

Assessments:

Assessment includes, but is not limited to observations, quizzes, tests, rubrics, scoring guides, NWEA computer assessment, Michigan Statewide assessments, reading, AIMSweb, ELA, math, and social studies assessments.

*Field Trips:

Field trips to museum exhibits and/or stage productions or performances will be scheduled to reinforce academic standards. 8th grade takes an annual four day educational trip to Washington DC.



*Subject to change.



Eighth Grade Curriculum

Literature

Math

Language Arts

Social Studies

Science

Spanish

Electives

Mission: To achieve individual academic success for all students through a positive family, school, and community partnership.

In accordance with the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations, and the Common Core Standards, eighth grade students will...

Reading:

- Analyze multiple informational sources.
- Determine and analyze an author's viewpoint.
- Evaluate an author's technique for developing plot, theme, setting, characters, as well as many other literary elements.
- Analyze historical issues in reading selections.
- Analyze American literature that represents the experiences and traditions of diverse ethnic groups.
- Readers' Workshop: Students will be reading 20 novels throughout the school year at their personal reading and interest level.



Writing:

- Compile an in-class portfolio through writing workshop that will contain numerous narrative and expository published pieces that will be evaluated using rubrics based on the Six Traits of writing and integrate MLA formatting/citation.
- Students will publish a ten-chapter portfolio book.



Technology:

- Technology is integrated into all subjects through the use of the computer lab, classroom minilabs and mobile laptop labs.



Physical Education

- Demonstrate an exposure level of competency in sport-specific skills in individual, dual, and team sports, and recreational games.
- Meet standards on selected fitness activities that develop and maintain cardiorespiratory endurance, muscular strength, and endurance of large muscle groups, and flexibility of major joints.
- Identify lifelong physical activities that he/she enjoys, and summarize reasons why this activity is of value for physical fitness.
- Demonstrate on a daily basis, good personal/social character traits at least 100% of the time.



Science:

- Physical Science (Force, Motion, Action/Reaction, Momentum, and Energy Transfers).
- Earth Science (Rock Cycle, Earth's Interior, Plate Tectonic Theory, Earthquakes & Volcanoes).
- Research and Inquiry (understand the components of a scientific explanation, employ critical thinking skills to determine the relationship between evidence and explanations, analyze scientific data to formulate a solution, produce and present a science fair project).
- Life Science (Genetics, Speciation, changes over-time, response to environment).
- Chemistry (Macromolecules, food vs. nutrient, photo-synthetic reactions, cellular respiration reactions).



Spanish:

- Topics studied include: Sharing opinions, vacations, asking and answering questions, Market Day, daily \ routines /body parts.
- Conjugate regular verbs in past imperfect tense.
- Conjugate verbs in simple conditional.
- Comprehend extended videos, and/or skits.
- Read and translate extended selections (one advanced-level novel of 100+ pages).
- Verbalize in a manner that demonstrates understanding of content and grammar.
- Write a simple discourse of more than one paragraph on familiar topics.
- Advanced grammar concepts: Direct/Indirect objects, Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns.



Speaking:

- Adjust students' use of language to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes by using specialized language related to a topic and selecting words carefully to achieve precise meaning when presenting.
- Speak effectively using slang, dialect, and colloquial language suitably to create interest and drama in narrative and informational presentations.



Listening:

- Distinguish facts from opinions and question their validity when listening to or viewing a variety of speeches and presentations.
- Listen to or view critically while demonstrating appropriate social skills of audience behaviors (e.g., eye contact, attentive, supportive); critically examine the verbal and non-verbal strategies during speeches and presentations.

Research:

- Describe appropriate resources for exploring specific questions or topics.
- Organize information from literary, informative, and practical sources.
- Solve problems using interpretations of reference information.
- Create a research report while implementing MLA documentation , including in-text citations.



Social Studies Strands studied:

- Civics and Government (understand national, state, and local governments, compare and contrast arguments for the necessity of the political party system, identify the powers of the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of government, explain the values and principles expressed in the Bill of Rights).
- Cultural Perspective (assess various opinions on the value and challenges of diversity in the U.S., explain how contemporary American culture is influenced by the media).
- Economics (define deflation and inflation, understand the function of interest in an economic system, analyze economic changes that affect society, analyze unemployment rates).
- Geography (examine reasons for the increasing world population, describe how a region may be defined by various criteria, locate and identify major countries, make predictions regarding population increases/decreases using data, describe the various factors that affect human migration).
- Historical Perspective (understand how the concepts of time and place relate to historical events, understand re-occurring patterns of historical events, sequence in chronological order a list of historical events).
- United States History (comprehend how relationships with European countries affected the outcome of the Revolution, evaluate the importance of historical figures and their activities, analyze the effects of U.S. historical documents, analyze the development of government in colonial America, understand the significance of the underground railroad, understand and analyze the industrial revolution, identify the causes and effects of the Civil War, explain how the reconstruction era affected the nation, evaluate Lincoln as a leader).



Mathematics Strands studied:

- Algebraic Concepts (use a given equation to develop a story problem, solve for the value of a variable, apply inverse operations, demonstrate an understanding of the value of a number represented in exponential form, compute fluently).
- Data Interpretation (demonstrate the ability to interpret graphical forms, discuss relationships between tables, graphs, and equations, determine the validity of an argument based on a given set of data).
- Decimals (round decimal numbers, add and subtract decimal fractions and convert the answer to a decimal number format, solve story problems by dividing decimals up to the hundredths position, work flexibly with decimals in order to obtain solutions to problems).
- Fractions (instinctively use fractions to communicate, add, subtract, multiply, and divide mixed fractions, solve multiple step problems involving fractions, work flexibly with fractions in order to obtain solutions to problems).
- Geometry (identify and use geometric concepts and relationships in topics outside of the classroom, classify and discuss solid and plane figures and their attributes, use spatial reasoning to solve problems, apply many different methods of proofs).
- Measurement (comprehend the measurable characteristics of objects and the units, systems, and processes of measurement, apply measuring procedures and formulas to solve story problems, use various tools for determining measurements).
- Probability/Statistics (utilize a hypothesis, design a method to collect relevant data, and gather appropriate information, calculate mean, median, mode, and range, discuss the difference between theoretical and real world probability).
- Problem Solving (evaluate a problem and given solution for reasonableness, and justify or discount the solution, reflect on the processes applied to solve a problem, model contextualized problems using many different representations).

