

STEVENSON MIDDLE SCHOOL EIGHTH GRADE CURRICULUM

PROGRAM COURSES

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

Grade 8 English continues to integrate and address the Language Arts Content Standards which includes Listening and Speaking, 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. The 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 a current 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. The course will address 8th grade Social Studies Content Standards.

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

The 8th 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 building a cohesive understanding of science.

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

CTE 8 (Career and Technical Education) - This semester course focuses on career opportunities based on the student's individual interests. Active participation in this course assists 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 based on I-Ready Level)

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 emphasizes the development of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. ESOL placement is done by the current EL Coordinator.

ELECTIVE CLASS (non-core) See pages 12-13 in this handout for a selection of 8th-grade elective choices.

8TH GRADE YEAR ELECTIVES

The 8th-grade students will have a one-year **(1 unit) elective** in 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 course selection window will forfeit 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 and painting 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 8th graders will be on career exploration.

MUSIC (Quarter Course on the Elective Wheel)

Students will be exploring and learning to appreciate all styles of music. Basic music skills of theory and performance are taught through the piano.

2. 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.

3. INTERMEDIATE BAND – H1 (2nd and 3rd 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 to 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 inter-island travel. NOTE: Must have Placement from Mr. Shinbo, Band Instructor.

8TH GRADE YEAR ELECTIVES CONTINUED

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. Digital Media (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 by creating the daily morning bulletin, "BucTV". 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 for 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. 8th 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. Saki Kashimura Coordinator, Ph. 307-3328.

8. LEADERSHIP TRAINING (1 Year)

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

Important Notice

All students must complete a program card to select an elective course of their choice.

If a student fails to complete a program card on time, they will forfeit their right to choose an elective course.

An elective course will be selected for them and no changes will be allowed.