



LARNED MIDDLE SCHOOL

7TH- 8TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2023-2024 School Year

8th GRADE REQUIRED CLASSES

8th Grade CORE ACADEMIC classes

8th Math/Algebra - Zook (based on student skill level)

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 - Strasburg/Baldwin

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 - TBD

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 - Upson/Hagerman

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 - Weiser

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.

Study Skills/Test Taking Skills – McDonald/Bunch (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/Pre-Algebra 7 (based on student skill level)

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 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.

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 prehistoric 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/Upson

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 - Weiser

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.

7th & 8th Grade Electives

Band 7th and 8th Grade – 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 bands. Students must have had at least two years of band, or one year of band along with the director's permission. Students need a musical instrument and required supplies. Students will perform a wide variety of instrumental music at concerts, pep assemblies, and music festivals. Students will have the opportunity to try out for the district honor band, and perform solo and ensemble music at the league music festival.

Computer Applications - TBA

In Computer Applications courses, students acquire knowledge of and experience in the proper and efficient use of previously written software packages. These courses explore a wide range of applications, including (but not limited to) word-processing, spreadsheet, graphics, and database programs, and they may also cover the use of electronic mail and desktop publishing.

Choir - (Grades 7-8) - Lyman

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 to try out for the district choir and perform solos and ensembles at the league music festival. The choir will participate in concerts and performances throughout the year.

Creative Fine Arts Expression - Strasburg

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.

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.

Financial Literacy – TBA (open to grades 6-8)

Students will learn about: life skills such as reading pay stubs, balancing bank registers, writing checks, budgeting, and making informed purchasing decisions. They also will learn about: consumer credit and borrowing money through loans and credit cards.

Intro to Drones - Upson

In this class, we will learn the laws around drone flying. This will include: Terminology, what it takes to fly a drone; how to control a drone in a controlled environment, and in the outside world; and Drone safety and repair techniques. We will learn what specific laws influence drones, and describe in detail where and when you can fly drones. Then we will learn what makes a drone fly and how you can use this to control a drone. We will learn how to fly inside in a controlled environment and how outside influences can affect how the drone flies. We will also learn some basic techniques to keep you safe and allow you to repair any drone you may fly later on in life.

Lego Robotics (Limited to 18 students, Grades 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.

Office/Teacher's Aide (8th grade ONLY-must apply - see Mrs. Pruter for application)

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.

STEM 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 - Weiser/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).

Health Education - TBA

Topics covered include personal health (nutrition, mental health and stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid) and consumer health issues. This course may also include brief studies of environmental health, personal development, and/or community resources.

ELA Skill-Building (Teacher selected based on FastBridge, iReady & State test Scores) - 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.

Math Skill-Building (Teacher selected based on FastBridge, iReady & State test Scores) - Erway

(Assigned to based on teacher & administrative recommendation) Students work at their instructional level on foundational math skills in small whole groups, 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.

Study Skills/Test Taking Skills – McDonald/Bunch

(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.

Career Technical Education (CTE) Classes @ Larned High School

Audio/Video Production I - Mundon @ HS

Audio/Visual Production courses provide to students the knowledge and skills necessary for television, video, film, and/or radio production. Writing scripts, camera operation, use of graphics and other visuals, lighting, audio techniques, editing, production principles, and career opportunities are typical topics covered within production courses. Students are usually required to produce their own program or segment. Additional topics such as broadcast industry regulations, radio/TV operation, power of the medium, photography, transmission technology, and so on may be included.

Business Essentials - Stahlecker @ HS

This is a core course designed to give students an overview of the business, marketing and finance career cluster occupations. Students will develop an understanding of how academic skills in mathematics, economics, and written and oral communications are integral components of success in these occupations. Students will examine current events to determine their impact on business and industry and legal and ethical behavior, acquire knowledge of safe and secure environmental controls to enhance productivity, determine how resources should be managed to achieve company goals, and identify employability and personal skills needed to obtain a career and be successful in the workplace. As students learn about different types of business ownership, they will interpret industry laws and regulations to ensure compliance, identify principles of business management, and analyze business practices to determine ethics and social responsibilities.

Career and Life Planning - Jordan @ HS

A self-management course that introduces students to the skills and strategies helpful in becoming more focused, productive individuals. This course emphasizes goal-setting; decision-making; managing time, energy, and stress; and identifying alternatives and coping strategies. The course will also allow students to explore various career and lifestyle choices, including post-secondary and college options. Course activities depend upon the careers being explored.

Interpersonal Communication - Scheideman @ HS

Interpersonal communication is a class that analyzes ways verbal and written communication is exchanged. Moreover, it will allow students to explore the psychology and sociology behind interactions between people in various ways and situations.

Intro to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resource - Gibson @ HS

Students participating in the Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources course will experience hands-on activities, projects, and problems. Student experience will involve the study of communication, the science of agriculture, plants, animals, natural resources, and agricultural mechanics. While surveying the opportunities available in agriculture and natural resources, students will learn to solve problems, conduct research, analyze data, work in teams, and take responsibility for their work actions, and learning.

Intro to Drawing and Design - Pontius @ HS

Intro to Drawing and Design is the introductory level class for all other LHS art classes. Students will study the basic fundamentals of drawing, painting, how to apply the elements and principles of design, color theory, and be introduced to the major periods of art history.

Intro to Industrial Technology - Hewson @ HS

In this course, students will gain safety knowledge for the construction industry. Common hand and power tools will be covered. Construction math will be covered as well as tape measure reading. Students will be introduced to drafting and blueprint reading.

Spanish I - TBA @ HS

Spanish I focuses on the basic foundations of Spanish. The course will include reading, Writing, Speaking and listening to Spanish. Students will also learn about Spanish speaking countries and culture.



LARNED MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2023-2024 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 - Brabb

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.

6th Social Studies - Prescott

Social Science courses provide students with an introduction to Ancient Civilizations around the world, including studying each civilization's 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 - Weiser

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

General Music - 6th - Lyman

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.

ELECTIVE CLASSES

*****STUDENTS WILL HAVE ONE QUARTER OF KEYBOARDING & ONE QUARTER OF INTERPERSONAL SKILLS, THEN MAY CHOOSE AN ELECTIVE FOR THE OTHER SEMESTER.**

Required Quarter Rotation Classes (for 1 semester):

6th Grade Keyboarding (Quarter Class - 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 (Quarter Class - 9 weeks ONLY) - Brabb

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 8 for one semester

Weights & Conditioning – 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.

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.

Financial Literacy – TBA (open to grades 6-8)

Students will learn about: life skills such as reading pay stubs, balancing bank registers, writing checks, budgeting, and making informed purchasing decisions. They also will learn about: consumer credit and borrowing money through loans and credit cards.

Math Skill-building (6th only) - DeMond/Erway

(Teacher selected based on FastBridge, 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 gain skills and see the lesson to be taught the following day.

ELA Skill-building (6th only) - Brabb/King

(Teacher selected based on FastBridge & 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**

(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.