

**East Allegheny  
Junior High School**

**Course Description Book**



**Grades 7 & 8**

**2020-2021**

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### A Message from the Principal:

East Allegheny has made a commitment to provide its families the very best curriculum to prepare our students for the challenges of high school, their post-secondary course of study, and most importantly, for the rest of their careers. We want our students to aim high to attain excellence at a profession that will make themselves, their families and our district proud of them. This curriculum offering represents our part of the plan to best prepare them for this.

We welcome you to review this catalogue and to provide suggestions for the future. We also ask for your cooperation in working together with our students to fulfill their greatest potential.

Mark Draskovich  
Director of Pupil Services and  
Junior High Principal

## The Purpose of this Book

The purpose of this book is to describe the classes by grade level and content those students in grades seven and eight will be taking during their time at East Allegheny Junior High School. All of these courses are aligned to the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards. Like a solid foundation of a house, the work that the students do in grades seven and eight provide the basis for all work that the students will be able to do in high school. The concepts and skills that the students develop in middle school are the foundation upon which subsequent learning depends. As such, parents and students need to be able to see how the grade levels and the courses build upon each other and to see how they will prepare their children for success at the secondary level.

## Junior High School Math

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE NAME</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>COURSE TYPE</u>
<b>2054</b>	<b>Algebra I</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

This is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core State Standards. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend, and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include Foundations of Algebra, Solving Equations, Solving Inequalities, Introduction to Functions, Systems of Equations and Inequalities, Exponents and Exponential Functions Equations, Polynomials and Factoring, Quadratic Functions and Equations, Radical Expressions and Equations, Rational Expressions and Functions, Data Analysis and Probability. This course is designed for the student who is preparing for college and/or the workforce.

### **Prerequisites:**

Placement in Honors Algebra 1 in 8th grade will be evaluated using a 5-prong approach. In order to be enrolled, 4 out of the following 5 criteria must be met.

1. A PROFICIENT or ADVANCED rating on the 6th grade PSSAs
2. At least a 90% final grade in Accelerated Math 7
3. Teacher recommendation
4. A PROFICIENT or ADVANCED rating on the 7th grade PSSAs (results of which will not be in until the summer before the student enters 8th grade)
5. Grade Level Exams

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE NAME</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>COURSE TYPE</u>
<b>2800</b>	<b>Honors Math 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

This is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core State Standards. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of the number system and equations. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Functions, Foundations of Geometry, Statistics and Probability.

### **Prerequisites:**

Placement in Honors Math 8 in 8th grade will be evaluated using a 5-prong approach. In order to be enrolled, 4 out of the following 5 criteria must be met.

1. A PROFICIENT or ADVANCED rating on the 6th grade PSSAs
2. At least a 90% final grade in Academic Math 7
3. Teacher recommendation

4. A PROFICIENT or ADVANCED rating on the 7th grade PSSAs (results of which will not be in until the summer before the student enters 8th grade)
5. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>2801</b>	<b>Math 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

This is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core State Standards. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of the number system and equations. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Functions, Foundations of Geometry, Statistics and Probability.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>2802</b>	<b>Math 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>

This is a complete and comprehensive course aligned with the Pennsylvania Common Core State Standards. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of the number system and equations. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Units of study will include The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Functions, Foundations of Geometry, Statistics and Probability. In addition to introducing the content standards, strengthening the foundations of mathematics will be a major emphasis. This includes operations with positive and negative integers, fractions, decimals, percentages, and proportions.

**Prerequisites:**

1. A BASIC or BELOW BASIC rating on the 6th grade PSSAs
2. A final grade of a D or an F in Math 7
3. Teacher recommendation
4. A BASIC or BELOW BASIC rating on the 7th grade PSSAs (results of which will not be in until the summer before the student enters 8th grade)

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<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>2700</b>	<b>Math 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

This course is designed for students who possess excellence in math. Students will enhance their math skills by working on vocabulary, numbers and operations, algebraic concepts, geometry, and measurement, data, and probability. Along with the rigorous academics, students will work on multiple projects and activities.

**Prerequisites:**

1. Exemplary PSSA or CDT Score
2. 90% final grade
3. Teacher Recommendation
4. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>2701</b>	<b>Math 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

In this course, students will gain knowledge of the skills needed to become better in math. Students will learn essential skills such as vocabulary, numbers and operations, algebraic concepts, geometry, and measurement, data, and probability. Students will also complete projects based on the lessons. This will be done with an emphasis on basic math skills, such as multiplying, dividing, fractions, decimals, integers, etc.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>2702</b>	<b>Math 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>

In this course, students will gain knowledge of the skills needed to become better in math. Students will learn essential skills such as vocabulary, numbers and operations, algebraic concepts, geometry, and measurement, data, and probability. Students will also complete projects based on the lessons.

**Prerequisites:**

1. A BASIC or BELOW BASIC rating on the 6th grade PSSAs
2. A final grade of a D or an F in 6<sup>TH</sup> grade Math
3. Teacher recommendation

## Junior High School Science

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>3800</b>	<b>Integrated Science</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

Science 8 Honors uses physical, earth and life science as a context for learning the nature of science as well as a basis for how scientific and technological developments affect human endeavors. Students will take part in laboratory investigations, discussion of current events in science, and will also conduct scientific research. The honors students are expected to participate in a Science Fair as well as complete several small independent research assignments.

### **Prerequisites:**

1. Exemplary PSSA or CDT scores
2. 90% final grade
3. Teacher Recommendation
4. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>3801</b>	<b>Integrated Science 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

Science 8 is an Integrated Science class covering the nature of science, physical science, life science, and earth and space science. This class is a combination of lecture, inquiry and hands on activities. Students will be asked to recall information as well as combine recalled information for higher level thinking and to apply to everyday situations. This class is designed to help students prepare for the PSSA test.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>3700</b>	<b>Integrated Science 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

The science standards for this course emphasize a more complex understanding of change, patterns, and relationships in the living world. Students build and expand on basic principles related to these concepts by exploring the classification of organisms, their mechanisms to sustain life, and changes of the Earth including its surface, waters, and climate. This class takes a hands-on investigation and scientific study of the structure and function of living organisms and their ecological relationships with emphasis on applications and adaptations that are meaningful to students. Throughout



this course students will be expected to work cooperatively and independently, use problem-solving skills and higher-order thinking to make informed decisions, and apply appropriate process skills to real-life situations. The expectations will expand to students creating their own works to relate the real-life situations. Students in this course will be required to participate in the science fair along with various independent research projects throughout the year. The following topics will be covered: Levels of classification, members of various domains and kingdoms, adaptations and characteristics of organisms, Earth's surface, waters, weather, and climate, and an introduction to chemistry involving atomic structure.

**Prerequisites:**

1. Exemplary PSSA or CDT scores
2. 90% final grade
3. Teacher Recommendation
4. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>3701</b>	<b>Integrated Science 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

The science standards for this course will allow students to explore principles in science related to the classification of organisms, their mechanisms to sustain life, and changes of the Earth including its surface, waters, and climate. This class takes a hands-on investigation and scientific study of the structure and function of living organisms and their ecological relationships with emphasis on applications and adaptations that are meaningful to students. Throughout this course students will be expected to work cooperatively and independently, use problem-solving skills and higher-order thinking to make informed decisions, and apply appropriate process skills to real-life situations. The following topics will be covered: Levels of classification, members of various domains and kingdoms, adaptations and characteristics of organisms, Earth's surface, waters, weather, and climate, and an introduction to chemistry involving atomic structure.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>3700</b>	<b>Integrated Science 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

Science 7 Honors is an integrated science course that emphasizes the scientific method, systems and patterns found in nature, the structure and function of living things, and the continuity of life. Students will learn note-taking skills, discuss current events in science, and investigate concepts through hands-on activities. Throughout this course students will be expected to work cooperatively and independently, use problem-solving skills and higher-order thinking to make informed decisions, and apply appropriate process skills to

real-life situations. Students will be asked to stretch their thinking beyond the classroom and use independent research skills to enhance classroom learning.

**Prerequisites:**

1. Exemplary PSSA or CDT scores
2. 90% final grade
3. Teacher Recommendation
4. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>3701</b>	<b>Integrated Science 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

Science 7 is an integrated science course that emphasizes the scientific method, systems and patterns found in nature, the structure and function of living things, and the continuity of life. Students will learn note-taking skills, discuss current events in science, and investigate concepts through hands-on activities. Throughout this course students will be expected to work cooperatively and independently, use problem-solving skills and higher-order thinking to make informed decisions, and apply appropriate process skills to real-life situations.

## Junior High School English

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0800</b>	<b>English 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

This course is designed for students who excel in the areas of writing and grammar and focuses primarily on English language and composition. Writing assignments will include journaling, poetry, fiction and nonfiction narratives, speeches, and text-dependent analysis essays. Students will be challenged to enhance their writing, grammar, communication, and vocabulary skills.

**Prerequisites:** Students applying for admission to this course must satisfy the criteria listed below.

1. A grade of 90% or higher in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade English class
2. A score of Advanced or Proficient on the 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA PSSA
3. Teacher recommendation
4. Attendance
5. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0801</b>	<b>English 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

This course focuses primarily on English language and composition, with emphases on writing and grammar. Writing assignments will include journaling, poetry, fiction and nonfiction narratives, and text-dependent analysis essays. Students will practice critical thinking skills through multi-modal writing and the discussion of multiple topics, as well as the completion of activities that demonstrate the comprehension of new vocabulary words.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0811</b>	<b>English 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>

This traditional course satisfies the English requirements for 8th graders. The primary focus of the course will be the mastery of writing, speaking, and listening skills as they pertain to proficiency on the ELA PSSA. Students will review several grammar and writing skills before studying and practicing new ones--including, but not limited to, text dependent analysis essays.

**Prerequisites:** Students applying for admission to this course must satisfy the criteria listed below.

1. A score of Basic or Below Basic on the 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA PSSA
2. Teacher recommendation

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0700</b>	<b>English 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

This course is designed for students who excel in the areas of writing and grammar and focuses primarily on English language and composition. Writing assignments will include journaling, poetry, fiction and nonfiction narratives, speeches, and text-dependent analysis essays. Students will be challenged to enhance their writing, grammar, communication, and vocabulary skills.

**Prerequisites:** Students applying for admission to this course must satisfy the criteria listed below.

1. A grade of 90% or higher in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade English class
2. A score of Advanced or Proficient on the 6<sup>th</sup> grade ELA PSSA
3. Teacher recommendation
4. Attendance
5. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0701</b>	<b>English 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

This course focuses primarily on English language and composition, with emphases on writing and grammar. Writing assignments will include journaling, poetry, fiction and nonfiction narratives, and text-dependent analysis essays. Students will practice critical thinking skills through multi-modal writing and the discussion of multiple topics, as well as the completion of activities that demonstrate the comprehension of new vocabulary words.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>07011</b>	<b>English 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>

This traditional course satisfies the English requirements for 7th graders. The primary focus of the course will be the mastery of writing, speaking, and listening skills as they pertain to proficiency on the ELA PSSA. Students will review several grammar and writing skills before studying and practicing new ones--including, but not limited to, text dependent analysis essays.

**Prerequisite:** Students applying for admission to this course must satisfy the criteria listed below.

1. A score of Basic or Below Basic on the 6<sup>th</sup> grade ELA PSSA
2. Teacher recommendation

## Junior High School Reading

### 8<sup>h</sup> Grade Reading Course Descriptions

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0802</b>	<b>Reading 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

This course is designed for students who are advanced readers and possess excellence in analyzing and interpreting literature. Students will sharpen their reading skills by reading various novels and short stories. Along with the literature, the students will have

to complete intense reading guides and multiple projects and presentations that support the novel and understanding. Prerequisites for this course are as follows:

1. Advanced/Proficient PSSA-English Language Arts score
2. 90% average grade in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Reading
3. Teacher Recommendation
4. Attendance

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0803</b>	<b>Reading 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

In this course, students will sharpen reading skills that will help them to become a more successful reader. Students will refine their skills in vocabulary, reading comprehension and interpretations, text organization, figurative language, and the elements of fiction. In addition, students will study and analyze literature through short stories and novels. Students will be required to complete reading guides and projects to support what they have read in class.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0803</b>	<b>Reading 8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>

Students will sharpen reading skills through guided practice and modeling to help them become a more successful reader. Students will grow their skills in vocabulary, reading comprehension and interpretations, text organization, figurative language, and the elements of fiction. In addition, students will study and analyze literature through short stories and novels. Students will be required to complete reading guides and projects to support what they have read in class.

1. Students must have scored BASIC or BELOW BASIC on the PSSA
2. Teacher recommendation

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0702</b>	<b>Reading 7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

This course is designed for students who possess excellence in analyzing and interpreting literature. Students will sharpen their reading skills by reading short stories and novels. Along with these novels, the students will have to complete intense reading guides and multiple projects that support the novel. The students will also be required to do independent reading with projects and presentations.

**Prerequisites:**

1. Advanced PSSA-English Language Arts score
2. Exemplary CDT/district assessment score

3. 90% final grade in 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading
4. Teacher Recommendation
5. Attendance
6. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0703</b>	<b>Reading 7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>

Students will sharpen reading skills through guided practice and modeling to help them become a more successful reader. Students will grow their skills in vocabulary, reading comprehension and interpretations, text organization, figurative language, and the elements of fiction. In addition, students will study and analyze literature through short stories and novels. Students will be required to complete reading guides and projects to support what they have read in class.

1. Students must have scored BASIC or BELOW BASIC on the 6<sup>th</sup> grade ELA PSSA
2. Teacher recommendation

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>8092</b>	<b>ESL Language Arts</b>	<b>7 &amp; 8</b>	

This course focuses on the specific needs of English Language Learners (ELLs). Its content is aligned to the English Language Proficiency Standards and develops skills for ELLs in the domains of Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing. ELLs will increase their academic and social language acquisition skills and usage. Students will be exposed to grade-level content and develop necessary skills in English. Students will be given modifications and accommodations necessary for their academic development and success according to their proficiency level. Standardized tests, such as W-APT and ACCESS, will be used for assessment of need and growth.

## Junior High School Social Studies

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>1801</b>	<b>American History</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

Students will take a journey through the history of the United States, beginning with Colonial America and ending with the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will examine the essential question of how continuity and change has influenced our country for almost 250 years, and the struggles and triumphs citizens have faced with the changing times. Students at the honors level will be challenged to analyze how our country evolved from the early 1600's to the late 1800's using a variety of resource materials. In addition to our textbook, students can expect to read one or two historical fiction novels, analyze and write about the impact of various primary sources, discuss and debate current events on a regular basis, and understand basic principles of Civics to prepare them to be successful citizens in an ever-changing world. Students will have the opportunity to express themselves creatively with the integration of projects throughout the year.

Pre-requisites:

1. 90% in 7th grade history
2. Teacher recommendation
3. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>1800</b>	<b>American History</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

Students will take a journey through the history of the United States, beginning with Colonial America and ending with the Civil War and Reconstruction. This course will use a variety of sources to teach content. These include activities from our main textbook, Call to Freedom, to the study of video documentaries and the analysis of primary sources. This course also supports the English/Language Arts standards in 8th grade to prepare students for the PSSA's through the use of one or two historical fiction novels. Students will examine the essential question of how continuity and change has influenced our country for almost 250 years, and the struggles and triumphs citizens have faced with the changing times. This course truly is the study of "We, the People." Students will have the opportunity to express themselves creatively with the integration of projects throughout the year.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>1701</b>	<b>Geography</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>HONORS</b>

In this course students will explore the five themes of Geography: location, human-environment interaction, place, region and movement. Utilizing prior knowledge and skills students will be expected to use geographic information to draw conclusions between the physical environment and human existence. At the honors level, students will be pushed to learn the foundations of geography, and then apply them to areas around the world. These areas will include North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. The course will evolve as students gain more knowledge and understanding of other cultures and are able to see the cultural divisions throughout the world, as well as the political borders. Students will be expected to explore and explain differences between cultures throughout the world. Primary and secondary sources along with maps, charts, and videos will be used to supplement the text book, *World Geography Today*.

Pre-requisites:

1. 90% final grade in 6<sup>th</sup> grade history
2. Teacher Recommendation
3. Grade Level Exams

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>1700</b>	<b>Geography</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

In this course students will explore the five themes of Geography: location, human-environment interaction, place, region and movement. Utilizing prior knowledge and skills students will be expected to use geographic information to draw conclusions between the physical environment and human existence. The course will begin with students learning the foundations and big ideas of Geography. After that, we will look closely at a variety of locations, including North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia, and apply the foundational knowledge to the physical locations in the world. As a class, we will take special notice of cultural differences throughout the world as well as the political borders throughout the world. Primary and secondary sources along with maps, charts, and videos will be used to supplement the text book, *World Geography Today*.



## Junior High School Remediation

In order to best prepare our students for achieving success on the Pennsylvania State School Assessment (PSSA), students may be placed in a remediation. Placement in one or more of these courses will be determined by the student's performance on the PSSA. Please note that the remediation courses will be scheduled during the rotation periods.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0805</b>	<b>English Language Arts</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>REMEDIATION</b>

This is a performance based course. Students are placed into this class as a result of standardized test scores. This class will focus on the following skills:

1. Reading Literature and Information Text
2. Writing
3. Speaking and Listening

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>0705</b>	<b>English Language Arts</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>REMEDIATION</b>

This is a performance-based course. Students are placed into this class as a result of scores from standardized tests. This class will focus on the following reading skills:

1. Reading Literature and Information Text
2. Writing
3. Speaking and Listening

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>2803</b>	<b>PA Common Core Math Review</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>REMEDIATION</b>

Students enrolled in this class will review the standards, anchors and eligible content on the PSSA Grade 8 Exams. Topics including The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Functions, Geometry and Statistics and Probability will be taught, with an emphasis placed on problem solving through authentic practice. This class will require student participation for the maximum amount of success.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>2703</b>	<b>PA Common Core Review</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>REMEDATION</b>

Students enrolled in this class will review the standards, anchors and eligible content on the PSSA Grade 7 Exams. Topics including The Number System, Ratios and Proportional Relationships, Expressions and Equations, Geometry and Statistics and Probability will be taught, with an emphasis placed on problem solving through authentic practice. This class will require student participation for the maximum amount of success.

## Junior High School Rotation Courses

Students will be placed in Rotation Courses. Availability of the courses is contingent upon available faculty to teach the courses. Each Rotation Course will be nine weeks long.

- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.
- Students who **ARE NOT** in Band, Orchestra, or Chorus will attend Physical Education daily.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>7201, 7301</b>	<b>General Music</b>	<b>7, 8</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

This is a music course designed to provide a survey of the evolution of music and how people interact with music in our modern world. Topics to be covered include what music is, ways to describe music, the history of Western Music, and the history of popular music in America. Students will also get the chance to explore modern applications of music in our society. Methods of instruction include reading articles, films, audio recordings, and hands on projects.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>7200</b>	<b>Music Theory</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

This course is designed as a companion course to band, orchestra, or choir. Students will focus on sharpening the fundamentals of both aural and written music theory in effort to strengthen their skill set as musicians. Topics to be covered include basic rhythmic and pitch notation, major key signatures, solfege, sight-reading, rhythmic performance, and music dictation. Grading criteria will include daily participation, written assignments, performance tasks, and written exams.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>7200</b>	<b>Music Theory</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

This course is designed as a companion course to band, orchestra, or choir and builds upon the skills from Music Theory 7. Students will continue to focus on sharpening the fundamentals of both aural and written music theory in effort to strengthen their skill set as musicians. Topics to be covered include basic rhythmic and pitch notation, major and minor key signatures, scale building, intervals, solfege, sight-reading, rhythmic performance, and music dictation. Grading criteria will include daily participation, written assignments, performance tasks, and written exams.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>4042, 4042</b>	<b>French</b>	<b>7, 8</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

This class is an introduction to French vocabulary and culture. It is separated into several units for both the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes. The seventh grade class focuses on learning the alphabet, everyday expressions, numbers, classroom objects, days of the week, months of the year and the date. The eighth grade class focuses on learning body parts, activities, subject pronouns, -er verb conjugation, school subjects, the irregular verb “avoir” and food. This class is intended to expose students to the French language and culture and prepare them for a smooth transition into a high school foreign language class.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>4002, 4003</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>7, 8</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

This class is an introduction to Spanish vocabulary and culture. It is separated into five units. The 7th grade class focuses on the alphabet, greeting, numbers and colors, classroom objects and days of the week/months of the year and how to write the date. The 8th grade class focuses on animals, clothing, classes, food and pastimes. This class is intended to expose students to the Spanish language and culture and to prepare them for a smooth transition into a high school foreign language class.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>7007, 7008</b>	<b>General Art</b>	<b>7, 8</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

This course is designed to provide students with a basic understanding and appreciation of art and to meet the needs of students of all artistic ability levels. Students will be expected to participate in the analysis, criticism and production of art. Students will be exposed to as many different media as possible including, but not limited to, drawing, painting, ceramics and printmaking. The course emphasizes skills development and the development of the creative thought process. Art lessons will include the study of art history, artists, arts elements and concepts and will culminate in the production of original student artworks.

COURSE NO.	COURSE NAME	GRADE	COURSE TYPE
5207	Computers	7	ELECTIVE

This course is designed to use technology. Students learn the basics of Microsoft Office applications including Microsoft Word and Power Point. Keyboarding skills focusing on speed and accuracy are strengthened using the software program Mavis Beacon.

COURSE NO.	COURSE NAME	GRADE	COURSE TYPE
5208	Computers	8	ELECTIVE

8th grade rotation will pick up from it left off in 7th grade with exposure to CS.

COURSE NO.	COURSE NAME	GRADE	COURSE TYPE
7124	Choir	8	ELECTIVE

This course is intended for the advanced to intermediate to singer with prior singing experience. It builds upon the basic techniques, mechanics and fundamentals of music through live performance. The students work together as an ensemble to develop an appreciation for choral singing, music and the arts. A wide variety of music from various cultures, time periods, and genres will be used to teach students to sing with proper vocal technique and musicality. Students will explore the intermediate foundations of music theory/literacy and continue to develop aural skills through the use of solfege. Students will be placed on a developmentally appropriate voice part (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) and will combine with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade choir for performances.

The choir is a performing ensemble and **students will be expected to attend a minimum of 2 performances a year, generally scheduled in December and May.** Students may also be expected to attend a few after school rehearsals throughout the year in preparation for these performances. **Attendance at these concerts/performance is mandatory and will comprise the majority of the student's grade.** Other grading criteria include individual vocal evaluations, written tests, and daily participation.

- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>7123</b>	<b>Choir</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

This course is intended for the beginning to intermediate singer with some prior singing experience. It builds upon the basic techniques, mechanics and fundamentals of music through live performance. The students work together as an ensemble to develop an appreciation for choral singing, music and the arts. A wide variety of music from various cultures, time periods, and genres will be used to teach students to sing with proper vocal technique and musicality. Students will explore the intermediate foundations of music theory/literacy and continue to develop aural skills through the use of solfege. Students will be placed on a developmentally appropriate voice part (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) and will combine with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir for performances.

The choir is a performing ensemble and **students will be expected to attend a minimum of 2 performances a year, generally scheduled in December and May.** Students may also be expected to attend a few after school rehearsals throughout the year in preparation for these performances. **Attendance at these concerts/performance is mandatory and will comprise the majority of the student's grade.** Other grading criteria include individual vocal evaluations, written tests, and daily participation.

- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>7502, 7503</b>	<b>Band</b>	<b>7, 8</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

This course teaches basic music fundamentals from the beginning to intermediate levels from grades 7-8 on their own specialized instrument. As the student progresses, they will learn a strong musical language that provides them with an advanced understanding of musical concepts, enhancing the student's abilities on the instrument of study. All students will perform at a holiday and spring concert (dates TBA.) All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will also have to opportunity to perform with the High School Concert Band at their concerts if they choose.

All students must be able to get a quality instrument (see Instructor)

All classes are separated by grade level. Because of this, any new student not in 4<sup>th</sup> grade will require additional tutoring and/or lessons after school to get caught up with classmates.

Beginning in 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are encouraged **but** not required to participate with the varsity marching band. They would join the band for all summer activities, band camp, dances, Kennywood parade etc. They would help the band support the Varsity football team at all games and pep rallies. As well as participate in several band competitions and local Memorial Day Services. In the winter and spring, the band performs at in and out of school concert events. Active participation will give members additional opportunities

to travel with the band to any and all performances. (*Note: participation is marching band does require time out of school for rehearsal*)

- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>7516</b>	<b>Orchestra</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

8<sup>TH</sup> Grade Orchestra meets daily during the school day. The instruments that are taught in this class are: Violin, Viola, Cello and String Bass. In this fifth year of instruction, the students are performing in split sections (Violin 1 and Violin 2) and are playing ensemble selections at rank of Level III. The Middle School Symphony Orchestra involves both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and gives 2 evening performances in the late Fall all and Spring. Other performances are also added such as chamber group mini-concerts for meetings and events, Invitational concerts with other schools, and PMEA Jr. Festivals. Students are also encouraged to supplement their musical study with other community youth orchestras, private lessons, and performance opportunities with the High School Symphony Orchestra. Prerequisites for this class are that each student has an quality instrument of their own for school and regular at-home practice and is committed to daily individual and group success.

**Since the orchestra is a performing group, Students are **required** to attend all performances. These performances along with the daily class grade are a part of the students overall grade.**

- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.

<b>COURSE NO.</b>	<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>COURSE TYPE</b>
<b>7517</b>	<b>Orchestra</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ELECTIVE</b>

7<sup>TH</sup> Grade Orchestra meets daily during the school day. The instruments that are taught in this class are: Violin, Viola, Cello and String Bass. In this fourth year of instruction, the students are performing in split sections (Violin 1 and Violin 2) and are playing ensemble selections at rank of Level II. The Middle School Symphony Orchestra involves both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and gives 2 evening performances in the late Fall all and Spring. Other performances are also added such as chamber group mini-concerts for meetings and events, Invitational concerts with other schools, and PMEA Jr. Festivals. Students are also encouraged to supplement their musical study with other community youth

orchestras and private lessons. Prerequisites for this class are that each student has a quality instrument of their own for school and regular at-home practice and is committed to daily individual and group success.

**Since the orchestra is a performing group, Students are **required** to attend all performances. These performances along with the daily class grade are a part of the students overall grade.**

- Students who **ARE** in Band, Orchestra, or Choir (BOC), which meets daily for the school year, will have Physical Education for one grading period during their rotation period.

## **Junior High School Physical Education**

Students who **ARE NOT** in Band, Orchestra, or Chorus will attend Physical Education daily.

<b><u>COURSE NO.</u></b>	<b><u>COURSE NAME</u></b>	<b><u>GRADE</u></b>	<b><u>COURSE TYPE</u></b>
<b>9003, 9004, 9006, 9007</b>	<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>7, 8</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>

This class has been designed to educate the student physically, mentally, and emotionally through participation in various activities. Students are expected to participate in a variety of sports, fitness activities, cooperative games, and wellness activities. All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be required to dress appropriately for physical education class.