

# **Johnstown Middle School**

## **Program of Studies**

### **2024-2025**



[www.johnstown.k12.oh.us](http://www.johnstown.k12.oh.us)

401 S. Oregon St., Johnstown, Ohio 43031  
(740) 967-8766

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[www.johnstown.k12.oh.us](http://www.johnstown.k12.oh.us)

85 W. Douglas St., Johnstown, Ohio 43031  
(740) 967-6846

### **Johnstown Middle School**

Mrs. Kris Almendinger, Principal  
Mr. Nick Hancock, Dean of Students  
Mrs. Jenny Herr, School Counselor  
Mrs. Arica Hayes, Main Office Administrative Assistant

[www.johnstown.k12.oh.us](http://www.johnstown.k12.oh.us)

401 S. Main St., Johnstown, Ohio 43031  
(740) 967-8766

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*For more detailed information on rules and other district and school information, please be sure to review the JMS Student Handbook online (or request a paper copy from the office).*

# General Information

All students must have one section of **math, science, social studies and language arts class each year. Some required electives may also be necessary.** Other electives are chosen randomly (except for choir and band or audition electives). See the course descriptions section and scheduling form for required courses. Students may only take academic assist, academic support, or serve as an office aide once per semester.

**Block Periods:** Some classes and/or sections are a single period in length while others are two periods, or also known as a block period. Students are placed in the most appropriate class for their academic needs.

**Athletic Eligibility:** To be eligible, a student-athlete must be currently enrolled and have earned passing grades in a minimum of five subjects in which enrolled the immediately preceding grading period. For eligibility, summer school grades may not be used to substitute for failing grades received in the final grading period of the regular school year or for lack of enough courses taken the preceding grading period.

**Standards-Based Grading:** Students are required to understand the content in each of their subjects. If they do not meet a minimum grade, students may be required to do some additional work, relearn the material, and reassess to master the specific content assessed.

**Repeating a Grade:** As a general rule, students with failing grades for the year in two core subjects are very likely candidates for retention, meaning they must repeat their current grade level unless measures are taken to recover learning.

**Incomplete (I) Grades:** A student who receives an “Incomplete” grade (I), for a grading period will be given an appropriate time, deemed by the teacher and principal, to complete work. If the work is not completed, the “I” becomes an “F”.

**Procedures for Course Changes:** For all intents and purposes, schedule changes are not permitted. Many hours of preparation have gone into the scheduling process and the schedule was devised to allow maximum numbers of students the opportunity to take a wide variety of classes. There are occasions when there may be data entry error, prerequisite for selected course was not completed, required course was omitted in the schedule, or teacher recommendation. These types of changes will be made after mutual consent of all teachers involved with the correction.

**Study Tables:** Study tables are offered by grade level teachers each day after school until 2:55p.m. Teachers can help your student with homework or other academic needs. Please consider using this resource as a way to help your student be more successful.

**PowerSchool:** Make sure you stay connected to our district’s online grade book, PowerSchool, which parents can access online to check their child’s academic progress. You should already have a username and password, but please call the school if you need further information or to obtain your username and password.

**College Credit Plus (CCP):** The College Credit Plus (CCP) program, formerly PSEO and dual credit, is designed to provide students the opportunity to complete college course work prior to graduation, at no cost to families. The program is designed for students, grades 7-12, who have demonstrated **college** readiness and are looking to jump start their college experience. Upon successful completion of the courses, students will earn transcribed college credit as well as high school credit for the courses taken. This program allows for families to save thousands of dollars in tuition while giving students an early start on their post-secondary plan. Through partnerships with Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) and other institutions of higher education, students are provided a large selection of General Education courses from which to choose. Specific requirements and deadlines must be met to participate.

## Program Course Offerings

SUBJECT	6 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	7 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE
English Language Arts (ELA) (3 years required, full-year course)	ELA 6 or Advanced ELA 6	ELA 7 or Advanced ELA 7	ELA 8 or Advanced ELA 8
Math (3 years required, full-year course, Financial Literacy semester course)	Math 6 or Advanced Math 6	Math 7, Advanced Math 7, or *Algebra I	Math 8, *Algebra I, or *Geometry Financial Literacy
Science (3 years required, full-year course)	Science 6 (Earth and Space, Physical Science, and Life Science)	Science 7 (Earth and Space, Physical Science, and Life Science)	Science 8 (Earth and Space, Physical Science, and Life Science)
Social Studies (3 years required, full-year course)	Social Studies 6 (Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere)	Social Studies 7 (World Studies from 750 B.C. to 1600 A.D: Ancient Greece to the first Global Age)	American History (U.S. Studies from 1492 to 1877: Exploration through Reconstruction)
Physical Education (semester course)	Physical Education	Physical Education	*Physical Education
Technology (semester courses, 1 semester required of Pre-Engineering 7/8)	Pre-Engineering 6 Robotics	Pre-Engineering 7/8 Computer Science App Creators STEAM Lab Robotics	Pre-Engineering 7/8 Computer Science App Creators STEAM Lab Robotics
Unified Arts (some full-year courses, some semester courses, 1 semester required of Financial Literacy and Career Connections)	Art 6, General Music, Choir, and Band 6	Art 7/8, General Music, Choir, Jazzy Johnnies, Band 7, Career Connections	Art 7/8, General Music, Choir, Jazzy Johnnies, Band 8, Financial Literacy, Career Connections

\*Enrollment in these courses will result in a grade on a high school transcript. Successful completion of any high school course will result in high school credit.

# Grade 6 Required Courses

## *Language Arts*

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in English Language Arts. Students will acquire these skills through reading a wide variety of literature, conversing with peers and adults, and using problem-solving strategies that aid in comprehending written language. Further, students will develop skills in reading to learn new information, research a topic, and make decisions. Students will read literary texts, which represent a variety of authors, cultures, and eras. Students will also explore the parts of speech, mechanics of sentence and paragraph writing, and the writing process. Some sections of this class may include two teachers who will work together to provide assistance to students to accommodate needs.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Language Arts**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Prerequisite:** Placement into Advanced Language Arts is based on gifted status, standardized test scores, and/or a placement test.

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in English Language Arts. Students will acquire these skills through reading a wide variety of literature, conversing with peers and adults, and using problem-solving strategies that aid in comprehending written language. Further, students will develop skills in reading to learn new information, research a topic, and make decisions at a more challenging level. Students will read literary texts, which represent a variety of authors, cultures, and eras. Students will also explore the parts of speech, mechanics of sentence and paragraph writing, and the writing process.

## *Mathematics*

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in Mathematics. The number/number sense benchmark mainly consists of operations with fractions, decimals, and percents. It also requires application of fractions, decimals, and percents in a problem situation. An introduction to integers and order of operations is also part of this benchmark. The measurement benchmark consists of calculating area and perimeter of two-dimensional figures and circles and calculating surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures such as rectangular prisms and cylinders. The geometry benchmark consists of an introduction to geometric properties of two-dimensional and three-dimensional figures. The Algebra, Patterns/Functions Benchmark consists of recognizing patterns, identifying input/output relationships, and an introduction to equations and inequalities. The data and probability benchmark consists of calculating measures of center (mean, median, mode), identifying and constructing different types of graphs, and determining what graph type would best represent a set of data. The probability portion introduces students to theoretical and experimental probabilities, and what type of experiment design would be best for testing a theoretical probability. This block period allows for additional practice with mathematical concepts, help with starting daily assignments, and pacing that accommodates student needs. Some sections may also include two teachers who work collaboratively to further accommodate student needs.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Mathematics**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Prerequisite:** Placement into Advanced Mathematics is based on gifted status, standardized test scores, and/or a placement test.

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in Mathematics. Class time is faster paced requiring students to complete more work outside the classroom. Concepts are expanded to stretch students' thinking with an emphasis on problem solving. The number/number sense benchmark mainly consists of operations with fractions, decimals, and percents. It also requires application

of fractions, decimals, and percents in a problem situation. An introduction to integers and order of operations is also part of this benchmark. The Measurement Benchmark consists of calculating area and perimeter of two-dimensional figures and circles and calculating surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures such as rectangular prisms and cylinders. The geometry benchmark consists of an introduction to geometric properties of two-dimensional and three-dimensional figures. The algebra, patterns/functions benchmark consists of recognizing patterns, identifying input/output relationships, and an introduction to equations and inequalities. The data and probability benchmark consists of calculating measures of center (mean, median, mode), identifying and constructing different types of graphs, and determining what graph type would best represent a set of data. The probability portion introduces students to theoretical and experimental probabilities, and what type of experiment design would be best for testing a theoretical probability.

### ***Other Required Courses***

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**

##### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course includes science concepts, processes, and ways of thinking. Students will conduct investigations and begin applying mathematical skills in evaluating and analyzing variables of data. They will identify basic skills in the inquiry processes such as how thinking scientifically is helpful in daily life and how technological advances affect the quality of life. Students will identify the properties, formations, and characteristics of rocks. They will also learn about properties and formations of soil and soil horizons. They will learn to recognize The Modern Cell Theory, cell functions, cell structures and the differences between plant and animal cells; students will learn how these cells reproduce. They will also look at the structure of the organism, organization of the structure, and their skills for survival. Students will acquire knowledge of the properties and changes in matter that can be explained by properties and movement of atoms and molecules. They will compare masses and volumes of different substances. Students will learn that energy can be classified as kinetic or potential and that motion is described by speed and direction. This curriculum is based on the State Standards in Science. Some sections of this class may include two teachers who will work together to provide assistance to students to accommodate needs.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies**

##### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course focuses on the regions and people of the Eastern Hemisphere. The four main units of study include: History, Geography, Economics, and Government. Students will use knowledge of geographic locations, patterns, and processes to show the interrelationship between the physical environment and human activity. Maps will be used to determine and report information including latitude, longitude, people, places, environments, and products. The influence and evidence of diffusion of the 5 major world religions will also be explored. The geographic focus includes the study of contemporary regional characteristics, the movement of people, products and ideas, and cultural diversity. Students will develop their understanding of the role of consumers and the interaction of markets, resources, and competition. They will use economic reasoning skills and knowledge of major economic concepts, issues, and systems in order to make informed choices as producers and consumers. They will also look at the role of competition and a region's use of resources in an interdependent world. Students will learn about the development of river civilizations in Africa and Asia, including their governments, cultures, and economic systems. Government forms, including Monarchy, Theocracy, Democracy, and Dictatorship will be studied. Students will examine source accuracy and identify source types. This curriculum is based on the State Standards in Social Studies.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Mastery and Reassessment Time (SMART)**

##### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course is a time when students receive a variety of academic services. Mainly, the purpose is to allow students time to reassess tests or other assignments and get extra help in areas of specific need. Students may also read silently or receive gifted enrichment.

# Grade 7

## Required Courses

### *Language Arts*

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts**

##### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in English Language Arts. The goals of this class are to develop and improve reading and writing skills. To meet these goals, students read various genres using literature, articles, novels, and other supplementary materials. Emphasis in reading is placed on vocabulary, comprehension, and a variety of literary elements including characterization, setting, plot, theme, mood, and figurative language. Students also write a variety of essays, reports, and narratives with emphasis on sentence structure, paragraphing, and the writing process (planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing). Some sections of this class may include two teachers who will work together to provide assistance to students to accommodate needs.

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Language Arts**

##### **Full-Year Course**

**Prerequisite:** Placement into Advanced Language Arts is based on gifted status, standardized test scores, and/or a placement test.

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in English Language Arts. This course utilizes a wealth of materials including literature, content area books, novels,, and research materials in order to provide a high level of development in reading comprehension and writing ability. An increased workload and frequent employment of higher-level thinking skills are to be expected. Emphasis in reading is placed on vocabulary, comprehension, and a variety of literary elements including characterization, setting, plot, theme, mood and figurative language. Students also write a variety of essays, reports,, and narratives with emphasis on sentence structure, paragraphing, and the writing process (planning, drafting, revising, editing and publishing).

### *Mathematics*

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics**

##### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in Mathematics, which include ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics and probability. This allows for additional practice with mathematical concepts, to offer help with starting daily assignments, and to achieve a pace that accommodates student needs. Some sections may be blocked and/or may also include two teachers.

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Mathematics**

##### **Full-Year Course**

**Prerequisite:** Placement into Advanced Mathematics is based on gifted status, standardized test scores, and/or a placement test.

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in Mathematics, which include ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics and probability. A heavy pre-algebra focus will accompany this course as well as an emphasis on problem solving.

### *Other Required Courses*

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**

##### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the many disciplines in science: life science, physical science, earth science, and introductory lab safety. Subject matter will focus on patterns of Earth and the Moon, cycles of matter, flow of energy, and interactions among organisms. Skills to be learned include analyzing/interpreting data, communicating scientific procedures/explanations, and thinking critically through inquiry and application. Seventh grade science requires active involvement by the students on many levels; collaborative learning via group activities, hands-on labs, and a variety of assessments for mastery learning. The content of this course is aligned to and follows the State Standards in Science.

## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies**

### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** World Studies from 750 B.C. to 1600 A.D.: Ancient Greece to the First Global Age. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade year is an integrated study of world history, beginning with Ancient Greece and continuing through global exploration. All four social studies strands are used to illustrate how historic events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic, and political factors. Students develop their understanding of how ideas and events from the past have shaped the world today. Some sections of this class may include two teachers who will work together to provide assistance to students to accommodate needs. The contents of this course are aligned to and follow the State Standards in Social Studies.

## **7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Engineering**

### **Semester Course**

**Content:** Students combine resources and techniques to create systems, attaining comprehension of how technological and engineering systems work. Students will explore, design, redesign, analyze, and evaluate technological and engineering systems. By simulating systems and assessing their impacts, students gain insight into how to approach the problems and opportunities of a technological and engineering world. Students apply the engineering design process through participation in hands-on engineering projects. They also explore technology and engineering careers. Units are developed from Project Lead the Way Curriculum. Units of study may include but are not limited to: robotics, medical detectives, science of technology, and magic of electrons.

## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Mastery and Reassessment Time (SMART)**

### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course is a time when students receive a variety of academic services. Mainly, the purpose is to allow students time to reassess tests or other assignments and get extra help in areas of specific need. Students may also read silently or receive gifted enrichment.

# **Grade 8 Required Courses**

## ***Language Arts***

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in English Language Arts. Specific topics include vocabulary, elements of literature, speaking and listening skills, as well as the writing process. Students will read both fiction and non-fiction poems, short stories, and novels to explore these concepts. Communication, critical thinking, and problems solving skills will also be improved upon. Some sections of this class may include a block and/or a class with two teachers who will work together to provide assistance to students to accommodate their needs.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Language Arts**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Prerequisite:** Placement into Advanced Language Arts is based on gifted status, standardized test scores, and/or a placement test.

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in English Language Arts. Specific topics include vocabulary, elements of literature, speaking and listening skills, as well as the writing process. Students will read both fiction and non-fiction poems, short stories, and novels to explore these concepts at a more challenging level. Communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills will also be developed.

## ***Mathematics***

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics (Pre-Algebra)**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in Mathematics. The students will be introduced to the following algebraic concepts: exploring the real number system; investigating the properties of exponents and roots; applying scientific notation;

identifying functions; examining proportional relationships; simplifying and solving algebraic expressions and equations; finding slope and writing and graphing linear equations; solving systems of linear equations; calculating volume of various geometric figures; geometric transformations; angle relationships; analyzing scatterplots and bivariate data. Problem solving will be an integral component of this program. In some sections of this course, the regular education teacher and an intervention specialist will work together to assist each student and to create an environment that accommodates students' needs. Some sections of this course may include a block where class time is extended to allow for additional practice with the mathematical concepts, to offer assistance with various formative assessments, and to achieve a pace that accommodates each student's needs. A scientific calculator is required for this course.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra I**

### **Full-Year Course**

#### **1 High School Credit**

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in Mathematics as well as an introduction to the high school mathematics curriculum. Algebra I is intended to introduce students to the field of advanced mathematics, help them to determine their interest and abilities, and develop their potential in mathematical study. The students will be introduced to the following algebraic concepts: exploring the real number system; investigating the properties of exponents and roots; applying scientific notation; graphing and representing linear, absolute-value, exponential, and quadratic functions; examining proportional relationships; simplifying and solving algebraic expressions and equations; solving systems of linear equations; calculating the perimeter, area, surface area, and volume of various geometric figures and their transformations; analyzing data; exploring polynomials. Emphasis in this course will be placed on mathematical theory and reasoning. A graphing calculator is recommended for this course. Students who successfully complete Algebra I will receive high school credit.

## *Other Required Courses*

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course encompasses the State Standards in Science. It is a general science course covering Earth, life and physical sciences as well as scientific inquiry and technology. Students will learn that the Earth's lithosphere is broken into plates that move as a result of convection currents. They will describe the processes that cause Earth's surface to change. Motion of objects, effects of forces on objects and how waves transfer energy will be explored. Students will be able to explain how changes to the environment and the ability of an organism to adapt can cause extinction. Students will design a solution to a problem or design and build a product, given constraints. Technological influences on the quality of life will also be explored. Some sections of this class may include two teachers who will work together to provide assistance to students to accommodate needs.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** The curriculum of the eighth grade focuses on the study of Early American History beginning with European exploration, the foundation of the country from colonization to states, its movement westward, and closes with the Reconstruction period following the Civil War. When students study particular historic events in the United States, the study will incorporate all four of the essential content strands that the state of Ohio has identified in the model curriculum for eighth grade social studies: history, geography, economics, and government. Students will examine how historic events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic, and political factors. This course is based on the State Standards in Social Studies.

### **7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Engineering**

#### **Semester Course**

Students combine resources and techniques to create systems and to understand how technological and engineering systems work. Students will explore, design, redesign, analyze, and evaluate technological and engineering systems. By simulating systems and assessing their impacts, students gain insight into how to approach the problems and opportunities of a technological and engineering world. Students apply the engineering design process through participation in hands-on engineering projects. They also explore technology and engineering careers. Units are developed from Project Lead the Way Curriculum. Units of study may include but are not limited to robotics, medical detectives, science of technology, and magic of electrons.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Mastery and Reassessment Time (SMART)**

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course is a time when students receive a variety of academic services. Mainly, the purpose is to allow students time to reassess tests or other assignments and get extra help in areas of specific need. Students may also read silently or receive gifted enrichment.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Financial Literacy**

#### **Semester Course**

**Content:** This course builds foundational personal finance skills and introduces students to concepts such as different sources of income, the connections between training or continuing education, and income potential. It also allows students to develop a deeper understanding of budgeting, savings, insurance, and investing concepts. This course may involve project-based learning.

## Resource Services

### 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Block Consumer Mathematics

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** Skills covered include addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, measurement, time, money, and money-related skills, place value, reading and writing of numbers, percentages, fractions, decimals and other life skill problems/tasks based on the student's skill level and needs. State test preparation and practice occur during the second semester.

### 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

#### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course consists of reading, grammar and writing skills, vocabulary development, and verbal communication skills. Emphasis is on reading (decoding and comprehension skills) of informational and literary texts in a variety of media and pleasure reading. Writing skills include spelling conventions, sentence structure, paragraph structure, short and longer length writings including journaling and original writings. Vocabulary skills including definitions, context clues, and word attack strategies will be taught. Verbal communication skills through small group and individual presentations are also developed. Organizational skills are incorporated into this course as well as the use of technological tools.

## Unified Arts

### 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Education

#### **Semester Course**

**Content:** This course is designed to increase awareness about the importance of daily physical activity. It will also provide opportunities for students to increase physical and social skills related to sports, health and fitness, and physical well-being. Special attention will be given to exercise using both individual and team sports with an emphasis on appropriate dress, respect, active participation, good sportsmanship, fair play, responsibility, cooperation, and a positive attitude. Eighth grade students can earn .25 high school PE credit per semester.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Art

#### **Semester Course**

**Content:** This introductory course for 6th grade students teaches them to channel their imagination and solve creative problems while practicing both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional art making skills. Students will learn about various art processes, media, and artwork from various places, people, and times. Students will have opportunities to learn independently as well as in group art making activities. This class encompasses the 6th Grade Visual Arts State Standards.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Engineering

#### **Semester Course**

**Content:** Students in the pre-engineering programs acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, and innovation. Students explore STEM careers as they participate in a project-based learning process, designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. Units are developed from the Project Lead the Way Curriculum. Sixth grade students will discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the course to design and build 3D models and computer graphic designs.

### 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade General Music

#### **Semester Course**

**Content:** Students will experience, create, and discover multiple types of music, including music theater, orchestral music, and world music. Students will play instruments (traditional and nontraditional) and may be asked to sing. Students will explore various music genres and learn to utilize music as a tool for entertainment, enjoyment, and relaxation. This class will also explore the many career choices that music can provide. An appreciation for music will be a strong focus, though it is not a prerequisite to be in the class. Students in General Music will be expected to actively engage with the content and work with others. Stepping outside of their comfort zones might also be an expectation in this class.

## **7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Art**

### **Semester Course**

**Content:** This 7th and 8th grade art class combines art history, creative problem solving, and visual literacy while building on art making techniques. Intermediate art students will be given more freedom to explore individual topics and art interests as they find inspiration from past and contemporary artists and varied art materials. Experimentation, brainstorming, and critique will become important parts of the art making process as students create 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional work. This class encompasses the 7th and 8th Grade Visual Arts State Standards.

## **7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Connections**

### **Semester Course**

**Content:** Course offerings focus on student vocational interests, career development and collegiate pathways, and exploration of various career-tech opportunities. Instruction will target a survey of student-driven, career-based interests, and will provide students with learning opportunities designed to build and promote the skills necessary for successful workforce participation.

## **7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Computer Science for Innovators and Makers**

### **Semester Course**

**Content:** Computer Science for Innovators and Makers teaches students that programming goes beyond the virtual world into the physical world. Students are challenged to creatively use sensors and actuators to develop systems that interact with their environment. Designing algorithms and using computational thinking practices, they code and upload programs to microcontrollers that perform a variety of authentic tasks. The unit broadens students' understanding of computer science concepts through meaningful applications. This course utilizes the Project Lead the Way curriculum.

## **7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade App Creators**

### **Semester Course**

**Content:** Computer Science for Innovators and Makers teaches students that programming goes beyond the virtual world into the physical world. Students are challenged to creatively use sensors and actuators to develop systems that interact with their environment. Designing algorithms and using computational thinking practices, they code and upload programs to microcontrollers that perform a variety of authentic tasks. The unit broadens students' understanding of computer science concepts through meaningful applications. This course utilizes the Project Lead the Way curriculum.

## **6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Robotics**

### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** The students will collaborate with other students in order to design and program a robot that successfully completes the annual challenge. In addition to learning valuable engineering skills, students will gain life skills such as collaboration, communication, critical thinking, perseverance, project management, and teamwork. By familiarizing students with automation, programming, and sensors, they will hone critical computational thinking skills needed to succeed in both the 21st Century workforce and in everyday life. \*Utilizing the skills learned in this course, the students may elect to participate as a member of the Johnstown JuggerBots in the annual VEX Robotics Competition.

## **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade STEAM Lab**

### **Semester Course**

**Content:** The STEAM Lab is an experiential learning space designed to have the students engage in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) Education, foster interactive learning and collaboration, as well as provide opportunities to develop creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving. In this course, the students will explore the Engineering Design Process. Utilizing this process, the students will design, create, and build projects using a variety of materials, tools, and technologies. These projects will incorporate the use of a 3D Printer, Laser Engraver, and Vinyl Printer.

## **6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir**

### **Full-Year**

**Content:** Choir is made up of students that have demonstrated a strong interest in the understanding of proper vocal technique and music reading. This class will study a wide variety of music from many different time periods, cultures, and religions. Choir students will demonstrate a commitment to excellence in all activities associated with the choral music program. Attendance is required at all contests, concerts, and other performances. Participation in the Ohio Music Education Association solo and ensemble contest is recommended but not required.

## **7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Jazzy Johnnies**

### **Full-Year Course**

**Prerequisite:** Audition Required

**Content:** Jazzy Johnnies is the most selective ensemble in the Middle School choral program. The students in this ensemble must demonstrate a dedication and commitment to the study and performance of a wide variety of music of the highest caliber. This group will function as a show choir in the fall and spring seasons and as a chamber ensemble during the winter contest season. Students will need to be poised and demonstrate a quality stage presence. Choreography is an important element. Students are required to participate in the Ohio Music Education Association's solo and ensemble contest. Significant time outside of the

school day is required for rehearsals and performances. Students must be in good academic standing in all classes to remain a member of this ensemble. Students are required to purchase a uniform to be selected by the members of the ensemble and the director.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**

### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** This course is for band members who wish to study a musical instrument. Students will have the opportunity in 5th grade to attend instrument fittings and choose an instrument. Prior to the school year, we will hold a “Meet Your Instrument Night.” We will meet as a mixed group in two separate classes in order to gain further knowledge in rhythm, music reading, musical techniques on our instrument, and playing in a full ensemble setting. Any student, without prior musical knowledge, wishing to join band may join 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band to begin learning an instrument. Sixth grade band holds two mandatory concerts during the school year, one in December and another in the spring.

## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**

### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** 7th Grade Band is a continuation of 6th grade band and meets daily as one class. Students work in the assigned Instrumental Studies and learn to expand their range (notes) and flexibility, improve their tone quality, learn new rhythms, time signatures, key signatures, and the added challenge of playing different styles of music as an ensemble. 7th Grade Band provides students with several mandatory performance opportunities such as Johnstown Middle School Band Night, The Big Red Band Varsity Show, OMEA Solo and Ensemble (select students only), a Spring Concert, and participation in the District X OMEA Junior High Large Group Adjudicated Event (May). Learning in 7th Grade Band is focused on the development of the players’ musical progress as well as gaining leadership skills, time management skills, and responsibility that will assist them in high school.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**

### **Full-Year Course**

**Content:** 8th Grade Band is a continuation of 7th Grade Band and meets daily as one class. Students advance to 8th Grade Band with permission from the director. Band members work in the assigned Instrumental Studies and expand their knowledge and performance skills in regard to tone, intonation, interpretation, and technique. 8th Grade Band provides students with several mandatory performance opportunities such as Johnstown Middle School Band Night, The Big Red Band Varsity Show, OMEA Solo and Ensemble (select students only), a Spring Concert, and participation in the District X OMEA Junior High Large Group Adjudicated Event (May). Learning in 8th Grade Band is focused on the advancement of the players’ musical technique and expression, as well as gaining leadership skills, time management skills, and responsibility that will assist them in high school.

## **6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Academic Support**

### **Semester Course**

**Content:** During this course, students are able to work on homework or other assignments in a quiet environment. A staff member is available as needed. This course also allows time for students to receive remediation and reassessment help. Students may be moved in or out of this course as needed.

## **6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Academic Assist**

### **Semester Course**

**Content:** During this course, students are able to work on homework or other assignments and are guided by a teacher to help with organization and work completion. This course also allows time for students to receive remediation and reassessment help in order to master content. Students may be moved in or out of this course as needed.

