

# Wellington Middle School Course Description Guide

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## Course Description Guide Definitions

**AVID:** AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, is a college readiness system for elementary through higher education that is designed to increase school wide learning and performance. The AVID College Readiness System (ACRS) accelerates student learning, uses research based methods of effective instruction, provides meaningful and motivational professional learning, and acts as a catalyst for systemic reform and change

**PRE-AP:** Pre-AP is based on the following two important premises. The first is the expectation that all students can perform well at rigorous academic levels. This expectation should be reflected in curriculum and instruction throughout the school such that all students are consistently being challenged to expand their knowledge and skills to the next level.

The second important premise of Pre-AP is the belief that we can prepare every student for higher intellectual engagement by starting the development of skills and acquisition of knowledge as early as possible. Addressed effectively, the middle and high school years can provide a powerful opportunity to help all students acquire the knowledge, concepts, and skills needed to engage in a higher level of learning.

**Support & Skills Classes:** These courses provide extra support to students in the areas identified. These classes are designed to fit the individual needs of the students placed in the particular class. Placement is often determined based on achievement data i.e., CMAS, MAPs, etc .

**Wellington Middle School**  
**Course Description Handbook**  
**2019-2020**

***ART ELECTIVE COURSES*** \_\_\_\_\_

**1012 S Hand Lettering**

In the Calligraphy and Sketch Noting class, artists will learn visual arts related to writing. Tools we will use are calligraphy pens, brushes, writing pens, and more. We will also learn techniques to organize thoughts creatively and while using visual elements. Projects will use both text and fonts to communicate a message. We may also use digital tools to create graphic artworks using Photoshop.

**1020 S Art 1 – Grades 6/7**

This course offers further development of the elements of art and the principles of design. A wide variety of art activities are designed to increase the student's knowledge of art media, techniques, terminology, and appreciation of aesthetics and art styles. Critical thinking skills are emphasized as students do drawings, paintings, sculpture, printmaking, ceramics, fiber projects and computer graphics.

**1035 S Art 2 and Art 3 – Grade 8**

This course allows students to further develop their creative ideas and interests with more involved projects. A greater emphasis is placed on art aesthetics and critical evaluation. Art elements and principles of design continue to be reinforced as students are introduced to new art concepts, art history, media, and techniques. Art 2/3 is a scheduling number that allows students at both levels to be addressed in one class

**1050 S Crafts 1 - Grades 6/7/8**

This course offers the student opportunities to design and create functional handcrafted products, which may include clay, wood, leather, plastics, beading, fibers, metal, and printmaking. The history and culture of crafts is studied. There is a fee for this course not covered by a fee waiver.

**1060 S Crafts 2 – Grades 7/8**

A course designed to give students the opportunity for more intensive study application techniques and skills acquired in Crafts I. They will develop practical ideas with emphasis on function. Creative use of project design and materials is stressed. There is a fee for this course not covered by a fee waiver.

**1070 S Photography 1 - Grade 8**

This course includes instruction in basic and fundamental 35 mm camera use. Each student participates in darkroom techniques such as black and white film developing, picture printing, and picture enlarging. The history of photography is introduced, the science of photographic chemicals is studied, and visual perception is stressed by looking with discrimination through the lens of a camera. There is a fee for this class and students may be asked to buy film. This course does not exempt students from taking Photo I in high school as a prerequisite for advanced high school photography offerings. There is a fee for this course not covered by a fee waiver.

**1320 S Pottery - Grades 7/8**

This course offers the student the opportunity of exploring various methods and techniques utilized in pottery construction. The student will learn the techniques of hand building and throwing on the potter's wheel. Student supplies, kit and/or fees required. There is a fee for this course not covered by a fee waiver.

## ***COMPUTER ELECTIVE COURSES***

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### **1602 Q Web 2.0 Computer Technology – Grade 6 - Quarter Class**

This class focuses on the safe and responsible use of Web 2.0 technology for productivity and communication. Tools covered in this class include Google Docs & Spreadsheets, Blogging, Wikis, and Podcasting. In addition, this class teaches effective Internet and database research techniques.

### **1759 S Computer Gaming Digital Tech – Grade 7**

This class is an elective that includes topics such as video game programming, digital video production, advanced Web 2.0 technology, global collaboration, and geographic information systems (Google Earth). A variety of computer science and technology careers will be explored.

### **1800 S Web Design & Computer Animation 1 – Grade 8**

This course will incorporate 21<sup>st</sup> century skills in a web design environment. Students will work collaboratively to design and create innovative digital works. Units will include: web site design, digital photography, videography, graphics, animations, data analysis, and marketing. Careers and life-long learning opportunities will be explored.

### **5275 S 21<sup>st</sup> Century Media/Technology (Mass Media)**

This semester class will focus on ways to deliver information to the public, such as through the mediums of newspapers, television, websites, blogs, podcasts and videos. The course will guide students in the use of photography, computers, video equipment and other technology used to produce and communicate information.

## ***TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVE COURSES*** \_\_\_\_\_

### **2000 S Intro to Tech/Engineering – Grade 6**

Introduction to Technology/Engineering is an exciting and fast paced hands-on/minds-on class. Students will explore areas of technology and engineering from electronics, rocketry, robots and other technology related areas. During each unit, Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) concepts will be integrated to provide the student with 21st century skills and help build technological literacy. This class will provide the foundation for additional Technology Education curriculum offered to seventh and eighth grade students. Student projects will align with The Design Cycle (Investigate, Plan, Create, Evaluate) for both student design and evaluation. Safe and proper use of equipment will be integrated in the course.

### **2001 S Exploring Tech/Engineering – Grade 7**

Exploring Technology/Engineering addresses the development of technology and how it is changing our world. Students learn to use technology-related tools including computers, lasers, telecommunication equipment, transportation systems, production equipment, robots, and wind tunnels. Engineering concepts are also integrated throughout the course. Student projects will align with The Design Cycle (Investigate, Plan, Create, Evaluate) for both student design and evaluation. Safe and proper use of equipment will be integrated in the course.

### **2002 S Applying Tech/Engineering – Grade 8**

Applying Technology/Engineering is an opportunity for students to further their knowledge of STEM related areas. It provides students with a chance to expand on information they've gained in previous classes in areas such as computer applications, robotics, transportation and work both individually and as teams in STEM areas. In this class students will explore, research and develop applications for future technologies. This class is important for students wishing to continue in the technology education program at the high school level. Student projects will align with The Design Cycle (Investigate, Plan, Create, Evaluate) for both student design and evaluation. Safe and proper use of equipment will be integrated in the course.

### **2003 S Robotics Engineering 1- Grade 7/8**

Robotics Engineering 1 is a semester long class designed to introduce the basics of robotics as it teaches science technology engineering and mathematics (STEM). Students will learn how to use information from sensors, applied mathematics and measurement to program their robot to perform in a series of environments. They will have the opportunity to complete multiple investigations involving guided research, problem solving, working in teams and documenting what they've learned as they investigate how robots make decisions to navigate their environment. As students become familiar with the programming and the NXT hardware, they may progress at their own pace allowing for differentiation in student abilities and learning styles. Interactive, hands-on learning is the structure of this class. This course is a pre-cursor to the high school robotics program and a part of the K-12 robotics articulation.

## ***MUSIC ELECTIVE COURSES***

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### **2511 S Music Appreciation Grades 6/7/8**

This one semester course will give you an overview of how music works. We will learn the history of music, how music is written, and elements of music and instrument technology. This class will teach you everything from Mozart to Taylor Swift and everything in between.

### **2540 S Concert Choir - Grades 6/7/8**

This is a non-select mixed choir. Choral literature of appropriate difficulty is performed. This is a performing group, and attendance at school concerts is required.

### **2639 Y Beginning Band - Grade 6**

Beginning Band is designed for teaching basic skills to beginning Wind, Brass and Percussion players. Tone, technical facility, music terminology and music reading are part of the curriculum. Participation in the PSD summer band program is encouraged for incoming players. The music department can assist with the availability and/or rental of instruments. School concerts begin and are required.

### **2590 Y Concert Band Grade 7**

Enrollment in this class is by instructor approval or upon successful completion of beginning band. Intermediate band emphasizes fundamentals such as scales, chords, and tone production. A large quantity of band literature of varying styles and difficulty is studied. School concerts are required. The music department can assist with the availability and/or rental of instruments.

### **2610 Y Symphonic Band - Grade 8**

Enrollment is by instructor approval or upon successful completion of intermediate band. The class involves a continuation of music fundamentals taught at the beginning and intermediate levels. Advanced playing techniques are developed through rehearsal and performances. School concerts are required. The music department can assist with the availability and/or rental of instruments.

### **2580 Y Beginning Orchestra Grade 6**

This course is designed for the beginning string student. Basic techniques of bowing, fingering, and correct manipulation of the instrument are studied. Literature appropriate to beginner's skill level is presented. Participation in the PSD summer orchestra program is encouraged for incoming players. School concerts begin and are required. The music department can assist with the availability and/or rental of instruments.

### **2600 Y Concert Orchestra - Grade 7**

This course is designed for intermediate string players. Literature and technical studies are of intermediate difficulty. School concerts are required. Enrollment in this class is by instructor approval or upon successful completion of beginning orchestra. The music department can assist with the availability and/or rental of instruments.

### **2620 Y Symphonic Orchestra – Grade 8**

This course is designed for advanced string players. Advanced techniques of bowing, fingering, and tone production are studied through various musical styles repertoire. School concerts are required. The music department can assist with the availability and/or rental of instruments.

## ***PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVE COURSES*** \_\_\_\_\_

### **3010 S Beginning Weights – Grade 8**

This course is designed to improve muscular strength and endurance. It is designed to be a basic weight-training course, not a bodybuilding course. The students will be introduced to a variety of weight training techniques, methods, and principles. Students will learn the terminology, anatomy and physiology necessary to understand the basic principles behind weight training. Emphasis will be on proper lifting technique, spotting technique and safety throughout the course. Students will learn to use the available machines, as well as free weights.

### **3500 S Physical Education – Grade 6**

This is an activity course designed around developing physical fitness and wellness, desirable social traits, knowledge of a variety of activities and developing motor skill. Depending upon which semester (fall/spring) a student is scheduled; the variety of core activities includes soccer, volleyball, flag football, basketball, softball, tumbling, racquet skills, aerobics, fitness testing, track and field and rhythms. This does not preclude that a school site would teach, as deemed appropriate, supplementary activities that fit the weather conditions, class make-up and facilities.

### **3505 S Physical Education - Grade 7**

This is an activity course designed around developing physical fitness and wellness, desirable social traits, knowledge of a variety of activities and developing motor skill. Depending upon which semester (fall/spring) a student is scheduled; the variety of core activities includes soccer, volleyball, flag football, basketball, softball, tumbling, racquet skills, aerobics, fitness testing, track and field and rhythms. This does not preclude that a school site would teach, as deemed appropriate, supplementary activities that fit the weather conditions, class make-up and facilities.

### **3525 S Physical Education – Grade 8**

This course offered in both 1st and 2nd semester changes according to appropriateness of activities in fall (1st semester) and spring (2nd semester). Physical activities are similar to seventh grades, but motor skills are further refined and new lead-up activities offered as it fits the eighth-grade student.

### **3580 S Health Grade – Grade 7**

This is a required semester-length class for all seventh graders. The basic topics covered in the course include an overview of the human body, disease, personal wellness, family and peer relationships, drug use and abuse, and growth and development of the adolescent.

### **3598 Y Advanced Physical Education – Grade 8**

This course of varied physical activities is offered as an elective in the middle school system. It is offered as a continuation and advancement of motor-skill learning and acquisition of knowledge of numerous activities. This course is also offered as a semester course.

## ***CONSUMER & FAMILY STUDIES ELECTIVE COURSES***

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### **4030 S Teen Living – Grade 7/8**

No Prerequisites This course will explore and develop skills in food and nutrition, clothing care, textiles, and sewing, career exploration, care giving, adolescent development, relationships, and resistance to violence. This hands-on course gives students a chance to practice what they learn by designing projects related to each topic.

### **4050 S Outdoor Living – Grades 7/8**

No Prerequisite. This course is for the student who enjoys and appreciates outdoor activities. Topics include: Safe Outdoor Living/Survival Skills, Environmental Ethics (Rules), Preparations for Outdoor Living, Shopping Smarts, Recreational/Leisure Choices. Career Resources Class activities will encourage the student to develop new interests for leisure time. Students will be responsible for costs of any project.

## ***ENVIRONMENTAL ELECTIVE COURSES***

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### **6530A S Science Adventures A - Grade 7**

This is a one semester, exploratory elective class. The course of study is determined by the special interests of the teachers and the students. A minimum of three mini-units are taught. This course is lab and activity based with optional field trips. Most work is completed in class. At Wellington, Section A includes Equine Science (horses), Astronomy, and Fire and Ice.

### **6530B S Science Adventures B - Grade 8**

This is a one semester, exploratory elective class. The course of study is determined by the special interests of the teachers and the students. A minimum of three mini-units are taught. This course is lab and activity based with optional field trips. Most work is completed in class. At Wellington, Section B includes Scuba diving, Forensic Science (crime scene investigation), and Ornithology (bird study.)

### **6530R S Science Adventures: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle - Grade 6**

See what it takes to “be green” and reduce your impact on the earth. In this class, students will participate in service-learning based projects that focus on environmental awareness and sustainable living.

### **6530G S Science Adventures: Gardening - Grades 7/8**

Gardening is a hands-on class that will bet your hands dirty and have your thumb green! This course introduces students to the basics of gardening. You will learn how to design, prepare, plant and grow a garden.

### **6735 S Science Olympiad – Grades 6-8**

This is a science elective class. The course is modeled after the nationally recognized Science Olympiad competition. This course will allow students to explore all areas of science. Sample topics may include: astronomy, crime solving, trajectory, egg drop and orienteering.

## **MATH ELECTIVE COURSES**

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### **6210 Y Math Olympiad Grade 6**

Math Olympiad (MO) is a competition driven course for school teams solving math problems. Math Olympiad stimulates enthusiasm and love for math. MO introduces important mathematical concepts. MO teaches major strategies for problem solving. MO fosters mathematical creativity and ingenuity. The highlights for students are the five monthly contests November-March. Students become excited by the immediate feedback received from other students all around the globe.

## **ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION**

### **4042 Q Middle School Survival Skills - Grade 6**

Students will learn and practice skills for success in school and every day life. These AVID skills are designed for all students and will allow students to decide whether or not to pursue an application to the A.V.I.D. 7th and 8th grade program as well as the high school program.

### **4043 Y AVID – Grade 7**

AVID is an elective course where students will receive instruction on academic study skills such as time management, note taking, textbook reading, library research, and organization. These skills will support the students as they pursue a rigorous course of college preparatory study. Students will also work in tutor led study groups two days per week to focus on specific areas where additional academic instruction is needed. Students will be taught how to use writing as a tool of learning, reading strategies, collaboration, and inquiry.

### **4044 Y AVID – Grade 8**

AVID is an elective course where students will receive instruction on academic study skills such as time management, note taking, textbook reading, library research, and organization. These skills will support the students as they pursue a rigorous course of college preparatory study. Students will also work in tutor led study groups two days per week to focus on specific areas where additional academic instruction is needed. Students will be taught how to use writing as a tool of learning, reading strategies, collaboration, and inquiry.



## ***FOREIGN LANGUAGE ELECTIVE COURSES***\_\_\_\_\_

### **4728 Y Spanish 1a — Grade 7**

Students are introduced to vocabulary and structures during the first part of a two-part course. Activities include dialogs, novice readings, listening selections, and written communication. Students experience language through the study of cultures, while making connections and comparisons to their native language and developing communication skills in the target language. The study of a world language prepares students to compete in a global community!

### **4729 Y Spanish 1b – Grade 8**

Students are introduced to more vocabulary and structures during the second part of a two-part course. Activities include dialogs, novice readings, listening selections, and written communication. Students experience language through the study of cultures, while making connections and comparisons to their native language and developing communication skills in the target language. The study of a world language prepares students to compete in a global community!

## ***LEADERSHIP & COMMUNICATION ELECTIVE COURSES***\_\_\_\_\_

### **5062 S Creative Writing – Grade 6/7/8**

Creative Writing is a semester elective designed to help students improve their ability to express themselves through imaginative use of the language. Students focus on improving their sense of observation in narrative and descriptive writing by creating their original short stories and poems and by examining the works of professional writers. Prior mastery of basic English skills is necessary.

### **5110 S Journalism and Newspaper**

This semester elective is designed to introduce students to the basic skills involved in the publication of a newspaper. Topics include journalistic style editing interviewing layout and design and the responsibility of the press. Emphasis is placed on news writing and on meeting deadlines. Students should be interested and capable writers.

### **5130 Y Yearbook – Grade 7/8**

A year long course, Yearbook covers all phases of yearbook production. Students learn to design layouts, write copy, organize materials, select photographs, and function as a cooperative member of a

publications staff. Taking photographs and meeting deadlines is a course expectation.

## **Leadership & Communication Electives cont.....**

### **7027 Y Leadership (WEB) Grades 8**

Leadership is an elective course designed to provide students with an opportunity to develop communication skills and participate in community service projects.

### **7050 S Current World Affairs – Grade 6**

This course is designed to help students develop an objective and analytic method of making decisions about national and international affairs. This course will feature a wide-ranging view of current events, with emphasis on discussion, research, and presentations.

### **8104 S Student Council (Eagle Power) - Grades 7/8**

In Student Council, students will learn and practice all areas of leadership. They will become skilled in the art of leadership and work as a team to create positive change and exciting activities for school. It is expected that students will attend required student council sponsored events.

## ***THEATRE ARTS ELECTIVE COURSES*** \_\_\_\_\_

### **5070 S Drama – Grades 6/7/8**

This one-semester course is designed to introduce and/or improve basic acting skills. Techniques to develop and practice creative imagination and self-discipline will be employed through such classroom activities as character creation and interpretation, improvisation, pantomime, and oral interpretation. Students have the opportunity to perform for others. The focus in grade 6 is stage drama, grade 7 will focus on film acting, and grade 8 will focus on stage management.

## ***ENGLISH COURSES*** \_\_\_\_\_

### **5039 Y Reading Literacy - Grade 6**

Reading Literacy 6 is designed for sixth graders who may have difficulty with middle school textbook reading assignments and state Reading Proficiency tests. Emphasis is on reinforcement of basic reading skills, including phonics, vocabulary knowledge, comprehension, and study-reading skills. Skill work will include pronunciation fluency, reading for factual details, reading for themes and main ideas, summarizing, using text

information to draw conclusions and find supporting details, reading to form critical opinions, and reading for recreation.

## **English Courses cont.....**

### **5040 Y Reading Literacy - Grade 7**

Reading Literacy 7 is designed for seventh graders who may have difficulty with middle school textbook reading assignments and state Reading Proficiency tests. Emphasis is on reinforcement of basic reading skills, including phonics, vocabulary knowledge, comprehension, and study-reading skills. Skill work will include pronunciation fluency, reading for factual details, reading for themes and main ideas, summarizing, using text information to draw conclusions and find supporting details, reading to form critical opinions, and reading for recreation. This course utilizes the Read 180 curriculum.

### **5141 Y Reading Literacy - Grade 8**

Reading Literacy 8 is designed for eighth graders who may have difficulty with textbook reading assignments and state Reading Proficiency tests. Emphasis is on reinforcement of basic reading skills, including phonics, vocabulary knowledge, comprehension, and study-reading skills. This course utilizes the Read 180 curriculum.

### **LA610 Y English 6 – Grade 6**

The sixth-grade language arts course is devoted to developing communication and thinking skills through the integrated study of reading, speaking and writing strategies as well as further refining active listening and critical viewing practices. In addition to adapting usage, conventions, form and/or genre to a variety of audiences and purposes, students continue their practice with the writing process as they gain experience mastering single and multi-paragraph texts in all four major modes -- narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and expository. Students actively apply these aforementioned techniques in order to summarize, compare, contrast, activate and synthesize literary and informational texts across content areas.

### **LA710 Y English 7 – Grade 7**

The seventh-grade English program is designed to help students express themselves more easily and effectively through writing and speaking. The course includes study of the fundamentals of grammar, correct usage, literature (short stories and the novel), and the process of writing (narration, description, and exposition). Students focus on writing a unified, coherent paragraph that logically supports a topic sentence by using specific details. Students also have opportunities to write creatively.

### **LA712 Y Pre AP English 7- Grade 7**

Pre-AP English 7 is based upon the same curriculum and standards as English 7, but is designed to emphasize the skills and habits of mind that will be needed to take Advanced Placement English courses and the Advanced Placement exam. Students will be challenged to do more with literary comparison, composition, and the higher order thinking skills of analysis, synthesis and evaluation. Seventh grade English course content is covered in greater depth and with more insight.

## **English Courses cont.....**

### **LA810 Y English 8 – Grade 8**

The eighth-grade English course is devoted to developing communication and thinking skills through the integrated study of language, literature, and writing. Language study emphasizes sentence patterns, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, and usage. The study of the writing process includes further development of skills and working with multi-paragraph writings in narrative, descriptive, and expository writing. The study of literature includes the genre or thematic approach, stressing an understanding of literary terminology and author's purpose.

### **LA812 Y Pre AP English 8 - Grade 8**

Pre-AP English 8 is based upon the same curriculum and standards as English 8, but is designed to emphasize the skills and habits of mind that will be needed to take Advanced Placement English courses and the Advanced Placement exam. Students will be challenged to do more with literary comparison, composition, and the higher order thinking skills of analysis, synthesis and evaluation. Eighth grade English course content is covered in greater depth and with more insight.

### **8135 S Extended Learning Opportunity (Writing Skills) Grade 8**

This class is designed to help students organize their homework and have successful study habits in writing. Students will be working in a classroom setting with small teacher to student ratio.

## ***MATH COURSES***

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### **6027 S Math Skills 6; 6031 S Math Skills 7; 6080 S Math Skills 8**

Math Skill 6, 7 and 8 consists of problem-centered units that develop a "big idea," that is, an important cluster of related concepts, skills, procedures, and ways of thinking. This course focuses on the basic concepts embedded in Connected I, II & Algebra. WMS offers this course for two important reasons:

- 1). As a remediation option for below average academic performance in Connected I, II or Algebra.
- 2). As a refresher course for both math skills and concepts. Students may not pre-register for this course but are placed in this course due to teacher recommendation and or academic performance.

### **MA640 Y Math 6 – Grade 6**

Students will expand upon their knowledge of whole numbers and decimals formed in previous grades to include operations of multi-digit decimals and rational numbers. During the course of the year students will use their knowledge of rational numbers to write and solve equations and inequalities, analyze geometric shapes, and organize and evaluate data displays. Students will explore the concepts

of area, surface area, and volume.

## **Math Courses cont.....**

### **MA740 Y Math 7- Grade 7**

In this course students, will gain an understanding about and be able to apply rational numbers. Students will explore ratios and proportions to develop an understanding of linear functions and be able to solve single-variable equations. They will compare data distributions and be able to compare differences between populations. Finally, students will analyze geometric figures, calculating area, surface area, and volume. Content is organized into four critical areas, or units. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

### **MA840 Y Math 8-Grade 8**

8th grade, students will build upon their knowledge and understanding of generating equivalent expressions, ratios and proportions, exponents, and volume of prisms gained in 6th and 7th grade.

In this course, students will apply their knowledge of expressions both algebraically and geometrically. Students will explore congruence and similarity of figures in the coordinate plane and write algebraic expressions to describe the transformations. Students will use their knowledge of generating equivalent expressions to solve single-variable linear equations. They will analyze 8th grade, students will build upon their knowledge and understanding of generating equivalent expressions, ratios and proportions, exponents, and volume of prisms gained in 6th and 7th grade.

### **6240 Y Geometry – Grade 8**

Recommended Prerequisite: successful completion of Algebra 1 or Connected Algebra 1. Geometry concepts and logical reasoning are emphasized, while measurement and applications are integrated to motivate students via real-world connections. As a result, students will be able to communicate mathematically, make connections within geometry, and between geometry and other disciplines. To address district and state standards, this course interweaves mathematical topics of algebra, geometry, statistics, probability, number systems, and measurement. Geometry explores reasoning and proof, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangle congruency and relationships, right triangle relationships and trigonometry, quadrilaterals, similarity, area, volume, circles, and transformations. Upon successful completion, students will progress to Algebra 2.

## ***SCIENCE COURSES***

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### **SC620 Y Science 6 – Grade 6**

This course is designed for all students and is the first of three courses that meets the Colorado State and Poudre School District Content Standards for Science grades 6 - 8. The major topics covered in the 6th grade are: Forms and Transfer of Energy - Renewable vs. Non-renewable Energy; Properties of Matter - Phases and Changes; Living Systems - The Human Body and Diseases; Earth Systems -The Solar System and the Universe.

### **SC722 Y Pre-AP Science 7 – Grade 7**

This is an Pre-AP Science course that introduces students to: chemistry, thermodynamics, classification, cytology, genetics, sound and light, oceanography, and weather. This course is coordinated with grade 8 Pre-AP Science and is intended to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Science courses in high school.

### **SC822 Y Pre AP Science 8 – Grade 8**

This is an Pre-AP Science course that introduces students to the fields of chemistry, physics, and Earth science. This course is coordinated with Pre-AP Science 7 and is intended to prepare students to take Advanced Placement science courses in high school.

## ***SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES***

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### **SS630 Y Social Studies 6– Grade 6**

Sixth Grade Social Studies is a study of the patterns and interactions of countries in the Western Hemisphere. Students will determine information about people, places, and environment through the use and construction of geography tools. From an understanding of the physical and human characteristics of places, students will study the effects of the interaction between human and physical systems. With an emphasis on resource distribution and use, they will determine how economic, political, cultural, and social processes interact to shape patterns of human populations, interdependence, cooperation, and conflict. This course builds a secondary-level foundation of global awareness, economic literacy, and civic literacy in order to address complex global issues. The 21st

century skills of critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration, and cross-cultural understanding will be emphasized throughout the course.

### **Social Study Courses cont.....**

#### **SS732 Y Pre AP World Geography 7- Grade 7**

The AP Prep course will teach students how to organize and to analyze geographic information. The course content includes both physical and cultural geography as well as analyzing human social organization and its environmental consequences. This course is intended to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Geography Course in high school.

#### **SS832 Y Pre AP Social Studies 8 – Grade 8**

The AP Prep United States History course will teach students how to organize and to analyze historical information. This course requires extensive reading, writing, research and participation. The course content includes the following units: Exploration, Settlement and Development of Constitutional America, The Expanding Nation and the U.S. Comes of Age in the 20th century. This course is intended to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement U.S. History Course in high school as well as the AP U.S Government and Politics course.

## ***PREPARING FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS***\_\_\_\_\_

#### **8152 S PASS - Grades 6/7/8**

The Poudre School District values each student as a worthwhile individual. We believe that the needs of each student can best be served through a concentrated effort of the school; it's resources, and parental involvement. In order to help insure that all students have a maximum opportunity for success, we have implemented a Preparing for Academic Success – PASS

#### **9940-1-2 Y Advisor/Advisee Mentoring/Homeroom – Grades 6/7/8**

Advisory is offered school wide to all students. The goal of the Advisory period is to allow students to start schoolwork, ask questions, work in teams and use technology. Some of the other goals include: Student Success Skills, Discovery, and School Wide Activities.

## ***Integrated Services***\_\_\_\_\_

Students identified as benefiting from special education services are a part of this program. Classes

include the following: Learning Strategies, Social Skills, Resource English, and Resource Math. Students eligible for this program should meet directly with a special education teacher during preregistration for information and coursework.