



PIEDMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MIDDLE SCHOOL 7TH & 8TH GRADE



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STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

English Learners (ELs) are students who are developing English proficiency while continuing to learn academic content. They come from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

Piedmont School District provides resources and support to help ELs develop English proficiency and access the Oklahoma Academic Standards. Every identified EL has an English Language Academic Plan (ELAP) outlining individualized language goals, instructional strategies, and appropriate accommodations based on the student's proficiency level.

Teachers use the ELAP to provide targeted support and ensure ELs have equitable opportunities to access the curriculum, develop language skills, and achieve academically. Students are assessed annually to measure progress in English language competency.

INDIAN EDUCATION SERVICES

Indian Education Services provides resources that support academic success and strengthen students' connections to their cultural heritage.

The program supports students by covering technology fees and Advanced Placement (AP) test fees. To support academic achievement, students have access to one-on-one online tutoring and graphing calculators for upper-level mathematics. Through our partnership with the Johnson-O'Malley (JOM) program, students can also receive school supplies. Beyond academics, the program sponsors school Native American clubs, providing opportunities for student leadership, community building, and cultural connection.

To access these services, a parent or guardian must enroll their student by submitting a **506 form** along with documentation of Native American ancestry or tribal enrollment to enrollment@piedmontschools.org

HOMELESS STUDENT SERVICES

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children and youth as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Under the McKinney-Vento Act eligible students and youth have access to additional services. Contact our School-Based Family Specialists at sbfs@piedmontschools.org for assistance.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

IEP/504s

Special Education

Piedmont Special Services partners with families, teachers, and school staff to support students with disabilities. Students who qualify for special education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) receive an Individualized Education Program (IEP) designed to meet their unique needs and provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

An IEP may include specialized instruction, related services, accommodations, modifications, and other supports based on the student's individual needs. Most students with IEPs receive instruction based on the Oklahoma Academic Standards (OAS). Students may qualify for the Oklahoma Alternate Assessment Program (OAAP), receive instruction based on the Essential Elements, and work toward an Alternate Diploma.

- [OAAP Information](#)
- [DLM Parent Brochure](#)

Section 504

Section 504 supports students with disabilities who need accommodations or services to have equal access to their education. A Section 504 team works with families and school staff to determine the support each eligible student needs. Students with a Section 504 Plan receive instruction aligned with the Oklahoma Academic Standards (OAS), with accommodations and services provided according to their individual plan.

7TH GRADE ELECTIVES

ELECTIVES

Adventures in Reading: Students will read multiple genres and bring books to life through student collaboration.

Art I: In Art I, you experiment while learning more about the Elements and Principles of Art and how they work together to make a more cohesive art piece. You will be creating fun projects while building your knowledge of art history and vocabulary. You will use various styles, techniques, and mediums such as paint, chalk pastels, oil pastels, and different 3D mediums.

Digital Media Design: Students will explore the fundamental principles of graphic design through the process of creating and producing print, online and mobile media. This course highlights topics like typography, color theory, branding, advertising and animation while promoting effective visual communication. Students will gain appreciation of the ever-changing relationship between art, technology and design.

Drama I: In this beginning course of theater, students are introduced to an overview of drama. Basic acting and stage terms are incorporated through a series of activities and simple presentations. The student will identify responsibilities involved in a variety of dramatic presentations.

Family & Consumer Science (FACS): Students will participate in personal development, life and career skills, food safety and sanitation, and basic food preparation.

Journalism/Newspaper: Students will produce and distribute the school newspaper and be introduced to a wide spectrum of journalism.

Library Aide: Library Aide tasks will include, but are not limited to shelving books, straightening book shelves, checking books in and out, unpacking and processing new books, making deliveries, copying, cutting things out, and helping with bulletin boards/special displays. An application is required for consideration of this position.

Nutrition and Wellness: This class is designed for students who have an interest in learning the basics of nutrition and how food affects the body. It will provide students with knowledge and skills to make health-promoting decisions. The class addresses the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions of health.

Office Aide: Office aides are responsible for completing office tasks such as delivering items to students/teachers, filing, stuffing envelopes, giving new students tours, and other assigned duties from the front office. An application is required.



7TH GRADE ELECTIVES

ELECTIVES CONT.

Photography: Students will be introduced to the basics of photography, parts of a camera, and proper photo composition. They will complete projects over different photographic styles and subjects, and work with photo editing software.

Piano: This course is for students who do not know how to play the piano and would like to learn. Students will learn proper counting rhythms and reading notes in order to actually play and make music with the piano.

Physical Education (PE): In this class, you will be exposed to lifelong fitness activities that will benefit your health and well-being. Throughout the year, students will have the opportunity to participate in team sports, recreational activities, cardiovascular endurance training, strength development, and flexibility exercises.

Spanish I: Introduction to conversation, grammar and basic knowledge of Spanish culture.

Speech/Debate I: This introductory class empowers students to find their own voice as they study communication, organization, and presentation skills. Students engage in a variety of speech formats including informative, persuasive, and demonstrative. They will also learn the basics of debate, the different formats used, and participate in lively class debates.

Sports History: Students will gain historical knowledge about the origins and development of various sports in the United States as well as worldwide. They will look at social, cultural, economic, and intellectual concepts through the chronological history of sports.

Stagecraft: This introductory course covers the basic use and design of sets, costumes, lighting, make-up, props, sound, and special effects in theatre. This class is for the student who wants to learn about what happens behind the scenes.

STEM/Design & Modeling: Students will be introduced to the design process in order to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on our lives.

STEM Medical Detectives: This course is the perfect introduction to health-related fields. Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene". They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health.

STEM/Robotics: Students will trace the history, development, and influence of automation robotics.
Strength Training: Student athletes will be learning the basic foundations of weight training.

7TH GRADE ELECTIVES

ELECTIVES CONT.

Vocal: Students develop skills to sing correctly and learn the basics of good musicianship through a variety of music. No previous experience required.

Yearbook: This is a year long elective class, and students must fill out an application and be selected to join the class. Students will be responsible for designing, photographing, editing, and writing the school yearbook. Students will aid in scheduling and conducting all school photo days including individuals, sports, and clubs. Yearbook staff applications will be available in the office.

REQUIRED ELECTIVES

Money Matters: This course focuses on preparing students to meet the challenges of managing one's finances in the 21st century. Students will get the opportunity to explore careers in a variety of fields and disciplines and understand the necessary skills to navigate life with financial responsibility.

Wildcats 101: This course focuses on the development of individual and interpersonal leadership skills, personal efficacy, teamwork, motivation, goal setting, communication, and collaboration. Students will identify and develop core leadership competencies and critically examine the relationship between personality and leadership styles.

PREPARING FOR **HIGH SCHOOL (7TH)**

STUDENTS

- Attend school every day, all day.
- Earn the highest grades possible in all of your classes.
- Research college & career interests.
- Continue enrolling in challenging classes.
- Visit [OKCollegeStart](#) for college planning information.
- Pre-enroll for courses that earn high school credit while in middle school.

PARENTS

- Ensure your student attends school daily.
- Monitor completion of homework daily.
- Monitor your student's progress in their classes on the PowerSchool App.
- Speak to your student daily about their school day.
- Attend parent meetings & get involved with school activities.
- Visit [OKCollegeStart](#) for college planning information.

8TH GRADE ELECTIVES

ELECTIVES

Adventures in Reading: Students will read multiple genres and bring books to life through student collaboration.

Agriculture Education: This course is an introductory course designed to expose students to different opportunities available through FFA and the agriculture industry. Students will gain knowledge in animal science, plant science, land science, leadership skills, public speaking, FFA opportunities, and agricultural mechanics. Instruction and student learning will occur through lectures, student projects, group discussions, hands on experiences and FFA experiences.

Art I: In Art I, you experiment while learning more about the Elements and Principles of Art and how they work together to make a more cohesive art piece. You will be creating fun projects while building your knowledge of art history and vocabulary. You will use various styles, techniques, and mediums such as paint, chalk pastels, oil pastels, and different 3D mediums.

Art II: After taking Art I you can enroll in Art II. Students will continue to build and apply learned skills as you create new art projects using a variety of techniques including painting, drawing, printmaking, clay sculpture, and other forms of fine art. The course is a studio style class.

Digital Media Design: Students will explore the fundamental principles of graphic design through the process of creating and producing print, online and mobile media. This course highlights topics like typography, color theory, branding, advertising and animation while promoting effective visual communication. Students will gain appreciation of the ever-changing relationship between art, technology and design.

Drama I: In this beginning course of theater, students are introduced to an overview of drama. Basic acting and stage terms are incorporated through a series of activities and simple presentations. The student will identify responsibilities involved in a variety of dramatic presentations.

Drama II: Students who have taken Drama I are eligible to take this course. This course emphasizes the development of acting skills, play analysis, play production, historical and social impact of theater as an art form, and theater as a profession. This course will provide a natural progression into further studies in drama at the high school level.

Family & Consumer Science (FACS): Students will participate in personal development, life and career skills, food safety and sanitation, and basic food preparation.

Journalism/Newspaper: Students will produce and distribute the school newspaper and be introduced to a wide spectrum of journalism.

8TH GRADE ELECTIVES

ELECTIVES CONT.

Journeys in Film: Students will go on a voyage through the magical world of film and its process. Some topics covered are: stages of production, crew positions, script writing, theme, genre, editing, sound, and production design.

Library Aide: Library Aide tasks will include, but are not limited to shelving books, straightening book shelves, checking books in and out, unpacking and processing new books, making deliveries, copying, cutting things out, and helping with bulletin boards/special displays. An application is required for consideration of this position.

Military History: Students will have the opportunity to study military history with a focus on each branch of service. Studies will include major battles as well as what military life is like from the start of basic training to life while deployed. This course will allow students to gain an insight as to what military life would be like on active duty as well as the National Guard and Reserve.

Nutrition & Wellness: This class is designed for students who have an interest in learning the basics of nutrition and how food affects the body. It will provide students with the knowledge and skills to make health-promoting decisions. The class addresses the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions of health.

Office Aide: Office aides are responsible for completing office tasks such as delivering items to students/teachers, filing, stuffing envelopes, giving new students tours, and other assigned duties from the front office. An application is required.

PE: In this class you will be exposed to lifelong fitness activities that will benefit your health and well-being. Throughout the year, students will have the opportunity to participate in team sports, recreational activities, cardiovascular endurance training, strength development and flexibility exercises.

Photography: Students will be introduced to the basics of photography, parts of a camera, and proper photo composition. They will complete projects over different photographic styles and subjects, and work with photo editing software.

Piano: This course is for students who do not know how to play the piano and would like to learn. Students will learn proper counting rhythms and reading notes in order to actually play and make music with the piano.

Spanish I: Introduction to conversation, grammar and basic knowledge of Spanish culture.

Spanish II: A continuation of Spanish I with more emphasis on oral and written work.

8TH GRADE ELECTIVES

ELECTIVES CONT.

Speech/Debate I: This introductory class empowers students to find their own voice as they study communication, organization and presentation skills. Students will engage in a variety of speech formats including informative, persuasive, and demonstrative. They will also learn the basics of debate, the different formats used, and participate in lively class debates.

Speech/Debate II: Students who have taken Speech/Debate I are eligible to take this course. This class will build upon what the student learned in Speech/Debate I. They will continue to advance their communication and presentation skills. The student will also continue to develop their debate skills through more advanced debate topics.

Sports History: Students will gain historical knowledge about the origins and development of various sports in America as well as worldwide. They will look at social, cultural, economic, and intellectual concepts through the chronological history of sports.

Stagecraft: This introductory course covers the basic use and design of sets, costumes, lighting, make-up, props, sound, and special effects in theatre. This class is for the student who wants to learn what happens behind the scenes.

STEM/Design & Modeling: Students will be introduced to the design process in order to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on our lives.

STEM/Medical Detectives: This course is an introduction to health-related fields. Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene". They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health.

STEM/Robotics: Students will trace the history, development, and influence of automation robotics.

Strength Training: Student athletes will learn the basic foundations of weight training.

Vocal: Students develop skills to sing correctly and learn the basics of good musicianship through a variety of music.

Wildcat Buddy: A Wildcat Buddy provides peer collaboration to students who need assistance in the classroom. An application is required.

Yearbook: This is a year long elective class, and students must fill out an application and be selected to join the class. Students will be responsible for designing, photographing, editing, and writing the school yearbook. Students will aid in scheduling and conducting all school photo days including individuals, sports, and clubs. Yearbook staff applications will be available in the office.

PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL (8TH)

STUDENTS

- Attend school every day, all day, and follow the [Bell-to-Bell: No Cell Policy](#).
- Review the Course Catalog and work with your counselor on a four-year plan, including [Oklahoma's Promise requirements](#).
- Visit colleges, attend CareerTech visits, and discuss your career interests and readiness scores with your counselor.
- Join clubs, teams, and organizations and log your activities throughout high school.
- Attend 9th grade transition events, do your best on [Oklahoma State Tests](#), and visit [OKHigherEd.org](#).

PARENTS

- Ensure daily attendance and monitor homework and grades through the [PowerSchool App](#).
- Attend 9th grade transition activities and pre-enrollment conferences. Use the [Piedmont High School Course Guide](#) to build a four-year plan.
- Encourage rigorous courses, staying on track, and doing their best on [Oklahoma State Tests](#).
- Enroll in [Oklahoma's Promise](#) if eligible and visit [OKCollegestart.org](#).
- Stay connected with your child's school and encourage extracurricular involvement in 9th grade.

COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING

OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE

Oklahoma's Promise allows students who meet certain income, academic and conduct requirements to earn a college or technology center tuition scholarship. The program is administered by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

OKCOLLEGESTART.ORG

OKCollegeStart.org is Oklahoma's official comprehensive online portal for postsecondary planning. This professional platform offers students, parents, and educators essential tools to navigate college and career planning, financial aid resources, and high school graduation timelines.

CANADIAN VALLEY TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Canadian Valley Technology Center provides hands-on skills training for in-demand careers to high school students and adults. With campus sites in Chickasha, El Reno and Yukon, CV Tech offers 39 full-time programs, ranging from Auto Collision to Welding – in career fields including: Arts and Communications; Business Management; Health Sciences; Human Services; and Industrial, Manufacturing and Engineering.

FAFSA

FAFSA is responsible for managing the student financial assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. These programs provide grant, work-study, and loan funds to students attending college or career school.

SCHOLARSHIPS.COM

This free scholarship search platform makes it easy to find scholarship opportunities students qualify for.



PIEDMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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