

# GENERAL INFORMATION for GRADE 8 SY 2021-2022

## SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School is located in the Makiki District of Honolulu. It is a middle school comprised of approximately 650 students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. The elementary schools that send their graduates to Stevenson are Ka'ahumanu, Lincoln, Manoa, Noelani, Pauoa, and Royal. The high school most Stevenson graduates attend is Roosevelt High School.

Principal: Ms. Katherine Balatico

Vice-Principal: Ms. Robyn Tom

Vice-Principal: Ms. Mara Kaizawa Hiramoto

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**School Vision:** Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School is an `ohana that cultivates a community of leaders who are empowered to pursue their passions and dreams.

### **IMPORTANT: UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS AT YOUR CURRENT DOE SCHOOL**

If your child is currently attending a Hawaii Public Elementary School, please make sure your school has your current address in the Student Database. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** All students must have a proof of residence in their student files.

To change your address, you must fill out a **Student Demographic Change Form (SIS-11 Form)** and **submit a proof of residence** to make updates to your information in the student database. Stevenson uses the information in the database to send out mid-quarter student reports, report cards, and important school announcements. Forms can be downloaded off the Stevenson Website: [rlsms.k12.hi.us](http://rlsms.k12.hi.us).

### **COURSE SELECTIONS FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR**

Course selection/placement for next school year will start in November for current Stevenson students. Students will need to select their elective course with their AA teacher November 30 – December 11.

Students entering Stevenson Middle School from another DOE school or Private School must obtain recommendations for courses from their **current** teacher. Completed Program Sheets are due to Stevenson as soon as possible to complete enrollment for next school year.

### **Fee Payment and School Uniform Sales**

Fee payment/Uniform day for students enrolled at Stevenson Middle School is scheduled about 1-2 weeks before school starts. **An information packet will be mailed out in early May, for all incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Information in the packet must be completed and submitted to Stevenson before the end of May. Please notify your Current DOE School of any change of address.**

**Current Stevenson students will receive next school year's information with their last Report Card in June.**

**It is highly recommended to do the early payment for the student fee and yearbook purchase using the prepayment form included in the mailer. You can avoid standing in a long line on the Fee Payment/Uniform Day by dropping off or mailing the payment before prepayment deadline in July.**

### **Equal Opportunity**

Stevenson Middle School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities.

## STUDENTS WITH IN THE STEVENSON'S SCHOOL DISTRICT

The State of Hawaii law (Hawaii Revised Statutes, §302A-1143) All persons of school age shall be required to attend the school of the district in which their **parent/legal guardian resides**. **Residence is determined by the address of the student's parent(s) or "legal" guardian(s).**

Unless plans to move or enroll elsewhere are "**definite**," all students entering the 6th, 7th, or 8th grade whose parents/legal guardians currently reside in the Stevenson district, or who are already on GE status at Stevenson, must complete a program card to select their courses at Stevenson Middle School.

If you do not reside in the Stevenson district, you must have an approved Geographic Exception (GE) application to attend Stevenson Middle School. (See GE application information below)

**Parents/Guardians falsifying their address will be released to their home district school immediately.**

### GEOGRAPHIC EXCEPTION (GE) Application deadline March 1

All Parents/Guardians living outside the Stevenson Middle School district, must have an APPROVED Geographic Exception (GE) before their child can attend Stevenson MS. **Completed GE applications must be delivered to the receiving school by March 1, 2021 for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.**

- Geographic Exception Application Forms are available at any public school or it can be downloaded from the DOE Website:  
<http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/Geographic%20Exception/GERrequestForm.pdf>
- GE Applications for the next school year are **submitted to your Current DOE school** (or Home School if not currently attending a DOE school) between **January 1 and March 1** of the current school year for next school year. Include a stamped self-addressed envelope and a proof of residence with your application.
- If the request is approved, **all paper work must be completed at the receiving school within ten (10) working days** from the postmarked date of the decision from the receiving school.

Questions regarding your child's GE application should be directed to the administrator of the receiving school who handles GE requests.

### HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Students transferring from another DOE school should have a physical examination and a tuberculin test on file. State law requires the following immunizations: polio, tetanus, pertussis, diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis, and varicella or an appointment to update the necessary immunization. All students who are entering school from another state or from a foreign country must have Mantoux tuberculosis (TB) clearance, proof of a physical examination within one year before entering school, and all required immunizations.

All incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Graders must have a physical exam completed within 12 months of the start of 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

2 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) – Required for New DOE Students(7-12) to start.

1 Meningococcal Conjugate (MCV) - Required for New DOE Students(7-12) to start.

1 Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap) – Required for New DOE Students(7-12) to start.

## PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

In accordance to the Board of Education Policy 4502, all students in grades six, seven, and eight shall be required to take a full unit of english, math, social studies, and science. The student must earn a unit in each core area of english, math, social studies, and science to earn a promotion to the next grade level.

### GRADE 6 PROGRAM AND REQUIREMENTS

1 unit	<b>*English Grade 6</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1 unit	<b>*Math Grade 6</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1 unit	<b>*Social Studies Grade 6</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1 unit	<b>*Science Grade 6</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1/2 unit	Physical Education (one semester)	
1/2 unit	Health (one semester)	
1 unit	STEM 6 Course, or Math Wkshp and/or Reading Wkshp (pending I-Ready scores)	
1 unit	<b>Students must select</b> a Year Elective. See grade 6 registration information.	

### GRADE 7 PROGRAM AND REQUIREMENTS

1 unit	<b>*English Grade 7</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1 unit	<b>*Math Grade 7; or Math 7X</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1/2 unit	<b>*Social Studies Grade 7A</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1/2 unit	<b>*Social Studies Grade 7B</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1 unit	<b>*Science Grade 7</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1/2 unit	Physical Education 7 (one semester)	
1/2 unit	CTE 7 (one semester)	
1 unit	STEM 7 or EL or Math Wkshp and/or Reading Wkshp. (pending I-Ready scores)	
1 unit	<b>Students must select</b> a Year Elective. See grade 7 registration information.	

### GRADE 8 PROGRAM AND REQUIREMENTS

1 unit	<b>*English Grade 8</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1 unit	<b>*Math Grade 8; or Algebra</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1 unit	<b>*Social Studies Grade 8</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1 unit	<b>*Science Grade 8</b>	Core Class-must pass for promotion
1/2 unit	CTE 8 (one semester)	
1/2 unit	Physical Education 8 (one semester)	
1 unit	STEM 8 or EL or Math Wkshp and/or Reading Wkshp. (pending I-Ready scores)	
1 unit	<b>Students must select</b> a Year Elective, See grade 8 registration information.	

**\*Students failing a core class will be RETAINED at the end of the school year. The Retained Student will be placed in the repeating grade level and in the failed core subject(s) next school year.**

**A student needs one unit from each of the four core classes in grades 6, 7, and 8(total 12) for promotion to grade 9.**

A student who is in jeopardy of failing any core course(s) is urged to speak with their Counselor as soon as possible to review their options.

**Upon the completion of any summer school work, the student and/or parent will be held responsible for bringing the final summer report card to the Stevenson Middle School Registrar's Office to gain promotion and/or insure proper course credit.**

# STEVENSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

## EIGHTH GRADE COURSES

### **ENGLISH GRADE 8 (YEAR) (Required to pass for Promotion)**

Grade 8 English continues to integrate and address the Language Arts Content Standards which includes Oral Communication, Writing, and Reading & Literature. The strategies, assignments, materials, and pacing, as well as the amount and depth of coverage, will vary according to the needs of the students.

### **MATH 8 or Algebra I (YEAR) (Required to pass for Promotion)**

**Math 8** - Students will **develop proficiency** with concepts and skills in number and operations, measurement, geometry and spatial sense, patterns, functions, data analysis, statistics, and probability. This course will prepare the student for the study of Algebra.

**ALGEBRA I** - This course is designed to provide an opportunity for students to gain skills and concepts of a high school Algebra I course. Student's Final Grade will be transferred to a DOE High School transcript and the student will be awarded a High School Algebra I credit. GPA will not transfer to high school transcript. Prerequisites: Placement by present the math teacher.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES Grade 8 (YEAR) (Required to pass for Promotion)**

This course engages students in an in-depth look at the people, ideas, and events that shaped and continue to shape our nation in order to develop a deep understanding of American society. Course will address 8th grade Social Studies Content Standards.

### **SCIENCE Grade 8 (YEAR) (Required to pass for Promotion)**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science curriculum aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS): Physics, Chemistry, Life Science, Space Systems, and Earth Science. Students will be engaged in scientific and engineering practices as they experience, investigate, and explain phenomena while learning core ideas and build a cohesive understanding of science.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION IB (1 Semester)/EXPLORATION (1 Semester)**

**CTE 8 (Career and Technical Education)** - This semester course focuses career opportunities based on the student's individual interest. Active participations in this course assist you in planning your future academic and career path.

**Physical Education** - This course provides opportunities for students to participate in individual/dual sports games and fitness activities. In addition, students will continue to develop their general team sports skills.

### **MATH WORKSHOP, READING WORKSHOP, or STEM COURSE (non-core)**

(Placement pending State Assessment Score and I-Ready Level)

Students placed in Math Workshop or Reading Workshop will be removed from STEM class. Students in **both** Math workshop **and** Reading Workshop classes will be removed from STEM and PE/Health courses. Students not placed in Math Workshop or Reading Workshop will be placed in the STEM Course.

**Math Workshop** – Students will strengthen their understanding of mathematical concepts.

**Reading Workshop** -- Students will develop skills and strategies to be effective readers.

**STEM Course** – Science, Technology, Engineering, Math concepts to hypothesize and analyze real world problems. This course is for students that meet the State Reading **and** Math requirements.

### **ESOL (English for Speaker of Other Languages)**

A required course for all Limited-English speaking students in the EL program which emphasize development of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. ESOL placement done by current EL Coordinator.

### **ELECTIVE CLASS (non-core)**

See page 7-8 in this handout for a selection of elective choices. Please rank your elective choices on the yellow Program Card.

# R.L. Stevenson Middle School's Ho'onui 'ike Program

The vision of the Ho'onui 'ike program is to enrich learners who are productive and responsible citizens making significant, valuable and creative contributions to society (adapted from DOE GT Program).

The mission of the Ho'onui 'ike program is to provide a high-quality education in a dynamic, supportive learning environment and to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to enable the Ho'onui 'ike learners to lead productive, fulfilling, and socially responsible lives in a diverse and changing world (adapted from DOE GT Program).

The Ho'onui 'ike student exhibits high work ethic, high creative ability, and high task commitment. Ho'onui 'ike students are those possessing or capable of developing this composite set of traits and applying them to any potentially valuable area of human performance. In addition, Ho'onui 'ike students may also be distinguished by their affective traits. These affective traits include, but are not limited to: sense of justice; altruism and idealism; sense of humor; perfectionism; high levels of energy; strong attachments and commitments; and aesthetic sensitivity (adapted from DOE GT Program).

The Ho'onui 'ike student exhibits the characteristics of all of the General Learner Outcomes as outlined by the Department of Education. They are as follows:

- Self-directed learner (the ability to be responsible for one's own learning)
- Community Contributor (the understanding that it is essential for human beings to work together)
- Complex Thinker (the ability to demonstrate critical thinking and problem solving strategies)
- Quality Producer (the ability to recognize and produce quality performances and quality products)
- Effective Communicator (the ability to communicate effectively)
- Effective and Ethical use of Technology (the ability to use a variety of technologies effectively and ethically)

The Ho'onui 'ike curriculum will be aligned with the National Core Standards and benchmarks in English, Social Studies and Science.

All incoming 7th or 8th grade students are eligible to apply for the Ho'onui 'ike program by teacher recommendation or parent request. Students must successfully meet minimum requirements for admission into the program. Ho'onui 'ike classes do have a limited number of slots available each school year.

## **Each recommended student must submit/complete the following:**

- **Ho'onui 'ike Testing (essay and aptitude test to be completed on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020)**
- Grades from all core classes (Ho'onui 'ike Coordinator to submit)
- Teacher Recommendations (Ho'onui 'ike Coordinator will provide recommendation form to teachers)
- Most recent iReady Diagnostic Test scores (Ho'onui 'ike Coordinator to submit)
- Student Expectations Contract (signed by admitted Ho'onui 'ike students for the 2021-2022 SY)

***An informational meeting for all interested students will be held on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> during AA. More information will be forthcoming.***

Ho'onui 'ike Applications for the 2021-2022 school year will be accepted from **October 12, 2020 through December 4, 2020**. Ho'onui 'ike Applications should be sent in via our school website. Go to [rlsms.k12.hi.us](http://rlsms.k12.hi.us) >> click on Ho'onui 'ike >> click on Ho'onui 'ike Application Form. ***NOTE: Students currently in 6X classes for Social Studies, English, and Science will automatically be recommended for testing. Students who are currently in Ho'onui 'ike for 7<sup>th</sup> grade will automatically be enrolled in Ho'onui 'ike for 8<sup>th</sup> grade, no additional testing is required.***

Ho'onui 'ike Program conditional acceptance letters will be sent out in February 2021. After year-end grades have been calculated, final acceptance letters will be sent out the first week of June 2021. If you have any questions regarding the Ho'onui 'ike Program, please contact Ms. Dani Hitt at [dani.hitt@k12.hi.us](mailto:dani.hitt@k12.hi.us) or 587-4520 ext. 308.

## 8TH GRADE YEAR ELECTIVES

An 8th grade student will have a one year (1 unit) elective on their 8th grade program.

Careful thought must be taken in selecting elective courses as changes may not be possible later. Furthermore, students who fail to select their elective courses during the December course selection window will forfeit of their right to choose or change their elective.

Elective offerings are subject to change and due to insufficient enrollment or staff availability/certification. Students selecting Exploratory Elective Wheel or pre-registered for Band Year 2 or Band Year 3 with Mr. Shinbo, are guaranteed to get these classes. Students choosing any other elective course need to list alternate choices.

### **1. EXPLORATORY ELECTIVE WHEEL (Year Course)**

This is an exploratory program that allows the student an opportunity to experience a variety of courses which may include up to four of the classes listed below. (Elective wheel offerings are subject to sufficient enrollment & staff availability/certification)

#### **ART** (Quarter Course on the Elective Wheel)

This art course focuses on the refinement of a variety of art media such as drawing, painting, and ceramics aligned with techniques for personal expression. The students will also apply the elements and principles of design in creating imaginative solutions to visual assignments. Students are exposed to a variety of methods to increase their creativity, problem solving skills, aesthetic awareness, and art appreciation.

#### **HAWAIIAN STUDIES** (Quarter Course on the Elective Wheel)

Students will explore Hawaiian Culture, Language, and History through stories and songs. Students will also explore singing and chanting in Hawaiian.

#### **STUDY SKILLS** (Quarter Course on the Elective Wheel)

The emphasis for 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be on career exploration.

#### **MUSIC** (Quarter Course on the Elective Wheel)

Students will be explore and learn to appreciate all styles of music. Basic music skills of theory and performance are taught through ukulele and singing.

### **2. INTERMEDIATE BAND – H1 (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Band at Stevenson)**

This course is for students who have successfully completed Introduction to Band, Beginning Band or both. Students will continue at an intermediate and/or advanced level of performance techniques, theory, aural training & musicianship. Students will also have the opportunity participate in our performing band that performs in many concerts throughout the year. Stevenson's Performing Band offers students the opportunity to develop social and team building skills, leadership opportunities as a band officer and experience intra or inter island travel. NOTE: Must have Placement from Mr. Shinbo, Band Instructor.

### **3. BEGINNING BAND - Y1 (1st Year Band at Stevenson)**

The fundamentals of playing a band instrument, musical techniques and musicianship will be taught. These include basic theory, terminology, tone production, articulation, fingering and musicality. Students will perform in class and in concerts throughout the year. NOTE: Students are required to provide supplies necessary to play his/her instrument and follow procedures to keep instruments in good playing condition.

### **4. PERFORMING ARTS - HULA**

Students will study and apply the principles of Hula as well as singing and chanting. Students will then apply their skills in a performance. This course is ONLY open to 7th & 8th Graders.

### **5. VIDEO, ART, COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY (VACT) (1 Year)**

This course brings a synthesis of video, visual arts, and computer technology into a meaningful interdisciplinary approach to learning in the classroom. The students will establish a foundation in all three areas of study while utilizing their creativity to enhance their learning through a variety of projects. Students will also explore the basic foundations of broadcast and introduction to careers in media production. The course will involve a high degree of commitment by the student to incorporate these areas of study. A selection process will be used to determine acceptance into the course as class size is limited.

### **6. YEARBOOK PRODUCTION (1 Year)**

This course is designed for planning and producing the school's yearbook. Students use an online web-based yearbook program to produce the yearbook. Emphasis is on working as a team, designing and completing page layouts, writing copy and captions, photography, and meeting deadlines. This course often requires additional hours beyond class time. An interview process will be used to select students into the course as class size is limited. Students must have a current English grade of "C" or better.

### **7. AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)**

This elective class prepares students with academic potential for success in college. Academic instruction emphasizing writing, reading, and inquiry methodology will be used. Students' skills are developed in note taking, test taking, study skills, and organizational skills. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade openings are limited, since students enter the program in grade 6. Students are selected through an application & interview process in December of the current year for the next school year.

If you are interested in the AVID program, please contact Ms. Dani Hitt Coordinator, Ph. 587-4520 ext.308.

### **8. LEADERSHIP TRAINING (1 Year)**

A course designed for the development of leadership and communication skills. Students will participate and become involved with school and students' concerns. This course is open to Student Council officers only.

**Approval of Student Activities Coordinator.**