

# **FALCON COVE MIDDLE SCHOOL**



## **COURSE DIRECTORY 2023 - 2024**

*Revision Date 1/27/2023*

**FALCON COVE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to our 2023-2024 Course Directory. This document will assist you in selecting your courses for the upcoming school year.

We are very proud of our curriculum program and will continue to have high expectations while fostering a warm, caring, and safe environment to enhance learning for all. We challenge you to set high expectations for yourself and follow it through with hard work and dedication.

Please review the enclosed information together as a family and consult with your School Counselor, teachers and/or administrators. We are here to help you in your journey of learning.

Have a fun and successful 2023-2024 school year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Steven Carruth  
Principal

# **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Falcon Cove Middle School family is dedicated to providing a quality education in a safe environment that maximizes individual strengths while fostering life-long learning and social responsibility in a diverse society.

# **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS**

This course directory has been prepared to assist Falcon Cove Middle School students and their parents with the course selection process for the 2023-2024 school year. Please read the information contained in this document very carefully. It will serve as a valuable tool when choosing an academic path for your child.

We believe that the students' years at Falcon Cove Middle School will provide them with successful and positive experiences. Students will encounter many opportunities for academic, physical, social, and emotional growth. They will not only enhance their present skills and abilities, but also be better prepared for success in the next grade as well as future endeavors.

## **REGISTRATION PROCEDURES**

- Students will be placed into their core curricular classes based on their FAST scores and teacher recommendations.
- Teachers can recommend students for modified placement, if academic performance conflicts with FAST score.
- A planning sheet will be posted on the school website so that students can discuss elective choices with parents.
- Instructions for Virtual Counselor elective selection will be posted on the school website. Virtual Counselor elective selection only pertains to current Falcon Cove students.
- Parents must sign a waiver for unique academic placements.
- ALL course selections are FINAL.

**NOTE:**

**All information in this booklet is subject to change based upon The Florida Department of Education and The School Board of Broward County directives.**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADING SCALE**

90% - 100%	A
87%- 89%	B+
80% - 86%	B
77% - 79%	C+
70% - 76%	C
67% - 69%	D+
60% - 66%	D
0% - 59%	F

# FALCON COVE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**All students will take Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and three electives\*.**

\*Students with an FAST Reading Achievement Levels of 1 or 2 or district/curriculum-based assessments indicating areas of concern will be placed in the appropriate reading course as needed. Teacher recommendation will also be used to determine appropriate placement. Students will be placed in an Intensive Reading course as recommended by Broward's Middle School Placement guidelines.

## **ADVANCED ACADEMIC PLACEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS for MATH**

### **6th Grade**

- Level 3 or above on the FAST Math.
- Level 3 or above on the FAST Reading.
- Academic quarter grades of A's and B's in the 5<sup>TH</sup> grade mathematics program
- Teacher Recommendation: (Mathematical maturity and confidence, ability to show work mathematically, self-motivated and completes all homework on time)

### **7th Grade**

- Level 3 or above on the FAST Math.
- Level 3 or above on the FAST Reading.
- Academic quarter grades of A's and B's in the 6<sup>TH</sup> grade Adv. mathematics program
- Teacher Recommendation: (Mathematical maturity and confidence, ability to show work mathematically, self-motivated and completes all homework on time)

### **8th Grade / Algebra I Honors**

- Level 3 on the FAST Math
- Level 3 or higher on the FAST Reading
- Academic quarter grades of at least 80% in advanced 7<sup>TH</sup> grade mathematics
- Teacher Recommendation: (Mathematical maturity and confidence, ability to show work mathematically, self-motivated and completes all homework on time.)
- Additionally, it is suggested that students have a strong work ethic and can independently complete homework and study for tests, are self-motivated, give 100% effort, participate in class discussions, and enjoy the challenge of an extremely rigorous curriculum.

### **PRE-ALGEBRA (GEM 6)**

Students will be placed into this class based on teacher recommendation. Students will complete three years of course work in one school year. (Mathematical maturity and confidence, ability to show work mathematically, and self-motivation suggested )

### **GEM 7 (ALGEBRA I HONORS)**

Students need to complete the 6th grade GEM program with test scores of 87% or higher (B+), midterm and final exam scores of 80% or higher, and an overall quarter grades of 80% or higher.

Additionally, it is suggested that students have a strong work ethic and can independently complete homework and study for tests, are self-motivated, give 100% effort, participate in class discussions, and enjoy the challenge of an extremely rigorous curriculum.

### **GEM 8 (GEOMETRY HONORS)**

Successful completion of Algebra I Honors in 7<sup>TH</sup> grade with a grade of "B" or higher and a passing grade on the Algebra EOC exam. Also, it is STRONGLY recommended that students have a chapter test score average of 85% or higher in Algebra I Honors.

### **EMF ONLINE PROGRAM**

Students will be invited by the district by the end of their 5<sup>TH</sup> grade year if they received a perfect score on the 4<sup>TH</sup> grade Math FSA. Parents interested in this program should visit

<http://www.elementsofmathematics.com/bcps.htm> for more information.

## **FALCON COVE ACADEMIC COURSE OFFERINGS**

The following courses are available to Falcon Cove Middle School students:

#### **6th Grade**

##### **Language Arts**

LA 6 Traditional  
LA 6 Advanced  
LA 6 Gifted  
LA 6 Cambridge  
LA 6 Access

##### **Mathematics**

Math 6  
Math 6 Advanced  
Pre-Algebra (GEM 6)  
EMF 6  
Math 6 Access

##### **Science (Earth)**

Science 6  
Science 6 Advanced  
Science 6 Gifted

#### **7th Grade**

##### **Language Arts**

LA 7 Traditional  
LA 7 Advanced  
LA 7 Gifted  
LA 7 Cambridge  
LA 7 Access

##### **Mathematics**

Math 7  
Math 7 Advanced  
Algebra 1 Hon (GEM 7)  
EMF 7  
Math 7 Access

##### **Science (Life)**

Science 7  
Science 7 Advanced  
Science 7 Gifted

#### **8th Grade**

##### **Language Arts**

LA 8 Traditional  
LA 8 Advanced  
LA 8 Gifted  
LA 8 Cambridge  
LA 8 Access

##### **Mathematics**

Pre-Algebra  
Algebra 1 Honors  
Geometry Hon (GEM 8)  
EMF 8  
Math 8 Access

##### **Science (Physical)**

Science 8  
Science 8 Advanced  
Science 8 Gifted



Science 6 Cambridge  
GEARS Comprehensive  
Science 6 Access

Science 7 Cambridge  
GEARS Comprehensive  
Science 7 Access

Science 8 Cambridge  
Biology Honors  
Science 8 Access

**Social Studies (World History)**

SS 6  
SS 6 Advanced  
SS 6 Gifted  
SS 6 Cambridge  
SS 6 Access

**Social Studies (Civics)**

SS 7  
SS 7 Advanced  
SS 7 Gifted  
SS 7 Cambridge  
SS 7 Access

**Social Studies (US History)**

SS 8  
SS 8 Advanced  
SS 8 Gifted  
SS 8 Cambridge  
SS 8 Access

**Reading**

Intensive Reading 6

**Reading**

Intensive Reading 7

**Reading**

Intensive Reading 8

**NOTE:**

All ELL students that have an A1 or A2 status will automatically be placed into the ELL reading block.  
B1 students are subject to the ELL Coordinator's discretion, based on test scores and academic performance.

All reading placement must adhere to the guidelines set forth in Broward County's Middle School Placement Chart and K-12 Plan for 2023- 2024.

## FALCON COVE ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will choose from the following elective courses. Every effort will be made to give students their first choice. However, scheduling conflicts may preclude the first choice. Due to enrollment fluctuations and the number of students requesting a course, some elective courses may not be available. It is important, therefore, to carefully consider alternative elective choices.

### **6th Grade Electives**

___01010100	ART
___13020000	BEGINNING BAND
___17000003	CODING IN MINECRAFT
___1700000A	CHESS
___13030000	CHORUS
___03000000	DANCE 1
___04000000	DRAMA 1
___21040400	EMERGING LEADERS
___88092000	HOME ECONOMICS
___07080000	INTRO TO FOREIGN LANGUAGES (One semester of both Spanish and French)
___17000002	INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC SPEAKING
___1700000D	MATH COMPETITION
___13021100	MODERN BAND
___1700000B	NOVEL STUDIES
___1700000H	NOVEL STUDIES IN SPANISH (Mandatory for Dual Language Participants)
___91001100	ORIENTATION TO CAREER CLUSTERS
___15086000	PHYSICAL EDUCATION
___91001100	ROBOTICS and COMPUTER APPLICATIONS
___07090000	SPANISH FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS (Mandatory for Dual Lang Participants)
___1508200A	YOGA

## **7th Grade Electives**

### **ELECTIVE CHOICES (MIDDLE SCHOOL)**

- \_\_\_ 13020200 ADVANCED SYMPHONIC BAND (pre-requisite)
- \_\_\_ 01010100 ART
- \_\_\_ 01010200 ART II (pre-requisite)
- \_\_\_ 13020000 BEGINNING BAND
- \_\_\_ 1700000A CHESS
- \_\_\_ 13030000 CHORUS
- \_\_\_ 90092000 CODING FUNDAMENTALS
- \_\_\_ 10090000 CREATIVE WRITING
- \_\_\_ 03000000 DANCE 1
- \_\_\_ 03000100 DANCE 2 (pre-requisite)
- \_\_\_ 04000000 DRAMA 1
- \_\_\_ 04000100 DRAMA 2 (pre-requisite)
- \_\_\_ 90096000 DIGITAL DISCOVERIES IN SOCIETY
- \_\_\_ 21040400 EMERGING LEADERS
- \_\_\_ 91002100 EXPLORATION TO CAREERS (pre-requisite)
- \_\_\_ 84002100 EXPLORATION OF HEALTH OCCUPATIONS
- \_\_\_ 1010000P FILM I
- \_\_\_ 17002000 GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES 1
- \_\_\_ 88092000 HOME ECONOMICS
- \_\_\_ 13020100 INTERMEDIATE CONCERT BAND (pre-requisite)
- \_\_\_ 17000004 INTRO TO FINANCIAL LITERACY
- \_\_\_ 1400000Z LATINOS IN ACTION
- \_\_\_ 1700000V LAW STUDIES
- \_\_\_ 1700000D MATH COMPETITION
- \_\_\_ 13021100 MODERN BAND
- \_\_\_ 1700000B NOVEL STUDIES
- \_\_\_ 1700000H NOVEL STUDIES IN SPANISH
- \_\_\_ 17000004 NOVEL STUDIES IN FRENCH
- \_\_\_ 91001100 ORIENTATION TO CAREER/TECHNICAL OCCUPATIONS
- \_\_\_ 15080700 PHYSICAL EDUCATION
- \_\_\_ 14000000 PEER COUNSELING (application)
- \_\_\_ 82005200 ROBOTICS and COMPUTER APPLICATIONS
- \_\_\_ 10070001 SPEECH / DEBATE 1
- \_\_\_ 15080500 YOGA

**7th Grade Electives (CONT'D)**  
**HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COURSES FOR SEVENTH GRADE**

High school courses have both a Midterm and Final exam. Grades earned in these courses will appear on transcripts and sent to colleges. Only academically sound students, who are committed to their studies should consider selecting these courses. Student should have excellent grades and good homework / study habits.

- \_\_\_0701320M FRENCH 1
- \_\_\_0708340M SPANISH 1
- \_\_\_0709300M SPANISH SPEAKERS 1
- \_\_\_0711300M MANDARIN CHINESE 1
- \_\_\_9001110M FOUNDATIONS OD WEB DESIGN

**8th Grade Electives**

**ELECTIVE CHOICES (MIDDLE SCHOOL)**

- \_\_\_13020200 ADVANCED SYMPHONIC BAND (pre- requisite)
- \_\_\_01010100 ART
- \_\_\_01010200 ART II (pre-requisite)
- \_\_\_13020000 BEGINNING BAND
- \_\_\_1700000A CHESS
- \_\_\_13030000 CHORUS
- \_\_\_90092000 CODING FUNDAMENTALS
- \_\_\_10090000 CREATIVE WRITING
- \_\_\_03000000 DANCE 1
- \_\_\_03000100 DANCE 2 (pre- requisite)
- \_\_\_03000200 DANCE 3 (pre- requisite)
- \_\_\_04000000 DRAMA 1
- \_\_\_04000100 DRAMA 2 (pre- requisite)
- \_\_\_21040400 EMERGING LEADERS
- \_\_\_91002100 EXPLORATION of CAREER/TECHNICAL OCCUPATIONS (pre-requisite)
- \_\_\_84002100 EXPLORATION OF HEALTH OCCUPATIONS
- \_\_\_1700000P FILM 1
- \_\_\_1700010P FILM 2
- \_\_\_88092000 HOME ECONOMICS
- \_\_\_13020100 INTERMEDIATE CONCERT BAND (pre- requisite)
- \_\_\_17000004 INTRO TO FINANCIAL LITERACY
- \_\_\_13021200 JAZZ BAND
- \_\_\_1400000Z LATINOS IN ACTION
- \_\_\_14000100 LATINOS IN ACTION II (pre- requisite)
- \_\_\_1700000V LAW STUDIES
- \_\_\_1700000D MATH COMPETITION
- \_\_\_13021100 MODERN BAND
- \_\_\_1700000B NOVEL STUDIES
- \_\_\_1700000H NOVEL STUDIES IN SPANISH
- \_\_\_1700000R NOVEL STUDIES IN FRENCH
- \_\_\_14000000 PEER COUNSELING (application)
- \_\_\_15080700 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- \_\_\_91001100 ROBOTICS and COMPUTER APPLICATIONS
- \_\_\_10070001 SPEECH – DEBATE 1
- \_\_\_04000200 TELEVISION & CINEMA PRODUCTION
- \_\_\_1508200A YOGA

**8th Grade Electives (CONT'D)**  
**HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COURSES FOR EIGHTH GRADE**

**HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COURSES**

High school courses have both a Midterm and a Final Exam. Grades earned in these courses will appear on transcripts, which will be sent to colleges. Only academically sound students committed to their studies should consider selecting these courses. The student should have excellent grades and good homework/study habits.

- \_\_\_9007610M ADV INFO TECH CODING HONORS
- \_\_\_0400300M DRAMA 3 (pre-requisite required)
- \_\_\_0701320M FRENCH 1
- \_\_\_0701330M FRENCH 2 (pre- requisite required)
- \_\_\_9001110M FOUNDATIONS OF WEB DESIGN
- \_\_\_8400320M MEDICAL SKILLS AND SERVICES
- \_\_\_1006300M JOURNALISM I
- \_\_\_0711300M MANDARIN CHINESE 1
- \_\_\_1700362M PRE-AICE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES IG
- \_\_\_0708340M SPANISH 1
- \_\_\_0708350M SPANISH 2 (pre- requisite required)
- \_\_\_0709300M SPANISH SPEAKERS 1
- \_\_\_0709310M SPANISH SPEAKERS 2 (pre-requisite required)
- \_\_\_1007330M SPEECH & DEBATE TEAM
- \_\_\_2103300M WORLD CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY

<b>SIXTH GRADE CORE CURRICULUM</b>
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*Revision Date 1/27/2023*

**Students will be placed into a reading course based on Broward County Middle Schools Placement Criteria Chart and the K-12 Reading Plan.**

\*Reading programs subject to change according to district guidelines.

**READING INTENSIVE**

**6**

This course provides strategic reading intervention focusing on scaffolding the Language Arts Florida Standards with support across texts of increasing complexity. Reading Intervention programs adopted by the district will be used to target instruction at the student's instructional level.

**DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE ARTS FOR ELL STUDENTS**

**6**

This course provides intensive ESOL instruction for the development of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and language skills for English language learners.

**LANGUAGE ARTS**

**6**

This course provides educational experiences addressing the English Language Arts Florida Standards. The content may include the study of literature, use of the writing process, application of reading, listening, spelling, grammar, speaking, critical thinking, and applications of language arts skills to daily life and the environment.

**LANGUAGE ARTS ADVANCED**

**6**

At the advanced level, content and curriculum addressed in Language Arts may be accelerated and covered in greater depth utilizing more challenging, complex texts.

**LANGUAGE ARTS GIFTED**

**6**

At the gifted level, the Broward County curriculum is accelerated, enriched, and differentiated as needed to meet the needs of gifted students. Additional resources are used to challenge students on a higher level and technology tools are utilized to assist students in the creation and distribution of writing. Students will learn to communicate confidently and effectively and develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will gain advanced reading comprehension and maturity in writing and oral communication. All students participate in the District Literary Fair and outside writing competitions as determined by the teacher.

**Gifted Only Class**

**LANGUAGE ARTS CAMBRIDGE**

**6**

This course serves as the introductory course for the three stages of the Cambridge Secondary 1 curriculum. Students will learn to communicate confidently and effectively and develop the skills to respond to a range of information, media and texts. The Cambridge curriculum will be enhanced with the Broward County curriculum and will focus on reading comprehension through novel studies, informative and argumentative writing, critical thinking activities and grammar strategies. Students will begin to develop advanced reading comprehension levels, a maturity in writing and a maturity in expression which will lead them smoothly into the second stage of the Secondary I curriculum. All students will participate in the District Literary Fair. **Interest application and acceptance required for participation.** Please visit our school website for more information on

the Cambridge program.

## **MATHEMATICS**

**6**

<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/10283>

The objective of this course is to provide additional practice and to establish grade level proficiency with the standards established for 6th grade by the Florida Department of Education. The content may include, but not be limited to multiplication and division of decimals and fractions, data analysis, ratios, rates, fraction, decimal and percent equivalencies and their applications, algebraic expressions and equations, functions and inequalities and using formulas in geometry. Many of these concepts will be taught through word problems

**MATHEMATICS ADVANCED****6**<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/10284>

The objective of this course is to provide additional practice and to establish proficiency with the standards established for 6th grade by the Florida Department of Education. The content may include, but not be limited to multiplication and division of decimals and fractions, data analysis, ratios, rates, fractions, decimals, and percent equivalencies and their applications, algebraic expressions and equations, functions and inequalities and using formulas in geometry. Many of these concepts will be taught through word problems. Additionally, students will explore integers, operations with rational numbers and measurement specifically volume and surface area. This course involves independent work, follows chapter sequence of the text which builds on previously taught concepts and requires students to apply the skills that they have learned. The pace is accelerated and requires at least 15 minutes of homework daily. Advanced Math Placement Recommendation: Level 4 or above on FAST Mathematics, Level 3 or above on FAST Reading, Academic grades of A's and B's in the 5th grade mathematics program. It is suggested that students have a strong work ethic, can independently complete homework and study for tests, are self-motivated, and enjoy the challenge of a rigorous curriculum.





<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/10286>

GEM 6 "PRE-ALGEBRA" pulls almost all of the standards from both 6th and 7th Grade Advanced Math. Students eligible for this class are identified during their fifth-grade year. The objective of this course is to incorporate and master all critical mathematical content fundamental to high school level course work, specifically Algebra I Honors. The content may include, but not be limited to, algebra, estimation, geometry, graphing, number theory, percent, probability, statistics, problem solving, ratio, proportion, scientific notation, and rational numbers. This mostly digital course is very fast paced and is a combination of direct, teacher-led lessons and online virtual lessons. GEM 6 requires approximately 60 minutes of online homework daily which will involve independent learning via online videos and practice.

GEM 6 Math Placement Recommendation: Level 5 on FAST Mathematics, Level 4 or above on FAST Reading, Academic grades of A's in the 5th grade mathematics program. It is strongly recommended that students who choose this course do so with the understanding that the curriculum is incredibly fast-paced and covers the equivalent of three years (6th, 7th, and 8th Grade) of mathematics in a single year.

#### **EMF (Elements of Mathematics Foundations) Online Program**

**6**

EMF is a self-contained, self-study program delivered by the Institute for Mathematics & Computer Science that allows independent and high achieving students to earn four credits of High School Mathematics as well as complete middle school mathematics course standards before leaving middle school. The EMF curriculum exposes students to subject areas not found in the standard curriculum such as operational systems, set theory, number theory, abstract algebra, and probability and statistics. The EMF program is a 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade program. If completion of all 3 years is reached, students will have credits in Algebra 1 Honors, Geometry Honors, Algebra 2 Honors and Precalculus Honors. Throughout the 3 years, all students must maintain an 80% on each module or higher and must follow the timeline set forth by EMF. This timeline does not account for holidays and days off so students should budget additional hours outside of school each day to complete the program and stay within the desired timeline. This program is extremely fast paced and requires the student to put in double homework time, compared to other classes, in order to complete the required online curriculum in three years.

## **EARTH-SPACE SCIENCE**

**6**

The Earth Science curriculum builds on the natural curiosity of students. By connecting them to the beauty of geological history, the amazing landforms around the globe, the nature of the sea and air, and the newest discoveries about our universe, the curriculum gives students an opportunity to relate to their everyday world. Students will explore topics such as the fundamentals of geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy; Earth's minerals and rocks; Earth's interior; plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, and the movements of continents; geology and the fossil record; the oceans and the atmosphere; and the solar system and the universe. Lesson assignments help students discover how scientists investigate the science of our planet.

**Additional Requirements:** At the advanced and Gifted level in each grade critical thinking and application skills are emphasized. Additional course requirements will include a more in-depth exploration of topics of interest to the student and will require that each student demonstrate proficiency in the practice of science by completing an independent, experimentally based research project suitable for competition in the district required science fair.

## **SCIENCE – GEARS (COMPREHENSIVE SCIENCE ACCELERATED) 6**

This is the first part of a series of a two courses progression designed to accelerate high ability students through the science content of the middle school curriculum. This course focuses on the Next Generation Sunshine Standard (NGSSS) from the Nature of Science, Physical Science, and the Earth Space Science bodies of knowledge. Laboratory investigations to develop a growing understanding of the complexity and ambiguity of empirical work and that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus, technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. Learners will understand measurement error and acquire the skills necessary to calibrate and troubleshoot equipment used to make observations and to aggregate, interpret, and present the resulting data. The Florida Core Standards for literacy are infused through instructional practices that ensure reading from a wide range of informational texts and those that provide research and writing opportunities, while the mathematical focus on critical thinking skill development and logical reasoning.

## **WORLD HISTORY**

**6**

The objective of this course is to understand that the world is comprised of many diverse cultural groups who have made significant contributions to both the past and present. Students will explore the development of civilizations in historical and geographical settings, as well as the individuals and events that have significantly influenced culture and history. They will examine the major political, economic, social, and religious beliefs and institutions of selected Eastern and Western cultures. The content will include, but not be limited to, the study of ancient societies such as Egypt, Greece, and Rome.

### **Additional Requirements:**

At the advanced, gifted, and Cambridge level, critical thinking and application skills are emphasized when comparing/contrasting historical and contemporary issues. They will

develop collaborative skills, as well as public speaking skills, through individual and group projects. Additional course requirements may include outside readings, having access to news articles for current events, and Internet access for research objectives.

Students must complete a research-based project that emphasizes the use of primary sources, has a thesis statement, and has a conclusion that demonstrates original student analysis.

## SEVENTH GRADE CORE CURRICULUM

**Students will be placed into a reading course based on Broward County's Middle School Placement Criteria Chart and the K-12 Reading Plan.**

\*Reading programs subject to change according to district guidelines.

### **READING INTENSIVE**

**7**

This course provides strategic reading intervention focusing on scaffolding the Language Arts Florida Standards with support across texts of increasing complexity. Reading Intervention programs adopted by the district will be used to target instruction at the student's instructional level.

### **DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE ARTS FOR ELL STUDENTS**

**7**

This course provides intensive ESOL instruction for the development of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and language skills for English language learners.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS**

**7**

This course provides educational experiences addressing the English Language Arts Florida Standards. The content may include the study of literature, use of the writing process, application of reading, listening, spelling, grammar, speaking, critical thinking, and applications of language arts skills to daily life and the environment.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS ADVANCED**

**7**

At the advanced level, content and curriculum addressed in Language Arts may be accelerated and covered in greater depth utilizing more challenging, complex texts.

## LANGUAGE ARTS GIFTED

7

At the gifted level, the Broward County curriculum is accelerated, enriched, and differentiated as needed to meet the needs of gifted students. Additional resources are used to challenge students on a higher level and technology tools are utilized to assist students in the creation and distribution of writing. Students will learn to communicate confidently and effectively and develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will gain advanced reading comprehension and maturity in writing and oral communication. All students participate in the District Literary Fair and outside writing competitions as determined by the teacher. **Gifted Only Classes**

## LANGUAGE ARTS SECONDARY I CAMBRIDGE

7

The objective of this course is to continue and develop the inquiry-based approach to learning students adapted in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The curriculum will focus on merging the world events around us with the content taught in class through novel studies, discussions and presentations of social issues, applications of speaking and listening skills, and the use of writing for creative as well as formal expression. Students will continue to develop their maturity of critical thinking skills and logical reasoning while implementing the Cambridge curriculum in unison with the Broward County curriculum. This course includes advanced reading materials with focus on rigorous vocabulary use and an analysis and discussion of current social issues. All students will participate in the District Literary Fair. **Interest application and acceptance required for participation.** Please visit this website for more information on the Cambridge program. <http://www.cie.org.uk/>

## MATHEMATICS

7

<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/10285>

The objective of this course is to provide additional practice and to enable proficiency with the standards established for 7th grade by the Florida Department of Education.

Students will continue to develop mathematical content fundamentals for grade level proficiency. Emphasis is placed on computational proficiency. The content may include, but not be limited to, computational and applicational work with integers, rational numbers, percent, linear equations and functions, proportions and similarity, data analysis and probability, surface area and volume, measurement and proportional reasoning.

**MATHEMATICS ADVANCED****7**

<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/10286>

The objective of this course is to provide additional practice and to enable proficiency with the standards established for 7th grade by the Florida Department of Education.

Students will continue to develop mathematical content fundamentals for higher level coursework. Emphasis is placed on computational proficiency. The content may include, but not be limited to, computational and applicational work with integers, rational numbers, percent, linear equations and functions, proportions and similarity, data analysis and probability, surface area and volume, measurement and proportional reasoning. Additionally, students will explore geometry and spatial reasoning, statistics and inequalities. This is a Pre-Algebra course and students who successfully complete this course may meet the requirements for Algebra 1 Honors as 8th graders.

Seventh Grade Advanced Math Placement Recommendation: Level 4 or above on FAST Mathematics, Level 4 or above on the FAST Reading, Academic quarter grades of A's and B's in the 6th grade advanced mathematics program. It is suggested that students have a strong work ethic, can independently complete homework and study for tests, are self-motivated, and enjoy the challenge of a rigorous curriculum

**ALGEBRA I HONORS****GEM (Great Explorations in Mathematics)****7**

<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/10290>

This is a high school course for high school credit. Algebra I Honors in the 7th grade is a continuum of GEM 6. The objective of this course is to provide a rigorous and in-depth study of Algebra I Honors, emphasizing deductive reasoning skills, as a foundation for more advanced mathematics courses. The content may include, but not be limited to, operations and properties used within the real number system, algebraic and graphical solutions to first-degree equations and inequalities in one and two variables, operations with polynomials, rational and irrational algebraic expressions, quadratic equations, quadratic inequalities, quadratic functions and the use of a graphing calculator.

Throughout this course students are expected to develop the skills needed to solve mathematical problems. There is a strong emphasis on algebraic problem solving. This course has a fast pace requiring 30-60 minutes of homework daily and involves independent work. Students should be highly motivated, responsible, self-directed, and committed to spending the time required to gain proficiency with the content skills.

Additionally, there will be a midterm exam, an End of Course State Exam which counts as 30% of the overall grade, and the letter grade will count towards their high school GPA. Students who successfully complete the course requirements will receive one high school honors credit.

GEM 7 Placement Recommendations: The recommendations are made by the 6th grade GEM teachers based on the following criteria in addition to the district requirements. Students need to complete the 6th grade GEM program with test scores of 87% or higher, midterm and final exam scores of 80% or higher and score an 80% or higher on the Algebra Placement Test as well as overall quarter grades of 90% or higher. Additionally, it is suggested that students have a strong work ethic, can independently complete homework and study for tests, are self-motivated, give 100% effort, participate in class discussions, and enjoy the challenge of an extremely rigorous curriculum.

### **EMF (Elements of Mathematics: Foundations) Online Program 7**

EMF is a self-contained, self-study program delivered by the Institute for Mathematics & Computer Science that allows independent and high achieving students to earn four credits of High School Mathematics as well as complete middle school mathematics course standards before leaving middle school. The EMF curriculum exposes students to subject areas not found in the standard curriculum such as operational systems, set theory, number theory, abstract algebra, and probability and statistics. The EMF program is a 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade program. If completion of all 3 years is reached, students will have credits in Algebra 1 Honors, Geometry Honors, Algebra 2 Honors and Precalculus Honors. Throughout the 3 years, all students must maintain an 80% on each module or higher and must follow the timeline set forth by EMF. This timeline does not account for holidays and days off so students should budget additional hours outside of school

each day to complete the program and stay within the desired timeline. This program is extremely fast paced and requires the student to put in double homework time, compared to other classes, in order to complete the required online curriculum in three years.

### **LIFE SCIENCE 7**

The Life Science program invites students to investigate the world of living things—at levels both large and small—by reading, observing, and experimenting with aspects of life on Earth. Students explore an amazing variety of organisms, the complex workings of the cell and cell biology, the relationship between living things and their environments, and discoveries in the world of modern genetics. Students tackle such topics as ecology, microorganisms, animals, plants, cells, animals, species, adaptation, heredity, genetics, and the history of life on Earth. Lesson activities and assignments help students discover how scientists investigate the living world.

#### **Additional Requirements:**

At the advanced and gifted level in each grade, critical thinking and application skills are emphasized. Additional course requirements will include a more in-depth exploration of topics of interest to the student and will require that each student demonstrate proficiency in the practice of science by completing an independent, experimentally based research project suitable for competition in the district required science fair.



## **COMPREHENSIVE SCIENCE 2 ACCELERATED ADVANCED (GEARS 2)**

**7**

This is the second part of a 2 series course progression designed to accelerate high ability students through the science content of the middle school curriculum. This course focuses on the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) from the Nature of Science, Life Science, and Physical Science bodies of knowledge. Laboratory investigations to develop a growing understanding of the complexity and ambiguity of empirical work and that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus, technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. Learners will understand measurement error and acquire the skills necessary to calibrate and troubleshoot equipment used to make observations and to aggregate, interpret, and present the resulting data. The Florida Core Standards for literacy are infused through instructional practices that ensure reading from a wide range of informational texts and those that provide research and writing opportunities, while the mathematical focus on critical thinking skill development and logical reasoning.

## **CIVICS**

**7**

Civics is an empowering course that provides students with the critical skills to analyze and study the duties and rights of citizens. Using guided questioning, students will learn the importance of knowing the rights and responsibilities that are guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States. Students will examine the different forms and functions of government and assess their knowledge of the American colonies and their early doctrines and government. The influence that England and the Age of Enlightenment had on the foundations of democracy will be studied. Students will use research and higher thinking skills to create collaborative projects to extend their knowledge of the Constitution and its principles. An in-depth study of the Bill of Rights will reinforce an understanding of the purpose and goals of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Branches of government. Units on voting, political parties and public opinion about national, state and local governments will enable students to better understand society and the challenges people face.

### **Additional Requirements:**

At the regular, advanced, gifted and Cambridge level, all students will be required to take the Florida State End of Course Exam (EOC). The test score will account for 30% of their overall Civics grade. Pacing to prepare for this exam will be adjusted accordingly, depending on whether the class is working at the regular, advanced or gifted level. Group projects, research papers, mock trials, and additional reading passages will be used to enhance class material at the advanced and gifted levels. Cambridge students will have a more intensive writing program with small groups working to create various curriculum-based projects. Cambridge students will also participate in off campus field trips to reinforce the curriculum.

## **EIGHTH GRADE CORE CURRICULUM**

**Students will be placed into a reading course based on Broward County's Middle School Placement Criteria Chart and the K-12 Reading Plan.**

\*Reading programs subject to change according to district guidelines.

### **READING INTENSIVE**

**8**

This course provides strategic reading intervention focusing on scaffolding the Language Arts Florida Standards with support across texts of increasing complexity. Reading Intervention programs adopted by the district will be used to target instruction at the student's instructional level.

### **DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE ARTS FOR ELL STUDENTS**

**8**

This course provides intensive ESOL instruction for the development of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and language skills for English language learners.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS**

**8**

This course provides educational experiences addressing the English Language Arts Florida Standards. The content may include the study of literature, use of the writing process, application of reading, listening, spelling, grammar, speaking, critical thinking, and applications of language arts skills to daily life and the environment.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS ADVANCED**

**8**

At the advanced level, content and curriculum addressed in Language Arts may be accelerated and covered in greater depth utilizing more challenging and complex text.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS GIFTED**

**8**

At the gifted level, the Broward County curriculum is accelerated, enriched, and differentiated as needed to meet the needs of gifted students. Additional resources are used to challenge students on a higher level and technology tools are utilized to assist students in the creation and distribution of writing. Students will learn to communicate confidently and effectively and develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will gain advanced reading comprehension and maturity in writing and oral communication. All students participate in the District Literary Fair and outside writing competitions as determined by the teacher.

### **Gifted Only Classes**

## **LANGUAGE ARTS SECONDARY I CAMBRIDGE**

**8**

This course is the final stage of the Secondary I Cambridge curriculum and is primarily focused on the mastery of inquiry-based writing about social and world events, literature analysis, media and poetry. Students will continuously express their mastery of expression through oral communication, critical thinking activities, debate and presentations. Students will develop a sense of cultural awareness and a span of knowledge that will promote cross-curricular understanding in order to become productive citizens of the world. All students will participate in the District Literary Fair. **Interest application and acceptance required for participation.** Please visit this website for more information on the Cambridge program. <http://www.cie.org.uk/>

## **MATHEMATICS**

### **PRE-ALGEBRA**

**8**

<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/10287>

The objective of this course is to strengthen and build upon arithmetic skills while preparing for Algebra I in high school as well as to provide additional practice and to establish proficiency with the standards established for 8th grade by the Florida Department of Education. The content may include, but not be limited to real numbers, exponents, scientific notation, proportional and non-proportional relationships and functions, solving equations and systems of equations, transformational and measurement geometry, and statistics.

## ALGEBRA I HONORS

8

<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/10290>

This is a high school course for high school credit. The objective of this course is to provide a rigorous and in-depth study of algebra, emphasizing deductive reasoning skills as a foundation for more advanced mathematics courses and developing the skills needed to solve mathematical problems. The content may include, but not be limited to, operations and properties used within the real number system, algebraic and graphical solutions to first degree equations and inequalities in one and two variables, relations and functions, direct and inverse variations, operations with polynomials, including all forms of factoring, rational and irrational algebraic expressions, quadratic equations, quadratic inequalities, quadratic functions, and use of the graphing calculator. Students who successfully complete the course requirements will receive one high school credit. It is strongly recommended that students have completed the 7th Grade Advanced Textbook in their seventh-grade year. Additionally, there will be a midterm exam, and a State End of Course Exam, which counts as 30% of their overall grade, and the letter grade will count towards their high school GPA. There will also be approximately 30-60 minutes of homework daily. **There will be a summer assignment which will cover 8th grade skills which will be necessary for success in this 9th grade high school class.**

**Algebra 1 Honors Placement Recommendations:** Students must meet all of the following requirements to obtain a recommendation for entrance into this course, a 75% or higher on the Falcon Cove Middle School Algebra Placement test and 80% or higher quarter grade for all for three quarters in the 7th grade advanced course, and teacher recommendation which is made based on the presence of a strong work ethic, mathematical maturity and confidence, ability to show work mathematically, self- motivation, 100% effort, participation in class discussions, and completing all homework on time. Students should enjoy the challenge of an extremely rigorous curriculum.

## GEOMETRY HONORS GEM (Great Explorations in Mathematics)

8

<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewCourse/Preview/10295>

This is a high school course for credit. Students who enroll in this course should be A/B Algebra I Honors students who have demonstrated mastery of algebra skills as evidenced by their grades and exam scores. This course is a rigorous and in-depth high school course which helps lay the foundation for higher level math work such as AICE, AP coursework, and college entrance exams. The emphasis is on methods of proof, the formal language of mathematics, the fundamental properties of geometry, the understanding of deductive and inductive reasoning, solving real-world problems by applying the geometric properties and algebraic skills, and using transformational and coordinate geometry. This course has a fast pace requiring 45-60 minutes of homework daily and involves a good deal of independent work since the approach of the course is the discovery method. Students should be highly motivated, responsible, self-directed, and committed to spending the time required to gain proficiency with the content skills. It is highly recommended (and necessary for success) that students have a strong working

knowledge of algebra for this class. Tests involve questions requiring the application and proof (both formal and informal) of skills learned. Additionally, there will be a midterm exam, and a State End of Course Exam and the letter grade will count towards their high school GPA.

### **EMF (Elements of Mathematics: Foundations) Online Program 8**

EMF is a self-contained, self-study program delivered by the Institute for Mathematics & Computer Science that allows independent and high achieving students to earn four credits of High School Mathematics as well as complete middle school mathematics course standards before leaving middle school. The EMF curriculum exposes students to subject areas not found in the standard curriculum such as operational systems, set theory, number theory, abstract algebra, and probability and statistics. The EMF program is a 6-8 grade program. If completion of all 3 years is reached, students will have credits in Algebra 1 Honors, Geometry Honors, Algebra 2 Honors and Precalculus Honors. Throughout the 3 years, all students must maintain an 80% on each module or higher and must follow the timeline set forth by EMF. This timeline does not account for holidays and days off so students should budget additional hours outside of school each day to complete the program and stay within the desired timeline. This program is extremely fast paced and requires the student to put in double homework time, compared to other classes, in order to complete the required online curriculum in three years.

### **PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8**

The Physical Science program introduces students to many aspects of the physical world, focusing first on chemistry and then on physics. The course provides an overview of the physical world and gives students tools and concepts to think clearly about matter, atoms, molecules, chemical reactions, motion, force, momentum, work and machines, energy, waves, electricity, light, and other aspects of chemistry and physics. Among other subjects, students study the structure of atoms; the elements and the Periodic Table; chemical reactions; forces, including gravitational, motion, acceleration, and mass; and energy, including light, thermal, electricity, and magnetism.

#### **Additional Requirements:**

At the advanced and gifted level in each grade, critical thinking and application skills are emphasized. Additional course requirements will include a more in depth exploration of topics of interest to the student and will require that each student demonstrate proficiency in the practice of science by completing an independent, experimentally based research project suitable for competition in the district required science fair.

**BIOLOGY HONORS****8**

Biology I Honors will provide opportunities to students for general exploratory experiences and activities in the fundamental concepts of life. Topics will include but not be limited to: the scientific method, laboratory apparatus usage and safety, biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, botany, zoology, human anatomy and physiology, and ecological relationships. Laboratory activities that include the use of the scientific method, measurement, laboratory apparatus, and safety are an integral part of this course. A state written End of Course (EOC) exam will count as 30% of the student's final course grade.

## **UNITED STATES HISTORY**

**8**

Primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of American history from the Exploration and Colonization Period to the Reconstruction Period following the Civil War. Students will be exposed to the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events, which influenced the development of the United States and the resulting, impact on world history. This course offers scaffolded learning opportunities for students to develop the critical skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a more rigorous and reflective academic setting. Students are empowered to perform at higher levels as they engage in the following: analyzing historical documents and supplementary readings, working in the context of thematically categorized information, becoming proficient in note-taking, and participating in an extended research-based paper/project. Students will also participate in Junior Achievement, which teaches the key concepts of work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy.

### ***Additional Requirements:***

Advanced, gifted and Cambridge students will develop and demonstrate their skills through participation in a capstone and/or extended research-based paper/project (e.g., history fair, participatory citizenship project, mock congressional hearing, projects for competitive evaluation, investment portfolio contests, or other evaluation, investment portfolio contests, or other teacher-directed projects). Expectations include reading assignments from longer text passages as well as shorter ones when text is extremely complex, making close reading and rereading of texts central to lessons, asking high-level, text-specific questions and requiring high-level, complex tasks and assignments, requiring students to support answers with evidence from the text, and providing extensive text-based research and writing opportunities (claims and evidence).

## **EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION (ESE)**

Placement in these classes is determined by the student's (IEP), Individualized Education Plan as decided annually by the IEP committee. Reading placement will be based on State/Broward District's k-12 Reading Plan.

### **ESE SUPPORT**

Students in these classrooms are attempting to earn an academic diploma in General Education to acquire Common Core Standards without modifications only accommodations. Exceptional Education Students participate in the general education classroom with support. Support Facilitators, along with classroom teachers, collaborate or consult on student success by providing a variety of services and strategies. Support Facilitation is designed to provide assistance within the general education setting. The degree of services is determined by student need and committee recommendation

### **SPECIALIZED VARYING EXCEPTIONALITIES – SPECIAL DIPLOMA STUDENTS TAKING FLORIDA ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT.**

Courses are offered in a Specialized Varying Exceptionalities classroom for the following subject areas: language arts, math, science and social studies. Curriculum in the Specialized Varying Exceptionalities classrooms is based on individualized student academic and behavioral needs. Instruction is presented through an intensive curriculum using a variety of modalities such as very small group instruction, continuous hands-on learning activities, infused sensory activities and social training.



## ELECTIVES

### **ADVANCED INFO TECH CODING** (High School credit) *Available to grade 8*

In this advanced coding course, students will learn to code graphics and animation in Python through an inactive high school computer science curriculum. Students will use critical thinking, problem solving, creativity and collaboration to complete coding challenges. Students will work towards earning the Intro to Programming certification using Python Industry Certification. **(Prerequisite: Algebra ready and coding experience)**

### **ART APPRECIATION** *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

This is a discipline-based art education course. The four disciplines include aesthetics, art history, art criticism, and art production. This course will provide experiences necessary to understand, appreciate and produce two-dimensional artwork. The content should include, but not be limited to, the elements of art and the principles of design. This will assist students with the perception of and the response to basic concepts. The student will also learn seeing techniques combined with internationally known drawing techniques. They will be using a variety of art mediums such as watercolor, colored pencils, pastels and others necessary to produce two-dimensional artwork.

### **ART APPRECIATION II** *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

This is a discipline-based art education course. The four disciplines include aesthetics, art history, art criticism, and art production. This course is designed to provide experiences necessary to produce three-dimensional artwork. Art Appreciation II offers more independent study with projects being more self-motivated and self-directed. The content may include, but not limited to, the basic design concepts of ceramics and contribution to the Falcon Cove Middle School Beautification Project by designing and painting large- scale murals around the campus.

### **BEGINNING BAND** *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

The objective of this course is to introduce students with limited or non-musical backgrounds to the fundamentals of band. Students will develop a basic understanding of music notation and perform 12 major scales. Students are expected to practice 30 minutes per day. Optional activities are Solo Ensemble and Band Festivals.

### **BAND INTERMEDIATE - CONCERT** *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

The objective of this course is to continue the development of skills gained from the beginning band level. The band will perform medium to difficult music. Students will perform 12 memorized major scales. Selected students must attend all rehearsals, concerts and perfect music. A minimum of 30 minutes per day of practice is expected. All students must attend the Solo Ensemble, Band Festival, and All County Band Audition.

### **BAND ADVANCED - SYMPHONIC** *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

The objective of this course will be to perfect musical skills accomplished in prior classes. Students will perform 12 memorized major scales. Selected students must attend all scheduled rehearsals and concerts, as well as perfect all music assigned. Practice is a minimum of 40 minutes per day. As a requirement for this course, all students will attend All County Band, All County Jazz Band, Area Honors Band, and All State Auditions.

### **CHESS I** *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

Knowing the rules of chess and how the pieces move does not mean one has become a chess player. This is a beginner's chess course designed to introduce the game and

hopefully create lifelong chess players. This full year course will start with the history, rules, and different periods of the game. It will then go into game strategy and tactics. Students will play chess at least 60 minutes on average during class and will be part of a class ranking system. Student seats are based on their class rank number; as their ranking stature changes, so will their seat location. Students will have a lot of fun meeting new friends while enjoying the game of chess, with the hope they can rank high enough to earn an invitation to the coveted Chess II class

**CHESS II: Competitive Chess***Available to Grades 7/ 8*

This full year class is by invitation only; it is designed for students who have developed not only a passion for the game, but have been able to display the strategies and tactics acquired in Chess I. This hand-selected homogeneous group is specifically designed for the chess player who wants to dive deeper into the game. Students will solve daily chess puzzles, study different opening moves, and learn to deal with the pressures of playing with a clock. Students will be required to purchase a Falcon Cove chess polo and can earn the opportunity to represent our school in local tournaments and events. Prerequisite: Chess I

**CHORUS***Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**CODING FUNDAMENTALS***Available to Grades 7/ 8*

In this course students are introduced to the basics of computer science and technology. Students will learn the core concepts of computer programming while learning to code in Python. Students will have the chance to earn the Python Coding Apprentice Certification. This course is for beginners and all levels of experience in coding.

**CODING IN MINECRAFT***Available to Grade 6*

Students will learn how to code using Python in Minecraft Education Edition. They will also participate in the Broward County STEM Quarterly Minecraft build challenges.

**CREATIVE WRITING***Available to Grades 7/ 8*

The purpose of this course is to enable students to learn and use writing and language skills for creative expression in a variety of literary forms. Emphasis will be on development of a personal writing style. The content should include, but not be limited to a study of a variety of short literary collections, including poetry, one-act plays, the short story, and memoir to determine and practice; writing for varied purposes and in varied genres; effective listening, speaking, and viewing strategies with emphasis on the use of evidence to support or refute a claim in multimedia presentations, class discussions, and extended text discussions; and collaboration amongst peers, especially regarding peer reviews of multiple drafts.

**DANCE***Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

Students develop dance technique and movement vocabulary in two or more dance forms. In the process, dancers demonstrate use of class and performance etiquette, analytical and problem-solving skills, and studio practices in a safe dance environment. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Students in this class may need to obtain (e.g., borrow, purchase) appropriate footwear and/or dance attire from an outside source.

**DRAMA I** *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

This course introduces various topics that may include, but are not limited to: theatre history, basic acting techniques, improvisation, pantomime, music, make-up, Shakespearean plays, poetry, concepts of lighting and sound, set construction, producing, career possibilities, movie-making, teamwork, and musical theatre.

**DRAMA II** *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

This advanced course is designed to improve performance skills. Upon completion of this course, students will be prepared for a high school performing arts program. Topics include/ but are not be limited to: the Stanislavski method, character development, directing, focus techniques, stage managing, blocking, voice/breath control, and filmmaking. Extensive homework and out of class activities will be required, including participation in the annual Junior Thespian acting festival & competition. **Prerequisite: Drama I**

**DRAMA III** *Available to Grade 8 (High School Credit)*

This advanced course is designed for serious actor. Upon completion of this course, students will be prepared for a high school performing arts program. Special emphasis will be on expanding the actor's range of performance and exploring new genres. Optional film-making opportunities and competitions will be available. Extensive homework and out of class activities will be required, including participation in the annual Junior Thespian acting festival & competition. **Prerequisite: Drama II**

**EMERGING LEADERS** *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

This course provides an introduction to service-learning and civic responsibility. Academic, personal, and career skills needed for effective service-learning project implementation will be taught and applied through structured service projects that meet real school or community needs. Students will actively participate in meaningful service-learning experiences.

**EXLORATION OF CAREERS** *Available for Grade 7/8*

Students will learn Microsoft Excel while developing initiative, creativity, responsibility, and enhanced communication skills. The course will also focus on the ability to work as a team while developing professionalism and self-confidence. Students will work towards the Microsoft Excel Certification. (**Prerequisite: Orientation to Careers and Technology**)

**EXPLORATION OF HEALTH OCCUPATIONS** *Available for Grades 7/8*

This course exposes students to a wide variety of traditional medical careers and advanced concepts in Anatomy and Physiology, Red Cross Certification and Medical Terminology. It also employs problem solving and critical thinking skills in hands-on laboratory activities. Students will also use the research capacities of the internet to gain exposure to state-of-art medical topics. Students will also participate in field trips and interact with guest speakers associated with various medical careers. Students are encouraged to follow the recommended curriculum track for continuation of the Health professions track in High School.

**FILM 1** *Available to Grade 7*

Students explore the fundamental concepts, terminology, techniques, and applications of digital imaging to create original work. The instructional focus will be on film. Students produce digital animated images through the single or combined use of computers, digital cameras, digital video cameras, scanners, photo editing software, drawing and painting software, graphic tablets, printers, new media, and emerging technologies. Through the

critique process, students evaluate and respond to their own work and that of their peers to measure artistic growth. This course incorporates hands-on activities, the use of technology, and consumption of art materials.

**FILM 2** *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

Students explore and develop concepts, terminology, techniques, and applications to design, create, print, and display original two-dimensional animations. The instructional focus will be on film. As they become more adept at using the tools and techniques available to them, students design digital animated images through the single or combined use of computers, digital cameras, digital video cameras, scanners, photo editing software, drawing and painting software, graphic tablets, printers, new media, and emerging technologies. Through the critique process, students evaluate and respond to their own designs and images and those of their peers to measure artistic growth with increasing sophistication. This course incorporates hands-on activities, the use of technology, and consumption of art materials. **Prerequisite: Film I**

**FOUNDATIONS of WEB DESIGN (High School Credit)** *Available to Grades 7/8*

This course is designed to provide a basic overview of the Internet, Intranets, and the Wide World Web. The course content will include operating systems, HTML page editors, basic HTML commands, navigation of the Internet, and web page design. Students will work toward the Intro to Programming using HTNL/CSS Industry Certification.

**FRENCH 1 (High School Credit)** *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

French 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities.

**FRENCH 2 (High School Credit)** *Available to Grade 8*

The objective of this courses it to reinforce the fundamental skills acquired by the students in French 1. The course develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in French 1. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language-speaking people is continued. **Prerequisite: French I**

**GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES (High School Credit)** *Available to Grade 8*

This course is a unique, transformational class that develops students' critical thinking skills, problem solving, research, communication and collaboration. The curriculum is taught through a series of challenges subdivided into several activities; each challenge designed to encourage the learner to become independent, active, and innovative. Some topics are: Conflict and Peace, Human Rights, Education for ALL, Tradition, Culture and Identity, Sports and Recreation and the Digital World.

**HOME ECONOMICS** *Available to Grade 6/ 7/ 8*

This course includes but is not limited to the development of leadership skills, communication skills, and employability skills; resource management; exploration of careers in the culinary field; food safety and sanitation; safe, proper use of culinary tools/equipment; interpreting recipes and developing menus; basic food preparation skills; front-of-the-house responsibilities; artistic presentation of food; and the use of technology in the culinary field.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/CODING (High School Credit)** *Available to Grade 8*

This course is designed to provide a basic overview of current business and information

*Revision Date 1/27/2023*

systems and trends, and to introduce students to fundamental skills required for today's business and academic environments. Emphasis is placed on developing fundamental computer skills. The intention of this course is to prepare students to be successful both personally and professionally in an information-based society. Digital Information Technology includes the exploration and use of: databases, the internet, spreadsheets, presentation applications, management of personal information and email, word processing and document manipulation, HTML, web page design, and the integration of these programs using software that meets industry standards.

#### **INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL LITERACY**      *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

Emphasis will be placed on economic decision-making and real-life applications using real data. The primary content for the course pertains to the study of learning the ideas, concepts, knowledge and skills that will enable students to implement beneficial personal decision-making choices; to become wise, successful, and knowledgeable consumers, savers, investors, users of credit and money managers; and to be participating members of a global workforce and society.

#### **INTRODUCTION TO FOREIGN LANGUAGES**      *Available to Grade 6*

Students will experience a half year of both French and Spanish.

Beginning French introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this half year course. Students whom have never studied a foreign language and want the exposure without the concern of impacting their high school GPA should take this course prior to French 1. The Spanish semester introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning listening, speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this half year course. Students whom have never studied a foreign language and want the exposure without the concern of impacting their high school GPA should take this course prior to Spanish 1.

#### **INTRO TO PUBLIC SPEAKING**      *Available to Grade 6*

In this introductory class student will learn the process or act of performing a speech to a live audience. This type of speech is deliberately structured with three general purposes: to inform, to persuade and to entertain. Students will also build confidence through presenting as well as practice informative and argumentative writing skills.

#### **JAZZ BAND**      *Available to Grade 7/ 8*

Students with experience on an instrument suited for jazz ensemble explore the fundamentals of performance practices, improvisation, and music theory through a diverse repertoire of high-quality jazz literature. Students learn the basics of foundational jazz styles, use chord symbols, develop knowledge of musical structure, and study the history of jazz and its iconic musicians.

#### **JOURNALISM I (High School Credit)**      *Available to Grade 8*

The objective of this course is to provide students the opportunity to develop all the skills involved in publishing as well as developing/creating a school newsletter and yearbook. Content may include public speaking, writing and critical thinking skills through investigative journalism techniques and the use and care of media-related technology, including computer video-editing software. Students with a variety of interests may find this course to be challenging. Skills in photography, layout design, drafting, editing and revision encompass a major portion of the course. Students should be self-motivated, able to work both cooperatively and independently and must be prepared to adhere to strict deadlines. Students will have homework on a daily basis and will be expected to work on weekends as

well as holiday breaks. As part of the class curriculum, students will be required to attend events before and after school that will be featured throughout the three core areas of the class: School Newsletter and Yearbook. **Students will also need to stay afterschool to meet deadlines, where necessary.**

#### **LATINOS IN ACTION I and II (Mandatory for Dual Languages)** *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

The LIA classroom model is implemented as an elective course for Middle School, and High Schools. Class time is split between a rigorous college/career readiness curriculum and literacy tutoring at local elementary schools. Additionally, LIA students serve in their communities, are involved in extracurricular activities. Latinos in Action II builds upon the precepts and vision of LIA I and has a pre-requisite. Vision: All LIA students graduate high school, college and career ready; All LIA students retain through post-secondary educational tracks while cultivating character traits and leadership skills necessary to succeed in life; All LIA students have the self-efficacy to persist through their educational goals and become contributing members of their communities.

#### **LAW STUDIES**

*Available to Grades 7/ 8*

The law studies course consists of the following content area strands: American History, World History, Geography, Humanities, Economics, and Civics and Government. The primary content for the course pertains to the study of the American legal system as the foundation of American society by examining those laws which have an impact on citizens' lives and an introduction to fundamental civil and criminal justice procedures. Content should include, but is not limited to, the need for law, the basis for our legal system, civil and criminal law, adult and juvenile courts, family and consumer law, causes and consequences of crime, individual rights and responsibilities, and career opportunities in the legal system.

#### **MANDARIN I (High School Credit)**

*Available to Grades 7/ 8*

Chinese 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities.

#### **MATH COMPETITION**

*Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

Math Competition is a course that is designed to provide Math Club students with critical problem-solving skills and to expand their mathematical knowledge to better prepare for competitions. It is open to all grade levels 6-8. All students enrolled in this course are required to be competing members of the math club. **Competitions are held after school and on weekends.** Students in this course will work above and beyond their core mathematics course to prepare for various competitions. The course will focus on Content, Teamwork, individual category, speed and various competition strategies. This is a full year course. During the first semester, the primary focus will be preparing for competitions. During the second semester, students will complete, and present projects focused on a variety of competition strategies.

#### **MEDICAL SKILLS AND SERVICES**

*Available to Grade 8 (High School Credit)*

This full year course exposes the students to advanced scientific and laboratory techniques related to a career in the medical and allied health field. Skills representative of medical careers will be explored through hands-on activities, advanced laboratory investigations including dissections, the use of scientific techniques, medical equipment and computer software. These skills include reading vital signs, emergency first aid, using aseptic equipment, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, problem-solving and decision making. Students will be introduced to concepts of medical science related to experimental research, basic biochemistry, anatomy, physiology, clinical microbiology and psychology. Students will

participate in field trips to observe medical facilities and procedures, to observe demonstrations of the most recent advances in the fields of medical and computer technology, and to interview guest speakers associated with various medical careers. Students will be required to create a medical internship handbook and compile a portfolio of their work, as well as, completing a supervised clinical internship (shadowing experience) of their choice in an approved medical facility.

**MODERN BAND** *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

Students with little or no experience playing guitar, keyboard, piano, drums, and bass will develop musicianship and performance skills as they study, rehearse, and perform contemporary American music. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

**NOVEL STUDIES** *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

Novel studies is a collaborative book studies class which allows students a way of building experiences of the world, helping students to see and understand things which have never happened to us firsthand, building on their experiences to increase our knowledge of the unknown, enabling us to witness and attempt to understand things from new vantage points.

**NOVEL STUDIES FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS(Mandatory for Dual Language)***Available to Grade 6/7/8*

Novel for Spanish Speakers is an approach to developing language proficiency and literacy in English and Spanish through the integration of a collaborative book studies course which allows students a way of building experiences of the world, helping students to see and understand things which have never happened to us firsthand, building on their experiences to increase our knowledge of the unknown, enabling us to witness and attempt to understand things from new vantage points.

**ORIENTATION TO CAREERS AND TECHNOLOGY** *Available to Grades 6/7*

Students will learn Microsoft Word and PowerPoint along with other skills essential in high school, college, and business. Students will work towards Microsoft Word and Microsoft PowerPoint Certification.

**PEER COUNSELING** *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

The objective of this course is to provide knowledge and opportunities for students to assist their peers. This is accomplished through enhancing interpersonal skills; role- playing, teambuilding and skill building activities are used. The content will include, but not be limited to, peers as tutors, counselors, mentors, mediators and helpers. Various teen and social issues are discussed. Guest speakers are invited to share their expertise with students. **Application process and instructor's approval required.**

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION** *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

This course is designed to help students develop healthy lifestyles during their time in middle school and to develop positive lifetime attitudes regarding physical activity. The sports and physical fitness curriculum are based upon the belief that 1. Lifelong learning and skill development are on-going and progressive, 2. Lifetime activity attitudes are best internalized by continued practice, 3. Students need to incorporate principals of fitness into their daily lives.

**PRE-AICE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES IGCSE– High School Credit** *Available to Grade 8*

The AICE Global Perspectives course prepares students for positive engagement with our

*Revision Date 1/27/2023*



rapidly changing world. Students broaden their outlook through the critical analysis of, and reflection on, issues of global significance. The AICE Global Perspectives syllabus is based on skills rather than specific content. Students will develop research, thinking, reasoning, and communication skills by following an approach to analyzing and evaluating arguments and perspectives called the Critical Path. The skills gained through this course will enable students to meet the demands of twenty-first century learning and make a successful transition to study in higher education.

**ROBOTICS AND COMPUTER APPLICATIONS**      *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

Students will explore various IT career pathways: Network Systems, Information Support and Services, and Physical computing and Robotics.

**SPANISH INTRO FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS (Mandatory for Dual Language)** *Available to Grade 6*

This course is designed to enable students whose heritage language is Spanish to develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in their heritage language by reinforcing and acquiring skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, including the fundamentals of Spanish grammar. Language Arts Standards are also included in this course to enable students to become literate in the Spanish language and gain a better understanding of the nature of their own language as well as other languages to be acquired.

**SPANISH I (High School Credit)**      *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

Spanish 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities.

**SPANISH II (High School Credit)**      *Available to Grade 8*

Spanish 2 reinforces the fundamental skills acquired by the students in Spanish 1. The course develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in Spanish 1. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language-speaking people is continued. **Prerequisite: Spanish I credit**

**SPANISH FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS I (High School Credit)**      *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

The purpose of this course is to enable students whose heritage language is Spanish to develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in their heritage language by reinforcing and acquiring skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, including the fundamentals of Spanish grammar. Language Arts Standards are also included in this course to enable students to become literate in the Spanish language and gain a better understanding of the nature of their own language as well as other languages to be acquired

**SPANISH FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS II (High School Credit)**      *Available to Grade 8*

The purpose of this course is to enable students whose heritage language is Spanish to develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in their heritage language by reinforcing and expanding skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, as well as Spanish grammar skills acquired in Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1. Students are exposed to a variety of Spanish literary genres and authors. Language Arts Standards are also included in this course to enable students to become literate in Spanish and gain a better understanding of the nature of their own language as well as other languages to be acquired. **Prerequisite: Spanish for Spanish Speakers I credit**

**SPEECH-DEBATE 1***Available to Grades 7/ 8*

The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. Additionally, students will learn a variety of competition speech events where they may choose to participate in the after school and Saturday Speech tournaments (optional attendance).

**SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM (High School Credit)***Available to Grade 8*

The objective of this course is to provide instruction in a variety of speaking skills and techniques, from the basic to the complex. The content may include, but not be limited to, speeches presented in competition such as Congress, Extemporaneous, Impromptu, Original Oratory, Mock Trial, Prose/Poetry, Humorous Interpretation, Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Duet Acting, and the Lincoln Douglas Debate. Students are also responsible for the research involved with each facet of the course. **\*STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND COMPETITIVE SPEECH/DEBATE TOURNAMENTS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR (AFTER SCHOOL AND SATURDAYS) IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT.**

**TELEVISION & CINEMA PRODUCTION***Available to Grade 8*

The objective of this course is to provide the opportunity to develop the necessary skills to create both live television productions and professional video edited features. Content may include public speaking, writing and critical thinking skills the use and care of media-related technology, including, but not limited to, computer video-editing software, audio mixing devices, and live video editing techniques. Students with a variety of interests may find this course to be challenging. Students should be self-motivated, able to work both cooperatively and independently and must be prepared to adhere to deadlines. As part of the class curriculum, students will be required to attend events before and after school that will be featured in the morning announcements. **Students may have to arrive early for production of morning announcements.**

**WORLD CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY – (High School Credit)***Available to Grade 8*

The grade World Cultural Geography course consists of the following content area strands: American History, World History, Geography, Humanities, Civics and Government. The primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of world cultural regions in terms of location, physical characteristics, demographics, historical changes, land use, and economic activity. Content includes, but is not limited to, the use of geographic tools and skills to gather and interpret data and to draw conclusions about physical and human patterns, the relationships between physical geography and the economic, political, social, cultural and historical aspects of human activity, patterns of population growth and settlement in different cultures and environments, the interaction between culture and technology in the use, alteration and conservation of the physical environment, and the interrelationships and interdependence of world cultures.

**YOGA***Available to Grades 6/7/8*

This course is designed to introduce students, safely and accessibly, to the basic postures, breathing techniques, and relaxation methods of yoga. Students will begin to experience the benefits of stretching, moving, and breathing freely as they relieve built up stress, learn to relax, and ultimately get more out of day-to-day life. The aim of this course is to promote vibrant health and to tap the body's latent energy reserves.























