks and expressing personal artistic vision. The course will introduce students to historical and contemporary figures, genres, and styles, relevant to each current project.

1608- Health 8

The course emphasizes making proper, mature and healthy decisions based on knowledge and truths, not myths. Each student is responsible for class work, projects, journaling and proper participation in class.

Areas of Study:

- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Vaping
- DBT (Dialectical Behavior Therapy)
- Smoking and Tobacco
- Nutrition and Fitness
- Healthy Relationships

1107- Discover Create Innovate 8

The class is designed to give students an opportunity to work together to take on different authentic issues and problems. Students will have to be able to call upon skills learned, and knowledge gained from other classes, as well as their own personal experiences and apply it to real world applications. Agency, collaboration, interpersonal communication, presentation of material, and personal reflective written responses will be practiced throughout the semester.

1908- Home & Careers 8

Home & Careers is a program of instruction designed to prepare students to meet their present and future responsibilities as well as understand their opportunities as parents or other members of families, consumers, home managers and wage earners. The emphasis of this course is to use a hands-on, experimental approach to learning. Diverse learning experiences will come in the form of both individual and group activities to best meet the needs of the learner. Students will

- * Utilize kitchen skills to create recipes of their own design
- * Develop spending plans and analyze college loan debt
- * Sew a tote bag and embroider it with their name
- * Demonstrate the necessary knowledge and skills to promote healthy development into adulthood

Elective Coursework:

1771- Chorus 7/8

The 7th and 8th Grade Chorus is a singing ensemble at the intermediate level. Each meeting, students will participate in a physical and vocal warmup and rehearse various types of music in several different languages. Songs from Broadway, Disney, and the choral repertoire genre, students will learn foundations of singing; strengthening this crucial developmental stage of the voice in middle school. Unlike the younger singing ensembles, this ensemble music sings in 3-part harmony, as some students' voices lower to the baritone range. They will continue strengthening their vocal technique, music literacy, language skills, and singing ability. They perform in two concerts a year. One in the winter, and one in the spring. Traditionally, this ensemble participates in the Music In The Parks festival at the Lake Compounce amusement park in June. Optional experiences while enrolled in 6th Grade Chorus include, Putnam County's Junior All County Festival, and the annual NYSSMA Solo Festival.

7064- Digital Music

In this class students will be creating music through the medium of technology. Students will cover the basics of recording, piano skills, introduction to music theory and harmony, and audio manipulation and sampling. This project-based course will take students through the many components and skills needed to create and record original music, regardless of previous experience.

2865- Environmental Science

Environmental science provides students with an introduction to the interactions between living things and Earth as well as how choices made by humans affect the environment.

2866- Financial Literacy

Students will acquire essential money management skills, including basic budgeting, the difference between needs and wants, saving, and responsible credit use.

7788 / 0255-- Model UN

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Use a multitude of sources to develop multi-point arguments on an issue
- Collaborate with others effectively to enrich and enhance a team's perspective on an issue
- Draft argumentative writing pieces and formal arguments that are substantive and stylistic
- Acknowledge other people's viewpoints and arguments, accept other perspectives, and at times modify their viewpoints
- Delineate a person's specific arguments to develop counterclaims or to further their viewpoint of an issue
- Present oral arguments with poise, articulation, and emphasis
- Work collaboratively to develop a compromise or consensus on an issue

143- MS Creative Writing

Students will begin the semester with a study of literary elements and techniques. After a brief review of these writing moves, we will branch into various genres of writing. Students can expect to examine and write in various styles which *may* include: mysteries, poems, screenplays, reviews, sci-fi, thrillers. We will also have moments to focus on character development and other important concepts in narrative writing. These elements will change based upon the needs and interests of the class! The course ends with a celebration of stories and students leaving with their very own story portfolio!

72999- Careers in Science

Careers in Science is a semester long course that follows a student-lead project based learning pedagogy. Students will be tasked with in-class projects that will highlight the scope of all of the different possible careers that are both solely based on science or directly involved with scientific topics, theories, foundations. Throughout the class, students will be engaging with hands-on activities, developing essential researching skills required at the middle school level, and participating in group work which will be presented in front of their peers. They will learn about the many famous science professionals and scientists who are role models in order to facilitate interest in careers. The goal is to have students become exposed to all the different possibilities of future science careers and known professionals in all fields so that they may find the beginning spark that captivates thought of their own futures.

1636- Programming with Scratch

Scratch is a user-friendly visual programming language designed to empower students to create interactive stories, games, and animations. Through designing projects on Scratch, students cultivate creative thinking, systematic reasoning, and collaborative skills. This platform provides a hands-on learning experience where students can experiment, problem-solve, and express their ideas in a supportive environment.

1780- Symphonic Band

Symphonic Band is a continuation of Concert Band and consists primarily of students in 7th and 8th grade. Throughout the year, Symphonic Band works on more advanced musical concepts including minor scales, chromatic scales, advanced percussion rudiments, eighth/sixteenth note combinations, syncopation etc. Students in Symphonic Band demonstrate advanced musicianship both individually and as an ensemble. The Symphonic Band participates in several performances a year including the winter concert, spring concert, and Memorial Day Parade.

There are additional opportunities for students to participate in PCMEA All County and NYSSMA Solo Festival. Symphonic Band prepares students for Wind Ensemble (high school level band).

SPECIAL SERVICES

Academic Supports

6688- Academic Support Reading

6781- AIS MS ELA

6782- AIS MS Math

8881- Skills

1869- Resource 6

1885- Resource 7

1886- Resource 8

Special Education

Special education certified teachers provide instruction in English, Social Studies, Science, and Mathematics. Course content parallels that of general education classes: course texts and instructional materials may be modified or adapted to meet students' learning needs. The goal of the program is to improve students' content knowledge and skills.

Resource Room

Most students enrolled in this program are scheduled for classes in the general education classroom. Improving skills, organization skills, note taking, written expression and reading comprehension are goals for students receiving resource room instruction.. The resource room teachers consult regularly with classroom teachers and guidance counselors to monitor student progress and to review students' strengths and weaknesses.