WILLIAMSVILLE
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Est. 1893

GRADE 7

OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION

GRADE LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

New York State learning standards outline what students should know and be able to do by the end of seventh grade while preparing them for the increasing rigor of high school coursework. Throughout the year, students are expected to become strategic thinkers, effective communicators, and independent learners who apply knowledge across disciplines, collaborate with others, and solve complex problems using evidence and reasoning. The skills identified below represent a consolidated list of the most important grade-level learning priorities. They are not intended to represent a comprehensive list of all standards or content taught during seventh grade. Instruction encompasses the full range of New York State grade-level standards across all subject areas.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

- Analyze how elements of a story interact and how setting shapes characters or how particular incidents propel the plot.
- Analyze the influence of unreliable narrators and compare differing perspectives of various characters.
- Synthesize central ideas across multiple sections of text and determine text features.
- Analyze how two different authors writing about the same topic might emphasize different facts to lead the reader to different conclusions.
- Write across varied genres with a focus on logical organizations of reasons to support claims, multi-genre synthesis, elaboration, style, and punctuation for effect.
- Include multimedia in presentations to make their findings clear and engaging.

MATH

- Analyze proportional relationships and solve percent problems involving tax, discounts, tips, and interest.
- Operate fluently with rational numbers, including positive and negative integers, fractions, and decimals.
- Write, solve, and interpret multi-step equations and inequalities.
- Compare and model linear relationships using tables, graphs, equations, and verbal descriptions.
- Draw geometric figures and solve problems involving scale, angle relationships, circles, area, and volume.



- Evaluate probability models and interpret statistical comparisons between data sets.

SCIENCE

- Explore cellular structures and organ systems to understand how specialized components carry out essential life processes in living organisms.
- Trace the flow of matter and energy through photosynthesis, cellular respiration, and food webs within diverse ecosystems.
- Analyze interactions among organisms, population dynamics, and how environmental changes or human activities impact ecosystem stability and biodiversity.
- Investigate how genetic information (DNA and genes) is passed down through sexual and asexual reproduction, causing trait variations and mutations.
- Examine fossil records, anatomical similarities, and anatomical differences to infer biological evolution, adaptation, and natural selection over time.

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Examine Indigenous cultures of North America and analyze the impact of European exploration, colonization, and interactions between groups.
- Compare the geographic, social, political, and economic characteristics of the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies.
- Investigate the causes of the American Revolution, major events of the War for Independence, and New York's strategic role.
- Explore the development of the United States government through the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and principles of democracy.
- Analyze westward expansion, territorial growth, and reform movements, including abolition and women's rights.
- Examine the causes and consequences of the Civil War, including debates over slavery and states' rights, and the challenges of Reconstruction.

SCREENING

- Grade-level assessments are designed to measure student progress, guide instruction, and ensure students receive the appropriate resources and support to meet grade-level expectations.
- Reading: The Aimsweb Universal Screener is utilized three times per year to assess each of the following: silent reading fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension.

STATE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- NYS ELA Assessment
- NYS Math Assessment
- WIDA Access for students identified as English language learners
- NYSAA for ELA
- NYSAA for Math
- NYSAA for Science



GRADE 7

ART

- Create original artwork by developing ideas, exploring materials, and applying artistic techniques and processes.
- Refine and present artwork by revising, completing, and sharing creative work with purpose and intention.
- Respond to artwork by analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating artistic choices using art vocabulary and criteria.
- Connect art to personal experiences, cultures, history, and other disciplines to deepen understanding.

MUSIC

- Create musical ideas through composing, improvising, and arranging using voice, instruments, and technology.
- Perform and present music with skill, expression, collaboration, and appropriate performance practices.
- Respond to music by analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating musical works using music vocabulary and criteria.
- Connect music to personal experiences, cultures, history, and other disciplines to deepen understanding.
- Curricular Band, Orchestra and Chorus also available to students in grades 4-12.

WORLD LANGUAGES

- Understand the main idea and some details when listening to or reading simple messages about familiar topics such as health, food, shopping, holidays, weather, and travel, especially when visuals or context are provided.
- Participate in short conversations by asking and answering questions about everyday topics, including how they feel, what they eat or drink, how often they do activities, and what they like or prefer.
- Talk and write about daily life and experiences, describing what they do, what they need, what they can do, and where they go using simple sentences and common expressions.
- Use everyday language to interact in practical situations, such as shopping for clothing, discussing the weather, planning activities, or talking about celebrations and traditions.
- Ask and answer a wider variety of questions using words such as who, what, where, when, how, and why to gather information or explain their choices and preferences.
- Build cultural awareness by learning about traditions, holidays, and everyday practices in French- or Spanish-speaking cultures and comparing them to their own experiences.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Demonstrate competency in a variety of motor skills and movement patterns.
- Apply knowledge of concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics related to movement and performance.
- Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a health enhancing level of physical activity and fitness.
- Recognize the value of physical activity for overall wellness, enjoyment, challenge, and/or self expression.

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

- Engage in the engineering and design process using appropriate technology.
- Demonstrate an introductory understanding of various manufacturing and production methods, including custom versus mass production, automation, and the historical development of manufacturing processes.
- Demonstrate an introductory understanding of architectural and structural design, focusing on local and historical architecture.

TIPS FOR PARENTS/ GUARDIANS

Automaticity: Continue practicing multiplication tables if your student's responses are not yet automatic.

Assignment Tracking: Help your child maintain a system for recording due dates. For larger projects, assist them in mapping out deadlines for individual parts, such as **research, drafts, and revisions.**

Informational Books: Encourage your child to select nonfiction books about history, science, art, music, and famous people to build background knowledge.

Civic and Global Engagement: Encourage your child to discuss current events and make connections to the history, values, and founding principles of the United States.

Math: Encourage your child to justify their thinking. Instead of asking only for an answer, ask, "Why does that strategy work?" or "Could you solve it another way?"

Scientific Thinking: Encourage your child to explore and explain patterns in living things by observing plants, animals, and ecosystems. Have students explore and explain how organisms grow, reproduce, and interact with their environment.

Home Language Use: Use your native language at home with your child. Strong native language skills help students to succeed in school.