



LARNED MIDDLE SCHOOL

7TH- 8TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2020-2021 School Year

8th GRADE REQUIRED CLASSES

8th Grade CORE ACADEMIC classes

8th Math - J. Erway/Coles/Bunch

8th grade math course increases students' foundational math skills and prepares them for Algebra I by covering a variety of topics, such as properties of rational numbers (i.e., number theory), ratio, proportion, estimation, exponents and radicals, the rectangular coordinate system, sets and logic, formulas, and solving first-degree equations and inequalities.

8th ELA - King

This course builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually includes the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses introduce and define various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections.

8th Social Studies - Ingram

Social Science courses provide students with an introduction to the various disciplines in the social sciences, including anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology. Typically, these courses emphasize the methodologies of the social sciences and the differences among the various disciplines.

8th Science - Stearns

The specific content of 8th Science course varies, but they draw upon the principles of several scientific specialties—astronomy, earth science, physical science, biology, chemistry, and physics—and organize the material around thematic units. Common themes covered include systems, models, energy, patterns, change, and constancy. These courses use appropriate aspects from each specialty to investigate applications of the theme.

Physical Education - C. Erway

This class will involve physical activity of all kinds and will include classes on Health. Students will be taught the Health curriculum adapted by USD 495.

REAL WORLD/SOFT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

(9-week Rotation Courses)

TechYES - Stearns

A computer course based on the TechYES student technology literacy certification program. Students will learn a variety of computer software applications (Pages, Keynote, Numbers, Comic Life, iMovie, Garage Band, etc.) Additionally students will learn team cooperative computer skills utilizing Google Drive for presentations, reports, and spreadsheets. Besides completing two TechYES projects, students will have a variety of

mini-projects to complete such as: Field trips to learn how our network technology works, collaborative construction project, and others. Learning of computer technology is based on a hands-on approach that makes it fun and educational.

Math Skill-Building – T. Coles

Students work at their instructional level on math skills in whole group, small group or one-on-one math skills work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice, enrichment opportunities and independent work in building math skills.

ELA Skill-Building - King

Students will work at their instructional level on reading and writing skills. Class sessions will consist of whole group, small group and one-on-one language arts skill work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice, enrichment opportunities, and independent work in building ELA skills.

Current Events - Ingram

The goal of a Current Events course is for the student to become aware of the major issues of the day and to have an in-depth understanding and appreciation of current events. The focus of the class will be issues that affect the student as a resident of the World, the U.S., Kansas, and the local area. The class will follow daily news events and will be expected to understand the social, political and economic issues on a daily basis. The objectives of this course are: to make the connection between current events and history, to enhance the student's understanding of world events, and to encourage students to be informed citizens.

Study Skills/Test Taking Skills – McDonald/Bunch/Glenn (Teacher selected based on criteria - typically year-long)

Teaching proper study habits and test taking skills. Filling out agenda, organizing binders and lockers. Opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills, if needed.

7th GRADE REQUIRED CLASSES

CORE ACADEMIC classes

7th Math - Wagner/J. Erway/Bunch

This 7th Grade math course emphasizes the teaching of mathematics as problem solving, communication, and reasoning, and highlight the connections among mathematical topics and between mathematics and other disciplines. These courses approach the teaching of general math, pre-algebra, and pre-geometry topics by applying numbers, and algebraic and geometric concepts and relationships to real world problems.

7th ELA - Strasburg

This course builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses introduce and define various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections.

7th Kansas History - Hulse

The Kansas History course begins with a study of archaic native inhabitants of the land that was to become Kansas. The course will cover major events, individuals, groups, innovations, and movements from pre-historic days to the present. The course should seek to build a connection or relationship between the student and the state. The course should be rigorous and relevant with instruction that integrates thinking skills, historical

processes, and content so that students are able to apply their learning to their own lives. Instruction should include the integration of concepts and principles from history, economics, geography, civics, and the humanities.

7th Science - Hagerman

This course is designed to expose students to the broad scope of Physical and Life Science with an emphasis on foundational scientific principles. Through an inquiry-based program, the core concepts of astronomy, chemistry, cytology, ecology, genetics, human anatomy, botany and zoology will be covered with appropriate corresponding labs to assess and promote the application abilities of each student. Students will collaborate to solve various levels of real-world problems articulating their findings with sound scientific practices and thorough documentation.

Physical Education - C. Erway

This class is designed to practice and develop skills in a variety of activities that will help students maintain fitness throughout their life. Students will understand the benefits that regular exercise can provide for a person's mental, physical, and social health.

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT CLASSES (9-week Rotation Courses)

Current Events - Hulse

The goal of a Current Events course is for the student to become aware of the major issues of the day and to have an in-depth understanding and appreciation of current events. The focus of the class will be issues that affect the student as a resident of the World, the U.S., Kansas, and the local area. The class will follow daily news events and will be expected to understand the social, political and economic issues on a daily basis. The objectives of this course are: to make the connection between current events and history, to enhance the student's understanding of world events, and to encourage students to be informed citizens.

Math Skill-Building – Wagner

Students work at their instructional level on math skills in whole group, small group or one-on-one math skills work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice, enrichment opportunities and independent work in building math skills.

ELA Skill-Building - Strasburg

Students will work at their instructional level on reading and writing skills. Class sessions will consist of whole group, small group and one-on-one language arts skill work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice, enrichment opportunities, and independent work in building ELA skills.

Keyboarding 7 - L. Hagerman

This quarter long course is designed to develop student's touch method of keyboarding using a personal computer keyboard. Emphasis will be on speed and accuracy as well as time management, spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Students are to complete 24 modules within the quarter.

Study Skills/Test Taking Skills – McDonald/Bunch/Glenn (Teacher selected based on criteria - typically year-long)

Teaching proper study habits and test taking skills. Filling out agenda, organizing binders and lockers. Opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills, if needed.

7th & 8th Grade Electives (2nd & 10 hours)

7th and 8th Grade Band – Lyman

Seventh and Eighth grade band is a year-long class, meeting every day, designed to continue to advance the fundamentals learned in 5th and 6th grade band. Students must have had at least two years of band, or one year of band along with the director's permission. Students must have a musical instrument and required supplies. Students will perform a wide variety of concert music at two concerts, pep assemblies, and music festival. Students will have the opportunity to try out for district honor band, and perform a solo at music festival.

Choir - (Grades 6-8)

This class is a mixed (male and female) ensemble that involves singing and performing a variety of music. Students will work on proper singing technique as well as skills in music literacy. Students will have the option of trying out for district choir and performing solos and in small ensembles at music festival. They will participate in 3 concerts and 1 music festival.

Tech Lab – (Grades 7-8) Hagerman

This semester long course is designed to expose students to the broad scope of technology-based engineering. Students will collaborate to solve various levels of design problems articulating their findings with sound scientific practices and thorough documentation with the completion of eight project modules.

Weights & Conditioning - C. Erway/Ingram

Weights will be an elective class that will focus on improving muscular strength, flexibility and overall health. The class will consist of 15-20 students working in a circuit training format. (They will move from station to station working on an arrangement of different muscle groups).

Creative Fine Arts Expression (Grades 7-8) - King

This class will provide a multi-sensory approach to students looking for ways to express themselves through creativity. Combining elements of art, poetry, photography, film, and more, this class will allow students ample opportunities to create artistic expressions of who they are.

Environmental Science (Grades 6-8) - Stearns

This hands on project-based class explores environmental issues of the day and informs students how to be good citizens of the Earth. Issues covered include: climate change, alternative forms of energy, harmful chemicals causing cancer, oil and spill prevention & cleanup, deforestation, and protecting our oceans and animals. Projects include: making bird feeders/houses, vertical gardens, and maintaining the LMS Butterfly Garden. By the end of the class, you will know how to care for our planet and protect our vital resources, plus you can eat whatever you grow in class!

Advanced Computers (Computer Applications) (Fall Semester) - Strasburg

This class composes the use of computer programs on the school Macs. The three primary programs are iBook, Coding course, & Prezi. The students will also use all Google Drive applications with a primary emphasis on Presentation and Documents. The class basically taught on a project by project basis with normal 3 to 7 days to complete a project.

Lego Robotics (Limited to 20 students, Gr 6-8) - Polston

Get ready to explore the world of Robotics. We will dive into the creation process using programs and equipment like Lego MINDSTORMS EV3. Students will increase their planning, critical thinking, reasoning, and creative skills. Students will also develop strong communication and collaboration skills as well as practice visualization and decision-making. By the end of the semester, students will know how robotics can help our everyday lives. Students will also learn the importance of perseverance in the design cycle. Above all, we will have a ton of fun designing and bringing to life our very own Robots.

Impact Study Skills - Hulse

Teaching proper study habits. Filling out agenda, organizing binders and lockers. Opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills if needed.

Physical Science– Stearns

This physical Science course would include: atoms, chemistry, pulleys, ropes, resonance, sound, light, wavelengths, color, mass, velocity, speed, zero gravity & sports in space, all these projects investigated by hands-on activities.

Introduction to Fine Arts - (Spring Semester) Strasburg

Enjoy being cReAtivE? This class will focus on creative journal prompts and narrative stories. You will also get the chance to write and perform a one act play as well as read and act out some other plays. We'll throw some classic films and famous artists' profiles into the mix too. Are you the next Shakespeare or Picasso?

Community Connections - Hulse

This course will provide students' experience volunteering in the community in various service opportunities. This could include reading or playing games with residents in nursing homes or the Welcome Center, helping with the food pantry, volunteering at the movie theater, and other community projects. Students will also learn basic cooking skills (i.e. cookies/cupcakes) to take to members of the community. The course may include some fundraising opportunities after school as well. Students will be graded on participation.

Game Programming – Hagerman

This course is designed to prepare students for future jobs that do not currently exist through coding methodology and building 21st century skills that transcend traditional career boundaries. Students learn to think creatively, reason systematically, and work collaboratively while building their personal portfolios and life experience.

Statistics in Sports (Fall Semester) - Ingram

Statistics in Sports will deal with how statistics are calculated in the world of sports. From batting averages and ERA in baseball all the way to G-forces in NASCAR. We will discuss how statistics impact an athlete's salary contract as well. In addition we will run a Fantasy Football league for the class complete with a draft and weekly competitions. The winner will receive the coveted "Indian Trophy"!

Teen Leadership (Spring Semester) - Ingram

This Teen Leadership course develops critical, life-changing skills including taking personal responsibility, expressing yourself well, and making good decisions when problems arise. Curriculum topics might include: leadership skills, principle-based decision-making skills, personal responsibility, attitude, social skills, consequences of choices, resisting peer pressure, healthy relationships, conflict resolution, preparation for school-to-work transition, public speaking, and goal setting.

Foundations of Problem Solving (6th-8th grade) - Coles

This course will focus on building skills that will help become better problem solvers through a variety of avenues. Each activity will focus on any number of skills, with more challenging activities towards the end of the semester combining more of these skills. Some problem solving skills that we will be using are strategy, risk/reward, planning, bartering, social skills, deductive reasoning, finances, and preparing for unforeseen events. Activities include, but are not limited to, logic puzzles, card games, and board games.

Teacher's Aide (8th grade ONLY)

The aide program is designed for students who have demonstrated appropriate behavior, good attendance, and average to above average grades. This is a position of trust and students will be assigned to best meet the needs of the faculty and staff of Larned Middle School. If your record wasn't "so great" this year, you may still apply but mark that you want to be considered for the second semester. This will give you an opportunity to improve and prove yourself during the first semester next year. You must have had to fill out the application before you can select.

Impact Math Skills - Erway, Coles, Wagner

(Assigned to based on teacher & administrative recommendation) Students work at their instructional level on foundational math skills in small whole group, small group and one-on-one math skills work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice and independent work to show mastery of skills. Students will also have the opportunity to gain skills and see the lesson to be taught the following day.

Impact Reading Skills - Reece, Strasburg, King

(Assigned to based on teacher & administrative recommendation) Students will work at their instructional level on foundational reading and writing skills, including comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, phonics, & writing. Class sessions will consist of whole group, small group and one-on-one skill work in the above mentioned areas. Instruction will be scaffolded and include an abundance of modeling, guided practice and eventually independent work to show mastery of skills.

Study Skills/Test Taking Skills – McDonald/Bunch/Glenn**(Teacher selected based on criteria - typically year-long)**

Teaching proper study habits and test taking skills. Filling out agenda, organizing binders and lockers. Opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills, if needed.



LARNED MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2020-2021 School Year

CORE classes – all students must enroll in

6th Math - Demond

This 6th Grade math course emphasizes the teaching of mathematics as problem solving, communication, and reasoning, and highlight the connections among mathematical topics and between mathematics and other disciplines. These courses approach the teaching of general math, pre-algebra, and pre-geometry topics by applying numbers, and algebraic and geometric concepts and relationships to real world problems.

6th ELA

This course builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses introduce and define various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections.

6th Social Studies - Prescott

Social Science courses provide students with an introduction to Ancient Civilizations around the world, including By studying each civilizations economics, geography, history, government, and culture.

6th Science - Polston

The specific content of 6th Science course varies, but they draw upon the principles of several scientific specialties—earth science, physical science, biology, chemistry, and physics—and organize the material around thematic units. Common themes covered include systems, models, energy, patterns, change, and constancy. These courses use appropriate aspects from each specialty to investigate applications of the theme. This course also allows students to explore the world of 3D. We will dive into the creation process using programs like Tinkercad.

Physical Education - C. Erway

This class will involve a variety of physical activity on alternative days with music class.

General Music - 6th

This course introduces students to the basics of music. The goal of general music is to build a lifelong appreciation of various styles of music in an engaging and interactive classroom setting.

Enrichment Period - Homeroom Teacher

This course allows students to practice organizational habits and study skills, completing agenda books, and organizing binders and lockers. Students also have the opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills, if needed, during this time. Days will be set aside weekly for character education, library time & class meetings. Skyward Grades and agenda books will be checked weekly. Special privilege is offered one day a week to students who have all their work completed and no behavior issues.

Required Quarter Rotation Classes:

6th Grade Keyboarding (9 weeks ONLY) - Demond

This quarter long course is designed to develop student's touch method of keyboarding using a personal computer keyboard. Emphasis will be on speed and accuracy as well as time management, spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Students are to complete 24 modules within the quarter.

6th Grade Interpersonal Skills (9 weeks ONLY) - Wagner

This class is a 9 week course for 6th graders. It is a class allowing students to work independently on web-based modules. This class consists of students completing assigned modules on the computer by viewing videos, completing worksheets, quizzes, and tests over the material presented. Topics addressed are: Digital Responsibility, Digital Citizenship, Living online-Social Communication, and the use of various Google Forms. This is a self-motivated class, and students are expected to complete the work with minimal teacher intervention.

6th Grade Electives - Period 10

Weights & Conditioning – C. Erway/Ingram (open to grades 6-8)

Weights will be an elective class that will focus on improving muscular strength, flexibility and overall health. The class will consist of 15-20 students working in a circuit training format. (They will move from station to station working on an arrangement of different muscle groups).

Lego Robotics – Polston (limited to 20, open to grades 6-8)

Get ready to explore the world of Robotics. We will dive into the creation process using programs and equipment like Lego MINDSTORMS EV3. Students will increase their planning, critical thinking, reasoning, and creative skills. Students will also develop strong communication and collaboration skills as well as practice visualization and decision-making. By the end of the semester, students will know how robotics can help our everyday lives. Students will also learn the importance of perseverance in the design cycle. Above all, we will have a ton of fun designing and bringing to life our very own Robots.

Environmental Science-Stearns (open to grades 6-8)

This project based course will instruct students about the environmental issues of our time. Everything from global warming to alternative forms of energy will be discussed and researched through hands-on projects. We will create items for the Ft. Larned Butterfly Garden, make bird feeders, construct a cold frame, touch and build worm compost bins, grow plants, perform computer research on selected items, and learn by doing. Guaranteed you will not be the same after taking this environmental course on how to save our planet.

Foundations of Problem Solving (6th-8th grade) - Coles

This course will focus on building skills that will help become better problem solvers through a variety of avenues. Each activity will focus on any number of skills, with more challenging activities towards the end of the semester combining more of these skills. Some problem solving skills that we will be using are strategy, risk/reward, planning, bartering, social skills, deductive reasoning, finances, and preparing for unforeseen events. Activities include, but are not limited to, logic puzzles, card games, and board games.

Introductory Art (6th only) - Prescott

This is an introductory Art course designed to give 6th graders a sampling of art projects that emphasize the elements (line, form, color, value, texture, space, and shape.) Understanding and appreciation of self and others through art history, culture, and heritage is emphasized. A variety of media and techniques create an active learning experience.

Impact Math Skills (6th only) - J. Erway

(Teacher selected based on iReady & State test scores)

(Assigned to based on teacher & administrative recommendation) Students work at their instructional level on foundational math skills in small whole group, small group and one-on-one math skills work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice and independent work to show mastery of skills. Students will also have the opportunity to gains skills and see the lesson to be taught the following day.

Impact Reading Skills (6th only) - ELA teacher, Reece

(Teacher selected based on iReady & State test scores)

(Assigned to based on teacher & administrative recommendation) Students will work at their instructional level on foundational reading and writing skills, including comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, phonics, & writing. Class sessions will consist of whole group, small group and one-on-one skill work in the above mentioned areas. Instruction will be scaffolded and include an abundance of modeling, guided practice and eventually independent work to show mastery of skills.

***Study Skills/Test Taking Skills – McDonald/Bunch/Glenn**

(Teacher selected based on criteria - typically year-long class)

Teaching proper study habits and test taking skills. Filling out agenda, organizing binders and lockers. Opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills, if needed.