

# Pickerington Local Schools

## 2022-2023

### Junior High Program of Study



#### Pickerington Local School District

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#### Superintendent's Office

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Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to Lakeview Junior High and Ridgeview STEM Junior High Schools. If you are registering as an incoming 8th grade student, you are familiar with the structure and culture of our schools. We recognize this year is a big transition for students entering 7th grade and we are here to support a seamless transition. Our mission is to engage students in relevant and rich learning experiences preparing them for career, college and life.

Our schools use a teaming approach to organize students and staff into small learning communities. Junior high students are assigned to a team of academic teachers who are responsible for overseeing the academic and social/emotional success for their group of students. Each team consists of approximately 130 students who are in the same academic courses together, with the same four core subject teachers. This approach fosters relationships between students and teachers and creates a sense of community and responsibility for each other.

The junior high schools offer opportunities to explore and develop your interests. Each year, students may take as many as eight elective classes in diverse areas including life and career skills courses, fine art, world cultures and languages, health and wellness, technology, and music.

We provide academic courses designed to address individual learning and development. The daily enrichment and intervention period (E&I) is one option for filling student learning gaps with a continuum of academic support services as well as providing enrichment and career exploration. Students who are learning at an accelerated pace have options for high school courses, compacted/accelerated junior high courses, and courses for those identified and served in gifted programming.

## **COURSE OPTIONS**

**All high school courses must be taken for credit.**

High school courses are offered for  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , or 1 credit, depending on the course. Students in grades 7-8 taking high school classes must take the class for high school credit. Students in grades 7-12 may take high school elective courses on a pass/fail basis. High School academic courses are not eligible to be taken pass/fail. Credit can only be earned once for each individual course a student passes.

### **Pass/Fail Option**

Each year students may take one high school elective credit on a pass/fail (graded as: S/U -Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory) basis in addition to Physical Education 9 you may also take Theatre 1. PE 9 classes may be taken as pass/fail in addition to one elective credit.

Registration for a pass/fail option must be made during the first four weeks of a course. Forms are available in the counseling office. Should a student decide later to take the course as a grade option (A,B,C,D,F), he or she must do so by the end of the grading period. Only the final grade will be changed.

Students not selecting the pass/fail option will receive a final letter grade that will calculate into their high

school GPA and credit will be awarded for a passing grade. Students who decide to take the pass/fail option will receive a final grade of S or U and these courses will not calculate in the high school GPA. High school credit will be awarded for passing or S status.

### **Schedule Changes for High School Credit Courses**

Students enrolled in high school courses may only make schedule changes during the first ten days of a course. After ten days, high school course schedule changes must be approved by the parent, teacher, counselor and building administrator. Student transcripts will reflect high school course schedule changes and the following will apply:

- A. Before the midway point of the course has passed:
  - a. If the cumulative grade is a D- or above, the students will receive an F for the current grading period and a WDP (Withdraw Passing) for the remainder of the course.
  - b. If the cumulative grade is an F, the students will receive an F for the current grading period and a WDF (Withdraw Failing) for the remainder of the course.

## **ENGLISH**

### **7ENG - English 7**

*Grade 7 • Full Year • Fee*

English is built around state mandated academic content standards. Within the framework of these standards, students are exposed to learning activities that enhance acquisition of vocabulary, reading, writing, research, and presentation skills. This program is designed to address individual student needs & interests through a variety of language experiences.

### **7ENGG - Gifted English 7**

*Grade 7 • Full Year • Student placement is based on gifted eligibility requirements (Gifted in Reading identification, at or above 95th percentile on nationally normed achievement test, and a 122 or higher SAI/IQ and accelerated or higher on the ELA 6 state test) • Fee*

This course covers all of the concepts in English 7 at an accelerated pace and also enriches the content with additional projects, writing activities and readings. These enrichment activities expand the core 7th grade content standards to promote higher level thinking and real world application and to challenge students to deeper analysis, synthesis and evaluation of both grade level and above grade level text.

### **8ENG - English 8**

*Grade 8 • Full Year • Fee*

English 8 encourages the development of observing, thinking, listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. This program is designed to address individual student needs.

### **8ENGG - Gifted English 8**

*Grade 7, 8 • Full Year • Open to qualifying 7th and 8th grade students • Fee*

*7th: Completion of Gateway ELA and accelerated or higher on ELA 7 state test*

8th: *Gifted in Reading identification, at or above 95th percentile on nationally normed achievement test, and a 122 or higher SAI/IQ and accelerated or higher on the ELA 7 state test*

This course covers all of the concepts in English 8 at a highly accelerated pace and also enriches the content with additional projects, writing activities and readings. These enrichment activities expand the core 8th grade content standards to promote higher level thinking and real world application and to challenge students to deeper analysis, synthesis and evaluation of above grade level text. The class also requires a year long, comprehensive, outside of class research project.

### **9ENGG - Gifted English 9 - High School Credit**

*Grade 8 • Full Year • 1 credit • Student placement is based on eligibility requirements and the successful completion of Gifted English 8 and proficient or higher on ELA 8 state test • Fee*

This course covers all of the concepts in English 9 at a highly accelerated pace and also enriches the content with additional projects, writing activities and readings. These enrichment activities expand the core 8th grade content standards to promote higher level thinking and real world application and to challenge students to deeper analysis, synthesis and evaluation of above grade level text. The class also requires a year long, comprehensive, outside of class research project.

## **MATH**

### **7MATH - Math 7**

*Grade 7 • Full Year • Fee*

Students will focus on five critical areas in Ohio's Learning Standards for Mathematics: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, angles, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples; and (5) investigating chance.

### **8MATH - Math 8**

*Grade 8 • Full Year • Fee*

Students will focus on four critical areas in Ohio's Learning Standards for Mathematics: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem; and (4) working with irrational numbers, integer exponents, and scientific notation.

### **7ADVMATH - Advanced Math 7/8**

*Grade 7 • Full Year • Open to qualifying 7<sup>th</sup> grade students (i-Ready Math 85th Percentile Rank in 6th grade or a 90th percentile on a Nationally Normed Gifted Approved Achievement Test within the last 24 months and a score of accelerated or higher on math 6 state test) • Fee*

Students will focus at an accelerated pace on the 5 critical areas of 7th grade Mathematics as well as the following 8th grade critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and (3) working with irrational numbers, integer exponents, and scientific notation; and (4) understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

### **302 - Algebra 1 - High School Credit**

*Grade 7, 8 • Full Year • 1 credit • Open to qualifying 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students*

*7th - Completion of Gateway or Math Plus and accelerated or higher on math 7 state test 8th - Completion of Advanced Math 7 / 8 and accelerated or higher on math 7 state test. • Fee*

Students will focus on the 5 critical areas of Algebra 1: (1) relationships between quantities and reasoning with equations; (2) linear and exponential relationships; (3) descriptive statistics; (4) expressions and equations; and (5) quadratic functions and modeling. This course includes activities centered around the Accelerated and Advanced Performance Levels of Ohio's Algebra Standards.

### **308 – Geometry - High School Credit**

*Grade 8 • Full Year • 1 Credit • Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and proficient or higher on algebra state test • Fee*

Students will focus on the 6 critical areas of Geometry: (1) applications of probability; (2) congruence, proof, and construction; (3) similarity, proof, and trigonometry; (4) connecting Algebra and Geometry through coordinates; (5) circles with or without coordinates; and (6) extending to three dimensions. This course includes activities centered around the Advanced Performance Levels of Ohio's Geometry Standards.

## **SCIENCE**

### **7SCI - Science 7**

*Grade 7 • Full Year • Fee*

Seventh grade science is based on *Ohio's Learning Standards for Science* and consists of Life, Earth and Physical Sciences content. *Life Science*: Cycles of Matter and Flow of Energy – Students will learn how matter is continuously transferred between organisms and between organisms and their physical environment. Students will also learn about factors that affect organisms in certain biomes. *Earth Science*: Cycles and Patterns of the Earth and Moon – Students will learn about biogeochemical cycles (including the hydrologic cycle), environmental impacts and positions of local celestial objects (Earth, Sun, Moon). *Physical Science*: Conservation of Mass and Energy – Students will learn about elements and compounds and their properties and the ways energy can be transferred and transformed but always conserved.

### **7ADVSCI - Advanced Science 7\***

*Grade 7 • Full Year • Prerequisite: 122 or higher SAI/IQ or 80 Percentile Rank on a Nationally Normed Science Achievement Test in Science or 90th percentile on iReady Math in 6th grade and proficient or higher on math and ELA state tests taken in 6th grade. • Fee*

\*Students successfully completing this course will be prepared to take Advanced Science 8. Students should have excellent organizational skills and work ethic to be successful in this accelerated class.

Advanced Science 7 is based on Ohio's Learning Standards for Science and consists of 7th grade

content for advanced scientific thinkers. Content will consist of Life, Earth and Physical Sciences.

- **Life Science: Cycles of Matter and Flow of Energy** – Students will learn how matter is continuously transferred between organisms and between organisms and their physical environment. Students will learn about factors that affect organisms in certain biomes. Students will also learn about different factors that affect organisms in certain biomes.
- **Physical Science: Conservation of Mass and Energy** – Students will learn about elements and compounds and their properties and ways energy can be transferred and transformed but always conserved.

## **8SCI - Science 8**

*Grade 8 • Full Year • Fee*

Eighth grade science is based on *Ohio's Learning Standards for Science* and consists of Life, Earth and Physical Sciences. Content emphasizes progression of science concepts and prepares students for the high school Integrated Science course.

- **Life Science: Species and Reproduction** – Students will learn about the diversity of species in the present day as well as in the fossil record. Students will also learn the basics of reproduction, meiosis and Mendelian Genetics.
- **Earth Science:** Students will learn about the composition and properties of Earth's surface and interior, the movement of plates and the constructive and deconstructive geological processes.
- **Physical Science:** Students will learn to predict how forces with magnitude and direction affect the movements of objects, and explain the differences in types of potential energy.

## **8ADVSCI - Advanced Science 8\***

*Grade 8 • Full Year • Prerequisite: 122 or higher SAI/IQ or 80 Percentile Rank on a Nationally Normed Science Achievement Test in Science or 90th percentile on iReady Math in 7th grade and proficient or higher on math and ELA state tests taken in 7th grade OR successful completion of science 7 with a B average or better.*  
• Fee

Advanced Science 8 is based on Ohio's Learning Standards for Science and consists of 8th grade content for advanced scientific thinkers. Content will consist of Life, Earth and Physical Sciences. Life Science content from the 8th grade is expanded upon in the advanced course. This course will investigate the standards at a deeper level and include more rigorous tasks to learn and demonstrate learning than the Science 8 course.

**Life Science:** This topic focuses on continuation of the species, specifically how species continue successfully or not through geologic time. Investigations into extinction and natural selection will be investigated, along with reproductive strategies and their strengths and drawbacks. Patterns of inheritance will also be investigated.

• **Physical Science:** This topic focuses on forces and motion within, on and around the Earth and within the universe. Newton's 1st and 2nd laws of motion will be investigated, as well as different non-contact forces (magnetism, electric charge, gravity).

• **Earth Science:** This topic focuses on the physical features of Earth and how they formed. This includes the interior of Earth, the rock record, plate tectonics and landforms.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## **7SS - Social Studies 7**

*Grade 7 • Full Year*

World Studies from 750 B.C. to 1600 A.D.: Ancient Greece to the First Global Age The seventh 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 historical 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.

## **8SS - Social Studies 8**

*Grade 8 • Full Year*

U.S. Studies from 1492 to 1877: Exploration through Reconstruction The historical focus continues in the eighth grade with the study of European exploration and the early years of the United States. This study incorporates all four social studies strands into a chronological view of the development of the United States. Students examine how historical events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic and political factors.

## Electives Courses

According to the Association for Middle Level Education, students between the age of 10-15 should explore a variety of elective options in school. While every student benefits from exposure and experience throughout the elective areas, some students may have developed for specific types of learning and experiences. The teachers and administrators of Pickerington Schools believe students in the middle grades (5-8) must experience a wide variety of elective courses to assist them in discovering their interests and passions, explore careers, develop important transferable skills, and construct meaning from integrated learning experiences.

## Life and Career Skills Courses

Students in grades 7-8 often experience transition between expectations of childhood and adulthood. This is a defining characteristic of middle adolescents, but schools can provide support for students as they navigate growing up. Life and Career Skills courses provide extra help and practice for students learning to balance increasing academic, extracurricular and home demands. Additionally, they provide students with important, transferable skills leading to college and career readiness.

## **PDVL Personal Development**

*Grades 7, 8 • Quarter*

Students will learn how to make good decisions, build positive relationships, develop leadership skills, set and reach goals, and communicate effectively. This class will help students develop skills necessary to be successful in school, extracurricular, and home life. Topics will include things like study skills, stress management, interpersonal and communication skills, decision making, goal setting, cyberbullying and

social media etiquette.

### **TG - Tech Guru**

*Grades 7,8 • Quarter • Student placement is based on an application*

This trimester course is designed to empower students in support of the PLSD technology goals. The tech guru course is an elective course where students will learn through an online curriculum, create technology related tutorials, curate appropriate digital resources, learn new technologies and how they apply to education, maintain digital communication platforms, help facilitate a Junior High MakerSpace and submit and disperse broken and repaired Chromebooks.

Student Technology Teams will be chosen through an application process. Students should have an interest in learning the skills and knowledge related to educational technology and should possess strong research, writing, and critical thinking skills. Students are expected to be responsible, self-motivated, independent learners.

## **ART**

### **VA - Visual Arts 1**

*Grades 7, 8 • Semester • Fee • May be taken more than once.*

This course is designed for those students interested in exploring and experimenting with a variety of 2D & 3D art media, techniques, applications and styles. Students will begin to practice and gain proficiency with the Ohio Visual Arts Standards for 7th and 8th grade. Each semester, projects will vary based on past and current trends in art with a focus on student interests.

### **VA2 - Visual Arts 2**

*Grades 7, 8 • Semester • Fee • May be taken more than once.*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Visual Arts 1*

This course is designed for those students who want to further explore and experiment with a multitude of 2D and 3D art media, techniques, applications and styles. Students will become proficient and gain mastery in the Ohio Visual Arts Standards for 7th and 8th grade. Each semester, projects will vary based on past and current trends in art with a focus on student interests.

## **English Electives**

### **ACT/SAT Prep**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

This class will focus on instruction of specific grammar skills including the most used commas rules (compound sentences, compound-complex sentence, appositives, participial phrases) in order to effectively write and communicate, as well as call attention to punctuation used in everyday reading texts and why it matters. This course will also help students build vocabulary skills through the exploration of morphology.



# Science Electives

## **Astronomy**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

This course would follow the Universe unit standards from the 8th grade standards pre 2011. Exploration of our solar system including our planets, asteroid belt, Kuiper belt objects etc. Tools of a space scientist and Scale and distances in space, measured in light years.

## **Environmental Science**

*Grade 7, 8 • Semester • Fee*

Students will explore a number of topics covering the interactions between natural systems and the demands placed on them, either by nature itself or by the human population. Possible topics include biodiversity, human impacts on natural resources, the environmental movement, environmental assessments, conservation of natural resources, the food supply chain, pollution, technologies that reduce human impacts on the environment, and others.

## **Flight and Space**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

Students become engineers as they design, prototype, and test models to learn about science of flight and what it takes to travel and live in space. They solve real-world aviation and space challenges and plan a mission to mars.

## **STEM Projects**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

Students will explore a variety of topics in STEM and be required to engage in the STEM cycle to learn and complete projects related to different fields of study

# Social Studies

## **We the People**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter*

This course will cover all things Washington D.C. Students will look into the history of this city as we explore the 3 branches of government, different buildings, monuments, museums, and some of the people who make this city our nation's capital.

# World Cultures and Languages

The connection and dependence of countries and cultures is a defining characteristic of the 21st Century. No previous generation has faced the challenges and opportunities of thriving in a global, interconnected society.

As the first generation facing this challenge, we encourage you to consider the benefits of world languages and cultures courses. The study of language and cultures deepens your understanding of your own, reduces prejudice, increases analytical skills, and prepares students to live in a world connected by economics, culture and politics.

## **FLEX - Foreign Language Exploratory Program**

*Grades 7, 8 • Quarter*

FLEX is an introduction to the World Languages offered in Pickerington Local Schools. Students will experience each language and culture before deciding on a specific language to study in subsequent years. Students will:

- Learn basic expressions.
  - Recognize when the language is seen and heard.
  - Acquire basic information about culture.
  - Identify areas of the world where each language is spoken.
  - Experience music, art and media.
  - Learn how foreign language can help in future career opportunities.

**The following courses are offered for high school credit only. Careful consideration for enrollment should be discussed with your child's counselor.**

### **640 - French 1**

*Grade 8 ONLY • Full Year • 1 credit • Prerequisite: Proficient or higher on 7th Grade ELA state test.*

This course begins with strategies for learning a second language. Subsequent units introduce basic communication, grammar, writing skills, and vocabulary. Students will be introduced to French speaking communities and practices around the globe through real life, everyday activities that deal with vacations, school, family, and sports and leisure activities. Proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing is developed through interaction with a variety of media such as videos, music, games, and the Internet.

### **650- German 1\***

*Grade 8 ONLY • Full Year • 1 credit • Prerequisite: Proficient or higher on 7th Grade ELA state test.*

*\*only offered at Ridgeview*

This course is a study of the language and culture of German-speaking people. Emphasis is placed on the development of listening and speaking skills. Vocabulary and grammar are taught through conversational situations, language games, and videos.

### **670 - Spanish 1\***

*Grades 7, 8 • Full Year • 1 credit • Prerequisite: Accelerated or higher on 6th Grade ELA state test or Proficient or higher on 7th Grade ELA state test • Recommended for 8th grade students*

\*Spanish 1 is available to 7th grade students. However, it is recommended that students take this course in 8th grade so they may continue through high school Advanced Placement Spanish without any gaps prior to transitioning to college level world language courses. FLEX is recommended for 7th graders interested in foreign language.

This course is a study of the language and culture of Spanish-speaking people. Communication skills are stressed, along with a strong foundation in vocabulary and basic grammar structures. The course is a proficiency-driven High School credit course that lays the foundation for the themes underlying the Spanish curriculum. Culture studies add to the students' understanding of the Hispanic people.

## **672 - Spanish 2**

*Grade 8 ONLY • Full Year • 1 credit • Prerequisite: Performance Level of Novice-Mid on Spanish 1 Individual Performance Assessment*

Spanish II is a continuation of Spanish I. Basic grammar and vocabulary are revisited and developed to allow students to communicate about more complex concepts. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing are stressed to improve the understanding of both the language and the people who speak it. Culture studies add to the students' understanding of the Hispanic people.

## **Health and Wellness Courses**

Physical education and health classes concentrate on areas of students' lives that either enhance or interfere with learning. These courses provide opportunities for developing and practicing healthy decision-making and lifelong skills. The risks associated with tobacco, alcohol, drugs, unhealthy eating habits and sexual activity are addressed. These courses emphasize the benefits of healthy lifestyles, which increases the likelihood of academic success.

### **882 - Physical Education**

*Grades 7, 8 • Quarter • May be taken more than once.*

This course provides each student with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, lead up games, team sports and physical fitness activities. The students receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with the different sports, as well as, learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities. The program promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, self-improvement and friendly competition. \*This class is REQUIRED if a student wishes to take PE 9 for high school credit while at the Junior High.

### **888 - Fitness and Nutrition\***

*Grades 7, 8 • Quarter • May only be taken one time while in Junior High*

\*This course requires physical exertion similar to physical education class. Class will be in the classroom two days a week and in the gym working out three days a week. During the days in the gym you will be required to change for class participation.

The basic purpose of this course is designed to provide a broad understanding of the basic principles of nutrition and fitness. The focus of this course is centered on healthy food and lifestyle choices. The general goal is to enhance student awareness in regards to personal food choices and physical activity, along with motivating students to strive for optimal levels of health.

### **HEALTH - Health & Wellbeing**

*Grades 7, 8 • Quarter • May only be taken one time while in Junior High • Fee • Not for High School Credit*

Health is a nine-week course encouraging junior high students to take an active role in protecting, maintaining, and improving their health. Students will explore, but not be limited to, physical, mental, and social well-being of a person. The studies of relationships, stress, violence, drugs, diseases, male and female reproduction systems.

### **904 - Physical Education 9\***

*Grades 7, 8 • Semester • .25 credit • \*May only be taken ONE time in Junior High for high school credit.*

*Open to qualifying 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students*

*Prerequisite required • Completion of 882 Physical Education with a C or higher*

This course provides daily activities that will enhance muscular strength, muscular and cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, agility and balance. Additionally, PE 9 will provide students with knowledge and skills necessary to actively participate in a variety of sports, games and activities.

### **EXCSCI - Exercise Science**

*Grades 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

This course will examine the skeletal & muscular systems. This course will be a hands on project oriented course. It will allow students the opportunity to collaborate with one another to research the latest trends of exercise & its effects it has on the human body.

### **SJ - Social Justice Development**

*Grades 7, 8 • Quarter • May be taken more than once.*

Students will explore power and privilege in diverse populations, contemporary and historical examples of oppression specifically related to African American history, as well as personal prejudices and biases. This course will support students in gaining an understanding of African American studies from the sociopolitical perspective. Students will develop skills to be advocates and allies for social justice. This course will be taught in formats that include project-based learning, open discussion, and mentorship linking. This is designed specifically for the junior high level as students will be developing self-awareness for social change.

### **Yoga & Mindfulness**

*Grades 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

This course will include yoga/mindful movement practice and various mindfulness/meditation practices designed to build resilience, manage stress/anxiety, and improve emotional regulation.

Yoga and mindfulness have proven to be powerful tools for students of all ages and backgrounds. These practices build resilience, allowing students to better manage stress and anxiety and encourage emotional regulation and thoughtful decision making. Student growth in these areas would positively impact not only academic performance but student relationships and school culture/climate, as well.

## **GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY**

### **Project Lead the Way (PLTW)**

### **AR - Automation and Robotics**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems. Students use a robust robotics platform to design, build and program a solution to solve an existing problem.

### **AR2 - Automation and Robotics Level Two**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

Students will continue to learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use a robust robotics platform to design, build, and program a solution to solve an existing problem.

### **DM - Engineering Design and Modeling**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

Students begin to develop an engineering notebook to document and capture their ideas. They are introduced to and use the design process to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on our lives. Students use industry standard 3D modeling software to create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their creative solutions.

### **DM2 - Engineering Design and Modeling Level Two**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

Students apply concepts learned in Design and Modeling to a series of engineering projects.

### **MD - Medical Detectives**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

Students explore the biomedical sciences through hands-on projects and labs that require students to solve a variety of medical mysteries. Students will be placed in the role of “medical detectives” and participate in a variety of investigating activities related to forensics and medicine, including crime scene investigation, dissection of preserved specimens, diagnosis of infectious disease, and collecting experimental data.

### **MD2 - Medical Detectives Level Two**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

This course extends the medical and forensics concepts from Medical Detectives while building students’ scientific reasoning skills.

### **CSIM - Computer Science for Innovators and Makers**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

Students are introduced to basic programming through Microsoft Blockly Programming. Students will collectively work to create projects by blending hardware design and software development, allowing students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable products.

### **CSIM2 - Computer Science for Innovators and Makers Level 2**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

This class focuses on creating games through coding. It uses the Makecode platform that students have used in the first CSIM course. Students who want a more advanced coding platform have the opportunity to code in JavaScript.

### **AC -App Creators**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter*

This course will expose students to computer science as a means of computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.

## **INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

### **825 - Introduction to Multimedia Production**

*Grades 7, 8 • Quarter • Fee*

This introductory class introduces the student to basic computer literacy, Internet, and components of multimedia: text, graphics, animation, sound, and video, and explores how they combine to create a multimedia product across a variety of computer hardware, software, and design concepts. Emphasizes the design aspects of multimedia projects and teaches the techniques required to develop presentations, videos and websites.

### **Python Programming**

*Grade 7, 8 • Quarter*

Students learn the basics of Python programming language for coding. This is a more advanced level of coding that will prepare students for high school coding classes.

## **MUSIC**

### **MA - Music Appreciation**

*7th and 8th grade • Quarter • May be taken more than once.*

Students learn to appreciate the role of music in people's lives, how to communicate through music, respond to music, and value music. Students will study musical instruments and identify different styles of music in this course. From classical, to big band, to hip hop and beyond, this course provides an opportunity for non-performers to explore and enjoy the art of music.

### **7BAND - Band 7**

*Grade 7 • Full-year*

*Recommendation: One year of band experience.*

Band is a performance-based class for those students who play brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. Special attention will be placed upon proper playing fundamentals and performance techniques.

## **8BAND - Band 8**

*Grade 8 • Full-year*

*Recommendation: One year of band experience.*

Band is a performance-based class for those students who play brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. Special attention will be placed upon proper playing fundamentals and performance techniques.

## **CHOIR**

*Grades 7 & 8 • Full year*

Choir is a year-long course designed to solidify the basic fundamentals of singing and ensemble. Students will develop skills in breathing, tone quality, harmonization, and work independently or collaboratively to perform varied types and styles of music. Singing is taught in a variety of manners to establish the strong musician. All learning is done in an ensemble setting.

## **7ORCH - Orchestra 7**

*Grade 7 • Full-year*

Orchestra is a performance-based class for those students who play string instruments. Special attention will be placed upon proper playing fundamentals and performance techniques. This ensemble would also be suitable for 8<sup>th</sup> graders with minimal string playing experience with the director's approval.

## **8ORCH - Orchestra 8**

*Grade 8 • Full-year*

Orchestra is a performance-based class for those students who play string instruments. Special attention will be placed upon proper playing fundamentals and performance techniques. Select 7<sup>th</sup> graders may be permitted to enroll in this group with an audition and director's approval.

# **THEATRE**

## **576 – Theatre 1 - High School Credit**

*Grades 7, 8 • Semester • 1/2 credit • High School Credit • Fee • This course cannot be repeated.*

*Prerequisite: None*

This course, previously known as Fundamentals of Acting and Theatre History, covers the foundations in performance skills and practice. Students will study voice, body, characterization, basic text analysis, and the connection of these elements. Students will also learn Theatre history and about theatre's application as a business, stemming into marketing themselves as an actor. Students will also learn how to perform small scenes and monologues. They will be assessed on their participation, quizzes, worksheets, group work, and performances.

## **561 Introduction to Actors' Studio**

*Grade 8 • Quarter • Permission of Instructor • Not for High School Credit • This course cannot be repeated.*  
*Prerequisite: Theatre 1*

This course is for junior high theatre students who may be interested in acting, directing, or production work. This course will provide an opportunity for young artists to develop critical performance skills such as acting and movement on a deeper level. This is an audition-based course at the discretion of the instructor/director. Students will be assessed on performance, group work, and participation.