

Pleasant Valley Middle School

2233 Route 115
Brodheads ville, PA



Program of Studies 2021 - 2022

Excellence in Education: A Community Commitment



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PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2233 Route 115

Brodheadsville, PA 18322

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Welcome to PVMS

Transitioning to PVMS

Middle School bridges the gap between elementary and high school experiences. Our goal is to make the transition from 6th to 7th grade a positive experience and we will do this by working together. Scheduling classes is an integral part of the transition. Our administration and counselors will work closely with your child throughout the scheduling process. To help make a smooth transition, the Middle School counselors will visit your child at PVI and discuss Middle School scheduling and expectations. Additionally, the middle school will host a move up night which will be held in the spring. The move up night welcomes the parents and students into our building. At this meeting, the administrators and counselors will talk with the families about the middle school and answer all parent questions. The students will also be given a tour of the Middle School.

Continuing in the transition process, the counselors will again visit PVI and help the students schedule their specials into the Home Access Center (HAC). The counselors will make sure that each student has the correct number of specials requested. Please know that there are limitations to scheduling such as the number of students permitted in a class and the availability of teachers will determine if all requests can be fulfilled.

The 6th grade students will tour the Middle School in May during the school day where they will be given a student lead a tour. At that time, 6th grade students will be able to have a glimpse of what their day will be like in the Middle School.

In August, the students will be able to view their schedule through the online system (HAC). There will be a date in August for students to find their classroom and meet the principals.

We encourage you to be actively involved in your child's transition process to help make it successful. We look forward to working with you and building a positive relationship.

EQUAL RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

Pleasant Valley School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion in its admissions, educational programs, activities, or employment policies. Publication of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws including the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title VI, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Requests for information regarding services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities, in addition to all other inquiries, should be directed to the Human Resources Director. This individual serves as Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator and is located in the Pleasant Valley School District Administrator Building, 2233 Route 115, Suite 100, Brodheadsville, PA, 18322. (570) 402-1000.

The Pleasant Valley School District will not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, ancestry, union membership, or any other legally protected classification.

For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator at Pleasant Valley School District Administration Building, 2233 Rte. 115, Suite 100, Brodheadsville, PA 18322.

Telephone: (570) 402-1000 ext. 1209.

GLOSSARY

Credit – a unit that gives weighting to the value, level or time requirements of an academic course

Educational Program – all the educational offerings of a school district, including extra-curricular activities

Elective Courses – courses that students choose to complete their annual program of studies (Electives should be chosen based on student ability, interest and career aspirations.)

ESL – (English for Speakers of Other Languages) is a support system designed to help the student whose native language is other than English acquire the skills to develop proficiency in the English language in which support is given by the ESL and content area teachers.

Marking Period – a part of the school year between two dates on which students' marks are sent home (There are four (4) marking periods per year.)

Pass/Fail –refers to a grading system in which students receive wither a "pass" or "fail" grade. (This grade does not affect cumulative grade point average.)

Recommendation – a course that a student must successfully complete in order to qualify for entry into another course

Required Courses – courses which students must schedule based on the program of studies they have chosen (Required courses include both graduation course requirements and specific required courses within a curriculum for preparation for higher learning.)

Sequential Course – one course in a series of courses (Each course must be taken in its proper sequence. In sequential courses, it is necessary to learn the knowledge and skills of the first course before going on to the next course. A passing grade is required. Sequential courses are found in many areas – Mathematics, Science, World Language, Art, Exploring Technology, etc. Sequential courses do not have to be taken in the same school year.)

Term – refers to the school year

Regular Grade

A = 4.0	92 - 100
B = 3.0	83 - 91
C = 2.0	74 - 82
D = 1.0	65 - 73
F = 0.0	00 - 64

GRADE 7

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

This course, in full compliance with the Pennsylvania Core State Standards (PCSS), will follow the Writing Units of Studies by Lucy Calkins. This program will focus on building proficiency in all genres and structures of writing while maintaining the rigor of grammar, vocabulary, tone and syntax expectations within the writing units.

The 7th grade Reading curriculum, in compliance with Pennsylvania Core State Standards (PCSS) and the specific grade level anchors, transitions students from the elementary reading core structure to secondary reading skills and expectations via short story units, novel studies, and non-fiction texts encompassing a variety of genres. Through the inquiry-based classroom model, pupils will acquire note taking strategies, making clear connections from text to text, text to self and text to world. Reading activities will be guided by essential questions which will encourage and foster higher level thinking, text referencing and writing skills as well as student-engaged literary discussions. Pupils will utilize many different types of text to build background knowledge relating to content, vocabulary, figurative language, and story elements, as well as to exercise and strengthen analytical skills. Novel selections are based on interdisciplinary connections paralleling the Science and/or American History curriculums. The overall goal of the 7th grade reading course is to build upon and foster the reading and writing skills needed for real world success, while promoting a deeper understanding of the significance of reading in all aspects of their learning.

The 7th grade Science curriculum deals primarily with Biology, while making connections to Physical and Earth & Space sciences following the Pennsylvania Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The 7th grade Science curriculum will teach students to see the similarities and differences between living things. Major emphasis is placed on how living things interact with each other and human beings. The course includes, but is not limited to, units on the scientific method and the characteristics of living things as well as a survey of the major kingdoms of organisms. Students will actively be involved with projects, reports, and lab activities that deal with these scientific concepts.

MATHEMATICS

7th GRADE MATHEMATICS

In this course, students will focus on integers, rational numbers and real numbers and how they operate within equations, inequalities and functions, as well as the terminology used in Algebra. Real-world applications will be used to model more abstract algebraic concepts and to help the students become better problem solvers. In this course, students will begin to build a solid foundation for future studies in 8th Grade Mathematics and Algebra.

HONORS ALGEBRA 1

Honors Algebra I consists of a study of the real number system, sets, variables, open sentences, factoring, rational and irrational numbers and problem solving using variables. The emphasis is on the structure of real numbers, algebraic concepts, deductive reasoning, and precision of language.

Student selection criteria:

- score Advanced in Mathematics on the 6th grade PSSA Test
- complete a specific set of objectives in the pre-algebra library in their 6th grade year
- 92 or higher average in math for each marking period

A comprehensive final exam counts as 20% of the final average. Students may take this course for a high school credit or as an audit. If a student audits the course they must repeat Algebra I in 8th grade. This decision is made at the mid-year mark.

High School Credit - 1 Available

Only students who have met the entrance requirements for Honors Algebra I are able to schedule this class.

Please note: All students taking this course for graduation credit are required to take the Keystone Exam.

U. S. HISTORY I

In the 7th grade, one of the major goals of the social studies curriculum is to awaken students to their American heritage, civic responsibilities, and to have them envision themselves as an integral part of “history” being made today. Students will examine the Age of Exploration, the Colonization of the New World and rivalry for New World Supremacy, the emergence of the United States, the Constitution and System of Government, and the administrations of the first five presidents.



Electives

Computer Technology has been designed to provide instruction for learning to use a computer to create various documents focusing on career exploration and digital citizenship with continuous practice of keyboarding. Students will learn the basic features of Microsoft Office applications including Word Processing, Spreadsheets, Desktop Publishing, and Presentations while exploring careers. Students will maintain a digital career portfolio utilizing a school licensed Internet based website: Xello. Students will be introduced to a unit on Digital Citizenship, which will include: Cyber Literacy, Cyberbullying and Computer Threats. The activities in this unit will be completed using Google Apps (Docs, Slides, Sheets, Forms and Drawings) and Google Classroom. **Please note all 7th grade students will be required to take this class as one of their electives.**

ESL/GIFTED SUPPORT

ESL PROGRAM

(Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced)

The ESL support system is in place to support the growing proficiency in the English language domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and to encourage participation in the full range of instructional activities in the regular education curriculum and in extracurricular activities in our schools. English Language Development (ELD) is incorporated into all classes, taught by regular education teachers and supported by the ESL teacher, in which English Language Learners (ELLs) are enrolled. These teachers are responsible for deliberately planning for and incorporating language instruction as well as the supports, modifications, and accommodations needed to allow ELLs to access the standards to which the course is aligned.

GIFTED SUPPORT

Gifted Support for 7th grade will be scheduled as a required elective. Gifted Support is specifically designed for those who have been evaluated by the District's Multidisciplinary Team and identified by the Individual Education Program Team in need of specially designed instruction. Each student must have a Gifted Individualized Educational Program (G.I.E.P.) written prior to enrollment.

The 7th grade Exploring Technology Education course is a hands-on, technical course. The course is divided in two sections. Students will learn measurement, paper layout, scale, drafting and design, multi-view drawing to build a catapult during their first section. Students will learn basic woodworking skills while safely completing a variety of projects in their second section. Woodworking skills include project planning, measurement, safety knowledge, use of hand tools, use of power tools, and finishing techniques.

FAMILY and CONSUMER SCIENCES

The 7th grade Family and Consumer Sciences course serves as an introduction to various areas inherent in a Family and Consumer Sciences curriculum. Basic knowledge and life skills are acquired in the areas of food preparation, etiquette, child care, sewing, and fabric care. Students will practice and demonstrate how to use a recipe through participation in food lab experiences. Students then will be introduced to hand and machine sewing concepts by completing a felt project and a simple pillow project.

HEALTH

Students will experience a health education program that is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to achieve and maintain a physically active and healthful life. This course helps students become involved in decision-making activities in order to apply their health-related knowledge to real life situations by choosing healthful behaviors. Students will experience instructional activities that are designed to develop knowledge of concepts of health, healthy living, and safety and injury prevention. Seventh grade units of study include: health care products and services, health information and consumer choices, health information and the media, decision making skills, and health and the environment.

Please note: All 7th grade students will be required to take this class as one of their electives.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

By performing a variety of instructional activities, students will experience a physical education program that is designed to develop and demonstrate physical activity involvement, safety and injury prevention, and concepts, principles, and strategies of movement. Opportunities will be provided for students to enhance safety skills, self-discipline, self-control, and positive attitudes towards fitness and social skills through participation in a variety of standards-based, affective fitness, and sports activities. Seventh grade units of study include: cooperative games, core ball/circuit training, relay races/conditioning, weight training, Frisbee, golf, soccer/floor hockey, badminton/pickleball, and bases games.

Please note: All 7th grade students will be required to take this class as one of their electives.

The mission of the Pleasant Valley Middle School Library is to empower students to become critical thinkers, creators, communicators, and collaborators of information and ideas. Students learn to effectively locate, evaluate and use information in an integrated approach with classroom learning. The library strives to meet the varied needs of students and learning styles with its diverse collection of print and electronic resources. Library materials are selected to support the educational goals of the school and supplement all curriculum areas. A flexible, open schedule provides access to the library when needed by individuals, groups and/or classes.

MUSIC

BAND

Full Year

The 7th grade band is comprised of students who have had previous instrumental training and performance experience at the elementary/intermediate level. Participants receive instruction at weekly lessons in the areas of overall general musicianship, as well as technique development specific to their chosen instrument. Lessons follow a rotational schedule.

All members are required to perform at all scheduled concerts and special events. Band students are required to prepare for performance through regular “at-home” practice as well as at lessons and scheduled rehearsals. There is no “lessons only” membership option. Band will perform at least two after-school performances.

Students interested in beginning to play an instrument should direct questions to the band director.

CHORUS

Full Year

No audition required. Seventh grade chorus will perform at least two after-school performances. This chorus is for anyone with an interest in singing. Rudimentary music reading and harmony will be introduced through the singing of various styles of music including but not limited to Broadway, Patriotic, American Popular, Folk, and Multicultural music. This course is recommended for students interested in advanced choral work in eighth grade and beyond.

GENERAL MUSIC

Students will study the history of European music from the Medieval Period through the 20th Century. Multicultural music and American music genres will also be explored.

PIANO LAB

Students will apply basic music theory and learn proper piano technique through independent practice on electronic keyboards. Note: A piano/keyboard in the home is not required.

This course provides students with the opportunity to enhance their drawing, sculpture and painting abilities. The four components of art are emphasized which includes art production, art history, criticism and aesthetics. Students will work with a variety of art mediums to create works of art including: colored pencils, scratch paper, oil pastels, plaster craft, and acrylic paint.

WORLD LANGUAGES

EXPLORATORY GERMAN

The study of language in Middle School is intended to be an exposure to the culture, vocabulary, and basic communicative phrases of the German language. The student will be introduced to the sound system of the language, various vocabulary content areas, and the geographical and cultural aspects of the German speaking countries. The study of a language at this level should create within the students an appreciation of, an interest in and a positive attitude toward other languages and cultures. Students may take this course in 7th or 8th grade. The length of this course is one full marking period. Students who choose to take exploratory German in 7th grade will not take Exploratory German in 8th grade; however, there is the option to take German I as an 8th grader if they meet the qualifications. It is highly recommended that students interested in taking German I as 8th graders, take Exploratory German in 7th grade, but it is not a requirement.

EXPLORATORY SPANISH

The study of language in Middle School is intended to be an exposure to the culture, vocabulary, and basic communicative phrases of the Spanish language. The student will be introduced to the sound system of the language, various vocabulary content areas, and the geographical and cultural aspects of the Spanish speaking countries. The study of a language at this level should create within the students an appreciation of, an interest in, and a positive attitude toward other languages and cultures. Students may take this course in 7th or 8th grade. The length of this course is one full marking period. It is highly recommended that students interested in taking Spanish I as 8th graders, take Exploratory Spanish in 7th grade.

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

The Global Connections class will allow students to explore different countries, cultures and human capital. The class will include both teacher and student guided learning that will allow students the opportunity to make connections socially, politically and economically to the countries discussed and the world in general. The purpose of the class is to establish said connections and allow for a global mindset. The study of each culture will be supplemented by the development of culturally relevant and responsive reading, writing, research, geography, critical thinking, study skills/note-taking, technology use and presentation skills.



GRADE 8

This course, in full compliance with the Pennsylvania Core State Standards (PCSS), will follow the Writing Units of Studies by Lucy Calkins. This program will focus on building proficiency in all genres and structures of writing while maintaining the rigor of grammar, vocabulary, tone and syntax expectations within the writing units.

The 8th grade reading curriculum, in compliance with Pennsylvania Core State Standards (PCSS) and the specific grade-level anchors will continue to build on all literacy skills taught in 7th grade in preparation for transition to the rigors of the HS English classes. Through an inquiry-based classroom model, students will use a variety of strategies to make clear connections from text to text, text to self and text to world, as well as a variety of note taking strategies. Reading activities will be guided by essential questions which will encourage and foster higher level thinking, text referencing and writing skills as well as student-engaged literary discussions. Students will read a variety of texts from many genres, including non-fiction and conduct research. The 8th grade novel selections will build on and apply the reading skills taught and modeled during the short story units. The overall goal of the 8th grade reading course is to foster and build on the academic reading and writing skills needed for real world success, while increasing a deeper understanding and application of reading skills in all aspects of their learning and enjoyment.

Students interested in being considered for English Honors Prep must meet four of the five of the following criteria:

- 1) 7th grade STAR Advanced Proficiency level on fall, winter and spring benchmark assessments
- 2) 7th grade STAR Instructional Reading level at 9+
- 3) 7th grade English Language Arts/Reading combined AVERAGE of 92 at time of entrance exam
- 4) 7th Grade Advanced PSSA ELA score(to be reviewed as data becomes available)
- 5) Successful completion of entrance examination and essay

COURSE FOCUS

This course will be a combined block-scheduled course which will include the 8th grade English Language Arts (ELA) and Reading curriculum which will address and be in full compliance with the ELA and reading Pennsylvania Core State Standards (PCSS) and grade level skill anchors. It will focus on building excellence in writing, vocabulary and literature in all genres and structures, as well as a variety of nonfiction text, while increasing the rigor of expectations within the units and assignments. The integrated curriculum will continue to build on all literacy skills in preparation for the successful transition to the rigors of the 9th grade Honors Curriculum. Successful completion of this course will guarantee entrance to the high school 9th grade Honors English class.

All Middle School students accepted into the class will be required to complete an assigned summer reading novel and activities. The novel title and specific expectations will be distributed at the end of the school year.

To remain in the English Honors Prep course, the student must maintain an overall average of 90% or above or petition to remain in the program and meet the Advanced Proficiency level for the 8th grade PSSA.

High School Credit - .25 Available

MATHEMATICS

8th GRADE MATHEMATICS

This course begins with a quick review of basic skills and progresses through basic equation solving, operations with integers and multi-step equation solving. Students in this course will study higher level complex equations and inequalities, linear equations, statistical and geometric applications. Problem solving in real-life situations are stressed. In this course, students will begin to build a solid foundation for future studies in Algebra.

HONORS ALGEBRA I

Honors Algebra I consists of a study of the real number system, sets, variables, open sentences, factoring, rational and irrational numbers and problem solving using variables. The emphasis is on the structure of real numbers, algebraic concepts, deductive reasoning, and precision of language.

Student selection criteria:

- score Advanced in Mathematics on the 7th grade PSSA Test
- score Advance on STAR math assessments
- 92 or higher average in math for each marking period

A comprehensive final exam counts as 20% of the final average. Students may take this course for a high school credit or as an audit. If a student audits the course they must repeat Algebra I in 9th grade. This decision is made at the mid-year mark.

High School Credit - 1 Available

Only students who have met the entrance requirements for Honors Algebra I are able to schedule this class.

Please note: All students taking this course for graduation credit are required to take the Keystone Exam.

HONORS ALGEBRA II

The Honors Algebra II course is both accelerated and enriched and is primarily an extension of Algebra I. However, a more rigorous approach is taken in the study of the real number system. The first part of the course involves real number concepts and skills, the solution of linear equations and inequalities, properties of polynomials, and rational expressions. The second part of the course deals with relations and functions, irrational numbers and quadratic relations. The students will be challenged by application and synthesis-level problems, equations and graphs, conic sections and logarithms. Students must have successfully completed Algebra I.

High School Credit - 1

SCIENCE

The major goal of the 8th grade curriculum is to provide basic knowledge of Chemistry and Physics as it relates to everyday experiences, while making connections to Life Science and Earth & Space Science curricula following the Pennsylvania Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Students will discover and interpret scientific knowledge by completing projects, reports, demonstrations and lab activities. An additional goal of the course is to apply basic math principles to science concepts. The 8th grade curriculum encompasses six major topics: 1) scientific method 2) physical and chemical nature of matter 3) nuclear energy and radioactivity 4) forms of energy 5) work and power 6) force and motion.

U. S. HISTORY II

The intent of this course is to survey American history from the Jacksonian Era of the 1820's to the 1870's and the changing climate of the west. This course is designed to increase student awareness of the development of the American character, civic responsibilities, and vision. Students will be exposed to the pageant of American history through a variety of teaching-learning methods and activities. The course will feature a special emphasis on the causes, execution, and results of the Civil War.



Electives

ESL/GIFTED

ESL PROGRAM

(Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced)

The ESL support system is in place to support the growing proficiency in the English language domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and to encourage participation in the full range of instructional activities in the regular education curriculum and in extracurricular activities in our schools. English Language Development (ELD) is incorporated into all classes, taught by regular education teachers and supported by the ESL teacher, in which English Language Learners (ELLs) are enrolled. These teachers are responsible for deliberately planning for and incorporating language instruction as well as the supports, modifications, and accommodations needed to allow ELLs to access the standards to which the course is aligned.

GIFTED SUPPORT

Gifted Support for 8th grade will be scheduled as a required elective. Gifted Support is specifically designed for those who have been evaluated by the District's Multidisciplinary Team and identified by the Individual Education Program Team as exceptional and in need of specially designed instruction. Each student must have a Gifted Individualized Educational Program (G.I.E.P.) written prior to enrollment.

EXPLORING TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Students will gain a fundamental and practical knowledge base while taking both woodworking and drafting. In addition to working in both areas, students will have opportunities to develop an understanding of various types of technology including safety skills, the design process, robotics, use of power tools, production, manufacturing and communication.


The 8th grade Family and Consumer Sciences course further develops students' knowledge and skills in areas inherent in a Family and Consumer Sciences curriculum. Course work will expand students' knowledge in the areas of foods and sewing in addition to introducing consumer skills such as commerce and personal finance. Students will complete a drawstring backpack. *Approximate cost of project is \$5.00.*

HEALTH

Students will experience a health education program that is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to achieve and maintain a physically active and healthful life. This course helps students recognize healthful living and ways to achieve the skills needed for optimal health. Students will experience instructional activities that are designed to develop knowledge of concepts of health, healthy living, and safety and injury prevention. Eighth grade units of study include: stages of growth and development; interaction of the body systems; nutrition; alcohol, tobacco, and chemical substances; and health problems and disease prevention. **Please note: All 8th grade students will be required to take this class as one of their electives.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

By performing a variety of instructional activities, students will experience a physical education program that is designed to develop and demonstrate physical activity involvement, safety and injury prevention, and concepts, principles, and strategies of movement. Opportunities will be provided for students to enhance safety skills, self-discipline, self-control, and positive attitudes towards fitness and social skills through participation in a variety of standards-based affective, fitness, and sports activities. Eighth grade units of study include: cooperative games, fitness games, weight training/circuit training, handball/speedball, tennis, volleyball, basketball, ultimate frisbee, and bases games. **Please note: All 8th grade students will be required to take this class as one of their electives.**



This course is designed to familiarize students with computer functions, capabilities and roles in society. Students will have a more comprehensive introduction to Digital Citizenship that includes: Internet Safety, Cyber Ethics and Social Media. In this unit students will use Google Apps (Docs, Slides, Sheets, Forms and Drawings) and Google Classroom to complete various activities. Students will continue career exploration with the use of a web site called Xello. Through a hands-on-approach, students will work with Windows and the MS Office Suite to complete assignments that are aligned with career exploratory. Skills to be covered are as follows: Word Processing with a review of MLA (Modern Language Association) guidelines, Spreadsheets using formulas, functions, formatting data and graphs, Desktop Publishing which includes creating business cards and letterheads; and Presentations that contains information about a selected career and the applying features available in PowerPoint. An emphasis is placed on developing skills to enable the student to become an independent learner and computer user.

***Please note: All 8th grade students will be required to take this class as one of their electives.**



The mission of the Pleasant Valley Middle School Library is to empower students to become critical thinkers, creators, communicators, and collaborators of information and ideas. Students learn to effectively locate, evaluate and use information in an integrated approach with classroom learning. The library strives to meet the varied needs of students and learning styles with its diverse collection of print and electronic resources. Library materials are selected to support the educational goals of the school and supplement all curriculum areas. A flexible, open schedule provides access to the library when needed by individuals, groups and/or classes.

MUSIC

BAND

Full Year

The 8th grade Band is comprised of students who have had previous instrumental training and performance experience at the elementary/intermediate level. Participants receive instruction at weekly lessons in the areas of overall general musicianship, as well as technique development specific to their chosen instrument. Lessons follow a rotational schedule.

All members are required to perform at all scheduled concerts and special events. Band students are required to prepare for performance through regular “at-home” practice as well as at lessons and scheduled rehearsals. There is no “lessons only” membership option. Band will perform at least two after-school performances.

Students interested in beginning to play an instrument should direct questions to the band director.

CHORUS

Full Year

No audition required. 8th grade Chorus will perform at least two after-school performances. This chorus is for anyone with an interest in singing. Rudimentary music reading and harmony will be introduced through the singing of various styles of music including but not limited to Broadway, Patriotic, American Popular, Folk, and Multicultural music. This course is recommended for students interested in advanced choral work in 9th grade and beyond.

GENERAL MUSIC

Students will review the history and singing of the Star Spangled Banner as well as the national anthems of several other countries. Students will study a variety of musical genres from the American and European past and present. Information about various careers involving music will be discussed in class and related to real world application.

PIANO LAB

Students will learn basic piano theory and technique through independent practice on electronic keyboards. Note: A piano/keyboard in the home is not required.

This course provides students with the opportunity to enhance their drawing, sculpture and painting abilities. The four components of art are emphasized which includes art production, art history, criticism and aesthetics. Students will work with a variety of art mediums to create works of art including: aluminum wire, clay, e-z cut blocks, chalk pastels and acrylic/water color paint.

WORLD LANGUAGES

EXPLORATORY GERMAN

The study of language in middle school is intended to be an exposure to the culture, vocabulary, and basic communicative phrases of the German language. The student will be introduced to the sound system of the language, various vocabulary content areas, and the geographical and cultural aspects of the German speaking countries. The study of a language at this level should create within the students an appreciation of, an interest in and a positive attitude toward other languages and cultures. Students may take this course in 7th or 8th grade. The length of this course is one full marking period. Students who choose to take exploratory German in 7th grade will not take Exploratory German in 8th grade; however, there is the option to take German I as an 8th grader if they meet the qualifications. It is highly recommended that students interested in taking German I as 8th graders, take Exploratory German in 7th grade, but it is not a requirement.

EXPLORATORY SPANISH

The study of language in middle school is intended to be an exposure to the culture, vocabulary, and basic communicative phrases of the Spanish language. The student will be introduced to the sound system of the language, various vocabulary content areas, and the geographical and cultural aspects of the Spanish speaking countries. The study of a language at this level should create within the students an appreciation of, an interest in, and a positive attitude toward other languages and cultures. If they did not take this course in 7th grade, they may take it in 8th grade. The length of this course is one full marking period. It is highly recommended that students take Exploratory Spanish before high school, to better prepare them for Spanish I.

602 GERMAN I

The skills of listening, speaking, writing, and an appreciation of various cultures are developed in German I. The length of this course at the middle school is four marking periods and offered to 8th grade only. Eligible students must attain a grade percentage of 92% or higher in their 7th grade Reading and Language Arts classes. Students must also score Advanced or Proficient in Reading on the 7th grade PSSA Test to be eligible for German I. A comprehensive final exam counts as 20% of their grade. Students may take this course for a high school credit or as an audit. If a student audits the course they may repeat German I in 9th grade and will not be eligible to take German II in 9th grade. This decision is made at mid-year. Students enrolled in German I in 8th grade for high school credit will have the option of enrolling in German AP during their senior year.

Please note: A minimum of a two-year sequence of at least one modern language study is strongly recommended for all students planning to continue with post-secondary education.

High School Credit -1.0

601 SPANISH I

The skills of listening, speaking, writing, and an appreciation of various cultures are developed in Spanish I. The length of this course at the middle school is four marking periods and offered to 8th grade only. Eligible students must attain a grade percentage of 92% or higher in their 7th grade Reading and Language Arts classes. Students must also score Advanced or Proficient in Reading on the 7th grade PSSA Test to be eligible for Spanish I. A comprehensive final exam counts as 20% of their grade. If students earn a 92% or better in all four marking periods, they may be exempt from the final exam. Students may take this course for one full high school credit or as an audit. If a student audits the course they may repeat Spanish I in 9th grade and will not be eligible to take Spanish II in 9th grade. This decision is made at mid-year. Students enrolled in Spanish I in 8th grade for high school credit will have the option of enrolling in Spanish AP during their senior year.

Please note: A minimum of a two-year sequence of at least one modern language study is strongly recommended for all students planning to continue with post-secondary education.

High School Credit – 1.0