

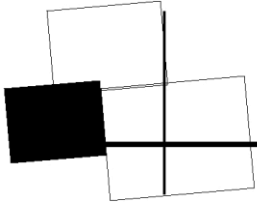
LAKE OSWEGO
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Home of the Sailors



Curriculum Guide
2021-2022

2500 Country Club Road
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
(503) 534-2335

<https://www.losdschools.org/loj>



Welcome to Lake Oswego Junior High!

To Students:

Welcome to Lake Oswego Junior High School, home of the Sailors! We are excited to have you as our student. We offer an instructional program that emphasizes academic achievement and growth through a variety of courses. This curriculum guide has been prepared to assist you and your parents/guardians in planning your academic program. We hope that it will be helpful for you as you make your scheduling decisions.

To Parents/Guardians:

Lake Oswego Junior High School has developed a program that takes into consideration the transition period from childhood to adolescence. In looking at the characteristics of middle level students, we realize that they are undergoing many intellectual, physical, social, and emotional changes at this time. Our program of instruction includes specific required courses in addition to elective options. We hope that this curriculum guide will be useful in helping you to assist your student in making decisions about courses for the year.

Lake Oswego Junior High School is a three-year school composed of grades 6, 7 and 8. The instructional program is primarily centered on an interdisciplinary team configuration. Students are assigned to a core team of teachers for Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, and Science. All students are expected to take a required curriculum at each grade level. Placement within these required courses is based on individual academic needs. Students also have the opportunity to choose elective courses to complete their individual schedules.

We are here to answer your questions. Feel free to reach out for assistance.

Counselors:

Molly Healy - 6th Grade
Emily Gillard - 7th Grade
Carrie Trulliger - 8th Grade

Registrar:

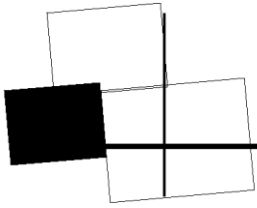
Marie Shakerin

RTI Coordinator:

Amy Espinosa

Administration:

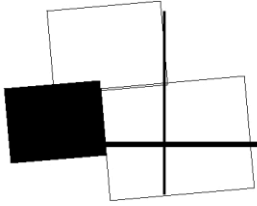
Kevin Mills, Principal
Alix Loeber, Assistant Principal



REQUIRED COURSES

<u>6th Grade</u>	
Language Arts	Full Year
Social Studies	Full Year
Math	Full Year
Science	Full Year
Physical Education	2 Trimesters
Health	1 Trimester
Study Skills	1 Trimester
Electives Wheel	5 Trimester-long OR 1 Year-long + 2 Trimester-long

<u>7th and 8th Grade</u>	
Language Arts	Full Year
Social Studies	Full Year
Math	Full Year
Science	Full Year
Physical Education	2 Trimesters
Health	1 Trimester
Electives	6 Trimester-long OR 2 Year-long OR 1 Year-long + 3 Trimester-long

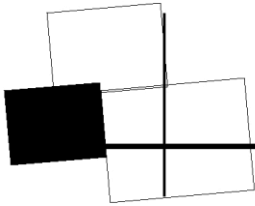


SAMPLE 6TH GRADE SCHEDULE

Per	Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
1	Language Arts		
2	Social Studies		
3	Math		
4	Science		
	Lunch		
5	PE	Health	PE
6	Study Skills	Trimester-long Elective	Trimester-long Elective
7	Choir/Band/Orchestra OR 3 Trimester-long electives		

SAMPLE 7TH/8TH GRADE SCHEDULE

Per	Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
1	Language Arts		
2	Social Studies		
3	Math		
4	Science		
	Lunch		
5	PE	Health	PE



6	3 Electives OR Choir/Band/Orchestra/World Language
7	3 Electives OR Choir/Band/Orchestra/World Language

6th Grade Electives

6th grade is an exploratory elective year, where students can choose one year-long music elective and be assigned two trimester-long electives or be assigned five trimester-long electives. All electives are designed to be a broad introduction to our elective program and allow students to discover which of our elective areas they would like to pursue in 7th and 8th grades. The course offerings are listed below.

Year-long Elective Options

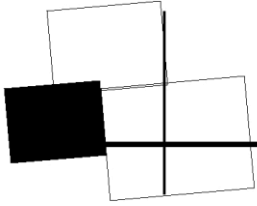
Beginning Band
Intermediate Band (instructor approval required)
Advanced Band (instructor approval required)
Orchestra
Intermediate Orchestra (instructor approval required)
Advanced Orchestra (instructor approval required)
Beginning Choir

Trimester-long Courses in the Elective Wheel

STEM Exploration
Drama Exploration
Art Exploration
Music Exploration
World Language Exploration

Study Skills (Required Trimester Elective)

Study Skills is a class designed to teach students the strategies necessary to become independent learners. Essential learning and application activities from this course will form the foundation for future student work through high school, college, and beyond. Students will learn: organizational skills; note taking, study and test strategies; digital citizenship with a focus on safety and social media use; and communication skills, all through fun and collaborative work.



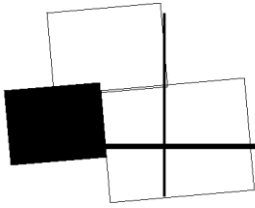
7th and 8th Grade Electives

Year-long Elective Options

<u>World Language</u> French 1 French 2 Spanish 1 Spanish 2	<u>Performing Arts</u> Beginning Band Intermediate Band Advanced Band Orchestra Intermediate Orchestra Advanced Orchestra Intermediate Choir Advanced Choir
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Trimester-long Elective Options

<u>Art Electives</u> 2D Art (Drawing, Painting, and Cartooning) 3D Art (Clay, Crafts, and Sculpture) Studio Art (Completion of 2D or 3D Art required prior to taking) Animation (Completion of 2D or 3D Art required prior to taking)	<u>Science/Technology Electives</u> Architectural Design Environmental Research and Experimental Design (E.R.E.D.) Extreme Engineering Space Exploration, Engineering, and Design (S.E.E.D.) Computer Science/Design (Web Design) STEM 2
<u>Language Arts Electives</u> Writer's Workshop Publications	<u>Social Studies Electives</u> Leadership Civics Speech and Debate Speech and Debate 2



<u>Performing Arts</u>	<u>PE/Health</u>
Drama	Lifetime Sports and Games Mindfulness and Yoga

Course Descriptions by Content Area

LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts includes both content and performance skills. Based upon the premise that performance skills are most effectively learned through an integrated instructional approach, our goals are to provide instruction in language and literature and to create a positive learning environment. All students are given the opportunity to achieve their fullest potential in all areas:

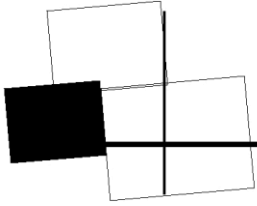
- to read perceptively and analytically
- to listen with understanding and openness
- to think critically and creatively
- to write with clarity and confidence
- to speak precisely and effectively

The following skills are developed and advanced at each grade level:

- Reading
- Critical thinking and comprehension
- Vocabulary and spelling
- Grammar
- Literary analysis
- Writing

The writing curriculum includes argumentative, informative, personal, and narrative modes.

Literary forms, including short story, non-fiction, poetry, and novels, are used to teach reading and writing strategies. An integrated approach is used, with the performance skills taught, practiced, and applied in the context of the literature studied.



SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 6 (Early World Civilizations)

Sixth grade social studies examines the origin and formation of early world civilizations. Studying these cultures provides an understanding of the lasting influence and impact these civilizations had on world development. As students learn about those who have come before them, they understand more about themselves in this modern age and their connections with past human activity. Throughout this course, students will recognize patterns and themes that connect our modern world to the past. This course will integrate geography, economics and financial literacy, civics and government, and perspectives on current events.

Areas of study will include:

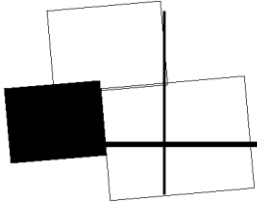
- Geography and Historical Thinking
- Agricultural Revolution + Mesopotamia
- Ancient Egypt
- Economics + Financial Literacy
- Ancient Greece
- Exploration + Canada
- Latin America

Social Studies 7 (World Civilizations: Eastern Hemisphere)

Seventh grade social studies examines the historical impact of civilizations from ancient times through the Reformation in the Eastern Hemisphere. Students will focus on patterns and themes that connect our modern world to the past. This course will integrate geography, economics, religion, civics and government, and perspectives on current events.

Major areas of study will include:

- Ancient India
- Ancient and Imperial China



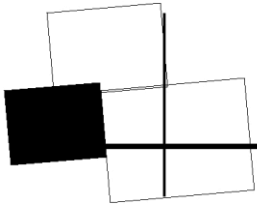
- The Golden Age of Japan and Feudal Japan
- The Roman Empire
- Europe in the Middle Ages and the Byzantine Empire
- Islamic Civilizations and the Culture and Kingdoms of Africa
- Europe's Renaissance
- Europe's Reformation

Social Studies 8 (United States History)

Eighth grade students will examine the development of the United States from pre-colonial through the Reconstruction eras. Major areas of study include the formation of the federal government, westward expansion, Antebellum era, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. Economic, geographic, political, and cultural perspectives will be provided to enhance the study of this period of American history.

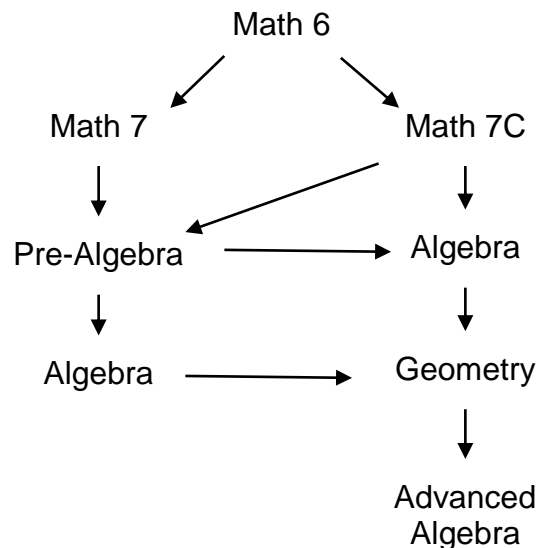
Major areas of study include:

- Precolonial/ Colonial North America
- Struggle for Independence
- Creating the US Government
- Westward Expansion
- Antebellum America
- Civil War
- Reconstruction
- Financial Literacy



MATHEMATICS

Mathematics provides a foundation for the learning of science and technology as well as for the interpretation of quantitative information in other subjects. All math course placements are forecasted with a recommendation from the previous year's teacher. The following is the sequence of Mathematics courses at LOJ:

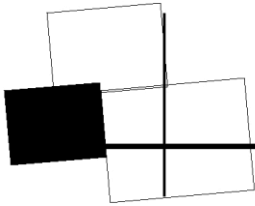


Math 6

The Math 6 course addresses the needs of the middle grade math student with a variety of learning styles through concrete and visual models. Topics to be covered include various models for all of the content strands (fractions & decimals, ratios, rates, percents and introductory algebra). Students will apply mathematical theology to solve real life problems.

Math 7

The Math 7 course addresses the needs of the middle grade math student with a variety of learning styles through concrete and visual models. Instructional time will focus on four critical areas: (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, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.



Math 7 Compacted

Math 7 Compacted (7C) will cover all of the Math 7 curriculum in two trimesters and cover the following concepts from the Pre-Algebra curriculum in the third trimester: Multi-step equations, Inequalities with a single variable, Linear Functions, Systems of Equations, Line of Best Fit & Scatter Plots, Angle Relationships, Pythagorean Theorem & Converse, and Exponent Properties. Students that successfully complete the Math 7 curriculum and Pre-Algebra content will have the opportunity to test into Algebra for the following school year.

Pre-Algebra

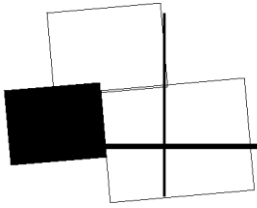
The Pre-Algebra course builds on mathematical experiences and addresses the needs of the middle-level student with a variety of learning styles through concrete and visual models. Students will maintain and apply computational skills and conceptual understandings of rational and irrational numbers. The following concepts will be introduced and developed: measurement, data analysis, algebra, and geometry. Students will communicate mathematically, use technology, and solve real world problems. Students will be expected to perform basic operations with rational numbers without a calculator.

Algebra (must have successfully completed Pre-Algebra or Math 7C)

This course continues the study of patterns and functions from Pre-Algebra while introducing the language and basic properties of Algebra. Students will explore linear, quadratic, polynomial, and exponential functions and will be expected to solve equations and systems of linear equations through a variety of techniques including using the quadratic formula and factoring. Connections between graphical, numerical, and symbolic representations of functions will be emphasized to build a conceptual understanding of Algebra. Successful completion of this class earns the student an elective credit at the high school.

Geometry (must have successfully completed Algebra)

This course includes the use of geometric patterns and relationships to classify and the application of properties of geometric figures to solve problems. Students will determine properties of geometric figures and prove relationships between them using given assumptions. Students will make and use two- and three-dimensional models and drawings and will be able to analyze and interpret graphs. Algebraic and geometric concepts will be interrelated. Students will be required to use a scientific calculator. Successful completion of this class earns the student an elective credit at the high school.



Advanced Algebra A (must have successfully completed Algebra)

This course is an extension and application of the concepts and skills developed in Algebra and Geometry. The concept of function is emphasized. Topics to be covered include linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial and trigonometric functions. Graphical, numerical, and symbolic representations of real-life applications will be used to build a conceptual understanding of the functions studied in this course. Composition, inverses, and transformations of functions will be thoroughly explored. ***(Note: After successful completion of this course, students will be prepared to take Discrete Math, AP Statistics, or Pre-Calculus. It is necessary to complete Pre-Calculus before taking AP Calculus.)***

SCIENCE

Middle level science plays an important role in the K-12 experience. Middle School Science students experience a variety of life sciences, earth and space sciences, physical sciences, inquiry based learning and engineering and design.

Students learn that scientists are problem solvers. In seeking solutions to problems, scientists employ scientific methods, which insure reliability and repeatability. This approach to science instruction dictates inquiry, a lab, and demonstration-oriented curriculum since science is doing. The middle level program includes a survey of the major science disciplines while promoting student awareness and an appreciation of the product of science.

Grade 6

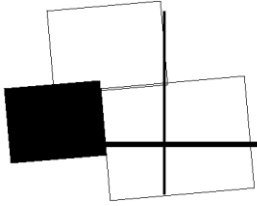
For many students the 6th grade year is the first year they have a year-long science program. Students are introduced to the process of scientific inquiry and apply the process as they engage in lab experiences. The topics covered include Energy, Cell Theory, Human Body Systems, Weather and Climate. The science curriculum will feature an outdoor school experience.

Grade 7

In 7th grade science, students build on the foundation established in sixth grade. The topics covered include chemistry, states of matter, ecology, cellular respiration and photosynthesis, plate tectonics and earthquakes.

Grade 8

In 8th grade science, students build on the foundation established in grade 6 & 7 and prepare for high school. Topics include forces and interactions, waves and electromagnetic radiation, energy, natural selection and adaptations, genes and development, and space systems.



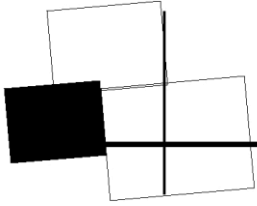
PE/HEALTH

Physical Education

Physical Education at the middle level integrates both the physical and social-emotional aspects of healthy living. The physical component emphasizes participation in a variety of activities that include both individual and team sports, recreational activities and lifetime fitness. Fitness concepts and activities are incorporated daily and during all units of instruction. Attention is given to developing and polishing the fundamental skill sets within each activity prior to implementing their use in game situations. The development of positive social behaviors and teamwork skills within small and large group settings is also an integral component of the program.

Health

Health at all levels includes a comprehensive, age-appropriate curriculum which focuses on wellness in the mental/emotional, social and physical aspects of health. The importance of positive mental health, healthy interpersonal relationships (including prevention of bullying, harassment and violence), communication skills, problem-solving, goal-setting, and decision-making skills are emphasized. Units of study include the benefits of physical activity and nutrition, relationships with family and friends, harmful effects of environmental factors, unintentional injury prevention, tobacco, alcohol and drug prevention/awareness, and sexual health focusing on puberty, abstinence, and HIV/AIDS issues.



YEAR-LONG ELECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS

French 1 and Spanish 1 (7th and 8th grade only)

This class introduces students to the four fundamentals of language acquisition: listening, speaking, reading and writing. And while the teachers will make it as fun, engaging and inspiring as possible, it must be taken into account that this is a rigorous, **high school** level course that requires discipline, good study habits, and a high level of curiosity. Students will learn the material through songs, authentic text, cultural explorations, guided dialogs, creative projects, and through other activities that have been carefully developed to maximize student learning and language retention. If successfully completed, (a C or above), the course will earn students a full year's worth of language credit at the high school.

French 2 and Spanish 2 (must successfully complete Spanish I or French I)

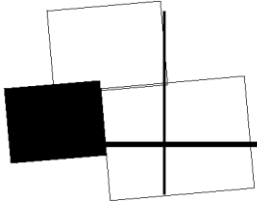
This course continues to practice the listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills established during the first year. The principles and practices learned the first year are reviewed and students are expected to use them as they work on new concepts, vocabulary and increased complexity of the language structure. Students are expected to be more independent learners. If successfully completed, (C or above), the course will earn students a full year's worth of language credit at the high school.

Beginning Band

Beginning band is composed of mostly 6th graders but is available to *any* student who would like to learn a band instrument. This class is designed to teach the fundamentals of performing music including individual instrument methods, music-reading, basic music theory, culture and history. Students begin the year on either flute, clarinet, trumpet or trombone, and will be given the opportunity to later audition for oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, saxophones, French horn, euphonium, tuba, and percussion. Students will perform several concerts throughout the year (some of which are outside of normal school hours), and will also have the opportunity to perform solos and in small ensembles.

Intermediate Band (must successfully complete Beginning Band)

Intermediate band is open to 7th and 8th grade students with at least one year of playing experience. This class emphasizes the continued development of each student on his or her instrument. Students will broaden their understanding of music theory, culture and history, as well as practice performing more difficult music. Intermediate Band also includes a solo and/or small ensemble component, and performs several concerts throughout the year.



Advanced Band

Advanced Band is open to 7th and 8th grade students who demonstrate a high level of musicianship and responsibility. This class is designed to challenge students with an advanced repertoire in both large and small ensemble settings. Advanced Band performs several concerts throughout the year, including a possible concert band festival in the Portland area. They will advance in music theory and continue to learn about music of different styles, historical periods and cultural contexts.

Orchestra

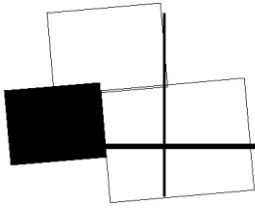
The orchestra curriculum will be composed of the following components: tone production, rhythm, finger patterns, bowing patterns, articulation, scales, ear training, music reading, vocabulary, music theory, and music history. This class will emphasize these basic musicianship and performance skills through a study of specific orchestral literature that leads to the understanding and appreciation of music, as well as the development of performance skills. After-school attendance of rehearsals and performances is required. This course will utilize: Sound Innovations Book 2, written by Bob Phillips, Peter Boonshaft, and Robert Sheldon, with supplemental music from standard school repertoire.

Intermediate Orchestra (must successfully complete Orchestra)

Continuing the foundations established in Beginning Orchestra, the curriculum will be composed of the following components: tone production, rhythm, finger patterns (introduction to shifting), bowing patterns, articulation, scales, ear training, music reading, vocabulary, music theory, and music history. This class will emphasize these basic musicianship and performance skills through a study of specific orchestral literature that leads to the understanding and appreciation of music, as well as the development of performance skills. After-school attendance of rehearsals and performances is required. This course will utilize: Sound Innovations Book 2, written by Bob Phillips, Peter Boonshaft, and Robert Sheldon, with supplemental music from standard school repertoire.

Advanced Orchestra (must complete two years of orchestra, and audition)

Continuing the foundations established in Beginning/Intermediate Orchestra,



the curriculum will be composed of the following components: tone production, rhythm, finger patterns, bowing patterns, articulation, scales, ear training, music reading, vocabulary, music theory, and music history. Students will demonstrate knowledge of advancing playing positions (half through third) on their instrument of violin, viola, cello, or bass, as well as an understanding of more advanced concepts of bowing styles, rhythm, and left/right-hand technique. Students should begin to exhibit a characteristic sound on their instrument. This course will focus on the above as well as smaller ensemble settings using the literature of string quartets and quintets. This class will emphasize these basic musicianship and performance skills through a study of specific orchestral literature that leads to the understanding and appreciation of music, as well as the development of performance skills. After-school attendance of rehearsals and performances is required. This course will utilize: Sound Innovations Book 2, written by Bob Phillips, Peter Boonshaft, and Robert Sheldon, with supplemental music from standard school repertoire.

Beginning Choir

All 6th grade students who are interested in beginning their development of vocal techniques and musicianship are welcome. Students will develop introductory choral skills including singing in unison and two-part harmony, sight reading unison music, developing a foundational musical vocabulary, and singing a wide variety of cultural and international music. All 6th grade choir students will perform in four curricular concerts throughout the year and will have opportunities for solo singing.

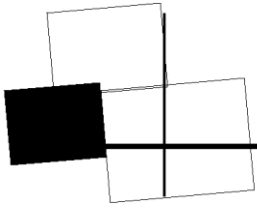
Intermediate Choir

All 7th grade students who are interested in beginning or continuing their development of vocal techniques and musicianship are welcome. Students will develop intermediate choral skills including singing in a three-part harmony, sight reading harmonic music, developing an intermediate musical vocabulary, and continuing to sing a wide variety of cultural and international music. All 7th grade choir students will perform in four curricular concerts throughout the year, will have opportunities for solo singing, and will also perform in a state festival for adjudication.

Advanced Choir

All 8th grade students who are interested in beginning or continuing their development of vocal techniques and musicianship are welcome. Students will develop advanced choral skills including singing in a four-part harmony, sight reading harmonic music, developing an advanced musical vocabulary, and continuing to sing a wide variety of cultural and international music. All 8th grade choir students will perform in four curricular concerts throughout the year, have opportunities for solo singing, perform in a state festival for adjudication, and end the year with an out-of-state performance trip.

TRIMESTER ELECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS



VISUAL ART ELECTIVES

Art Exploration (6th Grade)

This art course will introduce 6th graders to the visual arts in a fun and engaging way! They will learn color theory and a wide variety of artistic mediums, tools and techniques as they create each project. Engaging lessons will teach students how to make and build exciting art projects as they learn new skills and techniques in this introductory art course. World cultures will also be focused on for many assignments so students will have the opportunity to learn about the people and artists that create each art form.

7th/8th Grade Electives

2D Art (Drawing, Painting, and other 2D Art mediums)

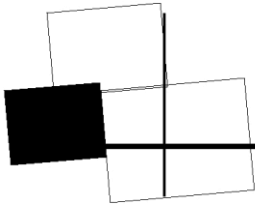
This course is designed to enhance the students' knowledge of 2D art materials and the creative process. A variety of more advanced media and techniques will be explored and utilized including such art mediums as: drawing, painting, and watercolor. Students will apply an expanding knowledge of the Elements of Art and Principles of Design in order to compose, observe, describe, analyze, and evaluate their own and other's works of art. By examining art and art concepts, students will develop a deeper understanding of the creative process in this active maker space.

3D Art (Clay, Crafts, and Sculpture)

Get your hands dirty! 3-D Art dives into all things clay, crafts, and sculpture. In this class you will explore many sculpture and craft making techniques, as well as the amazing world of hand-built ceramics. You will learn the ceramic building methods of slab, pinch, coil, and glazing along with trying out many forms of sculpture. This art class is hands-on and will help you explore your creative side.

Studio Art (*Prerequisite 2D or 3D Art)

This course is designed to enhance the students' knowledge of 2D and 3D art materials and the creative process. A variety of more advanced media and methods will be explored and utilized that could include such art forms as: watercolor and acrylic painting, sculpture creation and more. Students will apply an expanding knowledge of the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design in order to compose, observe, describe, analyze, and evaluate their own and other's works of art.



Animation (*Prerequisite 2D or 3D Art)

This course will introduce students to the history and current technology behind the Art of Animation. Students will learn iPad and related animation software combined with traditional hand drawing techniques. The highlight of this class will be to create a stop motion movie in collaborative teams. The animation industry is booming in Oregon. Local companies like Laika Studios, Deep Sky and Bent Image Labs hire creative people with animation degrees in this highly competitive career field.

TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES

7th and 8th Grade

Architectural Design

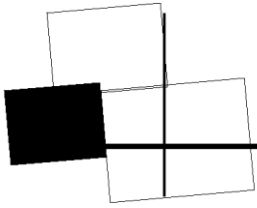
From your first dream house to a school of the future, you will learn to think and design like an architect while using industry CAD software in this Career and Technical Education (CTE) course. This course will help develop creative and innovative thinking along with problem solving skills that can be applied to a variety of possible future careers through individual and collaborative projects. You will also gain an understanding and appreciation for the history of architecture and the role culture has on architectural styles.

Computer Science/Design (Web Design)

Have you always wanted to create your own website? Learn to code? Learn to write your own program? In this CTE course, you will explore introductory skills necessary for a career as a creative designer in the computer science field. Special focus on topics such as problem solving, UX/UI design, technical writing, communication, creativity, and attention to detail will allow you to develop essential IT skills that can be applied to a variety of possible future careers while having fun!

PERFORMING ARTS/MUSIC ELECTIVES

6th Grade



Drama Exploration

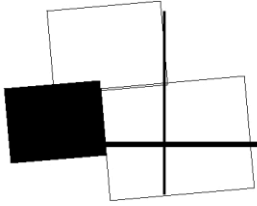
This course provides an introduction to theatre, including acting technique as well as basic theatrical design. Students will learn the elements of characterization, stage movement and stage projection through exercises, games and scene study. Technical and design skills are introduced through opportunities to do a design project in the areas of costumes, lighting, sound and set design. The course stresses a balance between interpretive and technical theatre skills and promotes an appreciation for theatre as an art form. Students will also learn about theatrical forms from other cultures and practice analyzing theatre performances from a variety of aspects.

Music Exploration

Music Exploration takes students through a project-based learning curriculum that focuses on music's role in our daily lives. Students will listen to music from a variety of genres and cultures, explore the music of their family heritage, learn to create music both digitally and in the classroom, and also learn about various careers within the music industry. This exploration class seeks to begin or enhance students' appreciation for music. Students who are interested in performing with a year long ensemble after completing this course can transition into Beginning Band, Choir, or Orchestra the following school year if they desire.

Drama (7th and 8th Grade)

This course provides an introduction to theatre, including acting technique as well as basic theatrical design. Students will learn the elements of characterization, stage movement and stage projection through exercises, games and scene study. Technical and design skills are introduced through opportunities to do a design project in the areas of costumes, lighting, sound and set design. The course stresses a balance between interpretive and technical theatre skills and promotes an appreciation for theatre as an art form. Students will also learn about theatrical forms from other cultures and practice analyzing theatre performances from a variety of aspects.



LANGUAGE ARTS ELECTIVES

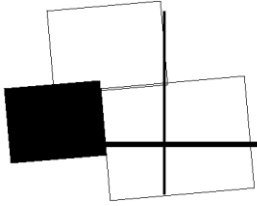
7th and 8th Grade

Writer's Workshop

This class is open to anyone who is interested in writing and developing skills as a creative writer. Students will write their own stories, revise, edit, and celebrate creativity. A wide variety of prompts and techniques will be used and presented, and students will have a great deal of creative freedom.

Publications

This course explores principles of digital media as an effective form of communication and self-expression. This course incorporates various aspects of publication, including news writing, photography skills, yearbook production software, layout and design, and marketing of the yearbook. Students may take the class more than one time, in successive trimesters or across different years, and have the opportunity to display leadership skills through editor positions.



SCIENCE ELECTIVES

STEM Exploration (6th Grade)

The class is a project-based, problem solving, student-centered learning environment which incorporates personal relevance and higher-order thinking. Students will produce presentations that encourage communication skills and performance-based assessment in a collaborative environment. The class promotes and requires student responsibility, choice, accountability and reflection in a hands-on STEM project based curriculum.

7th and 8th Grade

STEM 2

STEM 2 expands on what students experienced in STEM Exploration. It builds upon the basic skills learned and takes them to a deeper and more complex level. It also widens the opportunity to explore more STEM focus areas.

Space Exploration, Engineering and Design (S.E.E.D) (Rocket Science)

Students design, build, and launch a variety of rockets. Components are digitally designed and custom fabricated using our 3D printers and laser cutter. The history of rocketry as it relates to space exploration as well as the future of solar system colonization are also explored

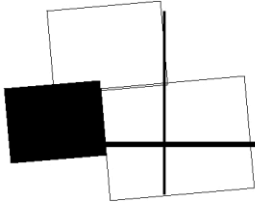
Environmental Research and Experimental Design (E.R.E.D)

(Advanced Ecology)

We will venture into Springbrook Park and use the school garden to examine the plants and animals that live in our ecosystem. You will get a hands-on, real-world experience as you design and conduct your own environmental research projects. In addition, we will design and build habitat improving projects.

Extreme Engineering

Extreme Engineering is an elective class for the students who are fascinated by how things work, are built, tested, and are improved. Students will learn engineering fundamentals as well as how to analyze and apply mechanical engineering strategies. Just as scientists and engineers often work in teams, students will work together to design and create projects.



SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

7th and 8th Grade

Civics

This course starts with a three week study of the essential question: Why do humans need government? From there students dive into mini-units on topics such as juvenile justice and/or Tort law. Lastly, students gain hands-on experience when they take on various legal roles while conducting mock trials and reflect upon how our society resolves its disputes. This course takes a field trip to the Multnomah County Courthouse and often hosts publicly active citizens as guest speakers. This course involves critical reading and thinking, collaboration, and public speaking.

Speech and Debate

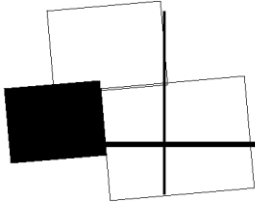
Do you want to improve your confidence in public speaking? Do you want to add attributes such as inflections, hand gestures, and pacing to make your speeches sound natural and conversational? Do you want to learn the basics of debating? This speech and debate course will offer a number of speech and debate activities that will get you researching engaging topics, thinking critically, collaborating, and speaking with eloquence and persuasion. Projects include both persuasive and informative speeches and impromptu and prepared debates. You will never fear a class presentation again.

Speech and Debate 2

This is a class for those who successfully completed Speech and Debate or who regularly participate in the after school Speech and Debate club. We will study basic ethical and political theory and apply these theories to ethical dilemmas and policy issues. We will learn how to compete using both an Ethics Bowl framework and a Public Forum Debate framework. Like the basic course, this course emphasizes researching engaging topics, thinking critically, collaborating, and speaking with eloquence and persuasion. This course will culminate with a tournament-level completion and showcase to demonstrate your skills.

Leadership

This class is designed for the student interested in developing leadership skills in a laboratory of practical school situations. This class has academic and activity components, giving students the opportunity to develop skills in organization, communication, problem solving, and group process. Students should be dependable, industrious and have established a record of good citizenship.



WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVES

World Language Exploration (6th Grade)

Students get an introduction to studying a second language, specifically Spanish and French. They will acquire basic vocabulary for talking about themselves and their families, food, travel, sports, and activities. The four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) will be included.

PE AND HEALTH ELECTIVES

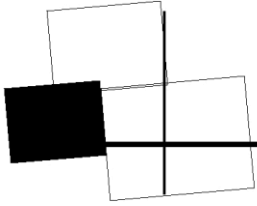
7th and 8th Grade

Lifetime Sports and Games

This PE trimester elective is designed to build advanced skills, activities and practice for lifetime sports and games for physically literate students. This course combines intermediate to advanced strategies and skills to increase psychomotor, cognitive and affective knowledge and active participation in sports and physical games for competent lifetime engagement in a variety of sports.

Mindfulness and Yoga

This Health/PE trimester elective will empower middle school students to enhance their own physical, social and emotional health through an array of complementary practices – movement, mindfulness, breathing, communication, and compassion. This course combines fitness principles and physical education components along with social communication skills and mental/emotional skills of goal setting, decision making, and stress and anxiety-coping techniques to foster confidence, compassion, and resilience in life.



OTHER ELECTIVES

PEER MENTOR (All Grades)

A Peer Mentor provides peer support for students in our Pathways or ACCESS Programs. Responsibilities will include attending class with students who have various abilities in order to support them with their academics and promote positive social interactions. This is a trimester-long elective. Please email your counselor if you are interested in adding this class to your schedule.

Office or Library Aide (8TH GRADE ONLY)

An Office or Library Aide provides light clerical support for our office or library staff. Tasks may involve shelving books, making copies, running counselor notes, etc. This is a trimester-long elective. Please email your counselor if you are interested in adding this class to your schedule.

STUDENT SUPPORT COURSES

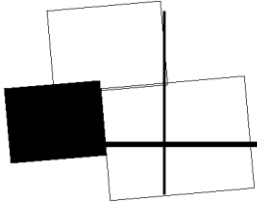
The courses listed below are designed to provide students with support in specific areas of academic concern as the need may arise during their middle school career. A team including counselors, teachers, parents and administrators determine placement in these courses and students can move in and out of these courses based on mastery of skills or an identified need for support. ***Students, parents, teachers or counselors can initiate the discussion about placement in these courses as specific needs become apparent at any time throughout a school year.***

Student Support Center- Writing *

This class is designed to support students in their primary language arts class. Students will practice the steps of the writing process in different modes of writing like argumentative and informative. Time will also be provided for students to work on and receive help with writing tasks from their core language arts class. Beyond practice with the writing process, students will also learn strategies to be more effective writers and use conventions and vocabulary to more clearly articulate their claim in a writing task.

Student Support Center- Math*

This class is designed for students needing additional support to be successful in their on-grade-level math class, and who are not already receiving support in an LSC or ASC support program. SSC Math provides RTI Tier 2 supports such as additional time and opportunities to practice and demonstrate mastery of skills, as well as re-teaching and pre-teaching opportunities in a small group setting where students can receive more 1-to-1 instruction and feedback.



Student Support Center- Reading*

This class is designed to identify and fill in gaps in reading comprehension that impact a student's ability to interact with grade level curriculum. Areas of instruction will include comprehension strategies, vocabulary development and word knowledge.

Academic Support Center *

ASC is a place for students to develop academic behaviors including: self-advocacy, organization, study strategies, initiation and follow through, as well as subject-specific skills such as reading, writing and math. This class is flexible and designed to meet the needs of individual students, with the goal of increasing their ability to confidently meet and overcome academic challenges.

Reading Strategies*

This support class is designed for students who show the need for strengthening skills in the areas of word recognition, decoding, morphology, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension. Priority is given to students who have indicators of dyslexia, a dyslexia diagnosis, or other evidence indicating the need for improving basic reading skills. Students will receive one on one and small group instruction using a variety of approaches. They will learn how to use district-provided tools that increase access to and success in grade level reading and writing tasks. Students will also receive support with organizing, managing and completing work, depending on individual need.

Learning Support Center (LSC) **

This course is designed to provide continuity of direct instruction services through Special Education at the secondary level. LSC provides direct instruction for developing appropriate writing, reading, math, study/organizational and social/emotional skills, and gives tutorial assistance for completion of regular and modified assignments.

***Placement based on test scores and teacher recommendation.**

****Special Education Eligibility required.**

The Lake Oswego School District admits students to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to all students in the schools. It does not discriminate on the basis of race color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, age, or disability in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, athletic programs, or in any other way