

INTRODUCTION

DAVISON MIDDLE SCHOOL 2026-2027 COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE

CORE CURRICULUM: The State of Michigan requires that all students enrolled in public school districts receive daily core curriculum instruction in language arts, math, science and social studies. Davison Community Schools, being in full compliance with state requirements, offers daily core curriculum instruction which meets or exceeds state requirements in all areas. The district has developed and implemented outcomes for kindergarten through 12th grades which reflect the state Core Curriculum guidelines. The content of these guidelines is based on “... an effective program which fosters the development of a well-rounded literate individual.” The district’s Advisory Curriculum Council, an ongoing group made up of board members, teachers, and administrators reviews each of the core areas on a periodic cycle. Additionally, student achievement is monitored in each of the five core academic areas by standardized achievement tests (Ex. NWEA), teacher developed assessments or MSTEP test results.

For more information or a complete copy of the Michigan Department of Education’s Model Core Curriculum Outcomes please visit this link:

<http://www.mich.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753---,00.html>

MATHEMATICS

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Course Title	Grade Offered	Prerequisite
Math 7	7	6 th Grade Math
Pre-Algebra	8	Math 7
Honors Pre-Algebra	7	Test out or by Permission/DMS Data Team Recommendation
Honors Algebra 1	7, 8	Honors Pre-Algebra or by Permission/DMS Data Team Recommendation
Honors Geometry	8	Honors Algebra 1 or by Permission/DMS Data Team Recommendation
Math Advancement	7, 8	DMS Data Team Recommendation

MATH 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Math, Grades Taught: 7

This course focuses on developing students' understanding of ratios, proportional relationships, expressions, linear equations, inequalities, and percents. It also covers geometry concepts: area, surface area, and volume, as well as basic statistics and probability. The goal is to strengthen problem-solving skills and prepare students for more advanced math in future grades. Math 7 follows the Grade 7 Common Core State Standards and Common Core Mathematical Practices.

PRE-ALGEBRA (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Math 7, Grades Taught: 8

This course is a foundational mathematics course designed to prepare students for high school algebra by developing essential skills in numerical reasoning, equations, and problem-solving. Topics include real numbers systems, exponents, linear equations, functions, systems of linear equations, bivariate data, and introductory geometry concepts. Students will strengthen their critical thinking and mathematical reasoning through real-world applications and interactive problem-solving. This course builds confidence and fluency in algebraic concepts, setting the stage for success in future mathematics courses. This course will address the Grade 8 Common Core State Standards and Common Core Mathematical Practices.

HONORS PRE-ALGEBRA (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS Data Team Recommendation, Grades Taught: 7

This course is an advanced foundational mathematics course designed to prepare students for high school algebra by developing essential skills in numerical reasoning, equations, and problem-solving. Topics include real numbers systems, exponents, linear equations, functions, systems of linear equations, bivariate data, and introductory geometry concepts. Students will strengthen their critical thinking and mathematical reasoning through real-world applications and interactive problem-solving. This course builds confidence and fluency in algebraic concepts, setting the stage for success in future mathematics courses. This course will address the Grade 7 & 8 Common Core State Standards and Common Core Mathematical Practices.

HONORS ALGEBRA 1 (2 SEMESTERS)**Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra and/or by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation****Grades Taught: 7, 8**

This course is a rigorous advanced high school level course designed for students in seeking an in-depth understanding of algebraic concepts. Topics include foundations of algebra, linear equations and inequalities, systems of equations and inequalities, functions and relations, exponents and exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic functions and equations, radical and rational expressions, data analysis and probability. Students will strengthen their critical thinking, problem solving, and mathematical reasoning through real-world applications. Upon completion of this course, the student will earn credit for Algebra. This course will address the Algebra Common Core State Standards and Common Core Mathematical Practices. A graphing calculator(e.g.TI-84 Plus) is recommended, not required.

HONORS GEOMETRY (2 SEMESTERS)**Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and/or by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation,****Grades Taught: 8**

This course is a rigorous advanced high school level course designed for students in seeking an in-depth understanding of geometric concepts. This course covers topics such as deductive reasoning, proofs, congruence, similarity, coordinate geometry, trigonometry, and three-dimensional figures. Emphasizing logical thinking and problem-solving, students will explore geometric relationships through algebraic connections, real-world applications, and technology. Honors Geometry prepares students for advanced mathematics courses by fostering analytical skills and precision in mathematical reasoning. Upon completion of this course, the student will earn credit for Geometry. This course will address the Geometry Common Core State Standards and Common Core Mathematical Practices. A graphing calculator(e.g.TI-84 Plus) is recommended, not required.

MATH ADVANCEMENT 7 (1 OR 2 SEMESTERS)**Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation, Grades Taught: 7**

This course is in addition to the grade level Math course and provides students with additional math support to widen their understanding of fundamental math concepts. Students will focus on building stronger skills which focus on fluency, throwbacks(foundations of mathematics), and getting Ahead(gaining prior knowledge with pre-taught lessons before the general math class).

MATH ADVANCEMENT 8 (1 OR 2 SEMESTERS)**Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation, Grades Taught: 8**

This course is in addition to the grade level Math course and provides students with additional math support to widen their understanding of fundamental math concepts. Students will focus on building stronger skills which focus on fluency, throwbacks(foundations of mathematics), and getting Ahead(gaining prior knowledge with pre-taught lessons before the general math class).

SCIENCE

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Course Title	Grade Offered	Prerequisite
Science 7	7	6 th Grade Science
Essential Earth Science 8	8	Science 7
Honors Science 7	7	DMS Data Team Recommendation
Honors Essential Earth Science 8	8	DMS Data Team Recommendation

SCIENCE 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Science, Grades Taught: 7

This course provides students with experience in the Next Generation Science Standards in order to become responsible scientists. Students are engaged in taking an active role in their own learning, as they participate in creating solutions to real world problems through the investigation of scientific phenomena and the use of accountable dialogue with their peers. Topics include: Energy and Magnetism, Ecosystems and Life Sciences, and Human Genetics. This course follows Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

ESSENTIAL EARTH SCIENCE 8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Science 7, Grades Taught: 8

This course is a required full year course that incorporates an integrated approach to teaching science topics. Students will utilize scientific inquiry and process skills to design and conduct scientific investigations, analyze information, and communicate understanding. This course integrates life, Earth, and physical science topics. There will be a focus on creating a depth of understanding, integrating scientific and engineering practices, and making connections to the real world. This course follows the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

HONORS SCIENCE 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation, Grades Taught: 7

This course provides students with rigorous experience in order to become responsible scientists. Students are actively engaged through various roles in personal and shared learning, as they participate in creating solutions to real world problems through the investigation of scientific phenomena and the use of accountable dialogue. Advanced understanding through the use of scientific discourse and meaningful reasoning increases the rigor for Honors Science 7 students. In addition to the existing science topics of Energy and Magnetism, Ecosystems and Life Sciences, and Human Genetics, honors students participate in a GREEN Water Testing Unit. This additional unit incorporates more attention to lab safety procedures, ecosystem and environmental relationships, as well as educates students through a citizen science experience within their community. This course follows the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

HONORS ESSENTIAL EARTH SCIENCE 8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Honors Science 7 and/or by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation, Grades Taught: 8

This course provides students with rigorous honors science experience, incorporating all of the content and pedagogy of the Essential Earth Science class. In addition, there is a required year-long independent project that involves participation in the Flint Regional Science Fair as well as the reading of a required nonfiction book.

SOCIAL STUDIES/HISTORY

SOCIAL STUDIES/HISTORY

Course Title	Grade Offered	Prerequisite
Social Studies 7	7	6 th Grade Social Studies
History 8	8	Social Studies 7
Honors Social Studies 7	7	DMS DataTeam Recommendation
Honors History 8	8	DMS DataTeam Recommendation

SOCIAL STUDIES 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Social Studies, Grades Taught: 7

This course provides students with an introduction to Ancient World History. Students begin by reviewing basic geography content and continuing to sharpen their basic Social Studies skills. They will then study prehistory and the early life of humans. They will then begin to study ancient history by exploring it by region. In each region they will explore chronologically from the beginnings of civilization in that area through the year 1500 AD.

HISTORY 8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Social Studies 7, Grades Taught: 8

This course provides students with a comprehensive study of American history from the time of the Declaration of Independence through Reconstruction (1763-1900). Areas to be studied include the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Growth of the new republic, Jacksonian Democracy and Westward Expansion, early reform movements, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. This course will also include economic, civic, and geographic perspectives as they relate to the individual eras in each time period.

HONORS SOCIAL STUDIES 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation, Grades Taught: 7

In this course students are introduced to Ancient World History. Students begin by reviewing basic geography content and continuing to sharpen their basic Social Studies skills. They will then study prehistory and the early life of humans. They will then begin to study ancient history by exploring it by region. In each region they will explore chronologically from the beginnings of civilization in that area through the year 1500 AD. In this honors course students will increase their depth of knowledge through the use of project based learning and other best practice learning strategies.

HONORS HISTORY 8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation, Grades Taught: 8

This course provides students with a rigorous and in-depth study of American history from the time of the Declaration of Independence through Reconstruction (1763-1900). Includes supplemental reading and writing to enhance academic growth. Areas to be studied include the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Growth of the new republic, Jacksonian Democracy and Westward Expansion, early reform movements, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. This course will also include economic, civic, and geographic perspectives as they relate to the individual eras in each time period.

ELA

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Course Title	Grade Offered	Prerequisite
Language Arts 7	7	6 th Grade Language Arts
Language Arts 8	8	Language Arts 7
Honors Language Arts 7	7	DMS Data Team Recommendation
Honors Language Arts 8	8	Honors Language Arts 7 or by Permission/ DMS Data Team Recommendation

LANGUAGE ARTS 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Language Arts, Grades Taught: 7

This course is arranged into four units of study that incorporate reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will read and write narrative, argument, and informational texts. Throughout the course, skills will be looped continuously as students grow as readers of different genres focusing on reading strategies, comprehension questions, and passage-based writing. As authors, students will engage in multiple writing opportunities moving from collaboration to independence as they improve their craft. Language skills, including grammar, word study, and speaking and listening, are embedded throughout each unit. This course will address the Grade 7 Michigan Common Core ELA Standards.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Language Arts 7, Grades Taught: 8

This course is arranged into four units of study that incorporate reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will grow as writers as they work on improving communicating their ideas using narrative, argument, and informational genres. Students will also grow as readers as they build skills and strategies with both narrative and informational texts that help them to generate evidence-based claims, develop an independent love of reading, and consider multiple perspectives. Students will work with partner/group projects and discussions to develop listening and speaking skills. This course will address the Grade 8 Michigan Common Core ELA Standards.

HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS Data Team Recommendation, Grades Taught: 7

This course is arranged into four units of study that incorporate reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will read and write narrative, argumentative, and informational texts. Throughout the course, skills will be looped continuously as students grow as readers of different genres, focusing on reading strategies, comprehension questions, and passage-based writing with increasing levels of rigor. Students will begin as learners and progress to leaders in the discussion, analysis, and evaluation of reading and writing pieces. Learners will engage in inquiry through discussions, collaborations, and research projects. As authors, students will engage in multiple writing opportunities, moving from collaboration to independence as they improve their craft. Language skills, including grammar, word study, and speaking and listening, are embedded throughout each unit. This course will address the Grade 7 Michigan Common Core ELA Standards.

HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS 8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation, Grades Taught: 8

This course is arranged into four units of study that incorporate reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will grow as writers as they work on improving communicating their ideas using narrative, argument, and informational genres. They will also study mentor texts to analyze decisions the author made and use them as examples for their writing. Students will grow as readers as they build skills and strategies with both narrative and informational texts that help them to generate evidence-based claims, develop an independent love of reading, and consider multiple perspectives. Students will work with partner/group projects and discussions to develop listening and speaking skills. This course will address the Grade 8 Michigan Common Core ELA Standards.

ELECTIVES

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Course Title	Grade Offered	Prerequisite
Directed Studies	7, 8	DMS Data Team Recommendation
Teen Survival 1	7, 8	None
Leadership	7, 8	None
Broadcasting Basics	7, 8	None
Computer Science Discoveries "Coding"	7, 8	None
Keyboarding & Research	7, 8	None
Technology Literacy	7, 8	None
Physical Education 7	7	None
Physical Education 8	8	None
Concert Orchestra	7	5th/6th Grade Orchestra or Permission of Director
Symphony Orchestra	8	Concert Orchestra or Permission of Director
Maroon/Gold Band	7	5th/6th Grade Band or Permission of Director
Cardinal Band	8	Maroon/Gold Band or Permission of Director
Career & Health Topics*	8	None *Required 8th Grade Course
French 1	8	Earned an A or B in Language Arts 7
Spanish 1	8	Earned an A or B in Language Arts 7
Cardinal Men	7, 8	None
Cardinal Singers	7, 8	None
Music Masters	7, 8	1-2 semesters of Cardinal Singers, or Mezzo Voce club
Introduction to Theater	7, 8	None

DIRECTED STUDIES (1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none, Grades Taught: 7, 8

This course is designed to assist students with goal setting, organization, time management, and self-advocacy. Students are also given individual assistance in preparing for and completion of their daily course work. Students who are having difficulty adjusting to the academic rigor of DMS classes may benefit from this class.

TEEN SURVIVAL 1 (1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none, Grades Taught: 7, 8

This course is designed to enhance essential life skills. Participants will gain knowledge in consumer skills related to shopping and financial management, as well as first aid and safety practices. The curriculum also includes foundational skills in hand and machine sewing, along with culinary skills that encompass recipe comprehension, accurate measuring techniques, and safe usage of stoves and ovens.

LEADERSHIP (1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none, Grades Taught: 7, 8

This course is a unique class that offers students the chance to learn about leadership as it applies to daily life. Students will be given a variety of opportunities to use skills that enhance their leadership potential. Additionally, students will learn about habits that will support their own personal growth, as well as relationships, and self-esteem. Throughout the semester, students will be encouraged to practice public speaking, group work, leading students who are younger than themselves, and leading through service. Students will be held accountable for model citizenship in school, in order to be considered for this class.

LEADERSHIP 2 (1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none, **Grades Taught:** 8

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Leadership 1 and completion of application process.

Class Description: This course is an extension of Leadership 1. Students will practice what they learned in Leadership 1, and add it to new concepts about leadership, as well as build public speaking skills. Additionally, students will volunteer with preschool students, and partner with residents in a local senior citizen center. ***Applications will be provided once students sign up for the class.***

BROADCASTING BASICS (1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none, ***Priority is given to 8th grade students, Grades Taught:** 7, 8

This course is designed to give students a chance to explore the many dimensions of broadcast production.

Students will learn the basics of camera operation, microphone audio, and video editing with Adobe Premiere Pro.

Students will work with a team and report on feature stories and special projects. They will have the opportunity to develop their writing and public speaking skills. Being in front of the camera and behind the scenes, you are sure to get a variety of experiences. *Please be aware that our projects are published on a YouTube channel.

COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES "CODING"(1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none, **Grades Taught:** 7, 8

CS Discoveries is an introduction to computer programming where students create apps for computer animations, interactive graphics, and different types of games. They will also use small circuit boards to create light shows, play sounds, and control their apps using buttons, sliders, sound sensors, light sensors, and motion sensors. No prior coding experience is needed—just a willingness to learn and have fun!

KEYBOARDING & RESEARCH (1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none, **Grades Taught:** 7, 8

In this course, students will develop essential typing skills and learn how to find reliable information online. The primary focus is on improving typing speed, accuracy, and technique to promote efficiency and reduce the risk of repetitive motion injuries in the future. Additionally, students will explore strategies for evaluating online sources and properly crediting authors in their research.

TECHNOLOGY LITERACY (1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none, **Grades Taught:** 7, 8

In this course, students will learn how technology works, how to use important tools efficiently, and how to stay safe and responsible online. They will practice useful skills like using keyboard shortcuts, editing documents, and working with common software to make school work easier. Students will also explore how computers work and how technology has changed over time—from early computers to the fast-growing world of artificial intelligence.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 (1 OR 2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: none, **Grades Taught:** 7

This course focuses on building fundamental physical skills, character building, promoting teamwork, and encouraging healthy habits. Students will participate in a variety of activities that include individual sports, team games, and fitness exercises, all designed to improve strength, endurance, coordination, and flexibility. The course will also emphasize the importance of positive sportsmanship, communication, and collaboration with peers. In addition to physical activities, students will explore basic concepts of nutrition, personal fitness, and overall

well-being. By the end of the semester, students will gain a solid foundation in physical activity and be prepared to lead a healthy, active lifestyle.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 (1 OR 2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: none, Grades Taught: 8

This course students will engage in a variety of activities designed to promote physical fitness, teamwork, and healthy lifestyle habits. This course emphasizes the development of motor skills, cardiovascular endurance, strength, flexibility, and coordination through both individual and group activities. Students will participate in team sports, fitness challenges, games, and recreational activities, all while learning the importance of good sportsmanship, communication, and cooperation. The course also introduces students to concepts of nutrition, wellness, and the benefits of lifelong physical activity. By the end of the semester, students will have the tools and knowledge to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle both inside and outside the classroom. 8th grade will focus

CONCERT ORCHESTRA (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: 5th/6th Grade Orchestra or Permission of Director, Grades Taught: 7

Students refine basic musical concepts acquired in previous musical experiences at Hahn Intermediate in a small group setting. Study in this ensemble prepares all middle school orchestra students for successful participation in the Davison MS Symphony Orchestra. Participation requires graded activities outside of the school day. (3-4 concert performances, band and orchestra festival, solo/ensemble festival, etc) Individual practice is essential to student progress and mastery in performing ensembles.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Concert Orchestra or Permission of Director, Grades Taught: 8

This instrumental music ensemble provides advanced instruction to middle school orchestra students. Symphony Orchestra focuses on developing ensemble skills, musical artistry, independence, and refining musical technique. Study in this ensemble prepares all middle school orchestra students for successful participation in the Davison HS Instrumental Program. Participation requires graded activities outside of the school day. (4-5 concert performances, band and orchestra festival, solo/ensemble festival, etc) Individual practice is essential to student progress and mastery in performing ensembles.

MAROON / GOLD BAND (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: 5th/6th Grade Band or Permission of Director, Grades Taught: 7

Students refine basic musical concepts acquired in previous musical experiences at Hahn Intermediate in a small group setting. Participation requires graded activities outside of the school day. (sectionals, 4-5 concert performances, band festival, solo/ensemble festival, honors bands, pep bands, etc) Individual practice is essential to student progress and mastery in performing ensembles.

CARDINAL BAND (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Maroon/Gold Band or Permission of Director, Grades Taught: 8

This instrumental music ensemble provides advanced instruction to 8th grade band students in a combined ensemble experience. Cardinal band focuses on developing ensemble skills, musical artistry, independence, and refining musical technique. Study in this ensemble prepares all 8th grade band students for successful participation in the Davison HS Instrumental Program. Participation requires graded activities outside of the school day. (sectionals, 4-5 concert performances, band festival, solo/ensemble festival, honors bands, pep bands, etc) Individual practice is essential to student progress and mastery in performing ensembles.

CAREER & HEALTH TOPICS (1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none *Required 8th Grade Course, Grades Taught: 8

This course is designed to introduce middle school students to the basics of career exploration, personal health, and wellness. Throughout the semester, students will explore various career options, understanding the skills and education required for different professions. They will learn how personal interests, strengths, and values align with potential career paths. In addition, students will gain knowledge about physical, mental, and emotional health, focusing on making healthy choices and building good habits for lifelong wellness.

FRENCH 1 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation, Grades Taught: 8

This course focuses on speaking, reading, listening and writing skills with integration of culture. Students are expected to master vocabulary words and sentence patterns which will help them in simple conversations, such as greetings, describing self and others, expressing likes/dislikes, school related activities and routines, and family and food. Oral presentations and participation are part of the class. High school credit will be awarded to students who complete both semesters with a passing grade.

SPANISH 1 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: Only by Permission/DMS DataTeam Recommendation, Grades Taught: 8

This course focuses on speaking, reading, listening and writing skills with integration of culture. Students are expected to master vocabulary words and sentence patterns which will help them in simple conversations, such as greetings, describing self and others, expressing likes/dislikes, school related activities and routines, and family and food. Oral presentations and participation are part of the class. High school credit will be awarded to students who complete both semesters with a passing grade.

CARDINAL MEN (1 OR 2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: None, Grades Taught: 7-8

In this course, students will learn how to sing together as a group, focusing on the singing voice, pitch matching, rhythm accuracy, correct diction, expression, posture, and movement. Students will participate in a number of events, demonstrating their vocal skills with increased proficiency as the year progresses. Events are often held outside of the school day and are required unless otherwise noted.

CARDINAL SINGERS (1 OR 2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: None, Grades Taught: 7-8

In this course, students will learn how to sing together as a group, focusing on the singing voice, pitch and rhythm accuracy, correct diction, vocal and dramatic expression, posture, and movement. Students will participate in a number of events, demonstrating their vocal skills with increased proficiency as the year progresses. Events are often held outside of the school day and are required unless otherwise noted.

MUSIC MASTERS (1 OR 2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: 1-2 semesters of Cardinal Singers, or Mezzo Voce club, Grades Taught: 8

In this course, students build on the skills learned in Cardinal Singers, gaining independence in multiple harmony parts, small group singing, and acapella singing. Music Masters continue to refine tone quality, pitch and rhythm accuracy, diction, interpretation, and stage presence. Events are often held outside of the school day and are

required unless otherwise noted. Music Masters learn important music reading and singing skills that prepare them for success in high school choir.

INTRODUCTION TO THEATER (1 SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: none, **Grades Taught:** 7-8

In this course, students learn the basics of stage performance, including skills such as projection, exaggerated movement, expression, inflection, memorization, and improvisation. Theater games build confidence and skill in performing alone and together, scripted and non-scripted scenes. Students also complete a speech unit, and each class performs in a play (after school hours, attendance required). This course builds creativity, team work, self-control, thinking on your feet, and many more important life skills.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

RESOURCE ROOM PROGRAM CLASSES

The following courses make up a program individually designed for students on the basis of recommendations from the IEPT participants in each case.

Course Title	Grade Offered	Prerequisite
Resource Room Math 7	7	IEP placement
Resource Room Math 8	8	IEP placement
Resource Room Math Advancement	7, 8	IEP placement
Resource Room Language Arts 7	7	IEP placement
Resource Room Language Arts 8	8	IEP placement
Resource Room Study Skills Support	7, 8	IEP placement

Resource room classes are for students who qualify for special education services and need specialized instruction in a small group setting for a specific content subject area. Content being taught follows the Michigan Common Core State Standards.

Team Taught classes are for those students who are able to keep up with the general education pace with the assistance of two certified teachers.

RESOURCE ROOM MATH 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP Placement, **Grades Taught:** 7

Resource Room Math 7 follows the 7th Grade Common Core State Standards and Common Core Mathematical Practices. Topics covered are the same as those covered in the general education Math 7 classes, but with modifications to the depth, rigor, and pacing of the curriculum concepts being taught.

TEAM TAUGHT MATH 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Math and IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 7

This course focuses on developing students' understanding of ratios, proportional relationships, operations with rational numbers, and linear equations. It also covers geometry concepts like area, surface area, and volume, as well as basic statistics and probability. The goal is to strengthen problem-solving skills and prepare students for more advanced math in future grades. Math 7 follows the 7th Grade Common Core State Standards and Common Core Mathematical Practices. Team Taught Math 7 is a class with two certified teachers and covers all of the same topics as the general education Math 7 class (see Math 7 description for a list of topics).

RESOURCE ROOM MATH 8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 8

Resource Room Math 8 follows the 8th Grade Common Core State Standards and Common Core Mathematical Practices. Topics covered are the same as those covered in the general education Pre Algebra classes, but with modifications to the depth, rigor, and pacing of the curriculum concepts being taught.

RESOURCE ROOM MATH ADVANCEMENT (1 OR 2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 7, 8

This class can be taken in conjunction with Resource Room Math 7 or Resource Room Math 8 as recommended by the IEP team. This course provides students with additional support for students to be successful in Resource Room Math 7 and/or Resource Room Math 8. Test-taking strategies, basic math skills, and re-teaching/pre-teaching of key Math 7 and/or Math 8 concepts are the foundation of this course. This is not a replacement for Math 7 or Math 8 credit.

RESOURCE ROOM LANGUAGE ARTS 7 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 7

Resource Room ELA 7 follows the 7th Grade Common Core State Standards and Common Core English Language Arts Practices. Topics covered are the same as those covered in the general education ELA 7 classes, but with modifications to the depth, rigor, and pacing of the curriculum concepts being taught.

RESOURCE ROOM LANGUAGE ARTS 8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 8

Resource Room ELA 8 follows the 8th Grade Common Core State Standards and Common Core English Language Arts Practices. Topics covered are the same as those covered in the general education ELA 8 classes, but with modifications to the depth, rigor, and pacing of the curriculum concepts being taught.

RESOURCE ROOM STUDY SKILLS SUPPORT (1 OR 2 SEMESTERS)

This class is designed to assist students with goal setting, organization, time management, and self-advocacy. Students are also given individual assistance in preparing for and completion of their daily course work. Students with an IEP who are having difficulty with the academic rigor of DMS classes may benefit from this class.

Prerequisite: IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 7 & 8

LIFESKILLS PROGRAM CLASSES

The following courses make up a program individually designed for students on the basis of recommendations from the IEPT participants in each case.

Course Title	Grade Offered	Prerequisite
Lifeskills Math	7, 8	IEP placement
Lifeskills Science	7, 8	IEP placement
Lifeskills Language Arts	7, 8	IEP placement
Lifeskills History	7, 8	IEP placement

The Lifeskills program provides a structured learning environment for students with cognitive impairments and/or students with a disability who function as if they have a cognitive impairment. This program provides services designed to strengthen the academic, communication, social, and daily living skills of students. The primary goal of these classes is skill acquisition. These skills range from the traditional academic skills of reading, writing, and math to the transition skills of pre-vocational training.

LIFESKILLS MATH (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, Grades Taught: 7, 8

In Lifeskills Math, students work toward meeting the Essential Elements of the Michigan Common Core State Standards that focuses on functional mathematics for everyday living. The fundamental concepts of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division are reviewed and applied to solve problems that occur in daily living and learning situations. Students use their current levels to build knowledge in independently solving real-life math scenarios, including time, money, measurement, and fractions.

LIFESKILLS SCIENCE (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, Grades Taught: 7, 8

In Lifeskills Science, the students have an accommodated and modified experience in the Next Generation Science Standards in order to become responsible scientists. Students are engaged in taking an active role in their own learning, as they participate in creating solutions to real world problems through the investigation of scientific phenomena and the use of accountable dialogue with their peers. Topics include: Energy and Magnetism, Ecosystems and Life Sciences, and Human Genetics.

LIFESKILLS LANGUAGE ARTS (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, Grades Taught: 7, 8

In Lifeskills English Language Arts, students work toward meeting the Essential Elements of the Michigan Common Core State Standards that focuses on functional reading, writing, listening, and speaking for everyday living. Students read both narrative and informational texts in order to build independent reading fluency and comprehension skills needed for everyday situations. Students develop independent writing skills for everyday

situations. Speaking and listening skills are embedded into the program daily to improve communication for everyday living.

LIFESKILLS HISTORY (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 7, 8

In Lifeskills History, the students explore America's past from the beginning of the Revolutionary War, the development of the United States Government through the Civil War and Reconstruction (1763-1900). The students gain an understanding of the: Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the amendment process, and the branches of the Federal Government.

CONNECTIONS PROGRAM CLASSES

The following courses make up a program individually designed for students on the basis of recommendations from the IEPT participants in each case.

Course Title	Grade Offered	Prerequisite
Connections Math	7/8	IEP placement
Connections ELA	7/8	IEP placement
Connections History	7/8	IEP placement
Connections Social Skills	7/8	IEP placement

The Connections Program provides a structured learning environment for students with emotional impairments and/or students with a disability who need a more restrictive school setting. These are students who exhibit an intensive pattern of behavior over a period of time, in which local district behavior interventions and positive behavior supports have not been successful. The purpose of the Connections Program is to improve student's behavior allowing them to transition back to a less restrictive placement in the continuum of special education services.

CONNECTIONS MATH 7/8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 7, 8

El Connections Math follows the 7th and 8th Grade Common Core State Standards and Common Core Mathematical Practices. Topics covered are the same as those covered in the general education Math classes, but with modifications to the depth, rigor, and pacing of the curriculum concepts being taught. Students work on math skills correlating with their zone of proximal development in addition to grade level content.

CONNECTIONS HISTORY 7/8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 7, 8

El Connections History follows the Grade Level Content Expectations. Topics covered are the same as those covered in the general education History classes, but with modifications to the depth, rigor, and pacing of the curriculum concepts being taught.

CONNECTIONS LANGUAGE ARTS 7/8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, **Grades Taught:** 7, 8

El Connections Language Arts is arranged into four units of study that incorporate reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills, and it addresses the Michigan Common Core ELA Standards. Students will read and write narrative, argument, and informational texts. Throughout the course, skills will be looped continuously as students grow as

readers of different genres focusing on reading strategies, comprehension questions, and passage-based writing. As authors, students will engage in multiple writing opportunities moving from collaboration to independence as they improve their craft. Language skills, including grammar, word study, and speaking and listening, are embedded throughout each unit.

CONNECTIONS SOCIAL SKILLS 7/8 (2 SEMESTERS)

Prerequisite: IEP placement, Grades Taught: 7, 8

El Connections Social Skills focuses on self-advocacy, strategic academic skills, executive function skills, and recurrent instruction in certain core subject lessons as needed. This course will focus on improving Social Emotional Learning in the areas of Self Awareness, Self Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Goals, and Responsible Decision Making through the use of whole class instruction, small group instruction, and/or individual instruction based on the individual needs of the student.